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Create a Network Share in Linux using Samba via CLI and access using Samba Client



Setting up the share on Linux

Install Samba:

```
$ sudo apt-get update  
$ sudo apt-get install samba
```

For creating a secured share, make a system account for authentication to access samba shares, here I named the user “shareuser” in an obvious way you can, of

course, pick any name:

```
$ sudo useradd shareuser  
$ sudo passwd shareuser
```

```
subba@kali:~$ sudo passwd shareuser  
New password:  
Retype new password:  
passwd: password updated successfully
```

Update password for the user “shareuser”.

Check if the user has been added successfully:

```
$ awk -F':' '{ print $1}' /etc/passwd
```

```
subba@kali:~$ awk -F':' '{ print $1}' /etc/passwd  
root  
daemon  
bin  
sys  
cvs
```

```
subba  
systemd-coredump  
shareuser
```

“shareuser” added successfully

Add this account in `smbpasswd` file to be used by samba authentication:

```
$ sudo smbpasswd -a shareuser
```

```
subba@kali:~$ sudo smbpasswd -a shareuser  
New SMB password:  
Retype new SMB password:  
Added user shareuser.
```

Configure the “shared” directory (or whatever you choose to name your directory that is to be shared):

```
$sudo mkdir /opt/shared
```

Make a safe backup copy of the original smb.conf file to your home folder, in case you make an error:

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```
subba@kali:~$ ls /etc/samba/
gdbcommands  smb.conf  tls
subba@kali:~$ sudo cp /etc/samba/smb.conf ~
subba@kali:~$ ls
Desktop  Documents  Downloads  Music  Pictures  Public  smb.conf  Templates  Videos
```

Edit Samba configuration file “/etc/samba/smb.conf” and add the following at the very end of the file:

```
[shared]
comment = Public Stuff
path = /opt/shared
public = yes
writable = yes
valid users = shareuser
write list = shareuser
```

Here replace [shared] with the name of your directory, modify the path accordingly too, and replace “shareuser” with whatever you chose to name your user.

Restart smb and nmb services of the system:

```
$ systemctl restart smbd.service
$ systemctl restart nmbd.service
```

Use **testparm** command to check your smb.conf for any syntax errors:

```
$ testparm
```

```
subba@kali:~$ testparm
Load smb config files from /etc/samba/smb.conf
Loaded services file OK.
Server role: ROLE_STANDALONE

Press enter to see a dump of your service definitions
```

```
[shared]
comment = Public Stuff
guest ok = Yes
path = /opt/shared
read only = No
valid users = shareduser
write list = shareduser
subba@kali:~$
```

If there are no syntax errors you should be able to see something like this, with the [shared] entry at the bottom.

Thus, we created a shared folder named “shared” with “shareuser” as the username to be used for accessing this folder on another machine.



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Access the SMB network share on Linux

Installing Samba client will give you a CLI to work with your SMB share:

```
$ sudo apt-get install smbclient
```

```
kali@kali1:~$ sudo apt-get install smbclient
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
Terminal packages:
-----ls heimdal-clients
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  smbclient
0 upgraded, 1 newly installed, 0 to remove and 0 not upgraded.
Need to get 509 kB of archives.
After this operation, 2,064 kB of additional disk space will be used.
0% [Connecting to kali.download]
```

List all shares available on the host using the IP address or hostname:

```
$ smbclient -L //<HOST_IP_OR_NAME>/<folder_name> -U <user>
```

Here <user> is the user we created in the host machine. Connect to the shared folder using:

```
$ smbclient //<HOST_IP_OR_NAME>/<folder_name> -U <user>
```

```
kali@kali1:~$ smbclient // <host ip/name> /shared -U shareuser
Enter WORKGROUP\shareuser's password:
Try "help" to get a list of possible commands.
smb: \>
```

Note: The default user group of samba is "WORKGROUP".

You can type 'h' to get help with **smbclient**. For instance 'ls' would show the contents of the shared folder:

```
smb: \> ls
.                D          0  Fri Jul 17 17:02:30 2020
..               D          0  Fri Jul 17 16:12:26 2020
server           D          0  Fri Jul 17 17:02:30 2020
client           D          0  Fri Jul 17 17:01:04 2020

14383112 blocks of size 1024. 4326552 blocks available
smb: \>
```

Troubleshoot Option- If you're getting permission denied error when trying to modify the content of the shared folder, modify ownership and permission for the folder:

```
$ sudo chown <username>:<groupname> /<path to shared folder>
$ sudo chmod 770 /<path to shared folder>
```

Peer To Peer Linux Samba Network Share

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