

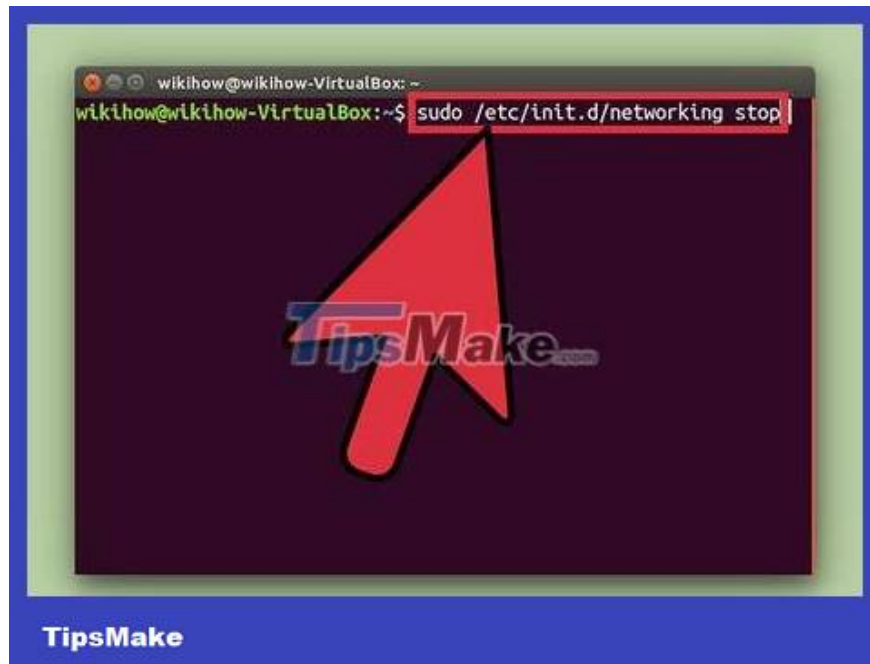
How to Get Root Rights on Ubuntu

To perform administrator tasks on Linux, you must have root access (super user or super user). Having a separate root account is common on most Linux distributions, but Ubuntu disables super user permissions by default. This is to prevent you from accidentally causing errors and keep the system safe from suspicious intruders. To execute a command that requires root access, use sudo.

Execute root with sudo command



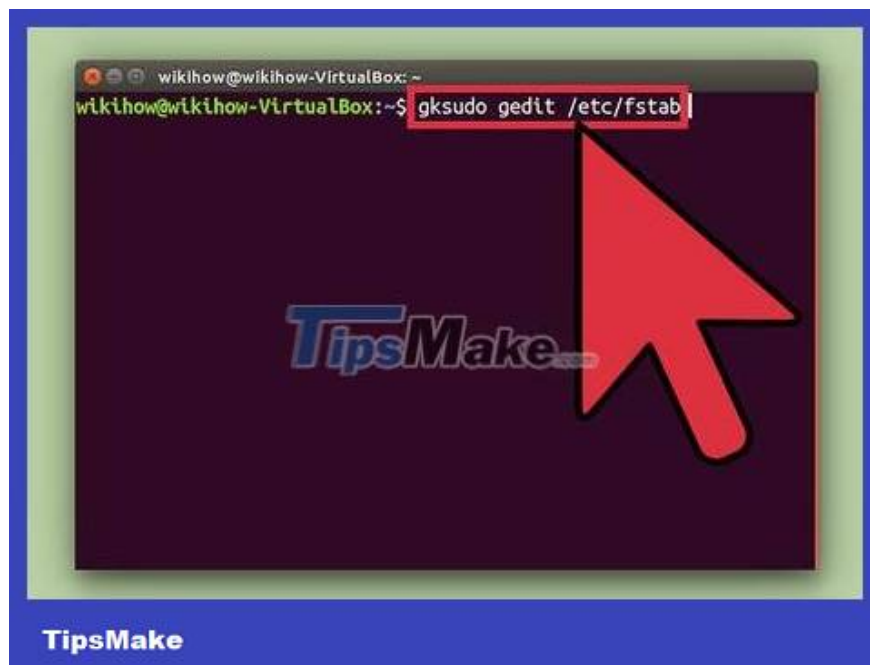
Press `Ctrl+Alt+T` to open a terminal window. Because Ubuntu locks the root account by default, you cannot use commands `sudo` to become a super user like in other Linux distributions. Instead, start your command with `sudo`.



Enter sudo before the command. 'Sudo' stands for 'Super User Do.' When you use sudo to start a command, the command will be executed as a super user.

For example, the command `sudo /etc/init.d/networking stop` will stop network services, while the command `sudo adduser` will add new users to the system. These tasks all require super user permissions.

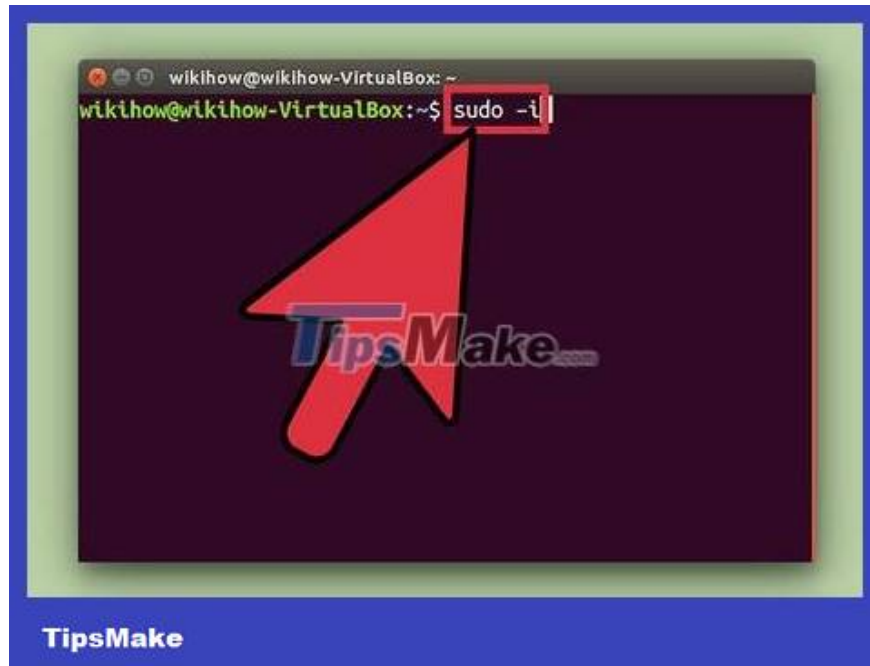
You will be asked to enter your password before sudo executes the command. Linux will save your password for 15 minutes, so you don't have to enter it again and again.



Enter gksudo before executing a command to open a program with a graphical user interface (Graphical User Interface, referred to as GUI). For security reasons, Ubuntu does not recommend using 'sudo' to open programs in the GUI. Instead, enter `gksudo` before the program start command.

For example, you can type `gksudo gedit /etc/fstab` to open the file "fstab" using the Gedit editor program in the GUI.

If you use KDE Window Manager, use `kdesudo` instead of `gksudo`.

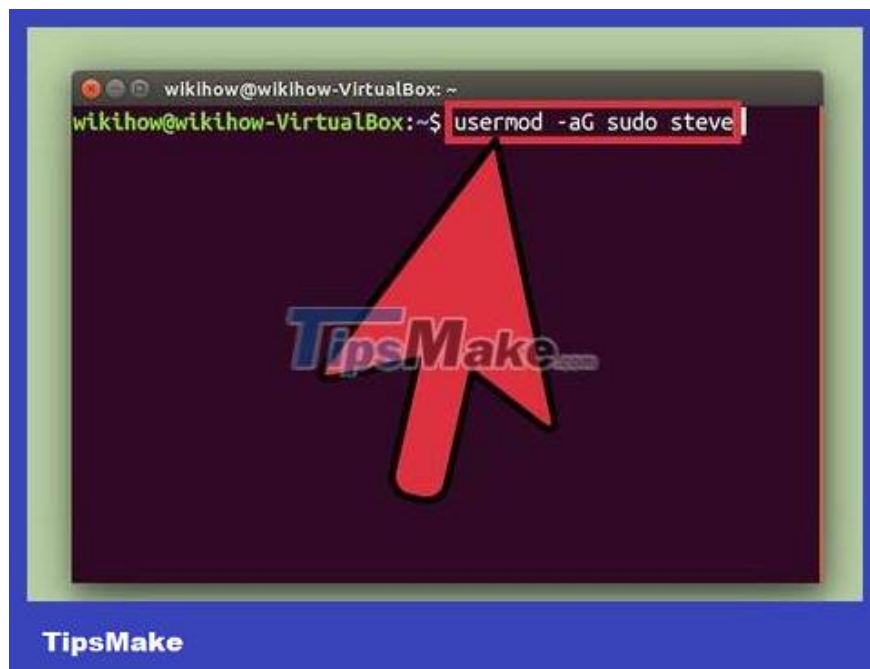


Emulates a high-level user environment (root shell). If you are an advanced user who needs real root shell access to execute specific scripts, you can simulate a high-level user environment with `sudo -i`. This command will give you super user access to root's environment variables.

Enter the command `sudo passwd root` to create a root password, essentially 'activating' the account. Don't forget this password.

Enter `sudo -i`. Then enter the root password when prompted.

The command line interpreter will change the word `$` to `#`, meaning you already have root access.



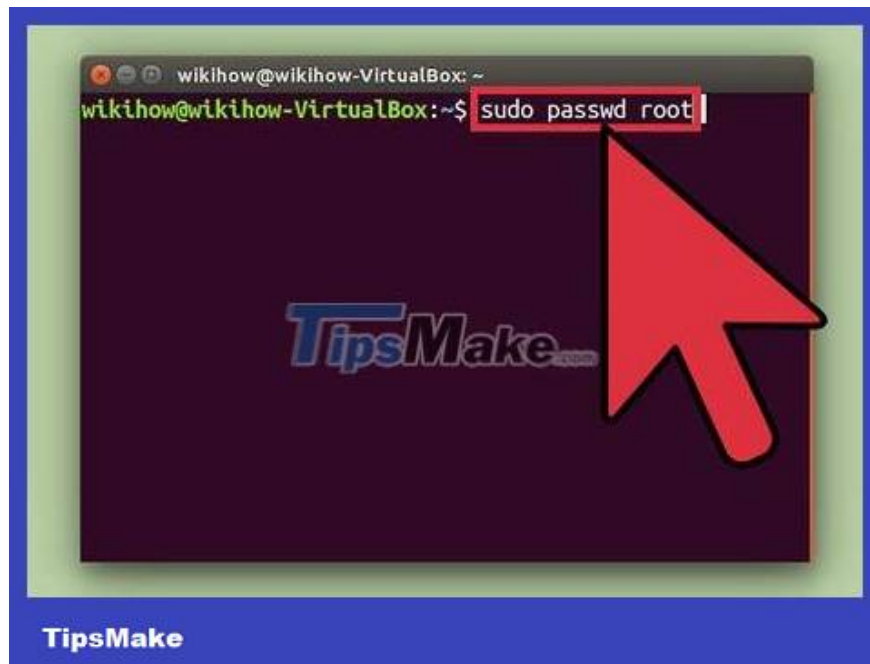
Grant access sudo to other users. If you're setting up an account for someone who doesn't have root privileges, you'll need to add their username to the sudo group. To proceed, type `usermod -aG sudo username` (replace 'username' with the specific username).

Enable super users

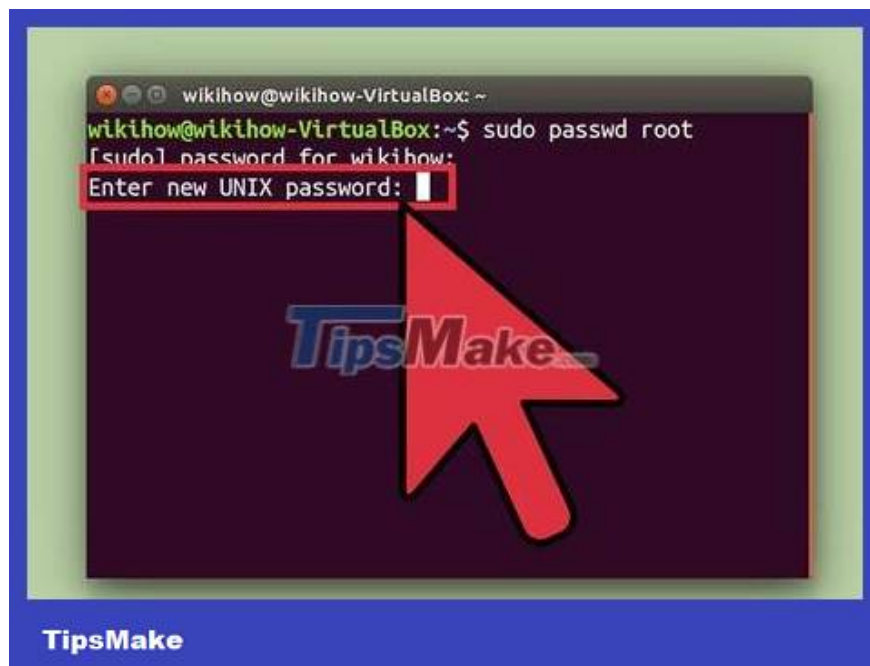


Press `Ctrl+Alt+T` to open a terminal window. For security purposes (and to avoid damage), super user accounts are always locked by default. To safely execute commands as a super user, you should instead use `sudo` or `gksudo`. If you absolutely must have a separate root account (if it's required by a program your business uses, or if this dedicated computer is only used by a single user), you can Enable a super user account with a few simple commands.

Ubuntu does not recommend enabling super user accounts as this may pose risks to the system.



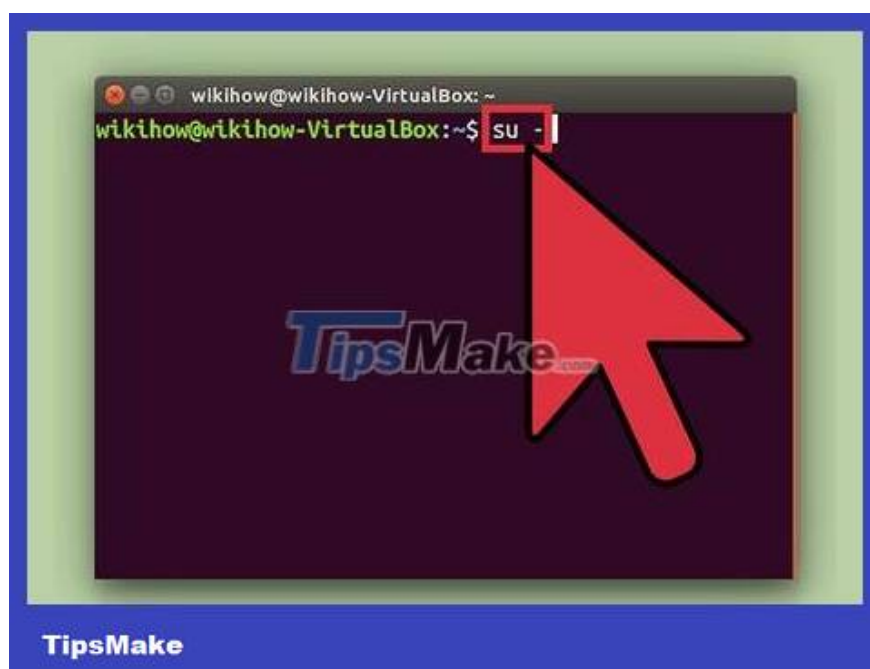
Enter **sudo passwd root** and press **? Enter**. You will be asked to set a new password for the super user account. Please remember this password.



Enter the password, then tap **? Enter**.



Re-enter your password when asked, then tap ? Enter. So the super user account has a password set.



Enter su -then press ? Enter. Enter the root password when asked in the root prompt.

To disable the super user account, enter the command `sudo passwd -dl root`.

You finished reading the article "**How to Get Root Rights on Ubuntu**" 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.