

# How to install Samba server on Ubuntu 12.04

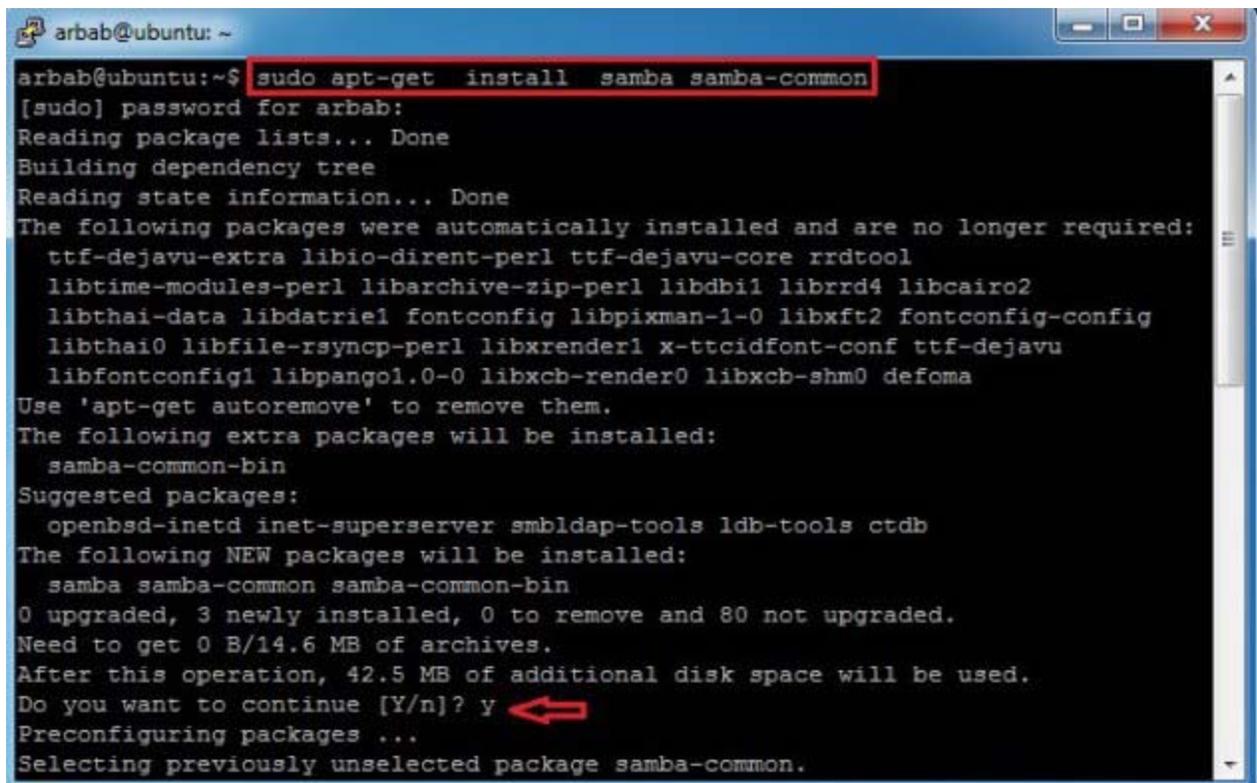
[30 Comments](#) Posted by [rbgeek](#) on April 25, 2012

## Part 1: Configuring anonymous share with samba server

To install the **samba** package, enter the following command:

```
sudo apt-get update
```

```
sudo apt-get install samba samba-common
```



```
arbab@ubuntu: ~  
arbab@ubuntu:~$ sudo apt-get install samba samba-common  
[sudo] password for arbab:  
Reading package lists... Done  
Building dependency tree  
Reading state information... Done  
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:  
  ttf-dejavu-extra libio-dirent-perl ttf-dejavu-core rrdtool  
  libtime-modules-perl libarchive-zip-perl libdbi1 librrd4 libcairo2  
  libthai-data libdatriel fontconfig libpixmap-1-0 libxft2 fontconfig-config  
  libthai0 libfile-rsyncp-perl libxrender1 x-ttcidfont-conf ttf-dejavu  
  libfontconfig1 libpangol.0-0 libxcb-render0 libxcb-shm0 defoma  
Use 'apt-get autoremove' to remove them.  
The following extra packages will be installed:  
  samba-common-bin  
Suggested packages:  
  openssh-inetd inet-superserver smbldap-tools ldb-tools ctdb  
The following NEW packages will be installed:  
  samba samba-common samba-common-bin  
0 upgraded, 3 newly installed, 0 to remove and 80 not upgraded.  
Need to get 0 B/14.6 MB of archives.  
After this operation, 42.5 MB of additional disk space will be used.  
Do you want to continue [Y/n]? y  
Preconfiguring packages ...  
Selecting previously unselected package samba-common.
```

Check the version of installed samba software by using this command:

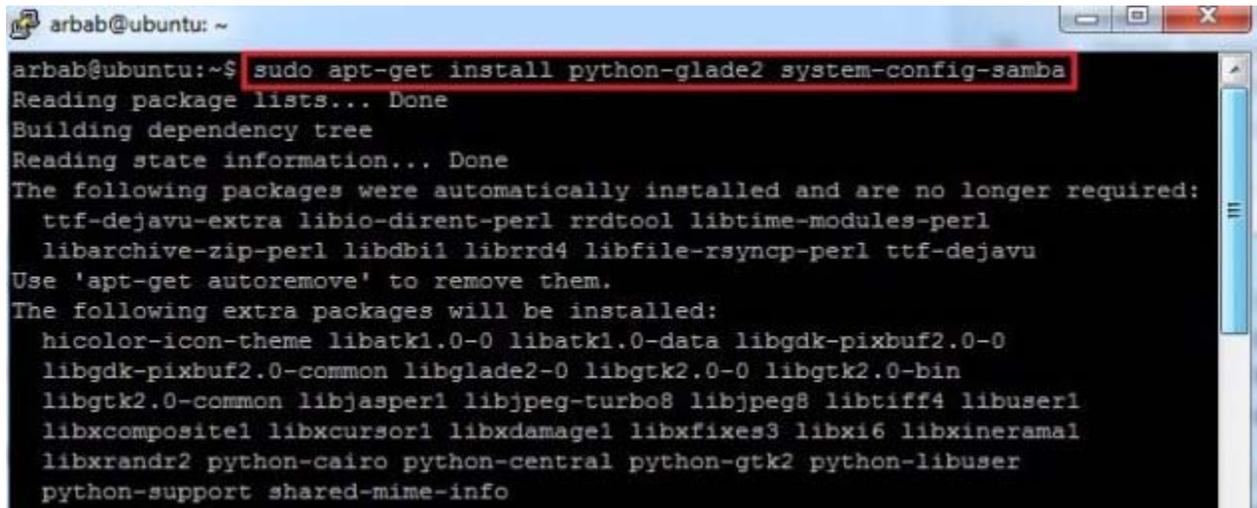
```
smbd --version
```



```
arbab@ubuntu: ~  
arbab@ubuntu:~$ smbd --version  
Version 3.6.3  
arbab@ubuntu:~$
```

Also install these suggested packages for samba:

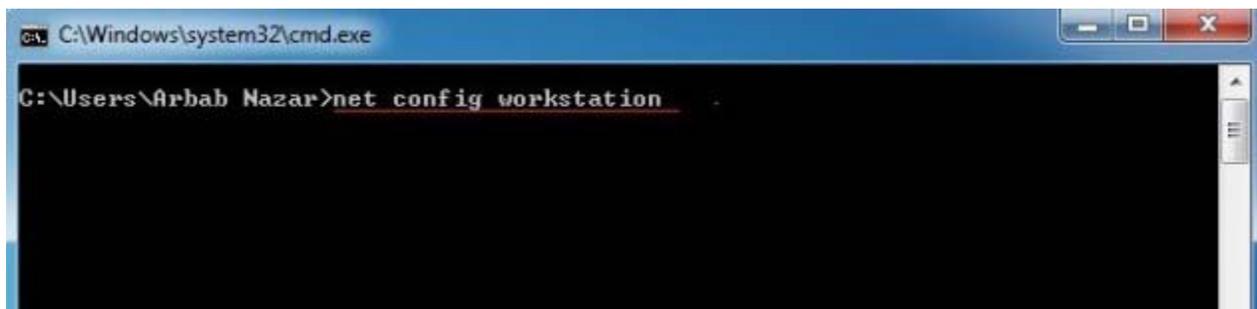
```
sudo apt-get install python-glade2 system-config-samba
```



```
arbab@ubuntu: ~  
arbab@ubuntu:~$ sudo apt-get install python-glade2 system-config-samba  
Reading package lists... Done  
Building dependency tree  
Reading state information... Done  
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:  
  ttf-dejavu-extra libio-dirent-perl rrdtool libtime-modules-perl  
  libarchive-zip-perl libdbi1 librrd4 libfile-rsyncp-perl ttf-dejavu  
Use 'apt-get autoremove' to remove them.  
The following extra packages will be installed:  
  hicolor-icon-theme libatk1.0-0 libatk1.0-data libgdk-pixbuf2.0-0  
  libgdk-pixbuf2.0-common libglade2-0 libgtk2.0-0 libgtk2.0-bin  
  libgtk2.0-common libjasper1 libjpeg-turbo8 libjpeg8 libtiff4 libuser1  
  libxcompositel libxcursor1 libxdamage1 libxfixes3 libxi6 libxinerama1  
  libxrandr2 python-cairo python-central python-gtk2 python-libuser  
  python-support shared-mime-info
```

Go to your Windows machine and use this command in order to check the WORKGROUP name:

```
net config workstation
```



```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe  
C:\Users\Arbab Nazar>net config workstation
```

It will show the output, something like this:

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe

C:\Users\Arbab Nazar>net config workstation
Computer name                \\ARBAB-LI
Full Computer name          Arbab-LI
User name                    Arbab Nazar

Workstation active on
NetBT_Tcpip_{1058368A-E08D-49F3-ACA8-BD091E812E7C} <101F7458EB7A>
NetBT_Tcpip_{77BAFA23-35FF-4468-A31E-AF3B0A5ED66A} <02004C4F4F50>

Software version            Windows 7 Ultimate

Workstation domain          WORKGROUP
Logon domain                 Arbab-LI

COM Open Timeout (sec)      0
COM Send Count (byte)       16
COM Send Timeout (msec)    250
The command completed successfully.

C:\Users\Arbab Nazar>
```

Backup the smb.conf file, then delete it and create the new one:

```
sudo cp /etc/samba/smb.conf /etc/samba/smb.conf.bak
sudo rm /etc/samba/smb.conf
sudo touch /etc/samba/smb.conf
sudo nano /etc/samba/smb.conf
```

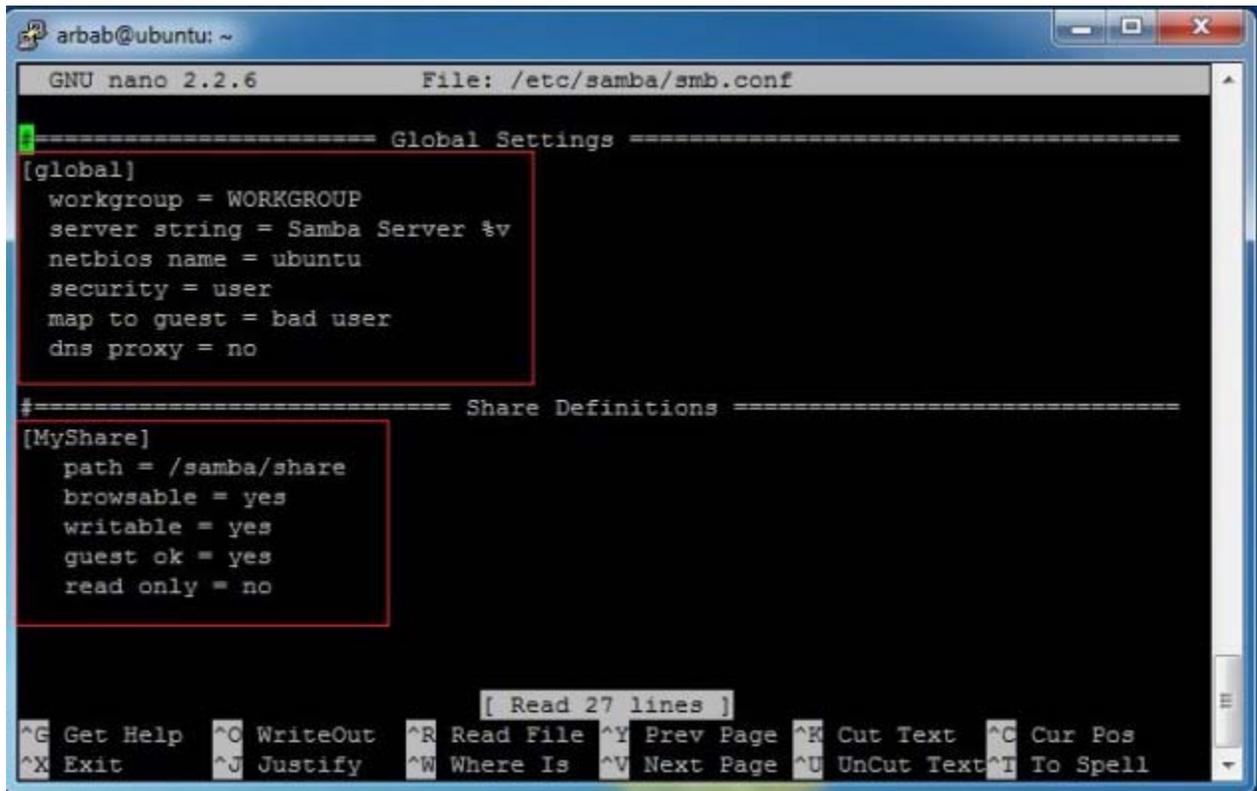
```
arbab@ubuntu: /

arbab@ubuntu:/$ sudo cp /etc/samba/smb.conf /etc/samba/smb.conf.bak
arbab@ubuntu:/$
arbab@ubuntu:/$ sudo rm /etc/samba/smb.conf
arbab@ubuntu:/$
arbab@ubuntu:/$ sudo touch /etc/samba/smb.conf
arbab@ubuntu:/$
arbab@ubuntu:/$ nano /etc/samba/smb.conf
```

Add this, in your smb.conf file (or change it according to your requirement):

```
#===== Global Settings =====
[global]
workgroup = WORKGROUP
server string = Samba Server %v
netbios name = ubuntu
security = user
map to guest = bad user
dns proxy = no
#===== Share Definitions =====
[MyShare]
path = /samba/share
browsable = yes
writable = yes
guest ok = yes
```

read only = no



```
arbab@ubuntu: ~
GNU nano 2.2.6 File: /etc/samba/smb.conf
===== Global Settings =====
[global]
workgroup = WORKGROUP
server string = Samba Server %v
netbios name = ubuntu
security = user
map to guest = bad user
dns proxy = no

#===== Share Definitions =====
[MyShare]
path = /samba/share
browsable = yes
writable = yes
guest ok = yes
read only = no

[ Read 27 lines ]
^G Get Help ^O WriteOut ^R Read File ^Y Prev Page ^K Cut Text ^C Cur Pos
^X Exit ^J Justify ^W Where Is ^V Next Page ^U UnCut Text ^I To Spell
```

Save the smb.conf file and restart the service:

```
sudo service smb restart
```

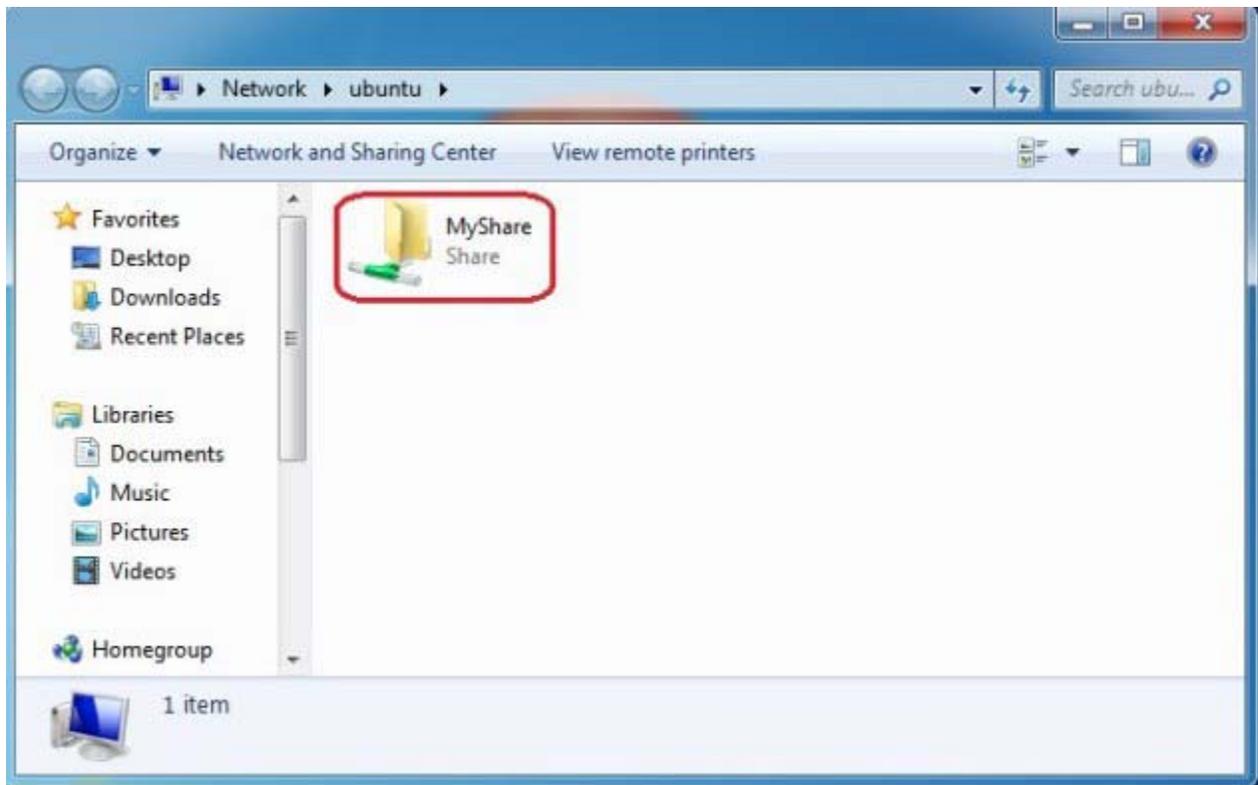


```
arbab@ubuntu: /samba
arbab@ubuntu:/samba$ sudo service smb restart
smbd stop/waiting
smbd start/running, process 1842
arbab@ubuntu:/samba$
```

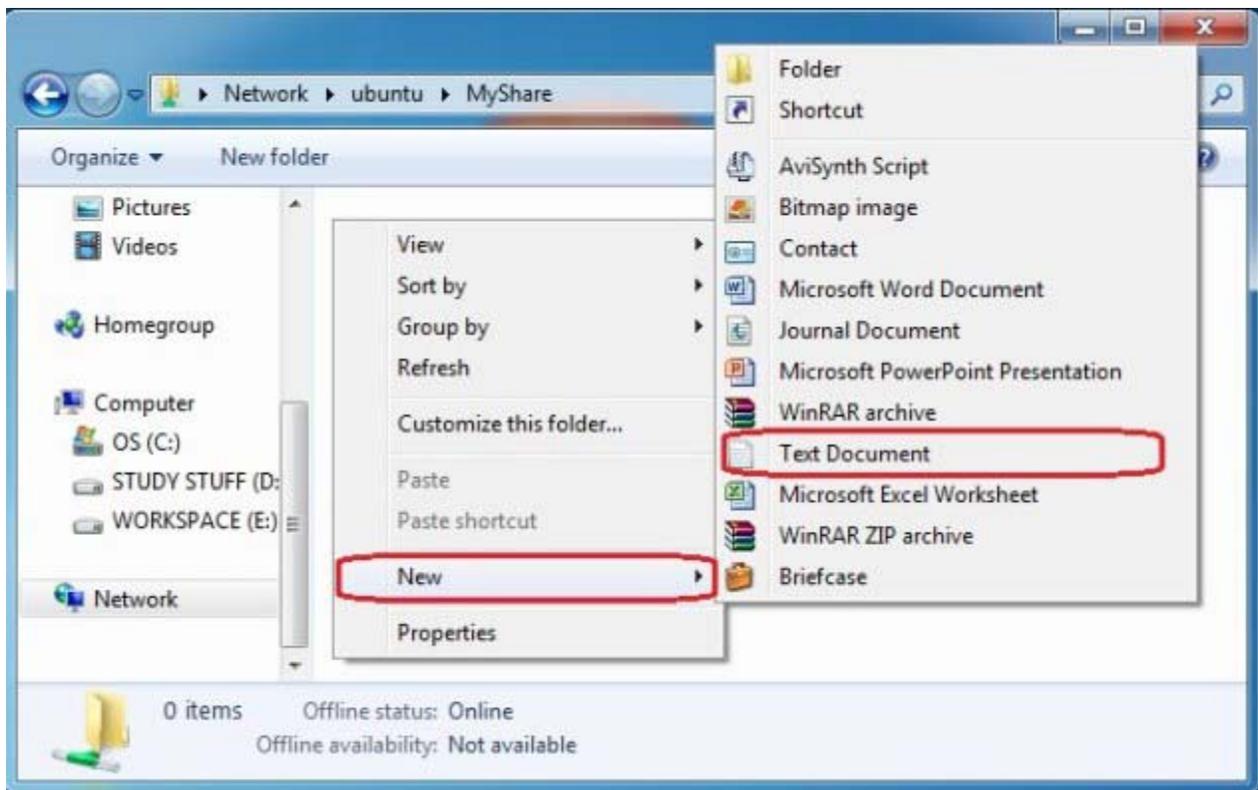
Access the samba share from windows (where ubuntu is the name of my samba server):



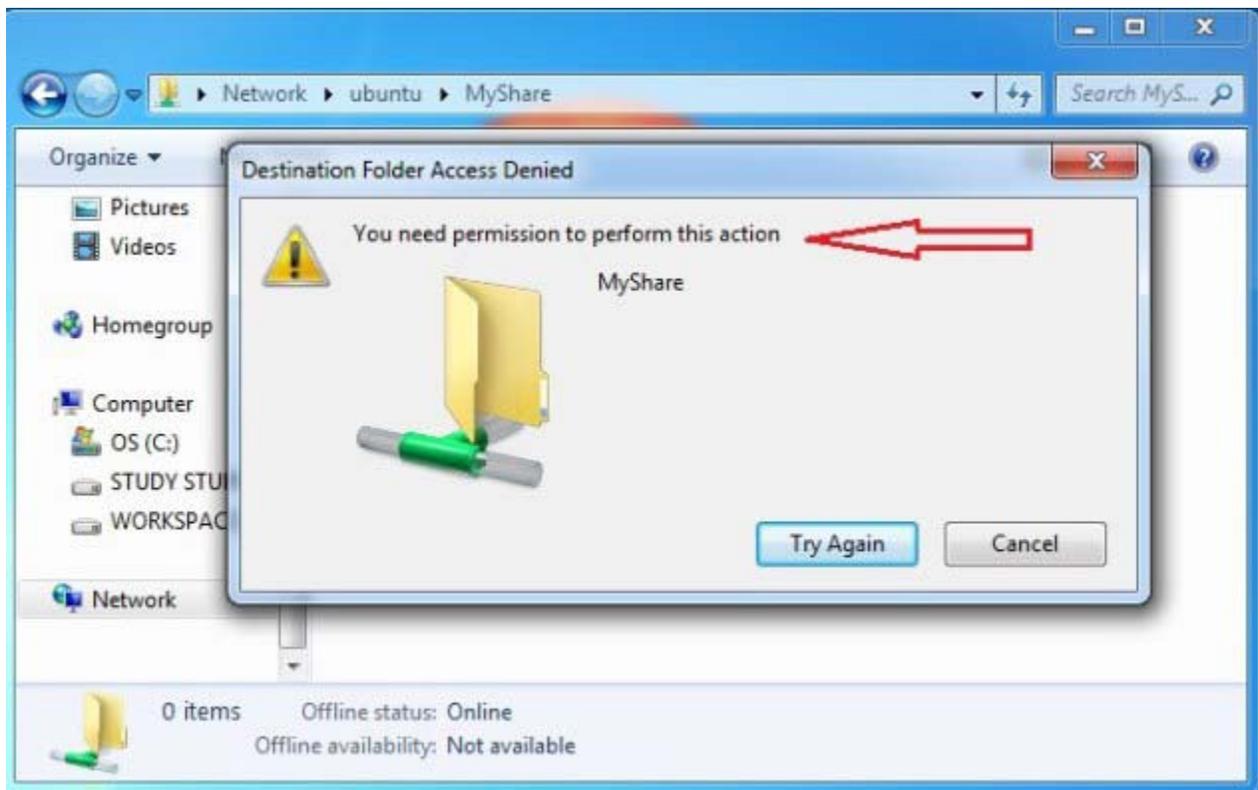
wao, we are able to access the samba share successfully :-)



Let's try to create something, inside the share folder:

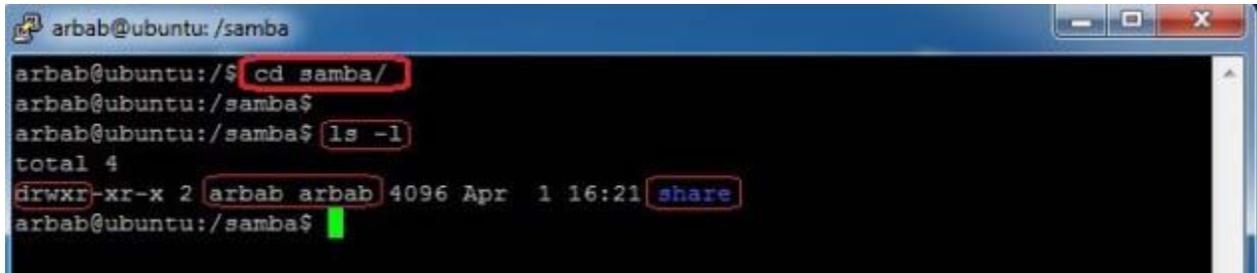


Error, we cannot create anything inside the share folder :-)



Check the current permission on the samba share:

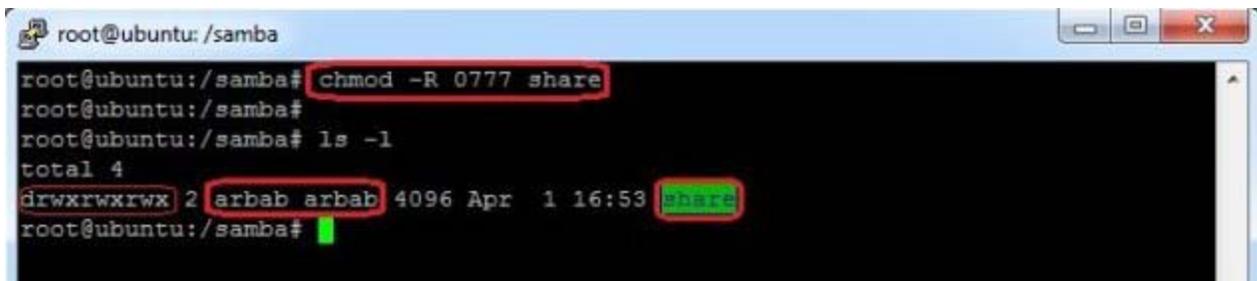
```
cd /samba/  
ls -l
```



```
arbab@ubuntu: /samba  
arbab@ubuntu:/$ cd samba/  
arbab@ubuntu:/samba$  
arbab@ubuntu:/samba$ ls -l  
total 4  
drwxr-xr-x 2 arbab arbab 4096 Apr  1 16:21 share  
arbab@ubuntu:/samba$
```

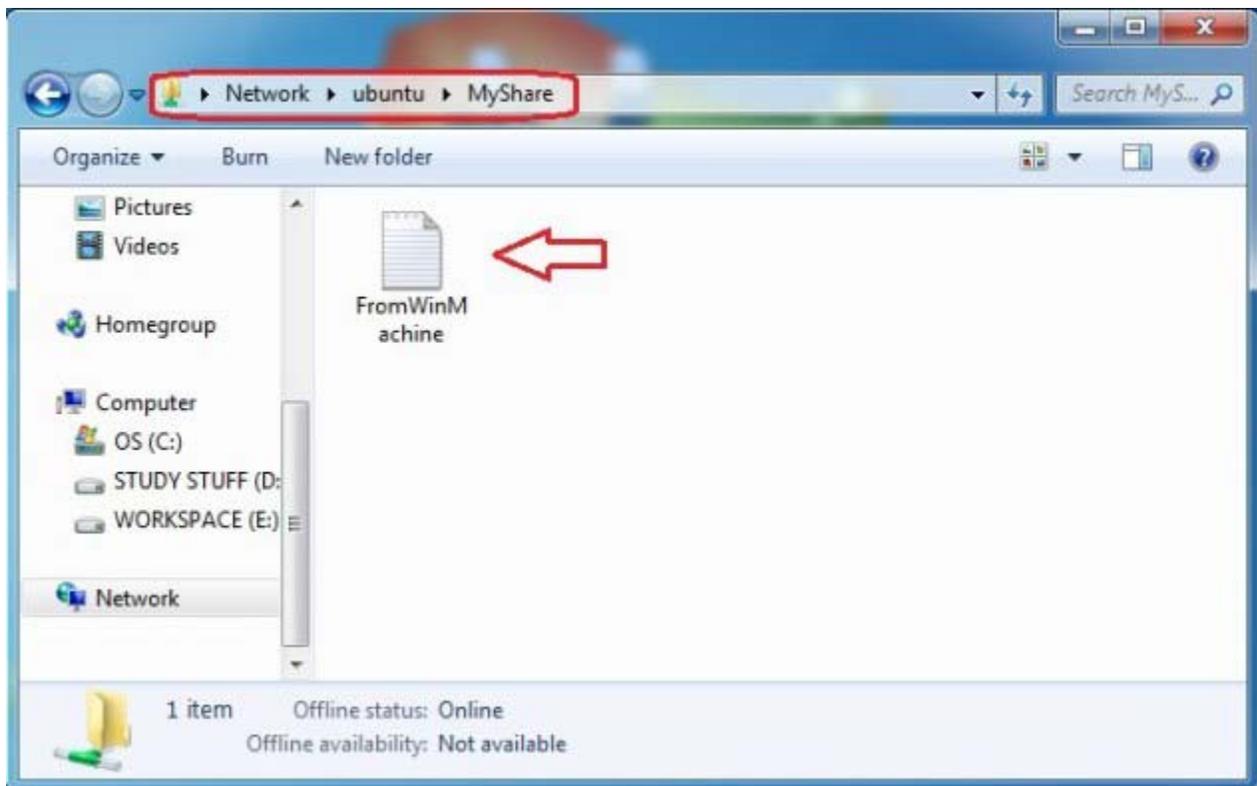
Change it, in such a way that everyone can read and write it (Check it, that it is allowed in your environment or not):

```
sudo chmod -R 0777 share  
ls -l
```



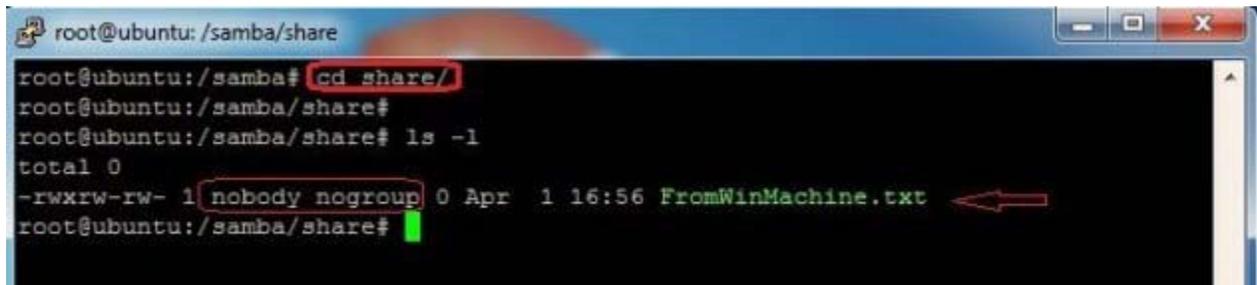
```
root@ubuntu: /samba  
root@ubuntu:/samba# chmod -R 0777 share  
root@ubuntu:/samba#  
root@ubuntu:/samba# ls -l  
total 4  
drwxrwxrwx 2 arbab arbab 4096 Apr  1 16:53 share  
root@ubuntu:/samba#
```

Try to create something again, inside the share folder:



Verify the newly created file on samba server:

```
cd share/  
ls -l
```



## Part 2: Add and manage users and groups

Add a group in your ubuntu server (in my case smbgrp):

```
sudo addgroup smbgrp
```

```
arbab@ubuntu: /
arbab@ubuntu:/$ sudo addgroup smbgrp
```

Create a new share, set the permission on the share ,add the user to the samba group and create samba password:

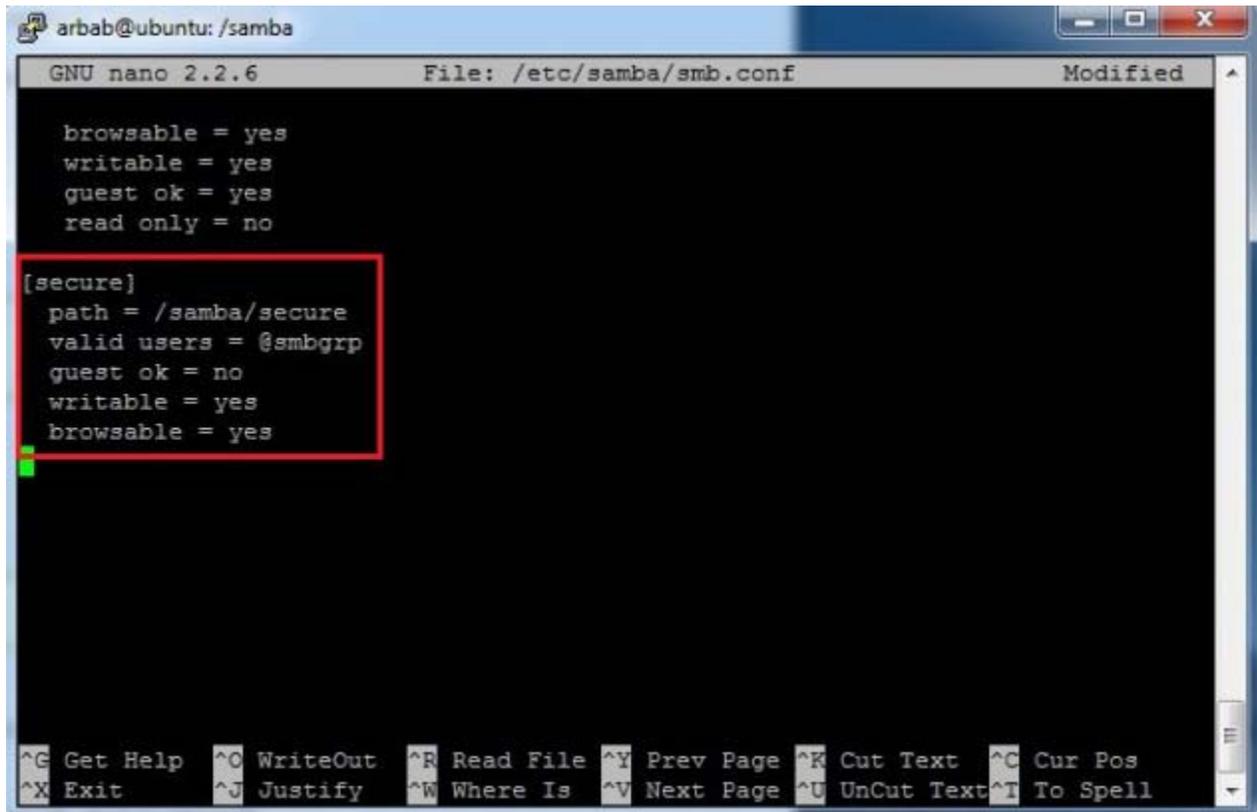
```
cd /samba/
sudo chown -R arbab:smbgrp secure/
ls -l
sudo chmod -R 0770 secure/
ls -l
sudo adduser arbab smbgrp
sudo smbpasswd -a arbab
```

```
arbab@ubuntu: /samba
arbab@ubuntu:/$ cd /samba
arbab@ubuntu:/samba$ sudo chown -R arbab:smbgrp secure/
arbab@ubuntu:/samba$ ls -l
total 8
drwxrwx--- 2 arbab smbgrp 4096 Apr  4 00:10 secure
drwxrwxrwx 2 arbab root   4096 Apr  3 05:01 share
arbab@ubuntu:/samba$ chmod -R 0770 secure/
arbab@ubuntu:/samba$ ls -l
total 8
drwxrwx--- 2 arbab smbgrp 4096 Apr  4 00:10 secure
drwxrwxrwx 2 arbab root   4096 Apr  3 05:01 share
arbab@ubuntu:/samba$ sudo adduser arbab smbgrp
Adding user `arbab' to group `smbgrp' ...
Adding user arbab to group smbgrp
Done.
arbab@ubuntu:/samba$ sudo smbpasswd -a arbab
New SMB password: ....
Retype new SMB password: ....
arbab@ubuntu:/samba$
```

Add the newly created samba share in smb.conf file:

```
[secure]
path = /samba/secure
valid users = @smbgrp
guest ok = no
writable = yes
```

```
browsable = yes
```



```
arbab@ubuntu: /samba
GNU nano 2.2.6 File: /etc/samba/smb.conf Modified
browsable = yes
writable = yes
guest ok = yes
read only = no

[secure]
path = /samba/secure
valid users = @smbgrp
guest ok = no
writable = yes
browsable = yes

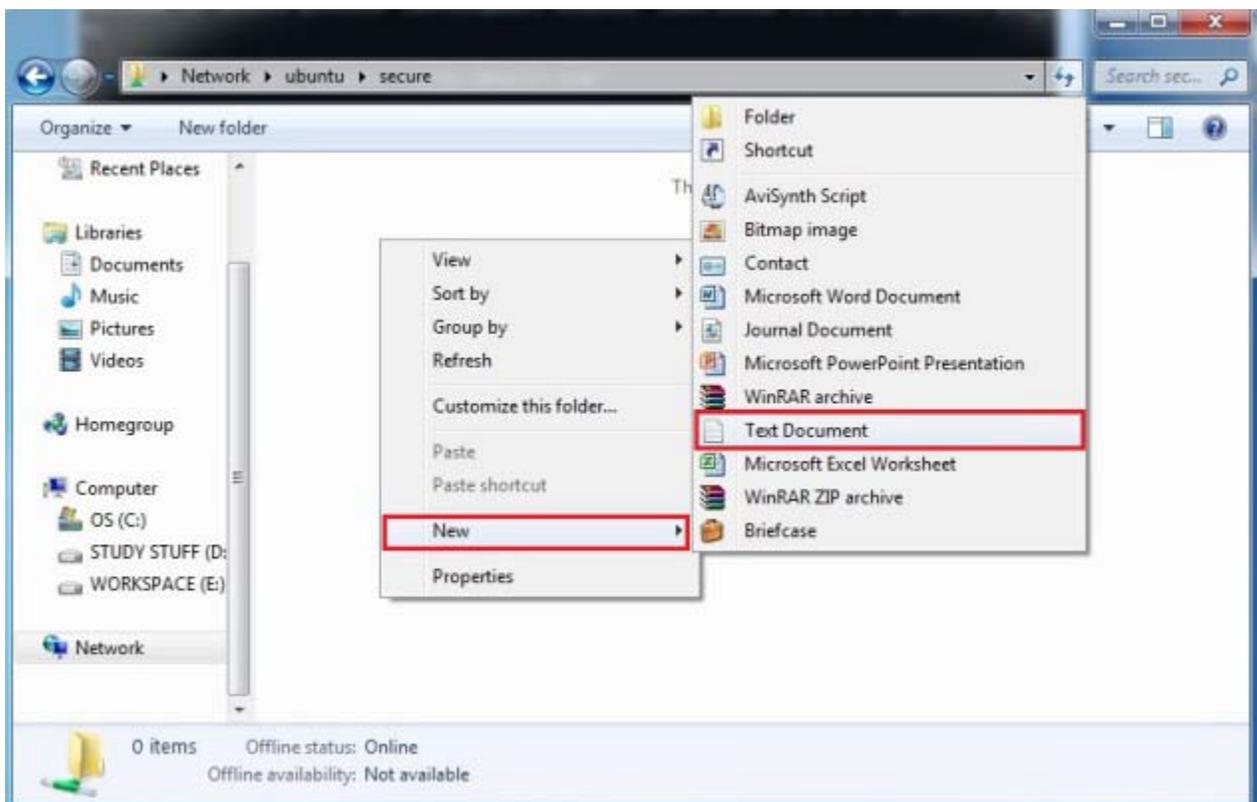
^G Get Help ^O WriteOut ^R Read File ^Y Prev Page ^K Cut Text ^C Cur Pos
^X Exit ^J Justify ^W Where Is ^V Next Page ^U UnCut Text ^T To Spell
```

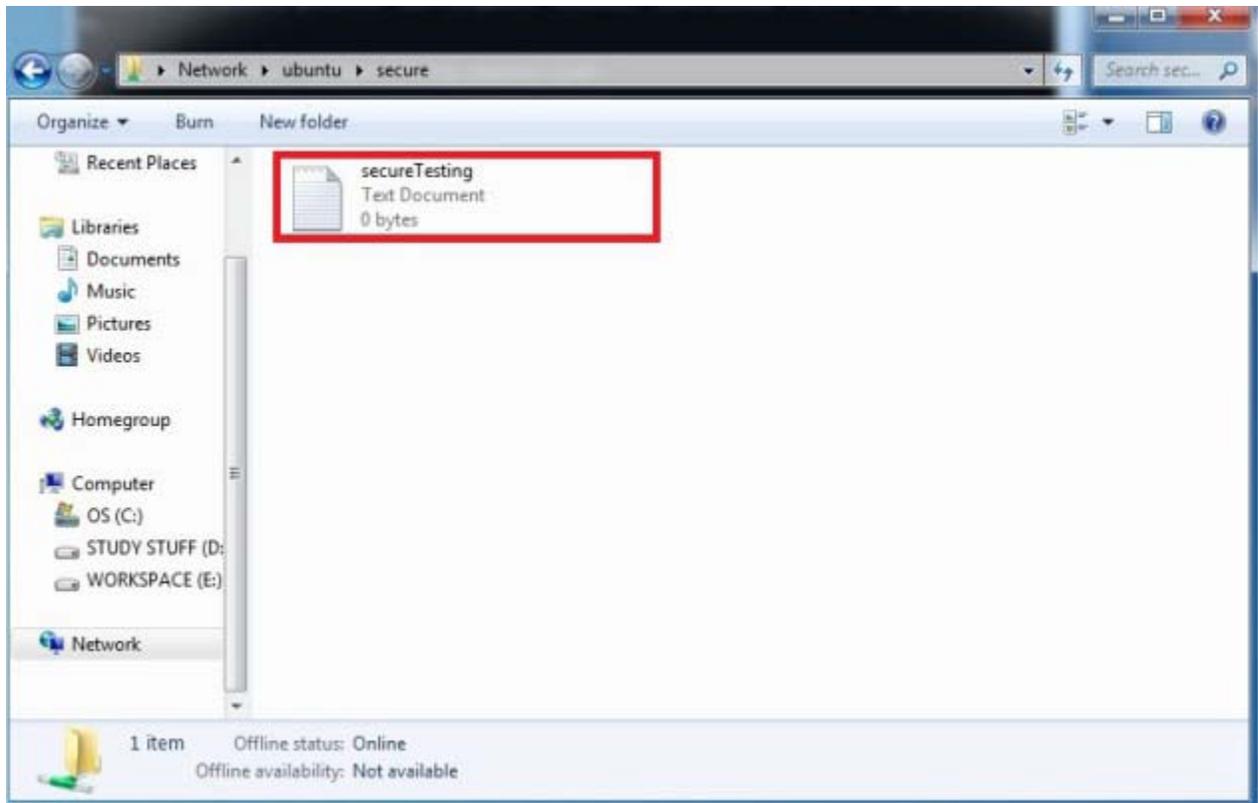
Restart the samba service and check the syntax error with *testparm*:

```
sudo service smb restart
sudo testparm
```

```
arbab@ubuntu: /samba
arbab@ubuntu:/samba$ sudo service smbd restart
smbd stop/waiting
smbd start/running, process 1842
arbab@ubuntu:/samba$
arbab@ubuntu:/samba$ sudo testparm
Load smb config files from /etc/samba/smb.conf
rlimit_max: increasing rlimit_max (1024) to minimum Windows limit (16384)
Processing section "[MyShare]"
Processing section "[secure]"
Loaded services file OK.
Server role: ROLE_STANDALONE
Press enter to see a dump of your service definitions
█
```

Testing from Windows Machine:





Verification from Ubuntu server:

```
cd /samba/secure/  
ls -l
```

```
arbab@ubuntu: /samba/secure
arbab@ubuntu:/$ cd /samba/secure/
arbab@ubuntu:/samba/secure$
arbab@ubuntu:/samba/secure$ ls -l
total 0
-rwxr--r-- 1 arbab arbab 0 Apr  4 02:13 secureTesting.txt
arbab@ubuntu:/samba/secure$
```

### ***Related***

[How To Install WordPress in Ubuntu Server 12.04 LTS](#)In "Linux"

[Mercurial Server on Ubuntu 12.04 LTS with Web Access](#)In "Linux"

[Linux](#), [Samba](#), [Ubuntu 12.04](#), [how to install samba on ubuntu](#), [how to install samba on ubuntu server 12.04](#), [samba](#), [samba group](#), [samba on ubuntu](#), [samba server](#), [samba user](#), [share](#), [smb](#), [ubuntu 12.04](#), [windows](#)

### **Responses to “*How to install Samba server on Ubuntu 12.04*”**

1. Erik [May 16, 2012 at 5:27 am](#)

I can't seem to access the password protected share from Windows. The guest share is working fine but when I enter my samba username and password I get an error message in Windows. Any suggestions?

[rbgeek](#) [May 16, 2012 at 12:31 pm](#)

Erik, are you using the same username as you are using on windows system? for example, you have Erik account on your windows machine and you have created the same account on samba?

Because, I had the same problem, when i was using the same account on both!

- [Erik May 16, 2012 at 5:34 pm](#)

I was clicking use another account and then typing in the administrator account which I had created a samba password for on the server but it wouldn't let me in. However I managed to fix it by changing security = user to security = share.

Thanks for the response though.

- [rbgeek May 16, 2012 at 5:48 pm](#)

Nice to hear that your are able to solve your problem

2. [Jason Goff August 8, 2012 at 11:04 am](#)

I can't seem to get through the \\Ubuntu step on the windows computer. Is there something that I'm missing?

- [rbgeek August 8, 2012 at 11:25 am](#)

Can you tell me the error that you are getting?

- [sankar August 17, 2012 at 3:57 pm](#)

machine says the path cant be found

- [rbgeek August 17, 2012 at 4:09 pm](#)

please check that samba service is running on your server, check it's status and also ping to your server from your client

3. [Mel August 28, 2012 at 2:26 am](#)

Check the current permission on the samba share: I can not find SAMBA I get error saying File or Directory not found I can not find it anywhere on my Server

```
cd /samba/  
ls -l
```

- [rbgeek August 31, 2012 at 3:06 pm](#)

If you can't find it on your system then most probably you didn't create it, so create it and then set a permission on it. One more thing that there is difference between SAMBA and samba in linux world!

4. *John D.* [September 13, 2012 at 9:11 am](#)

Thank you so much for this tutorial! I am new to using Linux as a file share/server, and have been going nuts for days trying to get Win7, WinXP, and Ubuntu to all play nice. Thanks to you, I just got the Ubuntu file share working, and can transfer files at the full network speed. Awesome!

5. *magus* [November 7, 2012 at 1:02 pm](#)

Make sure to add etc in front of  
path = /samba/

So it will be:  
path = /etc/samba

This will solve your all problems in newer ubuntu server versions :)

6. *magus* [November 7, 2012 at 1:07 pm](#)

Make sure to add etc in front of  
path = /samba/

So it will be:  
path = etc/samba

(delete my previous post becuz it was /etc/samba and it was wrong, sorry )

7. *Dragnix* [November 16, 2012 at 5:30 pm](#)

```
in path [cd /etc/samba]
sudo chmod -R 0777 share
ls -l
This command doesn't work
```

What is the problem?

- o *james* [January 2, 2013 at 4:23 am](#)

I am having the same problem. in my case the system says that the directory doesn't exist (I have tried both etc/ and not.

- *Arbab* [January 2, 2013 at 5:15 pm](#)

did you create the share directory?  
like you create the directory under /etc/samba directory:  
sudo mkdir /etc/samba/share  
cd /etc/samba  
Then run the command:  
sudo chmod -R 0777 share

- o [dan401 May 23, 2013 at 9:10 pm](#)

Great tutorial, Erik! Thanks! I for example, want access to my www files from my Windows box, so I did this:

```
sudo chmod -R 0777 /var/www/  
ls -l
```

Note, this example is not secure – you should never chmod 777 your web pages folder! But I used this in my setup and it's OK because I don't get a lot of web traffic. Create a folder that you want to share files in – you don't necessarily have to call it "Share" as in the example above.

- 8. [gratefulfrog January 25, 2013 at 12:44 am](#)

I followed the instructions and it "almost" works. From the Win7 machine, no problems. But from the Ubuntu machine I see:

Network:

Windows Network:

WORKGROUP:

Windows Shares on your workgroup:

PC-USER:

{list of shared directories }

When I click on the one I want (called "Share") of them I get:

Failed to open "Share". Invalid argument.

All the std Win7 shares seem to be accessible ok. And the directory Share that I made is visible and accessible from other windows machines. It is visible from Ubuntu as rw-rw-

Any thoughts?

- 9. [encraptor July 13, 2013 at 11:44 am](#)

This is solution for anyone was denied to enter 'secure folder' in Win 7 after put correct username & password.

For Win 7 and Win 8, you have to enter username & password, then it will denied you. Dont worry, you have to restart first you windows.

And try back after that. U will require to put username & password same as before, but for the second time, it will pass grant to you direct to your secure folder.

Thanks Rbgeek for this great & easiest tutorial ever about samba server!