How to disable authentication on an LDAP server and use it only for group extraction

If you want to use LDAP for group extraction but not for authentication, you can set the NetScaler appliance to disable authentication on the LDAP server.

**Caution:** If authentication is disabled, any LDAP authentication attempt is successful if the user is found on LDAP. Do not disable authentication unless LDAP is used only for group extraction and authentication methods other than LDAP are either bound to a primary list or flagged as secondary.

**Prerequisites:**
Before disabling LDAP authentication, make sure that:

- The basic Active Directory authentication is configured. See CTX108876 - How to Configure LDAP Authentication on a NetScaler Appliance.
- A NetScaler Gateway virtual server is configured and bound to the LDAP policy.
- You understand the Active Directory and LDAP protocols.

**To disable LDAP authentication by using the NetScaler GUI**
On the **Configuration** tab, do one of the following:

Navigate to **System > Authentication > LDAP > Servers**, select the server, click **Edit**, and go to step 3 of the following procedure.

OR

Navigate to **NetScaler Gateway > Virtual Servers**, select the VPN virtual server for which LDAP authentication needs to be disabled, and take the following steps.
1. In the Basic Authentication section, click LDAP Policy.

2. Select the LDAP Policy that you want to edit, and, from the Select Action list, select Edit Server.

3. Clear the Authentication check box and click OK.
To disable LDAP authentication by using the command line

1. Enter the following command to disable authentication on the LDAP server:
   
   ```
   > set authentication ldapaction <LDAPServerName> authentication DISABLED
   ```

2. Enter the `show authentication` command and verify that authentication has been disabled for the chosen LDAP server.

Example

```plaintext
> sh authentication ldapaction ldapabhishek
1)  Name: ldapabhishek
    Server Name: 10.105.157.116  Port: 389
    Server Type: AD
    Timeout: 3 secs  BindDn: administrator@ctxnssfb.com
    Login: sAMAccountName Base: dc=ctxnssfb,dc=com
    Secure Type: PLAINTEXT
    Password Change: DISABLED
    Group Attribute Name: memberOf  Sub Attribute Name: CN
    **Authentication Disabled**, User required
    Success: 23
    Failures: 61
    Validate LDAP Server Certificate: NO
    LDAP Host Name:
    Nested Group Extraction: ON  Maximum Nesting Level: 2
    Group Name Identifier: cn Group Search Attribute: memberOf

    LDAP Referrals: OFF
    LDAP Referral DNSLookup : A-REC
    Attribute1 Name: lastLogon
```

Now that authentication is disabled, any LDAP authentication attempt will return an authentication success if the user is found.