

ADVERTISEMENT

Install Samba on Linux Mint to share files with Windows

Last Updated on: December 19, 2021 by Heyan Maurya

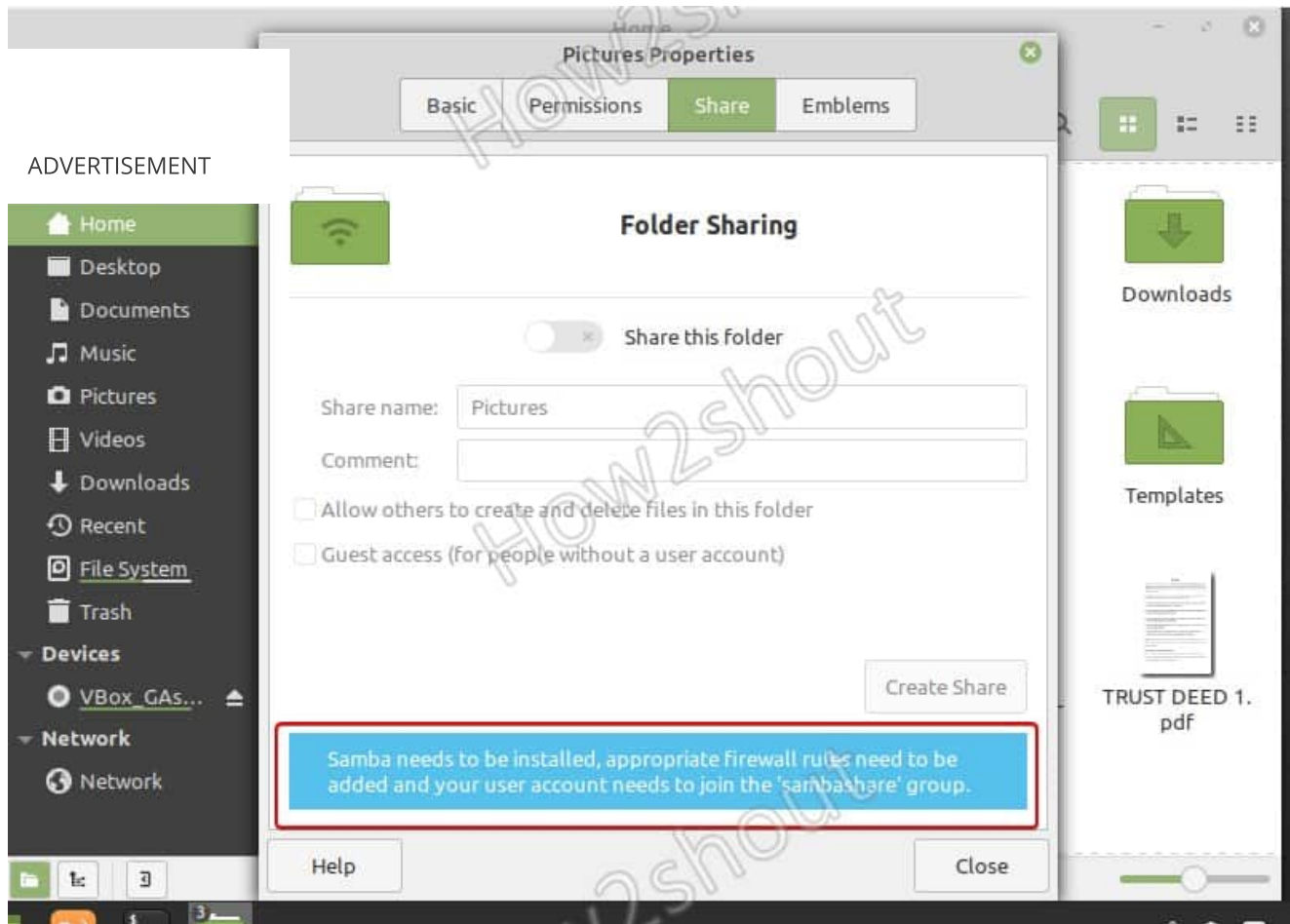
Let's learn commands and steps – how to share files and folders using Samba by installing it on Linux Mint which is not there by default.

What is a Samba server?

Samba is a popular, open-source networking software that computers with a Unix or Linux – operating system allow the sharing of network resources from Windows -networks, such as files and printers. However, it is not limited to Windows only, we can install and use on Unix / Linux- based servers pr Desktop to share resources over the network. The common protocols Server Message Block (SMB) and Common Internet File System (CIFS, an open version of SMB) are the basis on which Samba is based. The name " Samba " is just a name given to represent "SMB".

If you are using Linux Mint and want to share some folder, then right-click on it and select **properties**. And then the **Share** Tab. However, you will not able to enable this option because samba is not there yet. To confirm, you can see a message given at the bottom *"Samba needs to be installed, appropriate firewall rules need to be added and your user account needs to join the 'samba share group"*.

To solve this let's follow the given steps in this article...



Contents [hide]

Install and Configure Samba Server on Linux Mint 20

1. Run system update
 2. Install Samba on Linux Mint
 3. Allow samba in Linux Mint Firewall
 4. Add your user to the Samba group
 5. Share some Linux Mint folder
 6. Access the shared folder on Windows or Linux
- Extra tip- Linux Mint SambaShare User

Install and Configure Samba Server on Linux Mint 20

1. Run system update

Well, it is not a necessary step, however, run the system update command to rebuild the repo cache and make sure all the system installed packages are to date.

```
sudo apt update
```

ADVERTISEMENT

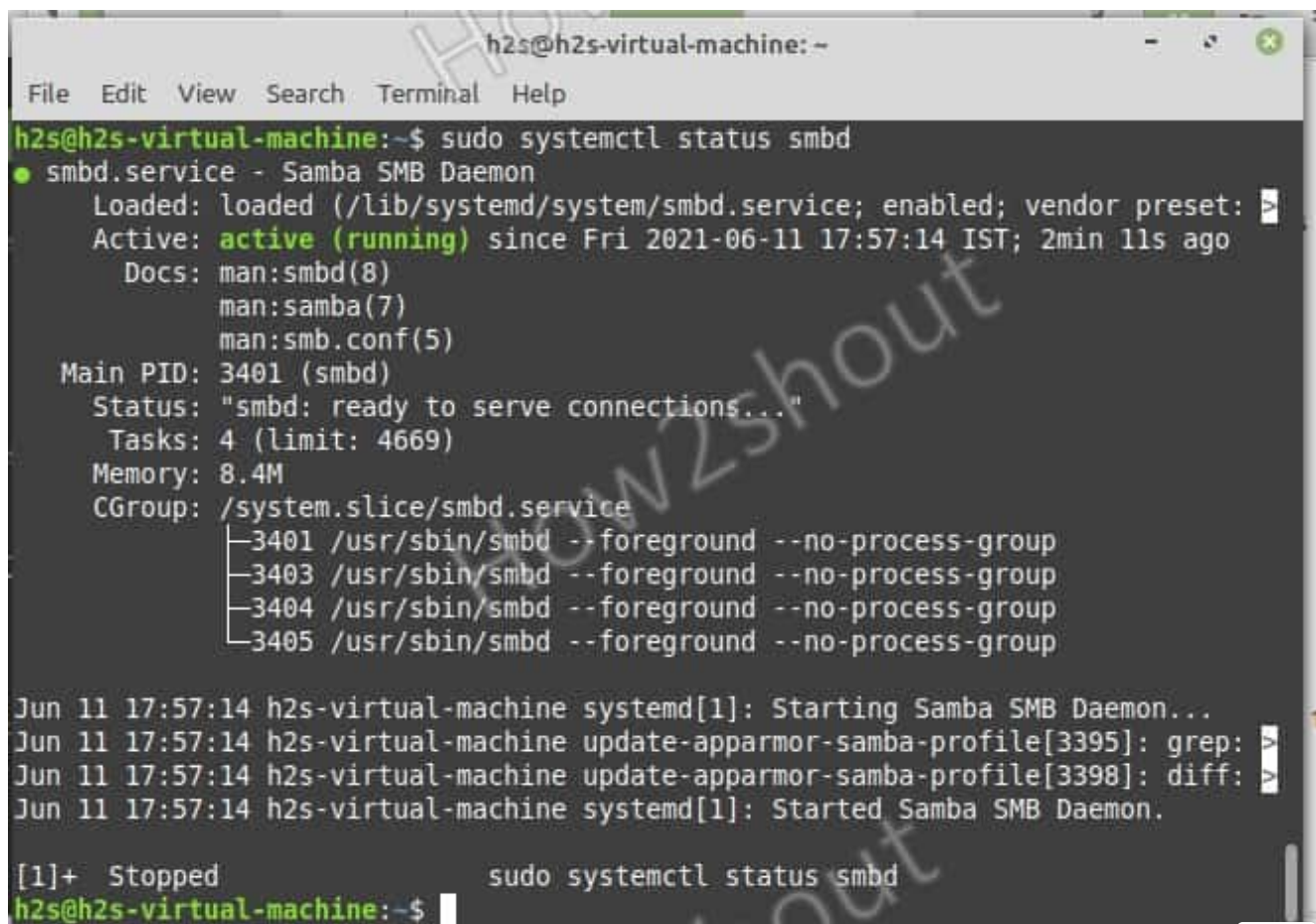
2. Install Samba on Linux Mint

Next, in your command terminal use the APT package manager to install Samba on your Linux Mint. The packages to set it up are already there in the system repository, thus we don't need to add anything extra.

```
sudo apt install samba
```

Check its service is active and running:

```
sudo systemctl status smbd
```



```
h2s@h2s-virtual-machine:~$ sudo systemctl status smbd
● smbd.service - Samba SMB Daemon
   Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/smbd.service; enabled; vendor preset: enabled)
   Active: active (running) since Fri 2021-06-11 17:57:14 IST; 2min 11s ago
     Docs: man:smbd(8)
           man:samba(7)
           man:smb.conf(5)
  Main PID: 3401 (smbd)
    Status: "smbd: ready to serve connections..."
     Tasks: 4 (limit: 4669)
    Memory: 8.4M
    CGroup: /system.slice/smbd.service
            └─3401 /usr/sbin/smbd --foreground --no-process-group
              └─3403 /usr/sbin/smbd --foreground --no-process-group
                └─3404 /usr/sbin/smbd --foreground --no-process-group
                  └─3405 /usr/sbin/smbd --foreground --no-process-group

Jun 11 17:57:14 h2s-virtual-machine systemd[1]: Starting Samba SMB Daemon...
Jun 11 17:57:14 h2s-virtual-machine update-apparmor-samba-profile[3395]: grep:
Jun 11 17:57:14 h2s-virtual-machine update-apparmor-samba-profile[3398]: diff:
Jun 11 17:57:14 h2s-virtual-machine systemd[1]: Started Samba SMB Daemon.

[1]+  Stopped                  sudo systemctl status smbd
h2s@h2s-virtual-machine:~$
```

If it is not active then run:

```
sudo systemctl --enable now smbd
```

ADVERTISEMENT

3. Allow samba in Linux Mint Firewall

To connect and access the shared files over SMB protocol, we have to first whitelist and allow its service to get accessed from the outside of the computer. Thus, allow it in the firewall

```
sudo ufw allow samba
```

4. Add your user to the Samba group

Let's add the current System user to the SambaShare group, so it can access all files and folders shared under it.

```
sudo usermod -aG sambashare $USER
```

set the password for share: This will be different from your system password.

```
sudo smbpasswd -a $USER
```

Note: \$USER means your current user, if you want to set some other user then change \$USER with the particular user name. Also, the file or folder you want to share must be accessible to that particular user.

Alternatively, if you want to add some other users to the SAMBA group use:

```
sudo usermod -aG sambashare your-user
```

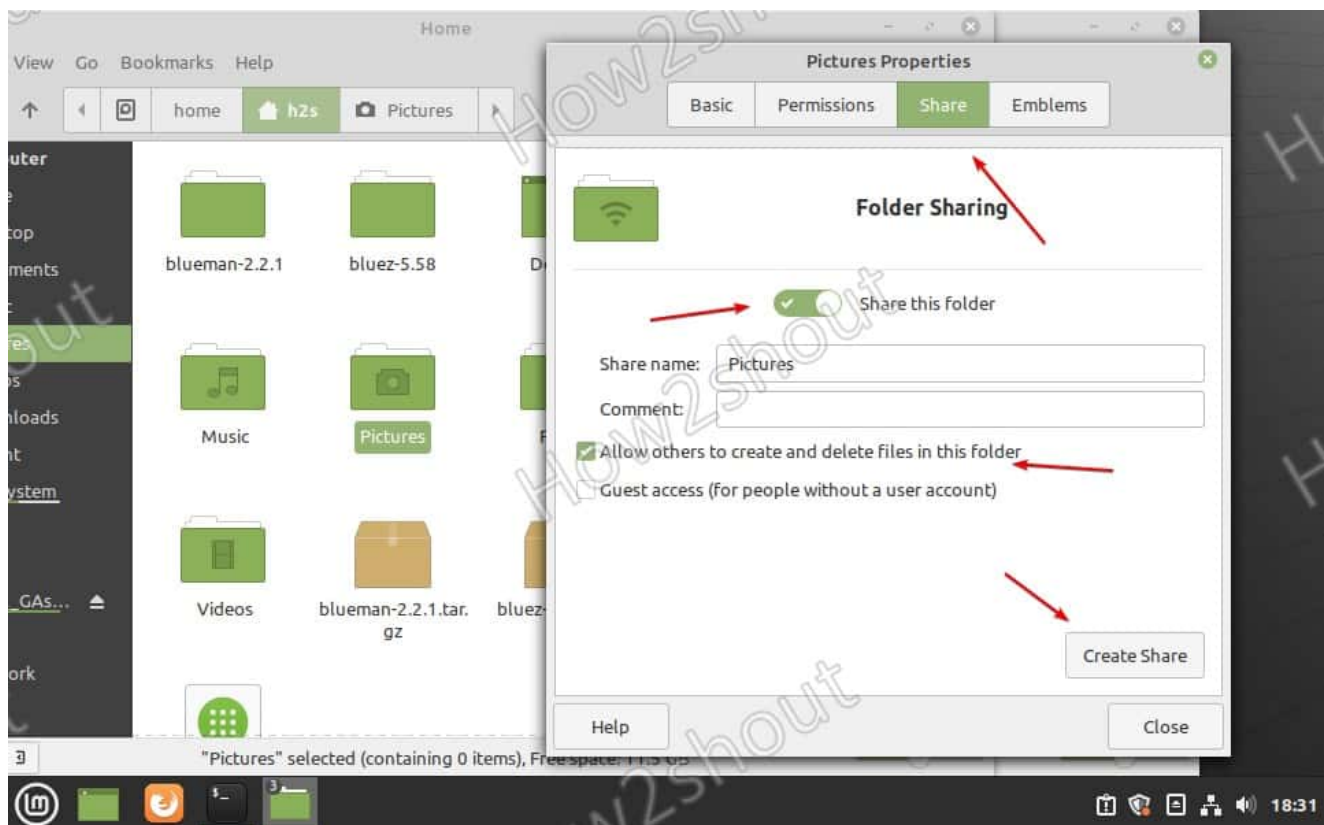
To set password:

ADVERTISEMENT

pwd -a your-user

5. Share some Linux Mint folder

Lets' say I want to share the Pictures folder or any other on my Linux Mint that is owned by my current user. So, for that simply go to that folder, right-click on it and select the Share tab.



6. Access the shared folder on Windows or Linux

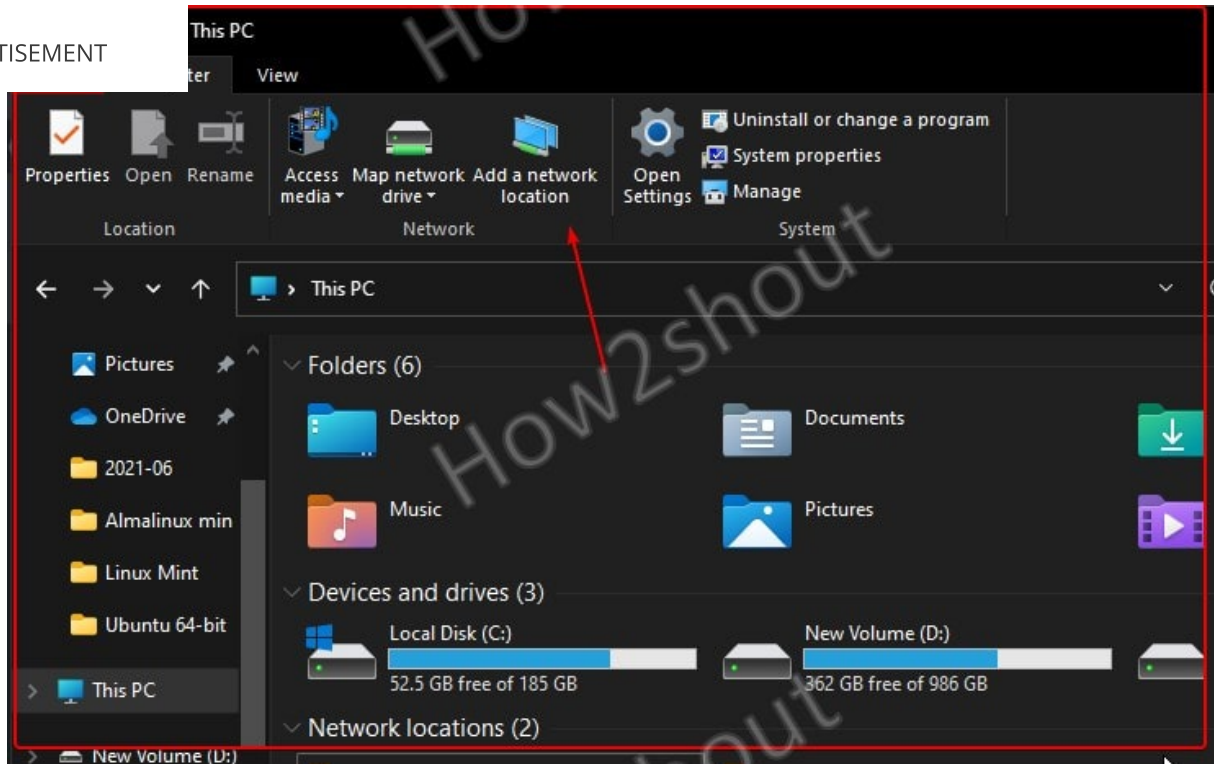
Now, we can mount the Linux Mint shared folder on other Windows or Linux systems available in the same network or domain.

On Windows 10/8/7

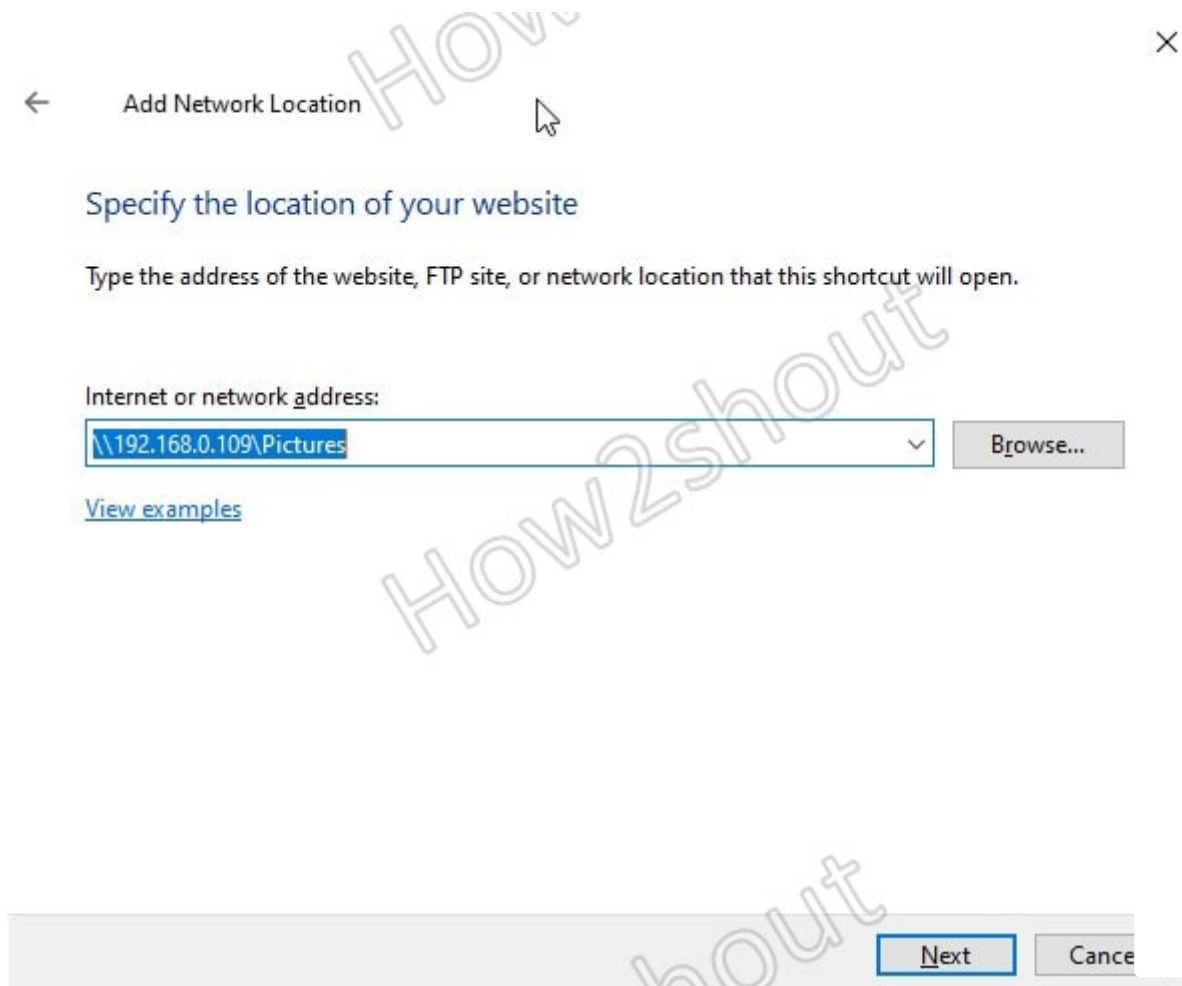
- Open **My Computer** or **This PC**

network location icon given in the top menu.

ADVERTISEMENT

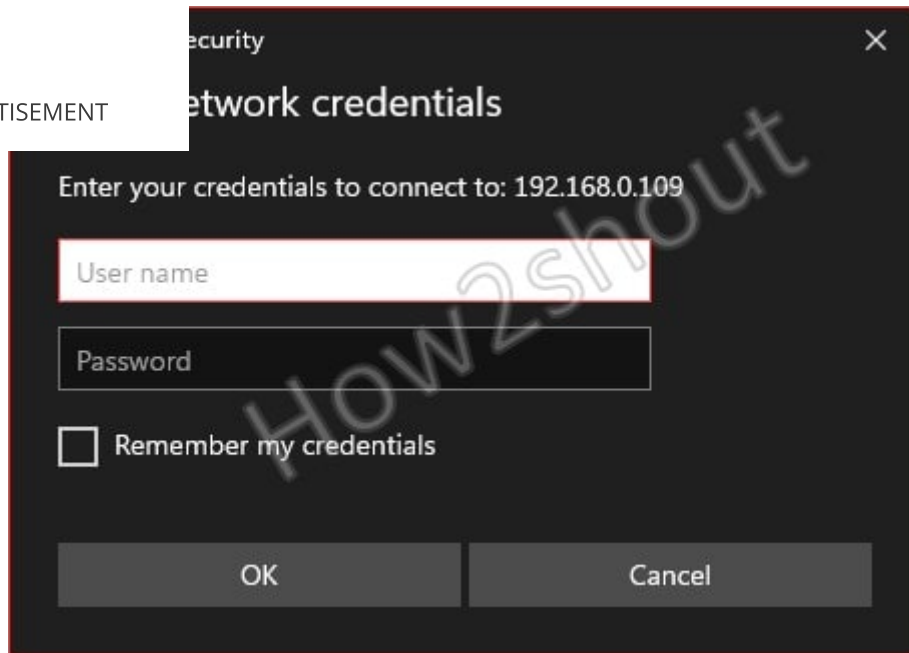


- Add your Linux Mint **\\server-ipaddress\shared -folder-path**– For example, here we have shared the **Pictures** folder, the path will be like this- \\192.168.0.109\Pictures



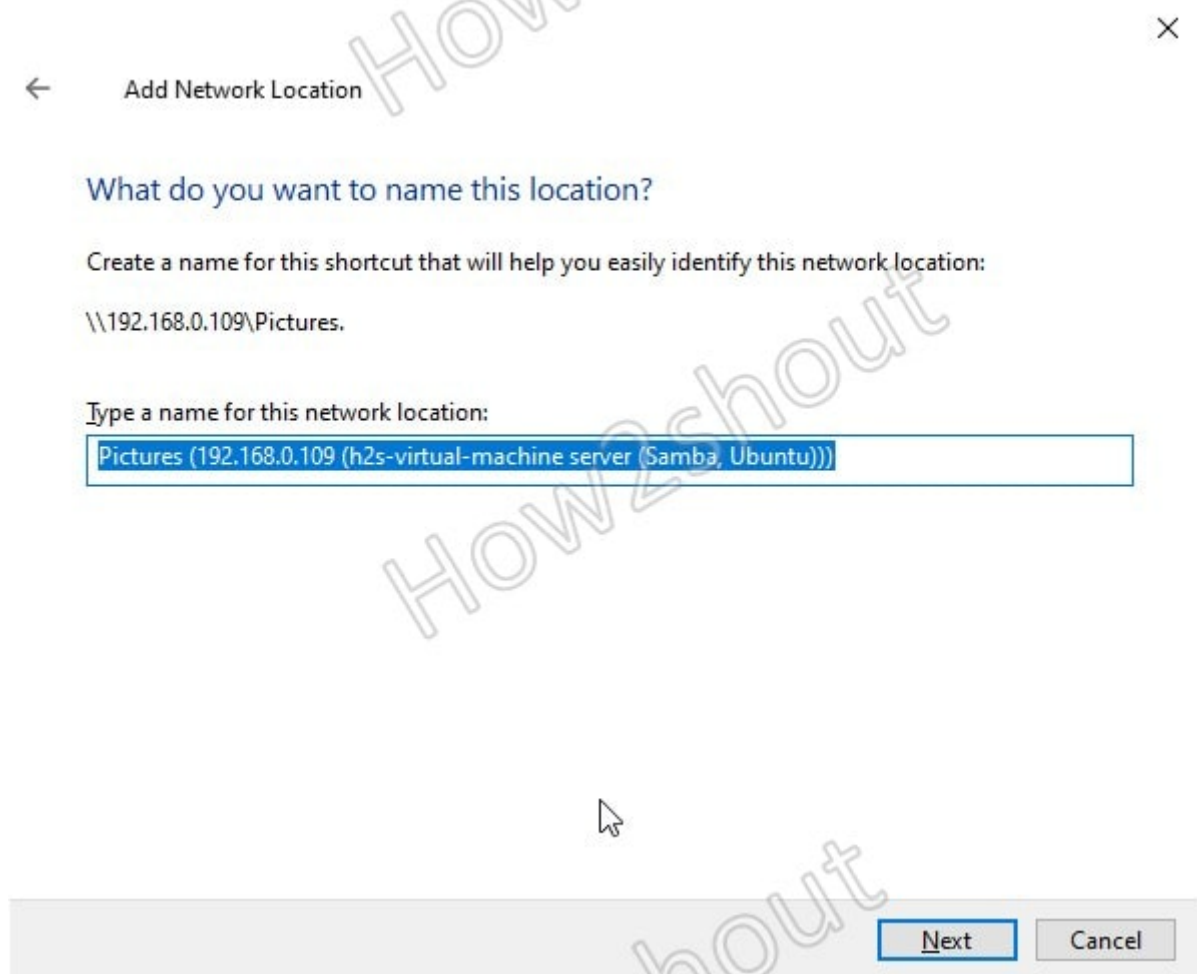
- Enter Samba User and password

ADVERTISEMENT



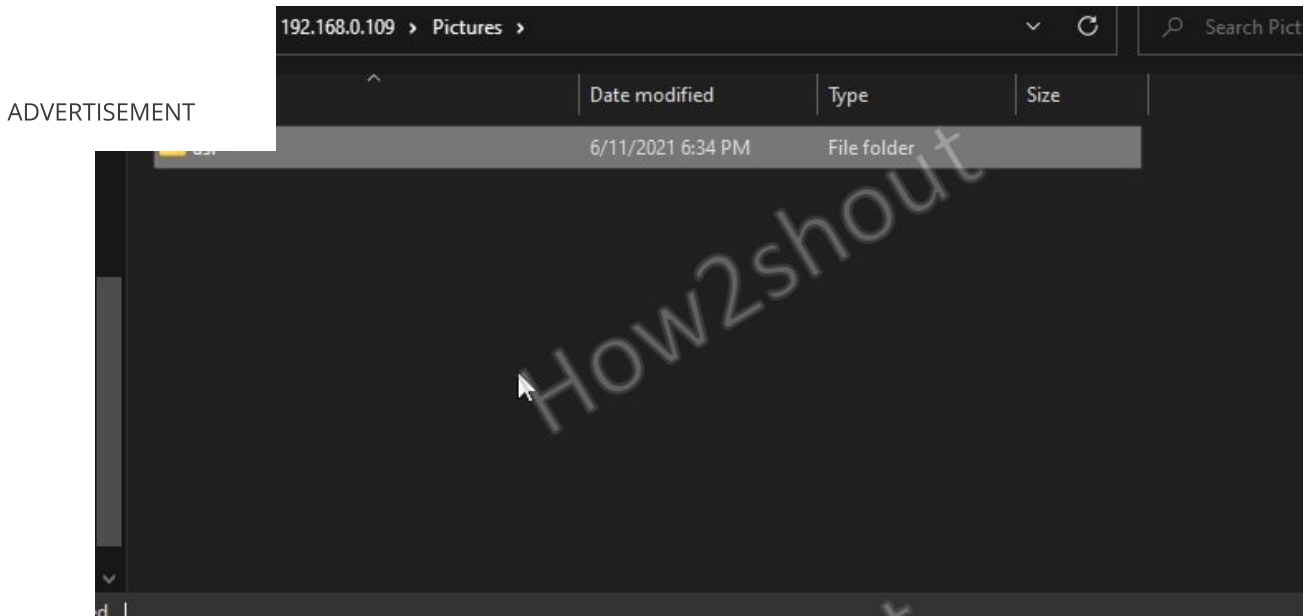
A screenshot of a Windows-style security dialog box titled 'Security'. The subtitle is 'network credentials'. It prompts the user to 'Enter your credentials to connect to: 192.168.0.109'. There are two input fields: 'User name' and 'Password'. Below these is a checkbox labeled 'Remember my credentials'. At the bottom are 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons. A large 'How2shout' watermark is visible across the dialog.

- The system will set a random name for your shared folder, however, you change to something easy to remember.



A screenshot of the 'Add Network Location' wizard. The title bar says 'Add Network Location'. The main text asks 'What do you want to name this location?' and provides instructions: 'Create a name for this shortcut that will help you easily identify this network location: \\192.168.0.109\Pictures.' Below this, it says 'Type a name for this network location:' and shows a text box containing 'Pictures (192.168.0.109 (h2s-virtual-machine server (Samba, Ubuntu)))'. At the bottom right are 'Next' and 'Cancel' buttons. A mouse cursor is visible over the 'Next' button. A large 'How2shout' watermark is visible across the screen.

- Finally, you have the shared folder with read and write access.

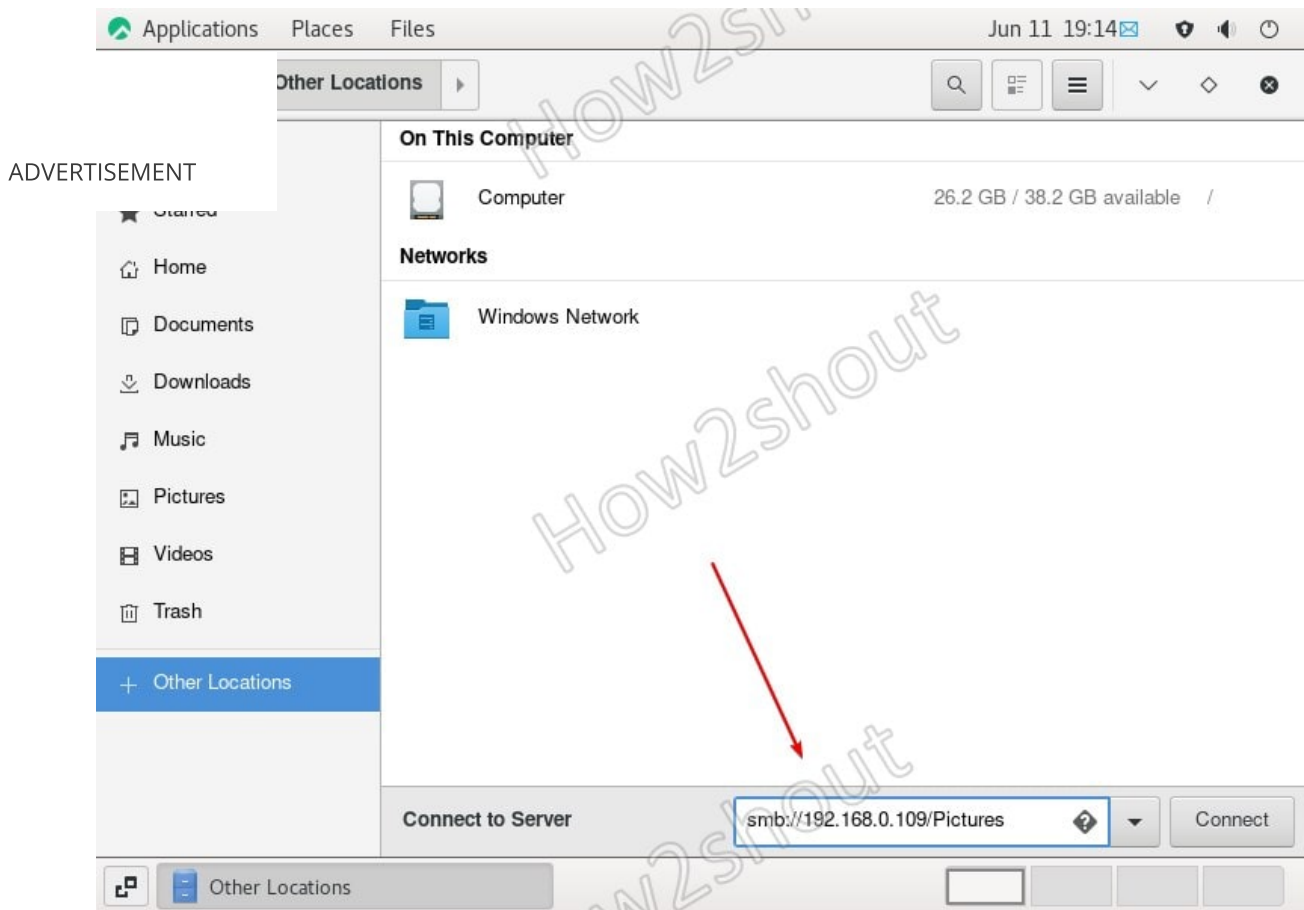


On Linux systems such as Ubuntu, CentOS, and others...

The place to connect the samba server can be different from Linux to Linux, depending upon the desktop environment.

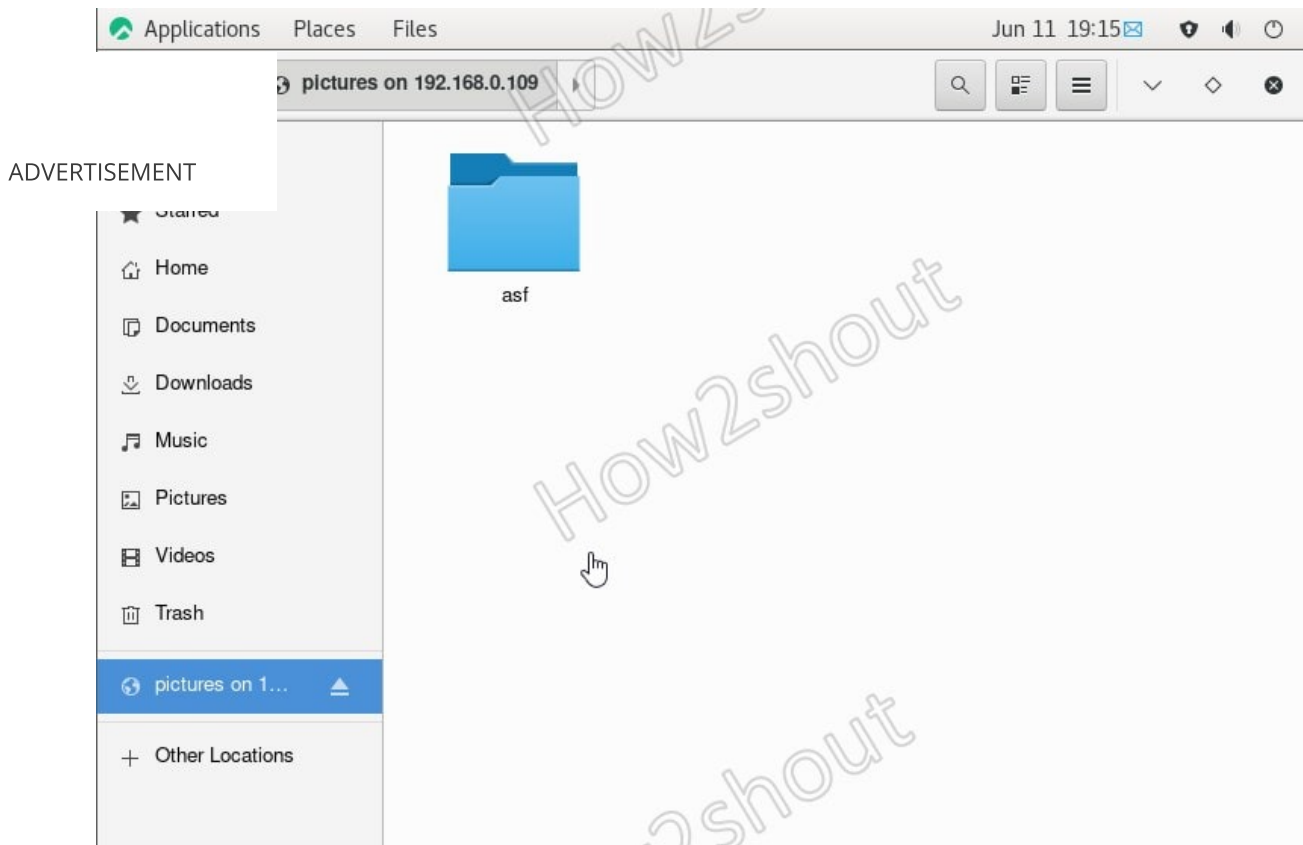
Here we are showing an example for Ubuntu and CentOS using GNOME.

- Open File Manager
- Select Other Locations from the right side given panel.
- At the bottom, in the "Connect Server" box type- `smb://server-ip/shared-folder-path`



- Click on Connect.
- Select Registered User and enter that username and password





Extra tip- Linux Mint SambaShare User

If you want to create a new user to access the folder you want to share except it cannot access anything else then follow the below steps:

Create users:

```
sudo useradd new-user
```

Add user to Smbashare group

```
sudo usermod -aG new-user sambshare
```

Change the folder rights of a folder that you want to share to read and write for all users. So, that our new user can access that.

```
sudo chmod 777 folder-path
```

ADVERTISEMENT

5

```
sudo chmod 777 Pictures
```

Now, you can access the shared folder using the **new user** and its password.

Linux

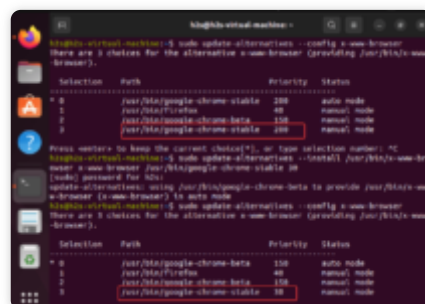
linux mint, linux mint 20, tutorial

< How to Install KDE Plasma GUI on Linux Mint 20.1 Desktop

> How to install Snap Store on Linux Mint 20.1

You Might Also Like:

[How to change priorities of x-www-browser – update-alternatives](#)



ADVERTISEMENT

The screenshot shows the 'About' window in Oracle VM VirtualBox. The window is titled 'About' and contains the following information:

Host: Linux - Oracle VM VirtualBox 6.1.2	
Graphics	Parallels GPU M 0.0, 256 kbps
Disk Capacity	28.9 GB

VM: Red Hat Enterprise Linux 8.1 (64-bit)	
OS Name	Red Hat Enterprise Linux 8.1 (64-bit)
OS Type	64-bit
OS/VM Version	4.18.0
Windows System	Windows
Virtualization	VMware

[illegible]

<https://www.how2shout.com/linux/install-samba-on-linux-mint-to-share-files-with-windows/>

ADVERTISEMENT

```

$ sudo apt install smbclient
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
smbclient is already the newest version (2:4.12.2-5ubuntu1).
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 0 not installed.
Need to get 0 B of archives.
After this operation, 0 B of additional disk space will be used.
0 B of 0 B will be fetched, 0 B already cached.

```

8 thoughts on “Install Samba on Linux Mint to share files with Windows”



Dale W King

October 13, 2021 at 4:53 am

Your commands to check and start the samba daemon say “smbd”. That should be “smbd”

[Reply](#)



heyman

October 13, 2021 at 7:16 am

Thanks for pointing out the typo error

[Reply](#)



Bob Walters

November 5, 2021 at 8:55 am

`sudo smbpasswd -a $USER` otherwise I got the error
| the entry for user ..."

ADVERTISEMENT

Otherwise, a very straightforward setup. Many thanks.

[Reply](#)**electrocreative**

December 18, 2021 at 7:43 pm

Awesome walkthrough, thank you!|

One minor typo in the "Add user to Sambashare group" step:
Command should be ``sudo usermod -aG sambashare new-user``

...and then it might be good to set the password for that new user
immediately following:

``sudo smbpasswd -a new-user``

[Reply](#)**Bill**

May 2, 2022 at 3:32 am

For the command line "sudo systemctl -enable now smbd"
in my version - Linux Mint 17.3 "Rosa" Cinnamon - I had to shorten to
"sudo enable now smbd" to work.

[Reply](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

**Jose Antonio Garciarivas**

May 28, 2022 at 4:06 am

Everything working fast, I have an old gateway DX4200 with 8 GB, and a tablet with Windows 10. Your tutorial was accurate and worked for me. Thanks so much, would please provide a xfer link and send you \$ufficient grace.

[Reply](#)**taltamir**

July 25, 2022 at 12:27 am

step 4 is missing instructions on how to create the user in the first place.
step 5 is bad. nemo sharing is terrible. it won't let you specify who you share what with, it just shares it with everyone

[Reply](#)**TEst**

August 26, 2022 at 10:58 am

Thanks

[Reply](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

Leave a Comment

☐ Save my name, email, and website in this browser for the next time I comment.

This site uses Akismet to reduce spam. [Learn how your comment data is processed.](#)



ADVERTISEMENT

Recent Posts

- 3 Commands to Shutdown Linux systems with options

- 2 Ways to Install QOwnNotes on Ubuntu 22.04 or 20.04

- How to change priorities of x-www-browser – update-alternatives

- 6 Best Ubuntu Linux Alternatives for Beginners to use in 2023

- How to install Google Chrome in RHEL 9 / 8 Linux

ADVERTISEMENT

About L2S

Linux Shout was crafted as a part of our main portal **H2S Media** to publish Linux-related tutorials and open source Software.

Important Links

[Editorial staff](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Disclaimer](#)

Social Media Connections

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter Us](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[About Us](#)

[YouTube](#)

© 2022 Linux Shout • Powered by H2S Media