

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

302 admin August 28, 2024 [General](#), [Installation](#) 6722

## 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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### Related Articles

[Different types of SSH authentication keys](#)

[Enable/Disable password or key based authentication](#)

[Set SSH Key Expiry for the gateway users](#)

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