RadiusForge

Quick Start

From download to a working console in minutes

RadiusForge for ISPs & WISPs · Version 2026.10.17 · radiusforge.co.uk

This is the fast path — download, install, log in. If you'd like every step explained in detail, see the **Install Guide** and **Getting Started**.

1. Check you have a suitable server

- A clean server running **RHEL 8/9, Rocky Linux, AlmaLinux**, or **Ubuntu 22.04 / 24.04 LTS** (a VM is fine).
- **Root /** `sudo` access, and **internet access** on the server during install.
- The server reachable on your network from the computer you'll use to log in.

> **It needs a server of its own**
> RadiusForge installs its own FreeRADIUS and MySQL. Don't install it on a machine already running RADIUS or a database — it checks for this and stops before changing anything.

2. Download and verify

On the server:

```
curl -LO https://radiusforge.co.uk/download/radiusforge-2026.10.17.tar.gz
```

Check the download is intact. The expected SHA-256 is published on **radiusforge.co.uk/#download**:

```
sha256sum radiusforge-2026.10.17.tar.gz
```

The value it prints should match the one on the website exactly.

3. Install (one command)

Extract into `/opt/radiusforge` and run the installer for your operating system:

```
sudo mkdir -p /opt/radiusforge
sudo tar -C /opt/radiusforge --strip-components=1 -xzf radiusforge-2026.10.17.tar.gz
cd /opt/radiusforge

sudo bash scripts/install-rhel.sh       # RHEL / Rocky / AlmaLinux
# or, on Ubuntu / Debian:
sudo bash scripts/install-debian.sh
```

The installer sets up MySQL, FreeRADIUS, the web app and a hardened background service in a single pass. It asks a few questions (database name, an application password, your time zone) and then asks you to **create your admin login**.

> **A one-minute pause is normal**
> On its first start, MySQL initialises its data area. The installer waits at "*Waiting for MySQL to accept connections*" — that pause is normal, not a hang.

When it prints **"Hardening complete,"** the console is live at `http://your-server-ip/` — no port number, no extra steps.

4. First login

Open `http://your-server-ip/` in a browser and sign in with the admin account you just created. A **welcome banner** invites you to **Create your first Organisation** — name it after your network, and you're ready to add plans, subscribers and routers.

You'll also see a **"Trial: 30 days left"** banner — that's your free trial running.

5. Secure it (before real use)

To serve the console over HTTPS (required for the hotspot customer portal):

```
sudo bash scripts/https-setup.sh letsencrypt \
    --name radius.example.com --email you@example.com --agree-tos
```

Replace the name and email with your own. See the **Deployment Guide** for self-signed and private-CA options.

6. Add your licence (when you have one)

A new install runs on a **30-day trial**. When you receive your licence file (a `.key` sent to you separately), open **Licence** in the top menu and upload it. The licence only controls whether staff can make changes — your subscribers keep authenticating regardless.

Where to go next

- **Getting Started** — the concepts, then your first organisation, plan and subscriber.
- **User Guide** — every screen, including hotspot vouchers.
- **Deployment Guide** — HTTPS, production hardening and upgrades.

Questions? **info@radiusforge.co.uk**