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MySQL Security Essentials

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OBJECTIVE

- Identify MySQL security issues
- Improve MySQL installation process
- Identify data issues
- Improve data integrity and security
- Auditing options



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ABOUT AUTHOR RONALD BRADFORD

- 12 years with MySQL / 22 years with RDBMS
 - Senior Consultant at MySQL Inc (06-08)
 - Consultant for Oracle Corporation (96-99)
- 7 years presenting MySQL content
- All time top MySQL blogger
- Published author
- Oracle ACE Director

Available NOW
for consulting

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MySQL Security



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INSTALL SECURITY

- Default is terrible
- Minimum
 - `$ mysql_secure_installation`
- Recommended
 - Operating System
 - Permissions & Privileges



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Hacking MySQL

10 simple ways



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HACKING MYSQL

`$ mysql -uroot`

1

For a default MySQL installation, there is no password for super user account



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HACKING MYSQL

`$ mysql`

`mysql> USE test`

2

For a default MySQL installation, there is anonymous access. More on this soon!



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HACKING MYSQL

3

```
$ sudo su -  
$ mysql  
$ cat ~/.my.cnf  
[client]  
user=root  
password=XXX
```

Many host providers have the superuser password in the default user config file

```
# Other users with logins  
$ find / -name ".my.cnf"
```



HACKING MYSQL

4

```
$ grep mysql $HOME/.history  
$ grep mysql /home/*/.*history  
  
mysql -uroot -pmysecret dbname
```

Shell commands leave an audit history. If password is specified on command line, it is in history



HACKING MYSQL

4a

```
$ cat wordpress/wp-config.php  
$ cat drupal/sites/default/settings.php  
  
# Insert your application here
```

Applications with cleartext passwords and user may have excessive privileges



HACKING MYSQL

5

```
$ mysql -u<some not privileged user>  
mysql> SELECT host,user,password FROM mysql.user;  
+-----+-----+-----+  
| host          | user | password |  
+-----+-----+-----+  
| localhost    | root |          |  
| mactaz.local | root |          |  
| 127.0.0.1     | root |          |  
| ::1          | root |          |  
| localhost    |      |          |  
| mactaz.local |      |          |  
+-----+-----+-----+
```

Can you view MySQL privileges to find a user with more access?



HACKING MYSQL

6

```
$ cd [mysql-data-dir] # e.g. /var/lib/mysql
$ cat master.info
15
mysql-bin.001536
20160154
10.0.0.1
repl
xxx
3306
60

$ mysql -urepl -pXXX -h10.0.0.1
mysql> SHOW GRANTS;
```

Are datadir permissions secure?
Does replication connection have global permissions?



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HACKING MYSQL

7

```
$ cd [mysql-data-dir] # e.g. /var/lib/mysql
$ strings mysql/user.MYD
...
dba*2470C0C06DEE42FD1618BB99005ADCA2EC9D1E19

mysql> SELECT 'password',PASSWORD('password');
+-----+-----+
| password | PASSWORD('password') |
+-----+-----+
| password | *2470C0C06DEE42FD1618BB99005ADCA2EC9D1E19 |
+-----+-----+

mysql> SELECT 'passwd',PASSWORD('passwd');
+-----+-----+
| passwd | PASSWORD('passwd') |
+-----+-----+
| passwd | *59C70DA2F3E3A5BDF46B68F5C8B8F25762BCCEF0 |
+-----+-----+
```

Is datadir permissions secure?
Can list all users and password hash



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HACKING MYSQL

7a

```
mysql> CREATE SCHEMA IF NOT EXISTS hack;
mysql> use hack;
mysql> CREATE TABLE words(word VARCHAR(100));
mysql> LOAD DATA LOCAL INFILE '/tmp/passwords'
-> INTO TABLE words(word);

mysql -uroot -e "SELECT word,PASSWORD(word) FROM
hack.words" --skip-column-names > /tmp/mysql-passwords
$ cat /tmp/mysql-passwords
password *2470C0C06DEE42FD1618BB99005ADCA2EC9D1E19
passwd *59C70DA2F3E3A5BDF46B68F5C8B8F25762BCCEF0
oracle *2447D497B9A6A15F2776055CB2D1E9F86758182F
changeme *7ACE763ED393514FE0C162B93996ECD195FFC4F5
xxx *3D56A309CD04FA2EEF181462E59011F075C89548
```

Brute force checking



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HACKING MYSQL

8

```
# Replacing/Editing user.MYD

$ cd /tmp
$ echo "[mysqld]
datadir=/tmp" > my.cnf
$ scripts/mysql_install_db --defaults-file=/tmp/my.cnf
$ ls -l /tmp/mysql/user.*
-rw-rw---- 1 rbradfor wheel 320 Feb 13 11:27 /tmp/mysql/user.MYD
-rw-rw---- 1 rbradfor wheel 2048 Feb 13 11:27 /tmp/mysql/user.MYI
-rw-rw---- 1 rbradfor wheel 10630 Feb 13 11:27 /tmp/mysql/user.frm
```

If access data directory, you can
replace or hack users data



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HACKING MYSQL

9

```
[mysqld]
init-file=/path/to/init.sql

$ cat init.sql
UPDATE mysql.user SET password=password('fred');
FLUSH PRIVILEGES;
```

Run the SQL file when I start mysql



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HACKING MYSQL

10

```
$ mysql --skip-grant-tables

$ mysql -uroot

mysql> UPDATE mysql.user
-> SET password=PASSWORD('hacked');
mysql> FLUSH PRIVILEGES;
```

If access to start and stop mysql process, you can reset passwords.



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Denial of Service (DOS)



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BREAKING MYSQL

```
$ mysql
mysql> USE test
mysql> CREATE TABLE filldisk(c VARCHAR(1000));
mysql> INSERT INTO filldisk VALUES(REPEAT('x',1000)),(REPEAT('y',1000)),
(REPEAT('z',1000));
mysql> INSERT INTO filldisk SELECT a.c FROM filldisk a, filldisk b,
filldisk c, filldisk d, filldisk e;
Query OK, 243 rows affected (0.05 sec)
mysql> INSERT INTO filldisk SELECT a.c FROM filldisk a, filldisk b,
filldisk c, filldisk d, filldisk e;
Will it end?
mysql> SELECT POW(3,5);
+-----+
| pow(3,5) |
+-----+
|      243 |
+-----+
mysql> SELECT POW(243,5);
+-----+
| pow(243,5) |
+-----+
| 847,288,609,443 |
```

Anonymous access.



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BREAKING MYSQL

```
# Steal CPU cycles
mysql> SELECT MD5(a.c), MD5(b.c)
-> FROM filldisk a, filldisk b ORDER BY RAND();
```



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BREAKING MYSQL

```
# Force disk I/O
mysql> SET SESSION tmp_table_size=1024*4; # 4K

mysql> SELECT ...
```



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INSTALL SECURITY

- \$ mysql_secure_installation
- Remove anonymous users
- Remove test database
- Remove non 'localhost' root users
- Set root password



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OS Security



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OS SECURITY

- Defaults are not always secure
- Separate Data/Binary Logs/Logs/Configuration/Backups
- Individual directory permissions
- Never run mysqld as 'root' user

- Minimize security risk
- Better auditability



DATA SECURITY

```
$ ls -ld /var/lib/mysql
drwxr-xr-x 6 mysql mysql 4096 Oct 13 16:45 /var/lib/mysql

$ ls -l /var/lib/mysql
total 3749488
drwx----- 2 mysql mysql      4096 Oct  6 18:50 db1
drwx----- 2 mysql mysql      4096 Jun  6 14:11 db2
-rw-rw---- 1 mysql mysql 3298820096 Oct 16 20:42 ibdata1
-rw-rw---- 1 mysql mysql 268435456 Oct 16 20:42 ib_logfile0
-rw-rw---- 1 mysql mysql 268435456 Oct 16 20:42 ib_logfile1
drwx----- 2 mysql mysql      4096 Jun  6 09:37 mysql
srwxrwxrwx 1 mysql mysql          0 Oct 12 20:09 mysql.sock
```

Change default configuration for
socket=/var/run/mysql/mysql.sock



INSTALLATION

- Best Practice

Single partition per
MySQL Instance

/mysql
/etc
/data
/binlog
/log
/mysql-version

Global files as symlinks
from partition

/etc/my.cnf
/etc/profile.d/mysql.sh
/etc/init.d/mysqld



INSTALLATION

- Software installed by root
- Separate MySQL permissions for directories

```
$ chown -R root:root /mysql
$ chown -R mysql:mysql /mysql/{data,log,binlog,etc}
$ chmod 700 /mysql/{data,binlog}
$ chmod 750 /mysql/{etc,log}
```



NETWORK

- MySQL listens on one TCP/IP port
- Default port is 3306
- skip-networking disables TCP/IP
- Database does not require physical web access generally
- Firewall management



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User Privileges



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USER PRIVILEGES

Best Practice

```
CREATE USER goodguy@localhost IDENTIFIED BY 'sakila';  
GRANT CREATE, SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE ON db.* TO  
goodguy@localhost;
```



Normal Practice

```
CREATE USER superman@'%';  
GRANT ALL ON *.* TO superman@'%';
```



<http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.5/en/create-user.html>

<http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.5/en/grant.html>



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GRANT ALL ON *.*

- GRANT ALL ON *.* TO user@' %'
- *.* gives you access to all tables in all schemas
- @' %' give you access from any external location
- ALL gives you
- ALTER, ALTER ROUTINE, CREATE, CREATE ROUTINE, CREATE TEMPORARY TABLES, CREATE USER, CREATE VIEW, DELETE, DROP, EVENT, EXECUTE, FILE, INDEX, INSERT, LOCK TABLES, PROCESS, PROXY, REFERENCES, RELOAD, REPLICATION CLIENT, REPLICATION SLAVE, SELECT, SHOW DATABASES, SHOW VIEW, SHUTDOWN, **SUPER**, TRIGGER, UPDATE, USAGE



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SUPER

- SUPER
- Bypasses read_only
- Bypasses init_connect
- Can Disable binary logging
- Change configuration dynamically
- No reserved connection



SUPER/READ ONLY

```
$ mysql -ugoodguy -psakila db
mysql> insert into test1(id) values(1);
ERROR 1290 (HY000): The MySQL server is running with the
--read-only option so it cannot execute this statement
```

```
$ mysql -usuperman db
mysql> insert into test1(id) values(1);
Query OK, 1 row affected (0.01 sec)
```



SUPER / CONNECT

```
#my.cnf
[client]
init_connect=SET NAMES utf8
```

This specifies to use UTF8 for communication with client and data



SUPER / CONNECT

```
$ mysql -usuperman db
mysql -ugoodguy -psakila db
mysql> SHOW SESSION VARIABLES LIKE 'ch%';
```

Variable_name	Value	Variable_name	Value
character_set_client	utf8	character_set_client	latin1
character_set_connection	utf8	character_set_connection	latin1
character_set_database	latin1	character_set_database	latin1
character_set_filesystem	binary	character_set_filesystem	binary
character_set_results	utf8	character_set_results	latin1
character_set_server	latin1	character_set_server	latin1
character_set_system	utf8	character_set_system	utf8



SUPER/BINARY LOG

```
mysql> SHOW MASTER STATUS;
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| File           | Position | Binlog_Do_DB | Binlog_Ignore_DB |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| binary-log.000001 | 354 | | |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+

mysql> INSERT INTO account VALUES (9,'New',100);
mysql> SET SQL_LOG_BIN=0;
mysql> UPDATE account SET balance=1,000 WHERE id=9;
mysql> SET SQL_LOG_BIN=1;
mysql> UPDATE account SET balance = balance - 50 WHERE id=9;
mysql> SHOW MASTER STATUS;
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| File           | Position | Binlog_Do_DB | Binlog_Ignore_DB |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| binary-log.000001 | 674 | | |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
```



SUPER / BINARY LOG

```
$ mysqlbinlog binary-log.000001 --start-position=354 --stop-position=674
# at 354
#100604 18:00:08 server id 1  end_log_pos 450 Query thread_id=1 exec_time=0
error_code=0
use mysql/*!*/;
SET TIMESTAMP=1275688808/*!*/;
INSERT INTO account VALUES (9,'New',100);
/*!*/;
# at 579
#100604 18:04:31 server id 1  end_log_pos 674 Query thread_id=2 exec_time=0
error_code=0
use mysql/*!*/;
SET TIMESTAMP=1275689071/*!*/;
mysql> UPDATE balance SET balance = balance - 50 WHERE id=9;
/*!*/;
DELIMITER ;
# End of log file
ROLLBACK /* added by mysqlbinlog */;
```



SUPER/CONNECTION

```
$ mysql -uroot

mysql> show global variables like 'max_connections';
+-----+-----+
| Variable_name | Value |
+-----+-----+
| max_connections | 3 |
+-----+-----+
1 row in set (0.07 sec)

mysql> show global status like 'threads_connected';
+-----+-----+
| Variable_name | Value |
+-----+-----+
| Threads_connected | 4 |
+-----+-----+
```



SUPER/CONNECTION

```
$ mysql -uroot
mysql> SHOW PROCESSLIST;
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| Id | User | Host | db | Command | Time | State | Info |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 13 | root | localhost | db1 | Query | 144 | User sleep | UPDATE test1 ... |
| 14 | root | localhost | db1 | Query | 116 | Locked | select * from test1 |
| 15 | root | localhost | db1 | Query | 89 | Locked | select * from test1 |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+

mysql> KILL THREAD 13;

$ mysql -uroot
ERROR 1040 (HY000): Too many connections
```



APPLICATION USERS

- Track Data Security
- Separation of responsibilities

- Application Viewer (Read Only Access)
 - SELECT
- Application User (Read/Write Access)
 - INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE, SELECT
- Application DBA (Schema Access Only)
 - CREATE, DROP, CREATE ROUTINE, SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE, ...



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SECURICH ACL

- User privilege via roles
- <http://securich.com>



Open source third party package



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NEW FEATURES

- User authentication interface (5.5)

<http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.5/en/authentication-plugins.html>

- PAM/LDAP Authentication (5.6 Enterprise)

http://blogs.oracle.com/MySQL/entry/new_commercial_extensions_for_mysql

http://blogs.oracle.com/mysql_joro/entry/mysql_55_brings_in_new_ways_to_authenticate_users



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Data Integrity



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DATA INTEGRITY

```
CREATE TABLE sample_data (  
  i TINYINT UNSIGNED NOT NULL,  
  c CHAR(2) NULL,  
  t TIMESTAMP NOT NULL DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP  
) ENGINE=InnoDB DEFAULT CHARSET latin1;  
INSERT INTO sample_data(i) VALUES (0), (100), (255);  
Query OK, 3 rows affected (0.00 sec)  
SELECT * FROM sample_data;  
+-----+-----+-----+  
| i | c | t |  
+-----+-----+-----+  
| 0 | NULL | 2010-06-06 13:28:44 |  
| 100 | NULL | 2010-06-06 13:28:44 |  
| 255 | NULL | 2010-06-06 13:28:44 |  
+-----+-----+-----+  
3 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```



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DATA INTEGRITY

```
mysql> INSERT INTO sample_data (i) VALUES (-1), (9000);  
  
mysql> SELECT * FROM sample_data;  
+-----+-----+-----+  
| i | c | t |  
+-----+-----+-----+  
| 0 | NULL | 2010-06-06 13:28:44 |  
| 100 | NULL | 2010-06-06 13:28:44 |  
| 255 | NULL | 2010-06-06 13:28:44 |  
| 0 | NULL | 2010-06-06 13:32:52 |  
| 255 | NULL | 2010-06-06 13:32:52 |  
+-----+-----+-----+  
5 rows in set (0.01 sec)
```



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Data In != Data out

SQL_MODE

```
SQL_MODE =  
  
STRICT_ALL_TABLES,  
NO_ZERO_DATE,  
NO_ZERO_IN_DATE,  
NO_ENGINE_SUBSTITUTION;
```

Minimum
Recommended
Configuration

<http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.5/en/server-sql-mode.html>



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Installation



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INSTALLATION

- Current version is 5.5
 - <http://dev.mysql.com/downloads/>
- RedHat distro current version is
 - 5.0.77 - 28 JAN 2009
- Ubuntu distro version is
 - 5.1.44 - 04 FEB 2010



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UPDATES

- MySQL is open source
 - More frequent updates
 - MySQL enterprise monthly updates
 - MySQL community ~ 6 months updates
- Release notes

<http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.5/en/news-5-5-x.html>



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INSTALLATION

- MySQL 5.5 via distro
 - rpm available
 - Oracle has no yum repository
 - No immediate plans for community
 - Canonical (Ubuntu) has no ETA
 - .deb available ****NEW****



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INSTALLATION

- Recommendations
 - Use MySQL created rpms
 - Use MySQL Tar Binary
- Issues
 - Dependencies
 - PHP/Perl etc



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Auditing



AUDITING OPTIONS

- Status variables
- Binary log
- Schema compare
- Audit plugin (5.5)
- Oracle Audit Vault



STATUS VARIABLES

```
mysql> SELECT variable_name, variable_value
-> FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.GLOBAL_STATUS
-> WHERE variable_name LIKE 'COM_ALTER%'
-> OR variable_name LIKE 'COM_DROP%'
-> OR variable_name LIKE 'COM_CREATE%';
```

variable_name	variable_value
COM_ALTER_DB	0
COM_ALTER_DB_UPGRADE	0
COM_ALTER_EVENT	0
COM_ALTER_FUNCTION	0
COM_ALTER_PROCEDURE	0
COM_ALTER_SERVER	0
COM_ALTER_TABLE	4
COM_ALTER_TABLESPACE	0



BINARY LOG

```
$ mysqlbinlog /path/to/file > binlog.txt
$ grep -ie ALTER -e CREATE -e DROP binlog.txt
```

```
ALTER TABLE example ADD COLUMN i INT;
ALTER TABLE example ADD INDEX (i);
ALTER TABLE example DROP INDEX y;
ALTER TABLE example DROP COLUMN y;
```



SCHEMA

```
$ mysqldump -uroot -p \  
--no-data --all-databases --skip-dump-date \  
| sed -e "s/AUTO_INCREMENT=[^\ ] //" \  
> schema.`date +%Y%m%d.%H%M`.sql  
  
# Compare with a previous version  
$ diff schema.20111018.sql schema.20111017.sql
```



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AUDIT PLUGIN

● Auditing interface (5.5)

<http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.5/en/audit-plugins.html>



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TBD

● Oracle Audit Vault

Better Security



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RESTRICTING MYSQLD

- Gazzang ezncrypt mask
- Also provides Transparent Encryption

http://mikefrank.wordpress.com/2011/12/20/on-protecting-mysql-from-unwanted-use-of-skip_grant_tables/



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RESTRICTING MYSQLD

- Compile from source
 - --disable-grant-options
 - Removes --skip-grant-tables, --init-file and --bootstrap

<http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.1/en/source-configuration-options.html>



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Conclusion



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CONCLUSION

- MySQL is not secure by default
 - Responsibility on you (DBA/SA)
- Starts with OS security
- Use appropriate privileges



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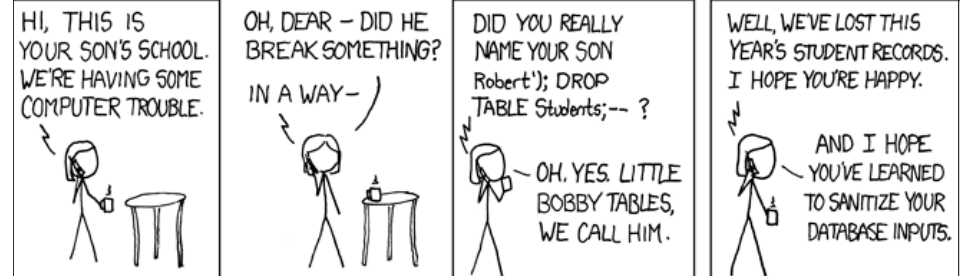
NOT COVERED

- Replication
- SSL
- Backups
- SQL Injection
- Sanitize your database inputs

<http://xkcd.com/327/>



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<http://xkcd.com/327/>



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REFERENCES

- Securing MySQL by Sheeri Cabral

<http://sheeri.com/content/securing-mysql-and-how-be-rock-star-dba-pr>



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REFERENCES

- OurSQL podcast
 - Episode 59: Security Blankets 1
 - Episode 61: Security Blankets 2
 - Episode 55: MySQL Data encryption

<http://technocation.org/>



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$$E_M = p s^n$$

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