Anuj Singh Tomar
Posted on Sep 16, 2020 • Updated on May 5, 2022

Let's Encrypt SSL certificate in Namecheap AutoRenewal – Verified & working – Using ACME.sh

#ssl #namecheap #acme #letsencrypt

NameCheap doesn't support Let's Encrypt natively. But provides option so you can setup Letsencrypt SSL certificates using different utilities like getssl, or ACME.sh, having used both found acme.sh to be quite better and simple to use in Namecheap auto renewal too.

1 - Enable SSH-to get into your shared hosting server with your cpanel username (You can get keys & login from your terminal or use putty& cpanel terminal for quick access)

2 - Get the certs

```
#Get acme.sh utility
curl https://get.acme.sh | sh

#Source the Environment updates
source ~/.bashrc

#Register your email with Let's Encrypt to be notified any renew
acme.sh --register-account --accountemail email@example.com

# p is for force renew if entry already has been setup for subrenew
# ECC is optional, e.g. ecc.yourdomain.com
/home/CPANEL_USERNAME/.acme.sh/acme.sh --cron --home
```

4 - Issue a test cert to check if all working

```
#webroot will be any directory in which your domain exists, give a
acme.sh --issue --webroot /public_html -d yourdomain.com --staging
```

5 - Issue an actual Certificate

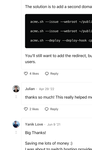
```
acme.sh --issue --webroot /public_html -d yourdomain.com --force

#Its output you will see success if all goes fine & key/Certs/Keys
~/.acme.sh/yourdomain.com/
```

6 - Apply Cert to website using cPnel hook

```
acme.sh --deploy --deploy-hook cpanel_uapi --domain yourdomain.com
```

7 - You should be able to see your domain with SSL in cpanel under SSL/TLS >> Manage all certs

8 - Force HTTP-HTTPS redirection
If you see option to enable you can enforce HTTP from cpanel itself:



In case it is greyed out, which could be in case you have multiple domains like www.yourdomain.com for which you don't have the cert , Enable the redirection from "redirects" or simply add below lines in .htaccess file

```
#Always backup as a thumb of rule
vi ~/public_html/.htaccess

Or

vi ~/yourdomain.com/.htaccess

<IfModule mod_rewrite>
RewriteEngine On
RewriteCond %{HTTPS} off
RewriteRule ^(.*)$ https://%{HTTP_HOST}%{REQUEST_URI} [L,R=301]
</IfModule>
```

9 - test your website in new window with URL https://yourdomain.com/ or http://yourdomain.com/ in http it should redirect automatically to https

So you are all done now, if you need a more detailed Article you can checkout the original article on below link:
devops.ernie.space

Glad if this helped you, You can now buy me a coffee if this was helpful.

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Aaron Eshie · Aug 2

This is a bit of an old article, but still relevant. If anyone is following these steps, please be aware that in August of 2021, acme.sh began supporting multiple Certificate Authorities, defaulting to ZeroSSL. In order to use LetsEncrypt, you will need to provide the --server letsencrypt argument to the issue command. It would look something like this:

```
acme.sh --issue --webroot /public_html -d mydomain.com -d www.mydo
yourdomain.com --force
```

2 Hide · Reply

Anuj Singh Tomar ★ · Sep 12

Good to know , thanks for sharing

1 Like · Reply

Emmanuel David · Apr 20 '22

This is indeed an awesome tutorial as following it step by step works. However the code below seemed not to work so I just skipped it

```
./acme.sh -i -p acme.sh
-d m * * * "/home/_PANEL_USERNAME/.acme.sh/acme.sh --cron --hom
```

Thanks for the wonderful tutorial

2 Hide · Reply

Anuj Singh Tomar ★ · May 11 '22

Glad that it helped, that code worked fine for me, it is critical too, as i don't want to bother me with running this manually, crontab takes care of autorenewal, have worked fine for me for more than a year :)

Just check the CPANEL_USERname , it would be same it when you log in to your cpanel, it will show with below command on terminal run - echo $USER
Or in Console note it under -General information->Current User

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Dave Ellson · Apr 3 '21 · Edited on Jul 8

The redirect method for www, has a snag. Most browsers seem to look for a www.domain.com before following the redirect. This results in users seeing a warning and not redirecting.

The solution is to add a second domain avg to each of the commands. EG:

```
acme.sh --issue --webroot /public_html -d mydomain.com -d www.myd
acme.sh --issue --webroot /public_html -d mydomain.com -d www.myd
acme.sh --deploy --deploy-hook cpanel_uapi --domain mydomain.com
```

You'll still want to add the redirect, but this will now avoid the error for users.

4 Hide · Reply

Julian · Apr 28 '22

thanks so much! This really helped me!

2 Hide · Reply

Carik Love · Jun 3 '21

Big Thanks!

Saving me lots of money :)
I was about to switch hosting provider to one that supports let's encrypt!

Had read this post before but it looked too complicated.
After some efforts and patience everything is working now and all my sites are secure, for free, with auto renew on! How cool! :D

Much gratitude <3

Now what would make it perfect would be a script like :

/usl domain.com

That would automatically do all the steps, including the www :D
This way it would save some time and avoid typos ^^

Thanks again!

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Aaron Eshie · Aug 2

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```
acme.sh --issue --webroot /public_html -d mydomain.com -d www.mydo
yourdomain.com --force
```

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Vladimir Logvinov · Jul 19 '21

After command:

At this moment a cron entry already has been setup for autorenewal which will auto renew after 60 days., You can update /dev/null to something like this if you need the log

```
./acme.sh --p acme.sh
10 0 * * * "/home/CPANEL_USERNAME/.acme.sh"acme.sh --cron --home
"/home/CPANEL_USERNAME/.acme.sh" >>
/home/CPANEL_USERNAME/.acme.sh/cron_log
```

I have error: -bash: 10: command not found

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Artur Yakov · Feb 12 '21

This is great!
Today getting stuck at the --staging issue stage, though. Any idea why? might be getting the following error code (35):
acme.sh --issue --webroot /public_html -d timeoffending.london --staging
[Thu Feb 4 20:51:07 EST 2021] Using ACME_DIRECTORY: acme-staging-v02.api.letsencrypt.org
[Thu Feb 4 20:51:07 EST 2021] Please refer to curl.haxx.se/libcurl/c/libcurl-errors.html for error code: 35
[Thu Feb 4 20:51:10 EST 2021] Can not init api.
[Thu Feb 4 20:51:10 EST 2021] Using CA: acme-staging-v02.api.letsencrypt.org
[Thu Feb 4 20:51:10 EST 2021] Please refer to curl.haxx.se/libcurl/c/libcurl-errors.html for error code: 35
[Thu Feb 4 20:51:10 EST 2021] Can not init api.
[Thu Feb 4 20:51:10 EST 2021] Registering account: acme-staging-v02.api.letsencrypt.org
[Thu Feb 4 20:51:10 EST 2021] Please refer to curl.haxx.se/libcurl/c/libcurl-errors.html for error code: 35
[Thu Feb 4 20:51:10 EST 2021] Could not get nonce, let's try again.

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Anuj Singh Tomar ★ · Feb 12 '21 · Edited on Feb 13

Check if /public_html exists Or if your website exits in a different folder , then replace the webroot like below:

acme.sh --issue --webroot /timeoffending.london -d timeoffending.london --staging

If still same issue check with namecheap support for below error:

CURL_SSL_CONNECT_ERROR (35)

A problem occurred somewhere in the SSL/TLS handshake. You really want the error buffer and read the message there as it pinpoints the problem slightly more. Could be certificates (file formats, paths, permissions), passwords, and others.

1 Hide · Reply

Manoj Tiwari · Jan 24 '21 · Edited on Jan 24

Awesome! Great tutorial. Working very fine.
Pls tell me if I need to disable SSH access again, as the certificate installed successfully.

2 Hide · Reply

Anuj Singh Tomar ★ · Jan 24 '21

Check if any line break in the cron entry, it can happen when you copy pasted from here, ensure it is a single line without any new line.

Also regarding SSH Access best practice is to keep it disabled, you can enable it again whenever you need.

2 Hide · Reply

Manoj Tiwari · Jan 24 '21

Thanks for the reply. It worked now.

1 Like · Reply

Fred · Jan 20 '21

This is a great step by step guide, you saved me hours of figuring this out on my own, thanks a lot!

2 Hide · Reply

Anuj Singh Tomar ★ · Jan 24 '21

Thanks for commenting, Glad that it helped.

1 Like · Reply

Andersen Tolosa · Jul 16 '22

Thanks for the post! It worked great the first time. However, I have a problem when doing this process for other domains in my shared hosting. I'm getting an error 503 when I try to issue a test certificate. As far as I can see, web trouve is blocking the request. Any idea of why it may happen?

1 Hide · Reply

Cathersoomething · Nov 20 '21

Thanks for posting this. Binary is follow, and now I shouldn't have to worry about this stuff for a while. I'd been doing it manually for a year now on four of my sites and it was a pain but worth not paying them.

1 Hide · Reply

Ian B · Jul 18 '21

thank you ! this was really helpful.

2 Hide · Reply

Stefanjan · Jan 17 '21

hi, thanks for tutorial. I'm getting a error when issue a cert for cpanel.domain.com and webmail.domain.com.. the others like domain and mail.domain and domain.com was successful.

When trying issue a cert for webmail I'm getting multiple "processing" and timeout lines. I have a ddelar plan from namecheap.

Peace.

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Bruno Dedado · Feb 28 '21

This was very useful for me. Thank you!

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