How to Install and Configure Squid Proxy on Debian 9

Source: https://tecadmin.net/install-squid-debian9/
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Squid is the most popular Proxy server for Unix like operating systems. It also used for the web filtering. Its widely used for increasing web server speed by caching repeated data.

This tutorial helps you to install Squid proxy server on your Debian 9 Stretch system. Also provide basic configuration details of Proxy server to allow traffic, restrict specific websites with keyword or domain names.

Step 1 – Install Squid on Debian 9

Login to your Debian 9 system using root or sudo privileges user. Then run the following commands on the console to install Squid on Debian 9 system from the default package repository.

```
sudo apt update
sudo apt install squid
```

Step 2 - Configure Squid Port

Squid default runs on port **3128**. It is your choice to keep running squid on default port or change it to some different port. To change port edit squid configuration file and change http_port value.

/etc/squid/squid.conf

```
http port 3128
```

After making changing let's restart Squid service to reload the configuration changes

sudo service squid restart

Step 3 – Allow All Traffic

Sometimes you are required to allow all traffic on your proxy server. In Squid server open Squid configuration file. Comment the http_access deny all line and add the http_access allow all entry this file.

```
http_access allow all #http_access deny all
```

```
# Example rule allowing access from your local networks.

# Adapt localnet in the ACL section to list your (internal) IP networks

# from where browsing should be allowed

#http_access allow localnet

http_access allow localhost

# And finally deny all other access to this proxy

http_access allow all

#http_access deny all
```

Step 4 – Block Specific Website with Squid

Let's start with the additional configuration like blocking any website using squid proxy server. Add below rules to block specific website before any allow all rules. Below example will block yahoo.com and www.rediff.com.

```
acl blocksite1 dstdomain yahoo.com
acl blocksite2 dstdomain www.rediff.com
http_access deny blocksite1
http_access deny blocksite2
```

If you have a long list of domain names, Create a file /etc/squid/blockwebsites.lst and put domain names one per line and add below rule in the squid configuration file.

```
acl blocksitelist dstdomain "/etc/squid/blockwebsites.lst"
http_access deny blocksitelist
```

blockwebsites.lst file content example:

```
cat /etc/squid/blockwebsites.lst
```

yahoo.com
www.rediff.com

Step 5 – Block Specific Keyword with Squid

Add below rules to block specific website before any allow all rules. Below example will block all pages having keyword yahoo or Gmail.

```
acl blockkeyword1 url_regex yahoo
acl blockkeyword2 url_regex gmail
http_access deny blockkeyword1
http_access deny blockkeyword2
```

If you have a long list of keywords, Create a file /etc/squid/blockkeywords.lst and put keywords one per line and add below rule in the squid configuration file.

```
acl blockkeywordlist url_regex "/etc/squid/blockkeywords.lst"
http_access deny blockkeywordlist
```

blockkeywords.lst file content example:

cat /etc/squid/blockkeywords.lst

yahoo gmail facebook

Congratulation's you have successfully install and configured Squid proxy server.