

Securing your Site with SSL

Presented by: Billy Vierra

Topics Covered

- Preparing your domain for installation
- Generate the CSR/Key/self signed cert
- Purchase the certificate
- Certificates for WHM™
- Troubleshooting cert problems
- Renewing expired certificates
- Removing a secure certificate

Installing/Troubleshooting Secure Certificates

- It's easier than you think.. really!

Preparing your Domain

- Assigning a dedicated IP
- First you must assign a dedicated IP via your WHM. This is a must.

Preparing your Domain

- Set up subdomain (if needed)
- If you have decided to create a certificate for a subdomain, you will need to setup the subdomain first.
 - example: `secure.domain.com`

Generate the CSR/Key/Self Signed Cert

- Filling out the certificate information (accurately)
- You must fill out all fields. Be sure to be as accurate as possible as this is the information that will be attached to your certificate.

Generate the CSR/Key/Self Signed Cert

- Wildcard cert vs. regular cert
- Wildcard certs generally cost more than a regular cert. If you plan on setting up several subdomains that you would need to be secure, then a wildcard cert may be worth the money.

Purchase the Certificate

- Where to buy
- You have the option to purchase an XRamp cert directly through your WHM.
- You may also choose to purchase elsewhere. Use Google to find other Certificate Issuing Authorities.

Purchase the Certificate

- What type of cert to buy
- There are several different types of certs out there. We have already discussed wildcard certs. Also, there are different bit encryption certs. The higher, the better.
- Another option is a self signed cert. You would, however, see a popup window each time you securely visit the domain

Installing the Certificate

- Install via WHM
- In the WHM under the Web SSL section you will see Install a SSL Certificate and Setup the Domain. You can Install your cert here.

Installing the Certificate

- Install via Customers cPanel[®]
- If you allow your customers to install certificates, you can follow the SSL link in the customers cPanel. Please do not confuse the install section with the section where you generate a self signed cert, CSR and Key.

Installing the Certificate

- Install via Command Line
- If you are more comfortable using the command line, you can install with `/scripts/installssl`

Certificates for WHM

- Self signed WHM certificate
- You can generate a self signed cert to use with the WHM at no charge. However, you will see a popup window each time you securely enter the WHM. (This can also be done for any domain on the server)

Certificates for WHM

- Purchasing a cert for WHM
- If you prefer to purchase a cert for the WHM, you can follow the steps noted in the previous section for purchasing a cert. This would eliminate the popup window.

Certificates for WHM

- Installing a cert for the WHM
- This is done via the SSL/TLS section via the Change Server Certificates link. Reset Server Certificates link will reissue the self signed cert.

Troubleshooting Cert Problems

- Determine the Problem
- This can save you a lot of time in troubleshooting. Were there any errors in the install? Does restarting apache throw any errors?
- Check in all available browsers
- Many times with an incorrect cabundle, the cert will not work in IE, but it will in firefox.

Toubleshooting Cert Problems

- If all else fails...
- Reinstall the cert. To properly reinstall, you must first delete the cert from the server. You can do so via the WHM

Toubleshooting Cert Problems

- Check with vendor for a cabundle/root cert
- Cabundles or the intermediate certificate can be a huge headache. If you do not have the proper cabundle, your cert will not work. Be sure to check the install instructions with the vendor before installing.

Toubleshooting Cert Problems

- Remove all instances of the certificate and install via command line
- If you have removed and reinstalled via the WHM and your cert is still not working, you can remove and install via the command line.

Renewing Expired Certificates

- How to renew with issuer
- The Issuer generally sends you an email when your cert is due for renew. You can simply renew with them using the same key. If you need a copy of the key, it will be located here: `/usr/share/ssl/private`

Renewing Expired Certificates

- How to install once renewed
- The issuer should send you a new certificate. Once received, you will just return to your WHM and install via Install a SSL Certificate and Setup the Domain

Removing a Secure Certificate

- Delete via the WHM
- To delete a cert via WHM, you simply go to the Web SSL section and click Delete SSL Hosts. This basically will remove the secure entry from the httpd.conf file.

Removing a Secure Certificate

- Delete via Command Line
- You can also delete via the command line. The most important part is to delete or comment out the entry in the httpd.conf. The certs are located here: `/usr/share/ssl/certs`. The keys are located here: `/usr/share/ssl/private`

Questions?