Collaboration Environments

This book contains open source software used for collaboration environments for teams but could also be used for personal use e.g note taking, calendar, contacts, etcetera. Most of them are not E2EE and collaboration most often can only happen if multiple people are on the same server.

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1. Nextcloud

2. Eigen

Eigen sells itself as a Google Workspace alternative that you can self host and share with your team to collaborate on a project. Especially, if you are solely interested in a collaboration environment and nothing else than this is just perfect. That is because it is so simple and does not focus on being everything, just enough to be great at something.

Founders Blog

1. Screenshots

2. Installation

Source: Website/Demo

Documentation: Installation with docker compose

> Note! If you host your domain with Cloudflare than do know that you cannot upload files larger than 100 MB. At this moment no solution for this exists yet

> Also all content is accessible to the admin of the space. Inform your users about this s.t they know they should only use it for non private information. However, to use it for a team would be perfectly fine to collaborate. Just also be aware that chats with team mates are not E2EE and hence only share information related to the project you work on or use a different app such as Simplex or Matrix for this

1. Eigen is best installed via an installation script you can run in your command line.

2. I would recommend to go into your projects folder and create a new folder with

```
mkdir eigen
```

3. Then enter the newly created eigen folder and copy paste the following

```
curl -fsSL https://eigen.is/install | sh
```

4. Now we will run the setup with the command

```
./eigen setup
```

5. The script downloads the `eigen` command and runs `./eigen setup`. Setup downloads the newest release, asks its questions, starts Eigen, and prints a link. Your answers go into `.env.production` in the install folder. That file also names the release you run, so nothing changes until you run ./eigen upate

6.

7. Then it will ask you a couple of questions that it will use to create your environment. If you want to host your email yourself and already have a reverse proxy then the configuration looks something like this

Installation Script

```
eigen|setup>


◇  Docker 29.8.2 on x86_64, Compose 5.5.1
◇  Eigen 0.3.2 downloaded
┌   Configure Eigen
│
│  A few questions. Enter keeps the suggested answer.
│
◇  Where will Eigen be hosted?
│  The web address people open, like eigen.example.com. You must be able to set
│  its DNS records.
│  eigen.rfeyn.org
│
◇  Which mail domain will you use?
│  Everyone signs in with an address on it, like jane@example.com.
│  Already have email on a domain? Answer it, so everyone signs in with that
│  address.
│  rfeyn.org
│
◇  How do people reach Eigen over HTTPS?
│  My web server forwards to Eigen
│
◇  Where should Eigen listen for your web server, as host:port?
│  127.0.0.1 keeps it on this machine.
│  For a web server in Docker, use the Docker host, like 172.17.0.1.
│  10.69.1.106:1032
│
◇  Host email on this server?
│  Yes: Eigen hosts the mailboxes, on ports 25, 465, 587 and 993.
│  No: Eigen hosts no mailboxes. There is no Mail app, and email stays where it is.
│  Yes
│
◇  Which mail relay should Eigen send through, as host:port?
│  Useful when your provider blocks port 25. Leave it empty to send directly.
│
│
◇  Point your web server at 10.69.1.106:1032 ──────────────────────────────────╮
```

```
│                                                                              │
│  eigen.nginx.conf   link into /etc/nginx/sites-enabled/, reload nginx        │
│  eigen.apache.conf  copy to sites-available/eigen.conf, a2ensite eigen       │
│  eigen.Caddyfile    import in your Caddyfile, reload Caddy                   │
│  nginx and Apache expect a certbot certificate for eigen.rfeyn.org.          │
│                                                                              │
```

8. After the installation you will receive a message in the CLI that looks something like this

CLI Output after Installation

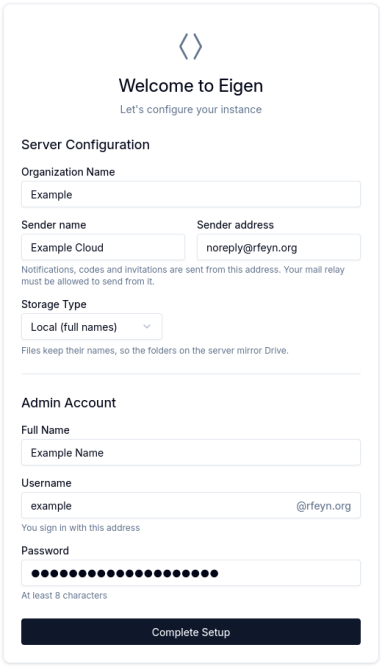
```
◇  Add these DNS records
──────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────╮
│
     │
│  A    eigen.example.org             your server's IP
address                                    │
│  A    autoconfig.example.org        your server's IP address
(optional)                          │
│  MX   rfeyn.org                   10
eigen.example.org.                                      │
│  TXT  rfeyn.org                   "v=spf1 mx
~all"                                          │
│  TXT  eigen._domainkey.example.org  the DKIM key from the postfix log after the first
start    │
│  TXT  _dmarc.example.org            "v=DMARC1; p=quarantine;
rua=mailto:postmaster@example.org"  │
│  SRV  _imaps._tcp.example.org       0 1 993
eigen.example.org.                                    │
│  SRV  _submission._tcp.example.org  0 1 587
eigen.example.org.                                    │
│  SRV  _caldavs._tcp.example.org     0 1 443
eigen.example.org.                                    │
│  SRV  _carddavs._tcp.example.org    0 1 443
eigen.example.org.                                    │
│  TXT  _caldavs._tcp.example.org
"path=/dav/"                                           │
│  TXT  _carddavs._tcp.example.org
"path=/dav/"                                           │
```

```
│  PTR  your server's IP address    eigen.example.org, set at your hosting
provider              │
│
     │
├──────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────
─────┘
│
└  Configuration saved.

◇  Data folders ready
◇  Eigen is running
│
◆  Finish the setup in your browser. Open this link:
│  https://eigen.example.org/admin/#setup=OIbDyQsdfdfMB4ZsdLQKhoassOohJX2zI8coA
│
│  It asks for the name of your organization, the sender of Eigen's own mail, where to
keep files, and your admin account.
│  The link works once. Lost it? Run ./eigen setup again for a fresh one.
│
└  Then sign in at https://eigen.example.org/admin to add your people.
```

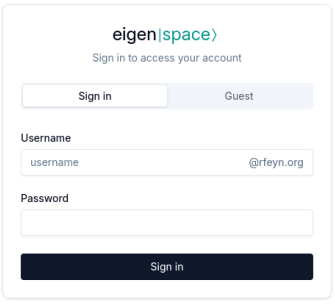
Amazing, so now you know exactly which records you need to fill in inside your domain registrar. If you already opened up your ports in your Firewall then it is simply copy paste this and you should be ready to go.

9. Now, the first time you setup Eigen you need to create an organization name and an admin account. You can do this by opening up your web browser and go to https://eigen.example.org/admin/#setup=OIbDyQsdfdfMB4ZsdLQKhoassOohJX2zI8coA as provided in your CLI after the setup. Then you should land at a screen that looks something like this



10. So fill in your preferred credentials and hit Complete Setup

11. Then you should be brought back to the login screen



12. Perfect! Now you can simply login with the admin credentials that you have made before

13. Amazing! Now you have your own simple workspace that you can use for your family and friends! You family and friends do need to know that you as the admin has access to all of their data, which is the same as how Google Workspaces work for instance. If it is only close relatives then this should not matter to much, but it must be said and they can always get their own small server and host it themselves if they do not trust you of course.

14. Now you see that by default Guest access is possible. If you don't want this then you can simply go to the Admin page > Guest Setup > Then turn off open signup

Adding New users

1. Inside of Eigen users cannot signup themselves. Instead you as the admin needs to create an account for any new member of your workspace. Hence, you need to create a username@example.org, and a password. This then of course means that if the user does not change his password you can simply login to their account.
2. A solution to this is 2FA that the user can setup after creating an account on your eigen workspace. At least, this will prevent the owner from logging in to the account of the user.
3. However, this still does not make any difference, since the admin can always enter the CLI and go to the folder where all the files are stored. 2FA is more to make it harder for outsiders to enter your account.

3. Setup Email

Email Setup

4. FAQ

- **Total Questions:** 1
- **Answered:** 0

1. When I click on the share button and want to copy the share link than instead of getting a full link including the domain name it gives me only the information behind the / i.e instead of eigen.example.org/docs/doc/tiSWlBhj8Zmu0zO0BRYxP6clUIcFqDsdfsdf it only provides /docs/doc/tiSWlBhj8Zmu0zO0BRYxP6clUIcFqDE9/default/b06ba6b6-9d7d-4143-b697-7d4b2ec9b2db

> At this moment I did not find a solution yet on how to solve this. Maybe the maintainer can figure out how this should be fixed ? I already looked in the .env.production file where I added eigen.example.org in front of all the different apps. Unfortunately, this did not help.

2. Example question

> Solution solved

3. Agila

Website: agila.dev