

# OpenWrt: LuCI: how to implement limited user access

Asked 11 years, 8 months ago   Modified 3 years, 4 months ago   Viewed 16k times



Goal: two users root and user. Root can access everything via web-interface, but user should see only some parts of the menus.

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One option would be to pass "sysauth" option to every module in question. That is not very practical, because the user would see every menu entry and would get login page for every menu he is not allowed to.



My idea is to figure out who is logged on and then do nothing in the index() function of each restricted module. So far I couldn't find such a function in LuCI API (<http://luci.subsignal.org/api/luci/>), that would return a current logged user.

I know how to add additional users in OpenWrt/LuCI (<https://forum.openwrt.org/viewtopic.php?pid=163013#p163013>). But it is only a part of the solution.

Any idea, how to achieve my goal?

authentication

lua

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asked Aug 22, 2013 at 9:53



yegorich

4,849 ● 3 ● 34 ● 40

## 2 Answers

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I ended up creating a Lua function like described here: <http://lua-users.org/wiki/SaveTableToFile>, to find and remove unneeded keys from the table.

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```
function remove_idx( tbl, index )

-- initiate variables for save procedure
local tables,lookup = { tbl },{ [tbl] = 1 }

for idx,t in ipairs( tables ) do
    local thandled = {}

    for i,v in ipairs( t ) do
        thandled[i] = true
        local stype = type( v )
        -- only handle value
        if stype == "table" then
            if not lookup[v] then
```

```

        table.insert( tables, v )
        lookup[v] = #tables
    end
else
    if i == index then
        t[i] = nil
        return
    end
end
end
end

for i,v in pairs( t ) do
    -- escape handled values
    if (not thandled[i]) then

        local flag = 0
        local stype = type( i )
        -- handle index
        if stype == "table" then
            if not lookup[i] then
                table.insert( tables,i )
                lookup[i] = #tables
            end
        else
            flag = 1
            if i == index then
                t[i] = nil
                return
            end
        end

        if flag == 1 then
            stype = type( v )
            -- handle value
            if stype == "table" then
                if not lookup[v] then
                    table.insert( tables,v )
                    lookup[v] = #tables
                end
            else
                if i == index then
                    t[i] = nil
                    return
                end
            end
        end
    end
end
end
end
end

```

And then inserted my user check and page delete after in `libs/web/luasrc/dispatcher.lua` `dispatch()`:

```

if c and c.index then
    local tpl = require "luci.template"

    if util.copcall(tpl.render, "indexer", {}) then
        return true
    end
end

```

```
end
end
```

That's how I remove unneeded pages depending on who is logged in:

```
if ctx.authuser == "user" then
    remove_idx(ctx.tree, "packages")
    remove_idx(ctx.tree, "leds")
end
```

It is a little bit quick and dirty, but it works. Please note, that direct access by manipulating the URL is still possible.

## Update

LuCI2 will provide ACL support und multi-user environment: <http://git.openwrt.org/?p=project/luci2/ui.git;a%3Dsummary>

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edited Jan 20, 2014 at 8:42

answered Sep 25, 2013 at 13:23



yegorich

4,849 ● 3 ● 34 ● 40

thanks for share your solution. i have a simple question: i don't know the `remove_idx` write to which file? add "user check" after `dispatch()` function or in `dispatch()` 'modifi `dispatch()`'. and where i use "remove unneeded pages" code? I'm confused. sorry for my bad english. – [omid](#) Jan 10, 2014 at 12:22

i added `remove_idx` function and user check, but only remove item in menu first page render, if reload or go to other page, `leds` and `packages` item go back and available in menu. may be i bad use check user code, can you help me please? – [omid](#) Jan 11, 2014 at 20:03

Both `remove_idx()` and authentication check must be in `libs/web/luasrc/dispatcher.lua` file, because the whole index tree is built as soon as you open routers web interface. User authentication check must be in the `dispatch()` routine, right after the code I showed in my answer. This is the routine, where the index tree will be filled. – [yegorich](#) Jan 11, 2014 at 21:13

i added `if ctx.authuser...` after `if c` and `c.index...`, if i click system or network menu, `leds` and `packages` not available in menu list but if i click `dhcp` or `startup` ..., `leds` and `packages` available in menu list. – [omid](#) Jan 11, 2014 at 21:23

- 1 I've solved the problem of reappearing sub-tabs through replacing `c` with `ctx.tree` in `remove_idx()` call. But direct access by manipulating the URL is still possible. – [yegorich](#) Jan 20, 2014 at 8:40



If you'd like to create multiple OpenWRT Luci users with varying access, you can following these steps:

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1. Create a [local user account](#)
2. [Add the user to the RCP configuration](#) and define access level



See sample excerpt from `/etc/config/rpcd` config below:



```
config login
    option username 'adminuser'
    option password '$p$adminuser'
    list read '*'
    list write '*'

config login
    option username 'readonlyuser'
    option password '$p$readonlyuser'
    list read '*'
```

This also works if you're obtaining an authentication token for [JSON-RPC](#) calls to Luci.

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answered Dec 21, 2021 at 21:44



[empiric53](#)

21 ● 3

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Any idea how to further limit read access e.g. to specific values? – [carbolymer](#) Jan 3, 2022 at 12:01

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