

Setting up PPTP VPN server on a CentOS OpenVZ VPS

Written by BiRU
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In this tutorial I use PPTP as its supported by almost all devices natively: Windows, Linux, Android, iOS and Mac OS.

1. Install PPTPD

If your OS is **CentOS/RedHat 5**:

```
yum install ppp
cd /usr/local/src
wget http://poptop.sourceforge.net/yum/stable/packages/pptpd-1.4.0-1.rhel5.x86_64.rpm
rpm -iv pptpd-1.4.0-1.rhel5.x86_64.rpm
```

If your OS is **CentOS/RedHat 6**:

```
yum install ppp
cd /usr/local/src
wget http://poptop.sourceforge.net/yum/stable/packages/pptpd-1.4.0-1.el6.x86_64.rpm
rpm -iv pptpd-1.4.0-1.el6.x86_64.rpm
```

For 32bit editions replace with correct packages URLs.

2. Edit IP settings in /etc/pptpd.conf

```
nano /etc/pptpd.conf
```

```
localip 10.0.0.254
remoteip 10.0.0.101-200
```

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3. Add user accounts in /etc/ppp/chap-secrets (assign username and password)

```
nano /etc/ppp/chap-secrets
```

```
username1 * password1 *  
username2 * password2 *
```

4. DNS settings in /etc/ppp/options.pptpd

```
nano /etc/ppp/options.pptpd
```

```
#ms-dns #uncomment and set to your VPS IP if your local DNS server is configured to allow  
forwarding from ppp interface  
ms-dns 8.8.8.8  
ms-dns 8.8.4.4
```

5. Enable network forwarding in /etc/sysctl.conf

```
nano /etc/sysctl.conf
```

```
net.ipv4.ip_forward = 1
```

Use the following command to apply the change:

```
sysctl -p
```

6. Configure firewall and forwarding

```
iptables -A INPUT -i venet0 -p tcp --dport 1723 -j ACCEPT  
iptables -A INPUT -i venet0 -p gre -j ACCEPT  
iptables -t nat -A POSTROUTING -j SNAT --to-source [VPS's IP]  
iptables -A FORWARD -i ppp0 -o venet0 -j ACCEPT
```

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```
iptables -A FORWARD -i venet0 -o ppp0 -j ACCEPT
service iptables save
service iptables restart
```

Fill in the correct VPN IP address in the commands above.

If you're using a Linux firewall/router in front of the VPS hosting the VPN server, make sure you forward [GRE](#) protocol traffic to it:

VPS=

PIP=

```
iptables -t nat -I PREROUTING -d $PIP -p 47 -j DNAT --to $VPS
iptables -I FORWARD -d $VPS -p 47 -j ACCEPT
```

If using a DD-WRT router with a dynamic public IP, the first rule can be replaced with
`iptables -t nat -I PREROUTING -d `nvram get wan_ipaddr` -p 47 -j DNAT --to $VPS`

7. Start PPTP VPN server

Use the following command:

```
service pptpd restart
```

To set PPTP Daemon to automatically start on boot, run:

```
chkconfig pptpd on
```