Shared Folder between Host OS and Huest OS in VirtualBox

After installing **Oracle VirtualBox** and **Ubuntu** on your machine, you need to create a folder accessible from both Operating Systems. Indispensable! That's how you can pass files between the **host OS (Win/Mac)** and the **guest OS (Linux)**.

1. First, you should install **the VirtualBox Guest Additions**. To install the tool, **turn on the Ubuntu virtual machine**, and do the following steps.

   - Once booted, select the **Devices** and click **Insert Guest Additions CD image**. (This should mount a virtual CD/DVD drive on the Ubuntu guest machine and prompt you to run the installation.)
   - When prompted, click **Run** to begin the installation.
   - Type your user **password** and click **Authenticate**.   (allow installation to complete)
   - When prompted, hit the **Enter** key on your keyboard.
   - After installing the tool, open a **terminal** and run the commands below to add your account to VirtualBox file sharing group:
     `$ sudo usermod -aG vboxsf username`   (type `whoami` to check your username)

2. After that, **shutdown the Ubuntu virtual machine** and continue the instructions below to **add the shared folder**.

   - Choose a folder (e.g., `VM_SHARED`) on **host OS** (Win/Mac) to be shared with the **guest OS**. Copy some files into it. Eventually you will be able to access them from the Linux also. That's the point.
   - Open the **Oracle VirtualBox** on your host machine, select **the target guest OS (Ubuntu)**, and click **Settings**. Note that your guest machine does not need to be powered off.
   - Select **Shared Folders**, and click the **plus button** to add a shared folder (e.g., `VM_SHARED`). Note that you can have more than one shared folder.
   - Click **the down arrow** next to the Folder Path parameter, select **Other**, and navigate to the target shared folder `VM_SHARED`.
   - Check **Auto-mount** and **Make Permanent**, then click **OK**.
   - On the Linux side, the corresponding folder name defaults to `/media/sf_VM_SHARED`.
   - Now start up your **Ubuntu virtual machine** and open a **terminal** and link it to a convenient name (e.g., `common`) in your home directory:
     `$ ln -s /media/sf_VM_SHARED ~/common`
   - Go to your linked folder to see if your shared folder is there:
     `$ cd common`
     `$ ls`