

# Connection problems: I get Error no. 2002. Can't connect to local MySQL server through socket ...

This can occur when connecting using HTTP-tunneling to a MySQL server running on Unix/Linux platforms.

MySQL writes [this](#) about this issue.

How to cope with this would depend on which webserver and which php version is used. But here is a workaround that has worked with Apache:

if the directory `/var/lib/mysql` doesn't exist than create it and chown to user mysql:

```
"mkdir /var/lib/mysql; chown mysql /var/lib/mysql"
```

Then edit the `/etc/my.cnf` file and specify

```
[mysqld]
```

```
socket=/var/lib/mysql/mysql.socket
```

```
[client]
```

```
socket=/var/lib/mysql/mysql.socket
```

and restart the mysql server ("**etc/init.d/mysql restart**")

That is enough for MySQL. However the chances are that php was compiled with a different default mysql socket location (e.g. `/tmp/mysql.sock`). In which case you have to edit the `php.ini` file and find the variable `"mysql.default_socket"`. Set this to the above value

```
mysql.default_socket = /var/lib/mysql/mysql.socket
```

and restart Apache to re-read the `php.ini` file

If you don't have access to the configurations files and system command-line then you must ask your Sys Admin/support to help with this!

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Author: Peter Laursen

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