

NAME

mysql_install_db – initialize MariaDB data directory

SYNOPSIS

mysql_install_db [*options*]

DESCRIPTION

mysql_install_db initializes the MariaDB data directory and creates the system tables that it contains, if they do not exist.

To invoke **mysql_install_db**, use the following syntax:

```
shell> mysql_install_db [options]
```

Because the MariaDB server, **mysqld**, needs to access the data directory when it runs later, you should either run **mysql_install_db** from the same account that will be used for running **mysqld** or run it as root and use the **--user** option to indicate the user name that **mysqld** will run as. It might be necessary to specify other options such as **--basedir** or **--datadir** if **mysql_install_db** does not use the correct locations for the installation directory or data directory. For example:

```
shell> bin/mysql_install_db --user=mysql \
--basedir=/opt/mysql/mysql \
--datadir=/opt/mysql/mysql/data
```

mysql_install_db needs to invoke **mysqld** with the **--bootstrap** and **--skip-grant-tables** options (see Section 2.3.2, “Typical configure Options”). If MariaDB was configured with the **--disable-grant-options** option, **--bootstrap** and **--skip-grant-tables** will be disabled. To handle this, set the `MYSQLD_BOOTSTRAP` environment variable to the full path name of a server that has all options enabled. **mysql_install_db** will use that server.

mysql_install_db supports the following options, which can be specified on the command line or in the [`mysql_install_db`] and (if they are common to **mysqld**) [`mysqld`] option file groups.

- **--basedir=*path***
The path to the MariaDB installation directory.
- **--builddir=*path***
If using **--sourcedir** with out-of-directory builds, you will need to set this to the location of the build directory where built files reside..
- **--cross-bootstrap**
For internal use. Used when building the MariaDB system tables on a different host than the target..
- **--datadir=*path*, --ldata=*path***
The path to the MariaDB data directory.
- **--defaults-extra-file=*filename***
Set *filename* as the file to read default options from after the global defaults files has been read. Must be given as first option.
- **--defaults-file=*filename***
Set *filename* as the file to read default options from, override global defaults files. Must be given as first option.
- **--defaults-group-suffix=*name***
In addition to the given groups, also read groups with this suffix.
- **--force**
Cause **mysql_install_db** to run even if DNS does not work. In that case, grant table entries that normally use host names will use IP addresses.
- **--help**
Display a help message and exit.

- **--no-defaults**
Do not read default options from any option file. This must be given as the first argument.
- **--print-defaults**
Print the program argument list and exit. This must be given as the first argument.
- **--rpm**
For internal use. This option is used by RPM files during the MariaDB installation process.
- **--skip-name-resolve**
Use IP addresses rather than host names when creating grant table entries. This option can be useful if your DNS does not work.
- **--sourcedir=path**
For internal use. The directory under which **mysql_install_db** looks for support files such as the error message file and the file for populating the help tables.4.
- **--user=user_name**
The login user name to use for running **mysqld**. Files and directories created by **mysqld** will be owned by this user. You must be root to use this option. By default, **mysqld** runs using your current login name and files and directories that it creates will be owned by you.
- **--verbose**
Verbose mode. Print more information about what the program does.
- **--windows**
For internal use. This option is used for creating Windows distributions.

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SEE ALSO

For more information, please refer to the MariaDB Knowledge Base, available online at <https://mariadb.com/kb/>

AUTHOR

MariaDB Foundation (<http://www.mariadb.org/>).