How to reset root MySQL password on Ubuntu 18.04 Bionic Beaver Linux

linuxconfig.org/how-to-reset-root-mysql-password-on-ubuntu-18-04-bionic-beaver-linux

ubuntu

Objective

The objective is to reset lost root MySQL password on Ubuntu 18.04 Bionic Beaver Linux

Operating System and Software Versions

- **Operating System:** - Ubuntu 18.04 Bionic Beaver
- **Software:** - mysql Ver 14.14 or higher

Requirements

Privileged access to your Ubuntu System as root or via `sudo` command is required.

Difficulty

EASY

Conventions

- **#** - requires given underline linux commands to be executed with root privileges either directly as a root user or by use of `sudo` command
- **$** - requires given underline linux commands to be executed as a regular non-privileged user

Instructions

Reset by using mysql_secure_installation

The simplest approach to reset MySQL database root password is to execute `mysql_secure_installation` program and when prompted entering your new root MySQL password:

```
$ sudo mysql_secure_installation
....
Please set the password for root here.

New password:
Re-enter new password:
```

Reset by using skip-grant-tables

If from some reason the above method fails follow the step below to use `--skip-grant-tables` to reset MySQL root password.
Let's start by stopping the currently running MySQL database:

```
$ sudo service mysql stop
```

Next, create a `/var/run/mysqld` directory to be used by MySQL process to store and access socket file:

```
$ sudo mkdir -p /var/run/mysqld
$ sudo chown mysql:mysql /var/run/mysqld
```

Once ready manually start MySQL with the following underline linux command and options:

```
$ sudo /usr/sbin/mysqld --skip-grant-tables --skip-networking &
$ [1] 2708
```

Confirm that the process is running as expected:

```
$ jobs
[1]+  Running     sudo /usr/sbin/mysqld --skip-grant-tables --skip-networking &
```

Related Topics:

At this stage we are able to access MySQL database without password:

```
$ mysql -u root
Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 3
Server version: 5.7.20-1ubuntu1 (Ubuntu)

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Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.

mysql>
```

Using the MySQL session first flush privileges:

```
mysql> FLUSH PRIVILEGES;
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.00 sec)
```

Next, reset root password. The following **commands** will reset MySQL root password to `linuxconfig.org` :

```
mysql> USE mysql;
Database changed
mysql> UPDATE user SET authentication_string=PASSWORD("linuxconfig.org") WHERE User='root';
Query OK, 0 rows affected, 1 warning (0.00 sec)
Rows matched: 1  Changed: 0  Warnings: 1

mysql> UPDATE user SET plugin="mysql_native_password" WHERE User='root';
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.00 sec)
Rows matched: 1  Changed: 0  Warnings: 0
```

Quit MySQL session:

```
mysql> quit
Bye
```

Gracefully terminate current `mysqld` process:

```
$ sudo pkill mysqld
linuxconfig@ubuntu:~$ jobs
[1]+  Done        sudo /usr/sbin/mysqld --skip-grant-tables --skip-networking
```

Lastly, start MYSQL database:

```
$ sudo service mysql start
```

Related Topics:

If all went well you should now be able to login to your MySQL database with a root password:

```
$ mysql -u root --password=linuxconfig.org
mysql: [Warning] Using a password on the command line interface can be insecure.
Welcome to the MySQL monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MySQL connection id is 4
Server version: 5.7.20-1ubuntu1 (Ubuntu)

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Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the current input statement.

mysql>
```