



How to Generate a CSR for Apache Web Server Using OpenSSL

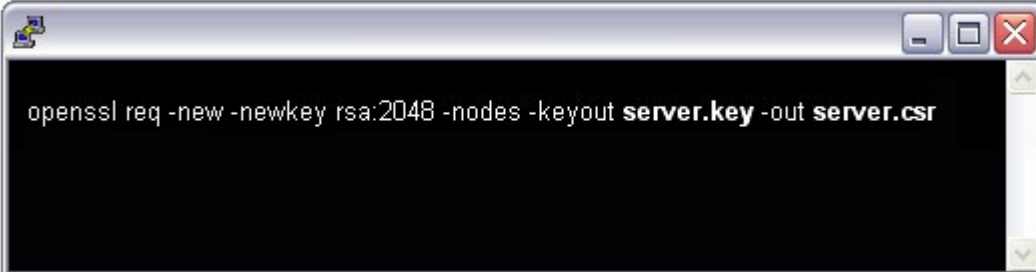
The following instructions will guide you through the CSR generation process on Apache OpenSSL. To learn more about CSRs and the importance of your private key, reference our [Overview of Certificate Signing Request](#) article. If you already generated the CSR and received your trusted SSL certificate, reference our [SSL Installation Instructions](#) and disregard the steps below.

1. Log In

Log in to your server's terminal via Secure Shell (SSH).

2. Run CSR Generation Command

Generate a private key and CSR by running the following command:



```
openssl req -new -newkey rsa:2048 -nodes -keyout server.key -out server.csr
```

Here is the plain text version to copy and paste into your terminal:

```
openssl req -new -newkey rsa:2048 -nodes -keyout server.key -out server.csr
```

Note: Replace “server” with the domain name you intend to secure.

3. Enter your Information

Enter the following CSR details when prompted:

a) Common Name: The FQDN (fully-qualified domain name) you want to secure with the certificate such as `www.google.com`, `secure.website.org`, `*.domain.net`, etc.



b) Organization: The full legal name of your organization including the corporate identifier.

c) Organization Unit (OU): Your department such as 'Information Technology' or 'Website Security.'

d) City or Locality: The locality or city where your organization is legally incorporated. Do not abbreviate.

e) State or Province: The state or province where your organization is legally incorporated. Do not abbreviate.

f) Country: The official two-letter country code (i.e. US, CH) where your organization is legally incorporated.

Note: You are not required to enter a password or passphrase. This optional field is for applying additional security to your key pair.

4. Copy the CSR text from the file

Locate and open the newly created CSR in a text editor such as Notepad and copy all the text including:

-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----

And

-----END CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----

```
-----BEGIN NEW CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----
MIIEHjCCA24CAQAwgYsxCzAJBgNVBAYTA1VTMRAdgYDVQQIDAdsbG9yYWRhbmQ4w
DAYDVQQHDAVUyYyY29tMTI1IjE2LnR0F0wtj421jQ+7jmeIK99eIEqj5vq61+hatTgYk6IbHqH
GDABBgNVBAsMDokUVC4gRGVwYXJ0bWVudDEeMBwGA1UEAwVaw1ZLnR0F0wtj421jQ+7jmeIK99eIEqj5vq61+hatTgYk6IbHqH
awVuy2Uuy29tMTI1IjE2LnR0F0wtj421jQ+7jmeIK99eIEqj5vq61+hatTgYk6IbHqH
KZ3cqrGzJ5our6g0d3ytc1GadctI8Kn/MBBnx6kwoQzj5uAgISb+2JGng5/e6xm
XnnjgZsokdk11i2n1RxFOwtj421jQ+7jmeIK99eIEqj5vq61+hatTgYk6IbHqH
0QNFYyvg630CXnabAftnxY5X5/Nn6AFurxuAgtrFXz1c15GgxeS9X3h9psVnkBH/
XGpyuvdEp9ATA01OHnCuzSNAJc0061wgK2xb0h3paRfc9zh09bwgFJcQ60fc4tLT
rmeJ+Ug31kvdeqW1sxi69ZRG0ZTR5csp8dg8EaIX2hNAbcos4pKI51AbmJkvFG1+
awrNahsCU4vyRQIDAQABoIIBSZAABggorBgEEAYI3DQIDM0wmcjYUM543NjAxljIw
TWY3KwYBBAGCNwUu1wQATBQCwP01OLVEZMjQ3Uk91Vkw0bLXU4tUfMyndS
T0HwQ1ZCQWRtaW5pc3RyYXRvcgWLSw51de1nc151eGUwcgYKKwYBBAGCNw0CAjFk
MGICAQEEwGBNAGKAyWBYAGBACwBvAGYAdAAgAFIAUwBBACAAUwBDAGgAYQBUAG4A
ZQBSACAAQWBYAHKACAB0AGBAZwBYAGEACAB0AGKAyWagAFACgBVAHYAAQBAAGUA
CgMBADCBZwYJKoZIhvcNAQkOMYHBMIG+MA4GA1UdDwEB/wQEAwIE8DATBGNVHSUE
DDAKBggrBgEFBQCDATB4BgkqhkiG9w0BCQ8EazBpMA4GCCqGSIb3DQMCAGIAGpAO
BgqhkiG9w0DBAICAIawCwYJYIZIAwUDBAEqMASGCWCGSFA1AwQBLTALBg1ghkGB
ZQMEACIwCwYJYIZIAwUDBAEqMACBSS0AwIHMAGCCGSIb3DQMHMB0GA1UdDg9w
BBTbhtbvdwt3pC4K9bYwsVx4d3w5f1ANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQUFAAOCAQEARKM1m1fO
54jwctANBLrF6gF+2AX71Zew0Z20Fbu93NpsMgmau1fTyr1t4J71Jk+N4zmFv4De
CLWYDPOHEKVOZBqRGcJiQ9I56gZb3R2f1be1wdwFbvFJw3VU4cXGSTDxHUP3/
LCCbVfEc0Hsv969xP8dTWVtbwNpCt5C36jffjvy1fomnhXfRgwP8fM6wBTy0w/2hr
tVewlP72YtLVaa09YP27UuFtOhPJ2zmV0kd7qTVQ6vsuV4UmKubool7rEtK06Aup
EXaaofcJf4LJhd5wGYNbdrustU1N1gxbdmZLHrw0JognuGeqxPohvP5MyAehJM8Qj
01erf3mnnQUBA==
-----END NEW CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----
```



Note 1: Your CSR should be saved in the same user directory that you SSH into unless otherwise specified by you.

Note 2: We recommend saving or backing up your newly generate “.key” file as this will be required later during the installation process.

5. Generate the order

Return to the Generation Form on our website and paste the entire CSR into the blank text box and continue with completing the generation process.

Upon generating your CSR, your order will enter the validation process with the issuing Certificate Authority (CA) and require the certificate requester to complete some form of validation depending on the certificate purchased. For information regarding the different levels of the validation process and how to satisfy the industry requirements, reference our validation articles.

After you complete the validation process and receive the trusted SSL Certificate from the issuing Certificate Authority (CA), proceed with the next step using our SSL Installation Instructions for Apache OpenSSL.