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Guide to installing OpenVPN on Linux/Ubuntu 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.

Installing OpenVPN on Ubuntu/Linux



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This guide will explain how to connect to the VPN with Linux.

It is recommended to use the latest version of the client, version 3.

First, you need to download the connection profile from the main OpenVPN page; to do this, go to

<https://openvpn.unibs.it>

Once you have logged in, the following screen will appear (if accessing from a Linux system).

From here, click "Download connection profile": the connection profile will be downloaded.

Get connected



OpenVPN for Linux

[Read Installation Guide](#)

Already have your client installed? Get your profile below.

[Download Connection profile](#)

or

[Import via QR Code](#)

For other platforms



Installing the OpenVPN 3 client



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Information on how to install OpenVPN is available here:

<https://community.openvpn.net/Pages/OpenVPN3Linux>

We recommend reading the official website's documentation carefully, as changes may occur over time.

Also, you may need to change the distribution name (e.g. resolute) depending on the version of Ubuntu/Debian you are using: the supported distributions are listed on the site above.

The commands for Ubuntu 26.04 to run from the command line are as follows:

1. `sudo apt install apt-transport-https curl`
2. `sudo mkdir -p /etc/apt/keyrings`
3. `sudo curl -fsSL https://packages.openvpn.net/packages-repo.gpg | sudo tee /etc/apt/keyrings/openvpn.asc >/dev/null`
4. `sudo bash -c "printf 'deb [signed-by=/etc/apt/keyrings/openvpn.asc] https://packages.openvpn.net/openvpn3/debian resolute main\n' > /etc/apt/sources.list.d/openvpn3.list"`
5. `sudo apt update`
6. `sudo apt install openvpn3`

Installing the OpenVPN 3 client



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The best way to use the OpenVPN 3 client is to import the profile directly into the application, so it will be readily available.

Slide 3 explained how to download the profile.

After downloading it, run the following command to import the profile:

```
openvpn3 config-import --config profile-userlocked-nome.cognome.ovpn
```

Once imported, it will be visible in memory with the command: **openvpn3 configs-list**

Finally, to start the connection, run the following command:

```
openvpn3 session-start --config profile-userlocked-nome.cognome.ovpn
```

You will be asked to enter your username and password.

WARNING! The connection stays active until disconnected manually with the command below.

To check the connection status, run: **openvpn3 sessions-list**

To disconnect, run the following command:

```
openvpn3 session-manage --config profile-userlocked-nome.cognome.ovpn --disconnect
```

To remove the profile:

```
openvpn3 config-remove --config profile-userlocked-nome.cognome.ovpn
```