

Internal and external storage

There are three main types of storage in Termux:

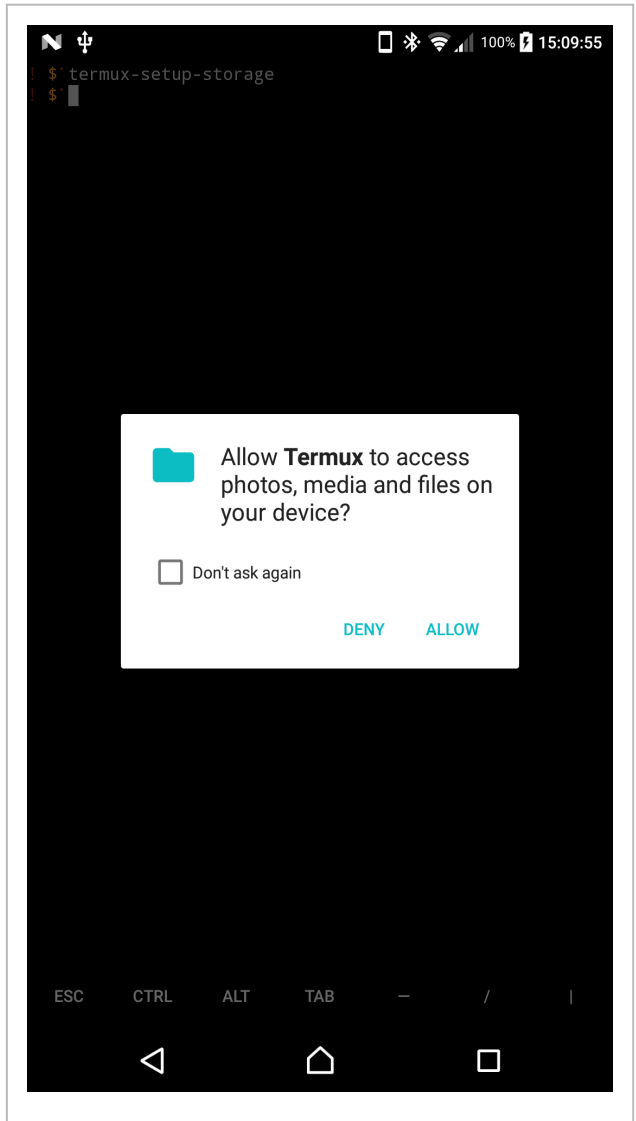
1. App-private storage: Files put in \$HOME, available from inside Termux (or when explicitly picked, when e.g. attaching a file to a mail).
2. Shared internal storage: Storage in the device available to all apps. On Android 6.0 this requires the user to explicitly grant access to for Termux to access it.
3. External storage: Storage on external SD cards. Each app has a private folder on the external SD card, and interchange between them needs to use a special API not yet available in Termux. SAF-based access is not possible as shell is executed outside of Android framework.

Access shared and external storage

To access shared and external storage you need to run `termux-setup-storage`. You will then be prompted to "Allow Termux access photos, media and files on your device", which you should allow.

Executing `termux-setup-storage` ensures:

1. That permission to shared storage is granted to Termux when running on Android 6.0 or later.
2. That an app-private folder on external storage is created (if external storage exists).
3. That a folder \$HOME/storage is created.



~/storage

The contents of the created \$HOME/storage folder are symlinks to different storage folders:

- The root of the shared storage between all apps.

```
~/storage/shared
```

- The standard directory for downloads from e.g. the system browser.

```
~/storage/downloads
```

- The traditional location for pictures and videos when mounting the device as a camera.

```
~/storage/dcim
```

- Standard directory in which to place pictures that are available to the user.

```
~/storage/pictures
```

- Standard directory in which to place any audio files that should be in the regular list of music for the user.

```
~/storage/music
```

- Standard directory in which to place movies that are available to the user.

```
~/storage/movies
```

- Symlink to a Termux-private folder on external storage (only if external storage is available).

```
~/storage/external-1
```

Important: do not clear Termux application data through Android OS Settings if you have any files placed to `~/storage/external-1`. If you do so, all data will be lost as Android will wipe all directories associated with Termux.

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