

Create virtual host on a Debian Stretch server

After a Debian 9 server (Debian GNU/Linux 9 (stretch)) was installed, a web server with virtual host capability was needed. At the first step, creating a conf file for the virtual host and enabling it and then restarting the apache2 service were successful. However, the next step was not straightforward. After files were copied to the root folder of the virtual host, error messages were persistent whenever which pages were visited.

The error message like " You don't have permission to access <page name> on this server". It was wired because the same virtual host conf file was fine on Ubuntu servers with old Linux version.

After googling the internet, the problem was nailed down. the new version of Apache2 increases the security of virtual hosts. One more directive is needed to make it work. In the virtual host conf file, need add "Require all granted". A working version of an virtual host conf file is the following.

```
<VirtualHost *:80> ServerName 192.168.0.200 # Indexs + Directory Root.
DirectoryIndex index.html index.php DocumentRoot {your virtual host root data
folder} <Directory /> Options FollowSymLinks AllowOverride None
</Directory> <Directory "{your virtual host root data folder}"> Options Indexes
FollowSymLinks MultiViews AllowOverride None Order allow,deny Allow from
all # new directive needed in Apache 2.4.3 and beyond Require all granted
</Directory> # Logfiles ErrorLog {your virtual host root folder}/logs/error.log
CustomLog {your virtual host root folder}/logs/access.log combined
</VirtualHost>
```