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Guide to installing OpenVPN on Windows operating systems

This short tutorial will walk you through the procedure for installing the OpenVPN application

What is OpenVPN?



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The OpenVPN VPN (Virtual Private Network) service allows authorized staff to connect to the university network when outside the premises (for example, from home) through an encrypted connection. This way they can use internal resources such as, for example, license servers for teaching purposes.

OpenVPN is used to access resources on the University network, for example the storage service or other internal servers. It is important to disable it when these resources are not in use. It is not required for most web applications (Esse3, Ugov, Titulus, etc.)

The **students must NOT** use this connection method to consult **off-campus electronic resources** when outside university facilities; instead, they must follow the instructions on the [Off-campus access information](#) page.

Both desktop operating systems (Windows, Mac, Linux) and mobile devices (Android and Apple) are supported.

To use the service you need to:

- log in to the openvpn.unibs.it page with your university credentials (remember that, as with other services, the login to use does **not include** the @unibs.it domain);
- download and install the software for your operating system;
- download and open the connection profile with the software.

This guide will explain how to install and configure the service.

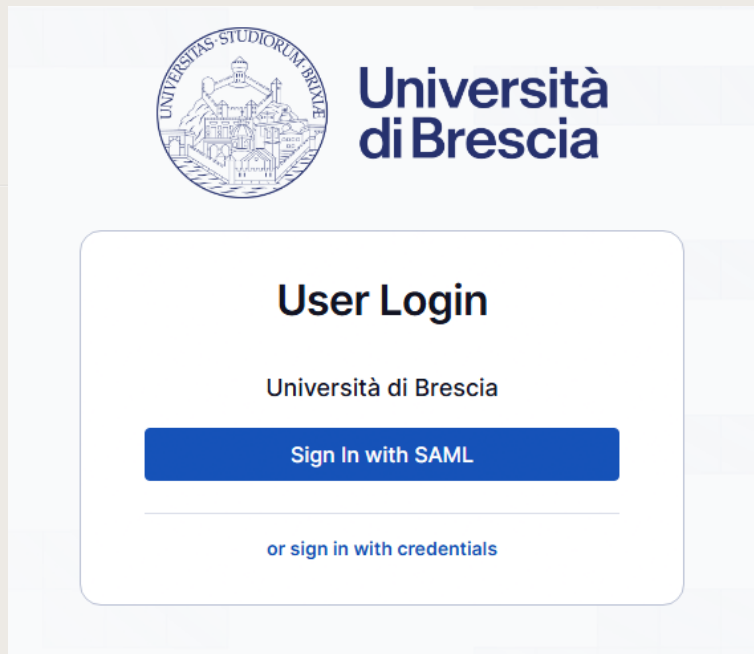
Site access and app download

To use the service, you need to download and install the OpenVPN application; this can be done by going to

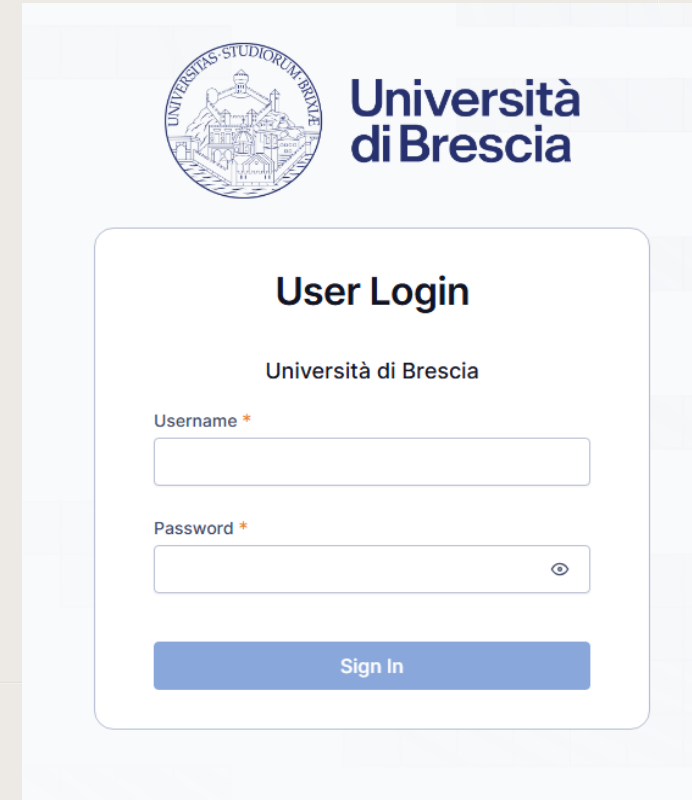
<https://openvpn.unibs.it>

To proceed with the download you need to enter your official credentials.

Once you have entered your credentials you can click "Sign In". Alternatively, the screen shown below may appear, with the wording "Sign in with SAML" — in this case you will be redirected to the IDP login page.



The screenshot shows the University of Brescia logo and name at the top. Below it, the text "User Login" and "Università di Brescia" are displayed. A blue button labeled "Sign In with SAML" is prominent. Below this button, there is a horizontal line and the text "or sign in with credentials" in a smaller, blue font.



The screenshot shows the University of Brescia logo and name at the top. Below it, the text "User Login" and "Università di Brescia" are displayed. The login form includes two input fields: "Username *" and "Password *". The password field has a toggle icon (an eye) to the right. A blue button labeled "Sign In" is located at the bottom of the form.



Site access and app download



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Once the authentication process has been completed successfully, the OpenVPN home page will be shown.

If this is the first time you are installing OpenVPN, click Download.

This will start the file download process.

Selecting "Include connection profile (User-locked)" will already provide the profile for your account, making the installation process faster.

Alternatively, you can disable this option, but you will then need to download the profile manually by clicking "Download connection profile".

The "Import via QR CODE" option is also very useful, as it allows you to install the profile in the OpenVPN smartphone app.

Get connected

 **Download OpenVPN Connect** [Download](#)

☒ Include connection profile (User-locked)

Already have your client installed? Get your profile below.

[Download Connection profile](#)

or

[Import via QR Code](#)

For other platforms 

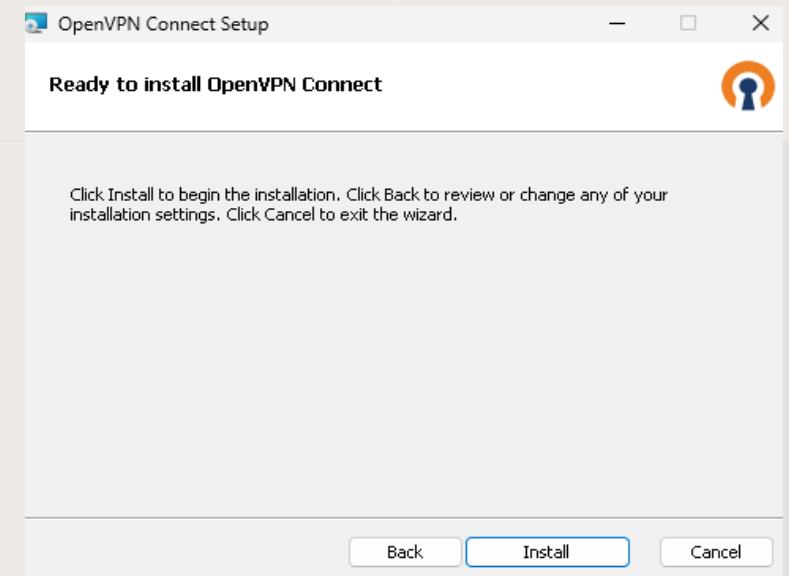
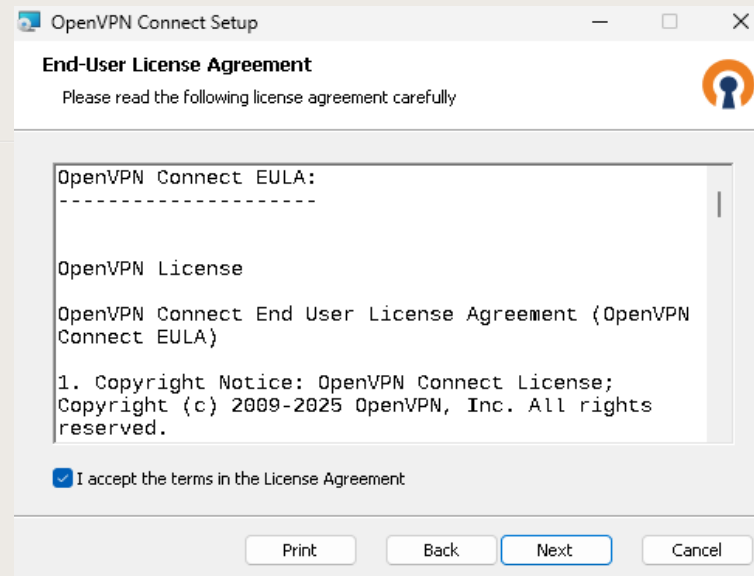
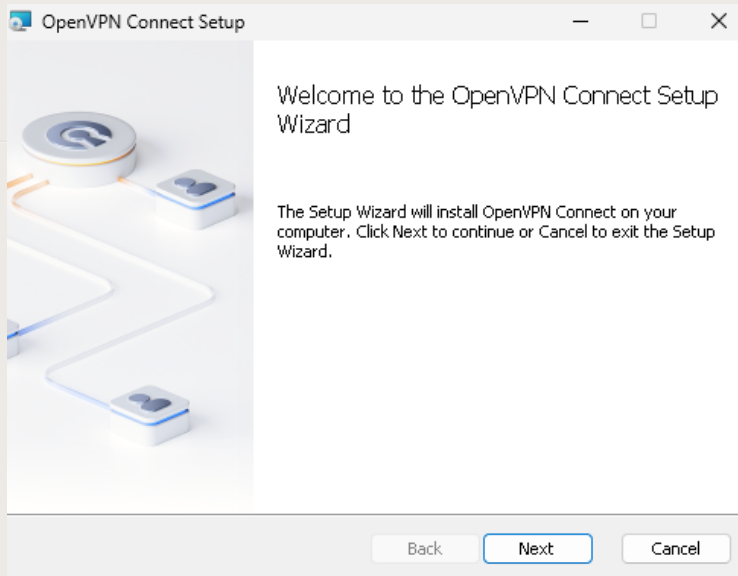
Site access and app download



After downloading the file, an installation file named "openvpn-connect-3.8.0.4528_signed" will appear; the number will vary as periodic updates are released.

Click on it to start the installation process; leave everything as default and keep clicking "next" until the installation process is complete.

The installation process may be blocked if you do not have administrator rights; in this case, you need to open a ticket if the device was provided by the university. Alternatively, log in as an administrator. For your convenience, the attached screenshots show the installation steps.



Site access and app download

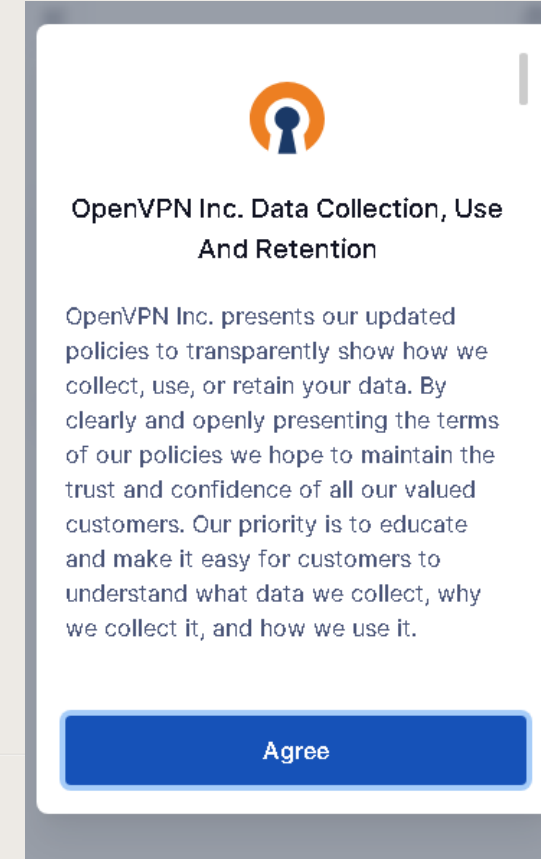
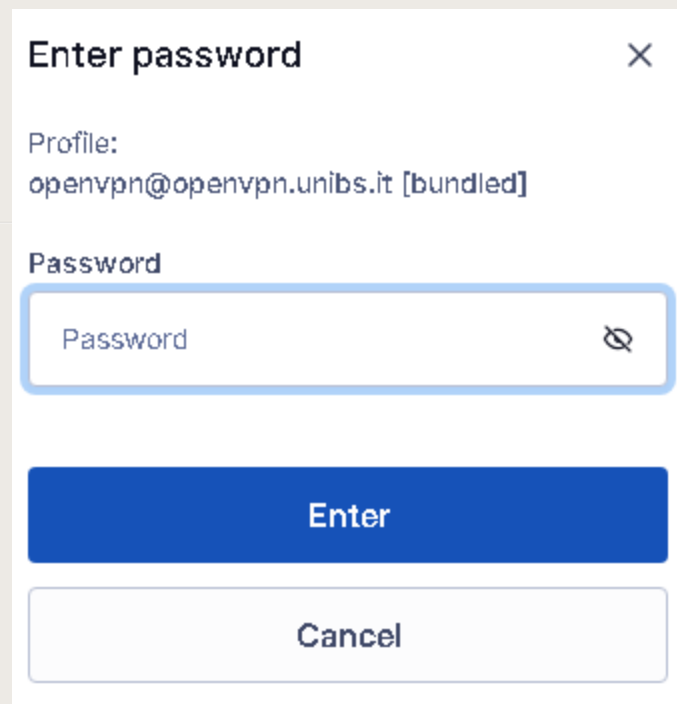
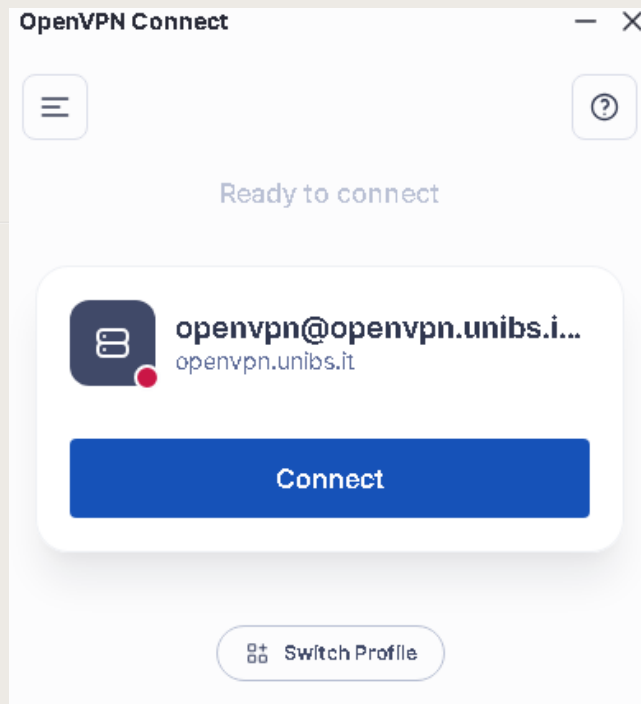
Once the installation process is complete, the following screen will appear.

Click "**AGREE**" to proceed.

If you installed OpenVPN with the "Include connection profile (User-locked)" option, your profile will already be present.

In this case, simply click "Connect" to connect to the VPN.

You will be asked to enter your password.



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Access via IDP (with IDP login NOT performed)

Login is possible with a username and password; however, login via IDP is also supported. In this case, after clicking "CONNECT", you will be redirected to the IDP website.

Here, two scenarios can occur:

- **If there is no active session, enter your username and password**
- **If the session is active, no login is needed — just wait a few seconds for the connection (explained on the next slide)**

In this case, click "SIGN IN WITH SAML" and enter your credentials.

Wait a few seconds for the connection.



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Authentication required ×

Proceed with authentication in your system browser.

<https://openvpn-test.unibs.it/saml/red...> 📄

Use this URL if the authentication page didn't open automatically

Retry

Cancel

Authentication successful

You may now close this window and return to your VPN program



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User Login

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Sign In with SAML

[or sign in with credentials](#)

Restricted area

To enter this site please proceed with login
Sign in to the service **OpenVPN Test UniBS**

UNIVERSITY

Username

Enter your username

Password

Enter your password

Sign in



If you don't remember your username or password, you can use the appropriate recovery services

[Reset password](#)

[Recover username](#)

[About account management policy](#)

[About security policy](#)

Access via IDP (with IDP login already performed)

In this case, instead of the username and password screen appearing directly in the application, a page on the idp.unibs.it site will open.

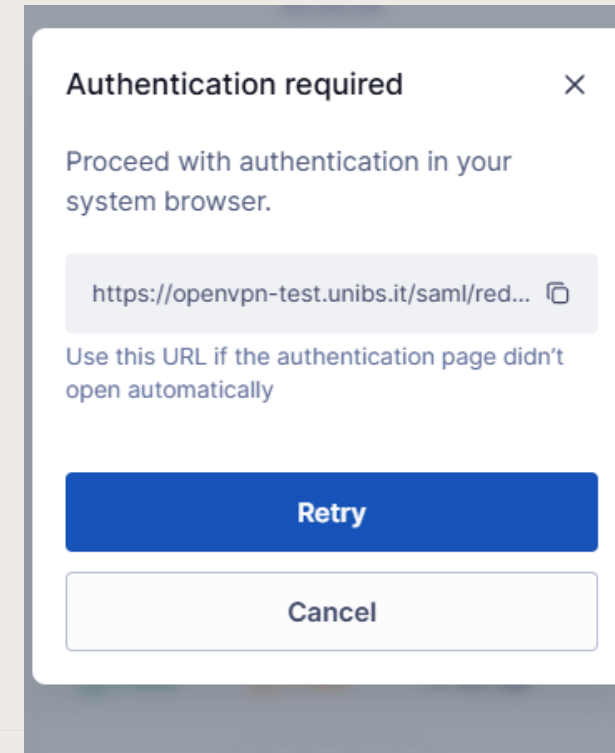
A screen similar to the one on the right will appear, with the wording "Authentication required", and a page will open toward the IDP site.

If the IDP login has already been performed, "authentication successful" will be shown, and after a few seconds OpenVPN will connect.

If the login has not been performed, the usual IDP page will appear, where you need to enter your username and password



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**Authentication
successful**

You may now close this window and return to
your VPN program

How to save the password / change password

The default configuration requires the password to be entered every time. It is possible to save the password in the profile so that the connection happens automatically.

However, keep in mind that, according to policy, the password must be changed every 3 months.

You must therefore update the password every time it is changed.

The procedure is as follows:

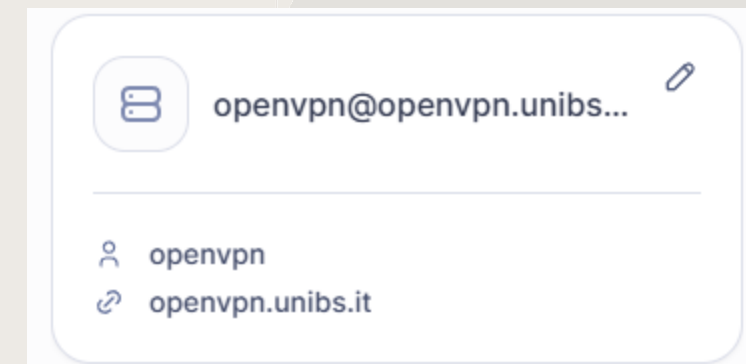
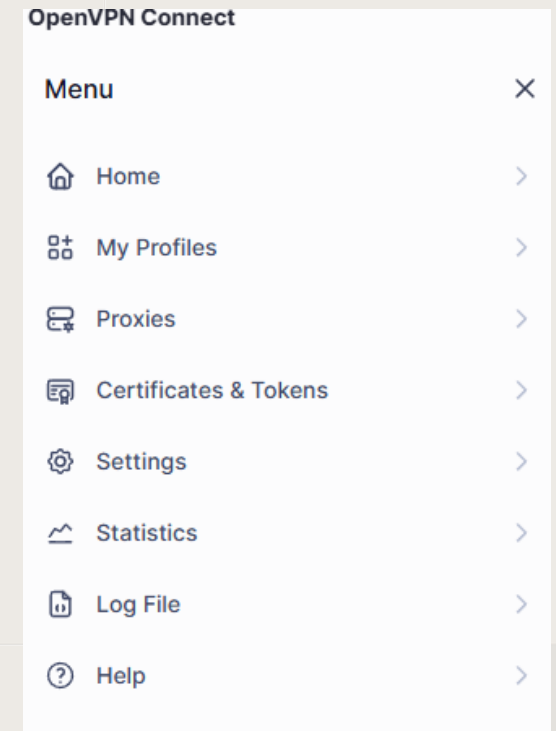
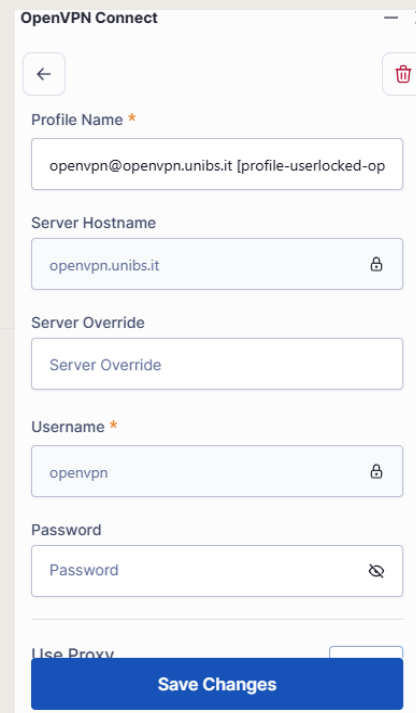
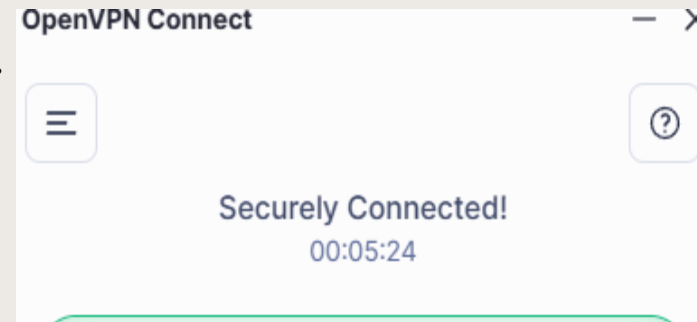
- Click the three horizontal lines (top left)
- Select My profiles
- Select your profile and click the pencil icon
- Enter the password and click "Save Changes"

This way, Connect will not ask for the password again.

WARNING: cannot save password with IDP



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Checking that the connection was successful



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If all steps have been completed successfully, the connection is working if a green dot appears, as shown in the image.

This means you can now use the service.

