

ProtonDrive Setup Guide

This guide will help you set up ProtonDrive with rclone for use with ProtonDrive Sync.

Prerequisites

Before you begin, make sure you have:

1. **ProtonDrive Account** (Free or Paid plan)
 - Sign up at proton.me/drive if you don't have one
 - ProtonDrive Sync works with both free and paid accounts
 2. **ProtonDrive Password**
 - Your regular Proton account password
 - Keep it handy for the setup process
 3. **2FA Code** (if enabled)
 - If you have two-factor authentication enabled on your Proton account
 - Have your 2FA device (phone/authenticator app) ready
 4. **rclone installed**
 - Should already be installed if you used our installer
 - Verify with: `rclone version`
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Quick Setup (Recommended)

The easiest way to set up ProtonDrive is through the built-in setup wizard:

1. **Launch ProtonDrive Sync**

```
protondrive-sync
```

2. **Follow the Setup Wizard**

- The wizard will detect if ProtonDrive is configured
- If not, click “**Configure ProtonDrive Now**”
- A terminal window will open automatically

3. **Complete Configuration**

- Follow the on-screen instructions
 - The wizard will test your connection
 - Once successful, proceed to selective sync and other settings
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🔧 Manual Setup (Advanced)

If you prefer to configure rclone manually or the automatic method didn't work:

Step 1: Open rclone Configuration

Open a terminal and run:

```
rclone config
```

Step 2: Create New Remote

When prompted:

Current remotes:

Name	Type
====	====

```
e) Edit existing remote
n) New remote
d) Delete remote
r) Rename remote
c) Copy remote
s) Set configuration password
q) Quit config
```

Type **n** and press Enter.

Step 3: Name Your Remote

Enter name for new remote.
name>

Type a name like **protondrive** (or any name you prefer) and press Enter.

Step 4: Select ProtonDrive

You'll see a long list of storage providers:

```
Type of storage to configure.
Choose a number from below, or type in your own value
[...]
35 / Proton Drive
    \ (protondrive)
[...]
```

Find “**Proton Drive**” in the list (usually number 35 or nearby) and enter that number.

Step 5: Configure ProtonDrive Settings

Username (Email)

Proton Drive username (email).
Enter a value.
username>

Enter your **ProtonDrive email address**.

Password

Proton Drive password.
Enter a value.
password>

Enter your **ProtonDrive password**.

⚠ **Security Note:** Your password is stored securely by rclone using encryption.

2FA (If Enabled)

If you have 2FA enabled, you’ll be prompted:

Proton Drive 2FA code (if enabled).
Enter a value. Press Enter to leave empty.
2fa>

Enter your current 2FA code from your authenticator app.

App Password (Optional)

For enhanced security, ProtonDrive may ask you to use an app password:

Use app password instead of regular password?
Enter a boolean value (true or false). Press Enter for the default (false).
use_app_password>

- Type **false** for regular password (easier)
- Type **true** if you want to use an app-specific password (more secure)

If you choose true, you’ll need to: 1. Go to account.proton.me/security 2. Create an app password for “ProtonDrive Sync” 3. Use that password in the config

Step 6: Advanced Configuration

Edit advanced config?

y/n>

Type **n** (No) unless you have specific requirements.

Step 7: Verify Configuration

rclone will show a summary:

Configuration complete.

Options:

- type: protondrive
- username: your.email@proton.me

Keep this "protondrive" remote?

y/e/d>

Type **y** (Yes) to save.

Step 8: Exit Configuration

q) Quit config

Type **q** to quit.

✔ Verify Your Setup

Test your ProtonDrive connection:

rclone lsd protondrive:

If successful, you should see a list of your top-level ProtonDrive folders.

Example output:

-1 2024-01-15 10:30:45	-1 Documents
-1 2024-01-15 10:30:45	-1 Photos
-1 2024-01-15 10:30:45	-1 Work

🔗 Using ProtonDrive with ProtonDrive Sync

Once configured:

1. Launch ProtonDrive Sync

```
protondrive-sync
```

2. **The app will automatically detect** your ProtonDrive remote
 3. **Configure sync settings:**
 - Choose sync mode (full/selective/exclude)
 - Select local folder
 - Set up automatic sync
 4. **Start syncing!** 🔄
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🔧 Troubleshooting

Issue: “Command not found: rclone”

Solution:

```
# On CachyOS/Arch:
```

```
sudo pacman -S rclone
```

```
# On Ubuntu/Debian:
```

```
sudo apt install rclone
```

```
# On Fedora:
```

```
sudo dnf install rclone
```

Issue: “Authentication failed”

Solutions:

1. **Check your password** - Make sure you’re using the correct ProtonDrive password
2. **2FA code** - If you have 2FA, make sure you entered the current code
3. **Account locked** - Check if your Proton account is locked or requires verification
4. **Reconfigure** - Delete the remote and start over:

```
rclone config delete protondrive  
rclone config
```

Issue: “Could not list ProtonDrive folders”

Solutions:

1. Test connection:

```
rclone lsd protondrive: -vv
```

The -vv flag shows detailed output for debugging.

2. Check ProtonDrive status - Visit protonstatus.com to check if ProtonDrive is experiencing issues

3. Update rclone:

```
# On CachyOS/Arch:  
sudo pacman -Syu rclone
```

4. Check firewall - Make sure your firewall isn't blocking rclone

Issue: "Timeout connecting to ProtonDrive"

Solutions:

1. Check internet connection

2. Try again later - ProtonDrive servers might be busy

3. Use a different network - Try switching from WiFi to Ethernet or vice versa

4. Increase timeout:

```
rclone lsd protondrive: --timeout 60s
```

Issue: "Remote 'protondrive' not found"

Solution:

The remote name doesn't match. Check available remotes:

```
rclone listremotes
```

Make sure you're using the exact name (case-sensitive) when configuring ProtonDrive Sync.

Security Best Practices

1. Use App Passwords (Recommended)

Instead of your main ProtonDrive password, create an app-specific password:

1. Go to account.proton.me/security
2. Scroll to "App passwords"

3. Click "Create app password"
4. Name it "ProtonDrive Sync"
5. Use this password in rclone config

Benefits: - More secure - separate from your main password - Can be revoked if compromised - Limited scope

2. Enable rclone Configuration Password

Protect your rclone configuration with encryption:

```
rclone config  
# Choose: s) Set configuration password
```

This encrypts your stored ProtonDrive credentials.

3. Secure Your Config File

The rclone config file is located at:

```
~/.config/rclone/rclone.conf
```

Make sure it has restricted permissions:

```
chmod 600 ~/.config/rclone/rclone.conf
```

🔧 Tips for CachyOS Users

Optimized Performance

CachyOS's performance optimizations will benefit ProtonDrive Sync:

- **Faster sync operations** - CachyOS's optimized kernel helps with I/O
- **Better multi-threading** - Parallel operations work more efficiently
- **Lower latency** - Network operations are optimized

Recommended Settings for CachyOS

1. **Enable automatic sync** - Take advantage of background performance
2. **Use selective sync** - Sync only what you need
3. **Set bandwidth limits** - Prevent network saturation during gaming/streaming
4. **Use SSD for local folder** - If you have one, use it for the sync folder

AUR Helpers

If you need additional packages:

```
# Install yay (recommended)
```

```
sudo pacman -S yay
```

```
# Or paru
```

```
sudo pacman -S paru
```

Additional Resources

- **rclone Documentation:** rclone.org/protondrive
 - **ProtonDrive Help:** proton.me/support/drive
 - **ProtonDrive Sync GitHub:** Issues and discussions
 - **Proton Community:** proton.me/community
-

? Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I sync multiple ProtonDrive accounts?

A: Yes! Create multiple remotes with different names:

```
rclone config
```

```
# Create: protondrive1, protondrive2, etc.
```

Then in ProtonDrive Sync, you can switch between them in settings.

Q: Will this work with ProtonDrive free plan?

A: Yes! ProtonDrive Sync works with both free and paid plans. Free plan limitations still apply (storage space).

Q: How secure is this?

A: Very secure! - Uses ProtonDrive's end-to-end encryption - rclone securely stores credentials - All traffic is encrypted - Open-source code you can audit

Q: Can I use ProtonDrive Sync on multiple computers?

A: Yes! Just configure rclone on each computer. Be careful with bidirectional sync to avoid conflicts.

Q: Will this sync in real-time?

A: Not quite real-time, but you can set sync intervals as low as 5 minutes for near-real-time syncing.



Q: Does this work offline?

A: No, you need an internet connection to sync with ProtonDrive. Local files remain accessible offline.

Success!

You're all set up! Your ProtonDrive is now connected and ready to sync.

Next steps: 1. Open ProtonDrive Sync 2. Configure your sync preferences 3. Choose which folders to sync 4. Start syncing!

Enjoy secure, private cloud storage with ProtonDrive!  

Need help? Open an issue on GitHub or check our troubleshooting guide.