Apache Two-Factor Authentication (2FA) using mod_auth_radius

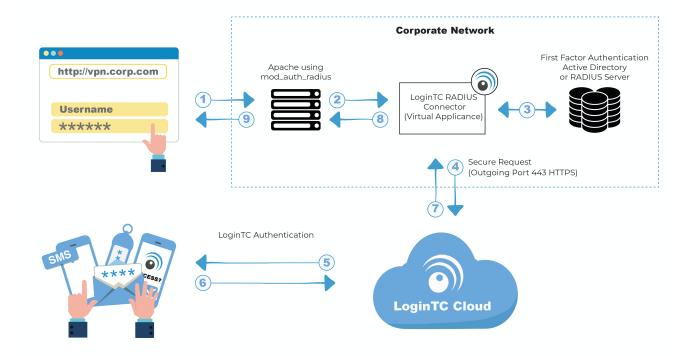
logintc.com/docs/connectors/apache

The LoginTC RADIUS Connector is a complete <u>two-factor authentication</u> virtual machine packaged to run within your corporate network. The LoginTC RADIUS Connector enables Apache to use LoginTC for the most secure two-factor authentication.

Introduction

LoginTC makes it easy for administrators to add multi-factor to Apache. This document shows how to configure Apache to require two factor authentication for local and / or remote access via mod_auth_radius Apache RADIUS authentication module. This guide was tested for Apache 2.2. For an alternate method using mod_auth_xradius then you may be interested in: Two factor authentication for Apache using mod_auth_xradius.

Architecture



Authentication Flow

- 1. A user attempts access with username / password
- 2. A RADIUS authentication request is sent to the LoginTC RADIUS Connector
- 3. The username / password is verified against an existing first factor directory (LDAP, Active Directory or RADIUS)
- 4. An authentication request is made to LoginTC Cloud Services

- 5. Secure push notification request sent to the user's mobile or desktop device
- 6. User response (approval or denial of request) sent to LoginTC Cloud Services
- 7. The LoginTC RADIUS Connector polls until the user responds or a timeout is reached
- 8. RADIUS Access-Accept sent back to mod auth radius module
- 9. User is granted access to Apache

Prerequisites

Before proceeding, please ensure you have the following:

- <u>LoginTC Admin Panel</u> account
- Computer virtualization software such as <u>VMware ESXi</u>, <u>VirtualBox</u>, or <u>Hyper-V</u>
- Virtual Machine requirements:
 - 2048 MB RAM
 - 8 GB disk size

Create Application

Start by creating a LoginTC Application for your deployment. An Application represents a service (e.g. An application is a service (e.g., VPN or web application) that you want to protect. e) that you want to protect with LoginTC.

Create a LoginTC Application in LoginTC Admin Panel, follow Create Application Steps.

If you have already created a LoginTC Application for your deployment, then you may skip this section and proceed to <u>Installation</u>.

Installation

- 1. Import the virtual appliance your computer virtualization software <u>Instructions for Hyper-V</u>
- 2. Ensure that LoginTC RADIUS CONNECTOR has a virtual network card
- 3. Start the virtual appliance

4. You will be with a console prompt:

```
LoginTC RADIUS Connector

Logintc-radius-connector login:
```

5. Login using the username **logintc-user** and default password **logintcradius**:

```
LoginTC RADIUS Connector

Logintc-radius-connector login: logintc-user

Password: __
```

6. Once logged in type **setup**:

```
LoginTC RADIUS Connector

Logintc-radius-connector login: logintc-user
Password:
Last login: Fri Jun 16 15:36:25 on tty1

[logintc-user@radius ~ 1$ setup_
```

7. Follow the on-screen prompt to setup a new password for **logintc-user**:

8. By default the appliance network is not configured. Manually configure the network by typing **1** and hit enter:

```
LoginTC RADIUS Connector 4.0.0
             I (<u>_</u>I I I I
                           I_{-}I_{-}I_{-}N
oginTC RADIUS Connector 4.0.0
Administration Panel URL:
                                  NETWORK NOT CONFIGURED
IP Address:
Subnet Mask:
                                  NETWORK NOT CONFIGURED
                                  NETWORK NOT CONFIGURED
Gateway IP Address:
                                  NETWORK NOT CONFIGURED
                                  NETWORK NOT CONFIGURED NETWORK NOT CONFIGURED
DNS 1:
DNS 2:
1) Configure Network
2) Reset logintc-user password
3) Exit
Enter an option: 1
```

9. Follow the on-screen prompts to setup the network. When done, type **1** and enter to confirm the settings:

```
LoginTC RADIUS Connector 4.0.0
Leaving answer blank uses default value shown in [].
Type 'exit' at anytime to exit the wizard.
Enter the IP Address [0.0.0.0]: 172.20.221.105
Enter the Subnet Mask [0.0.0.0]: 255.255.255.0
Enter the Gateway [0.0.0.0]: 172.20.221.1
Enter the DNS 1 [0.0.0.0]: 172.20.221.1
Enter the DNS 2 (optional) []:
Network configuration summary:
IP Address:
                                172.20.221.105
                               255.255.255.0
172.20.221.1
Subnet Mask:
Gateway IP Address:
DNS 1:
                               172.20.221.1
DNS 2:
Is this correct?
1) Yes
2) No, start over
3) Exit without saving
Enter an option:
```

10. You will be presented with the network configuration which includes the URL to connect to the appliance from a web browser (example https://172.20.221.105:8443):



11. Navigate to the URL shown in the console dashboard (example:

https://172.20.221.105:8443):



LoginTC RADIUS Connector		
Username		
Password		
	Log in	

Version 0.1.0-SNAPSHOT

12. Login using the username **logintc-user** and the password that was set in the initial setup:



LoginTC RADIUS Connector		
Username		
logintc-user		
Password		
Log in		

Version 0.1.0-SNAPSHOT

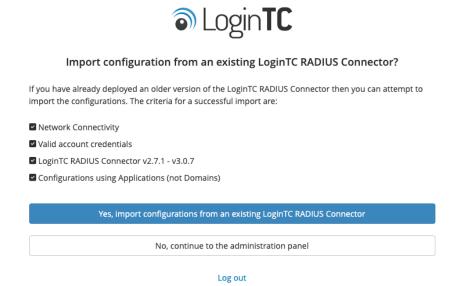
13. Link to your existing LoginTC organization. The 64-character Organization API Key is found on the LoginTC Admin Panel under **Settings** >page **API** >page **Click to view**, also see <u>Organization API Key</u>:



14. Confirm the LoginTC organization name and click **Continue to LoginTC RADIUS Connector**:



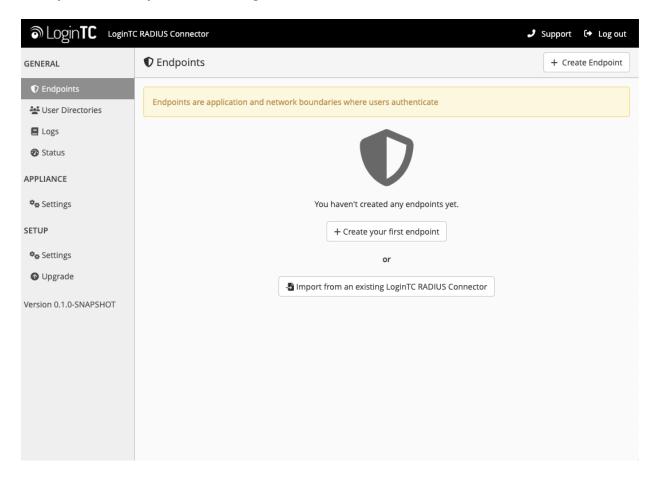
15. If you have an existing LoginTC RADIUS Connector your wish to import configurations then click **Yes**, **import configurations from an existing LoginTC RADIUS Connector**, otherwise click **No**, **continue to the adminsitration panel**:



NOTE

These instructions assume a new environment. For a complete 2.X / 3.X to 4.X upgrade guide: <u>LoginTC RADIUS Connector Upgrade Guide</u>

16. Now you are ready to use the LoginTC RADIUS Connector:



The LoginTC RADIUS Connector runs Linux with <u>SELinux</u>. A firewall runs with the following open ports:

Port	Protocol	Purpose
1812	UDP	RADIUS authentication
443	TCP	API traffic
8443	TCP	Web interface
123	UDP	NTP, Clock synchronization (outgoing)

Note: Username and Password logintc-user is used for SSH and web access. The default password is logintcradius. You will be asked to change the default password on first boot of the appliance.

Configuration for Apache RADIUS Authentication

Endpoints describe how the appliance will authenticate your <u>RADIUS</u>-speaking device with an optional first factor and LoginTC as a second factor. Each endpoint has **4 Sections**:

1. LoginTC Settings

This section describes how the appliance itself authenticates against <u>LoginTC Admin</u>

<u>Panel</u> with your LoginTC <u>Application</u>. Only users that are part of your organization and added to the domain configured will be able to authenticate.

2. User Directory

This section describes how the appliance will conduct an optional first factor. Either against an existing LDAP, Active Directory or RADIUS server. If no first factor is selected, then only LoginTC will be used for authentication.

3. Challenge Strategy / Passthrough

This section describes whether the appliance will perform a LoginTC challenge for an authenticating user. The default is to challenge all users. However with either a static list or Active Directory / LDAP Group you can control whom gets challenged to facilitate seamless testing and rollout.

4. Client Settings

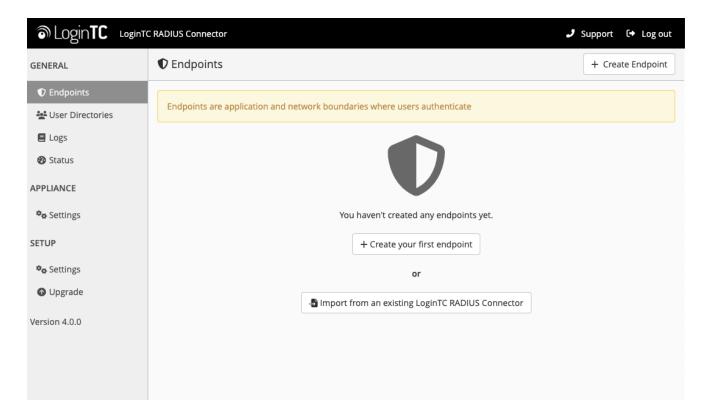
This section describes which <u>RADIUS</u>-speaking device will be connecting to the appliance and whether to encrypt API Key, password and secret parameters.

The **web interface** makes setting up an endpoint simple and straightforward. Each section has a **Test** feature, which validates each input value and reports all potential errors. Section specific validation simplifies troubleshooting and gets your infrastructure protected correctly faster.

First Endpoint

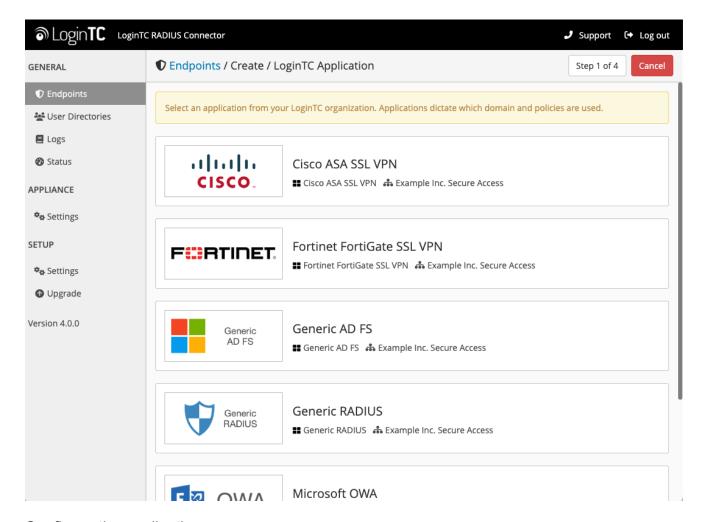
Close the console and navigate to your appliance **web interface** URL. Use username logintc-user and the password you set upon initial launch of the appliance. You will now configure the LoginTC RADIUS Connector.

Create a new endpoint file by clicking **+ Create your first endpoint**:

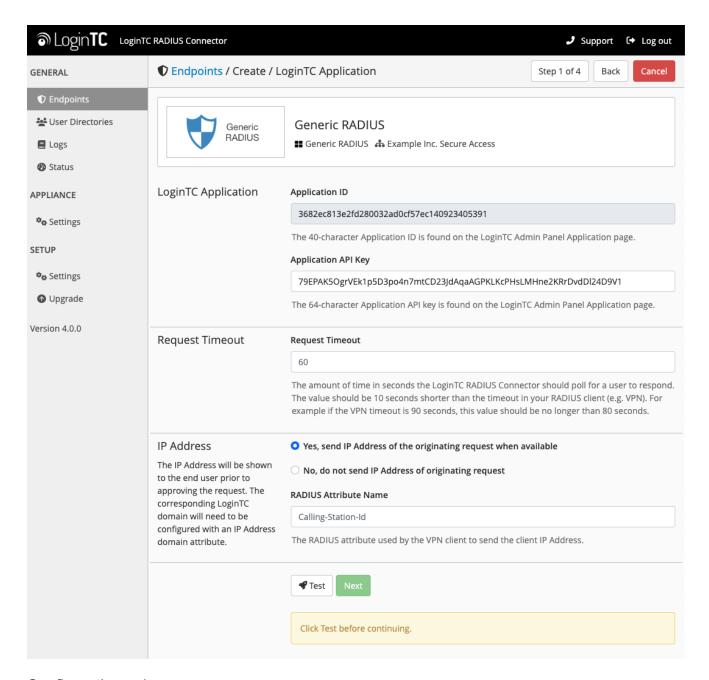


LoginTC Settings

A list of available Applications will be displayed from your LoginTC organization. Select which LoginTC **Application** to use:



Configure the application:



Configuration values:

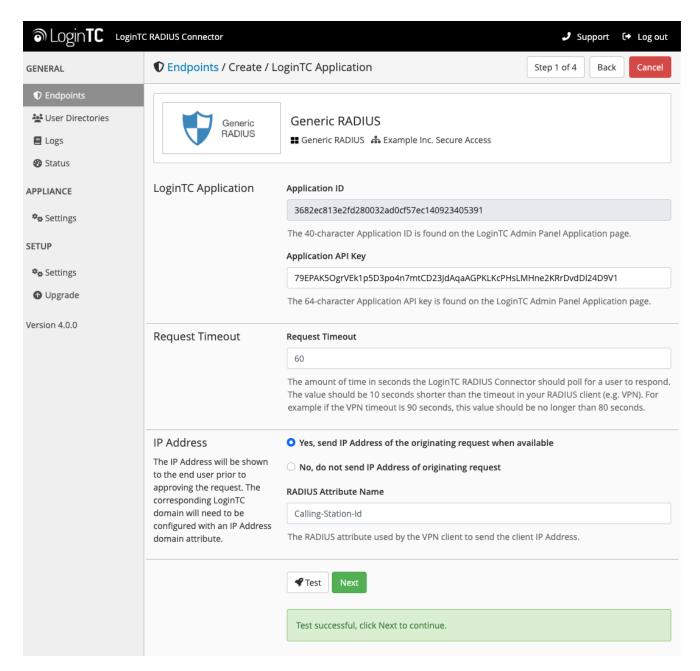
Property	Explanation
Application ID	The 40-character Application ID, retrieve Application ID
Application API Key	The 64-character Application API Key, <u>retrieve Application API Key</u>
Request Timeout	Number of seconds that the RADIUS connector will wait for

The Application ID and Application API Key are found on the <u>LoginTC Admin Panel</u>.

Request Timeout

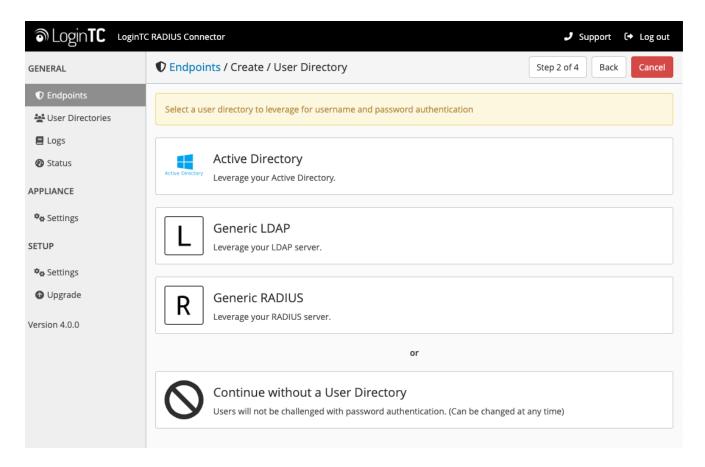
Make a note of what you set the Request Timeout to as you will need to use a larger timeout value in your RADIUS client. We recommend setting the Request Timeout value to 60 seconds in the LoginTC RADIUS Connector and setting the RADIUS authentication server timeout to 70 seconds in RADIUS Client. For more information see: Recommended settings for an optimal user experience for VPN access

Click **Test** to validate the values and then click **Next**:



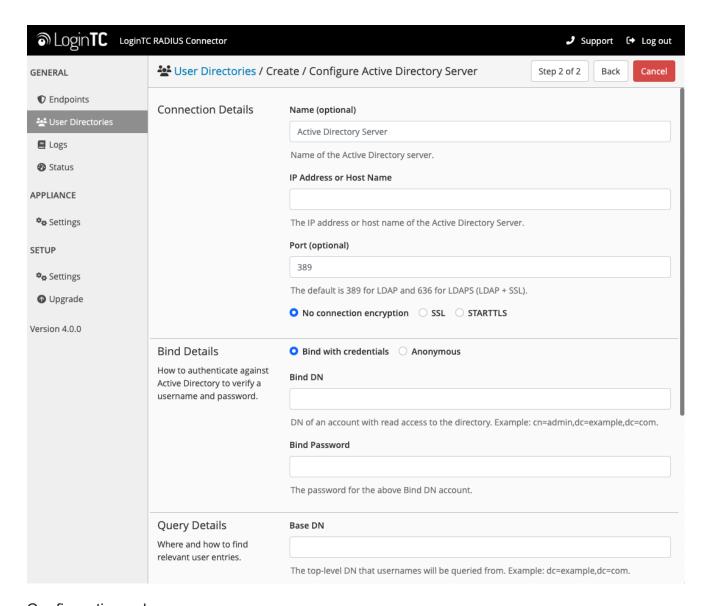
User Directory

Configure the user directory to be used for first authentication factor in conjunction with LoginTC. You may use Active Directory / LDAP or an existing RADIUS server. You may also opt not to use a first factor, in which case LoginTC will be the only authentication factor.



Active Directory / Generic LDAP Option

Select **Active Directory** if you have an AD Server. For all other LDAP-speaking directory services, such as OpenDJ or OpenLDAP, select **Generic LDAP**:



Configuration values:

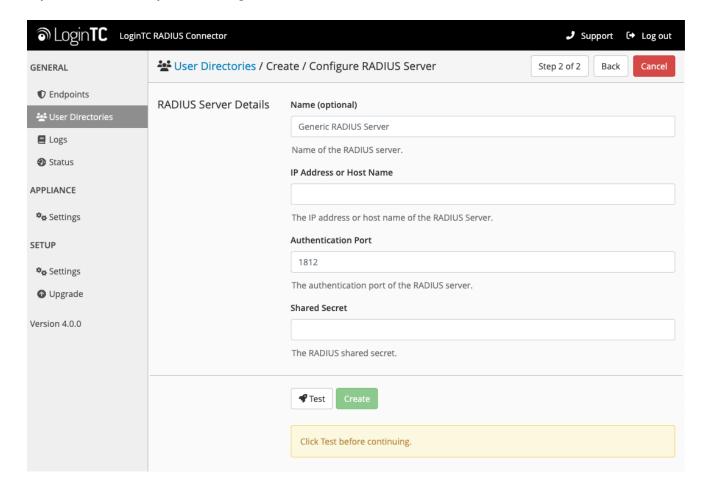
Property	Explanation	Examples
host	Host or IP address of the LDAP server	ldap.example.com or 192.168.1.42
port (optional)	Port if LDAP server uses non-standard (i.e., 389/636)	4000
bind_dn	DN of a user with read access to the directory	cn=admin,dc=example,dc=com
bind_password	The password for the above bind_dn account	password
base_dn	The top-level DN that you wish to query from	dc=example, dc=com

Property	Explanation	Examples
attr_username	The attribute containing the user's username	sAMAccountName or uid
attr_name	The attribute containing the user's real name	displayName or cn
attr_email	The attribute containing the user's email address	mail or email
LDAP Group (optional)	The name of the LDAP group to be sent back to the authenticating server.	SSLVPN-Users
encryption (optional)	Encryption mechanism	ssl or startTLS
cacert (optional)	CA certificate file (PEM format)	/opt/logintc/cacert.pem

Click **Test** to validate the values and then click **Next**.

Existing RADIUS Server Option

If you want to use your existing RADIUS server, select RADIUS:



Configuration values:

Property	Explanation	Examples
IP Address or Host Name	Host or IP address of the RADIUS server	radius.example.com or 192.168.1.43
Authentication Port (optional)	Port if the RADIUS server uses non-standard (i.e., 1812)	1812
Shared Secret	The secret shared between the RADIUS server and the LoginTC RADIUS Connector	testing123

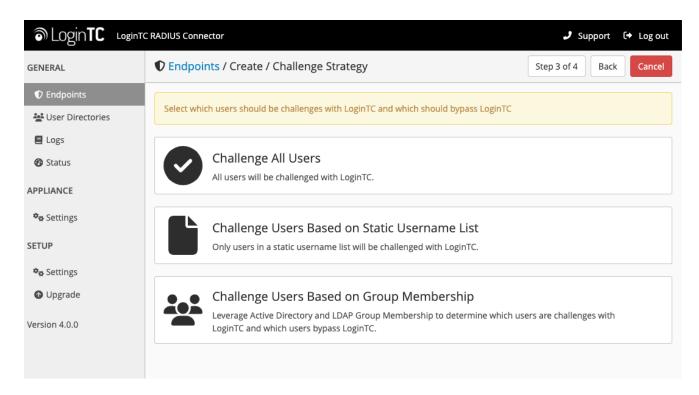
RADIUS Vendor-Specific Attributes

Common Vendor-Specific Attributes (VSAs) returned by the RADIUS server will be relayed.

Click **Test** to validate the values and then click **Next**.

<u>Challenge Strategy / Passthrough</u>

Configure which users will be challenged with LoginTC. This allows you to control how LoginTC will be phased in for your users. This flexibility allows for seamless testing and roll out.



For example, with smaller or proof of concept deployments select the <u>Static List</u> option. Users on the static list will be challenged with LoginTC, while those not on the list will only be challenged with the configured <u>First Authentication Factor</u>. That means you will be able to

test LoginTC without affecting existing users accessing your VPN.

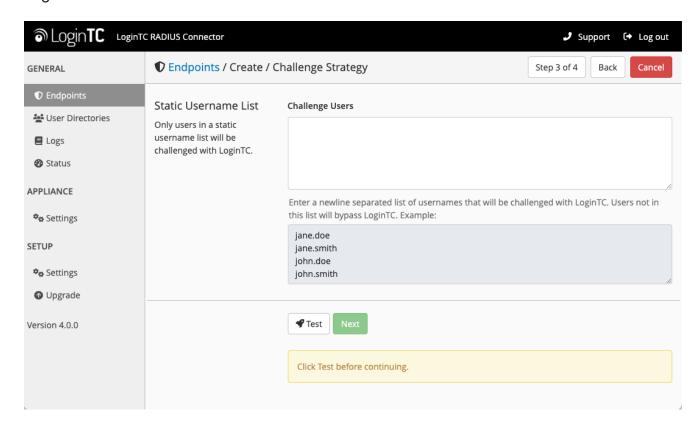
For larger deployments you can elect to use the <u>Active Directory or LDAP Group</u> option. Only users part of a particular LDAP or Active Directory Group will be challenged with LoginTC. As your users are migrating to LoginTC your LDAP and Active Directory group policy will ensure that they will be challenged with LoginTC. Users not part of the group will only be challenged with the configured <u>First Authentication Factor</u>.

Challenge All Users

Select this option if you wish every user to be challenged with LoginTC.

Challenge Users Based on Static Username List

Select this option if you wish to have a static list of users that will be challenged with LoginTC. Good for small number of users.

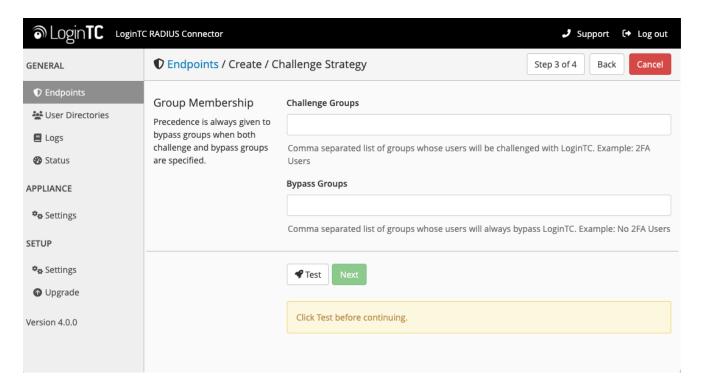


LoginTC challenge users: a new line separated list of usernames. For example:

jane.doe jane.smith john.doe john.smith

Challenge Users Based on Group Membership

Select this option if you wish to have only users part of a particular Active Directory or LDAP group to be challenged with LoginTC. Good for medium and large number of users.



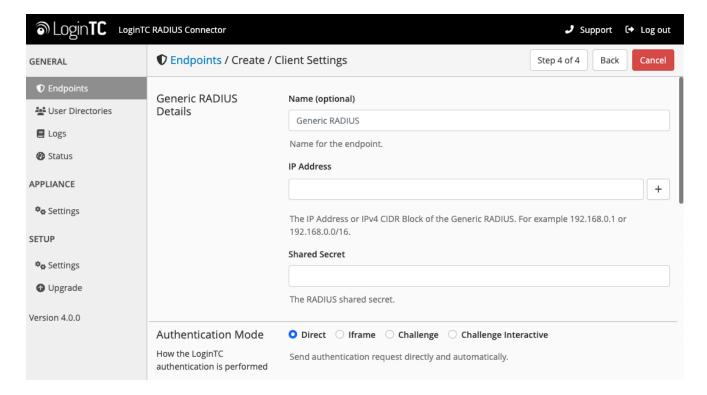
Configuration values:

Property	Explanation	Examples
Challenge Groups (Optional)	Comma separated list of groups for which users will be challenged with LoginTC	SSLVPN- Users or two- factor-users
Challenge Groups (Optional)	Comma separated list of groups for which users will always bypass LoginTC	NOMFA-Users

Click **Test** to validate the values and then click **Next**.

Client Settings

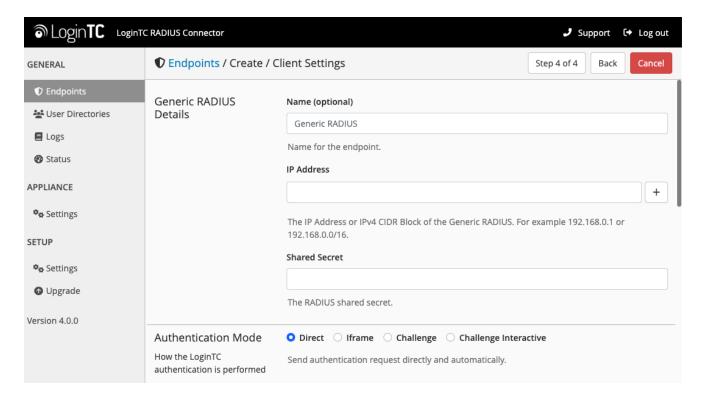
Configure RADIUS client (e.g. your RADIUS-speaking VPN):



Client configuration values:

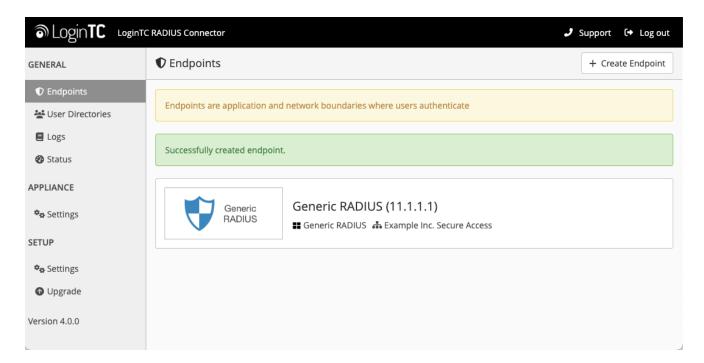
Property	Explanation	Examples
name	A unique identifier of your RADIUS client	CorporateVPN
IP Addresss	The IP address of your RADIUS client (e.g. your RADIUS-speaking VPN). Add additional IP Addresses by clicking plus .	192.168.1.44
Shared Secret	The secret shared between the LoginTC RADIUS Connector and its client	bigsecret

Under Authentication Mode select Direct



The LoginTC RADIUS Connector will directly and automatically perform the LoginTC second factor. See <u>User Experience</u> for more information.

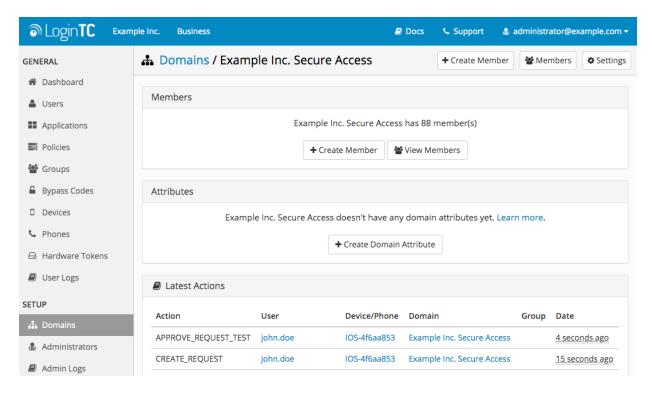
Click **Test** to validate the values and then click **Save**.



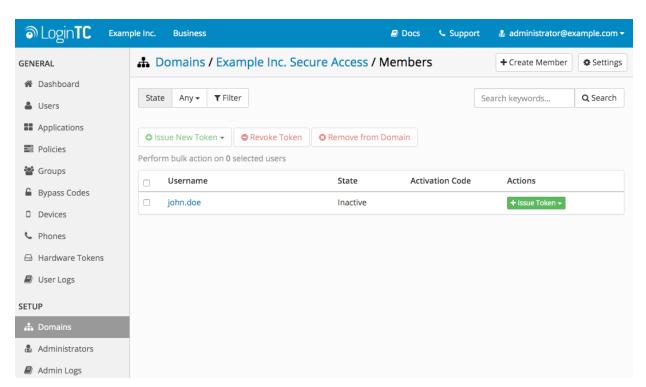
Testing

When you are ready to test your configuration, create a LoginTC user (if you haven't already done so). The username should match your existing user. Provision a token by following the steps:

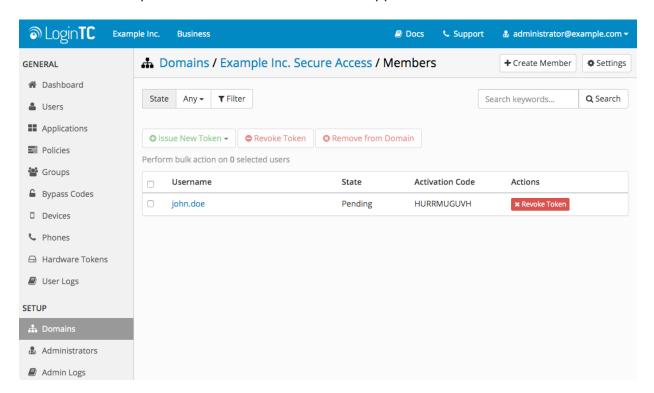
- 1. In a new tab / window log into the LoginTC Admin Panel
- 2. Click **Domains**
- 3. Click on your domain
- 4. Click on Members



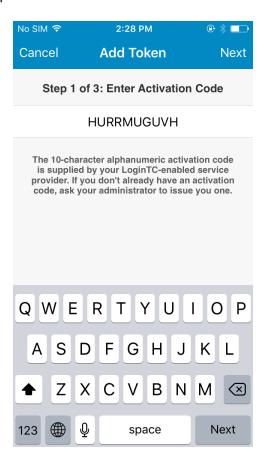
5. Click **Issue Token** button beside your user:



6. A 10-character alphanumeric activation code will appear beside the user:

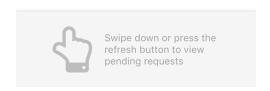


- 7. Open the LoginTC mobile app.
- 8. Enter the 10-character alphanumeric activation code:

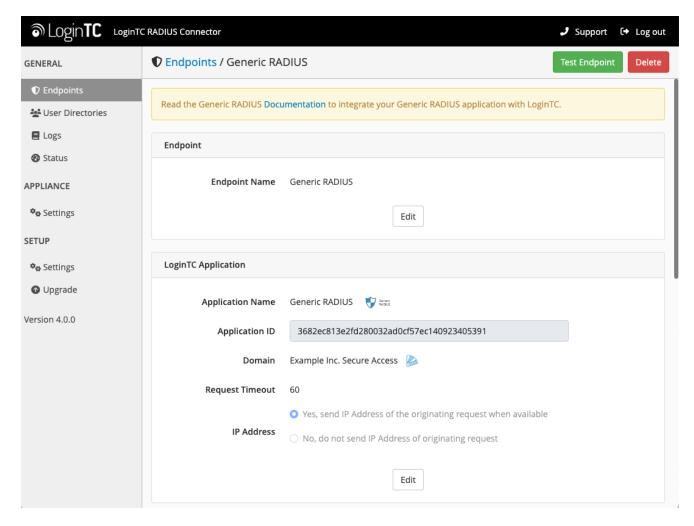


9. Load the token to complete the process

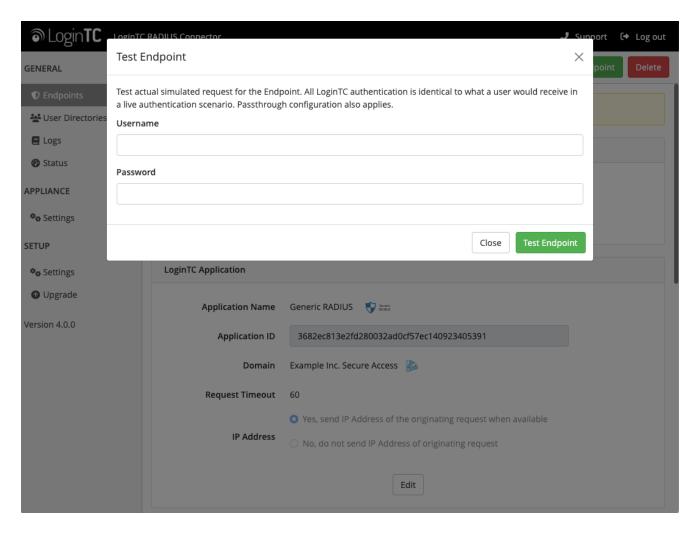




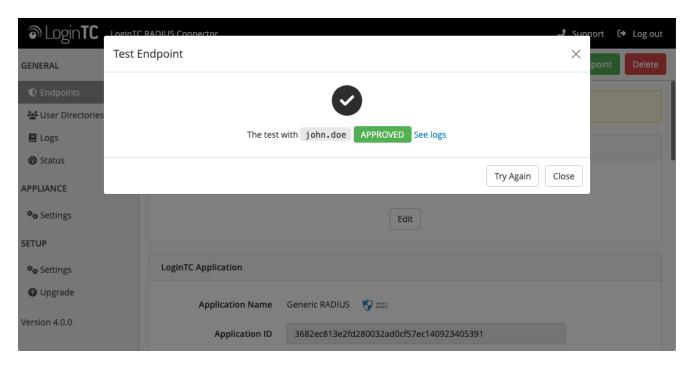
When you have loaded a token for your new user and domain, navigate to your appliance **web interface** URL:



Click Test Configuration:

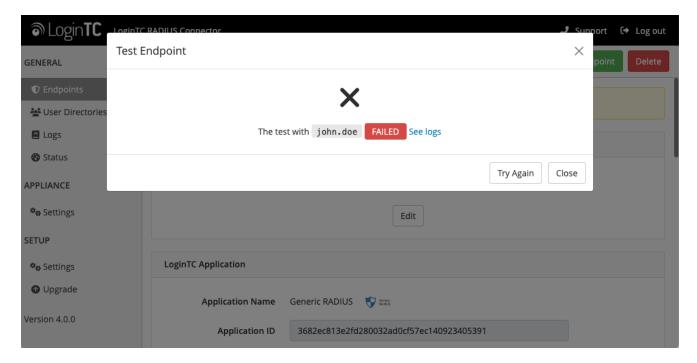


Enter a valid username and password; if there is no password leave it blank. A simulated authentication request will be sent to the mobile or desktop device with the user token loaded. Approve the request to continue:

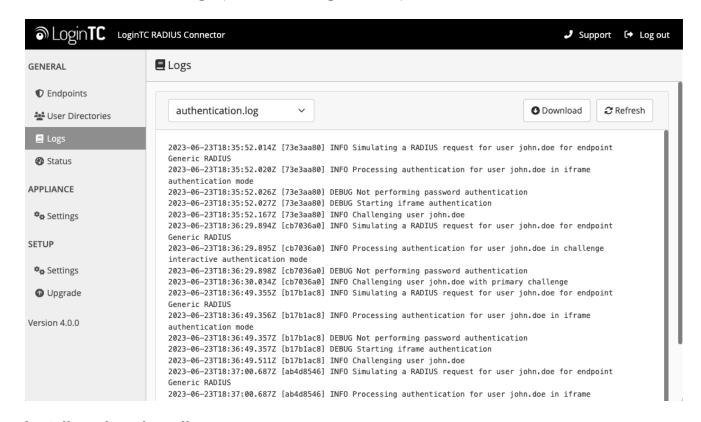


Congratulations! Your appliance can successfully broker first and second factor authentication. The only remaining step is to configure your RADIUS device!

If there was an error during testing, the following will appear:



In this case, click **See logs** (or click the **Logs** section):



Install mod_auth_radius

The mod_auth_radius module from FreeRADIUS is an Apache RADIUS authentication module. If your system does not have mod_auth_radius installed you will need to do so. Below are instructions for RedHat. For more information on mod_auth_radius and installing it on your system please see: FreeRADIUS mod_auth_radius Apache RADIUS authentication module.

Install mod_auth_radius on RedHat

Step 1: Developer tools:

\$ sudo yum install httpd-devel gcc wget openssl openssl-devel -y

Step 2: Build mod_auth_radius module:

```
$ cd /tmp
$ sudo wget ftp://ftp.freeradius.org/pub/radius/mod_auth_radius-1.5.8.tar
$ sudo tar xvf mod_auth_radius-1.5.8.tar
$ cd mod_auth_radius-1.5.8
$ sudo apxs -i -a -c mod_auth_radius-2.0.c
```

Note: mod_auth_radius Apache RADIUS authentication module version 1.5.8

At the time of this document being written 1.5.8 was the latest version of the Apache RADIUS authentication module. For updates please see: FreeRADIUS mod_auth_radius Apache RADIUS authentication module.

/etc/httpd/modules/mod_auth_radius-2.0.so is installed and ready to configure **Apache RADIUS Authentication Configuration**

Step 1: Edit /etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf (or equivalent path):

\$ sudo vi /etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf

Ensure LoadModule is present:

LoadModule radius_auth_module /usr/lib64/httpd/modules/mod_auth_radius-2.0.so

Inside VirtualHost add:

This example exposes a public URL protected by LoginTC and in turn reverse proxies to a private URL. The private URL can reverse proxy an application manager (i.e. Tomcat) or simply serve the HTML pages directly. Direct access to the private is forbidden since it must come from 127.0.0.1 / localhost.

```
# AddRadiusAuth server:port
                                   shared_secret
                                                   timeout[:retries]
# Example server (change to fit your needs):
AddRadiusAuth 192.168.1.40:1812 bigsecret
                                                   60:0
# AddRadiusCookieValid time_in_minutes
AddRadiusCookieValid 60
<Location "/public">
 AuthType Basic
 AuthName "Radius Authentication"
 AuthBasicProvider "radius"
 AuthRadiusAuthoritative on
 AuthRadiusCookieValid 1
 AuthRadiusActive On
  require valid-user
 ProxyPass http://localhost/private
 ProxyPassReverse http://localhost/private
</Location>
<Location "/private">
 Order deny, allow
 Deny from all
  ProxyPass http://localhost:8080/mytomcatapp
  ProxyPassReverse http://localhost:8080/mytomcatapp
 Allow from 127.0.0.1
 Allow from localhost
</Location>
```

Step 4: Restart httpd:

```
$ sudo service httpd restart
```

You are now ready to test two-factor authentication to Apache.

Testing Apache

Test by accessing the protected URL in your browser. The username of the Apache user must match the username of the user created in your LoginTC organization and added to the domain you have configured to authenticate against.

You will be prompted for basic authentication and then challenged with LoginTC.

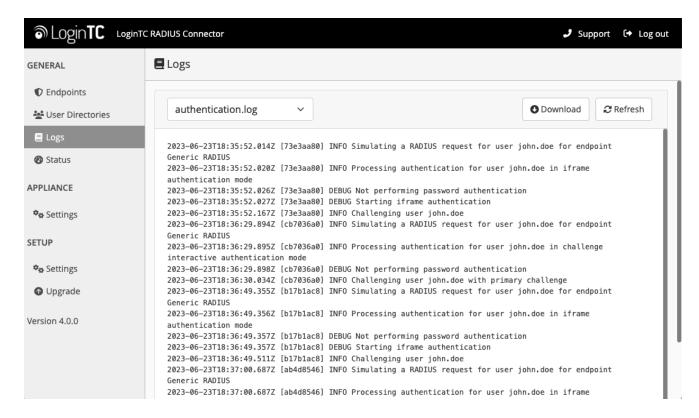
User Management

There are several options for managing your users within LoginTC:

- Individual users can be added manually in <u>LoginTC Admin Panel</u>
- Bulk operations using <u>CSV Import</u>
- Programmatically manage user lifecycle with the <u>REST API</u>
- One-way user synchronization of users to LoginTC Admin is performed using <u>User Sync Tool</u>.

Logging

Logs can be found on the **Logs** tab:



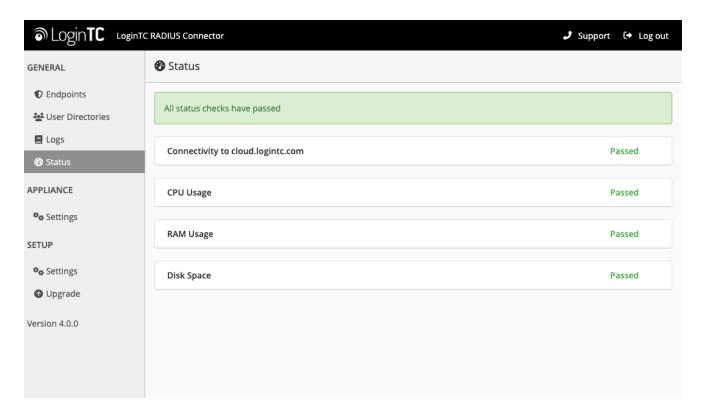
Troubleshooting

mod auth radius Module

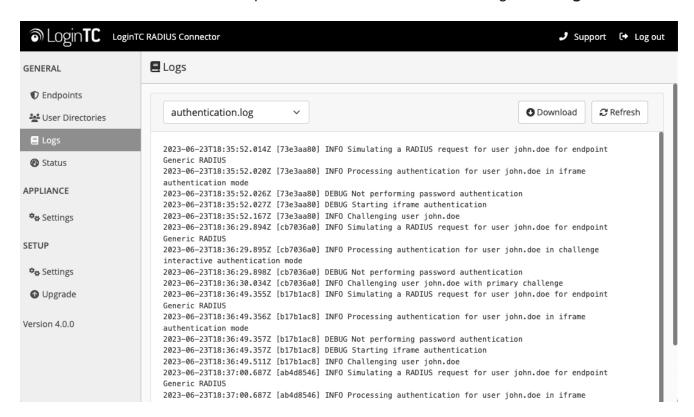
For troubleshooting related to the mod_auth_radius Apache RADIUS authentication module please refer to: FreeRADIUS mod_auth_radius Apache RADIUS authentication module.

Not Authenticating

If you are unable to authenticate, navigate to your appliance **web interface** URL and click **Status**:



Ensure that all the status checks pass. For additional troubleshooting, click **Logs**:



Also make sure to check the Apache logs and secure logs on the Linux machine hosting Apache (/var/log/secure).

Email Support

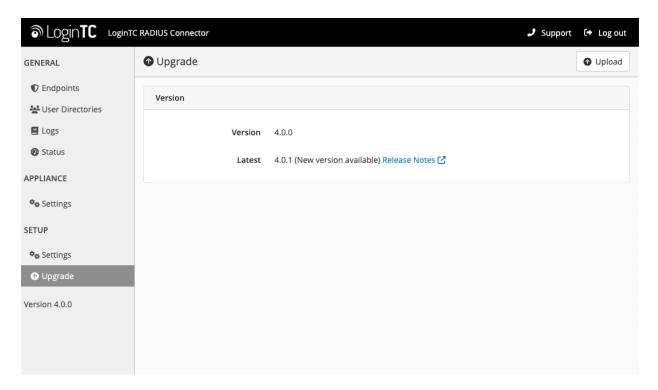
For any additional help please email support@cyphercor.com. Expect a speedy reply.

Upgrading

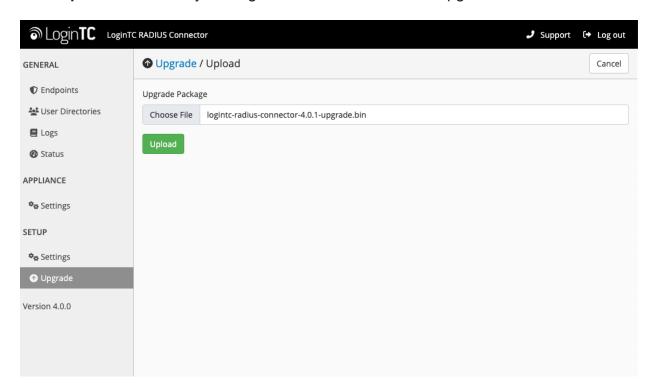
From 4.X

The latest LoginTC RADIUS Connector upgrade package can be downloaded here: <u>Download RADIUS Connector (Upgrade)</u>

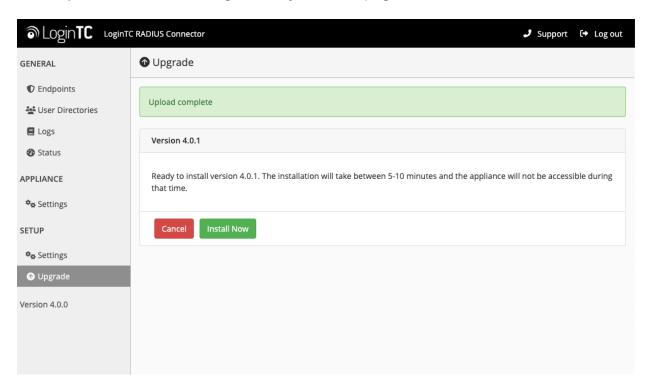
1. Navigate to **SETUP > Upgrade**:



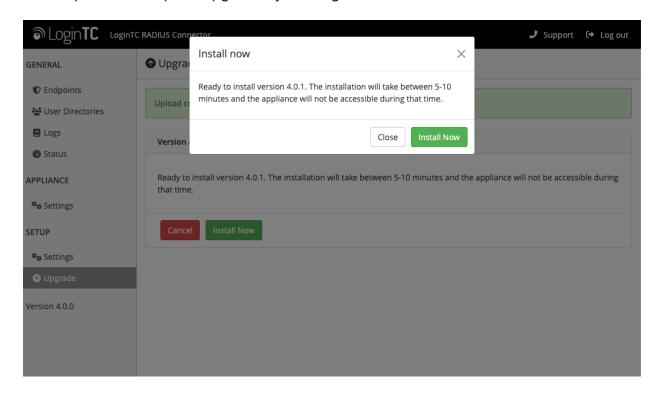
2. Click Upload and select your LoginTC RADIUS Connector upgrade file:



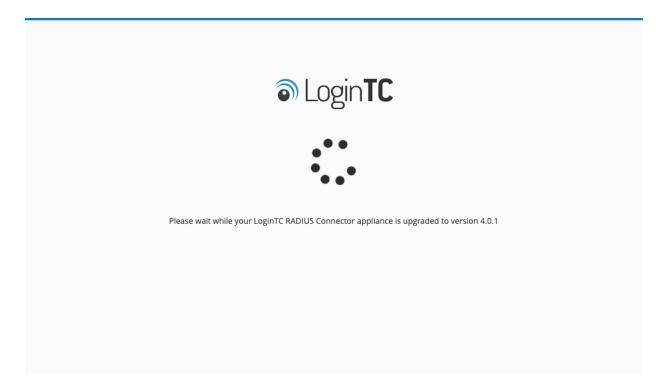
3. Click **Upload** and do not navigate away from the page:



4. Once upload is complete upgrade by clicking Install Now:



5. Wait 10-15 minutes for upgrade to complete:



NOTE: Upgrade time

Upgrade can take 10-15 minutes, please be patient.

From 3.X

Important: LoginTC RADIUS Connector 3.X End-of-life

The LoginTC RADIUS Connector 3.X virtual appliance is built with CentOS 7.9. CentOS 7.X is End of Lifetime (EOL) June 30th, 2024. See <u>CentOS Product Specifications</u>. Although the appliance will still function it will no longer receive updates and nor will it be officially supported.

New LoginTC RADIUS Connector 4.X

A new LoginTC RADIUS Connector 4.X virtual appliance has been created. The Operating System will be supported for many years. Inline upgrade is not supported. As a result upgrade is deploying a new appliance. The appliance has been significantly revamped and although the underlying functionality is identical, it has many new features to take advantage of.

Complete 3.X to 4.X upgrade guide: LoginTC RADIUS Connector Upgrade Guide