

How to set up media server at home with Jellyfin on Ubuntu

Jellyfin is a media server for streaming and organizing images, videos, and audio files. Jellyfin is completely free and gives users full control of their media.

Jellyfin is a media server to stream and organize images, videos, and audio files. Unlike other solutions on the market, Jellyfin is completely free, does not have any premium features or advanced upgrade packages and gives users full control of their media. Any device with a modern web browser can access and stream from Jellyfin. Jellyfin has apps for Android, Android TV and Amazon Fire TV.

Here's how you can set up your own media server with Jellyfin.

Instructions for setting up media server with Jellyfin on Ubuntu

1. Before start
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Before start

You will need a 64 bit device running Ubuntu version 18.04 desktop or server. This could be anything from an old laptop lying somewhere in the house to a high-end dual socket server, but make sure you have enough storage for all your media files. For better performance, use a wired network connection instead of WiFi.

You will also need to set a static IP address on your Ubuntu machine.

Install Jellyfin

Start by updating the Ubuntu system:

```
sudo apt update && sudo apt -y upgrade
```

Install **curl** (HTTP client) and **apt-transport-https**, enable HTTPS support for APT:

```
sudo apt install -y curl apt-transport-https
```

Activate Ubuntu repository:

```
sudo add-apt-repository universe
```

Add Jellyfin software repository:

```
echo "deb [arch=$( dpkg --print-architecture )] https://repo.jellyfin.org/ubuntu
```

The GPG signing key is used to ensure that the downloaded files are not tampered with. Add the signing key Jellyfin:

```
curl https://repo.jellyfin.org/ubuntu/jellyfin_team.gpg.key | sudo apt-key add -
```

Update package list:

```
sudo apt update
```

Install Jellyfin:

```
sudo apt install -y jellyfin
```

If you want Jellyfin to start automatically when booting, run:

```
sudo systemctl enable jellyfin.service
```

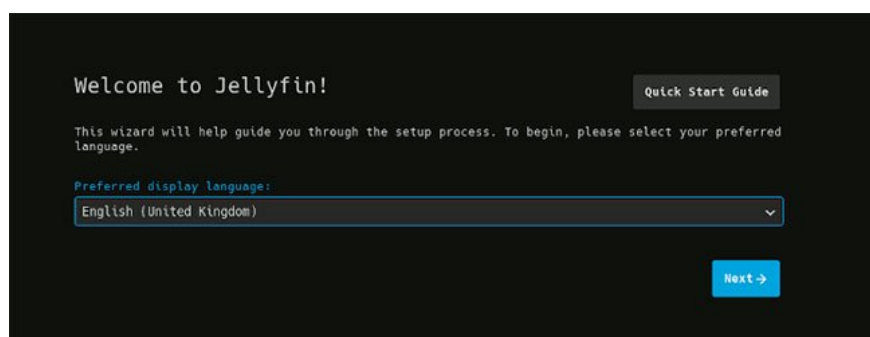
Start Jellyfin:

```
sudo systemctl start jellyfin.service
```

Use the setup wizard

Browse to **http:// IP_ADDRESS: 8096** , where 'IP_ADDRESS' is the static address you have configured.

Choose a default language and click **Next**.



Enter the username and password to create the admin account, then click **Next**.

Tell us about yourself

Jellyfin includes support for user profiles with granular display settings, play state, and parental controls.

Your first name:
jellyfin
More users can be added later from within the dashboard.

Password:

You can leave this field blank to set no password.

Password (confirm):

← Previous Next →

You can add the following libraries, so skip this step now by clicking **Next**.

Setup your media libraries Help

+
Add Media Library

← Previous Next →

The metadata includes a variety of information and data, such as rating by age, overview, poster, etc. Select a language and country, then click **Next**.

Preferred Metadata Language

These are your defaults and can be customized on a per-library basis.

Language:
English

Country:
United States

← Previous Next →

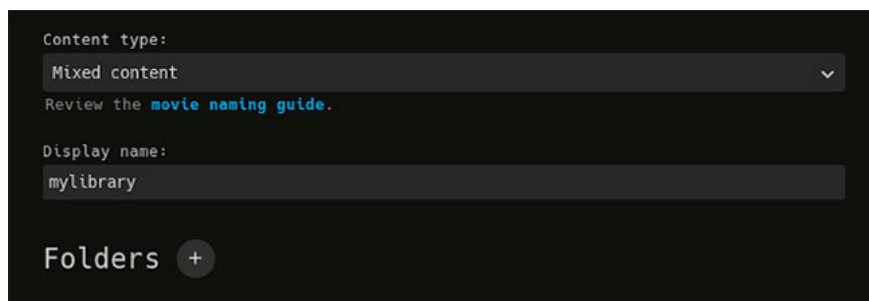
If you plan to stream from Jellyfin outside of the house, turn on these options. If not, uncheck them. Click **Next** and **Finish** to exit the setup wizard.



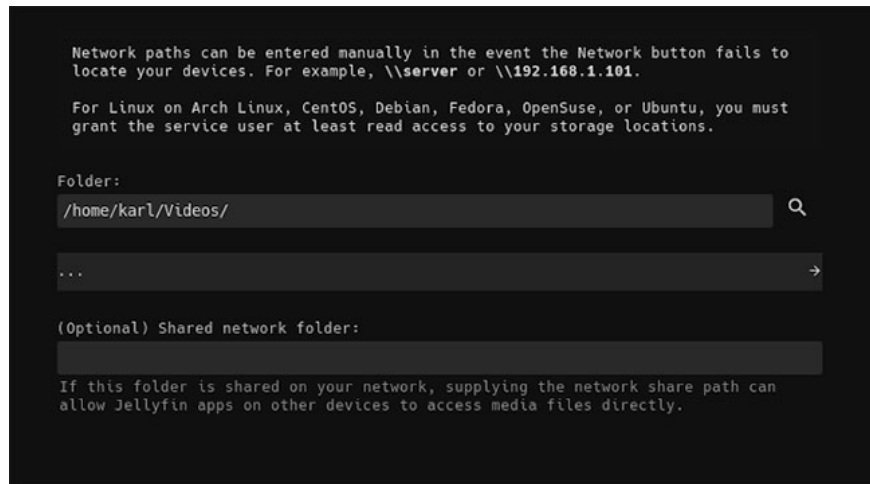
Add library

Jellyfin uses custom libraries to organize media files. To create the first library, log into Jellyfin at **http://IP_ADDRESS: 8096 /** and open the admin panel by clicking on the top right icon. On the left sidebar, under **Server**, click **Libraries** and then press '**Add Media Library**' .

Select a content type and name the library, then click the plus sign to add a folder.



Enter the full path to the directory where you will store the files for this library and then click **OK**. Repeat this process for other directories, if any. You do not have to change other library settings, because the default option works well in most cases.



When you want to add new media, just add it to one of your selected folders. Jellyfin regularly scans these folders and updates libraries.

Add users

The default user account created by the setup wizard has admin access and therefore should not be shared. Instead, you can create other Jellyfin accounts for family members, friends, etc.

From the admin panel, under **Server**, click **Users** and then the plus sign to add user accounts.

Add User [Help](#)

Name:
[Text Input]

Password:
[Text Input]

Library Access

Enable access to all libraries
Select the libraries to share with this user. Administrators will be able to edit all folders using the metadata manager.

Libraries

mylibrary

Save

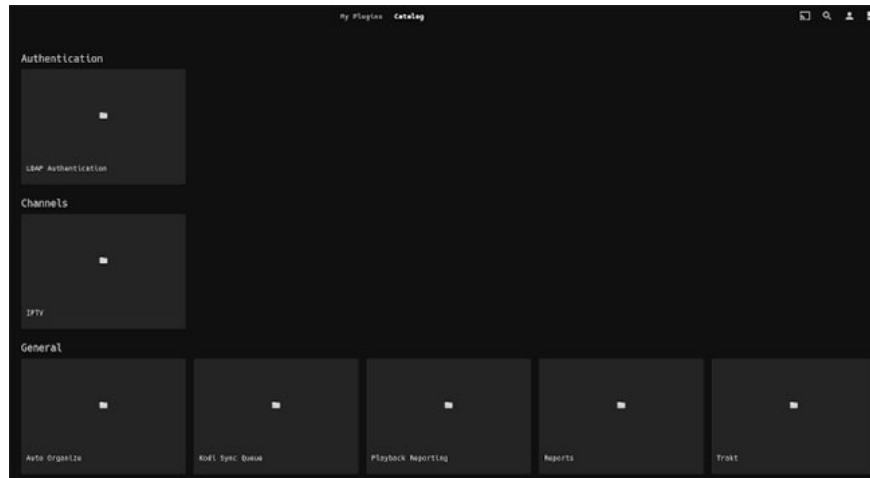
Cancel

Enter a username and password. If you do not want this user to have access to all your libraries, leave the '**Enable access to all libraries**' checkbox checked. Click **Save** to create an account.

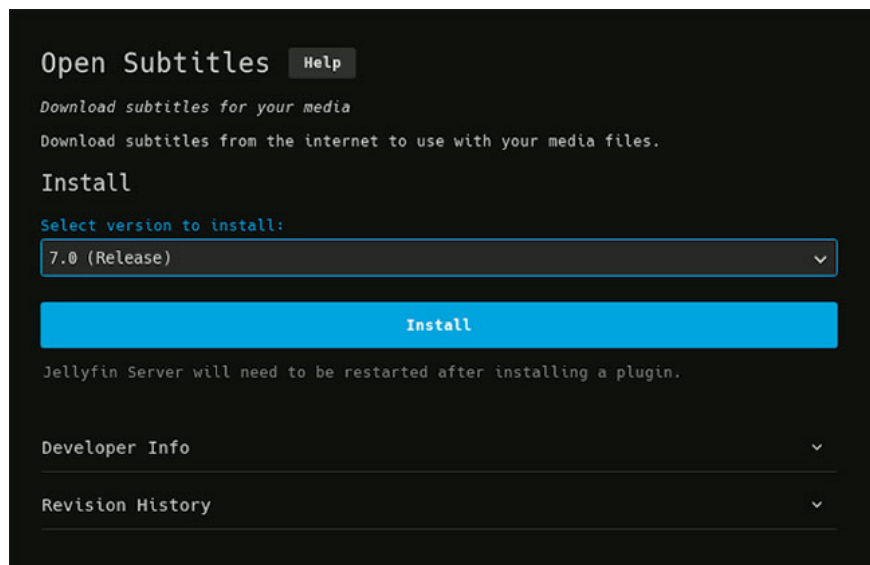
Install the Jellyfin plugin

To add functionality, you can install plugins, such as the popular OpenSubtitle plugin that automatically loads subtitles.

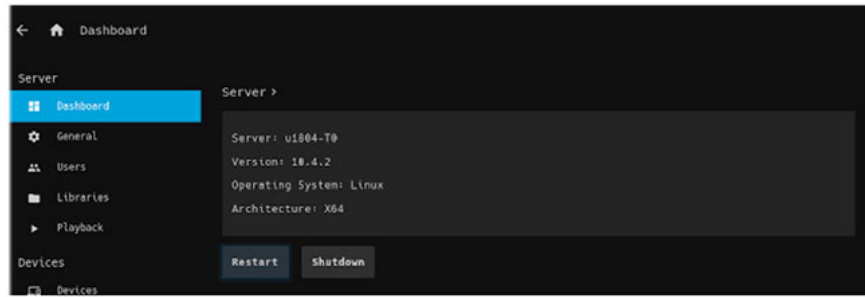
From the admin panel, in the **Advanced** section, click **Plugin** and then the **Catalog** tab.



Click the plugin you want to install.



If you want a specific version, select it. If not, select the latest version and click **Install** . When you see the message '**The plugin has been successfully installed**' , restart Jellyfin from the main page of the admin panel by clicking **Restart** .



After restarting Jellyfin, the plugin is ready to use.

Now you have a media server to stream.

Hope you are succesful.

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