

SQL*Net Encryption & Authentication

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<https://blog.srechnik.info/>

Proxy Users & Schema Only Accounts

Jan 20, 2025 📖 5 min read

Remember those MYAPP/MYAPP@MYDB logons? With all the security buzz and auditors out there, I thought of those as a thing of the past. This blog won't...

Oracle Native Network Encryption

Dec 22, 2024 📖 4 min read

As I come across environments where SQL*Net is not encrypted I sometimes also notice that there are two common misconceptions about it: First, some...

Introduction to JOIN LATERAL on Oracle

Dec 7, 2024 📖 4 min read

Lateral join joins a subquery, which is executed as many times as there are rows in the leading table. Consider it as a kind of for-each loop. Most...

Reading Execution Plans

Oct 13, 2024 📖 5 min read

Order of Operations · I routinely do a "rehearsal" of my presentations with our DBA team and any other willing participants (they tend to be developers)...

utlfixdirs.sql

Sep 16, 2024 📖 2 min read

It's a script that comes with every \$ORACLE_HOME and it's located in \$ORACLE_HOME/rdbms/admin/ folder. It recreates all DBA_DIRECTORIES that are...

Collecting SQL Plan Baselines

Sep 9, 2024 📖 7 min read

on Standard Edition · Ever thought about collecting baselines for all queries on your database? Let's explore the benefits and the methods of doing...

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References

Gorenjska Banka

GENERALI
Zavarovalnica

Ljubljana Airport

Iskra

REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
MINISTRSTVO ZA OBRAMBO

NOVA
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Oracle Native Network Encryption

Licence Requirements

“Note: Network encryption (native network encryption, network data integrity, and SSL/TLS) and strong authentication services (Kerberos, PKI, and RADIUS) are no longer part of Oracle Advanced Security and are available in all licensed editions of all supported releases of Oracle Database.”

--

Database Licensing Information User Manual, Release 23 (&19c)

Oracle Native Network Encryption

... it's the easiest way of enabling encryption

- does not require any certificates
- the only configuration file involved is `sqlnet.ora`

so, let's start with this one

Server Side – sqlnet.ora

```
SQLNET.ENCRYPTION_SERVER = REQUESTED  
SQLNET.CRYPTO_CHECKSUM_SERVER = REQUESTED
```

```
# allowed values:
```

```
# accepted | rejected | requested | required
```

Server Side sqlnet.ora (strict)

```
SQLNET.ENCRYPTION_SERVER = REQUIRED
```

```
SQLNET.CRYPTO_CHECKSUM_SERVER = REQUIRED
```

```
SQLNET.ENCRYPTION_TYPES_SERVER = (AES256)
```

```
SQLNET.CRYPTO_CHECKSUM_TYPES_SERVER = (SHA512)
```

```
SQLNET.ALLOW_WEAK_CRYPTO_CLIENTS = FALSE
```

Supported Encryption Algorithms in 19c

- DES (40 – 56 bit) // deprecated
- 3DES (112 – 168 bit) // deprecated
- RC4 (40 – 256 bit) // deprecated
- **AES** (128 – 256 bit)

Supported Hash Algorithms in 19c

- MD5 // deprecated
- **SHA-1**
- **SHA-2 (256 – 512 bits)**

Client Configuration - sqlnet.ora

- Same settings can be used on client, just replace `_SERVER` with `_CLIENT`.

```
SQLNET.ENCRYPTION_CLIENT = REQUESTED
```

```
SQLNET.CRYPTO_CHECKSUM_CLIENT = REQUESTED
```

Is it working?



```
SQL> SELECT network_service_banner
 2  FROM v$session_connect_info
 3  WHERE sid=sys_context('userenv','sid');
```

```
NETWORK_SERVICE_BANNER
```

```
-----
```

```
...
```

```
AES256 Encryption service adapter for Linux: Version 19.0.1.0.0 - Production
```

```
SHA1 Crypto-checksumming service adapter for Linux: Version 19.0.1.0.0 - Production
```

```
...
```

[illegible]

bc	24	11	1b	db	d5	bc	24	11	41	08	51	08	00	45	00	\$ \$ A Q E .
01	e4	90	48	a0	80	06	86	bc	c1	8a	2f	b8	c1	8a		. H@ / . . .
2f	42	fd	be	05	f1	67	21	29	95	6c	f4	8b	71	50	18	/B . . . g!) . l qP .
00	fd	e3	e5	00	00	00	00	01	bc	06	20	00	00	00	00	
fd	93	24	8b	0d	fa	66	13	bf	1c	81	a4	57	6d	fc	12	. \$. f . . . Wm . .
ed	7f	73	8b	63	ac	c4	b6	a6	36	ab	2a	43	4f	22	a3	. s c . . . - 6 *CO".
75	59	a5	d6	8d	d5	78	cd	9a	b1	7a	30	c8	b9	da	ab	uY . . . x . . zO . . .
5b	8e	3f	43	37	9f	5a	3d	e2	3b	f1	8e	48	d5	40	00	[. ?C?Z= ; . H @ .
ad	1b	61	33	0a	1e	5e	5d	4e	11	ab	3e	ba	0b	36	83	. a3 ^] N . > - 6 .
2e	25	43	84	9e	1b	66	92	15	e2	aa	08	f7	1c	e8	c5	. %C f
92	87	34	f8	56	60	8d	13	02	69	01	9b	7f	dd	04	1f	. 4 V . . . i . . .
9c	dc	8f	44	ef	cb	a9	a3	ce	d0	09	e4	6e	51	b9	84	. D nQ . . .
a1	1c	3b	ec	cb	24	ac	a4	58	ba	e3	ca	08	32	67	83	. ; . \$ X . . 2g .
75	71	b4	d5	45	ab	52	a0	38	55	13	b2	ff	9d	4c	ba	uq . E R . 8U . . L .
6a	f8	95	2d	13	25	98	88	77	77	af	7c	62	17	96	fd	j ww b . .
f9	47	6f	ed	bb	7c	d2	f9	24	8e	3f	16	02	7f	27	6f	. Go . . \$? . ' .
9a	56	65	0f	45	93	18	12	1a	78	eb	3f	e1	22	9b	39	. Ve E . . x ? " 9 .
58	28	cc	80	fa	93	8e	d0	93	4e	f4	13	bf	00	b2	96	X(. . . . N . . .
4a	97	ec	f6	37	00	cc	6e	db	c5	4c	7f	co	5b	15	7d	J . . 7 . n . L . [. }
f9	df	75	a1	8f	1e	ec	4a	bf	11	8b	51	ac	e5	d4	46	. u . . J . Q . F .
39	f8	a6	25	1c	37	b9	e6	b8	01	11	e1	9c	e0	6d	e0	9 . % 7 . . . m .
ce	d7	69	cc	29	26	d4	de	11	63	1b	54	9f	19	7a	ca	. i .) & . . c T z .
47	aa	fc	1a	94	3a	a7	ce	8f	16	4c	95	7f	c7	75	4c	G L . . . L
07	09	05	3c	73	80	32	2c	0b	fd	e6	a8	18	76	53	3e	. . . <s 2 , . . vS>
d9	61	ef	45	17	27	07	8d	80	9c	57	52	08	86	8c	0c	. a E ' . . WR . .
af	2f	de	7c	f4	8e	08	3e	f6	99	a1	73	1c	f1	4c	29	/ . . > . . s L .
50	d0	c8	96	67	df	7a	77	e0	09	33	a8	2b	15	a4	a6	P . g zw . 3 + .
62	8a	24	3e	1b	ab	e4	0a	e4	e9	7e	3a	01	aa	33	f9	b \$> . . . ~ : . 3 .
97	66	a6	7f	d3	d8	ed	4d	6d	d7	96	9b	04	57	54	0f	. f . . M m . WT .
06	1e	b8	d0	a1	ff	6f	70	44	e2	3d	8b	96	6d	9d	ed	. . . op D = . m .
df	a1	5c	89	fe	a9	63	d9	0c	ce	67	b8	b5	5e	65	91	. \ . c . . g Ae .

TLS

Encryption & Authentication

PKI (Certificates)

- public key



- CA signature

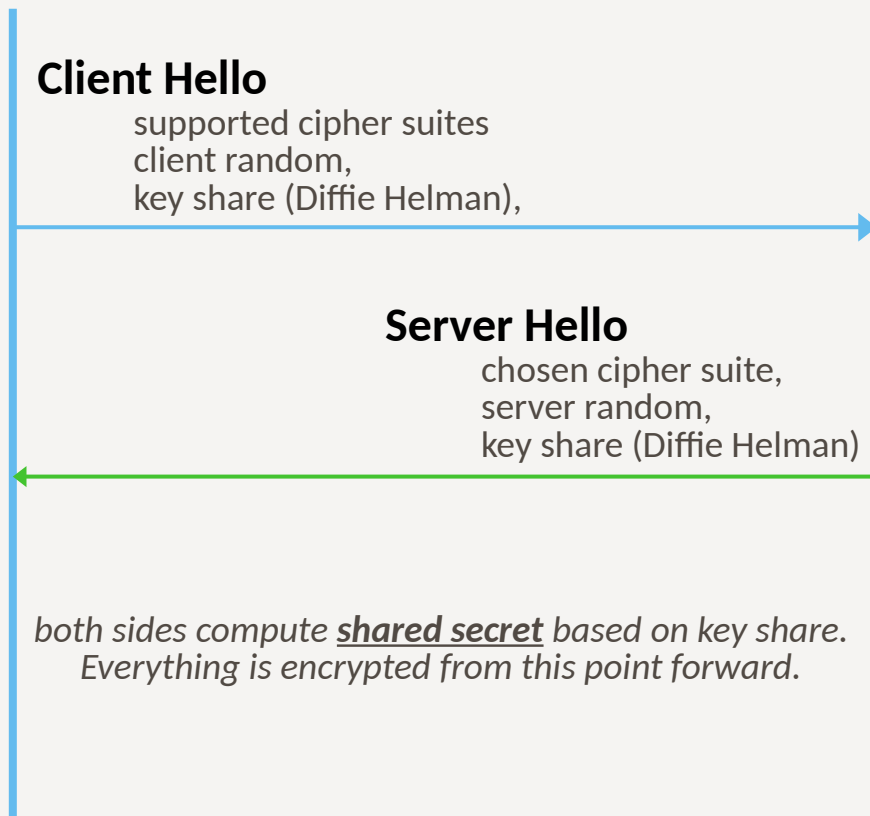
- “metadata”

- Issued To:
- Issued By:
- Validity Period:
- Common Name:

- private key

- *not* a part of certificate
- public key is derived from this one

TLS 1.3 – Handshake (concept)

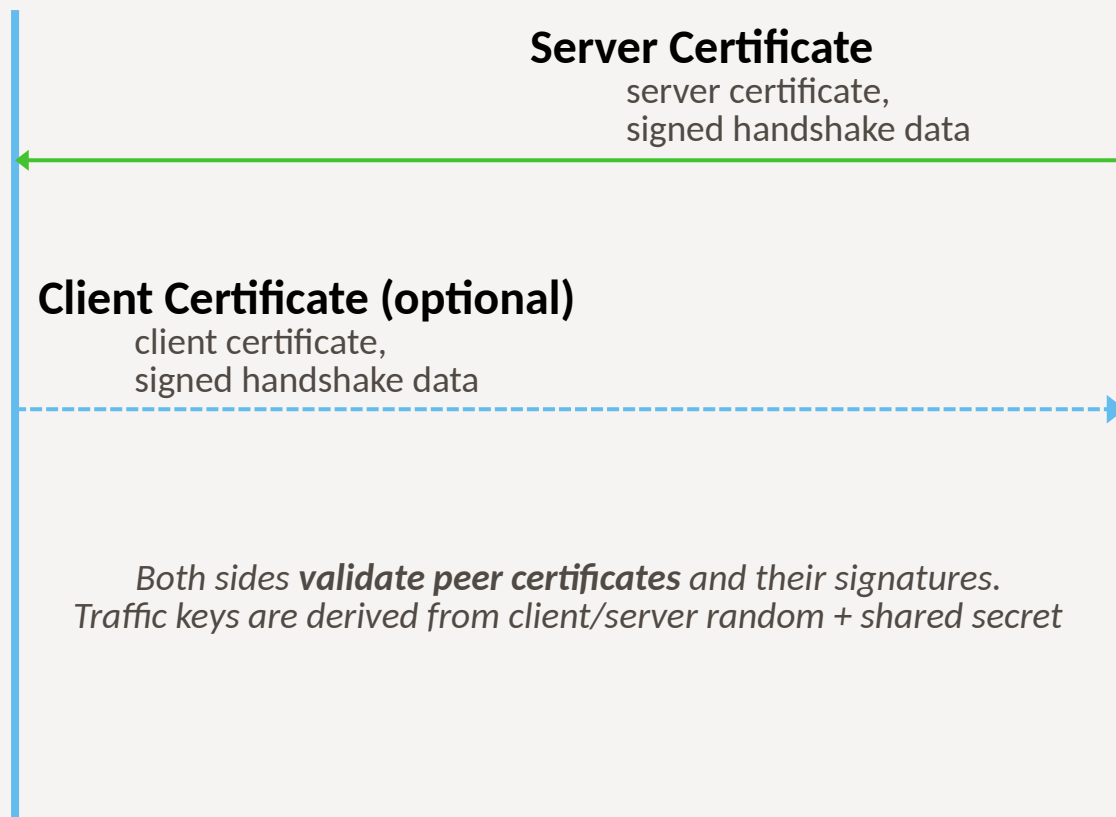


19c <= TLS 1.2

23ai <= TLS 1.3

- + forward secrecy
- + encrypted handshake
- + single round-trip
- + ...

TLS 1.3 – Handshake (concept)



Skip to client

What certificates do we need?

		Certificate	Private Key	Common Name
CA	CA	ca.crt	ca.key	ca.example.com
SE	Server	db-server.crt	db-server.key	db-server.example.com
CL	Client	db-client.crt	db-client.key	db-client.example.com

Let's setup our own CA!

- EasyRSA

<https://github.com/openvpn/easy-rsa/>

```
$ tar zxvf EasyRSA-3.2.2.tgz  
$ ln -s /opt/EasyRSA-3.2.2 /opt/easy-rsa  
$ export PATH="/opt/easy-rsa/:$PATH"  
$ export EASYRSA_PKI="/opt/pki"
```

** the exported \$PATH contains one single bash script executable called **easyrsa***

Generate CA Certificate

```
$ easyrsa init-pki      # creates folder /opt/pki  
# see vars.example inside
```

```
$ easyrsa build-ca # creates CA certificate:  
# /opt/pki/ca.crt  
# /opt/pki/private/ca.key
```

Oracle Wallet Creation

```
$ orapki wallet create \  
-wallet /oracle/network/wallet \  
-pwd '<password>' \  
-auto_login
```

creates: ewallet.p12

cwallet.sso (for -auto_login)

Oracle Wallet: Add CA Certificate

```
$ orapki wallet add \  
-wallet /oracle/network/wallet \  
-trusted_cert \  
-cert /path/to/ca.crt \  
-pwd '<password>'
```

Oracle Wallet: Generate CSR

```
$ orapki wallet add \  
-wallet /oracle/network/wallet \  
-dn "CN=db-server.example.com" \  
-keysize 2048 \  
-pwd "<password>"
```

```
$ orapki wallet export \  
-wallet /oracle/network/wallet \  
-dn "CN=db-server.example.com" \  
-request /tmp/db-server.csr \  
-pwd "<password>"
```

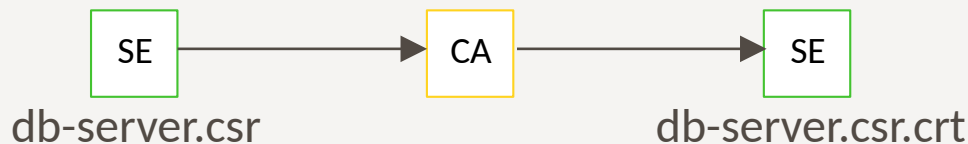
CSR includes:

- public key
- metadata (DN)
- signature

but ***without*** private key!

Sign CSR with CA

```
$ mv db-server.csr /opt/pki/reqs/db-server.csr.req  
$ easyrsa sign-req server db-server.csr  
# produces ./issued/db-server.csr.crt
```



Oracle Wallet: import signed certificate

```
$ orapki wallet add \  
-wallet /oracle/network/wallet \  
-user_cert \  
-cert /path/to/db-server.csr.crt \  
-pwd "<password>"
```

Oracle Wallet: double-check

```
$ orapki wallet display \  
-wallet /oracle/network/wallet
```

User Certificates:

Subject: CN=db-server.example.com

Trusted Certificates:

Subject: CN=ca.example.com

listener.ora

```
LISTENER =  
  (ADDRESS_LIST =  
    (ADDRESS = (PROTOCOL = TCP) (HOST = db-server.example.com) (PORT = 1521))  
    (ADDRESS = (PROTOCOL = TCPS) (HOST = db-server.example.com) (PORT = 1522)))  
  
SSL_CLIENT_AUTHENTICATION = FALSE  
  
WALLET_LOCATION=  
  (SOURCE=  
    (METHOD=file)  
    (METHOD_DATA=  
      (DIRECTORY=/oracle/network/wallet)))
```

sqlnet.ora

```
SSL_CLIENT_AUTHENTICATION = FALSE
```

```
WALLET_LOCATION=
```

```
  (SOURCE=
```

```
    (METHOD=file)
```

```
    (METHOD_DATA=
```

```
      (DIRECTORY=/oracle/network/wallet)))
```

(yes, they're the same two directives as used in listener.ora)

tnsnames.ora

```
db-server =  
  (DESCRIPTION =  
    (ADDRESS = (PROTOCOL = TCPS)(HOST = db-server.example.com)(PORT = 1522))  
    (CONNECT_DATA = (SERVER = DEDICATED) (SERVICE_NAME = orac)))
```

```
$ sqlplus x/y@db-server  
...  
ERROR:  
ORA-29024: Certificate validation failure
```

← **Why?**
(answer is on the next slide)

Client needs to trust server's CA

- `#tls_handshake`
- **sqlnet.ora** should point to a wallet with CA certificate

sqlnet.ora

- orapki is not available with Oracle Instant Client

```
# sqlnet.ora:
```

```
WALLET_LOCATION=
```

```
(SOURCE=
```

```
(METHOD=file)
```

```
(METHOD_DATA=
```

```
(DIRECTORY=/path/to/wallet)))
```

Create Client Wallet with CA

```
$ orapki wallet create \  
  -wallet /oracle/client_wallet \  
  -pwd <password> \  
  -auto_login
```

```
$ orapki wallet add \  
  -wallet /oracle/client_wallet \  
  -trusted_cert \  
  -cert /path/to/ca.crt\  
  -pwd <password>
```

Client Test

Notice that the password is still being used

```
$ sqlplus scott/tiger@db-server
```

```
...
```

```
SQL> select
        sys_context('userenv','network_protocol') as protocol
    from dual;
```

```
PROTOCOL
```

```
-----
```

```
tcps
```

TLS

~ Client Authentication ~

Generate client certificate

```
$ easyrsa build-client-full db-client  
nopass
```

```
# Certificate & private key created at:  
# - /opt/pki/issued/db-client.crt  
# - /opt/pki/private/db-client.key
```

Import client certificate into wallet

- We could follow the **same procedure** as for the server
- Alternatively, note that we can also import existing pkcs12 wallet into Oracle wallet:
 - *How to Create a New Wallet from an Existing Private Key and Certificates using OpenSSL and orapki (Doc ID 2769138.1)*

(cont.)

```
$ openssl pkcs12 -export \  
-in /path/to/db-client.crt \  
-inkey /path/to/db-client.key \  
-name 'db-client' \  
-out /tmp/keystore.p12
```

```
$ orapki wallet import_pkcs12 \  
-wallet /oracle/client_wallet \  
-pkcs12file /tmp/keystore.p12
```

Enable Client Authentication

- `SSL_CLIENT_AUTHENTICATION = TRUE`
 - `sqlnet.ora` & `listener.ora`
- `SQL> alter user SCOTT
identified externally as 'CN=db-client';`

Final Test

```
$ sqlplus /@db-server
```

```
SQL> select user from dual;
```

```
USER
```

```
-----
```

```
SCOTT
```

~ additional options ~

sqlnet.ora – Additional Options

- `SSL_VERSION = 1.2`
 - force/accept specific SSL version
- `SQLNET.IGNORE_ANO_ENCRYPTION_FOR_TCPS = TRUE`
 - to avoid ORA-12696 Double Encryption Turned On

Debugging Client (sqlnet.ora)

```
TRACE_LEVEL_CLIENT = 16
```

```
TRACE_DIRECTORY_CLIENT = /oracle/sqlnet_log
```

```
TRACE_TIMESTAMP_CLIENT = ON
```

```
TRACE_UNIQUE_CLIENT = ON
```

```
DIAG_ADR_ENABLED = OFF
```

Debugging Server (sqlnet.ora)

```
TRACE_LEVEL_SERVER = 16
```

```
TRACE_DIRECTORY_SERVER = /oracle/network/log/
```

```
TRACE_TIMESTAMP_SERVER = ON
```

```
TRACE_UNIQUE_SERVER = ON
```

```
DIAG_ADR_ENABLED = OFF
```

tnsnames.ora

Client doesn't really need sqlnet.ora to specify wallet location:

```
db-server =  
  (DESCRIPTION=  
    (ADDRESS = (PROTOCOL = TCPS)(HOST = db-server.example.com)(PORT=1522))  
    (CONNECT_DATA = (SERVR = DEDICATED) (SERVICE_NAME = orac))  
    (SECURITY=(MY_WALLET_DIRECTORY=/oracle/client_wallet)))
```

Administrator: Command Prompt - sqlplus /@db-server

```
C:\Oracle\tns_admin>sqlplus /@db-server
```

```
SQL*Plus: Release 19.0.0.0.0 - Production on Mon Apr 28 22:08:39 2025  
Version 19.26.0.0.0
```

```
Copyright (c) 1982, 2024, Oracle. All rights reserved.
```



Windows Security



Smart Card

Please enter your PIN.



PIN

[Click here for more information](#)

OK

Cancel

WALLET_LOCATION = (SOURCE=(METHOD=MCS))

Kerberos Setup

(just a quick conceptual* overview)

Generate keytab

- Generate `acme.keytab` file.
 - generated by AD administrator using *ktpass* command
 - contains the *secret key* for a Kerberos service principal (something like `orakrb/hostname@REALM`)
 - It allows the Oracle Database to authenticate (decrypt) Kerberos tickets presented by clients, by matching the encrypted ticket against the key stored in the file.

krb5.conf

```
[libdefaults]
default_realm = ACME

[realms]
ACME = {
    kdc = ad.acme.com
    admin_server = ad.acme.com
}

[domain_realm]
.acme = ACME
ACME = ACME
```



sqlnet.ora (server)

```
SQLNET.KERBEROS5_CC_NAME=MSLSA:
```

```
SQLNET.KERBEROS5_CONF=C:\path\to\krb5.conf
```

```
SQLNET.KERBEROS5_KEYTAB=C:\path\to\acme.keytab
```

```
SQLNET.KERBEROS5_CONF_MIT=TRUE
```

```
SQLNET.AUTHENTICATION_KERBEROS5_SERVICE=orakrb
```

```
SQLNET.AUTHENTICATION_SERVICES=(NTS, KERBEROS5)
```

sqlnet.ora (client)

- Similar to the one on server, but:
 - Without SQLNET.KERBEROS5_KEYTAB directive
 - And with added:
SQLNET.AUTHENTICATION_SERVICES = (KERBEROS5)

Create an user & connect

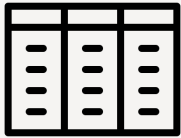
```
SQL> create user aba_test  
identified externally as 'scott@ACME.COM';
```

```
> okinit  
> oklist  
> sqlplus /@hostname:1521/service_name
```

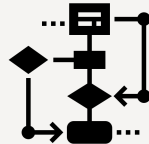
Related Ideas

Schema Only Accounts

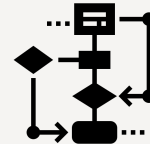
```
SQL> create user acme_owner no authentication;  
User created.
```



acme_owner



acme_web_api



acme_mobile_api

Proxy Users

```
SQL> create user scott_developer identified by tiger;  
  
SQL> alter user acme_owner  
      grant connect through scott_developer;  
  
SQL> grant create session to acme_owner;
```

```
$ sqlplus scott_developer[acme_owner]/tiger@db-server
```

```
SQL> select user from dual;
```

```
USER
```

```
-----
```

```
ACME_OWNER
```

The Possibilities

