

Mounting a CIFS/SMB share

In this guide you'll learn how to mount a CIFS/SMB share on Ubuntu. Make sure you have your SMB server and credentials ready.

I advise you run the following as the root user. Especially step 4!

1. Installing package

```
sudo apt install cifs-utils
```

2. Create a folder

This is the folder where you will mount the share to.

```
sudo mkdir /mnt/backups
```

3. Add entry to fstab

Open your fstab file (`/etc/fstab`). And add something like this to the bottom of the file.

/etc/fstab

```
//SERVER_IP_ADDRESS/SHARE_NAME /mnt/backups cifs username=msusername,  
password=mppassword,iocharset=utf8 0 0
```

You will note that you have entered the password and username here. This is not advisable since the `fstab` file is readable by all users. Will fix this in the next step.

4. Not having our password in the `fstab` file

RUN THIS AS ROOT! Make this file in the home folder of root (by default `/root`). Why? Because only root can access this folder or privileged users. This makes sure that other people cannot access the credentials file.

So create and open the file `/root/.smbcredentials` using `vim` or `nano`. (Eg `sudo vi /root/.smbcredentials`)

/root/.smbcredentials

```
username=msusername  
password=mppassword
```

Save and close and then set the permissions that only root can read it.

```
sudo chmod 600 /root/.smbcredentials
```

You can verify it by writing:

```
sudo ls -al /root/.smbcredentials
```

If everything is correct you should see this:

```
-rw----- 1 root root 46 Feb 10 15:16 /root/.smbcredentials
```

Now open up your `fstab` again and replace the username and password with `credentials=/root/.smbcredentials`.

Your file should look like this:

/etc/fstab

```
//SERVER_IP_ADDRESS/SHARE_NAME /mnt/backups cifs credentials=/root/.  
smbcredentials,iocharset=utf8 0 0
```

5. Actually mounting

If you reboot the folder will be mounted automatically. Of course we can manually mount it by entering the command

/etc/fstab

```
sudo mount -a
```