

# Make /tmp nonexecutable and secure your box!!!

Sheetal Joseph

Feb 5, 2005

Leaving the /tmp folder executable, surely does cause a security risk, as PHP can be used to upload as 'nobody' files to other parts of your system. Making the /tmp folder nonexecutable would eliminate such a security risk and enable you to breathe easy...

Here is how you should proceed:

1. Create a file that we will use to mount at /tmp
2. Create a 200mb file in /dev

```
cd /dev
dd if=/dev/zero of=tmpMnt bs=1024 count=200000
```

3. Make an extended filesystem for our tmpMnt file

```
mke2fs /dev/tmpMnt (hit y when prompted)
```

4. Backup your /tmp dir

```
cd /
cp -R /tmp /tmp_backup
```

5. Mount the new /tmp filesystem with noexec.

```
mount -o loop,nosuid,noexec,rw /dev/tmpMnt /tmp
chmod 777 /tmp
```

6. Copy everything back to new /tmp verify and remove backup

```
cp -R /tmp_backup/* /tmp/
cd /tmp
ls -la (verify the files are there)
rm -rf /tmp_backup
```

7. Add to fstab so it mounts automatically on reboots.

```
vi /etc/fstab
```

8. You will see something like this:

```
LABEL=/ / ext3 defaults 1 1
none /dev/pts devpts gid=5,mode=620 0 0
LABEL=/home /home ext3 defaults 1 2
none /proc proc defaults 0 0
none /dev/shm tmpfs defaults 0 0
LABEL=/usr /usr ext3 defaults 1 2
LABEL=/var /var ext3 defaults 1 2
/dev/hda6 swap swap defaults 0 0
```

At the bottom add

```
/dev/tmpMnt /tmp ext2 loop,nosuid,noexec,rw 0 0
```

Note: Each space is a tab

9. Your done- /tmp is now mounted as noexec. then

```
cd /var
rm -rf tmp
ln -s /tmp /var/tmp
```

and your done!!!