

# Setting Up SSH Access in Pop!\_OS (Proxmox VM)

**Date:** June 1st, 2025

**Category:** Remote Access / Virtual Machine Setup

**Backlink:** [Installing Pop!\\_OS \(NVIDIA Edition\) in Proxmox with GPU Passthrough](#)

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## Goal

Enable secure remote access to your Pop!\_OS virtual machine via SSH.

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## Step 1: Install and Enable OpenSSH Server

Open a terminal in your Pop!\_OS VM and run:

```
sudo apt update
sudo apt install openssh-server -y
```

Then start and enable the service:

```
sudo systemctl enable ssh
sudo systemctl start ssh
```

```
zippyb@pop-os:~$ sudo apt update -y
Hit:1 http://apt.pop-os.org/proprietary jammy InRelease
Hit:2 http://apt.pop-os.org/release jammy InRelease
Hit:3 http://apt.pop-os.org/ubuntu jammy InRelease
Hit:4 http://apt.pop-os.org/ubuntu jammy-security InRelease
Hit:5 http://apt.pop-os.org/ubuntu jammy-updates InRelease
Hit:6 http://apt.pop-os.org/ubuntu jammy-backports InRelease
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
All packages are up to date.
zippyb@pop-os:~$ sudo apt install openssh-server -y
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following additional packages will be installed:
  ncurses-term openssh-sftp-server ssh-import-id
Suggested packages:
  molly-guard monkeysphere ssh-askpass
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  ncurses-term openssh-server openssh-sftp-server ssh-import-id
0 upgraded, 4 newly installed, 0 to remove and 0 not upgraded.
```

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## Step 2: Verify SSH is Running

Check the status of the SSH server:

```
sudo systemctl status ssh
```

You should see:

- Active: active (running)

```
zippyb@pop-os:~$ sudo systemctl start ssh
zippyb@pop-os:~$ sudo systemctl status ssh
● ssh.service - OpenBSD Secure Shell server
   Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/ssh.service; enabled; vendor preset: e
   Active: active (running) since Sun 2025-06-01 12:01:32 CDT; 4min 19s ago
     Docs: man:sshd(8)
           man:sshd_config(5)
   Main PID: 3269 (sshd)
     Tasks: 1 (limit: 19003)
    Memory: 1.7M
       CPU: 12ms
    CGroup: /system.slice/ssh.service
           └─3269 "sshd: /usr/sbin/sshd -D [listener] 0 of 10-100 startups"

Jun 01 12:01:32 pop-os systemd[1]: Starting OpenBSD Secure Shell server...
Jun 01 12:01:32 pop-os sshd[3269]: Server listening on 0.0.0.0 port 22.
Jun 01 12:01:32 pop-os sshd[3269]: Server listening on :: port 22.
Jun 01 12:01:32 pop-os systemd[1]: Started OpenBSD Secure Shell server.
lines 1-16/16 (END)
```

## Step 3: Find the IP Address

You can find the IP address in two ways:

- **From Proxmox Dashboard:** Under the VM summary tab
- **Inside Pop!\_OS:**

```
ip a | grep inet
```

```
valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
zippyb@pop-os:~$ ip a | grep inet
inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
inet6 ::1/128 scope host
inet 192.168.1.151/24 brd 192.168.1.255 scope global dynamic noprefixroute e
np6s18
inet6 fd33:b9f1:a99c:144f:f8ee:22cb:15fe:edb5/64 scope global temporary dyna
mic
inet6 fd33:b9f1:a99c:144f:f3a2:e223:c714:dff0/64 scope global dynamic mngtmp
addr noprefixroute
inet6 fe80::6829:4e03:a9fb:d3b3/64 scope link noprefixroute
zippyb@pop-os:~$
```

# Step 4: SSH From Another Machine

From your host machine or another computer on the LAN, connect:

```
ssh zippyb@192.168.1.151
```

You'll be prompted to accept the fingerprint and then enter your user password.

```
PS C:\Users\aoan> ssh zippyb@192.168.1.151
The authenticity of host '192.168.1.151 (192.168.1.151)' can't be established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:7IzZhrE0VdUXcuOpUS+6kkoufXDhN6Mxtyg+g2IHtak.
This key is not known by any other names.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added '192.168.1.151' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.
zippyb@192.168.1.151's password:
Welcome to Pop!_OS 22.04 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.12.10-76061203-generic x86_64)

* Homepage: https://pop.system76.com
* Support: https://support.system76.com

The programs included with the Pop!_OS system are free software;
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*/copyright.

Pop!_OS comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by
applicable law.

zippyb@pop-os:~$
```

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## Optional: Use SCP to Transfer Files

```
scp file.txt zippyb@192.168.1.151:/home/nate/
```

Or use `rsync` for large/recurring syncs:

```
rsync -avz project/ zippyb@192.168.1.151:/home/nate/project/
```

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# Step 4: Enable and Configure UFW Firewall

1. Enable UFW:

```
sudo ufw enable
```

2. Allow SSH through the firewall:

```
sudo ufw allow ssh
```

3. Check firewall status:

```
sudo ufw status verbose
```

```
zippyb@pop-os:~$ sudo ufw enable
Command may disrupt existing ssh connections. Proceed with operation (y|n)? y
Firewall is active and enabled on system startup
zippyb@pop-os:~$ sudo ufw allow ssh
Rule added
Rule added (v6)
zippyb@pop-os:~$ sudo ufw status verbose
Status: active
Logging: on (low)
Default: deny (incoming), allow (outgoing), disabled (routed)
New profiles: skip

To Action From
--
22/tcp ALLOW IN Anywhere
22/tcp (v6) ALLOW IN Anywhere (v6)

zippyb@pop-os:~$
```

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## Done

I can now securely connect to my Pop!\_OS VM using SSH for remote configuration and file transfers.

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Revision #1

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