

Configuring OpenVPN on Ubuntu

Goal: Connect your laptop to a VPN with the provided keys and configuration file.

Connecting to the office network remotely requires you to install the `openvpn` package and place the config files in the correct places. You can start and stop the VPN using simple commands at a terminal.

1. Install OpenVPN

2. Open a terminal and see if you already have `openvpn` installed:

```
$ which openvpn  
/usr/sbin/openvpn
```

This means you have OpenVPN installed.

3. Installing `openvpn` is a simple command:

```
$ sudo apt install openvpn
```

4. Add your Config Files

5. You should be provided with these files:

- A. `your-laptop.key` ← This is your private key
- B. `your-laptop.crt` ← This is your certificate
- C. `ca.crt` ← This is the VPN server certificate
- D. `candelatech.conf` ← The config file for the connection

You will place these files in `/etc/openvpn`. The files should be owned by root, so become root and copy them with this technique:

```
$ sudo -s  
[/home/amelia] # cd /etc/openvpn  
[/etc/openvpn] # cp ~amelia/Downloads/your-laptop.key .  
[/etc/openvpn] # cp ~amelia/Downloads/your-laptop.crt .  
[/etc/openvpn] # cp ~amelia/Downloads/ca.crt .  
[/etc/openvpn] # cp ~amelia/Downloads/candelatech.conf .
```

6. Starting and Stopping the VPN Connection

7. In a terminal, `cd` to `/etc/openvpn` and start the connection as root:

```
$ cd /etc/openvpn  
$ sudo openvpn candeltech.conf
```

Press `Control-C` in that window to stop the VPN connection.

8. Example Config File

9. `client`

```
dev tun1
proto udp
remote firewall.candelatech.com 1194
#remote firewall.candelatech.com 443
script-security 2
resolv-retry infinite
nobind
persist-key
persist-tun
verb 3
ca ca.crt
cert laptop-dell.2019-08-13.jreynolds.candelatech.com.crt
key laptop-dell.2019-08-13.jreynolds.candelatech.com.key
comp-lzo
cipher AES-256-CBC
```

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