Instructions on how to share data between Windows and Linux via LAN

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Don't waste your precious time on using storage devices anymore! You can move files quickly and easily via the local area network (LAN).

The main methods used to do this are:

1. Set up sharing in Linux to access it from Windows with Samba
2. Set up sharing in Windows to access it from Linux

How to transfer files between Linux and Windows via LAN

1. Set up sharing in Linux and access it from Windows with Samba
2. Set up sharing in Windows to access from Linux
    1. Allow sharing on Windows
    2. Share folder
    3. Access from Linux

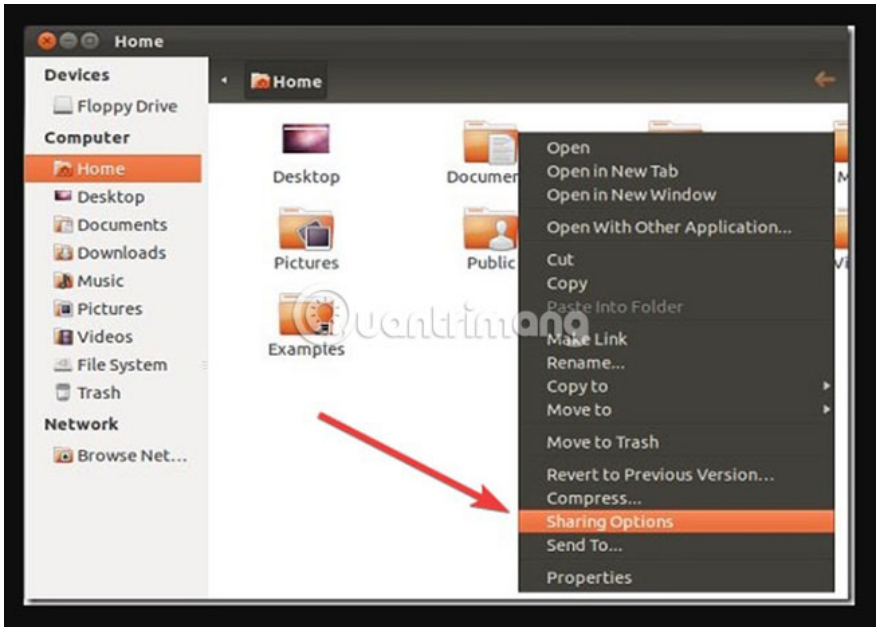
Set up sharing in Linux and access it from Windows with Samba

The best and fastest way to do this is to install Samba. Samba is an ideal solution for sharing files between different devices such as Windows, Linux or Mac devices. Machines need to be networked with a common router.

Windows computers have a function that allows them to work with Samba, so just install the package for the Linux computer.

1. On a Linux computer, open the location that contains the files you want to share.

2. Right-click the file and select **'Sharing Options'.**



3. If you receive a prompt asking to install Samba services, click **'Install service'.**

4. Click **Restart session** after Samba service is installed to allow sharing.

5. Check the **'Share this folder'** boxes and **'Allow others to create and delete files in this folder'** .

6. Click **'Create Share'** to complete the process.

7. Open **Terminal** and type the following commands:

```
sudo smbpasswd –a USERNAME
```

Replace **USERNAME** with the username.

```
sudo cp /etc/ samba/ smb.conf /etc/samba/smb.conf.old sudo nano /etc/samba/smb.c
```

8. Find the **Global** section and add the following lines:

```
encrypt passwords = true wins support = yes
```

9. Press **Ctrl + O** and **Ctrl + X** to save and exit.

10. Restart Samba:

```
sudo service smbd restart
```

11. Switch to Windows computer and right-click **Start,** then select **Run.**

12. In the **Run** box **,** enter the command:

```
computer_nameshare_name5
```

Note: The computer name in this case may be the IP address of the Linux machine. You can find this address by going to your Linux computer and opening the terminal, then entering **ipconfig.**

13. Enter the Linux computer name and share the resource name.

14. A prompt will be displayed asking for login information.

15. Enter your Linux username and password, then click **OK.**

16. Try accessing the share from your Windows computer.

The new server will be displayed in '**My Network Places**' on Windows.

Or do the following: Right-click on **Start** and select **Run,** then enter: **// server.** Replace '**server**' with the name or IP address of the Samba server computer. A window with browsable shares from the server will open.

Note : To access shared items that cannot be browsed, use this code:

```
servershare name
```

Set up sharing in Windows to access from Linux

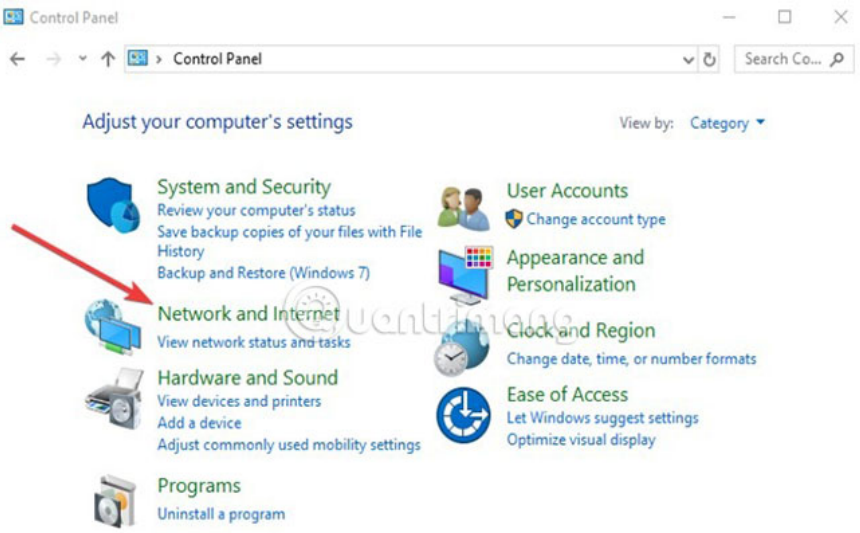
This setting will be done in three steps as follows:

1. Allow sharing on Windows
2. Share folder
3. Access directory from Linux

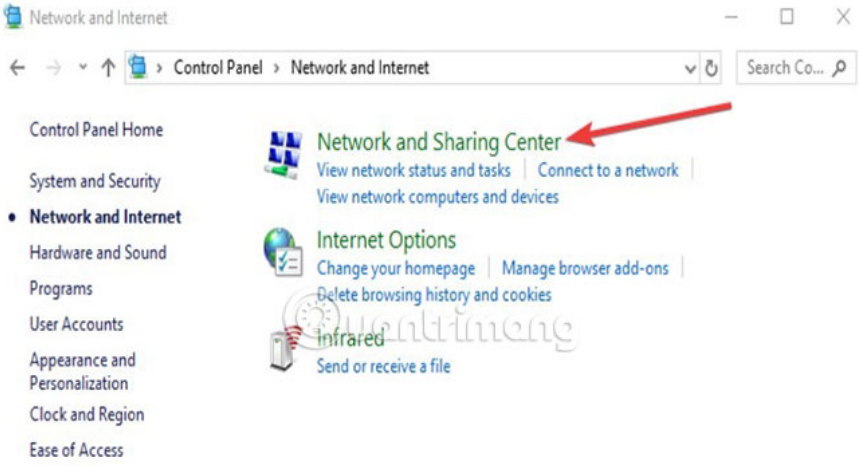
Allow sharing on Windows

Start by making sure the network settings are configured to allow connection from the Linux system. To do this, do the following:

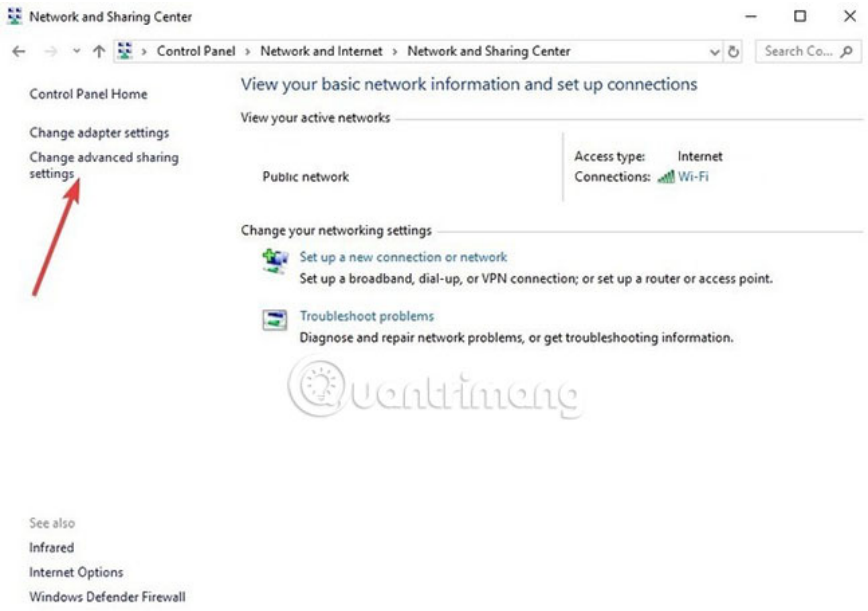
1. Go to **Control Panel** and click '**Network and Internet'.**



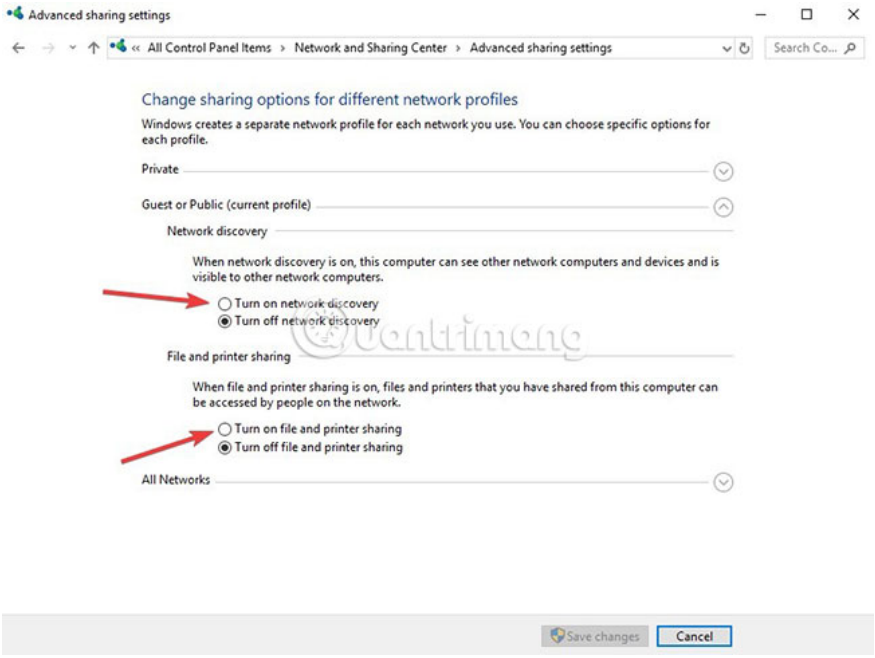
2. Select **'Network and Sharing Center'** .



3. The **Network and Sharing Center** window will open. Click **'Change Advanced Settings'** .



4. Activate these two settings: **'Network Discovery'** and **'Turn on file and printer sharing'.**



5. Click **Save changes.**

6. Sharing feature has been activated.

Share folder

Create a shared folder for the Linux system to view, connect and access. You can share anything, so follow these steps:

1. Find the folder you want to share and right-click on that folder.

2. Select '**Properties'.**

3. In the **Sharing** tab **,** click '**Advanced Sharing'.**

4. In the **Advanced Sharing** window **,** activate the '**Share this folder' option** .

5. Click '**Permissions'.**

Note : In the '**Permissions'** window **,** you can restrict access to folders for specific users or accounts. Select '**Full Control permission to Everyone'** to give any user access. This way, anyone can read and write changes to files in the folder you share.

However, if you want to restrict access to specific user accounts, delete '**Everyone'** , add desired users and then assign related rights to them. User accounts are accounts on Windows systems (not Linux systems).

6. Click **OK** to close the **Permissions** window **.**

7. Click **OK** to close the **Advanced Sharing** window **.**

8. Go to the **Security** tab in the main **Properties** window.

Note : Configure the same permissions as in sharing permissions so that Linux users can access the shared folder.

If the permissions do not match, the most restrictive settings apply.

However, if the user you intend to share has security rights, close the window and go to the third step. If not, click **'Edit'** to add users, click **'Add'** in the **Permissions** window and enter user details.

9. Click **OK** on all windows. The folder will be shared with the network.

Access from Linux

Users can mount the shared folder using the Linux GUI or use a command line. In this example, we will use Terminal because this tool works on many distributions and is faster than using the Linux GUI.

To do this, we need the **cifs-utils** package to mount the SMB shares. Follow these steps.

1. In the terminal, enter:

```
sudo apt-get install cifs-utils
```

2. Create a folder.

3. Mount share to the folder.

4. Create a folder on the desktop. (Will be easier to access from the desktop).

5. Create and mount directories with the following commands:

```
mkdir ~/Desktop/Windows-Share sudo mount.cifs //WindowsPC/Share/home/username/Des
```

Note : If prompted to enter the Linux system root password and password for the user account on Windows, enter each password and run the command.

You should now see the content of Windows share and will be able to add data to it.

Do you know how to transfer files from a Linux system to Windows and vice versa? If there is another method, please share with us in the comment section below!

Hope you are succesful.

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