

Laravel - Encryption

Topics : [Laravel](#)

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Laravel provides a simple and convenient way to encrypt and decrypt data using the Illuminate Encryption package. This package utilizes OpenSSL for encryption and provides a clean and expressive syntax.

1. Encrypting Data:

To encrypt data in Laravel, you can use the `encrypt` function or the `encryptString` method provided by the `Illuminate\Encryption\Encrypter` class.

Using `encrypt` function:

```
$encrypted = encrypt('Sensitive data');
```

Using `encryptString` method:

```
use Illuminate\Encryption\Encrypter;  
  
$encrypter = new Encrypter($key, $cipher);  
$encrypted = $encrypter->encryptString('Sensitive data');
```

2. Decrypting Data:

To decrypt data, you can use the `decrypt` function or the `decryptString` method.

Using `decrypt` function:

```
$decrypted = decrypt($encrypted);
```

Using `decryptString` method:

```
use Illuminate\Encryption\Encrypter;  
  
$encrypter = new Encrypter($key, $cipher);  
$decrypted = $encrypter->decryptString($encrypted);
```

3. Using the Crypt Facade:

Laravel provides a Crypt facade for convenient access to the encryption methods.

```
use Illuminate\Support\Facades\Crypt;

$encrypted = Crypt::encrypt('Sensitive data');
$decrypted = Crypt::decrypt($encrypted);
```

4. Custom Encryption Configuration:

Laravel's encryption settings can be configured in the config/app.php file. The key and cipher configuration options are particularly important for encryption.

```
'key' => env('APP_KEY'),
'cipher' => 'AES-256-CBC',
```

5. Generating Encryption Keys:

Laravel requires a secret key for encryption. You can generate a new key using the `php artisan key:generate` command. This command will set the `APP_KEY` in your `.env` file.

```
php artisan key:generate
```

6. Encrypting and Decrypting Cookies:

Laravel provides methods for encrypting and decrypting cookies.

```
use Illuminate\Support\Facades\Cookie;

// Encrypt a cookie
Cookie::queue('cookie_name', encrypt('cookie_value'), $minutes);

// Decrypt a cookie
$decryptedValue = decrypt(Cookie::get('cookie_name'));
```

7. Encrypting Model Attributes:

You can use the `$casts` property in your Eloquent models to automatically encrypt and decrypt model attributes.

```
class User extends Model
{
    protected $casts = [
        'secret_attribute' => 'encrypt',
    ];
}
```

8. Encrypting Configuration Values:

You can encrypt sensitive configuration values using the `config:cache` Artisan command.

```
php artisan config:cache
```

9. Choosing a Cipher:

Laravel supports various encryption ciphers. The default is AES-256-CBC, but you can choose a different one in your configuration.

10. Encryption in Jobs and Queues:

When working with jobs and queues, encrypted data should be serialized properly. Laravel automatically handles serialization and deserialization of encrypted data within jobs.

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