

As an eCommerce platform, Magento faces more security challenges than ever. Because Magento sites exist to generate revenue, they provide a tempting target for attackers. A traditional username/password authentication form provides a first line of defense and the free and open source Sentry Two-factor Authentication extension enhances this defense by adding a second barrier against unauthorized access.

What will it do?

The Sentry Two-Factor Authentication extension allows the use of either Duo Security or Google Authenticator in conjunction with a mobile device to add two-factor authentication to a Magento website. When Sentry is active and configured correctly, anyone logging into Magento as an administrator will be required to pass two-factor authentication. In addition, the module can be configured to log all access attempts. This logging will help provide an essential audit trail for users accessing your Magento administrative interface.

What is Two-Factor Authentication?

Traditional login systems use one factor, typically a username and password combination. Two-factor authentication adds a second layer of authentication by requiring users to have a device or object in addition to the username and password combination. In Sentry's case, the object is a mobile device connected to the user's Magento administrative account. Users cannot access your website's administrative control panel without both knowing their password and having possession of their mobile device.

Mobile devices are preferable over physical tokens and other hardware because most users already own one, keep them close at hand, and can easily secure them.

How does it work?

When users successfully log in to their administrative account they have 30 seconds to use their mobile device to provide their second form of authentication. If they do not have the device, they cannot log in, thus preventing attackers from exploiting compromised administrator accounts.

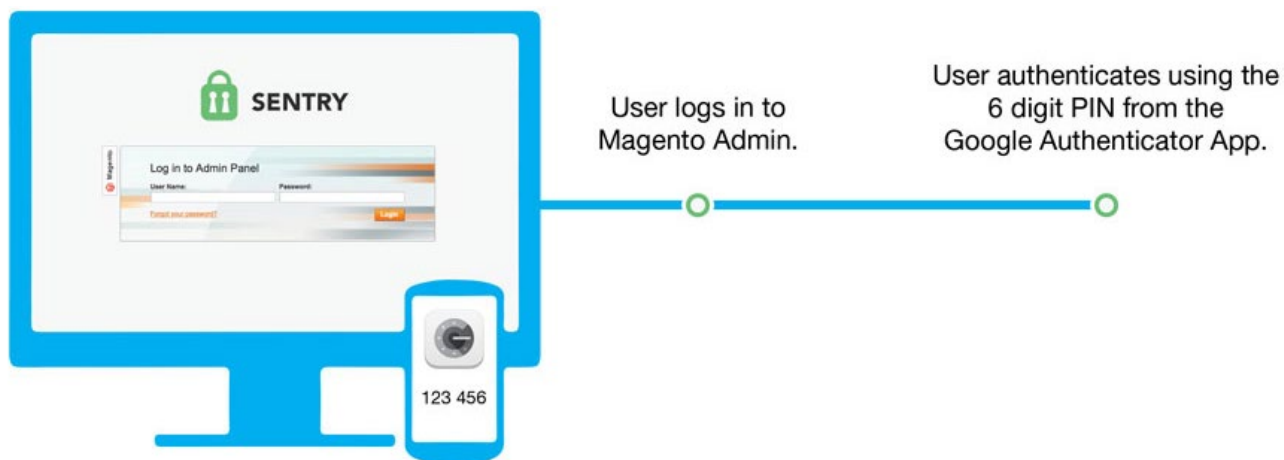


Figure 1. Sentry works with Google Authenticator to secure your Magento Administration.

There are two main authentication options when using a mobile device for two-factor authentication. In the first, the authenticator provides a unique one-time passcode to the mobile device with a text message or via an app on the device and the user enters this passcode into the Sentry extension as the second form of authentication. Duo Mobile allows a second option that sends authentication requests directly to the mobile device's app, allowing the user to grant or deny access with a simple Yes or No response.

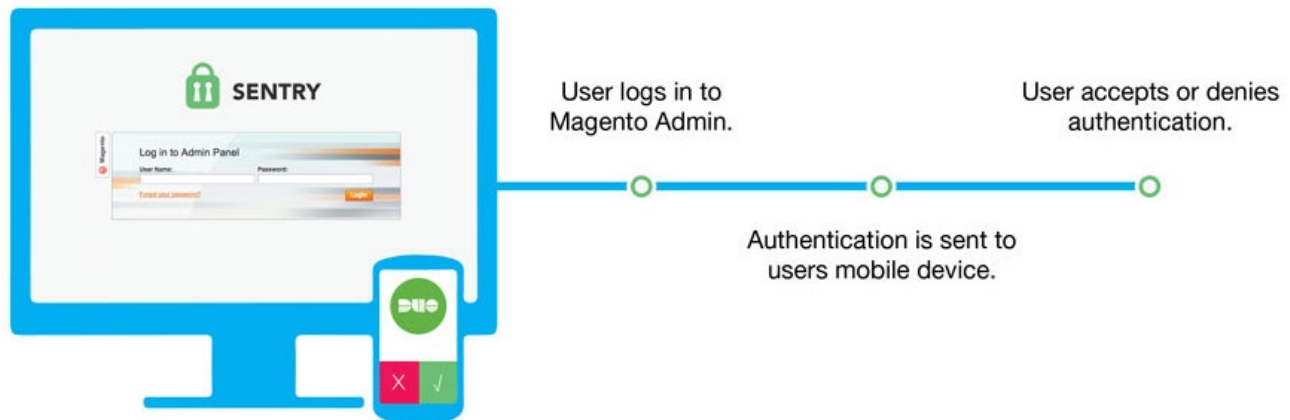


Figure 2. Sentry works with Duo Mobile to secure your Magento Administration.

Backup methods for access are available for Duo Mobile as well if a mobile device is indeed lost or dead including secure one time use codes for such situations.

Why is it more secure?

Weak passwords, brute-force attacks, and compromised computers can allow attackers to use cracked login credentials to infiltrate your Magento administrative interface. With two-factor authentication, attackers cannot gain access unless they are also in possession of an authorized user's mobile device. You can strengthen the security of your Magento store with Sentry Two-Factor Authentication alongside PCI DSS compliant access controls and procedures.

Where can I get it?

The Sentry Two-Factor extension was created in partnership between [Human Element](http://HumanElement.com) and Nexcess.net. Sentry is both free and open source and available for download on the [Human Element website](http://HumanElement.com). It supports both the Community (version 1.6-1.9) and Enterprise Editions (version 1.11-1.14) of Magento. Sentry Two-Factor Authentication.