mkcert Local trusted dev certs

CONCEPTS

mkcert makes a private CA on your machine, trusts it, and signs certificates with it. Browsers then accept your dev certs with no warning. Never share rootCA-key.pem: whoever has it can impersonate any site to you. Dev use only, never production.

mkcert -install CA in CAROOT
↓ trusts
Trust stores system, NSS, Java
↓ signs
Leaf cert + key your hostnames
One CA, many leaf certificates

Put flags before the names, otherwise they are ignored. mkcert does not configure your server: point it at the generated .pem and -key.pem files yourself.

SETUP

mkcert -install
Create local CA and trust it

mkcert -uninstall
Remove CA from trust stores

mkcert -CAROOT
Print CA folder

sudo apt install libnss3-tools
Linux: Firefox/Chrome NSS support

brew install mkcert nss
macOS install (nss for Firefox)

SETUP (cont.)

choco install mkcert
Windows install

TRUST_STORES=system,nss mkcert -install
Limit which stores are used

ISSUE CERTIFICATES

mkcert *<name> ...*
Cert for one or more names

mkcert example.test localhost 127.0.0.1 ::1
Hostnames plus IPs

mkcert "*.*<domain>**"**
Wildcard certificate

mkcert -cert-file *<crt>* **-key-file** *<key> <name>*
Set output file names

mkcert -ecdsa *<name>*
Use an ECDSA key

mkcert -pkcs12 *<name>*
Also produce a .p12 bundle

mkcert -client *<name>*
Client-authentication cert

TRUST ELSEWHERE

CAROOT=*<dir>* **mkcert -install**
Install a copied CA on another host

NODE_EXTRA_CA_CERTS="$(mkcert -CAROOT)/rootCA.pem"
Make Node.js trust the CA

$(mkcert -CAROOT)/rootCA.pem
Root cert to import on phones