

How to Set Up a Virtual Private Network (VPN) on Windows 10

Description

A Virtual Private Network (VPN) encrypts your internet connection, enhancing your online security and privacy.

Prerequisites

Most VPN providers offer one-click connection options for user convenience.

Prior to starting, ensure you have the following details:

- VPN server address (provided by your VPN service)
- VPN protocol (for example, PPTP, L2TP/IPsec, SSTP, or IKEv2)
- Username and password (provided by your VPN provider)
- Pre-shared key (if using L2TP/IPsec)

Instructions

VPN Configuration:

1. Press **Win + I** to open the Settings menu.
2. Click **Network & Internet**.
3. Select **VPN** from the left panel.
4. Click **Add a VPN connection**.
5. Fill in the configuration fields:
 - **VPN provider:** Windows (built-in).
 - **Connection name:** Enter a recognizable name (for example, My VPN).
 - **Server address:** Enter the VPN server address provided by your VPN service.
 - **VPN type:** Select the protocol (PPTP, L2TP/IPsec, SSTP, or IKEv2).
 - **Sign-in info:** Choose Username and password or Pre-shared key (if using L2TP/IPsec).

VPN Connection:

1. Go to **Settings > Network & Internet > VPN**.
2. Click **Connect**.
3. Enter your username and password, then click **OK**.
4. After connecting, you will see **Connected** under the VPN name.
5. Choose a VPN server location and click **Connect** again.

Troubleshooting VPN Connection Issues

- Ensure your internet connection is active.
- Double-check the server address and credentials to verify VPN server details.
- Some networks block certain protocols. Try switching to another protocol (IKEv2 or SSTP).
- Go to **Control Panel > Windows Defender Firewall > Allow an app or feature**, to allow VPN client through Firewall.
- Open Device Manager (**Win + X > Device Manager**), find **Network Adapters**, and update the drivers.