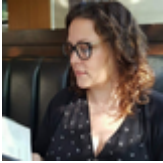


Setting up System Authentication

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What is System Authentication?

System Authentication means that RealVNC Viewer users can authenticate to RealVNC Server using the same credentials they normally use to *log on* to their user account on the RealVNC Server computer.



The system authentication scheme (labelled **Windows password**, **Mac password** or **UNIX password**) is both secure and convenient:

1. System administrators often implement rules such as password complexity and ageing in enterprise environments to meet organisational security policies
2. Users can authenticate using already-familiar credentials, and don't have to remember yet another password.

***You can combine this authentication scheme with others in order to specify [multi-factor authentication](#) for RealVNC Server.**

Setting up System Authentication

The user account of each prospective RealVNC Viewer user must be registered with RealVNC Server. Certain admin groups are [pre-registered](#), to enable connectivity out-of-the-box. This may mean no set up is required, especially under Windows and macOS.

To authenticate to RealVNC Server, a RealVNC Viewer user can supply the credentials:

- Under any platform, of a local user account (that is, one set up directly on the computer).
- Under Windows and macOS, providing the computer is joined to a domain, of a domain user account (one that is managed by a network service such as Active Directory). Note that prior configuration is required under Linux; see below.
- Under Windows 8 or later, if the local user account is linked to a Microsoft account, the email address and password of the linked Microsoft account.

If you are unsure of the username to use, please see [this article](#).

Setting up domain accounts under Linux

When RealVNC Server is installed on Linux platforms, a suitable PAM library checking credentials against the *local* database store only is automatically referenced.

To configure RealVNC Server to allow authentication with domain accounts, the below steps will enable a basic configuration to achieve this:

1. Create `/etc/pam.d/vncserver.custom` with the below contents, depending on your operating system:

Ubuntu

```
@include common-auth
@include common-account
@include common-session
```

RHEL / CentOS

```
auth include password-auth
account include password-auth
session include password-auth
```

2. Create/edit `/etc/vnc/config.d/common.custom` and add the line:

```
PamApplicationName=vncserver.custom
```

3. Restart RealVNC Server.

For Service Mode, run the command: `sudo systemctl restart vncserver-x11-serviced`

4. Connect with RealVNC Viewer and try authenticating with domain credentials. Note: you may need to qualify usernames with the domain name, for example `DEV.ACMECORP.COM\johndoe`

If you are unable to authenticate with domain credentials after following these steps, please [contact Support](#).

Registering domain accounts with RealVNC Server

If the domain accounts you are using are not part of any built-in or local groups on the computer running RealVNC Server, domain accounts must be [registered](#) with RealVNC Server in the standard way, either by:

- Setting the RealVNC Server [Permissions](#) parameter.
- Opening RealVNC Server's **Options > Users & Permissions** page and following [these instructions](#).

You may need to qualify usernames with the domain name, for example `DEV.ACMECORP.COM\johndoe` . Note that connecting users may also need to supply the user name qualified in this way too.

Source: <https://help.realvnc.com/hc/en-us/articles/360002250097-Setting-up-System-Authentication>