

# OpenSSL Quick Guide

Every year, when my websites' SSL certificates expire I have to relearn how to generate them all over again. It's not that I forget the concepts, but I can never remember the exact syntax of the commands. This guide expects that you have OpenSSL installed and in your System Path. My CA directory has the following structure:

```
CA/  
- certs/  
- keys/  
- requests/  
- serial.txt
```

Generate a key:

```
openssl genrsa -out keys\wildcard.wylovan.com-20230314.key 2048
```

Generate request from key:

```
openssl req -new -key keys\wildcard.wylovan.com-20230314.key -out requests\wildcard.wylovan
```

Sign certificate from request:

```
openssl x509 -req -days 365 -in requests\wildcard.wylovan.com-20230314.csr -CA certs\ca-202
```

Good resources:

- [OpenSSL Command-Line HOWTO](#)
- [Creating Certificate Authorities and self-signed SSL certificates](#)
- [OpenSSL Documents](#) (official site)

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<http://blog.wylovan.com/pebble/wyatt/2011/07/08/1310183460000.html>