

Store MySQL / MariaDB backup credentials safely

Backup scripts shouldn't contain a database password. Store the login once for the account that runs the backups (usually root), and let `mysql` and `mysqldump` read it automatically.

MySQL: `mysql_config_editor`

```
sudo mysql_config_editor set --login-path=client --host=localhost --user=backup --password
sudo mysql_config_editor print --all      # passwords are shown masked
```

This writes an obfuscated `~/mylogin.cnf` with mode 600. `mysql` and `mysqldump` use the `client` login path by default.

MariaDB: `~/.my.cnf`

MariaDB doesn't ship `mysql_config_editor`, so use an option file instead:

```
sudo install -m 600 /dev/null /root/.my.cnf
sudo tee /root/.my.cnf >/dev/null <<'CNF'
[client]
user=backup
password="your password here"
CNF
```

Quote the password if it contains `#` or `;`.

Create a least-privilege backup account

Send the SQL on stdin rather than with `mysql -e "..."`, so the password doesn't show up in `ps`:

```
sudo mysql <<'SQL'
CREATE USER 'backup'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY '...';
GRANT SELECT, SHOW VIEW, TRIGGER, LOCK TABLES, EVENT, PROCESS, RELOAD ON *.* TO
'backup'@'localhost';
SQL
```

Test

```
sudo mysql -e 'SELECT CURRENT_USER();'
```

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