# Enable SSH Key based authentication and Disable Password Authentication in ssh

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## Set Up SSH Key Authentication and Turn Off Password Login

**Overview:** This article covers hardening SSH authentication by **enabling SSH key-based authentication** and **disabling password authentication**. It involves modifying the **/etc/ssh/sshd_config** file to set **PubkeyAuthentication yes** and **PasswordAuthentication no**, followed by restarting the SSH service to apply the changes.

### Hardening Authentication in SSH

**Step 1:** Enable SSH Key based authentication and disable Password Authentication in **sshd configuration file.**

```
:~# vi /etc/ssh/sshd_config

PubkeyAuthentication yes

# To disable tunneled clear text passwords, change to no here!

PasswordAuthentication no
```

**Step 2:** After making changes in the SSHD configuration file save it and restart SSHD

```
:~# service sshd restart
```

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