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# Error 1044 Access denied for user to database: when your file tries to create the database

Connection & SQL Errors

| CODE | VERSION | COUNTRY · LANGUAGE |
| --- | --- | --- |
| RLX-AO-KB-990 | v2026.10.10 | Angola · English |

**Interweb Angola**
RLX Angola, Lda. · Group RLX Holdings
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# Error 1044 Access denied for user to database: when your file tries to create the database

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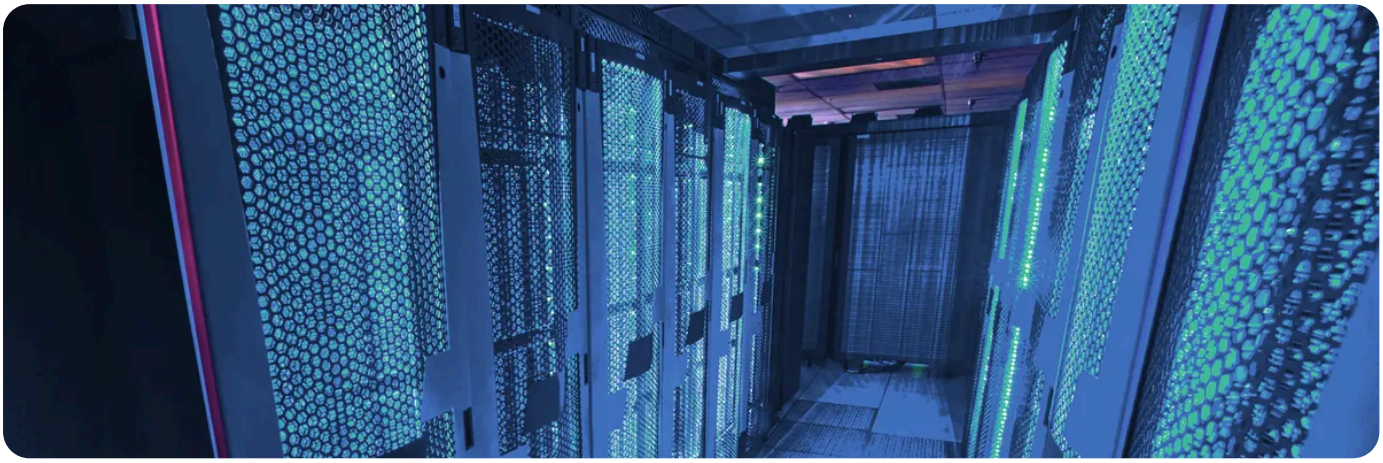

The **1044** nearly always turns up when you **import** an `.sql` file. It says that the user, already accepted, **has no permission on that database**. It looks like this: `#1044 - Access denied for user 'abc_user'@'localhost' to database 'other_db'`. Look at the name at the end: if it is not the database you are importing into, you have found the culprit.

On a shared hosting account, databases are not created with SQL statements: they are created in cPanel, under **MySQL Databases**. A file that comes from another server very often carries lines that try to do exactly that, and the database refuses.

## What is usually in the file

| The line in the file | Why it fails here |
|---|---|
| `CREATE DATABASE ...` | The account's user cannot create databases through SQL. The database already exists: you made it in cPanel. |
| `USE `other_db`;` | It orders work in a database with the source's name, which does not exist here or is not yours. The commonest case of the 1044. |
| `DROP DATABASE ...` | Dropping a whole database is not allowed through SQL either. Empty it from phpMyAdmin if that is what you want. |
| `DEFINER=...` **on views, triggers or routines** | It points to a user who is not you. It usually gives a different number (1227), but the cure is the same: remove the clause or change it to your user. |
| `GRANT ...` **or** `CREATE USER ...` | Users and privileges are created in cPanel, not through SQL. |

## Fixing it, step by step

1. **Create the database and the user in cPanel,** and join them under **Add User To Database** with all privileges. See **creating a database user and giving it the right privileges**.

2. **Copy the file** and open the copy in a proper text editor. Big files need an editor built for it; Notepad can choke.

3. **Look for the troublesome lines:** `CREATE DATABASE`, `USE`, `DROP DATABASE`. With SSH, `grep -n "CREATE DATABASE" file.sql` tells you which line they are on.

4. **Delete those lines** (or put `--` in front of them, which turns them into comments) and save.

5. **In phpMyAdmin choose the right database in the left column** before importing. That is the one that receives the tables. The file size limit has its own article: **importing with phpMyAdmin**.

**A different prefix is not a file error.**
If the tables carry another installation's prefix (say `wp_` at the source and something else in the `wp-config.php` here), the site sees an empty database. Do not confuse it with permissions: check the application's prefix.

**File too big to open?**
Split the job: import over SSH, where the file does not pass through the browser and the bad lines can be removed with one command. See **importing a large database over SSH**.

NEED A HAND?

Cleaned the file and the 1044 is still there? Tell us the name of the target database and the whole message.

Open a support ticket →

SEE ALSO

- **Importing with phpMyAdmin, and the size limit that stops you** →
- **Importing a large database over SSH** →

**Creating a database user and giving it the right privileges**

**Error 1045: the causes, in order**

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## Interweb Angola

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|---|---|
| TAX ID (NIF) | 500 260 5724 |
| COMMERCIAL REGISTRATION NO. | 26464-25/250724 |
| REGISTERED OFFICE | Rua Direita do Patriota, Bairro Dangereux<br>Belas, Luanda, Angola |
| CONTACT | info@interweb.ao · +244 942 011 191 · www.interweb.ao |
| OPENING HOURS | Monday to Friday - 08 AM to 04 PM<br>Saturday & Sunday - Closed |


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