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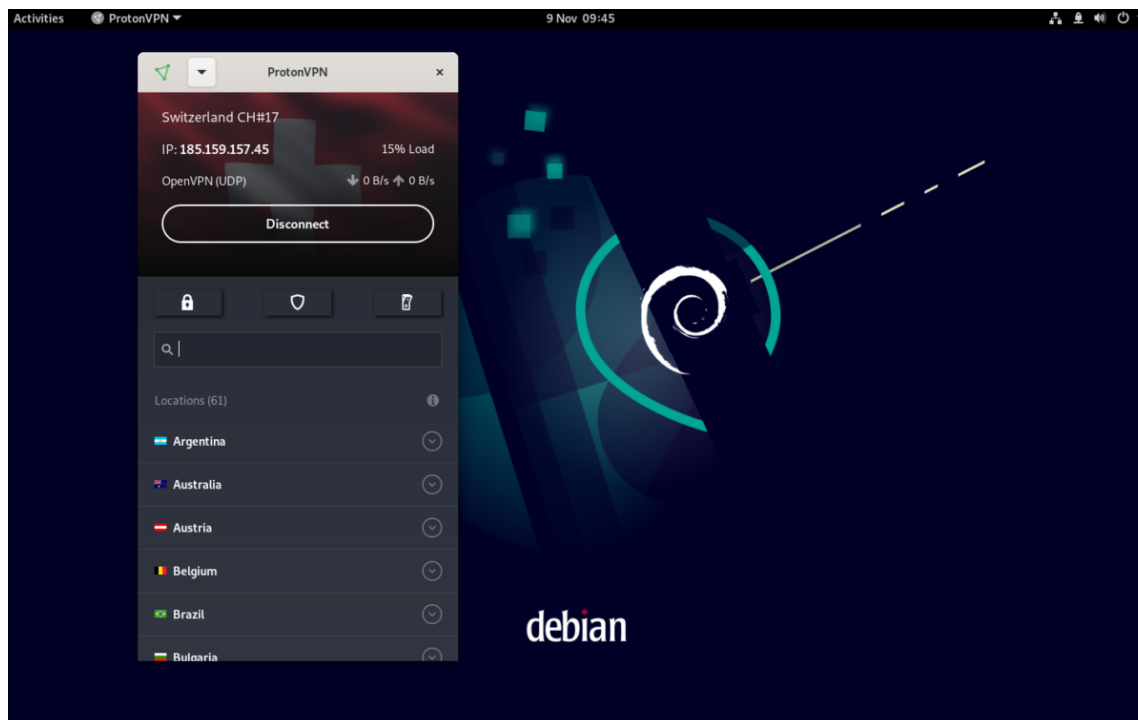- Sign in
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How to install the early access Proton VPN Linux app on Debian

Our app officially supports Linux Debian 10+. It should also work with most distros based on these Linux versions (not Ubuntu Server or Raspbian), but they are not officially supported.

These instructions explain how to download and install the **early access version of the Proton VPN Linux app**. The early access gives you access to new features before they are released publicly, but it is still in development.

By using the early access version and sharing your feedback, you are helping us find and address bugs. However, if you are new to Linux or concerned about your threat model or, we recommend you download the stable version of our Proton VPN Linux app.

How to install the stable version of the Proton VPN Linux app for Debian

Important: You cannot upgrade from the early access version of our Linux app to the stable version. You will need to uninstall the early access app and then install the official app. Similarly, if you are using the community-developed version of our Linux app or the stable version of the Proton VPN Linux app, you should uninstall it before installing the new app. See the **Notes** section at the end of this article for instructions.

1. Get the early access version of the Proton VPN repo setup DEB package

Download the early access version of the Proton VPN DEB package

2. Install the Proton VPN repository

Double-click the downloaded DEB package to install the repo using your default package manager.

3. Update the apt-get package list

Open Terminal and enter the command:

`sudo apt-get update`

4. Install the Proton VPN Linux app

Last step! Type this command:

`sudo apt-get install protonvpn`

Linux system tray icon

Our Linux app can show a system tray icon that stays active when you close the main Proton VPN window and allows you to easily Quick Connect or Disconnect.

To install the system tray icon, open Terminal and enter:

`sudo apt install gnome-shell-extension-appindicator gir1.2-appindicator3-0.1`

You might be asked to select your default displays manager. If you are unsure which it is, enter the following command into a new terminal window to find out:

`grep '/usr/s\?bin' /etc/systemd/system/display-manager.service`

Restart your system.

Note: The system tray icon may not work on Debian 11 because it requires dependencies that have been deprecated.

You are now ready to protect your online activity and access blocked content with Proton VPN.

Learn how to use the Proton VPN Linux app

Your feedback helps us develop apps that meet your needs.

Let us know what you think of our early access Linux app

Notes

1. Uninstall the official app

To uninstall the official app:

`sudo apt-get autoremove protonvpn`

Remove the stable repo and keys with:

`sudo apt purge protonvpn-stable-release`

Remove any leftover files:

`rm -rf ~/.cache/protonvpn`

And

`rm -rf ~/.config/protonvpn`

2. Uninstall the early access app

The instructions to uninstall the early access app are identical to the instructions for uninstalling the official app (see above), except that to remove the early access repo and keys, use the following command instead:

`sudo apt purge protonvpn-beta-release`

3. Uninstall the older community Proton VPN app

To uninstall the older community Proton VPN app, run:

`protonvpn configure`

Select option 7) Purge Configuration. Then uninstall through the package manager you used for installation. If the package is installed system-wide, use the command:

`sudo pip3 uninstall protonvpn-cli`

If not, then use:

```
pip3 uninstall protonvpn-cli
```

4. Disable kill switch if you have uninstalled the official app

The kill switch can be easily disabled from within the official Linux app, but this will not be possible if you uninstalled the app first without disabling the kill switch. This may result in your system being unable to access the internet. To remove the kill switch after the app has been uninstalled:

a) Identify Proton VPN connection names by running the command:

```
nmcli connection show --active
```

This will display a list of all your system's active connections.

b) Look for any connections with the pvpn- This usually includes pvpn-killswitch and pvpn-ipv6leak-protection, and may include pvpn-routed-killswitch. Delete all these connections using the following command:

```
nmcli connection delete [connection name]
```

For example:

```
nmcli connection delete pvpn-killswitch
```

c) Re-run the following command to verify that Proton VPN connections have been deleted:

```
nmcli connection show --active
```

If any Proton VPN connections remain, delete them as described above.

5. Required dependencies

Our Linux app needs *one* of the following dependencies installed in order to work. Installing both of these dependencies is not recommended as it may cause problems:

- KWallet *or*
- Gnome-keyring

Note that most distros come pre-installed with one of these dependencies, so usually no additional configuration is required. Also required is:

- systemd

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For customer support inquiries, please submit the following form for the fastest response:
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For all other inquiries:
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```
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Comment: https://openpgpjs.org

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-----END PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----

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