[*How To Apache Server Authenticate Web Access?*](http://www.linuxnix.com/2011/01/howto-apache-server-authentication-web-access.html)

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**How to authenticate web access to perticular user?**

**Ans :**

**Step1 :** Check if the apache package is installed or not. If its not installed install it.

**#rpm -qa | grep httpd**

**#yum install httpd**

**Step2 :** Create **DNS CNAME** entry for this virtual host as **auth.linuxnix.com** which should point to our server name **server.linuxnix.com**

**Step2a :** Create a home direcotry for our **virtual host** and **index.html** file

**#mkdir /websites/auth**

**#vi /websites/auth/index.html**

**Step3 :** Create and configure user names to whom we should give access to this site. For this we have to create user name and passwords virtually.

**Step3(a) :** Create an empty file in **/etc/httpd**

**#touch /etc/httpd/passwd**

**Step3(b) :** Create usernames who require access to this site..

**#htpasswd -mc /etc/httpd/passwd username**

Then it will ask for passwd for this new user

**Password:\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Retype:\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

Let me explain about two steps.

**/etc/httpd/passwd** file contains all the user names with **encrypted passwords**.

**htpasswd** is the command to **create the new users**

**-m** **=>MD5 encryption**

**-c => Create a password file if its not there**

Once the above users are create we have to create **.htaccess file in /websites/auth folder**. So that our site will be accessed through authentication.

**#vi /websites/auth/.htaccess**

**AuthName “Testing for Authentication”**

**AuthType Basic**

**AuthUserFile “/etc/httpd/passwd”**

**require valid-user**

Save the file and exit

**Step4 :** Configure **virtual host** now in our **httpd.conf** file which is located at **/etc/httpd/conf/**

**Step4(a) :** Specify **ServerName** as **server.linuxnix.com** in **httpd.conf** file

**ServerName server.linuxnix.com**

**Step4(b) :** Specify NameVirtualHost

**NameVirtualHost server.linuxnix.com**

**Step4(c) :** Create **index.html** in /**websites/auth/** folder and edit something in that file

**#vi /websites/auth/index.html**

Save and exit the file

**Step4(d) :** Now create a virtual host entry.

**<VirtualHost 192.168.0.1>**

**ServerName auth.linuxnix.com**

**<Directory /websites/auth>**

**AllowOverride Authconfig**

**</Directory>**

**DocumentRoot /websites/auth/**

**DirectoryIndex index.html**

**</VirtualHost>**

Let me explain new entries in this virtualhost

**Directory /websites/auth** **=>** This indicate where should the authentication should start. Its **/websites/auth** so when ever user tries to access this folder **/websites/auth** it should ask for **username** and **password**.

**AllowOverride Authconfing** **=>** This specifies user require to enter **username/password** when entering this site.

Save and exit the file

**Step5 :** Check for the syntax errors in the **httpd.conf** file before restarting the apache service.

**#httpd -t**

**or**

**#httpd -k graceful**

**Step6 :** Now start the service and then add it to booting scripts so that it will start automatically at every boot of the system

**#service httpd restart**

**#chkconfig httpd on**

**step7 :** Now try to access [**http://auth.linuxnix.com**](http://auth.example.com/)you will be prompted to enter **username** and **password**.