

Fix Nautilus display issue





how to fix this

I see you're running **Ubuntu 22.04 LTS inside WSL (Windows Subsystem for Linux)**, and you're trying to launch **Nautilus** (a graphical file manager).

The **cannot open display** error happens because WSL by default doesn't have a built-in graphical display server.

Here's how to fix it:

Option 1 - Use WSLg (if you have Windows 11)

- On Windows 11 with WSL 2, graphical apps run out of the box.
- Check your WSL version:

```
bash
wsl --version
```

If you see something like WSLg or Windows Subsystem for Linux GUI, then Nautilus should work without extra setup. If not, update WSL:

```
powershell
wsl --update
wsl --shutdown
```

Then try:

bash

nautilus



Option 2 - Install a Windows X Server (for Windows 10 or older WSL)

- 1. **Install VcXsrv or Xming** on Windows.
 - VcXsrv download
- 2. Start VcXsrv with default settings (enable "Disable access control" for testing).
- 3. In Ubuntu (WSL), set the display:

```
bash

export DISPLAY=$(cat /etc/resolv.conf | grep nameserver | awk '{print $2}'):0
export LIBGL_ALWAYS_INDIRECT=1
```

4. Run Nautilus:

```
bash
nautilus
```

Option 3 - Use Windows File Explorer Instead

If you just want to browse Linux files graphically:

```
bash
explorer.exe .
```

This opens the current folder in Windows File Explorer, with access to your WSL files.

Since your screenshot shows **Windows 10 with Ubuntu in WSL**, Option 2 is probably what you need unless you upgrade to Windows 11 for WSLg.

I can give you a **step-by-step VcXsrv setup guide** so Nautilus will open in a window just like a normal Windows app.

Do you want me to prepare that guide?