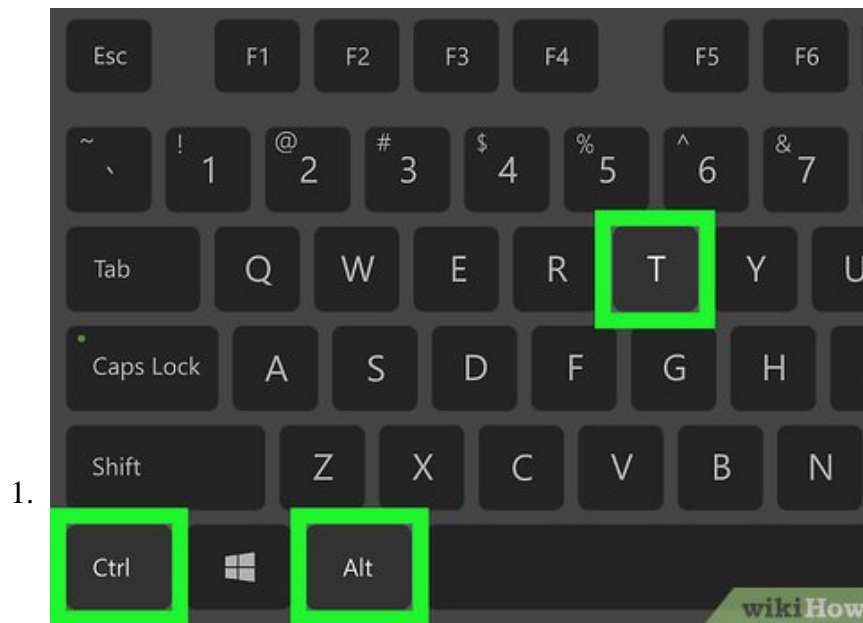


How to Change the Timezone in Linux

This wikiHow teaches you how to change the time zone on a Linux computer. You can change the timezone on every Linux distribution by using the command line, or you can use the selection menu in the command line for different Linux...

Method 1 of 4:

Using the Command Line



Open Terminal. Select the Terminal program from your Linux programs, or press `Ctrl + Alt + T` on your keyboard.

```
wiki@wikihow: -
wiki@wikihow:~$ sudo dpkg-reconfigure tzdata
[sudo] password for wiki:

Current default time zone: 'America/New_York'
Local time is now:      Tue Oct 17 07:36:19 EDT 2017.
Universal Time is now:  Tue Oct 17 11:36:19 UTC 2017.

wiki@wikihow:~$ date
Tue Oct 17 07:36:23 EDT 2017
wiki@wikihow:~$
```

2.

Check your current time zone. Type `date` into Terminal and press `?Enter`. The terminal will display the date in Weekday Month Day Time TimeZone Year format.

1. For example, you might see something like `Wed Mar 7 07:38:23 EDT 2017` wherein "EDT" refers to the current time zone (Eastern Daylight Time).

```
wiki@wikihow: /usr/share/zoneinfo
wiki@wikihow:~$ sudo dpkg-reconfigure tzdata
[sudo] password for wiki:

Current default time zone: 'America/New_York'
Local time is now:      Tue Oct 17 07:36:19 EDT 2017.
Universal Time is now:  Tue Oct 17 11:36:19 UTC 2017.

wiki@wikihow:~$ date
Tue Oct 17 07:38:23 EDT 2017
wiki@wikihow:~$ cd /usr/share/zoneinfo
wiki@wikihow:/usr/share/zoneinfo$ tzselect
```

3.

Check available time zones. Type in `cd /usr/share/zoneinfo` and press `?Enter`, then type in `tzselect` and press `?Enter` to display a list of locations.

1. The `/usr/share/zoneinfo` directory may vary depending on your Linux distribution.

```
wiki@wikihow: /usr/share/zoneinfo
wiki@wikihow:~$ sudo dpkg-reconfigure tzdata
[sudo] password for wiki:

Current default time zone: 'America/New_York'
Local time is now:      Tue Oct 17 07:36:19 EDT 2017.
Universal Time is now: Tue Oct 17 11:36:19 UTC 2017.

wiki@wikihow:~$ date
Tue Oct 17 07:38:23 EDT 2017
wiki@wikihow:~$ cd /usr/share/zoneinfo
wiki@wikihow: /usr/share/zoneinfo$ ./select

Please identify a location so that time zone rules can be set correctly.
Please select a continent, ocean, "coord", or "TZ".
1) Africa
2) Americas
3) Antarctica
4) Asia
5) Atlantic Ocean
6) Australia
7) Europe
8) Indian Ocean
9) Pacific Ocean
10) coord - I want to use geographical coordinates.
11) TZ - I want to specify the time zone using the Posix TZ format.
#?
```

4.

Select a continent or ocean. Type in a selection number that pertains to your general location, then press `? Enter`.

```
wiki@wikihow: /usr/share/zoneinfo
3) Antarctica
4) Asia
5) Atlantic Ocean
6) Australia
7) Europe
8) Indian Ocean
9) Pacific Ocean
10) coord - I want to use geographical coordinates.
11) TZ - I want to specify the time zone using the Posix TZ format.
#?

Please select a country whose clocks agree with yours.
1) Anguilla 19) Dominican Republic 37) Peru
2) Antigua & Barbuda 20) Ecuador 38) Puerto Rico
3) Argentina 21) El Salvador 39) St Barthelemy
4) Aruba 22) French Guiana 40) St Kitts & Nevis
5) Bahamas 23) Greenland 41) St Lucia
6) Barbados 24) Grenada 42) St Maarten (Dutch)
7) Belize 25) Guadeloupe 43) St Martin (French)
8) Bolivia 26) Guatemala 44) St Pierre & Miquelon
9) Brazil 27) Guyana 45) St Vincent
10) Canada 28) Haiti 46) Suriname
11) Caribbean NL 29) Honduras 47) Trinidad & Tobago
12) Cayman Islands 30) Jamaica 48) Turks & Caicos Is
13) Chile 31) Martinique 49) United States
14) Colombia 32) Mexico 50) Uruguay
15) Costa Rica 33) Montserrat 51) Venezuela
16) Cuba 34) Nicaragua 52) Virgin Islands (UK)
17) Curaçao 35) Panama 53) Virgin Islands (US)
18) Dominica 36) Paraguay
```

5.

Select a country. Type in a selection number from the on-screen list and press `? Enter`.

```
wiki@wikihow: /usr/share/zoneinfo
7) Belize
8) Bolivia
9) Brazil
10) Canada
11) Caribbean NL
12) Cayman Islands
13) Chile
14) Colombia
15) Costa Rica
16) Cuba
17) Curaçao
18) Dominica
25) Guadeloupe
26) Guatemala
27) Guyana
28) Haiti
29) Honduras
30) Jamaica
31) Martinique
32) Mexico
33) Montserrat
34) Nicaragua
35) Panama
36) Paraguay
43) St Martin (French)
44) St Pierre & Miquelon
45) St Vincent
46) Suriname
47) Trinidad & Tobago
48) Turks & Caicos Is
49) United States
50) Uruguay
51) Venezuela
52) Virgin Islands (UK)
53) Virgin Islands (US)
#? 40
Please select one of the following time zone regions.
1) Eastern (most areas)
2) Eastern - MI (most areas)
3) Eastern - KY (Louisville area)
4) Eastern - KY (Wayne)
5) Eastern - IN (most areas)
6) Eastern - IN (Da, Du, K, Mn)
7) Eastern - IN (Pulaski)
8) Eastern - IN (Crawford)
9) Eastern - IN (Pike)
10) Eastern - IN (Switzerland)
11) Central (most areas)
12) Central - IN (Perry)
13) Central - IN (Starke)
14) Central - MI (Wisconsin border)
15) Central - ND (Oliver)
16) Central - ND (Morton rural)
17) Central - ND (Mercer)
18) Mountain (most areas)
19) Mountain - ID (south); OR (east)
20) MST - Arizona (except Navajo)
21) Pacific
22) Alaska (most areas)
23) Alaska - Juneau area
24) Alaska - Sitka area
25) Alaska - Annette Island
26) Alaska - Yakutat
27) Alaska (west)
28) Aleutian Islands
29) Hawaii
```

6.

Select a time zone. Type in a selection number to select the preferred time zone region and press `? Enter`.

1. If your city is not listed in the time zone list, pick a different city from your same time zone.

```
wiki@wikihow: /usr/share/zoneinfo
wiki@wikihow: /usr/share/zoneinfo$ date
Tue Oct 17 08:01:38 EDT 2017
wiki@wikihow: /usr/share/zoneinfo$
```

7.

Confirm the local time. In the following prompt, confirm that the local time is correct by typing 1 and then pressing `? Enter`.

1. If the time isn't correct, type in `2` and press `? Enter`, then select a new continent and repeat the process.

```
wiki@wikihow: /usr/share/zoneinfo
Please select one of the following time zone regions.
1) Eastern (most areas)          16) Central - ND (Morton rural)
2) Eastern - MI (most areas)     17) Central - ND (Mercer)
3) Eastern - KY (Louisville area) 18) Mountain (most areas)
4) Eastern - KY (Wayne)          19) Mountain - ID (south); OR (east)
5) Eastern - IN (most areas)     20) MST - Arizona (except Navajo)
6) Eastern - IN (Da, Du, K, Mn)  21) Pacific
7) Eastern - IN (Pulaski)        22) Alaska (most areas)
8) Eastern - IN (Crawford)       23) Alaska - Juneau area
9) Eastern - IN (Pike)           24) Alaska - Sitka area
10) Eastern - IN (Switzerland)   25) Alaska - Annette Island
11) Central (most areas)         26) Alaska - Yakutat
12) Central - IN (Perry)         27) Alaska (west)
13) Central - IN (Starke)        28) Aleutian Islands
14) Central - MI (Wisconsin border) 29) Hawaii
15) Central - ND (Oliver)

#? 1

The following information has been given:

United States
Eastern (most areas)

Therefore TZ='America/New_York' will be used.
Local time is now:   Tue Oct 17 07:57:31 EDT 2017.
Universal Time is now: Tue Oct 17 11:57:31 UTC 2017.
Is the above information OK?
1) Yes
2) No
```

8.

Verify that your time zone has been set. Run the `date` command again and check that the time zone corresponds to the one you just changed to. If you see you new time zone listed, you have successfully changed your computer's time zone.

```
steve@ubuntu: ~
steve@ubuntu:~$ sudo apt install ntp
```

9.

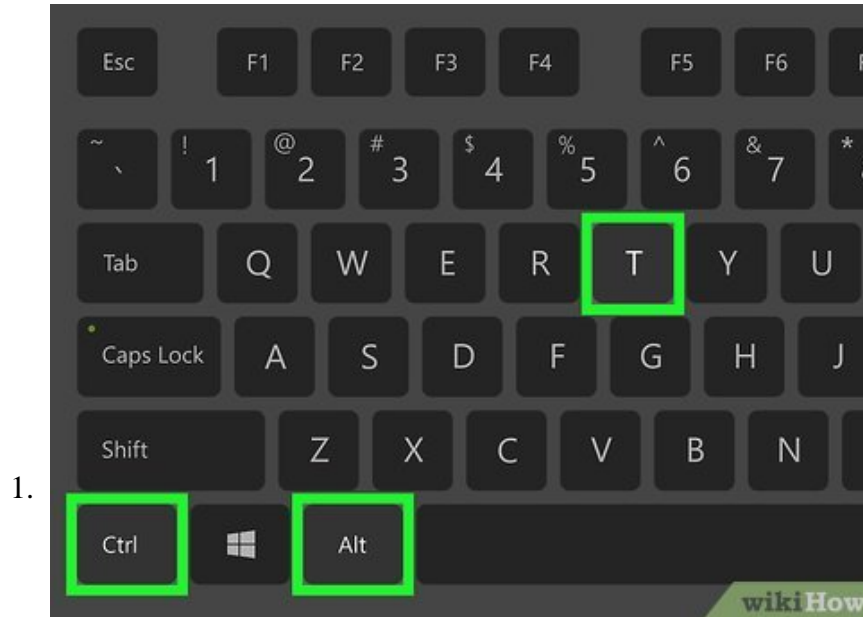
Set your clock to stay synced with internet time servers if you like. Most modern distributions have NTP already installed. If your Linux distribution does not, you will need to install the NTP server package. Use the following commands to install it, depending on your Linux distribution:

1. *Ubuntu/Mint/Debian*: `sudo apt install ntpdate`
2. *CentOS*: `sudo yum install ntpdate`
`sudo /sbin/chkconfig ntpd on`
3. *Fedora/RedHat*: `sudo yum install ntpdate`
`sudo chkconfig ntpd on`

4. Enter `ntpdate server link && hwclock -w` after the installation command, making sure to enter the link to the website in place of *server link*.

Method 2 of 4:

Using the Timezone Selection Menu



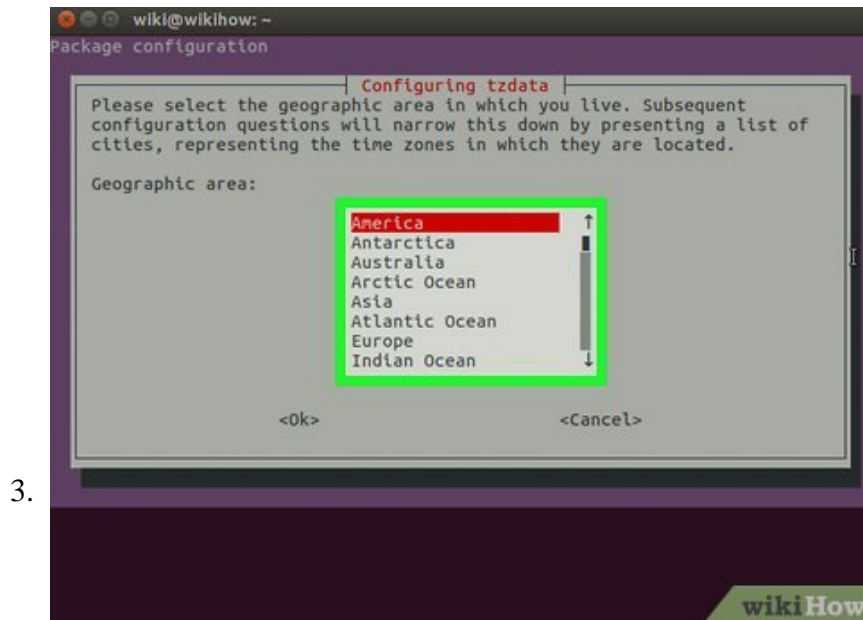
Open Terminal. Select the Terminal program from your Linux programs, or press `Ctrl + Alt + T` on your keyboard.



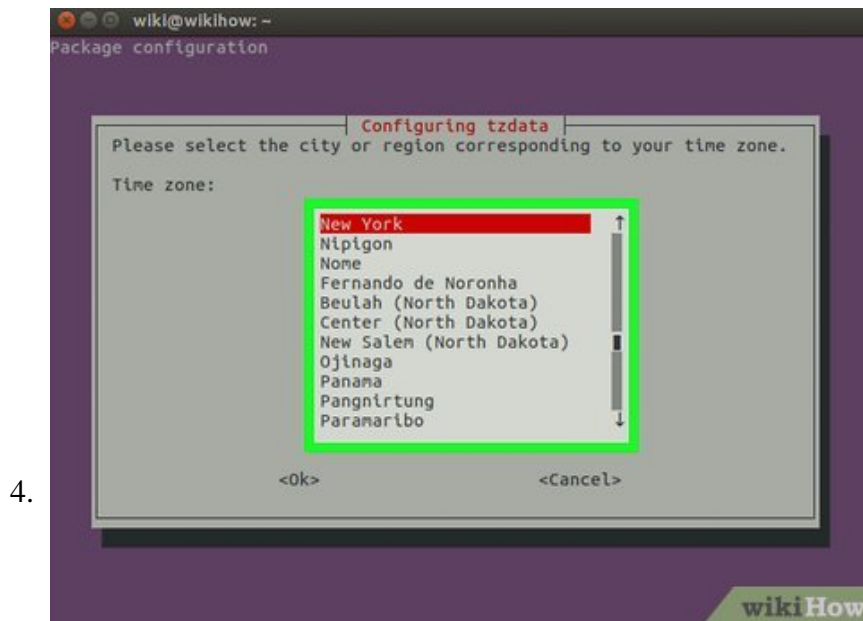
Enter the time zone menu command. Depending on your Linux distribution, this command will vary:

1. *Ubuntu* and *Mint* - `sudo dpkg-reconfigure tzdata` followed by the admin/user password.

2. Redhat - `redhat-config-date`
3. CentOS and Fedora - `system-config-date`
4. FreeBSD and Slackware - `tzselect`



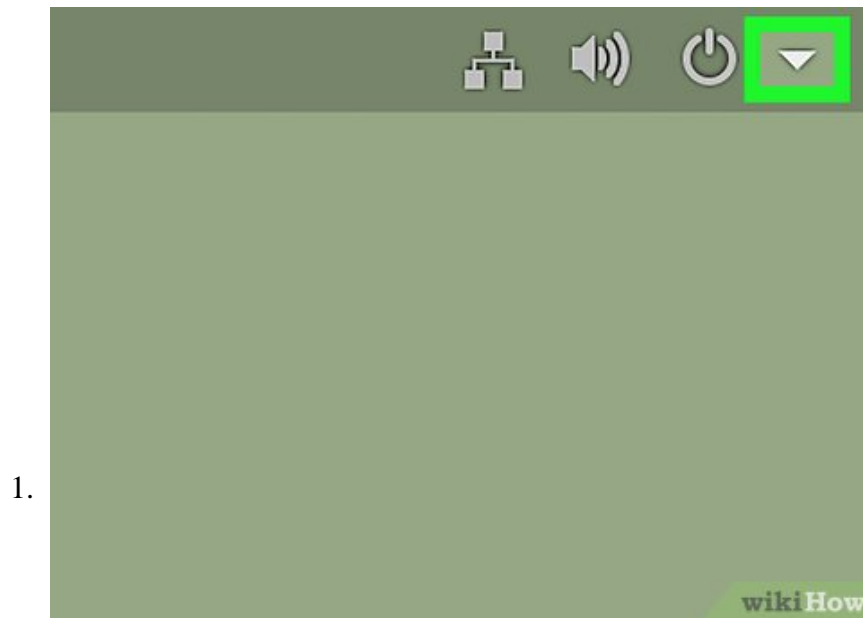
Select your geographic area. Use the arrow keys to select the geographic area the country is found in, then press `?Enter`.



Select your city/region. Select the city or region corresponding to your time zone, then press `?Enter`. This will change the time zone on your system. ^[1]

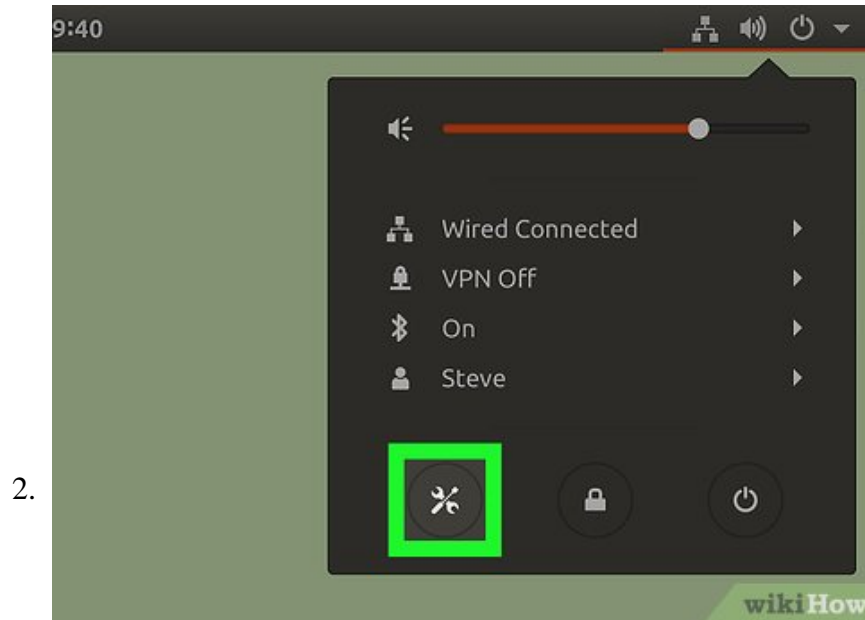
Method 3 of 4:

Using the Graphical User Interface in Ubuntu

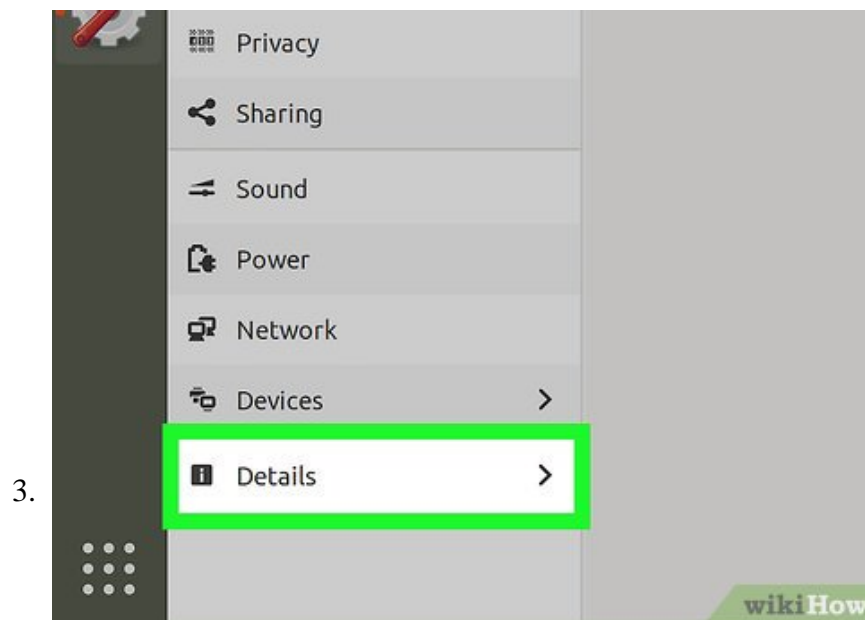


Click the "System Menu" icon

. It's a downward-facing triangle in the upper-right corner of the screen. A drop-down menu will appear.^[2]

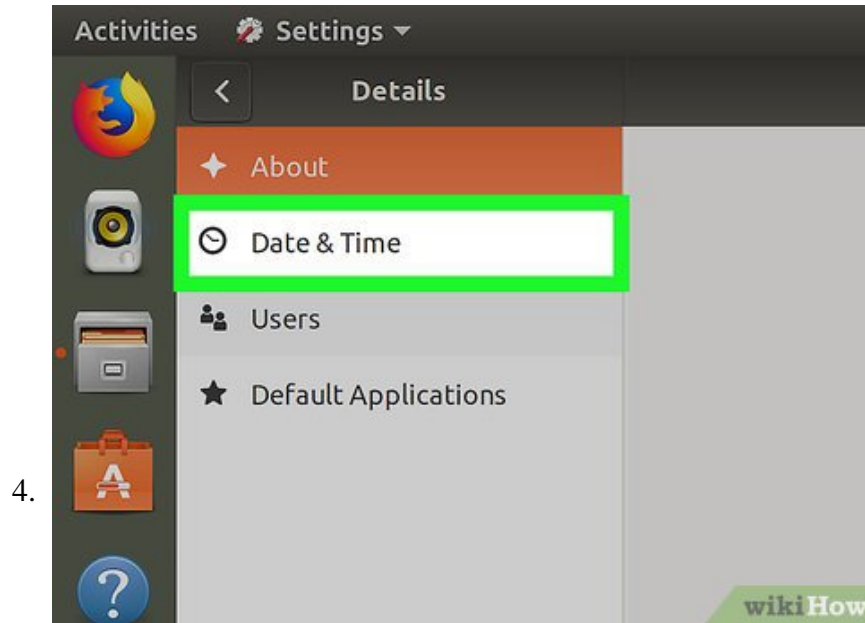


Click the "Settings" icon. This wrench-and-screwdriver-shaped icon is in the lower-left corner of the drop-down menu. Doing so opens the Ubuntu Control Center.

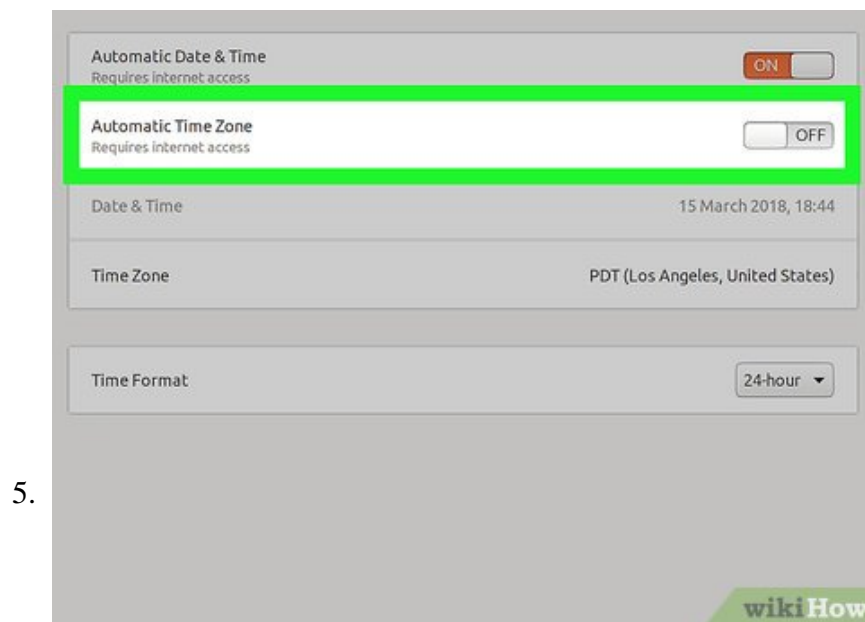


Scroll down and click **Details**. It's at the bottom of the sidebar that's on the left side of the window.

1. Make sure that your mouse is over the left-hand sidebar when scrolling.

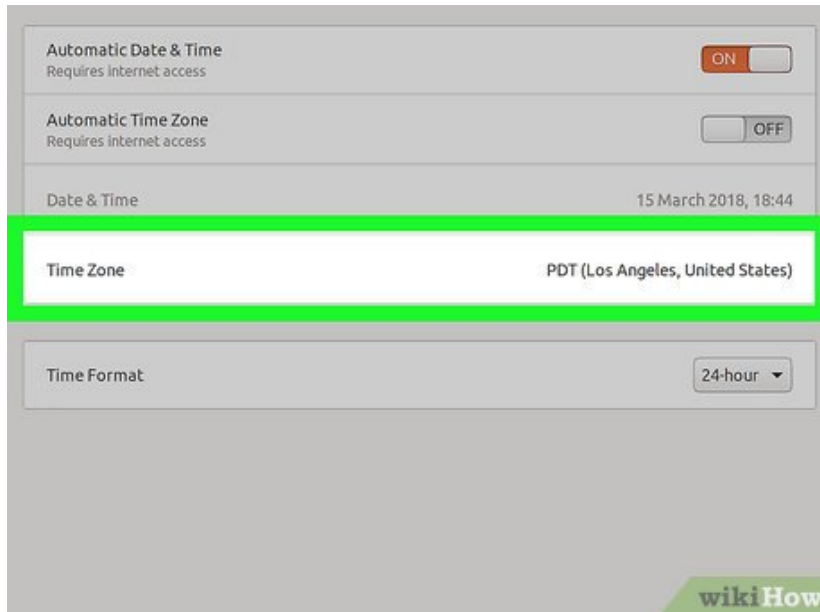


Click **Date & Time**. You'll find this tab on the left side of the window.



Turn off Automatic Time Zone. Click the blue "Automatic Time Zone" switch in the middle of the page to do so.

1. If the "Automatic Time Zone" switch is grey, skip this step.



6.

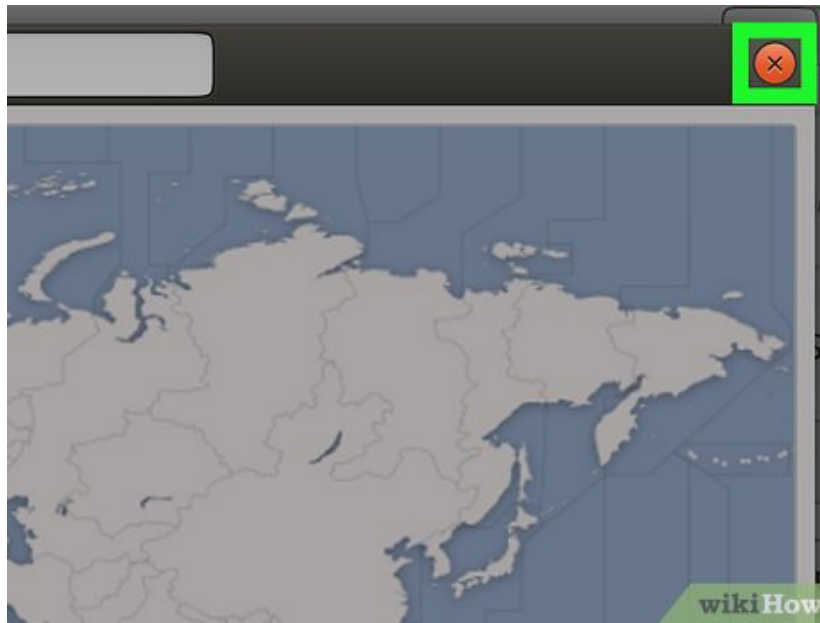
Click **Time Zone**. It's near the bottom of the window. Doing so opens the Time Zone menu.



7.

Select a time zone. Click your approximate location on the world map to do so. You should see the time change to match the selected area's time zone.

8.

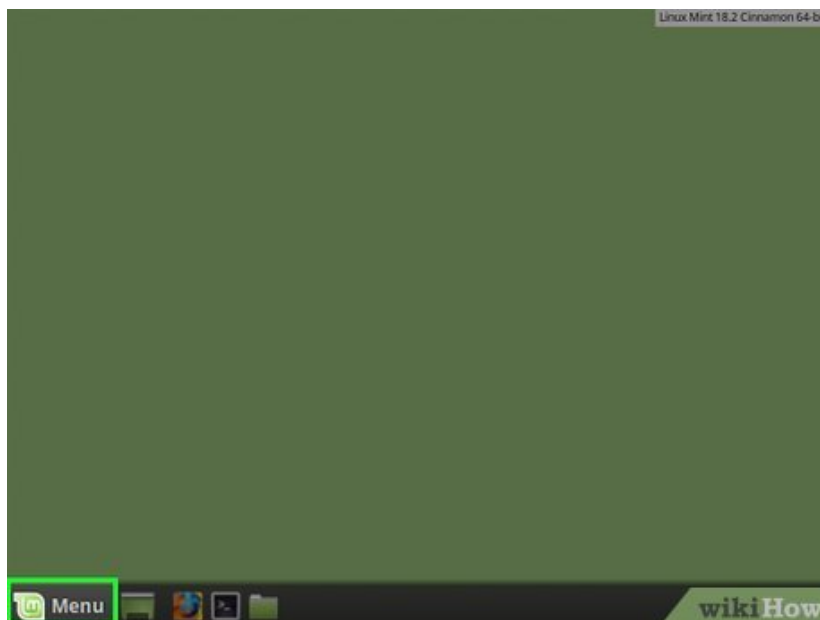


Close the window. This will save your settings and update your time zone accordingly.

Method 4 of 4:

Using the Graphical User Interface in Mint

1.



Open the Menu. Click **Menu** in the bottom-left corner of the screen.

2.



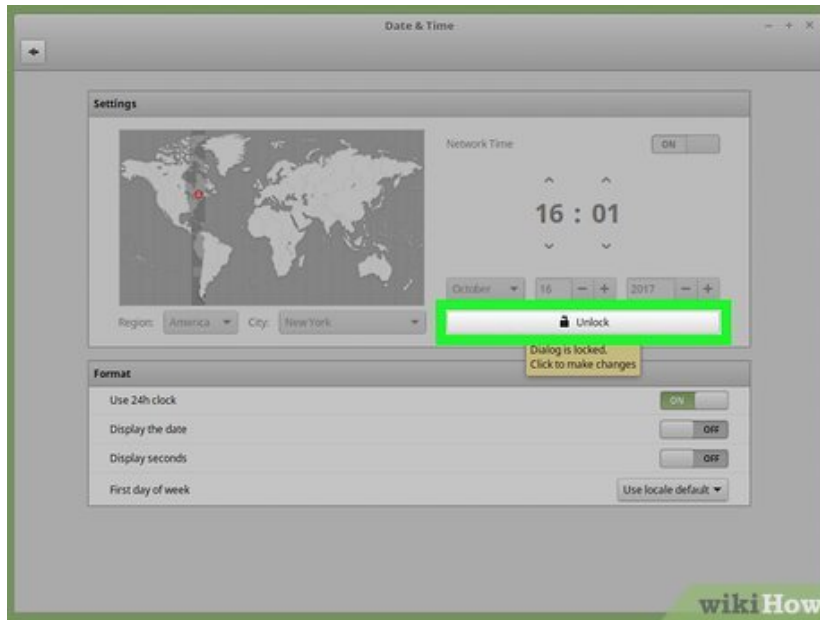
Click the **System Settings icon**. It's made of two grey cogs. You'll find it on the left side of the Menu window.

3.



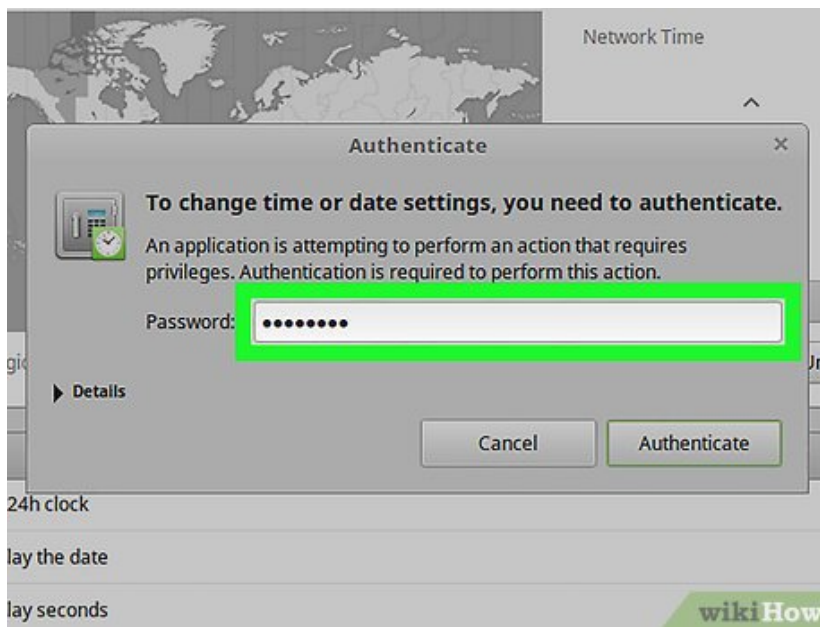
Click **Date & Time**. It's in the "Preferences" group of options.

4.

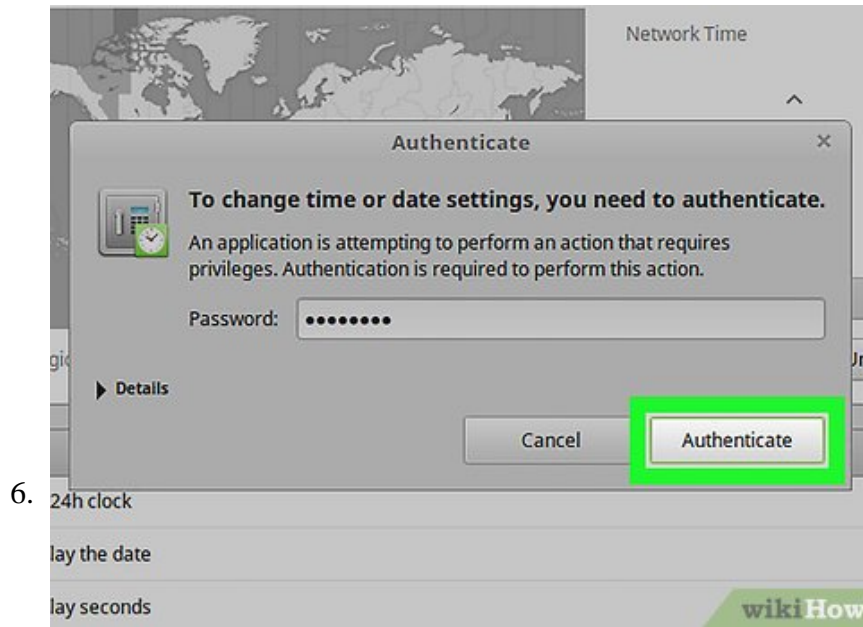


Click **Unlock**. You'll find this on the right side of the window.

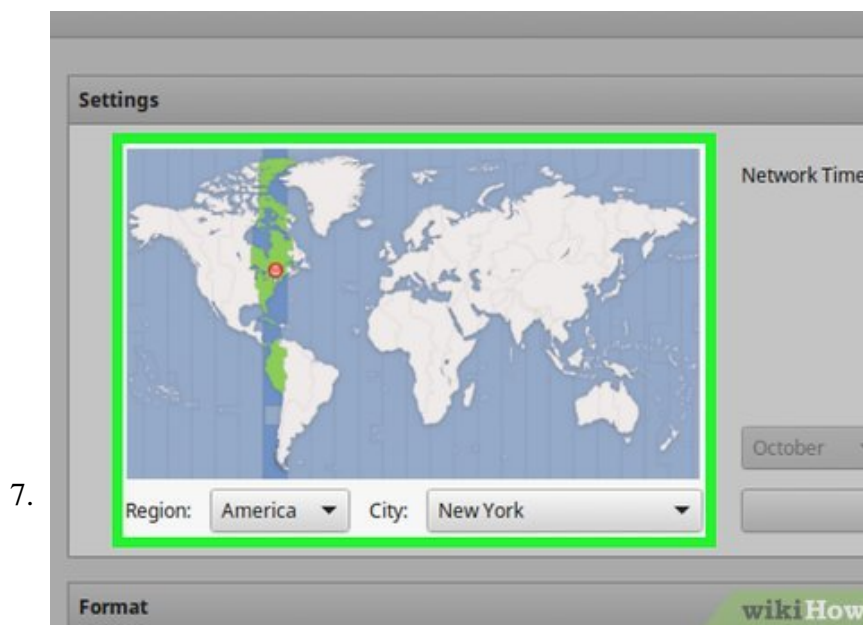
5.



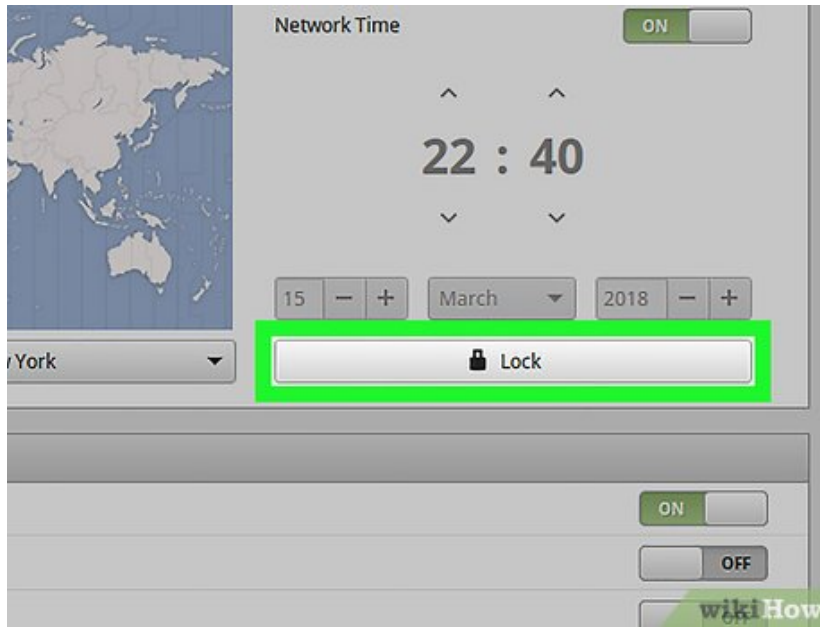
Enter your user password when prompted. Type in the password that you use to log into your computer.



Click **Authenticate**. It's at the bottom of the prompt. Doing so unlocks the Date & Time menu.



Select a time zone. Click a vertical slice of the map to pick that time zone. You should see the clock on the right side of the page immediately change to reflect the selected time zone's time.



8.

Click **Lock**. It's on the right side of the window. Doing so saves your time zone preferences and locks the Date & Time menu.

You finished reading the article "**How to Change the Timezone in Linux**" edited by the [TipsMake](#) team. We hope this article has provided you with many useful tech tips and tricks. You can search for similar articles on tips and guides. Thank you for reading and for following us regularly.