How do I grant sudo privileges to an existing user? [duplicate]

Asked 12 years, 4 months ago Modified 7 years, 10 months ago Viewed 919k times



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177

How can I add a user as a new sudoer using the command line? (7 answers)

Closed 11 years ago.



I want to grant a newly created user sudo privileges in Ubuntu.



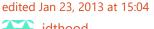
I tried

sudo adduser hduser admin

but it says no admin group exists. How can I do it?

sudo privileges

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jdthood 12.6k 2 49 asked Jul 26, 2012 at 7:42



What is the output of sudo visudo? - Mitch Jul 26, 2012 at 8:19

1 This was changed recently, which is the reason for the confusion. – Adrian Jul 26, 2012 at 8:29

sudo adduser <username> sudo - did the trick for me. Second sudo is the group name instead of sudo - Jamess Sep 21, 2012 at 12:28

4 Answers

Sorted by: Highest score (default)

\$



You need to add the user houser to the sudo group (which is the "administrators" group in Ubuntu).

256



If you have already created the user, you can add the user to the sudo group by running the following command in a Terminal:



sudo usermod -a -G sudo hduser



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answered Jul 26, 2012 at 8:22



- 51 Note that the user must log off, then back on again for this change to take effect. Jacob Foshee Jul 5, 2013 at 16:01
- not working ubuntu 14 Ashish Ratan Jan 8, 2016 at 6:23
- Usage: usermod [options] LOGIN Options: -c, --comment COMMENT new value of the GECOS field -d, -home HOME_DIR new home directory for the user account -e, --expiredate EXPIRE_DATE set account expiration date to EXPIRE DATE -f, --inactive INACTIVE set password inactive after expiration to INACTIVE g, --gid GROUP force use GROUP as new primary group -G, --groups GROUPS new list of supplementary GROUPS -a, --append append the user to the supplemental GROUPS - Ashish Ratan Jan 8, 2016 at 6:24

No problem here using ubuntu 14. Thx. – joedragons Jan 26, 2016 at 20:09

FYI, In RHEL/CentOS it is: sudo usermod -aG wheel hduser – jeffmcneill Jul 6, 2017 at 13:13 🖍



Instead you can try,

28 sudo adduser hduser sudo



In Ubuntu you need to add the user only to the group sudo.



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Zanna 🔷



answered Mar 7, 2013 at 11:27



Aishwarya



1) Become root. You can do this using sudo -i or becoming root the old fashioned way su -



2) Run visudo



3) I changed this portion of the sudoers file to have my chosen users become sudo users, and you can add users similarly (blank lines introduce to format cleanly):



User Aliases



These aren't often necessary, as you can use regular groups ## (ie, from files, LDAP, NIS, etc) in this file - just use %groupname ## rather than USERALIAS # User_Alias ADMINS = jsmith, mikem dbadmin

ALL=(ALL) ALL
ics ALL=(ALL) ALL
csm ALL=(ALL) ALL
coa ALL=(ALL) ALL

4) Press: and x to write the changes to sudoers and exit vi.

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edited Nov 21, 2013 at 20:14

answered May 15, 2013 at 15:47



Braiam 68.6k

3.6k 32 181



- This seems needlessly complicated. Why bother running visudo when the <u>adduser command</u> will do what you want? Dan Dascalescu Jul 11, 2014 at 9:29
- 2 @dan-dascalescu \$ sudo adduser username sudo won't work if the 'sudo' group does not exist. So adding the user manually is certainly an option. However, it's certainly more elegant to create a sudo group, add it to the sudoers file (e.g. via visudo), then add the appropriate user(s) to that user group. Jarrett Barnett Oct 2, 2015 at 17:47
- 1 @JarrettBarnett That was the case for me. Thank you for your answer. Marcel Mar 21, 2016 at 22:47



Edit the sudoers file: sudo visudo

5

and add:



user ALL=(ALL:ALL) ALL



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edited Feb 18, 2017 at 8:30



71.6k 60 222 3

answered May 15, 2013 at 15:52



- 10 Why bother editing /etc/sudoers when the <u>adduser</u> <u>command</u> will work? Dan Dascalescu Jul 11, 2014 at 9:29
 - @Zanna You have edited sudo visudo /etc/sudoers Is it correct? AFAIK, it is either sudo visudo or sudo nano /etc/sudoers d a is y Feb 18, 2017 at 8:29
 - ah @Lnux you're right, but you should always use visudo to edit /etc/sudoers because it stops you from making a fatal syntax error. I corrected − Zanna ♦ Feb 18, 2017 at 8:32
- 1 @DanDascalescu maybe because for some people it doesnt work? The Fool Dec 26, 2020 at 14:04