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# How To Set Up WebDAV With Apache2 On Debian Etch

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This guide explains how to set up WebDAV with Apache2 on a Debian Etch server. WebDAV stands for *Web-based Distributed Authoring and Versioning* and is a set of extensions to the HTTP protocol that allow users to directly edit files on the Apache server so that they do not need to be downloaded/uploaded via FTP. Of course, WebDAV can also be used to upload and download files.

I do not issue any guarantee that this will work for you!

## **1** Preliminary Note

I'm using a Debian Etch server with the IP address 192.168.0.100 here.

## 2 Installing WebDAV

If Apache is not already installed, install it as follows:

apt-get install apache2

Afterwards, enable the WebDAV modules:

a2enmod dav\_fs

a2enmod dav

Reload Apache:

/etc/init.d/apache2 force-reload

# 3 Creating A Virtual Host

I will now create a default Apache vhost in the directory /var/www/web1/web. For this purpose, I will modify the default Apache vhost configuration in /etc/apache2/sites-available/default. If you already have a vhost for which you'd like to enable WebDAV, you must adjust this tutorial to your situation.

First, we create the directory /var/www/web1/web and make the Apache user (www-data) the owner of that directory:

mkdir -p /var/www/web1/web

chown www-data /var/www/web1/web

Then we back up the default Apache vhost configuration (/etc/apache2/sites-available/default) and create our own one:

 $\verb"mv"/etc/apache2/sites-available/default /etc/apache2/sites-available/default\_orig$ 

vi /etc/apache2/sites-available/default

Nan	neVirtualHost *
<vi< td=""><td>rtualHost *&gt;</td></vi<>	rtualHost *>
	ServerAdmin webmaster@localhost
	DocumentRoot /var/www/web1/web/
	<directory var="" web="" web1="" www=""></directory>
	Options Indexes MultiViews

	AllowOverride None	
	Order allow,deny	
	allow from all	
<th>rectory&gt;</th> <th></th>	rectory>	
/Virtual	Host>	
		-

Then reload Apache:

/etc/init.d/apache2 reload

#### 4 Configure The Virtual Host For WebDAV

Now we create the WebDAV password file /var/www/web1/passwd.dav with the user test (the -c switch creates the file if it does not exist):

htpasswd -c /var/www/web1/passwd.dav test

You will be asked to type in a password for the user test.

We will later on use the URL http://192.168.0.100/webdav to connect to WebDAV. When you do this on a Windows XP client and type in the user name test, Windows translates this to 192.168.0.100test. Therefore we create a second user account now (without the -c switch because the password file is already existing):

htpasswd /var/www/web1/passwd.dav 192.168.0.100\\test

(We must use a second backslash here in the user name to escape the first one!)

Now we change the permissions of the /var/www/web1/passwd.dav file so that only root and the members of the www-data group can access it:

chown root:www-data /var/www/web1/passwd.dav

chmod 640 /var/www/web1/passwd.dav

Now we modify our vhost in /etc/apache2/sites-available/default and add the following lines to it:

vi /etc/apache2/sites-available/default

[]	
	Alias /webdav /var/www/web1/web
	<location webdav=""></location>
	DAV On
	AuthType Basic
	AuthName "webdav"
	AuthUserFile /var/www/web1/passwd.dav
	Require valid-user
[]	

The *Alias* directive makes (together with *<Location>*) that when you call */webdav*, WebDAV is invoked, but you can still access the whole document root of the vhost. All other URLs of that vhost are still "normal" HTTP.

The final vhost should look like this:

NameVirtualHost \*

<VirtualHost \*>

ServerAdmin webmaster@localhost

DocumentRoot /var/www/web1/web/			
<directory var="" web="" web1="" www=""></directory>			
Options Indexes MultiViews			
AllowOverride None			
Order allow deny			
allow from all			
Alias /webdav /var/www/web1/web			
<location webdav=""></location>			
DAV On			
AuthType Basic			
AuthName "webdav"			
AuthUserFile /var/www/web1/passwd.d	av		
Require valid-user			

#### Reload Apache afterwards:

/etc/init.d/apache2 reload

# 5 Testing WebDAV

We will now install *cadaver*, a command-line WebDAV client:

apt-get install cadaver

#### To test if WebDAV works, type:

cadaver http://localhost/webdav/

You should be prompted for a user name. Type in *test* and then the password for the user *test*. If all goes well, you should be granted access which means WebDAV is working ok. Type *quit* to leave the WebDAV shell:

server1:~# cadaver http://localhost/webdav/
Authentication required for test on server `localhost':
Username: test
Password:
dav:/webdav/> quit
Connection to `localhost' closed.
server1:~#

#### 6 Configure A Windows XP Client To Connect To The WebDAV Share

According to <u>http://www.heise.de/netze/WebDAV-mit-Apache--/artikel/77605/3</u> (in German!), Windows XP clients with SP2 don't support the *Basic* authentication in conjunction with WebDAV unless you download this file and tweak the Windows registry: <u>ftp://ftp.heise.de/pub/ct/listings/0504-202.zip</u>

The file contains a .reg file. Double-click on it to install it, then *restart Windows*.

After the restart, click on My Network Places on your desktop (I have a German Windows, so the names are a bit different in the screenshots):

http://www.howtoforge.com/

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Select Add a Network Place from the Network Tasks menu (on the left):

http://www.howtoforge.com/



The Add Network Place Wizard comes up. Click on the Next button:

<image/>	Assistent zum Hinzu	ıfügen von Netzwerkressourcen
Klicken Sie auf "Weiter", um den Vorgang fortzusetzen.		Wilkommen
		Klicken Sie auf "Weiter", um den Vorgang fortzusetzen.

Select Choose another network location, and click on Next:

Assistent zum Hinzufügen von Netzwerkressourcen			
Wo soll diese Netzwerkressource erstellt werden?			
Wählen Sie einen Dienstanbieter. Sie können mit diesem Assistenten ein Konto einrichten, falls Sie kein Mitglied des Dienstanbieters sind. Klicken Sie auf "Eine andere Netzwerkressource auswählen", falls Sie nur eine Verknüpfung erstellen möchten. Dienstanbieter:			
Eine andere Netzwerkressource auswählen Geben Sie die Adresse einer Website, Netzwerkressource oder einer FTP-Site an.			
< Zurück Weiter > Abbrechen			

Enter http://192.168.0.100/webdav as the location and click on Next:

Assistent zum Hinzufügen von Netzwerkressourcen		
Welche Adresse verwendet diese Netzwerkressource?		
Geben Sie die Adresse einer Website, FTP-Site oder Netzwerkressource ein, die diese Verknüpfung öffnen soll.		
Internet- oder Netzwerkadresse:		
http://192.168.0.100/webdav V Durchsuchen		
Beispiele anzeigen		
< Zurück Weiter > Abbrechen		

You will be prompted for a user name and a password. Type in the user name test and the password for the user test:

Assistent zum Hinzufügen von Netzwerkressourcen	×
Welche Adresse verwendet diese Netzwerkressource?	<i>₩</i>
Geben Sie die Adresse einer Website, FTP-Site oder Netzwerkressource ein, die diese Verk soll. Internet- oder Netzwerkadresse:	müpfung öffnen an Tado-laptop
Beispiele anzeigen	server
	Connect to 192.168.0.100 ? 🗙
< Zurück Weiter >	Connecting to 192.168.0.100
Details	Benutzername: 🖸 test 💌 Kennwort:
	Kennwort speichern
	OK Abbrechen

Then type in a name for the WebDAV folder:

Wie soll diese Netzwerkressource heißen?
Geben Sie einen Namen für die Verknüpfung ein, so dass Sie sich die Netzwerkumgebung leicht merken können: http://192.168.0.100/webdav.
Geben Sie einen Namen für die Netzwerkressource ein: webdav an 192.168.0.100
< Zurück Weiter > Abbrechen

To open the new connection, keep the Open this network place when I click Finish box checked, and click on Finish:

Assistent zum Hinzufügen von Netzwerkressourcen		
	Fertigstellen des Assistenten	
No.	Die folgende Netzwerkumgebung wurde erfolgreich erstellt:	
	webday an 192.168.0.100	
	Ein Verknüpfung mit dieser Netzwerkressource wird im Ordner "Netzwerkumgebung" angezeigt.	ar
	☑ Diese Netzwerkumgebung nach Klicken auf "Fertig stellen" öffnen	5
	Klicken Sie auf "Fertig stellen", um den Vorgang abzuschließen.	
	< Zurück Fertig stellen Abbrech	nen

The WebDAV folder will then open where you can browse the contents of the /var/www/web1/web directory and its subdirectories on the server, and you will find an icon for your new WebDAV share in the My Network Places folder:

http://www.howtoforge.com/



## 7 Configure A Linux Client (GNOME) To Connect To The WebDAV Share

If you want to connect to the WebDAV share from a GNOME desktop, go to Places > Connect to Server...:

Applications	Places System 🥹 🚍 🕢
and the second se	Home Folder
	🔄 Desktop
Fedora-9-i386-	🧰 Documents
iso	🧀 Music
	🪞 Pictures
	🚞 Videos
/	Computer
	O CD/DVD Creator
	Retwork
	Connect to Server
	Connect to a remote computer or shared disk Search for Files
	🕙 Recent Documents 🔸

Select WebDAV (HTTP) as the Service type, type in the Server (192.168.0.100 in this example) and then the Folder (webdav). Do not fill in a User Name yet because otherwise the connection will fail. Click on Connect afterwards:

Connect to Server			
Service <u>t</u> ype: WebD	AV (HTTP)		
<u>S</u> erver:	192.168.0.100		
Optional informat	ion:		
<u>P</u> ort:			
<u>F</u> older:	webdav		
<u>U</u> ser Name:			
🗌 Add <u>b</u> ookmarl	🗌 Add <u>b</u> ookmark		
Bookmark <u>n</u> ame:			
Pelp	Cancel Connect		

Now you are being prompted for a user name and password. Type in *test* along with the password, then click on *Connect*:



You might get the following error...



... but at the same time the WebDAV share should appear on the desktop, which means you can ignore the error:



Double-click on the icon to open the WebDAV share:

http://www.howtoforge.com/

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## 8 Links

- WebDAV: <u>http://www.webdav.org</u>

- Apache: http://httpd.apache.org
- Debian: http://www.debian.org