MySQL 8.0 Secure Deployment Guide
Abstract

This is the MySQL 8.0 Secure Deployment Guide. It documents procedures for deploying a Linux-generic binary distribution of MySQL Enterprise Edition Server with features for implementing and managing the security of a MySQL installation. The deployment described in this guide is performed on Oracle Linux 7.

For help with using MySQL, please visit the MySQL Forums, where you can discuss your issues with other MySQL users.

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Preface and Legal Notices

This is the MySQL 8.0 Secure Deployment Guide. It documents procedures for deploying a Linux-generic binary distribution of MySQL Enterprise Edition Server with features for implementing and managing the security of a MySQL installation. The deployment described in this guide is performed on Oracle Linux 7.

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Chapter 1 Introduction

The MySQL 8.0 Secure Deployment Guide documents procedures for deploying a Linux-generic binary distribution of MySQL Enterprise Edition Server with features for implementing and managing the security of your MySQL installation. The deployment is performed on Oracle Linux 7.

The deployment is specific to MySQL Enterprise Edition. Features required by the deployment, such as MySQL Enterprise Audit, MySQL Enterprise Firewall, and auto-generation of SSL certificates and keys, are only available with MySQL Enterprise Edition.

Deployment of the MySQL Enterprise Transparent Data Encryption (TDE) feature, which protects critical data by enabling data-at-rest encryption, is not covered in this guide. For more information, see Appendix A, Transparent Data Encryption (TDE).

Enabling FIPS (Federal Information Processing Standards) mode, which imposes conditions on cryptographic operations such as restrictions on acceptable encryption algorithms or requirements for longer key lengths, is not covered in this guide. For more information, see Appendix B, FIPS Support.

The deployment of other MySQL products such as MySQL Workbench, MySQL NDB Cluster, MySQL Shell, and MySQL Connectors is not covered in this guide.

This guide adheres to the following principles which form the basis of a secure MySQL deployment:

- Always use the latest MySQL release, which has the latest security features and patches.
- Always practice the principle of least privilege, which requires that users, processes, programs, and other system components only have access to information and resources that are required for their legitimate purpose.

A secure deployment also requires implementation of security policies that protect the entire server host (not just the MySQL server) against all types of applicable attacks. Such polices include but are not limited to using a firewall, securing operating system access, and employing enhanced security modules such as SELinux and AppArmour. These types of server host security measures are not covered in this guide.

For more information about security topics related to MySQL server and related applications, see Security.
Chapter 2 Downloading the MySQL for Linux Generic Binary Package

To download the latest MySQL Enterprise Edition for Linux x86-64 generic binary package, perform the following steps. If you already have the latest package, you can skip this procedure.

1. On the MySQL Downloads page, select Enterprise from the menu bar.


3. Sign into the Oracle Software Delivery Cloud site. Create an account if you do not have one.

4. On the Oracle Software Delivery Cloud page:
   • Select Release from the drop-down list.
   • Type MySQL Server in the text box.
   • Select MySQL Server 8.0.xx from list to add it to your shopping cart, where xx is the latest MySQL 8.0 Server release.
   • Click Selected Software next to the shopping cart icon.
   • Select Linux x86-64 from the Platform / Languages drop-down list.
   • Click Continue.

5. Review the Oracle Standard Terms and Restrictions and select the check box indicating that you have reviewed and accept the terms of the Commercial License, Special Programs License, and/or Trial License. Click Continue.


   If your browser is not compatible with the download manager, click on the zip file name to start the download. The zip file name is similar to VXXXXXX-XX.zip, where XXXXXX-XX is a numerical identifier.

7. When the zip file download completes, extract the contents of the zip file to a location of your choice. The extracted files include those shown in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>File Type</th>
<th>File Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>README file</td>
<td>README.txt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MD5 signature file</td>
<td>mysql-commercial-8.0.xx-linux-glibc2.12-x86_64.tar.xz.md5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPG signature file</td>
<td>mysql-commercial-8.0.xx-linux-glibc2.12-x86_64.tar.xz.asc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution file</td>
<td>mysql-commercial-8.0.xx-linux-glibc2.12-x86_64.tar.xz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 3 Verifying Package Integrity

After downloading the MySQL package and before attempting to install it, ensure that the package is intact and has not been tampered with. There are two methods of integrity checking for MySQL Linux Generic Binary packages: MD5 Checksum and Signature Checking Using GnuPG. Signature Checking Using GnuPG is used in this deployment.

MySQL signs its downloadable packages with GnuPG (GNU Privacy Guard). Most Linux distributions ship with GnuPG installed by default. Otherwise, see http://www.gnupg.org/ for more information about GnuPG and how to obtain and install it.

1. To verify the signature of your MySQL download package, obtain a copy of the MySQL public GPG build key, which you can download from http://pgp.mit.edu/. The key name is mysql-build@oss.oracle.com.
   a. In your browser, navigate to http://pgp.mit.edu/.
   b. In the Search String field, enter the key name, mysql-build@oss.oracle.com, and click Do the search!

   This search result is returned:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>bits/keyID</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>User ID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pub</td>
<td>1024D/5072E1F5</td>
<td>2003-02-03</td>
<td>MySQL Release Engineering <a href="mailto:mysql-build@oss.oracle.com">mysql-build@oss.oracle.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MySQL Package signing key (<a href="http://www.mysql.com">www.mysql.com</a>) <a href="mailto:build@mysql.com">build@mysql.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   2003-02-03 is the initial creation date for the MySQL Package Signing Key.
   c. Click on the keyID link, copy the key, and save it to a file named mysql_pubkey.asc, for example.

   Alternatively, you can copy and paste the key directly from the MySQL Reference Manual. See Signature Checking Using GnuPG.

2. To import the build key into your personal public GPG keyring, use the gpg --import command. For example, if you saved the key to a file named mysql_pubkey.asc, the import command looks like this:

   shell> gpg --import mysql_pubkey.asc
   gpg: key 5072E1F5: public key "MySQL Release Engineering <mysql-build@oss.oracle.com>" imported
   gpg: Total number processed: 1
   gpg: imported: 1
   gpg: no ultimately trusted keys found

3. After importing the public build key, place the public build key file that you created in the same directory as the .asc signature file that was included in the MySQL download package.

   The signature file has the same name as the distribution file with an .asc extension, as shown in the following table.

   Table 3.1 MySQL Package and Signature Files for Source files

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>File Type</th>
<th>File Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distribution file</td>
<td>mysql-commercial-8.0.xx-linux-glibc2.12-x86_64.tar.xz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signature file</td>
<td>mysql-commercial-8.0.xx-linux-glibc2.12-x86_64.tar.xz.asc</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Run this command to verify the signature for the distribution file:
If the downloaded package is valid, the verification returns a "Good signature" message similar to:

```
shell> gpg --verify mysql-commercial-8.0.xx-linux-glibc2.12-x86_64.tar.xz.asc
```

```
gpg: Signature made Tue 01 Feb 2011 02:38:30 AM CST using DSA key ID 5072E1F5
gpg: Good signature from "MySQL Release Engineering <mysql-build@oss.oracle.com>"
```

The `Good signature` message indicates that the file signature is valid, but you might also see warnings:

```
shell> gpg --verify mysql-commercial-8.0.xx-linux-glibc2.12-x86_64.tar.xz.asc
```

```
gpg: Signature made Wed 23 Jan 2013 02:25:45 AM PST using DSA key ID 5072E1F5
gpg: checking the trustdb
```

```
gpg: no ultimately trusted keys found
```

```
gpg: Good signature from "MySQL Release Engineering <mysql-build@oss.oracle.com>"
```

```
gpg: WARNING: This key is not certified with a trusted signature! There is no indication that the signature belongs to the owner.
Primary key fingerprint: A4A9 4068 76FC BD3C 4567 70C8 8C71 8D3B 5072 E1F5
```

To encounter warnings is normal, as they depend on your setup and configuration. Here are explanations for the warnings:

- **gpg: no ultimately trusted keys found**: This means that the specific key is not "ultimately trusted" by you or your web of trust, which is okay for the purposes of verifying file signatures.

- **WARNING: This key is not certified with a trusted signature! There is no indication that the signature belongs to the owner.**: This refers to your level of trust in your belief that you possess our real public key. This is a personal decision. Ideally, a MySQL developer would hand you the key in person, but more commonly, you downloaded it. Was the download tampered with? Probably not, but this decision is up to you. Setting up a web of trust is one method for trusting them.

If the GPG signatures do not match, try to download the respective package one more time.

For additional information about GnuPG signature checking, see [Signature Checking Using GnuPG](#).
Chapter 4 Installing the MySQL Binary Package

This section covers installation prerequisites, creating the mysql user and group, and unpacking the distribution.

- Installation Prerequisites
- Creating the mysql User and Group
- Unpacking the Distribution

Installation Prerequisites

- The installation must be performed as an operating system root user, as the installation process involves creating a user, a group, directories, and assigning ownership and permissions. Installed MySQL binaries are owned by the operating system root user.

  **Note**

  Unless otherwise indicated, procedures in this guide are performed as the operating system root user.

- MySQL has a dependency on the libaio library. Data directory initialization and subsequent server startup steps fail if this library is not installed locally. If necessary, install it using the appropriate package manager. For example, on Yum-based systems:

  ```shell
  shell> yum search libaio  # search for info
  shell> yum install libaio  # install library
  ```

Creating the mysql User and Group

The mysql user owns the MySQL data directory. It is also used to run the mysqld server process, as defined in the systemd mysqld.service file (see Starting the Server using systemd). The mysql user has read and write access to anything in the MySQL data directory. It does not have the ability to log into MySQL. It only exists for ownership purposes.

The mysql group is the database administrator group. Users in this group have read and write access to anything in the MySQL data directory, and execute access on any packaged MySQL binary.

This command adds the mysql group:

```shell
shell> groupadd -g 27 -o -r mysql
```

The groupadd -g 27 and -o options assign a non-unique group ID (GID). The -r option makes the group a system group.

This command adds the mysql user:

```shell
shell> useradd -M -N -g mysql -o -r -d datadir -s /bin/false -c "MySQL Server" -u 27 mysql
```

- The -M option prevents the creation of a user home directory.
- The -N option indicates that the user should be added to the group specified by the -g option.
- The -o and -u 27 options assign a non-unique user ID (UID).
- The -r and -s /bin/false options create a user without login permissions to the server host. The mysql user is required only for ownership purposes, not login purposes.
Unpacking the Distribution

To extract the binary files from the verified MySQL Linux Generic Binary download package:

1. Change location to the directory under which you want to unpack the MySQL distribution. In this deployment, the distribution is unpackaged by root under /usr/local.
   
   shell> cd /usr/local

2. Unpack the MySQL distribution, which creates the installation directory. Any modern `tar` program can uncompress and unpack the distribution with this command:
   
   shell> tar xvf /path/to/mysql-commercial-8.0.xx-linux-glibc2.12-x86_64.tar.xz

   The `tar` command creates a directory named `mysql-VERSION-OS`. In this case, the directory is named `mysql-commercial-8.0.xx-linux-glibc2.12-x86_64`, where `xx` is the latest release.

3. Create a relative symbolic link to the installation directory created by `tar`:
   
   shell> cd /usr/local
   shell> ln -s mysql-commercial-8.0.xx-linux-glibc2.12-x86_64 mysql

   The `ln` command makes a symbolic link to the installation directory. This enables you to refer more easily to it as `/usr/local/mysql`.

   **Note**
   
   To avoid typing the path name of client programs when working with MySQL, add the `/usr/local/mysql/bin` directory to your `PATH` variable:
   
   shell> export PATH=/usr/local/mysql/bin:$PATH

Unpacking the distribution creates the directories shown in the following table. The directories are located in the MySQL installation directory, which is `/usr/local/mysql`:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Directory</th>
<th>Contents of Directory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bin</td>
<td><code>mysqlld</code> server; client and utility programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>docs</td>
<td>MySQL manual in Info format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>man</td>
<td>Unix manual pages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>include</td>
<td>Include (header) files</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lib</td>
<td>Libraries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>share</td>
<td>Miscellaneous files, including error messages, sample configuration files, SQL for database installation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>support-files</td>
<td>Miscellaneous support files related to managing multiple server processes, automatic startup configuration, and log rotation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Also included in the MySQL installation directory are the `README` and `LICENSE` files. There is no data directory. It is created later when the data directory is initialized.
Chapter 5 Post Installation Setup

Post-installation setup involves creating a safe directory for import and export operations, configuring server startup options, initializing the data directory, starting MySQL using systemd, resetting the password for the MySQL root@localhost user account, and running a few tests to ensure that the server is working.

- Creating a Safe Directory For Import and Export Operations
- Configuring Server Startup Options
- Initializing the Data Directory
- Starting the Server using systemd
- Resetting the MySQL root Account Password
- Testing the Server

Creating a Safe Directory For Import and Export Operations

MySQL users with the FILE privilege have permission to read and write files on the server host using LOAD DATA INFILE and SELECT ... INTO OUTFILE statements, and the LOAD_FILE() function. By default, a user who has the FILE privilege can read any file on the server host that is either world-readable or readable by the MySQL server. (This implies the user can read any file in any database directory, because the server can access any of those files.) The FILE privilege also enables the user to create new files in any directory where the MySQL server has write access. This includes the server data directory containing the files that implement the privilege tables.

To limit the scope of the FILE privilege, create a directory that users with the FILE privilege can safely use for import and export operations. In this deployment, the directory created is named mysql-files and is located under the data directory. In a later step, when server startup options are configured, the secure_file_priv option is set to the mysql-files directory.

```
shell> cd /usr/local/mysql
shell> mkdir mysql-files
shell> chown mysql:mysql mysql-files
shell> chmod 750 mysql-files
```

Configuring Server Startup Options

Specify options that the MySQL server should use at startup by placing them in a MySQL configuration file. If you do not do this, the server starts with its default settings (see Server Configuration Defaults).

1. To create a MySQL configuration file, issue these commands as root:

```
shell> cd /etc
shell> touch my.cnf
shell> chown root:root my.cnf
shell> chmod 644 my.cnf
```
Note

If there is an existing *my.cnf* configuration file in the same location that belongs to another MySQL instance, use a different name for your configuration file.

2. Under a `[mysqld]` group entry, set the `datadir`, `socket`, `port`, `log-error` options for the instance. If there are other MySQL installations on the host, ensure that the values for these options are unique to this instance. This deployment uses the default values.

```ini
[mysqld]
datadir=/usr/local/mysql/data
socket=/tmp/mysql.sock
port=3306
log-error=/usr/local/mysql/data/localhost.localdomain.err
```

Important

The location of the MySQL data directory is critically important to the security of a MySQL installation. In addition to user data, the data directory contains data dictionary and system tables, which store sensitive information about database objects, users, privileges, and so on. Following the principle of least privilege, system user access to the data directory should be as restrictive as possible. The size of the file system where the data directory resides should also be considered. Ensure that the file system can accommodate the anticipated size of your data. The deployment described in this guide places the data directory in the default location (`/usr/local/mysql/data`), and access to the directory is limited to the `mysql` operating system user account.

3. Set the `user` option to ensure that the server is started as the unprivileged `mysql` user account. For security reasons, it is important to avoid running the server as the operating system `root` user.

```ini
user=mysql
```

4. If you intend to permit import and export operations, set the `secure_file_priv` system variable to the path of the `mysql-files` directory that you created previously. This option limits file import and export operations, such as those performed by the `LOAD DATA` and `SELECT ... INTO OUTFILE` statements and the `LOAD_FILE()` function, to the specified directory. If you do not intend to permit import or export operations, set `secure_file_priv` to `NULL`, which disables import and export operations entirely. `NULL` is the default setting.

```ini
secure_file_priv=/usr/local/mysql/mysql-files
```

5. To avoid potential security issues with the `LOCAL` version of `LOAD DATA`, ensure that `local_infile` is disabled, which it is by default.

```ini
local_infile=OFF
```

For more information, see Security Issues with LOAD DATA LOCAL.

After completing the steps above, the configuration file should contain these settings, assuming you have not added others:

```ini
[mysqld]
datadir=/usr/local/mysql/data
socket=/tmp/mysql.sock
port=3306
log-error=/usr/local/mysql/data/localhost.localdomain.err
```
Initializing the Data Directory

After installing MySQL, you must initialize the data directory, which includes the `mysql` system database and its tables, including grant tables, server-side help tables, and time zone tables. Initialization also creates the `root@localhost` superuser account and the InnoDB system tablespace and related data structures required to manage InnoDB tables.

To initialize the data directory:

1. Change location to the top-level directory of the MySQL installation, create the data directory, and grant ownership to the `mysql` user.

   ```
   shell> cd /usr/local/mysql
   shell> mkdir data
   shell> chmod 750 data
   shell> chown mysql:mysql data
   ```

   **Note**

   Data directory ownership is assigned to the `mysql` user, but most of the MySQL installation remains owned by `root`. Other exceptions are the error log file, the `mysql-files` directory, the pid file, and socket file, to which the `mysql` user must have write access. Files and resources that the `mysql` user requires read access to include configuration files (e.g., `/etc/my.cnf`) and the MySQL binaries (`/usr/local/mysql/bin`).

2. Initialize the data directory.

   ```
   shell> cd /usr/local/mysql
   shell> bin/mysqld --defaults-file=/etc/my.cnf --initialize
   ```

   Initialization output is printed to the error log (`/usr/local/mysql/data/localhost.localdomain.err`) and appears similar to the output shown below. The output includes a random initial password for the `root@localhost` account. The initial password is required later when resetting the `root@localhost` password.

   ```
   2018-05-02T17:47:49.806563Z 0 [System] [MY-013169] [Server] /usr/local/mysql-commercial-8.0.11-linux-glibc2.12-x86_64/bin/mysqld (mysqld 8.0.11-commercial) initializing of server in progress as process 16039
   2018-05-02T17:47:54.083010Z 5 [Note] [MY-010454] [Server] A temporary password is generated for root@localhost: uZmx9ihSd2;.
   2018-05-02T17:47:56.225881Z 0 [System] [MY-013170] [Server] /usr/local/mysql-commercial-8.0.11-linux-glibc2.12-x86_64/bin/mysqld (mysqld 8.0.11-commercial) initializing of server has completed
   ```

   **Note**

   Data directory initialization creates time zone tables in the `mysql` database but does not populate them. To do so, refer to the instructions in MySQL Server Time Zone Support.

For more information about data directory initialization, see Initializing the Data Directory.

**Starting the Server using systemd**

This section describes how to start the server with systemd and how to enable automatic restart of the MySQL server when the host is rebooted.
Starting the Server using systemd

systemd provides manual server management using the `systemctl` command:

```
systemctl {start|stop|restart|status} mysqld
```

To configure the MySQL installation to work with systemd:

1. Add a systemd service unit configuration file with details about the MySQL service. The file is named `mysqld.service` and is placed in `/usr/lib/systemd/system`.

   ```shell
   cd /usr/lib/systemd/system
   touch mysqld.service
   chmod 644 mysqld.service
   
   Add this configuration information to the `mysqld.service` file:

   ```
   [Unit]
   Description=MySQL Server
   Documentation=man:mysqld(8)
   After=network.target
   After=syslog.target
   
   [Install]
   WantedBy=multi-user.target
   
   [Service]
   User=mysql
   Group=mysql
   # Have mysqld write its state to the systemd notify socket
   Type=notify
   # Disable service start and stop timeout logic of systemd for mysqld service.
   TimeoutSec=0
   # Start main service
   ExecStart=/usr/local/mysql/bin/mysqld --defaults-file=/etc/my.cnf $MYSQLD_OPTS
   # Use this to switch malloc implementation
   EnvironmentFile=-/etc/sysconfig/mysql
   # Sets open_files_limit
   LimitNOFILE = 10000
   Restart=on-failure
   RestartPreventExitStatus=1
   # Set environment variable MYSQLD_PARENT_PID. This is required for restart.
   Environment=MYSQLD_PARENT_PID=1
   PrivateTmp=false
   ```

2. Enable the `mysqld` service to automatically start at reboot.

   ```shell
   systemctl enable mysqld.service
   Created symlink from /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/mysqld.service to /usr/lib/systemd/system/mysqld.service.
   ```

3. To ensure the systemd configuration works, start the `mysqld` service manually using `systemctl`.

   ```shell
   systemctl start mysqld
   ```

4. Check the status of the `mysqld` service. The output should appear similar to the following, which shows that the `mysqld` service was started successfully.
Resetting the MySQL root Account Password

This procedure assumes that the MySQL server is running. You can check server status by issuing:

```shell
shell> systemctl status mysqld
```

When the data directory was initialized, a random initial password was generated for the MySQL root account (`root@localhost`) and marked as expired. Perform these steps to set a new password:

1. Using the `mysql` client, connect to the server as `root@localhost` using the random password that the server generated during the initialization sequence:

   ```shell
   cd /usr/local/mysql
   bin/mysql -u root -p
   Enter password: (enter the random root password here)
   
   mysql>
   
   ALTER USER 'root'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'password';
   ```

2. After connecting, assign a new `root@localhost` password. Use a strong password that conforms to the default password policy imposed by the Password Validation Plugin, which is enabled in a later step. (See Chapter 6, *Installing the MySQL Password Validation Component*.)

   The password must be at least 8 characters long, contain at least 1 numeric character, 1 lowercase character, 1 uppercase character, and 1 special (nonalphanumeric) character. Additionally, the password should not match the user name part of the effective user account for the current session, either forward or in reverse.

   ```sql
   mysql> ALTER USER 'root'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'password';
   ```

Testing the Server

Now that MySQL is installed and initialized, and the MySQL root user password is reset, perform a couple of simple tests to verify that the server works.
1. Use `mysqlshow` to verify that you can retrieve information from the server.

```
shell> cd /usr/local/mysql
shell> bin/mysqlshow -u root -p
Enter password: (enter root password here)
+--------------------+
    Databases      
+--------------------+
| information_schema |
| mysql              |
| performance_schema |
| sys                |
+--------------------+
```

2. Use `mysqladmin` to view MySQL server version information.

```
shell> cd /usr/local/mysql
shell> bin/mysqladmin -u root -p version
Enter password: (enter root password here)
```

The output should be similar to that shown here:

```
bin/mysqladmin  Ver 8.0.11-commercial for linux-glibc2.12 on x86_64
(MySQL Enterprise Server - Commercial)
Copyright (c) 2000, 2018, Oracle and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.
Oracle is a registered trademark of Oracle Corporation and/or its
affiliates. Other names may be trademarks of their respective
owners.
Server version 8.0.11-commercial
Protocol version 10
Connection Localhost via UNIX socket
UNIX socket /tmp/mysql.sock
Uptime: 1 hour 12 min 0 sec
Threads: 3 Questions: 7 Slow queries: 0 Opens: 137 Flush tables: 2
Open tables: 113 Queries per second avg: 0.001
```

For additional tests, see Testing the Server.
Chapter 6 Installing the MySQL Password Validation Component

The validate_password component serves to test passwords and improve security. The component exposes a set of system variables that enable you to define a password policy.

The component implements two capabilities:

- In statements that assign a password supplied as a cleartext value, the component checks the password against the current password policy and rejects the password if it is weak. This affects the ALTER USER, CREATE USER, GRANT, and SET PASSWORD statements.

- The validate_password() SQL function assesses the strength of potential passwords. The function takes a password argument and returns an integer from 0 (weak) to 100 (strong).

The validate_password component provides three levels of password checking: LOW, MEDIUM, and STRONG. The default is MEDIUM; controlled by the validate_password.policy system variable. The policies implement increasingly strict password tests.

- The LOW policy tests password length only. Passwords must be at least 8 characters long. To change this length, modify validate_password.length.

- The MEDIUM policy adds the conditions that passwords must contain at least 1 numeric character, 1 lowercase character, 1 uppercase character, and 1 special (nonalphanumeric) character. To change these values, modify validate_password.number_count, validate_password.mixed_case_count, and validate_password.special_char_count.

- The STRONG policy adds the condition that password substrings of length 4 or longer must not match words in the dictionary file, if one has been specified. To specify the dictionary file, modify validate_password.dictionary_file.

In addition, the validate_password component can reject passwords that match the user name part of the effective user account for the current session, either forward or in reverse. To provide control over this capability, validate_password exposes a validate_password.check_user_name system variable, which is enabled by default.

To install and configure the password validation component:

1. Ensure that the validate_password component library file is located in the MySQL plugin directory.

   shell> cd /path/to/mysql/lib/plugin/
   shell> ls component_v*
   component_validate_password.so

   Ensure that the plugin_dir is set to the server the MySQL plugin directory.

   mysql> SELECT @@plugin_dir;
   +--------------------------------------------+
   | @@plugin_dir                               |
   +--------------------------------------------+
   | /path/to/mysql/lib/plugin/                 |
   +--------------------------------------------+

   Install the validate_password component using the INSTALL COMPONENT statement:

   mysql> INSTALL COMPONENT 'file://component_validate_password';
Component installation is a one-time operation that need not be done per server startup. `INSTALL COMPONENT` loads the component, and also registers it in the `mysql.component` system table to cause it to be loaded during subsequent server startups.

2. Add these options under the `[mysqld]` option group in the MySQL configuration file (`/etc/my.cnf`) so that you can adjust them as necessary. The default values are used in this deployment.

```plaintext
validate_password.policy=1
validate_password.length=8
validate_password.number_count=1
validate_password.mixed_case_count=1
validate_password.special_char_count=1
validate_password.check_user_name=1
```

- **validate_password.policy=1**
  
  The password policy enforced by `validate_password`. A value of 1 is `MEDIUM`. By default, the `MEDIUM` policy specifies that passwords must be at least 8 characters long, contain at least 1 numeric character, 1 lowercase character, 1 uppercase character, and 1 special (nonalphanumeric) character. 1 (`MEDIUM`) is the default setting.

- **validate_password.length=8**
  
  The minimum number of characters that `validate_password` requires passwords to have.

- **validate_password.number_count=1**
  
  The minimum number of lowercase and uppercase characters that `validate_password` requires passwords to have if the password policy is `MEDIUM` or stronger.

- **validate_password.mixed_case_count=1**
  
  The minimum number of numeric (digit) characters that `validate_password` requires passwords to have if the password policy is `MEDIUM` or stronger.

- **validate_password.special_char_count=1**
  
  The minimum number of nonalphanumeric characters that `validate_password` requires passwords to have if the password policy is `MEDIUM` or stronger.

- **validate_password.check_user_name=1**
  
  Rejects passwords that match the user name part of the effective user account for the current session, either forward or in reverse.

**Note**

`validate_password.dictionary_file` is not used in this deployment. By default, this variable has an empty value and dictionary checks are not performed. For the dictionary file to be used during password checking, the password policy must be set to 2 (STRONG); see the description of the `validate_password.policy` system variable for more information.

3. To verify component installation, query the `mysql.component` table:

```plaintext
shell> cd /usr/local/mysql
shell> bin/mysqladmin -u root -p version
Enter password: (enter root password here)

mysql> SELECT * FROM mysql.component;
```
4. To verify that the password validation component works, attempt to create a user with a non-compliant password:

```sql
mysql> CREATE USER 'bob.smith'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'abc';
ERROR 1819 (HY000): Your password does not satisfy the current policy requirements
```

For more information about the password validation component, see The Password Validation Component.
Chapter 7 Installing MySQL Enterprise Audit

MySQL Enterprise Audit enables standard, policy-based monitoring and logging of connection and query activity, providing an auditing and compliance solution for applications that are governed by both internal and external regulatory guidelines.

When installed, the audit plugin enables the MySQL server to produce a log file containing an audit record of server activity. The log contents include when clients connect and disconnect, and what actions they perform while connected, such as which databases and tables they access.

After you install the plugin, it writes an audit log file. By default, the file is named `audit.log` and is located in the data directory.

To install MySQL Enterprise Audit:

1. Run the `audit_log_filter_linux_install.sql` script located in the `share` directory of your MySQL installation.

```
shell> cd /usr/local/mysql
shell> bin/mysql -u root -p < /usr/local/mysql/share/audit_log_filter_linux_install.sql
Enter password: (enter root password here)
Result
OK
```

2. Verify the plugin installation by logging in as root and examining the `INFORMATION_SCHEMA.PLUGINS` table or using the `SHOW PLUGINS` statement.

```
shell> cd /usr/local/mysql
shell> bin/mysqladmin -u root -p version
Enter password: (enter root password here)

mysql> SELECT PLUGIN_NAME, PLUGIN_STATUS
FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.PLUGINS
WHERE PLUGIN_NAME LIKE 'audit%';
+-------------+---------------+
| PLUGIN_NAME | PLUGIN_STATUS |
+-------------+---------------+
| audit_log   | ACTIVE        |
+-------------+---------------+
```

3. To prevent the plugin from being removed at runtime, add the `--audit-log` option under the `[mysqld]` option group in the MySQL configuration file (`/etc/my.cnf`) with a setting of `FORCE_PLUS_PERMANENT`.

```
audit-log=FORCE_PLUS_PERMANENT
```

4. Restart the server to apply the configuration change:

```
shell> systemctl restart mysqld
```

5. By default, rule-based audit log filtering logs no auditable events for any users. To produce log-everything behavior with rule-based filtering, create a simple filter to enable logging and assign it to the default account:

```
mysql> SELECT audit_log_filter_set_filter('log_all', '{ "filter": { "log": true } }');
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------+
| audit_log_filter_set_filter('log_all', '{ "filter": { "log": true } }') |
| OK                                                                      |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------------+
The filter assigned to `%` is used for connections from any account that has no explicitly assigned filter (which initially is true for all accounts).

6. To verify that events are being logged, issue a statement such as `SHOW DATABASES` and check the `audit.log` file contents for the log event.

```
shell> cd /usr/local/mysql
shell> bin/mysqladmin -u root -p version
Enter password: (enter root password here)
```

```
mysql> SHOW DATABASES;
+--------------------+
| Database           |
+--------------------+
| information_schema |
| mysql              |
| performance_schema |
| sys                |
+--------------------+
```

The `SHOW DATABASES` statement run as `root@localhost` writes a log event to `audit.log` similar to the following:

```
<AUDIT_RECORD>
<TIMESTAMP>2018-04-20T11:28:02 UTC</TIMESTAMP>
<RECORD_ID>7_2018-04-20T11:27:29</RECORD_ID>
<NAME>Query</NAME>
<CONNECTION_ID>9</CONNECTION_ID>
<STATUS>0</STATUS>
<STATUS_CODE>0</STATUS_CODE>
<USER>root[root] @ localhost [</USER>
<OS_LOGIN/>
<HOST>localhost</HOST>
<IP/>
<COMMAND_CLASS>show_databases</COMMAND_CLASS>
<SQLTEXT>SHOW DATABASES</SQLTEXT>
</AUDIT_RECORD>
```

**Note**

Contents of the audit log file may contain sensitive information, such as the text of SQL statements. For security reasons, the file should be written to a directory accessible only to the MySQL server and users with a legitimate reason to view the log. The default audit log file is named `audit.log` and is located in the data directory. In this deployment, the data directory is owned by the `mysql` user. This location of the audit log file can be changed at server startup using the `audit_log_file` system variable.

Optionally, audit log files may also be encrypted. Encryption is based on a user-defined password. To use this feature, the MySQL keyring must be enabled. Audit logging uses the MySQL keyring for password storage. For more information, see [Audit Log File Encryption](#).

For more information about configuring MySQL Enterprise Audit, see MySQL Enterprise Audit.
Chapter 8 Installing MySQL Enterprise Firewall

MySQL Enterprise Firewall is an application-level firewall that enables database administrators to permit or deny SQL statement execution based on matching against whitelists of accepted statement patterns. This helps harden MySQL against attacks such as SQL injection or attempts to exploit applications by using them outside of their legitimate query workload characteristics.

Each MySQL account registered with the firewall has its own statement whitelist, enabling protection to be tailored per account. For a given account, the firewall can operate in recording, protecting, or detecting mode, for training in the accepted statement patterns, active protection against unacceptable statements, or passive detection of unacceptable statements.

MySQL Enterprise Firewall installation is a one-time operation that involves running a script located in the share directory of your MySQL installation.

To install MySQL Enterprise Firewall:

1. Run the `linux_install_firewall.sql` script that is located in the `/usr/local/mysql/share` directory.

   The installation script creates stored procedures in the default database, so choose a database to use. Then run the script as follows, naming the chosen database on the command line. This deployment uses the `mysql` database.

   ```
   cd /usr/local/mysql
   bin/mysql -u root -p mysql < /usr/local/mysql/share/linux_install_firewall.sql
   Enter password: (enter root password here)
   ```

2. To enable the firewall, enable the `mysql_firewall_mode` system variable. By default, this variable is enabled when the firewall is installed. To configure the firewall state explicitly, add it under the `[mysqld]` option group in the MySQL configuration file:

   ```
   mysql_firewall_mode=ON
   ```

3. Restart MySQL server to apply the new configuration settings.

   ```
   systemctl restart mysqld
   ```

4. To verify that MySQL Enterprise Firewall is enabled, connect to the server and execute this statement:

   ```
   cd /usr/local/mysql
   bin/mysql -u root -p
   Enter password: (enter the root password here)
   
   mysql> SHOW GLOBAL VARIABLES LIKE 'mysql_firewall_mode';
   +---------------------+-------+
   | Variable_name       | Value |
   +---------------------+-------+
   | mysql_firewall_mode | ON    |
   +---------------------+-------+
   ```

MySQL Enterprise Firewall is now enabled and ready for use. For information about registering accounts with the firewall and configuring operational modes, see Using MySQL Enterprise Firewall. An example is provided that demonstrates how to register an account with the firewall, use the firewall to learn acceptable statements for the account, and protect the account against execution of unacceptable statements.
Chapter 9 Installing Connection Control Plugins

The connection-control plugin library enables administrators to introduce an increasing delay in server response to clients after a certain number of consecutive failed connection attempts. This capability provides a deterrent that slows down brute force attacks that attempt to access MySQL user accounts. The connection-control plugin library contains two plugins:

- The `CONNECTION_CONTROL` plugin checks incoming connections and adds a delay to server responses as necessary. This plugin also exposes system variables that enable plugin operation to be configured and a status variable that provides rudimentary monitoring information.

- The `CONNECTION_CONTROL_FAILED_LOGIN_ATTEMPTS` plugin implements the `INFORMATION_SCHEMA.CONNECTION_CONTROL_FAILED_LOGIN_ATTEMPTS` table that exposes additional monitoring information for failed connection attempts.

To install the connection-control plugins:

1. Add these options under the `[mysqld]` option group in the MySQL configuration file (`/etc/my.cnf`):

```
plugin-load-add=connection_control.so
connection-control=FORCE_PLUS_PERMANENT
connection-control-failed-login-attempts=FORCE_PLUS_PERMANENT
```

   - `plugin-load-add=connection_control.so` Loads the `connection_control.so` library each time the server is started.
   - `connection-control=FORCE_PLUS_PERMANENT` Prevents the server from running without the `CONNECTION_CONTROL` plugin, and server startup fails if the plugin does not initialize successfully.
   - `connection-control-failed-login-attempts=FORCE_PLUS_PERMANENT` Prevents the server from running without the `CONNECTION_CONTROL_FAILED_LOGIN_ATTEMPTS` plugin, and server startup fails if the plugin does not initialize successfully.

2. To verify plugin installation, restart the server and examine the `INFORMATION_SCHEMA.PLUGINS` table or use the `SHOW PLUGINS` statement:

```
shell> systemctl restart mysqld
shell> cd /usr/local/mysql
shell> bin/mysqladmin -u root -p version
Enter password: (enter root password here)
```

```
mysql> SELECT PLUGIN_NAME, PLUGIN_STATUS
FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.PLUGINS
WHERE PLUGIN_NAME LIKE 'connection%';
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLUGIN_NAME</th>
<th>PLUGIN_STATUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CONNECTION_CONTROL</td>
<td>ACTIVE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONNECTION_CONTROL_FAILED_LOGIN_ATTEMPTS</td>
<td>ACTIVE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Configuring Connection Delays

The server response delay for failed connection attempts is configured using these server parameters:
Monitoring Failed Connection Attempts

- **connection_control_failed_connections_threshold**
  The number of consecutive failed connection attempts permitted to clients before the server adds a delay for subsequent connection attempts.

- **connection_control_min_connection_delay**
  The amount of delay to add for each consecutive connection failure above the threshold.

- **connection_control_max_connection_delay**
  The maximum delay to add.

Add these options under the [mysqld] option group in the MySQL configuration file (/etc/my.cnf) so that you can adjust them later as necessary. The default values are used in this deployment.

```plaintext
connection_control_failed_connections_threshold=3
connection_control_min_connection_delay=1000
connection_control_max_connection_delay=2147483647
```

For more information about server response delay configuration, see [Connection-Control Plugin Installation](#).

**Monitoring Failed Connection Attempts**

Failed connection attempts can be monitored using these information sources:

- The `Connection_control_delay_generated` status variable indicates the number of times the server added a delay to its response to a failed connection attempt. This status variable does not count attempts that occur before reaching the threshold defined by the `connection_control_failed_connections_threshold` system variable.

- The `INFORMATION_SCHEMA.CONNECTION_CONTROL_FAILED_LOGIN_ATTEMPTS` table, enabled by the `CONNECTION_CONTROL_FAILED_LOGIN_ATTEMPTS` plugin, provides information about the current number of consecutive failed connection attempts per client user/host combination. All failed connection attempts are counted, not just those that were delayed.

To test the connection-control plugin and view monitoring data:

1. Open a terminal and connect to the server as root:

   ```bash
   cd /usr/local/mysql
   bin/mysql -u root -p
   Enter password: (enter the root password here)
   ```

2. Open a second terminal and perform four connection attempts as root, specifying an incorrect password each time. There should be a small but noticeable delay on the fourth connection attempt.

   ```bash
   cd /usr/local/mysql
   bin/mysql -u root -p
   Enter password: (enter incorrect password here)
   ```

3. In the first terminal, issue this statement to view `Connection_control_delay_generated` status variable data. Connection attempts that exceed the `connection_control_failed_connections_threshold` threshold value of 3 are counted.

   ```sql
   mysql> SHOW STATUS LIKE 'Connection_control_delay_generated';
   +-------------------------------+-------+
   | Variable_name                 | Value |
   +-------------------------------+-------+
   ```
4. In the first terminal, issue this statement to view
INFORMATION_SCHEMA.CONNECTION_CONTROL_FAILED_LOGIN_ATTEMPTS data. All four failed
connection attempts are counted.

```sql
mysql> SELECT FAILED_ATTEMPTS FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.CONNECTION_CONTROL_FAILED_LOGIN_ATTEMPTS;
+-----------------+
| FAILED_ATTEMPTS |
+-----------------+
|               4 |
+-----------------+
```
Chapter 10 Block Encryption Mode Configuration

If you use the `AES_ENCRYPT()` encryption function, a block encryption mode with a CBC mode value and key length of 256 is recommended.

The `block_encryption_mode` variable controls the block encryption mode. The default setting is `aes-128-ecb`. Set this option to `aes-256-cbc`, for example, under the `[mysqld]` option group in the MySQL configuration file (`/etc/my.cnf`):

```bash
block_encryption_mode=aes-256-cbc
```

When using the `AES_ENCRYPT()` function, an initialization vector (the `key_str` value) must be supplied. This value is required for decryption and should be managed carefully.

For more information about `block_encryption_mode` configuration, see the `AES_DECRYPT()` function description. For information about how block modes work, see Block cipher mode of operation.
Chapter 11 Enabling Authentication

When a client connects to the MySQL server, the server uses the user name provided by the client and the client host to select the account row from the `mysql.user` table. The server authenticates the client, determining from the account row which authentication plugin applies to the client. The server invokes that plugin to authenticate the user, and the plugin returns a status to the server indicating whether the user is permitted to connect.

This deployment uses the `caching_sha2_password` and `auth_socket` authentication plugins for user authentication.

Caching SHA-2 Authentication

In MySQL 8.0, `caching_sha2_password` is the default authentication plugin rather than `mysql_native_password`, which was the default in MySQL 5.7.

The server-side `caching_sha2_password` plugin is built into the server and it does not need to be loaded explicitly. Therefore, no server-side configuration is required to use it.

The client-side plugin is built into the `libmysqlclient` library (MySQL 8.0.4 and higher) and is available to any program linked against `libmysqlclient`. For a list of compatible clients and connectors, see `caching_sha2_password-Compatible Clients and Connectors`.

The `caching_sha2_password` plugin uses a SHA-2 algorithm that provides 256-bit password encryption. Passwords are salted with random data before SHA-256 transformations are applied. The resulting hashed values are stored in the `mysql.user` table. Using a salt helps defend against dictionary attacks on stored password hash values.

The `caching_sha2_password` plugin requires a secure connection (made using TLS credentials, a Unix socket file, or shared memory) or an unencrypted connection that supports password exchange using an RSA key pair. However, the performance cost associated with a secure connection is mitigated by the caching capability of the plugin. Once a hashed password is cached in memory, authentication can be performed over an unencrypted channel using a SHA256-based challenge-response mechanism, which means faster authentication for users that have connected previously.

Note

Changing a password, renaming a user, and `FLUSH PRIVILEGES` operations invalidate cached password hash values. When a cached password hash value is invalidated, a secure connection is required again for password exchange.

User accounts created later in this deployment use `caching_sha2_password` authentication. See Chapter 13, Creating User Accounts. TLS and RSA key pair connection methods are demonstrated in Chapter 14, Connecting to the Server.

For additional information about the `caching_sha2_password` plugin, see Caching SHA-2 Pluggable Authentication.

Socket Peer-Credential Authentication

This section describes how to enable the server-side `auth_socket` authentication plugin, which authenticates clients that connect to the MySQL server from the local host through the Unix socket file. `auth_socket` authentication is well suited to server administration user accounts for which access must be tightly restricted.

The `auth_socket` plugin checks whether the socket user name matches the MySQL user name specified by the client program to the server. If the names do not match, the plugin also checks whether the socket user name matches the name specified in the `authentication_string` column of the `mysql.user` table row. If a match is found, the plugin permits the connection.
Socket Peer-Credential Authentication

For example, suppose that a MySQL account is created for a user named `valerie` who is to be authenticated by the `auth_socket` plugin for connections from the local host through the socket file:

```sql
CREATE USER 'valerie'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED WITH auth_socket;
```

If a user on the local host with a login name of `stefanie` invokes `mysql` with the option `--user=valerie` to connect through the socket file, the server uses `auth_socket` to authenticate the client. The plugin determines that the `--user` option value (`valerie`) differs from the client user’s name (`stefanie`) and refuses the connection. If a user named `valerie` tries the same thing, the plugin finds that the user name and the MySQL user name are both `valerie` and permits the connection. However, the plugin refuses the connection even for `valerie` if the connection is made using a different protocol, such as TCP/IP.

Users authenticated by the `auth_socket` need not specify a password when connecting to the server. However, users authenticated by the `auth_socket` plugin are restricted from connecting remotely; they can only connect from the local host through the Unix socket file.

To install the server-side `auth_socket` plugin:

1. Add these options under the `[mysqld]` option group in the MySQL configuration file (`/etc/my.cnf`):

   ```
   plugin-load-add=auth_socket.so
   auth_socket=FORCE_PLUS_PERMANENT
   ```

   • `plugin-load-add=auth_socket.so` Loads the `auth_socket.so` plugin library each time the server is started.

   • `auth_socket=FORCE_PLUS_PERMANENT` Prevents the server from running without the `auth_socket` plugin, and server startup fails if the plugin does not initialize successfully.

2. To verify plugin installation, restart the server and examine the `INFORMATION_SCHEMA.PLUGINS` table or use the `SHOW PLUGINS` statement:

   ```
   shell> systemctl restart mysqld
   ```

   ```
   shell> cd /usr/local/mysql
   shell> bin/mysqladmin -u root -p version
   Enter password: (enter root password here)
   ```

   ```
   mysql> SELECT PLUGIN_NAME, PLUGIN_STATUS
       FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.PLUGINS
       WHERE PLUGIN_NAME LIKE '%socket%';
   +-------------------+---------------+
   | PLUGIN_NAME       | PLUGIN_STATUS |
   +-------------------+---------------+
   | auth_socket       | ACTIVE        |
   +-------------------+---------------+
   ```

3. Optionally, modify the MySQL root user account to use the `auth_socket` plugin for authentication:

   ```
   mysql> ALTER USER 'root'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED WITH auth_socket;
   ```

4. To verify that the `root@localhost` account is using the `auth_socket` plugin, issue this query:

   ```
   mysql> SELECT user, plugin FROM mysql.user WHERE user IN ('root')
   ```

   ```
   +---------------+-------------------+
   | user          | plugin            |
   +---------------+-------------------+
   | root@localhost| auth_socket       |
   +---------------+-------------------+
5. To verify that the `auth_socket` plugin works, log in to the MySQL server host as the operating system root user and then connect to the MySQL server locally as the MySQL root user. You should be able to connect without specifying a password.

```
shell> cd /usr/local/mysql
shell> bin/mysql -u root
```

For more information about the `auth_socket` plugin, see Socket Peer-Credential Pluggable Authentication.
Chapter 12 Configuring MySQL to Use Secure Connections

This section describes configuring the server for secure connections and distributing client certificate and keys files.

• Configuring the Server for Secure Connections
• Distributing Client Certificate and Key Files

Configuring the Server for Secure Connections

1. MySQL requires certificate and key files to enable secure connections. By default, MySQL servers that are compiled using OpenSSL generate these files in the data directory at startup if they are not present. (MySQL Enterprise Edition is compiled using OpenSSL.) The only requirement is that the --ssl option is enabled, which it is by default, and no other --ssl-* options are specified.

a. Check the data directory of the MySQL installation to verify that server and client certificate and key files were generated:

```shell
shell> cd /usr/local/mysql/data
shell> ls *.pem
ca-key.pem  client-cert.pem  private_key.pem  server-cert.pem
c.a.pem      client-key.pem   public_key.pem   server-key.pem
```

Important

Generation of certificate files by MySQL helps lower the barrier to using TLS. However, these certificates are self-signed, which is not very secure. After you gain experience using the files generated by MySQL, consider obtaining a CA certificate from a registered certificate authority.

b. These options identify the certificate and key files the server uses when establishing a secure connection:

• `ssl-ca=ca.pem`
  Identifies the Certificate Authority (CA) certificate.

• `ssl-cert=server-cert.pem`
  Identifies the server public key certificate.

• `ssl-key=server-key.pem`
  Identifies the server private key.

To configure these options explicitly, add them under the `[mysqld]` option group in the MySQL configuration file (`/etc/my.cnf`):

```plaintext
ssl_ca=ca.pem
ssl_cert=server-cert.pem
ssl_key=server-key.pem
```

2. By default, the MySQL server accepts TCP/IP connections from MySQL user accounts on all server host IPv6 and IPv4 interfaces. You can make this configuration more restrictive by setting the `bind_address` configuration option to a specific IPv4 or IPv6 address so that the server only accepts TCP/IP connections on that address.
For example, to have the MySQL server only accept connections on a specific IPv4 address, add an entry similar to this under the [mysqld] option group in the MySQL configuration file (/etc/my.cnf):

```
bind_address=192.0.2.24
```

In this case, clients can connect to the server using `--host=192.0.2.24`. Connections on other server host addresses are not permitted.

For more information about `bind_address` configuration, see Server Command Options.

3. The `tls_version` option defines protocols permitted by the server for encrypted connections. To ensure that clients connect to the server using TLSv1.2, which provides greater security than earlier TLS versions, set `tls_version` to TLSv1.2. When compiled using OpenSSL 1.0.1 or higher, MySQL supports the TLSv1, TLSv1.1, and TLSv1.2 protocols.

```
tls_version=TLSv1.2
```

With this setting, only clients that support TLSv1.2 are able to establish an encrypted connection to the server. MySQL Enterprise Edition clients in MySQL 5.6 and higher support TLSv1.2.

4. To further harden your deployment, you can limit the number of permissible ciphers to use for connection encryption using the `ssl_cipher` configuration option.

For example, to permit a single cipher, add an entry similar to this under the [mysqld] option group in the MySQL configuration file (/etc/my.cnf):

```
ssl_cipher=DHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256
```

To specify more than one cipher, separate cipher names with colons.

You can determine which ciphers a given server supports by establishing an encrypted connection to the server and issuing the following statement to check the value of the `Ssl_cipher_list` status variable:

```
mysql> SHOW SESSION STATUS LIKE 'Ssl_cipher_list'\G
```

For more information about ciphers, see Encrypted Connection TLS Protocols and Ciphers.

5. Optionally, to require that all clients connect to the server securely, you can enable the `require_secure_transport` option. When this option is enabled, the server only permits TCP/IP connections that use TLS, or that use a socket file (on Unix) or shared memory (on Windows). Connections that use insecure transport are prohibited, including unencrypted connections that use RSA key pair-based password exchange.

The `require_secure_transport` option is not used in this deployment so that RSA key pair-based password exchange over an unencrypted connection can be demonstrated. (See Using RSA Key Pair-Based Password Exchange Over an Unencrypted Connection.)

```
shell> systemctl restart mysqld
```

6. Restart the server to apply the configuration changes:
Distributing Client Certificate and Key Files

Client certificate and key files are created in the MySQL data directory by default. Permissions for the data directory enable access only to the mysql account that runs the MySQL server, so client programs cannot use files located there. To make the files available to clients, either distribute the files to client hosts or place them on a mounted partition that is accessible to clients. The files should reside in a directory that is readable (but not writable) by the client. Use a secure channel when distributing the files to ensure they are not tampered with during transit.

The client certificate and key files to distribute include:

- `ca.pem` (CA certificate)
- `client-cert.pem` (Client certificate)
- `client-key.pem` (Client private key)

The `ca.pem`, `client-cert.pem`, and `client-key.pem` files are used later to establish an encrypted connection to the server.

Optionally, also distribute the RSA public key file (`public_key.pem`). For OpenSSL-compiled mysql clients that authenticate using the `sha256_password` plugin, this file is used for RSA key pair-based password exchange with the server over an unencrypted connection.

The location of the files on the client host or mounted partition is required later when connecting to the server.
Chapter 13 Creating User Accounts

This section describes how to create user accounts. It demonstrates configuring password history, reuse, and expiration policies, using security-related CREATE USER options, granting user privileges, and verifying user privileges and authentication.

Two user accounts are created: user1 and user2. The user1 account is defined with an SSL/TLS option that requires an encrypted connection. The user2 account is defined without an SSL/TLS option (REQUIRE NONE) so that it can be used to demonstrate RSA key pair-based password exchange with the server over an unencrypted connection.

1. Define global password history, reuse, and expiration policies:
   a. A global password history policy is defined using the password_history system variable. The default setting is 0, which means that there is no restriction. To require a specified number of password changes before the same password can be reused, add an entry similar to this under the [mysqld] option group in the MySQL configuration file (/etc/my.cnf):

   ```
   password_history=12
   ```

   A setting of 12 means that a minimum of 12 password changes must occur before a password can be reused.

   b. A global password reuse policy is defined using the password_reuse_interval system variable. The default setting is 0, which means that there is no restriction. To require that a specified number of days pass before the same password can be reused, add an entry similar to this under the [mysqld] option group in the MySQL configuration file (/etc/my.cnf):

   ```
   password_reuse_interval=1095
   ```

   A setting of 1095 means that a minimum of 1095 days must pass before a password can be reused.

   c. A global automatic password expiration policy is defined using the default_password_lifetime system variable. The default setting is 0, which disables automatic password expiration. To have passwords automatically expire after a specified number of days, add an entry similar to this under the [mysqld] option group in the MySQL configuration file (/etc/my.cnf):

   ```
   default_password_lifetime=120
   ```

   A setting of 120 means that the lifetime of a password is 120 days, after which it automatically expires.

   Restart the server to apply the configuration changes:

   ```
   shell> systemctl restart mysqld
   ```

2. Log in as root.

   ```
   shell> cd /usr/local/mysql
   shell> bin/mysql -u root -p
   Enter password: (enter root password here)
   ```

3. Create the user accounts. The following statements create user accounts named 'user1'@'203.0.113.11' and 'user1'@'203.0.113.12', where 203.0.113.11 and 203.0.113.12 are the IP addresses of the client hosts. The statements include security-related
options for enabling authentication, defining SSL/TSL requirements, limiting server resource usage, and managing password expiration.

```sql
mysql> CREATE USER 'user1'@'203.0.113.11' IDENTIFIED WITH caching_sha2_password BY 'password'
    REQUIRE X509 WITH MAX_USER_CONNECTIONS 3 PASSWORD HISTORY DEFAULT
    PASSWORD REUSE INTERVAL DEFAULT PASSWORD EXPIRE DEFAULT;
```

```sql
mysql> CREATE USER 'user2'@'203.0.113.12' IDENTIFIED WITH caching_sha2_password BY 'password'
    REQUIRE NONE WITH MAX_USER_CONNECTIONS 3 PASSWORD HISTORY DEFAULT
    PASSWORD REUSE INTERVAL DEFAULT PASSWORD EXPIRE DEFAULT;
```

**CREATE USER statement options:**

- **IDENTIFIED WITH caching_sha2_password BY 'password'**

  Sets the account authentication plugin to `sha256_password`, passes the cleartext `password` value to the plugin for hashing, and stores the result in the `mysql.user` account row.

  **Note**

  The `password` value specified must conform to the password policy enabled by the `validate_password` plugin. The password policy requires that a password be at least 8 characters long, contain at least 1 numeric character, 1 lowercase character, 1 uppercase character, and 1 special (nonalphanumeric) character. See Chapter 6, *Installing the MySQL Password Validation Component*.

  For more information, see CREATE USER Authentication Options.

- **REQUIRE X509**

  This SSL/TLS option is only used for the `user1` account.

  MySQL can check X509 certificate attributes in addition to the usual authentication that is based on the user name and credentials. Available SSL/TSL options include `SSL`, `X509`, `ISSUER`, `SUBJECT`, and `CIPHER`. The `CREATE USER` statement for `user1` uses the `X509` option, which requires that clients present a valid certificate, but the exact certificate, issuer, and subject do not matter. The only requirement is that it should be possible to verify its signature with one of the CA certificates. Use of `X509` certificates always implies encryption, so it is unnecessary to also specify the `SSL` option.

  For more information, see CREATE USER SSL/TLS Options.

- **REQUIRE NONE**

  Indicates that the account has no `TLS` or `X509` requirements. Unencrypted connections are permitted if the user name and password are valid. Encrypted connections can be used, at the client's option, if the client has the proper certificate and key files. `NONE` is the default if no SSL-related `REQUIRE` options are specified.

  For more information, see CREATE USER SSL/TLS Options.

- **MAX_USER_CONNECTIONS 3**

  Restricts the maximum number of simultaneous connections to the server by the account. If the number is 0 (the default), the server determines the number of simultaneous connections for the account from the global value of the `max_user_connections` system variable. `MAX_USER_CONNECTIONS 3` means that the account can have a maximum of 3 simultaneous connections to the server.
Other resource-limiting options not used here include MAX QUERIES PER HOUR, MAX UPDATES PER HOUR, and MAX CONNECTIONS PER HOUR. For more information, see CREATE USER Resource-Limit Options.

- **PASSWORD HISTORY DEFAULT**

  Applies the global password history policy defined by the password_history system variable. In an earlier step, password_history was set to 12 to require that 12 password changes occur before the same password can be reused.

- **PASSWORD REUSE INTERVAL DEFAULT**

  Applies the global password reuse policy defined by the password_reuse_interval system variable. In an earlier step, password_reuse_interval was set to 1095 to require that 1095 days pass before the same password can be reused.

- **PASSWORD EXPIRE DEFAULT**

  Applies the global automatic password expiration policy defined by the default_password_lifetime system variable. In an earlier step, default_password_lifetime was set to 120 so that passwords automatically expire every 120 days.

  Other password expiration options include PASSWORD EXPIRE, PASSWORD EXPIRE INTERVAL, and PASSWORD EXPIRE NEVER. For more information, see CREATE USER Password-Management Options.

4. Grant user privileges. The following statements grant the SHOW DATABASES privilege to the user1 and user2 accounts:

```sql
mysql> GRANT SHOW DATABASES ON *.* TO 'user1'@'203.0.113.11';
mysql> GRANT SHOW DATABASES ON *.* TO 'user2'@'203.0.113.12';
```

Note

The privileges granted to a MySQL account determine which operations the account can perform. Following the principle of least privilege, a MySQL account should only be granted privileges required for its legitimate purposes. To facilitate effective privilege management, MySQL 8.0 provides two new privilege-related features: MySQL Roles and Dynamic Privileges. For more information about these features, see Appendix C, SQL Roles and Dynamic Privileges.

5. To verify the privileges granted to the user accounts, issue a SHOW GRANTS statement. For example:

```sql
mysql> SHOW GRANTS FOR 'user1'@'203.0.113.11';
+-------------------------------------------------------------------+
| Grants for user1@203.0.113.11                                   |
| GRANT SHOW DATABASES ON *.* TO 'user1'@'203.0.113.11'            |
+-------------------------------------------------------------------+
```

6. To verify that the accounts are using the expected authentication plugin, issue this query:

```sql
mysql> SELECT user, plugin FROM mysql.user WHERE user LIKE ('user%')
+----------------+----------------+
| user           | plugin         |
+----------------+----------------+
| user1          |                 |
```

39
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>plugin: caching_sha2_password</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*************************** 2. row ***************************</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>user: user2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plugin: caching_sha2_password</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 14 Connecting to the Server

This section describes two connection methods. The first method uses the TLS (Transport Layer Security) protocol to establish an encrypted connection. The second method uses RSA key pair-based password exchange over an unencrypted connection.

The following procedures assume that mysql clients are available on remote client hosts. The procedures also assume that you have distributed client certificate and key files to the remote clients as described in Distributing Client Certificate and Key Files.

The user accounts created previously are used to connect to the server. See Chapter 13, Creating User Accounts.

Using an Encrypted Connection

MySQL client programs attempt to establish an encrypted connection if the server supports encrypted connections. In this deployment, the --ssl option is enabled for the server, which means encrypted connections are supported.

1. Using the mysql client program, establish a connection for the user1@203.0.113.11 account that you created previously. The user1@203.0.113.11 account was created with the REQUIRE X509 option, which requires that the user presents a valid certificate.

```
shell> cd /usr/local/mysql
shell> bin/mysql  --user=user1 -p --host=192.0.2.24 --ssl-mode=VERIFY_CA
--ssl-ca=path/to/ca.pem --ssl-cert=path/to/client-cert.pem
--ssl-key=path/to/client-key.pem
```

- The --host option specifies the host where the MySQL server is running.
- The --ssl-mode=VERIFY_CA option ensures that an encrypted connection is established and verifies the TLS certificate against the configured Certificate Authority (CA) certificates; it ensures that client and server trust a common CA and thus are likely communicating with the correct party.

**Note**

Ideally, --ssl-mode should be set to VERIFY.IDENTITY. This option is like VERIFY_CA but it additionally requires that the server certificate matches the host to which the connection is attempted, which means that the server certificate must be signed by a valid Certificate Authority (CA) and have your server host as the Common Name (CN). The MySQL-generated certificates used in this deployment do not support this mode.

- The --ssl-ca, --ssl-cert, and --ssl-key options define the path to the distributed client certificate and key files, as described in Distributing Client Certificate and Key Files.

2. After connecting successfully, verify that the current connection uses encryption by checking the value of the Ssl_cipher status variable. If the value is empty, the connection is not encrypted. Otherwise, the connection is encrypted and the value indicates the encryption cipher. For example:

```
mysql> SHOW STATUS LIKE 'Ssl_cipher';
+---------------+---------------------------+
| Variable_name | Value                     |
+---------------+---------------------------+
| Ssl_cipher    | DHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256 |
+---------------+---------------------------+
```

3. To view the TLS version and cipher for all connections, query the Sys schema session_ssl_status view as the MySQL root user:
Clients that authenticate using the `caching_sha2_password` plugin can connect to the server over an unencrypted connection using RSA key pair-based password exchange. (Both the client and server must be compiled using OpenSSL.)

To support RSA encryption, the server generates RSA public and private key files in the data directory:

```shell
shell> cd /usr/local/mysql/data
shell> ls *_key.pem
private_key.pem  public_key.pem
```

By default, the server also exposes variables for defining the RSA private key and public key paths:

- **caching_sha2_password_private_key_path**
  
  Defines the path name of the RSA private key file for the `caching_sha2_password` authentication plugin.

- **caching_sha2_password_public_key_path**
  
  Defines the path name of the RSA public key file for the `caching_sha2_password` authentication plugin.

If the RSA public key and private key files are located in the MySQL data directory and are named `private_key.pem` and `public_key.pem`, as they are in this deployment, the `caching_sha2_password_private_key_path` and `caching_sha2_password_public_key_path` options are configured by default.

When a client that uses the `caching_sha2_password` plugin attempts an unencrypted connection, the `caching_sha2_password` plugin sends the RSA public key to the client, but the key transfer can be avoided if the RSA public key is distributed to the client host and its location is defined using the `--server-public-key-path` option when establishing a connection. Avoiding the key transfer saves a round trip in the client/server protocol. This option is used in the instructions that follow. For information about distributing key files, see [Distributing Client Certificate and Key Files](#).

To establish an unencrypted connection that uses RSA key pair-based password exchange, use the `mysql` client program and the `user2@203.0.113.12` account that you created previously. The `user2@203.0.113.12` account was created without SSL/TLS options to permit the account to establish an unencrypted connection to the server.

```shell
shell> cd /usr/local/mysql
```
shell> `bin/mysql --user=user2 -p --ssl-mode=DISABLED --host=192.0.2.24 --server-public-key-path=/path/to/public_key.pem`

- The `--host` option specifies the host where the MySQL server is running.
- The `--ssl-mode=DISABLED` option ensures that the connection is unencrypted.
- The `--server-public-key-path` option defines the path name to the file on the client host (public_key.pem) that contains the same RSA public key used by the server.
Appendix A Transparent Data Encryption (TDE)

MySQL Server supports Transparent Data Encryption (TDE), which protects critical data by enabling data-at-rest encryption. Data-at-rest encryption is supported by the MySQL Keyring feature, which is plugin-based. For information about the MySQL Keyring feature and keyring plugins, see The MySQL Keyring.

After a keyring plugin is installed and configured, encryption can be enabled for:

- File-per-table tablespaces
- General tablespaces
- The mysql system tablespace
- Redo logs
- Undo logs

For more information, see InnoDB Data-at-Rest Encryption.

Encryption is also supported for:

- Binary log files and relay log files. See Encrypting Binary Log Files and Relay Log Files.
- Audit log files. See Audit Log File Encryption.
- Backups. See Encryption for Backups, and Working with Encrypted InnoDB Tablespaces.
Appendix B FIPS Support

MySQL 8.0 supports FIPS (Federal Information Processing Standards) mode, if compiled using OpenSSL, and a FIPS-enabled OpenSSL library and FIPS Object Module are available at runtime. FIPS mode imposes conditions on cryptographic operations such as restrictions on acceptable encryption algorithms or requirements for longer key lengths. The `ssl_fips_mode` system variable enables control of FIPS mode on the server side. The `--ssl-fips-mode` client option enables control of FIPS mode on the client side. Both options are disabled by default.

FIPS mode has been tested for MySQL on EL7, but may work on other systems.

For more information about this security feature, see FIPS Support in the MySQL Reference Manual.
Appendix C SQL Roles and Dynamic Privileges

Privilege management is an important aspect of managing the security of a MySQL installation. Following the principle of least privilege, a MySQL account should only be granted privileges required to for its legitimate purposes. To facilitate effective privilege management, MySQL 8.0 provides two new privilege-related features: MySQL Roles and Dynamic Privileges.

• MySQL roles are named collections of privileges. A user account can be granted roles, which grants to the account the privileges associated with each role. This enables assignment of sets of privileges to accounts and provides a convenient alternative to granting individual privileges, both for conceptualizing desired privilege assignments and implementing them.

For more information about using roles to manage account privileges, see Using Roles.

• Dynamic privileges enable DBAs to begin migrating away from the SUPER privilege. Many operations covered by SUPER are associated with a dynamic privilege of more limited scope. Operations that previously required the SUPER privilege can be permitted to an account by granting the associated dynamic privilege rather than SUPER. For example, a user who must be able to modify global system variables can be granted SYSTEM_VARIABLES_ADMIN rather than SUPER.

This change improves security by enabling DBAs to avoid granting SUPER and tailor user privileges more closely to the operations permitted. The SUPER privilege is deprecated and will be removed in a future version of MySQL.

For more information about this feature, see Static Versus Dynamic Privileges. That discussion includes instructions for migrating accounts away from SUPER to dynamic privileges.
Appendix D Installation Directory and File Permissions

The following table shows directory and file permissions for the generic binary distribution installation of MySQL Enterprise Edition for Linux x86-64 on Oracle Linux 7 that is described in this guide.

As a general rule, distributed files and resources should follow the principal of least privilege, which requires that users, processes, programs, and other system components only have access to information and resources that are required for their legitimate purpose.

As indicated previously, most of the MySQL installation can be owned by root. The exceptions are the data directory, the error log file, the mysql-files directory, the pid file, and the socket file, to which the mysql user must have write access. Files and resources that the mysql user requires read access to include configuration files (/etc/my.cnf) and the MySQL binaries (/usr/local/mysql/bin).

Table D.1 MySQL Linux Generic Binary Installation Directory and File Permissions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>File or Resource</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Directory Permissions</th>
<th>File Permissions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Client and utility programs</td>
<td>/usr/local/mysql/bin</td>
<td>root</td>
<td>drwxr-xr-x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mysql server</td>
<td>/usr/local/mysql/bin</td>
<td>root</td>
<td>drwxr-xr-x</td>
<td>-rwxr-xr-x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MySQL configuration file</td>
<td>/etc/my.cnf</td>
<td>root</td>
<td>drwxr-xr-x</td>
<td>-rw-r--r--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data directory</td>
<td>/usr/local/mysql/data</td>
<td>mysql</td>
<td>drwxr-x---</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Error log file</td>
<td>/usr/local/mysql/data/host_name.err</td>
<td>mysql</td>
<td>drwxr-x---</td>
<td>-rwx-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>secure_file_priv directory</td>
<td>/usr/local/mysql/mysql-files</td>
<td>mysql</td>
<td>drwxr-x---</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>systemd service file</td>
<td>/usr/lib/systemd/system/mysql.service</td>
<td>root</td>
<td>drwxr-xr-x</td>
<td>-rw-r--r--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>systemd tmpfiles configuration</td>
<td>/usr/lib/tmpfiles.d/mysql.conf</td>
<td>root</td>
<td>drwxr-xr-x</td>
<td>-rw-r--r--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pid file</td>
<td>/usr/local/mysql/data/mysqld.pid</td>
<td>mysql</td>
<td>drwxr-x---</td>
<td>-rw-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>socket file</td>
<td>/tmp/mysql.sock</td>
<td>mysql</td>
<td>drwxrwxrwt</td>
<td>snwxrwxrwx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unix manual pages directory</td>
<td>/usr/local/mysql/man</td>
<td>root</td>
<td>drwxr-xr-x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Include Header files directory</td>
<td>/usr/local/mysql/include</td>
<td>root</td>
<td>drwxr-xr-x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libraries directory</td>
<td>/usr/local/mysql/lib</td>
<td>root</td>
<td>drwxr-xr-x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous support files</td>
<td>/usr/local/mysql/support-files</td>
<td>root</td>
<td>drwxr-xr-x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous files directory</td>
<td>/usr/local/mysql/share</td>
<td>root</td>
<td>drwxr-xr-x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix E Deployment Configuration File

Upon the completion of the deployment described in this guide, the MySQL configuration file (/etc/my.cnf) contains these configuration settings:

```plaintext
[mysqld]
datadir=/usr/local/mysql/data
socket=/tmp/mysql.sock
port=3306
log-error=/usr/local/mysql/data/localhost.localdomain.err
user=mysql
secure_file_priv=/usr/local/mysql/mysql-files
local_infile=OFF
validate_password.policy=1
validate_password.length=8
validate_password.number_count=1
validate_password.mixed_case_count=1
validate_password.special_char_count=1
validate_password.check_user_name=1
audit-log=FORCE_PLUS_PERMANENT
mysql_firewall_mode=ON
plugin-load-add=connection_control.so
connection-control=FORCE_PLUS_PERMANENT
connection-control-failed-login-attempts=FORCE_PLUS_PERMANENT
connection_control_failed_connections_threshold=3
connection_control_min_connection_delay=1000
connection_control_max_connection_delay=2147483647
block_encryption_mode=aes-256-cbc
default_authentication_plugin=caching_sha2_password
plugin-load-add=auth_socket.so
auth_socket=FORCE_PLUS_PERMANENT
ssl_ca=ca.pem
ssl_cert=client-cert.pem
ssl_key=client-key.pem
bind_address=192.0.2.24
tls_version=TLSv1.2
ssl_cipher=DHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256
default_password_lifetime=120
password_history=12
password_reuse_interval=1095
```