

Table Of Contents

Table Of Contents 1

Install tor and privoxy 2

 Linux tor and privoxy configuration 2

 Sample privoxy config file 2

 Configure browser for tor 3

 Firefox Torbutton plugin 3

Further readings: 3

[Home](#) > [Faq](#) > [Debian / Ubuntu](#)

Linux Install tor and privoxy To Communicate Anonymously On the Internet

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Question: How do I install **Tor (The Onion Router) software** under Debian / Ubuntu Linux? How do I communicate anonymously on the Internet? How do I **anonymously browser the Internet** so that I can avoid network surveillance that threatens **personal freedom and privacy** under Linux operating systems?



[1]

Answer: Onion routing is a system enabling its users to communicate anonymously on the Internet. You need to install following softwares:

[a] **tor** - a free software implementation of second-generation onion routing for Windows / Linux / UNIX computer systems.

[b] **privoxy** - a non-caching web proxy with advanced filtering capabilities for enhancing privacy, modifying web page data, managing HTTP cookies, controlling access, and removing ads, banners, pop-ups and other obnoxious Internet junk. Privoxy has a flexible configuration and can be customized to suit individual needs and tastes. Privoxy has application for both stand-alone systems and multi-user networks.



WARNING! These examples and faq is about anonymity and not about security. Tor can be easily used to see sensitive data by exit nodes. Do not mistake Tor's anonymity for security.

Install tor and privoxy

Type the following command as root user or use sudo command:

```
$ sudo apt-get install tor privoxy
```

Linux tor and privoxy configuration

By default tor listen on TCP port # 9050. Open /etc/privoxy/config file, enter:

```
$ sudo vi /etc/privoxy/config
```

Append / change following config directive to chain Privoxy and Tor, both running on the same system:

```
forward-socks4a  / 127.0.0.1:9050 .
```

Save and close the file. Restart privoxy:

```
$ sudo /etc/init.d/privoxy restart
```

Sample privoxy config file

See man page for detailed information (above configuration is sufficient to get started with tor)

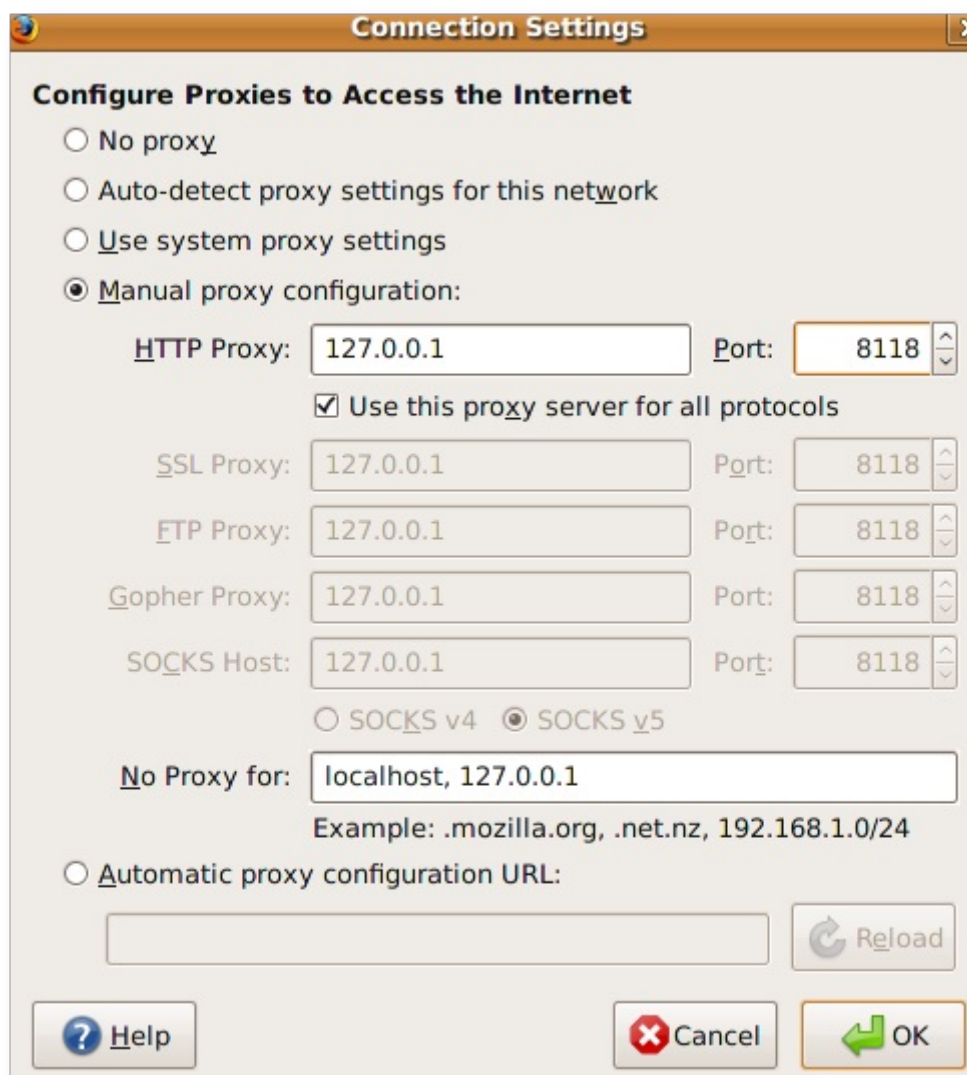
```
# Generally, this file goes in /etc/privoxy/config
forward-socks4a / 127.0.0.1:9050 .
confdir /etc/privoxy
logdir /var/log/privoxy
actionsfile standard
actionsfile default
actionsfile user
filterfile default.filter

debug 4096
```

```
debug 8192
user-manual /usr/share/doc/privoxy/user-manual
listen-address 127.0.0.1:8118
toggle 1
enable-remote-toggle 0
enable-edit-actions 0
enable-remote-http-toggle 0
buffer-limit 4096
```

Configure browser for tor

Open Firefox click on Edit > Preferences > Advance tab > Settings:



[2]

Fig.01: Tor with Firefox network settings

Set 127.0.0.1 and 8118 as privoxy server IP and port number. Now Firefox is ready to use with Tor.

Firefox Torbutton plugin

You can also install Torbutton plugin, for best safety. Simply grab and install the [Torbutton plugin](#) ^[3], restart your Firefox, and you're all set to use Tor. From the project page:

Torbutton provides a button to securely and easily enable or disable the browser's use of Tor. It is currently the only addon that will safely manage your Tor browsing to prevent IP address leakage, cookie leakage, and general privacy attacks.

Further readings:

- [Tor software](#) ^[4]
- [Privoxy software](#) ^[5]

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[1] Image: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/category/debian-ubuntu/>

[2] Image: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/wp-content/uploads/2008/11/firefox-tor-config.png>

[3] Torbutton plugin: <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/2275>

[4] Tor software: <http://www.torproject.org/>

[5] Privoxy software: <http://www.privoxy.org/>

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