



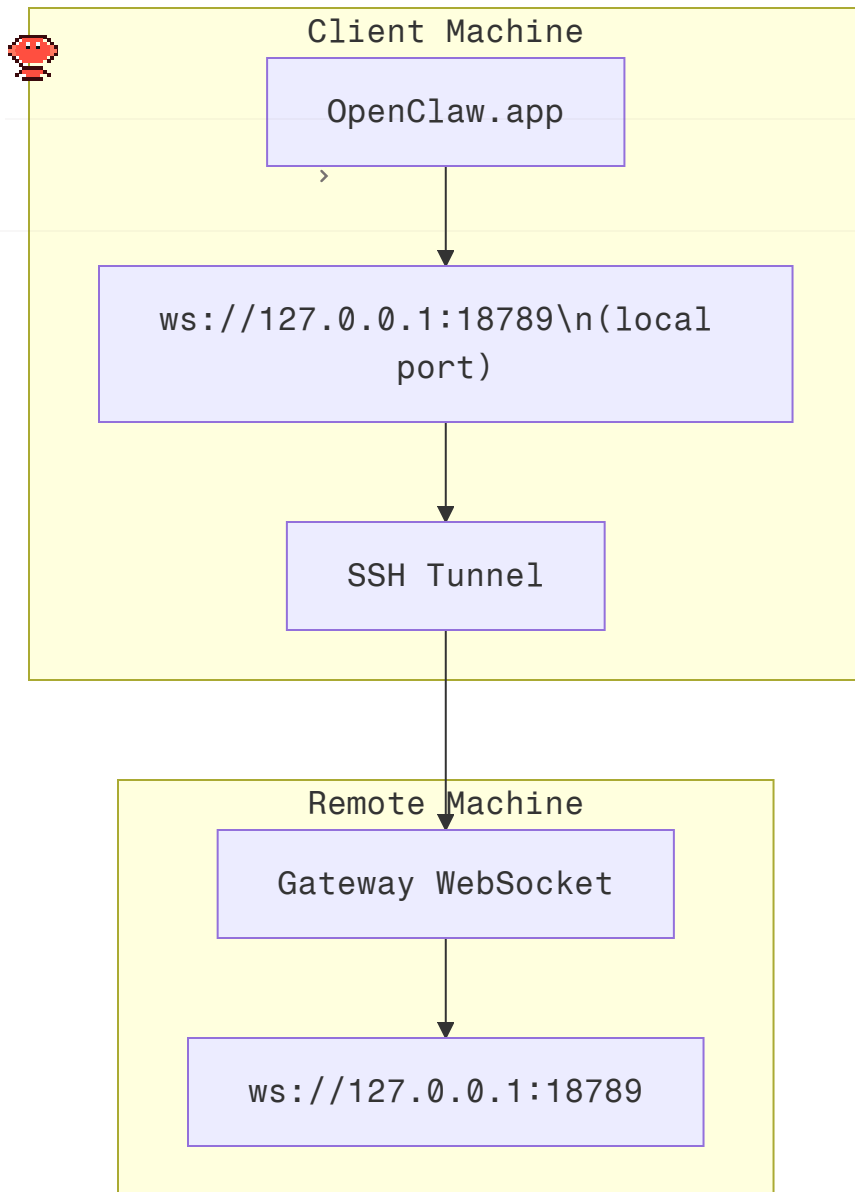
☰ Remote access > Remote Gateway Setup

Remote access

Remote Gateway Setup

OpenClaw.app uses SSH tunneling to connect to a remote gateway. This guide shows you how to set it up.

Overview



Quick Setup

Step 1: Add SSH Config

Edit `~/.ssh/config` and add:

```
Host remote-gateway
  HostName <REMOTE_IP>          # e.g., 172.27.187.184
  User <REMOTE_USER>            # e.g., jefferson
  LocalForward 18789 127.0.0.1:18789
  IdentityFile ~/.ssh/id_rsa
```

Replace `<REMOTE_IP>` and `<REMOTE_USER>` with your values.



Step 2: Copy SSH Key

Copy your public key to the remote machine (enter password once):

```
ssh-copy-id -i ~/.ssh/id_rsa <REMOTE_USER>@<REMOTE_IP>
```

Step 3: Set Gateway Token

```
launchctl setenv OPENCLAW_GATEWAY_TOKEN "<your-token>"
```

Step 4: Start SSH Tunnel

```
ssh -N remote-gateway &
```

Step 5: Restart OpenClaw.app

```
# Quit OpenClaw.app (⌘Q), then reopen:  
open /path/to/OpenClaw.app
```

The app will now connect to the remote gateway through the SSH tunnel.

Auto-Start Tunnel on Login

To have the SSH tunnel start automatically when you log in, create a Launch Agent.

Create the PLIST file



Save this as `~/Library/LaunchAgents/bot.molt.ssh-tunnel.plist` :

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE plist PUBLIC "-//Apple//DTD PLIST 1.0//EN" "http://www.apple.com/DTDs/PropertyList-1.0.dtd">
<plist version="1.0">
<dict>
  <key>Label</key>
  <string>bot.molt.ssh-tunnel</string>
  <key>ProgramArguments</key>
  <array>
    <string>/usr/bin/ssh</string>
    <string>-N</string>
    <string>remote-gateway</string>
  </array>
  <key>KeepAlive</key>
  <true/>
  <key>RunAtLoad</key>
  <true/>
</dict>
</plist>
```

Load the Launch Agent

```
launchctl bootstrap gui/$UID ~/Library/LaunchAgents/bot.molt.ssh-tunnel.plist
```

The tunnel will now:

- Start automatically when you log in

- Restart if it crashes

- Keep running in the background

Legacy note: remove any leftover `com.openclaw.ssh-tunnel` LaunchAgent if present.



Troubleshooting

>
Check if tunnel is running:

```
ps aux | grep "ssh -N remote-gateway" | grep -v grep  
lsof -i :18789
```

Restart the tunnel:

```
launchctl kickstart -k gui/$UID/bot.molt.ssh-tunnel
```

Stop the tunnel:

```
launchctl bootout gui/$UID/bot.molt.ssh-tunnel
```

How It Works

Component	What It Does
LocalForward 18789 127.0.0.1:18789	Forwards local port 18789 to remote port 18789
ssh -N	SSH without executing remote commands (just port forwarding)
KeepAlive	Automatically restarts tunnel if it crashes
RunAtLoad	Starts tunnel when the agent loads

OpenClaw.app connects to `ws://127.0.0.1:18789` on your client machine. The SSH tunnel forwards that connection to port 18789 on the remote

machine where the Gateway is running.



< Remote Access >

Tailscale >

Powered by [mintlify](#)