

Let's Encrypt Certbot

The following walk through works on Debian 9, 10, and 11.

Installation

1. Install snapd

```
sudo apt update
sudo apt install snapd
sudo snap install core
sudo snap refresh core
```

2. Remove previously installed certbot packages

```
sudo apt remove --purge certbot
sudo rm /usr/local/bin/certbot-auto
```

3. Remove certbot renewal entry in crontab

4. Install certbot through snap

```
sudo snap install --classic certbot
sudo ln -s /snap/bin/certbot /usr/bin/certbot
```

5. Test automatic renewal

```
sudo certbot renew --dry-run
```

6. Check that the certbot renewal service has been set up

```
systemctl list-timers
```

Maintenance

- If you have existing SSL VirtualHost definitions you need to copy a certificate from another site or webserver to /etc/letsencrypt/live and point the certificate in the virtual host file to that certificate before starting/restarting apache. This is necessary for certbot to run, and certbot will later replace the certificate with a valid one.
- Run certbot and register sites:

```
certbot
```

- Check certificates:

```
certbot certificates
```

- Add domains to certificate:

```
certbot --expand -d example.com,www.example.com,click.example.com
certbot certonly --webroot --agree-tos -w /srv/www/letsencrypt/ --
expand -d example.com,www.example.com,click.example.com
```

- Revoke and optionally delete certificate:

```
certbot revoke --cert-path /etc/letsencrypt/live/example.com/cert.pem
```

- Delete certificate:

```
certbot delete --cert-name www.example.com
```

- Delete listed domains:

```
certbot delete
```

- All sites must be accessible through port 80 when renewing certificates.

Disable

- Comment the 2 *OnCalendar* lines in file `/etc/systemd/system/snap.certbot.renew.timer` which removes the times set when certbot is called

```
$ sudo vim /etc/systemd/system/snap.certbot.renew.timer
[Timer]
Unit=snap.certbot.renew.service
# OnCalendar=*-*-* 08:46
# OnCalendar=*-*-* 15:37
```

OUTDATED: Crontab

- Root

```
$ sudo crontab -e
35 3 * * 6 certbot renew && /etc/init.d/apache2 restart
```

Links

- [certbot instructions: Apache on Debian 10](#)
- [Uninstalling certbot-auto](#)
- [How do I disable auto-renew without removing config files?](#)

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