

SSL Secure Server

This section covers certificate installation requirements, how to use the server's shared certificate, creating a self-signed certificate, and installing a purchased certificate. Any site that processes monetary transactions or takes in sensitive information (such as passwords) needs the protection of a SSL certificate.



Certificate Installation Requirements

In order to use the SSL feature your site must have its own static (dedicated) IP address. If you don't have a dedicated IP address, you will get an error message when you access the SSL menu:

Could not execute your request

Details: You are not allowed to modify your SSL

Contact your web host for information on obtaining a dedicated IP address. Please note that some web hosts don't offer dedicated IP's, and hosts that do usually charge extra for this feature.

Server's Shared and Self-Signed Certificates

You may use the server's built-in certificate or generate a self-signed certificate free of charge. The requirements are:

- a dedicated IP address
- SSL access (ask your web host to enable the feature if they haven't already)
- an understanding of non-trusted certificates (see the sections on shared and self-signed certificates below)

Purchased Certificates

Purchased certificates require:

- a dedicated IP address
- SSL access (ask your web host to enable the feature if they haven't already)
- an understanding of purchasing/installing trusted certificates (see the section on purchased certificates below)

Using the Server's Shared Certificate

One of the simplest ways to have a secure site is to use the server's built-in self-generated certificate. To access the SSL menu, click on the "Advanced Tools" link from the main control panel menu, then click the "Install SSL Certificates" icon.



Make sure the radio button next the "User the server's certificate" is selected, and click the "Save" button at the bottom of the screen.

Understanding non-Trusted Certificates

Although non-Trusted certificates provide a high level of encryption, they are not always the best choice because they are self-generated instead of purchased from a trusted authority. Because of this, visitors to your site may receive a warning popup window when they access a secure page:



If you can put up with this inconvenience, then a self-generated secure certificate is adequate for your site. If you are a company selling goods or services, we highly recommend that you purchase a trusted certificate. A non-trusted certificate may be harmful to a web site's reputation.

Uploading Files to your Secure Site

All secure files need to be uploaded to the `/domains/domain.com/private_html` directory. You may upload using the control panel's built-in file manager or FTP. For example,

```
/domains/domain.com/private_html/index.html      ---> https://www.yourdomain.com/index.html  
/domains/domain.com/private_html/secure/index.html --->  
https://www.yourdomain.com/secure/index.html
```

The `private_html` directory operates the exact same way as the `public_html` directory.

Note: You will not see a `private_html` directory if the SSL feature isn't enabled on your account.

Creating a Self-Signed Certificate

An alternative to the self-generated shared server certificate is a personalized self-signed certificate. First, access the SSL menu by clicking the "Advanced Tools" link from the main control panel menu, then click the "Install SSL Certificates" icon.

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Create your own self signed certificate <input type="radio"/> Create A Certificate Request	
2 Letter Country Code	US
State/Province	AZ
City	Phoenix
Company	Gary's Web Host
Company Division	Administration
Common Name	www.garys-host.com
Email	gary@garys-host.com

Step 1: Click the radio buttons to select "Create your own self signed certificate."

Step 2: Enter the information about yourself and your company.

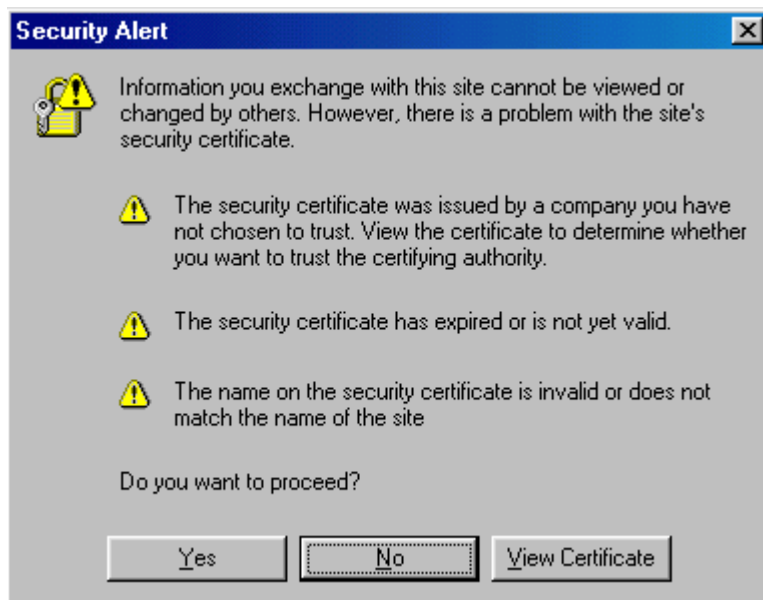
A list of country codes is available at: <http://www.site-helper.com/countrycodes.txt>

The Common Name is the *exact* web address the certificate is associated with. In the above example, <https://www.garys-host.com/anything> would be valid, but not <https://subdomain.garys-host.com>.

Step 3: Click the "Save" button at the bottom of the screen. You will be taken back to the SSL menu.

Understanding non-Trusted Certificates

Although non-Trusted certificates provide a high level of encryption, they are not always the best choice because they are self-generated instead of purchased from a trusted authority. Because of this, visitors to your site may receive a warning popup window when they access a secure page:



If you can put up with this inconvenience, then a self-generated secure certificate is adequate for your site. If you are a company selling goods or services, we highly recommend that you purchase a trusted certificate. A non-trusted certificate may be harmful to a web site's reputation.

Uploading Files to your Secure Site

All secure files need to be uploaded to the /domains/domain.com/private_html directory. You may upload using the control panel's built-in file manager or FTP. For example,

```
/domains/domain.com/private_html/index.html      ---> https://www.yourdomain.com/index.html  
/domains/domain.com/private_html/secure/index.html --->  
https://www.yourdomain.com/secure/index.html
```

The private_html directory operates the exact same way as the public_html directory.

Note: You will not see a private_html directory if the SSL feature isn't enabled on your account.

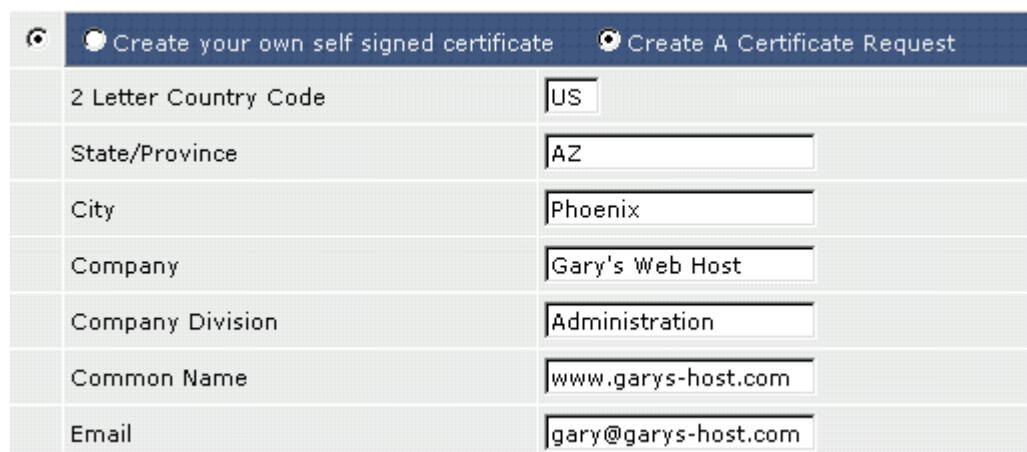
Installing a Purchased Certificate

A purchased certificate is the best form of security. Because the certificate is both secure and trusted, visitors will not receive a warning popup window when viewing a secure page.

Note: A dedicated (static) IP address is required for the installation of a purchased certificate.

Step 1: Generate a CSR

First, access the SSL menu by clicking on the "Advanced Tools" link from the main control panel menu, then click the "Install SSL Certificates" icon.



<input type="radio"/> Create your own self signed certificate <input checked="" type="radio"/> Create A Certificate Request	
2 Letter Country Code	US
State/Province	AZ
City	Phoenix
Company	Gary's Web Host
Company Division	Administration
Common Name	www.garys-host.com
Email	gary@garys-host.com

Make sure to click the radio button next to "Create A Certificate Request." Then, enter the information about your company. The "Common Name" refers to the address of your site that will go on the SSL certificate. Your site will be secure only at this address. In the above example, <https://www.garys-host.com/anything> would be secure, but not <https://garys-host.com/anything>.

When you are finished, click the "Save" button at the bottom of the screen. You will then see a page that looks like this:

SSL Certificate Request

Here is your SSL Certificate Request. You will send this text to a Certificate Authority and they will give you a Signed Certificate. To use it, paste the Signed Certificate on the next line after "-----END RSA PRIVATE KEY-----" on the previous page and click "Save".

```

-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----
MIICBTCCA4CAQAwgZ8xCzAJBgNVBAYTA1VTMQswCQYDVQQLIEwJEWJwEQMA4GA1UE
BxMxMHUgHvZ2W5peDRXMBUgA1UEChM0R2FyeXMgV2ViIEhvc3QxZzAVBgNVBAsTDkFk
bWluaXN0cmF0aW9uMRswGQYDVQQDEExJ3d3cuZ2FyeXMtaG9zdC5jb20xIjAgBgkq
hkiG9w0BCQEW2dhcn1AZ2FyeXMtaG9zdC5jb20wgZ8wDQYJKoZIhvcNAQEBBQAD
gY0AMIGJAoGBA0PLt1Wxx/005xo91fu6PggRh2bZ1XQW11KNQQRleLZkpuJ463zb
VGN2J3LJhHrPBsxdJeDfsm3I2mUtw6bps1lrAgmLE5eio4LTtnqThIwmsWxwQupR
hqGUFHuSJfm8u29fcC0v0fH8g08v1D1+MoWVATKQtTQDuOHJZCAOMtDAgMBAAGG
JTAjBgkqhkiG9w0BCQcxFhMAQSBjaGFsbGVuZ2UgcGFzc3dvcmQwDQYJKoZIhvcN
AQEBBQADgYEAUwHC92Bb4g0bomrHANP65NL61mFV89hrKiqvvZ0SgisCB97VnJjx
5LL5LT4uuGV1StPckBMktteme71uShUenLukzdulfCS1FE0VTzkulAL7waFN3non
+2LFzL/eQ921MwV7YdSJmAlXDupe85x60LO+wCd152NGAjlnck7NehU=
-----END CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----

```

Copy to Clipboard (IE only)

Copy this text (including the "BEGIN/END CERTIFICATE REQUEST" sections) into a plain text editor such as Windows Notepad and save the file to your hard drive. You will need this CSR when you purchase a certificate.

Step 2: Purchase a Certificate

When purchasing a certificate, you will be asked about yourself or your company, your web site, and:

- the CSR
- the software that generated the CSR
- your common name

The CSR

Simply paste the CSR given to you by the control panel, including the "BEGIN/END CERTIFICATE REQUEST" sections. There will be a text box in the order form to paste to. Please ensure the CSR is saved and pasted as plain text.

Software that Generated the CSR

Choose Apache-ModSSL, or "Other" if you don't see Apache-ModSSL in the list. Do not worry about making a mistake, as this information is collected for statistics purposes only.

Your Common Name

The "Common Name" refers to the address of your site that will go on the SSL certificate (see Step 1). Enter this address without the "http://" unless otherwise specified by the certificate seller.

Step 3: Install the Certificate

Access the SSL menu by clicking on the "Advanced Tools" link from the main control panel menu, then click the "Install SSL Certificates" icon.

Paste a pre-generated certificate and key

```

-----BEGIN RSA PRIVATE KEY-----
MIICXQIBAAKBgQDjy7dVscfzt0caPdX7uj4IEYdm2dV0FopSjUEEdXi2ZKbie0t8
Z1RjdidyyYR6zwUsXSXg37DNyG21Lc0m6bJZawIJix0Xoq0C0726k4SMJrF18ELq
UYah1BR7kiX5vLtvX3AtLznx/IDvL9Q9fjKF1QEykLbU0A7tByWQgNDLQwIDAQAB
AoGAUr7neumdFJc0F4J4rz0V6P2aVfrf5XI fSeuY+5AAREixdVixSHuz4pV3g5x
fyLAI FNdtQfMc50+DjbHgVQWo1EQx7Bhsrr9bE3fSNivzReelV3cCXszYQuBf8pXq
jeeDavJyDNlkDzP8z7U1XJkxmbjs8MBi+P6MuaI42MEk5mECQQD22V+x4wK2hnNu
lqHa+87t0pwwFSf8r0FoHRItpcRqRqSY9jrW37uSgAQNOpjZdJz0hpNGTFX/PN
aenZhEGrAkEA7Ky+I4DxLkSZK5g/ucV+E/LOY6RB5BQ20aptC1cwRRs7YIwHuVgI
HwTy0VD2yoMiGVJsuT7C3vvlbg5V6me0yQJASROFzy9hx2qYr6rTMBX7fIBnbZRY
mDw4iC4IsGsi0glNhAxvd4QHq4oFmBWh8P6rCaSvxngog/PzZRQnthkqYYwJBAJW
yShIf0mXl5WeYGCyb01LRgh+djhEGVGVeBmEgkKVMYcn1JMI/OowJRSrQrr7LWz7
WU/uRfQt0wBz+SGprRECQQDCnChW5swmZS0gf9AmWD+aencMaFsoxZnPnG9Bffxu
OabWnAYh0VGw9dTJ+zxI8ftTISus7xqrHesrbQxQnKjx
-----END RSA PRIVATE KEY-----

```

Paste certificate here

Paste from Clipboard Copy to Clipboard (IE only)

Save

Select the radio button next to "Paste a pre-generated certificate and key." As you can see, the key is already inserted in the text box for you. Paste the certificate immediately below it and click "Save."

Step 4: Install the CA Root Certificate

Return to the main SSL menu. At the very bottom is a link called "Click Here to paste a CA Root Certificate." Click the link and paste your CA Root Certificate in the textbox. Then, click the "Save" button.

Certificate Authority SSL Certificate

Use a CA Cert.

```

-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE -----
MIICXQIBAAKBgQDjy7dVscfzt0caPdX7uj4IEYdm2dV0FopSjUEEdXi2ZKbie0t8
Z1RjdidyyYR6zeXSXg37DNyG21Lc0m6bJZawIJix0Xoq0C0726k4SMJrF18ELq
UYah1BR7kiX5vLtvX3AtLznx/IDvL9Q9fjKF1QEykLbU0A7tByWQgNDLQwIDAQAB
AoGAUr7nQ8umdFJc0F4J4rz0V6P2aVfrf5XI fSAuY+5AAREixdVixSHuz4pV3g5x
fyLAI FNdtQfMc50+DjbHgVQWo1EQx7Bhsrr9bESNivzReelV3cCXszYQuBf8pXqd
jeeDavJyDNlkDzP8z7U1XJkxmbjs8MBi+P6Mu9I42MEk5mECQQD22V+x4wK2hnNu
lqHNM9+87t0pwwFSf8r0FoHRItpcRfdqRqSY9jrW37uSgAQNOpjZdJz0hpNGTFX/P
aenZhEGrAkEA7Ky+I4DxLkSZK5g/ucV+E/LOY6RB5BQ20aptC1cwRRs7YIwHuVgI
HwTy0VD2yoMiGVJsuT7C3vvlb1A56me0yQJASROFzy9hx2qYr6rTMBX7fIBnbZRY
mDw4iC4IsGsi0glNhAxvd4QHq4oFmBWh8P6rCaSvxngog/PzZRQnthkqYYwJBAJW3
yShIf0mXl5WeYGCyb01LRgfgfgvgvch+djhEGVGVeBmEgkKVMYcn1JMI/OowJRSrQ
WU/uRfQt0wBz+SGprRECQQDCnChW5swmZS0gf9AmWD+aencMaFsoxZnPnG9Bffxu
OabWnAYh0VGw9dTJ+zxI8ftTISus7xqrHesUbQxQnKjx
-----END CERTIFICATE -----

```

Paste from Clipboard Copy to Clipboard (IE only)

Save

Important: Remember to check the "Use a CA Cert." box.

Although the installation of a CA Root Certificate is not always required, you may find that your SSL certificate will not function properly without completion of this step.

Uploading Files to your Secure Site

All secure files need to be uploaded to the `/domains/domain.com/private_html` directory. You may upload using the control panel's built-in file manager or FTP. For example,

```
/domains/domain.com/private_html/index.html      ---> https://www.yourdomain.com/index.html  
/domains/domain.com/private_html/secure/index.html --->  
https://www.yourdomain.com/secure/index.html
```

The `private_html` directory operates the exact same way as the `public_html` directory.

Note: You will not see a `private_html` directory if the SSL feature isn't enabled on your account