# en.docs

2025-05-31

# **Contents**

# Downloads & Updates

## Downloads

### GitHub

All download files, including backups and beta releases, are available at: https://github.com/getlantern

### Website

Download our latest stable version from: https://lantern.io/download

### Email

Email provides a reliable and block resistant channel for distributing application downloads.

Send an email to any of the following email addresses to receive links to our newest stable release for every platform.

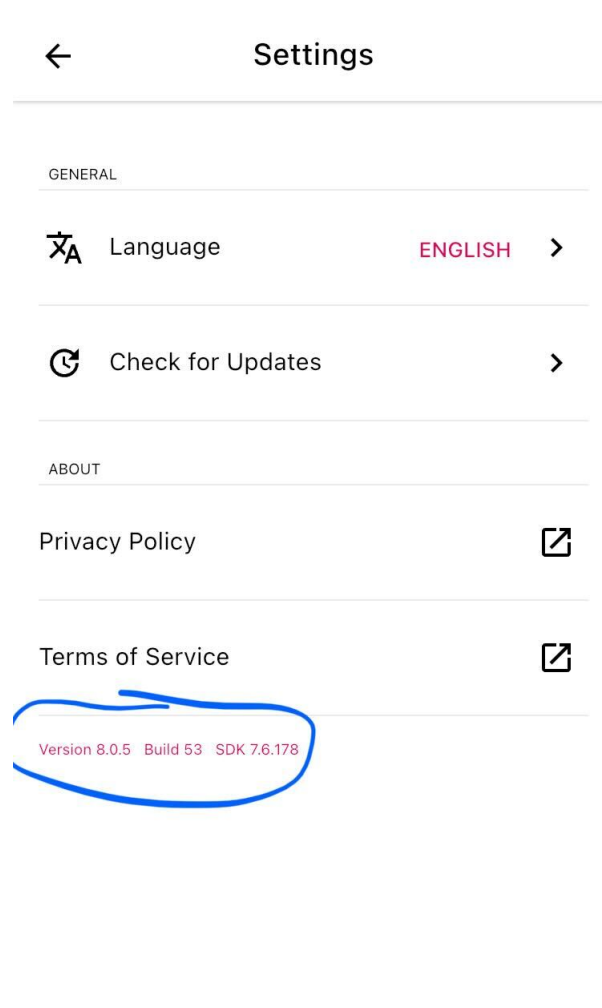| use | addresses |
| --- | --- |
| generic | downloads@getlantern.org, download@getlantern.org |
| China | chinadownloads@getlantern.org, chinadownload@getlantern.org |
| Russia | russiadownloads@getlantern.org, russiadownload@getlantern.org |
| Iran | irandownloads@getlantern.org, irandownload@getlantern.org |

## Updating

1. open Lantern

2. navigate to `Account`
3. select `Settings`
4. choose `Check for Updates`

If an update cannot be completed in the application, follow the Downloads instructions to update.

**Check Version**

1. open Lantern
2. navigate to `Account`
3. select `Settings`
4. version number is listed on bottom of the screen

← **Settings**

GENERAL

🗛 Language      ENGLISH ❯

↻ Check for Updates      ❯

ABOUT

Privacy Policy      ↗

Terms of Service      ↗

Version 8.0.5   Build 53   SDK 7.6.178

Check our release notes to see which version is newest, and always

ensure you're updated to the latest version to access the latest protocols and most effective proxies.

# Installation

## Desktop

Download Lantern for Windows, MacOS, or Linux directly from GitHub.

Beta testers and early adopters of new releases may see a precautionary malware warning when installing. This message can be safely ignored.

## iOS

Downloading Lantern for iOS requires an AppleID based in an unrestricted country or region. If you currently have a valid payment method with a billing address in an unrestricted location, you may simply follow Apple instructions for updating your AppleID location to that country or region. Otherwise, it will be necessary to create an alternate AppleID:

1. Setup New AppleID in Unrestricted Country or Region
2. Sign out of iCloud (Data and funds may not transfer to the new account.)
3. Create a new account
4. Verify with unlinked email
5. Choose an unrestricted country

For more details, see this article from CNET.

> [!NOTE] An address is required for "billing details," but you may choose any public address (such as a library) in your new Country or Region to proceed. Payment method is not required.

## Android

### Google Play Store

Download Lantern from the Google Play Store for easiest installation.

### Sideloading

Users who cannot access Lantern from an app store may manually install a Lantern APK.

On Android 14: 1. Open `Settings` from the app launcher 1. Select `Apps` 1. Select `Special app access` 1. Select `Install unknown apps`, and select which apps (file manager or browser) you would like to allow to install APK files to your device by toggling the `Allow from this source` option. 1. Download the Lantern for Android APK from GitHub 1. Once downloaded, open the APK file from the downloads folder in your web browser, or from the File Manager, and select `Install` 1. If successful, you will be prompted with a confirmation message when the app has finished installing

> [!NOTE] If using a web browser or Chrome to install Lantern, you will be prompted with a message saying that the file you are about to download might be harmful. This warning is always shown when downloading an APK file and can be safely ignored.

# Security

## Recommended Resources

Your security needs may be different than others, depending on your location, your needs, and your particular threat model. Lantern recommends the following sources for understanding and identifying your particular security needs.

- Consumer Reports | Security Planner (https://securityplanner.consumerreports.org/)

## Verify a File Download

How to validate that a client application file is authentic, even if downloaded through an untrusted network.

Hash functions can be used to create a unique digital signature – a *hash* – for any file. Lantern captures this *hash* when our application is compiled and publishes them on GitHub: `lantern-binaries`. Users can run the same hash function (`SHA256`) on downloaded copies to assure they are an exact match, proving the file to be an authentic and unaltered copy of the original.

Most operating systems have built-in hash functions. Follow the steps below for your operating system to generate the hash for a file.

> [!IMPORTANT] Make sure to replace `C:\file\path\my_file.exe` or `/path/to/my_file` with the actual path to the file.

### MacOS or Linux

From your preferred terminal application, run the following command:

```
openssl dgst -sha256 /path/to/my_file
```

### Windows

### Command Prompt

1. Press `Windows+R` to open the Run box
2. Type `cmd` and click OK.
3. The Command Prompt window will open.
4. Run the following command: `console certutil -hashfile C:\file\path\my_file.exe SHA256` **####** Power Shell 1. Press `Windows+R` to open the Run box 2. Type `powershell` and click OK. 3. The Windows PowerShell window will open. 4. Run the following command: `console Get-FileHash C:\file\path\my_file.exe -Algorithm SHA256`

# Troubleshooting

Submit an issue report for bugs, feature requests, or connectivity problems.

## Application Issue Report

Submit an issue report from the app for best diagnostics: https://lantern.io/report-issue

If the link above does not work, follow the steps below to navigate to the issue submission page:

### Desktop

1. go to Support
2. select Report an Issue
3. choose issue type
4. include additional details
5. send report

### Android

1. go to Account
2. select Support

3. select Report Issue
4. choose issue type
5. include additional details
6. hit Send Report

## Other Issue Report Methods

### Portal

If an application issue report cannot be submitted, our portal may be used: https://support.lantern.io

### Email

If other methods are not possible, email is a reliable fallback. Any message to support@lantern.io will automatically be converted into a helpdesk ticket.

## Log Retrieval

Because logs are an invaluable debugging resource, the following provides a backup process for obtaining application logs when Lantern is completely blocked, and in-app issue submission is not possible. These logs can be attached to Portal or Email issue reports.

### macOS

1. Open `Terminal`
2. Type `open Library/Logs/Lantern` and press `return`
3. Select the newest `lantern.log` file and send in an email to support@lantern.io

### Linux (Ubuntu)

1. Open `Terminal`
2. Type `open $HOME/.lantern/logs`
3. Select the newest `lantern.log` file

### Windows

1. Open File Explorer and navigate to `Windows(C:)` drive
2. Select the `Users` folder
3. Select the user account that installed Lantern
4. Select `View` button from the ribbon menu, hover over `Show`, select `Hidden items`

5. Navigate to the logs
    (a) `AppData`
    (b) `Roaming`
    (c) `Lantern`
    (d) `Logs`
6. Share this file in an email to support@lantern.io

### iOS

iOS security settings do not permit user access to app data.

### Android

Android security settings do not permit user access to app data.

## Advanced Diagnostics

Problems which are difficult to diagnose with logs may require more advanced tools like packet capture.

https://www.wireshark.org/download.html

> [!WARNING] Packet capture will expose raw data for *all* traffic during the period of recording. We recommend this method only for advanced users who are able to ensure that no personal data is included in the packet capture.

> While Lantern ensures that all data submitted to our portal is kept secure and fully deleted shortly after it is closed, it's always advisable to limit the recording and transmission of personally identifying information.

## Reset Proxy Configuration

### Windows

Some Windows applications (like WhatsApp) may have custom proxy rules that do not route through Lantern proxies. This can be solved most easily by using the web version of the application, because Lantern proxies browser traffic by default. Another option is to reset any app-specific proxy rules: 1. Open Command Prompt or PowerShell (right click to "Run as administrator") 2. Run the command `netsh winhttp reset proxy` 3. Restart your computer 4. Open Lantern and connect

## Install Websites as Apps (desktop)

### Firefox

1. Install the Progressive Web Apps for Firefox extension
2. Navigate to the desired site and click the `Install This Web App` button found in the URL bar after extension is installed
3. Follow installation Prompts Official documentation can be found here

### Chrome

4. Navigate to the desired site, and click the `More` menu on the top right of the browser
5. Select `Cast, save, and share,` then `Install page as app`
6. Follow the installation prompts Official documentation can be found here

### Microsoft Edge

7. If Microsoft Edge detects that the site is eligible to be installed as an app, there will be an `App Available` icon displayed on the right side of the URL bar.
8. Click the icon, and select `Install`
9. Follow installation prompts Official documentation can be found here

### Safari (macOS Sonoma 14 or later)

10. Navigate to the desired site
11. Click the `Share` button on the Safari Toolbar, and select `Add to Dock`
12. Follow installer prompts Official documentation can be found here

# Using Lantern

## Features

### Split Tunneling

Split tunneling is a networking concept that lets users specify which apps and/or websites utilize proxies or different network routes. Since using a VPN or a proxy connection can lead to increased latency and lower overall speeds that could be obtained through normal local networks, some users prefer to only utilize these tools where they are specifically required. This enables access to content that might be otherwise blocked or restricted, while allowing the bulk of the remaining traffic to move unaffected.

Try enabling split tunneling if you are noticing slower than ideal overall network speeds, and experiment with which apps or sites benefit the most!