

# Instructions for automatic VPN connection on Linux

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Most of the best VPN services will be built on OpenVPN. OpenVPN is a free and open source VPN server that you can use to set up your own VPN. However, you only need the OpenVPN client to be sufficient.

When installing OpenVPN on Ubuntu, the client will also appear. You can use the OpenVPN client to connect to any OpenVPN server. OpenVPN is a service, so it can run when you start your computer, which means you don't need to remember to start it and do not need to configure separate connections for each user.

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## Install OpenVPN

Before you can connect to the VPN service, you need to install OpenVPN on Ubuntu. It may be available in your device, so use **apt** to receive it.

```
sudo apt install openvpn
```

You can also install OpenVPN from the package manager, regardless of which distro you are using.

## Download VPN configuration

Most VPN providers have profiles available for OpenVPN. Check to see if your VPN provider supports OpenVPN and review their configuration files.

VPN packages are usually in the form of **.zip** or if they are personal files, they are usually set to the server location and end with the **.ovpn** extension.

## Copy configuration

Once you have the OpenVPN archive file, you will need to put it in the OpenVPN folder. If you need to extract the files from the zip file, do it first.

```
unzip openvpn.zip
```

Copy the file to the OpenVPN folder and rename it to '*openvpn.conf*'.

```
sudo cp ~ / Downloads / OpenVPN / 'Northeast US.ovpn' /etc/openvpn/openvpn.conf
```

Your path and file name will be different. However, you can use the example above.

## Automatic login

Fortunately, OpenVPN supports logging in with just one file.

```
remote 104.19.229.112 1194 udp
cipher AES-256-CBC
auth SHA512
tls-cipher TLS-DHE-RSA-WITH-AES-256-CBC-SHA
client
dev tun
resolv-retry 20
route-delay 2
remote-cert-tls server
nobind
auth-user-pass auth.txt
explicit-exit-notify 5
comp-lzo no
tls-auth [inline] 1
<ca>
-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE-----
MIG9zCCBN+gAwIBAgIJAN/1j1urjxNRMA0GCSqGSIb3DQEBCwUAMIGtMQswCQYD
VQQGEwJVUzELMAkGA1UECBMCTUxxEDA0BgNVBACTB0xpdm9uaWExAQBgNVBAoT
CUxpcXVpZFZ0TjE5bWkGA1UECXMzQ2VydGlmYWVhdGUuU2VydMvYMRUwEwYDVQDD
EwxMaXF1aWRWUE4gQ0ExETAPBgNVBCKTCExpcXVpZENBMSQwIgwYJKoZIhvcNAQkB
EhUzZXBhbnQ3Ij0EYXVpZHZ0b3R5b3R5b3R5b3R5b3R5b3R5b3R5b3R5b3R5b3R5
-----
```

Open '*/etc/openvpn/openvpn.conf*' with **sudo**. Search for the line containing '*auth-user-pass*'. Then add '*auth.txt*' on the same line. Save the file and close it.

Create a new file in '*/etc/openvpn*' called "*auth.txt*". On the first line of the file, set your username to include the password in the second line. Then save and close the window.

## Reboot and check

That's all you need to do to connect to your VPN. Restart the OpenVPN service for changes to take effect.

```
nick@ubuntu-lts:~$ sudo systemctl restart openvpn
nick@ubuntu-lts:~$ sudo systemctl status openvpn
● openvpn.service - OpenVPN service
   Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/openvpn.service; enabled; vendor preset: enabled)
   Active: active (exited) since Sun 2017-08-27 19:07:36 EDT; 7s ago
     Process: 3512 ExecStart=/bin/true (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
    Main PID: 3512 (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)

Aug 27 19:07:36 ubuntu-lts systemd[1]: Starting OpenVPN service...
Aug 27 19:07:36 ubuntu-lts systemd[1]: Started OpenVPN service.
nick@ubuntu-lts:~$
```

```
sudo systemctl restart openvpn
```

To ensure that OpenVPN runs at the same time the computer boots, activate it with **systemd**.

```
sudo systemctl enable openvpn
```

Finally, check your VPN connection with **dnsleaktest.com**. When you reach the website, you will see your IP address and VPN location. Click the button below to test and check if DNS information is leaked.

It is done! Now you can connect VPN on Linux easily.

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