

# Permissions

Here is a very good article on unix permissions <sup>1)</sup>.

## Securing a directory

You're here because you heard that this would a good idea. There are going to be many ways to ensure a directory is 'secure', but that will depend on your requirements.

I will assume that you are the only person that will need access to said directory. I also will not try to explain unix permissions to you. If you want to know more I suggest you read the link at the top of this page. Follow along below to create a directory that only you will be able to access.

Given a directory foo we can do the following:

```
chown $USER:$USER foo
```

\$USER will translate to your username, but we recommend you actually type out your username. This will set the user and the group to \$USER.

Now make sure that only the user field can has access to the directory.

```
chmod 700 foo
```

## I have a directory structure full of files and I want to ensure no one else can read them

I got your back.

```
chmod -R go-rwx foo
```

```
-R: recursive.  
g: select group permission  
o: select other permission  
-: remove  
r: read permission  
w: write permission  
x: execute permission
```

So we are asking chmod to remove read, write, and execute permissions on the group and other permission fields.

<sup>1)</sup>

<http://www.grymoire.com/Unix/Permissions.html>

From:

<https://howto.cs.uchicago.edu/> - **How do I?**

Permanent link:

<https://howto.cs.uchicago.edu/nix:permissions?rev=1505512878>

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