

RHEL: Allowing users to 'su' to "root" / Allowing 'root' to login directly to the system using 'ssh'

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RHEL: Allowing users to 'su' to "root" / Allowing 'root' to login directly to the system using 'ssh'

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# Tested on RHEL 5, 6 & 7

# Allowing users to "su" to 'root'
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# On a secured server regular users are not allowed to become 'root'
by issuing "su" command

# /etc/pam.d/su file usually limits users that can become 'root' to
those belonging to
# 'wheel' group

# This way, to allow a user to become 'root' it should be added to
'wheel' group:

usermod -g wheel <username>
```

```
# To allow all users to become super user (root), comment out
following line in
# /etc/pam.d/su file (if line is uncommented only 'wheel' users will
be able to do it):

    auth                required                pam_wheel.so use_uid

# To allow users in 'wheel' group to become 'root' without providing
a password uncomment
# following line in /etc/pam.d/su file

    #auth                sufficient                pam_wheel.so trust use_uid

# State of these two lines can be combined in order to have one or
other behaviour

# Allowing 'root' to login directly to the system via ssh
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# Usually, after a fresh installation, 'root' is not able to login to
the system via "ssh"
# To allow, verify/modify following files as necessary

# sshd_config: If existing, change "PermitRootLogin no" to
"PermitRootLogin yes"

vi /etc/ssh/sshd_config
[...]
    PermitRootLogin yes
[...]

# This change requires a restart of sshd daemon:
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```
# RHEL 5/6:service sshd restart

# RHEL 7: systemctl restart sshd

# access.conf: Change "-: root : ALL" to "+: root : ALL"

vi /etc/security/access.conf
[...]
    +: root : ALL
[...]

# Take into account that modifying this options can compromise the
security of a system.
```

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