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How to install FTP client for Ubuntu 18.04 Bionic Beaver Linux

👤 Lubos Rendek 📁 Ubuntu 18.04 ⌚ 16 July 2018

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Objective

The following article will provide a list of FTP clients for Ubuntu 18.04 Bionic Beaver Linux as well as installation and basic usage instructions.

Operating System and Software Versions

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Privileged access to your Ubuntu System as root or via `sudo` command is required.

Difficulty

EASY

Conventions

- **#** - requires given [linux commands \(/linux-commands\)](#) to be executed with root privileges either directly as a root user or by use of `sudo` command
- **\$** - requires given [linux commands \(/linux-commands\)](#) to be executed as a regular non-privileged user

Introduction

Use the FTP client for transferring local files to the remote server using various protocols. Some FTP clients for Ubuntu operating system have a basic functionality hence supporting only the FTP protocol whereas many other FTP clients support multiple protocols such as SFTP, SMB, AFP, DAV, SSH, FTPS, NFS and more.

The choice of selecting the best FTP client for Ubuntu 18.04 depends on many factors. This guide will list FTP clients with a substantial amount of features as well as it will also provide information about small but powerful command line FTP clients.

Nautilus

The first FTP client for Ubuntu we are going to introduce is Nautilus. If you are using a default Ubuntu 18.04 Bionic Beaver GNOME desktop, you do not need to look further than that as Nautilus is already installed on your Ubuntu

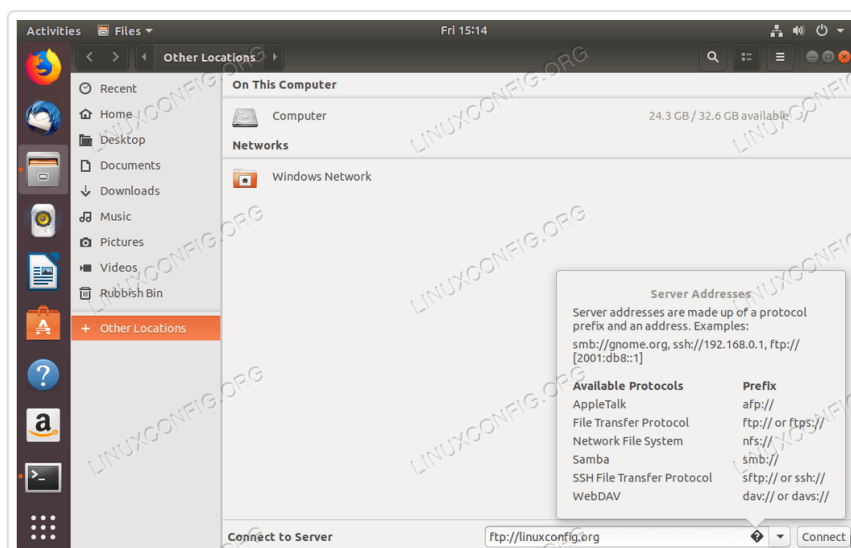
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 Nautilus is a file manager. However, one can use it as an FTP client that supports multiple network protocols. It

To install Nautilus execute:

```
$ sudo apt install nautilus
```

To start Nautilus hit the **Files** icon on your desktop or run the command:

```
$ nautilus
```



(//images/01-ftp-client-ubuntu-18.04-install.png)

To initiate a new FTP connection click on **Other Locations** and fill in **Connect to Server** box. Depending on what protocol you wish to use enter either **ftp://**, **sftp** etc.

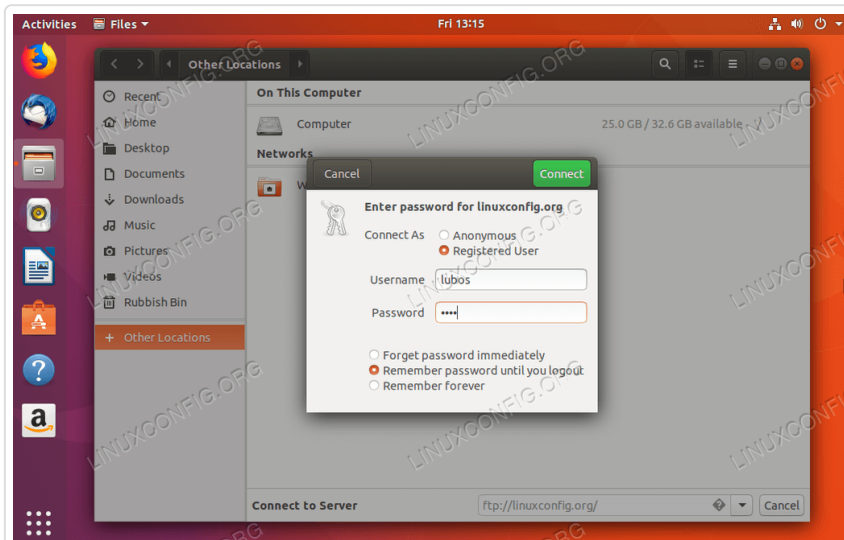


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(/images/02-ftp-client-ubuntu-18.04-install.png)

Once you hit **Connect** you will be asked for FTP user credentials. Once ready hit **Connect** to initiate new FTP connection.

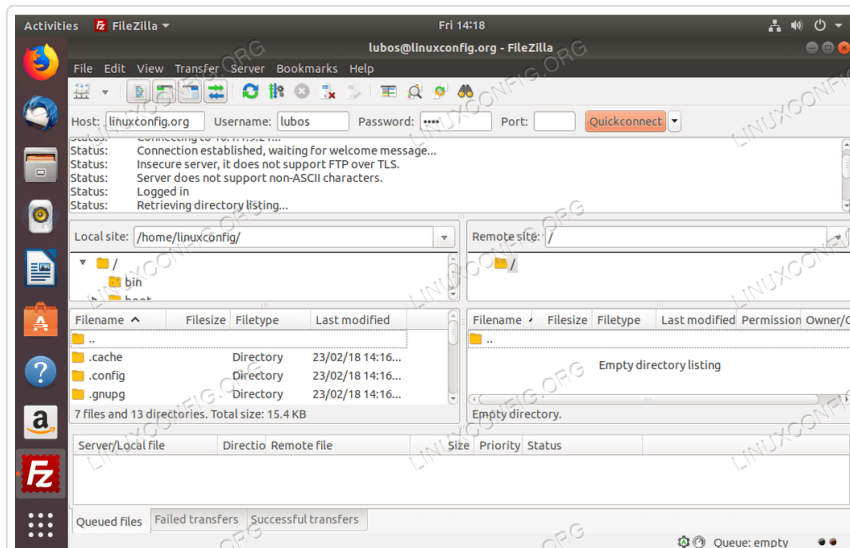
FileZilla

FileZilla is probably the most famous and by many regarded as one of the best FTP clients out there. This is mostly because it is rich in features and can be used not only as an FTP client but also as a general file manager.

To install FileZilla execute:

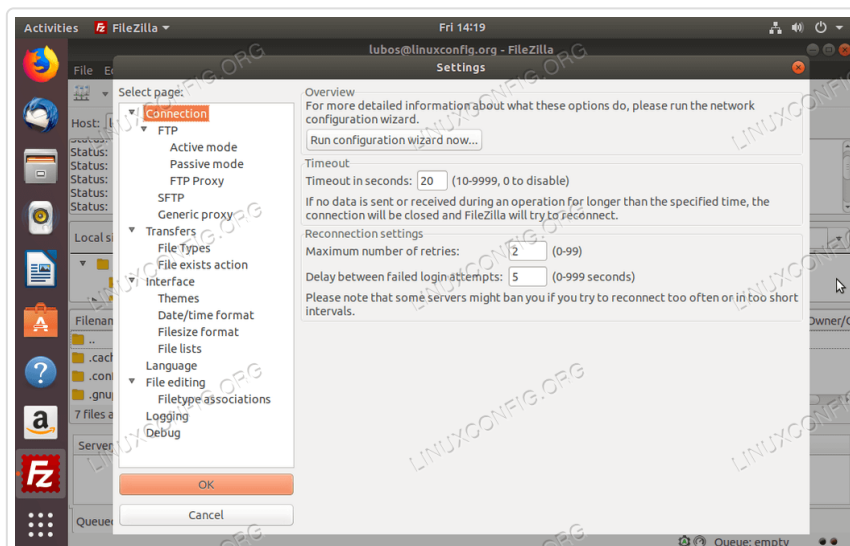
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```
$ filezilla
```



(/images/03-ftp-client-ubuntu-18.04-install.png)

The interface is rather intuitive. To create an FTP connection to your server enter your FTP server's hostname or IP address, your credentials and optionally network port you wish to connect to.



(/images/04-ftp-client-ubuntu-18.04-install.png)

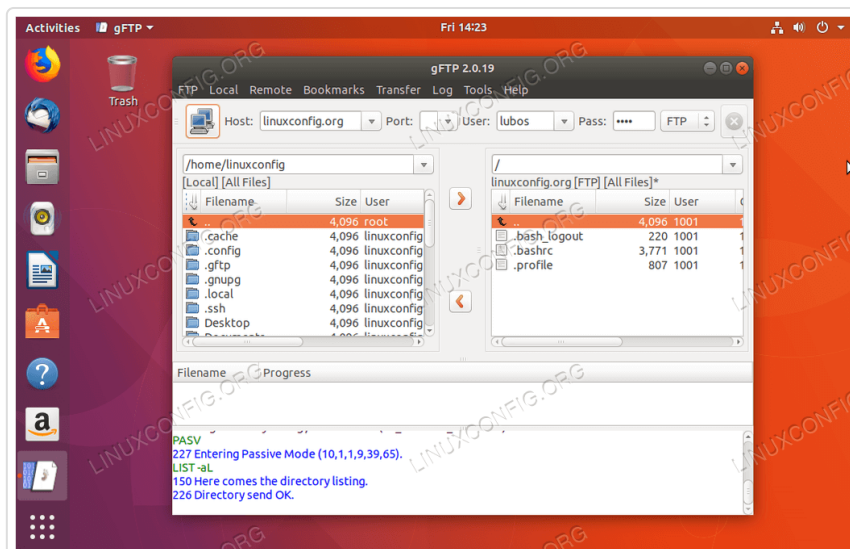
FileZilla is rich in features.

gFTP

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Use the Start menu to search for the gFTP icon in order to launch it or execute the following linux command (/linux-commands):

```
$ gftp
```



(/images/05-ftp-client-ubuntu-18.04-install.png)

gFTP client is simple to use. Fill in your FTP credentials and FTP server details and hit the connect button on the left

(/images/06-ftp-client-ubuntu-18.04-install.png)

Despite of gFTP simplicity, this FTP client offers multiple features and supports number of network protocols.



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Krusader

The Krusader is my personal favorite. It is a Swiss knife for managing files. Krusader is a tool for every occasion, by default it supports only the FTP protocol. For SFTP and other network protocols support install the `kio-extras` package.

If you are not running the KDE desktop the installation of Krusader can be little massive as it relies on services provided by the KDE Frameworks base libraries which are not installed by default on the GNOME desktop. To install Krusader with and extra support for the additional network protocols execute:

```
$ sudo apt install krusader kio-extras
```

[./images/08-ftp-client-ubuntu-18.04-install.png](#)

To create a new FTP connection on Krusader navigate to `Tools->New Net Connection...` or simply press `CTRL+N`. Select protocol, insert your FTP credentials and FTP server details.

from the olds days, you should feel almost at home here.

Konqueror

Konqueror is a default file manager for the KDE plasma desktop, however, it works also great as an FTP client. To install Konqueror enter:

```
$ sudo apt install konqueror
```

Start Konqueror from your start menu or by executing:

```
$ konqueror
```

[\(/images/10-ftp-client-ubuntu-18.04-install.png\)](#)

The correct syntax for using Konqueror as an FTP client enter the URL using the following format:

```
ftp://username:password@FTP-SERVER-HOST-OR-IP
```

[\(/images/11-ftp-client-ubuntu-18.04-install.png\)](#)

Creating FTP connection with Konqueror as an FTP client could not be easier.

ftp

Let's get back to basics. In case you are not using any GUI and rely solely on the command line only, which is the scenario for most Ubuntu servers, you might be interested in a command line FTP client. The one which is most likely already installed on your Ubuntu system is `ftp`. The advantage of the command line FTP client is that it can be easily scripted to automate your file management tasks. In case you need to install it, enter:

```
$ sudo apt install ftp
```

[./images/13-ftp-client-ubuntu-18.04-install.png](#)

To create an FTP connection from the command line using the `ftp` command simply enter:

`ftp FTP-SERVER-HOST-OR-IP`. Once prompted, enter your user name and password.

For more `ftp` command usage information enter:

```
$ man ftp
```

amount of features and is also easy to use. To install NcFTP run:

```
$ sudo apt install ncftp
```

[\(/images/12-ftp-client-ubuntu-18.04-install.png\)](#)

To create a new FTP connection with NcFTP enter:

```
ncftp -u USERNAME FTP-SERVER-HOST-OR-IP .
```

For a complete list of functions and usage syntax enter:

```
$ man ncftp
```

lftp

The last FTP client we are going to look into is `lftp`.

`lftp` has enrmous amount of features. If the feature you are looking for is not listed by:

```
$ man lftp
```

then you are most likely looking for a wrong solution to your problem as `man lftp` contains more than 1660 lines. To install `lftp` enter:

```
$ sudo apt install lftp
```

[\(/images/07-ftp-client-ubuntu-18.04-install.png\)](#)

Going through all `lftp`'s features is a tale for another article. The basics for creating the FTP connection are:

```
lft USERNAME@FTP-SERVER-HOST-OR-IP
```

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