

How to make a mysql root user to login interactive with mysql cli passwordless

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I'm using access to the mysql servers via localhost with mysql cli on daily basis.

With time I've figured out that it's pretty unahandy to always login with my root mysql password, I mean each time to enter it, e.g.:

```
root@mysql-server:~# mysql -u root
```

```
Enter password:
```

```
...
```

Thus to make my life a way easier I decided to store my mysql root password in order to allow my root admin user to be able to login to my mysql server without asking for password. This saves time and nerves, as I'm not supposed to look up for the password file I store my server mysql root pass.

To allow my mysql cli interface, to login passwordless to the SQL server I had to create the file **/root/.my.cnf** readable only for my root user and store my MySQL username and password there.

Here is a sample */root/.my.cnf* file:

```
root@mysql-server:~# cat /root/.my.cnf
[client]
user="root"
pass="mysecretMySQLPasswordgoeshere"
```

Now next time I use the mysql console interface to access my mysql server I don't have to supply the password, here is how easier is the mysql login afterwards:

```
root@mysql-server:~# mysql -u root
```

```
Welcome to the MySQL monitor. Commands end with ; or \g.
```

```
Your MySQL connection id is 3520
```

Server version: 5.0.77 Source distribution

Type 'help;' or '\h' for help. Type '\c' to clear the buffer.

mysql>

The only downside of using **.my.cnf** to store permanently the mysql server root and password is from security standpoint.

If for instance somebody roots my servers, where I have stored my root user/pwds in *.my.cnf*, he will be able immediately to get access to the MySQL server.

Another possible security flaw with using the mysql passwordless login "trick" is if somebody forgets to set proper file permissions to, *.my.cnf*

Once again the file should possess the permissions of:

```
root@mysql-server:~# ls -al /root/.my.cnf
-rw----- 1 root root 90 Apr 2 00:05 /root/.my.cnf
```

Any other permissions might allow non-privileged users to read the file and gain unauthorized admin access to the SQL server.