

# htpasswd – The file to store passwords

Htpasswd files are used when password protecting a website or a directory using HTTP Authentication and Apache's htaccess files.

The htpasswd file contains username in plain text (unencrypted) and a hashed (encrypted) password. Here's an example:

```
andreas:$apr1$dHjB0/..$mkTTbqwpK/0h/rz4ZeN8M0  
john:$apr1$IHaD0/..$N9ne/Bqnh8.My0tvKU56j1
```

Each line contains a username and a password separated by a colon ":". You can not see the actual passwords as they are hashed (encrypted) using a complex algorithm. The default algorithm is different from platform to platform. On Windows the passwords are hashed using MD5, and on Linux its based on a system function called "crypt()". The htpasswd generator on this site uses MD5 which means that the hashed passwords can be used on both Windows and Linux.

## Filename

Normally the htpasswd file is named .htpasswd, but you are actually free to name your password file what every you like. It is perfectly valid to use a name like "passwords.txt" which may seem more appealing to Windows users. However there is one catch. Apache is usually configured to prevent access to .ht\* files – starting with ".ht". If you name your password file "passwords.txt", a user can access it, and retrieve all valid usernames. Since the passwords are hashed he can't use them directly, but it will help him gain access using brute force. **It is therefore recommended to name a password file .htpasswd.**

## Generating password

Hashed passwords can be generated with the [command-line tool htpasswd](#) (htpasswd.exe on Windows) which is part of a normal Apache installation. You can also create passwords using the [htpasswd generator](#) on this site, or [create passwords yourself using PHP](#).

## Various Options used:

### Options

#### **-b**

Use batch mode; i.e., get the password from the command line rather than prompting for it. This option should be used with extreme care, since **the password is clearly visible** on the command line. For script use see the `-i` option. Available in 2.4.4 and later.

#### **-i**

Read the password from stdin without verification (for script usage).

#### **-c**

Create the passwdfile. If passwdfile already exists, it is rewritten and truncated. This option cannot be combined with the `-n` option.

#### **-n**

Display the results on standard output rather than updating a file. This is useful for generating password records acceptable to Apache for inclusion in non-text data stores. This option changes the syntax of the command line, since the passwdfile argument (usually the first one) is omitted. It cannot be combined with the `-c` option.

#### **-m**

Use MD5 encryption for passwords. This is the default (since version 2.2.18).

#### **-B**

Use bcrypt encryption for passwords. This is currently considered to be very secure.

#### **-C**

This flag is only allowed in combination with `-B` (bcrypt encryption). It sets the computing time used for the bcrypt algorithm (higher is more secure but slower, default: 5, valid: 4 to 31).

#### **-d**

Use `crypt()` encryption for passwords. This is not supported by the [httpd](#) server on Windows and Netware. This algorithm limits the password length to 8 characters. This algorithm is **insecure** by today's standards. It used to be the default algorithm until version 2.2.17.

**-s**

Use SHA encryption for passwords. Facilitates migration from/to Netscape servers using the LDAP Directory Interchange Format (ldif). This algorithm is **insecure** by today's standards.

**-p**

Use plaintext passwords. Though htpasswd will support creation on all platforms, the [httpd](#) daemon will only accept plain text passwords on Windows and Netware.

**-D**

Delete user. If the username exists in the specified htpasswd file, it will be deleted.

**-v**

Verify password. Verify that the given password matches the password of the user stored in the specified htpasswd file. Available in 2.4.5 and later.

**passwdfile**

Name of the file to contain the user name and password. If -c is given, this file is created if it does not already exist, or rewritten and truncated if it does exist.

**username**

The username to create or update in passwdfile. If username does not exist in this file, an entry is added. If it does exist, the password is changed.

**password**

The plaintext password to be encrypted and stored in the file. Only used with the -b flag.

```
docker run -d \  
  -p 5000:5000 \  
  --restart=always \  
  --name myregistry6 \  
  -v `pwd`/auth:/auth \  
  -e "REGISTRY_AUTH=htpasswd" \  
  -e "REGISTRY_AUTH_HTPASSWD_REALM=Registry Realm" \  
  -e REGISTRY_AUTH_HTPASSWD_PATH=/auth/htpasswd \  
  -v `pwd`/certs:/certs \  
  -e REGISTRY_HTTP_TLS_CERTIFICATE=/certs/dockerrepo.crt \  
  -e REGISTRY_HTTP_TLS_KEY=/certs/dockerrepo.key \  
Registry:2
```

```
curl --insecure -u "test:password"  
http://myregistrydomain.com:5000/v2/\_catalog
```

```
wget --no-check-certificate --http-user=test  
--http-password=password  
http://myregistrydomain.com:5000/v2/\_catalog
```

```
docker container run --rm -it --name ucp -v  
/var/run/docker.sock:/var/run/docker.sock docker/ucp:2.2.4 install  
--host-address 172.31.24.145 --interactive
```