Granting SSH access using TCP Wrappers

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How to grant SSH access only from an IP to a server?

Overview: This article explains how to grant SSH access only from a specific IP or gateway server by editing the hosts.allow and hosts.deny files, and how to apply the configuration to multiple remote servers using Ezeelogin's parallel shell.

Login to the server and edit hosts.allow and hosts.deny and add the below lines. hosts.allow will have high priority and it will override the rules in hosts.deny.

Refer below example of allowing SSH access only from 192.168.1.2 and blocking from all other IPs.

```
root@remote_server ~]# vim /etc/hosts.allow

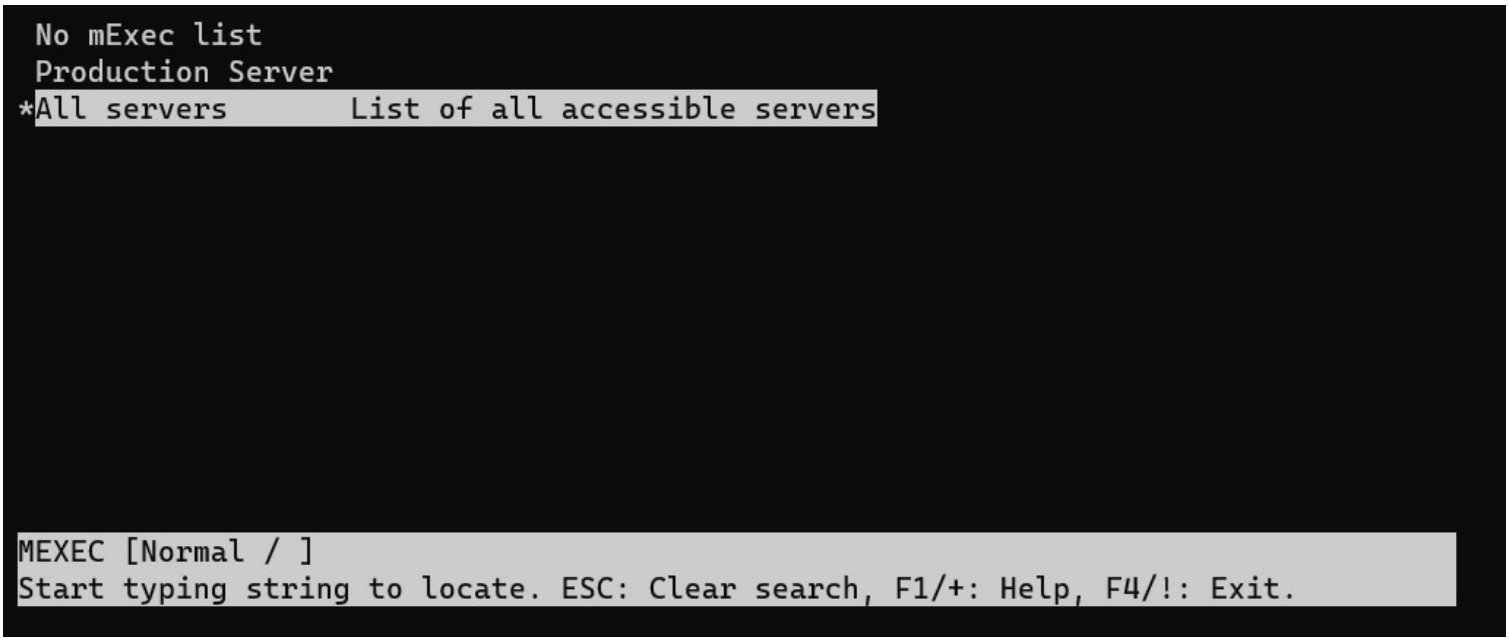
sshd : 192.168.1.2
```

```
root@remote-server ~]# vim /etc/hosts.deny

sshd : ALL
```

How to grant SSH access to all remote servers only from the gateway server (192.168.1.2) using the parallel shell?

1. Login to the **Ezeelogin shell (ezsh)** and enable the **parallel shell** feature by pressing "**F7**" or "*****" and select **all servers**. Refer below example.



2. Run the below command to place the entries in **hosts.allow** and **deny.allow**. Replace the below IP with your gateway IP.

```
[group:All servers]# echo "sshd : 192.168.1.2" >> /etc/hosts.allow ; echo "sshd : ALL" >> /etc/hosts.deny
```

The above command will add gateway IP to hosts.allow which will allow SSH service from the gateway server and will block all other SSH connections from other servers.

3. Run the below command to confirm the entries in hosts.allow and in hosts.deny of all remote servers.

```
[group:All servers]# cat /etc/hosts.allow | grep -i sshd ; cat /etc/hosts.deny | grep -i sshd

centos.server

sshd : 192.168.1.2
sshd : ALL


ubuntu.server

sshd : 192.168.1.2
sshd : ALL
```

Refer above example to view the entries in **hosts.allow** and **hosts.deny.**

4. SSH from the gateway server and other servers to the remote servers to confirm SSH only working from the gateway server.

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Online URL: https://www.ezeelogin.com/kb/article/granting-ssh-access-using-tcp-wrappers-534.html