

How to Reset MariaDB Root Password?

written by sysadmin | 6 September 2025

I want to access the MariaDB database using the root user, but I forgot the password of the root user.

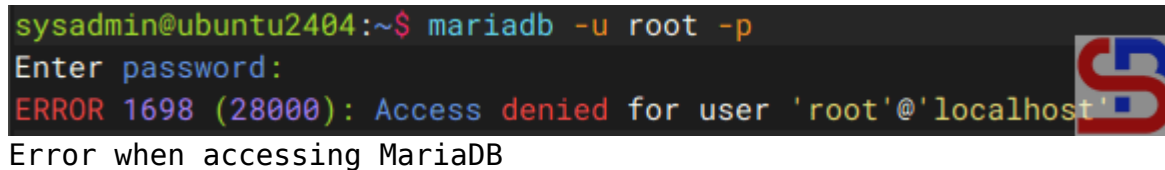
Problem

How to reset MariaDB root password?

Solution

When I insert my password root to access MariaDB, here is the error:

```
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:~$ mariadb -u root -p
Enter password:
ERROR 1698 (28000): Access denied for user 'root'@'localhost'
```



Error when accessing MariaDB

Here are the steps to reset the root password in MariaDB:

1. Stop the service

Use the command below to stop MariaDB's service:

```
sudo systemctl stop mariadb
```

2. Running Mariadb in Safe Mode

Run the command below to run the MariaDB service without access rights and networks:

```
sudo mysqld_safe --skip-grant-tables --skip-networking &
```

3. Change the password

Enter MariaDB using the command:

```
sudo mariadb -uroot -p
```

Press the **Enter** button and after that, type the commands below, and I use the **qwerty** password as my new password:

```
FLUSH PRIVILEGES;  
ALTER USER root@localhost IDENTIFIED BY 'qwerty';  
FLUSH PRIVILEGES;  
exit
```

4. Stop MariaDB

Use the command below to stop MariaDB's service:

```
sudo mysqladmin -u root -p shutdown
```

Enter the password you just created if you are asked to enter a password.

5. Running the Service

Run the command below to turn on MariaDB's service:

```
sudo systemctl start mariadb
```

6. Try a new password

Enter MariaDB by using the password that you created previously using the command below:

```
sudo mariadb -u root -p
```

Insert your new password, and if you type the correct password, then you should be able to enter Mariadb as in the image below:

```
sysadmin@ubuntu2404:~$ sudo mariadb -u root -p
Enter password:
Welcome to the MariaDB monitor.  Commands end with ; or \g.
Your MariaDB connection id is 5
Server version: 10.11.13-MariaDB-0ubuntu0.24.04.1 Ubuntu 24.04

Copyright (c) 2000, 2018, Oracle, MariaDB Corporation Ab and others.

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

MariaDB [(none)]> █
```



Test your new password to access MariaDB

Note

Maybe as an alternative to storing passwords for the root user in MariaDB, you can store the password in a file, but using [an encrypted Vim editor](#).

References

musaamin.web.id
serverspace.io
vexxhost.com
stackoverflow.com