Protecting wp-admin from bots

The most common attack on a wordpress site it the login page. Weak or compromised passwords are used by automated bots that will hit thousands of sites a day trying multiple username/password combinations.

In this article I will show you how to use .htaccess with nginx on Unbunt (or any Debian system) to prevent bots from accessing your WordPress login url.

First of all install apache2-utils:

```
sudo apt-get update -y;
sudo apt-get install -y apache2-utils;
```

Create a .htpassed file

```
 sudo htpasswd -c /var/www/.htpasswd mysiteadminusernameamajigger
```

Edit your /etc/nginx/sites-available/vhost file to add:

```
location /wp-login.php {
    	auth_basic       "Administrators Area";
	auth_basic_user_file /var/www/.htpasswd;
}

location /wp-admin {
    	auth_basic       "Administrators Area";
	auth_basic_user_file /var/www/.htpasswd;
}
```

Full example of my own file :

```
server {

    root /var/www/impressto.net;
    index index.php index.html index.nginx-debian.html;
    server_name impressto.net www.impressto.net;

    location / {
```

```
        root /var/www/impressto.net;
        if (!-e $request_filename) {
            rewrite ^/(.*)$ /index.php?q=$1 last;
        }
    }

    location ~ \.php$ {
        include snippets/fastcgi-php.conf;
        fastcgi_pass unix:/run/php/php7.4-fpm.sock;
    }

    location /wp-login.php {
        auth_basic       "Administrators Area";
        auth_basic_user_file /var/www/.htpasswd;
    }

    location /wp-admin {
        auth_basic       "Administrators Area";
        auth_basic_user_file /var/www/.htpasswd;
    }

}
```

Now test your config:

```
sudo nginx -t;
```

If no errors shown restart nginx

```
sudo systemctl restart nginx;
```

Now it you go to your wp-admin url you will get a blocking password prompy. This will block most automated bots.

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