

# Enforcing ssh login shell for ssh gateway users selectively in sshd\_config file

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## Enforce login shell for SSH users in the sshd configuration file.

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**Overview:** This article describes how to enforce the ezsh shell for SSH users, excluding root, ted, and ben, in the sshd\_config file, followed by restarting the SSH service.

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- By default, the [Ezeelogin gateway users](#) are assigned the shell */usr/local/bin/ezsh* however you may want the gateway users to have OS-level access ( /bin/bash shell ) when they log in via ssh.

This article describes how to enforce a specific shell for SSH users:

### Step 1: Identify Current Shell:

- Determine the current shell assigned to the user by using the finger command.

```
root@jumpbox :~# finger ezadmin

Login: ezadmin   Name:

Directory: /home/ezadmin   Shell: /usr/local/bin/ezsh
```

### Step 2: Modify sshd\_config:

Edit the sshd configuration file (/etc/ssh/sshd\_config) on your gateway server:

- You can force every user into the /usr/local/bin/ezsh shell and exclude selected users by having the following parameters included in the /etc/ssh/sshd\_config file of the gateway box. Append the following lines to the config file and restart the config file to apply the made changes.

```
root@jumpbox :~# /etc/ssh/sshd_config

Match User !root,!ted,!ben,?*

```

```
ForceCommand /usr/local/bin/ezsh  
  
root@jumpbox :~# service sshd restart
```

- In the above eg., it would enforce all the users to default to the shell */usr/local/bin/ezsh* on ssh login except for the user's *root, ted, ben*.

This would be the recommended way as it improves security by denying a */bin/bash* shell for the SSH gateway users who do not need OS-level access on the gateway server and forcing them into the *ezsh* shell.

The users *root, ted, and ben* have been excluded hence would get OS-level access ( */bin/bash* shell on ssh login) and need to simply run the command *ezsh* to get the *ezsh* shell interface.

### Adjust User Shell

To force the *ezadmin* user to the */bin/bash* shell, run the following on the gateway box and exclude the user *ezadmin* in the */etc/ssh/sshd\_config* file only if *ForceCommand* parameters are in use.

```
root@jumpbox :~# chsh -s /bin/bash ezadmin.
```

### **Related Articles:**

[Run SSHD on different ports.](#)

[Changed settings when listening to a custom port.](#)

Online URL:

[https://www.ezeelogin.com/kb/article/enforcing-ssh-login-shell-for-ssh-gateway-users-selectively-in-sshd\\_config-file-336.html](https://www.ezeelogin.com/kb/article/enforcing-ssh-login-shell-for-ssh-gateway-users-selectively-in-sshd_config-file-336.html)