Creating Validated StartSSL Certificates

this is just a bunch of steps i can't seem to remember each time i need a new certificate.. so i write it down in here :)

first of all you need to create a user account at startssl.com and download and install the mime certificate from them that will authenticate you against their service.

now you need to run the validations vizard and validate your ownership of the domain you need a certificate for

SSL Certificate

to create an ssl certificate you need to first create a Certificate Signing Request on your server (it's running ubuntu in my case)

1. create a key

   ```
   openssl genrsa -out server.key 2048
   ```

   this creates a key without a password which you most likely want to use if you need it for a webserver or such. it also means, that if your key is stolen anybody can run another service with the same key, so it is less secure..

2. create the CSR

   ```
   openssl req -new -key server.key -out server.csr
   ```

now go to the startssl.com webpage and enter the certificates wizard. chose web server ssl / tls certificate and continue

on the next screen choose skip

now on your server get the csr file contents

```
cat server.csr
```

copy and paste this into the textarea on the startssl page and follow the wizard

when you receive the pem encoded certificate copy and paste it back to your server. in the terminal window wher you have your server shell enter

```
cat > server.crt
```

then paste the certificate and hit return and then ctrl+D

now **reload apache**

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