

How to install NextCloud on Ubuntu

<https://www.marksei.com/how-to-install-nextcloud-12-on-ubuntu/>

How to install NextCloud 12 on Ubuntu

17.10



NextCloud is a Dropbox-like solution for self-hosted file sharing and syncing. Installing NextCloud 12 on Ubuntu is trivial. Whether you want to [backup](#), have file-syncing or just have a Google Calendar alternative, this guide is for you.

What is NextCloud? Is it like a “cloud”?

If you stumbled here by chance and don't know what NextCloud is, here is [an article](#) explaining its principal features and **advantages/disadvantages**. In this other [article](#) you can find NextCloud 12 new features. To tell you the truth, NextCloud is a SaaS cloud, if you want to know more about cloud types you can [read this article](#).

In this article we will cover the installation of the **server** (not the **client**).

Step1: Install software

Important

I take absolutely NO responsibility of what you do with your machine; use this tutorial as a guide and remember you can possibly cause data loss if you touch things carelessly.

The first step in order to install NextCloud 12 is to install a **web server** and **PHP**. Although you can adapt this guide for many Ubuntu versions I suggest you to stick with [Ubuntu 16.04](#) or higher since **PHP7** is included. PHP7 brings many improvements over the past versions and will boost NextCloud too, as a matter of fact PHP7 is required since NextCloud 11. You will need **root access** during this procedure. The following procedure will install **apache** as webserver. Input the commands one by one to avoid errors!

Ubuntu 17.10

Open **terminal**

```
apt-get install apache2 libapache2-mod-php7.0 bzip2
```

```
apt-get install php7.0-gd php7.0-json php7.0-mysql php7.0-curl php7.0-mbstring
```

```
apt-get install php7.0-intl php7.0-mcrypt php-imagick php7.0-xml php7.0-zip
```

Step2: Database selection

Now that you have set up the environment, all that is left is to choose a database that will support the installation. You have three choices:

- **SQLite:** is a single-file database. It is suggested only for small installations since it will slow NextCloud down sensibly.
- **MariaDB/MySQL:** are popular open source databases especially amongst web developers. It is the suggested choice.
- **PostgreSQL:** a popular enterprise-class database. More complicated than MySQL/MariaDB.

Now, this choice won't really alter the functionality of NextCloud (except if you use SQLite), so pick whatever you know best. If you're unsure pick

MariaDB/MySQL.

SQLite

```
apt-get install sqlite3 php-sqlite3
```

MariaDB

```
apt-get install mariadb-server php-mysql
```

MySQL

```
apt-get install mysql-server php-mysql
```

During the installation you will be prompted to choose a **root password**, pick a strong one. If you're not prompted to choose a password, the default one will be blank. (This is potentially insecure, change it!)

Now you need to **enter** the database (you will be asked the password you just set):

```
mysql -u root -p
```

```
CREATE DATABASE nextcloud;
```

```
CREATE USER 'nc_user'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'YOUR_PASSWORD_HERE';
```

```
GRANT ALL PRIVILEGES ON nextcloud.* TO 'nc_user'@'localhost';
```

```
FLUSH PRIVILEGES;
```

PostgreSQL

```
apt-get install postgresql php-pgsql
sudo -u postgres psql
CREATE DATABASE nextcloud;
CREATE USER nc_user WITH PASSWORD 'YOUR_PASSWORD_HERE';
GRANT ALL PRIVILEGES ON DATABASE nextcloud to nc_user;
\q
```

Step 3: Install NextCloud

The last step is to actually get the software, configure it and run it.

Ubuntu

```
cd /var/www

wget https://download.nextcloud.com/server/releases/latest-12.tar.bz2 -O
nextcloud-12-latest.tar.bz2

tar -xvjf nextcloud-12-latest.tar.bz2
chown -R www-data:www-data nextcloud
rm nextcloud-12-latest.tar.bz2
```

Now we need to create a new file in `/etc/apache2/sites-available/nextcloud.conf`. Feel free to use whatever editor you feel comfortable with and add the following lines:

```
Alias /nextcloud "/var/www/nextcloud/"

<Directory /var/www/nextcloud/>
    Options +FollowSymLinks
    AllowOverride All

    <IfModule mod_dav.c>
        Dav off
    </IfModule>

    SetEnv HOME /var/www/nextcloud
    SetEnv HTTP_HOME /var/www/nextcloud

</Directory>
```

Once done it's time to enable the new site and enable **apache mods** that are needed by NextCloud:

```
a2ensite nextcloud
a2enmod rewrite headers env dir mime
systemctl restart apache2
```

Step 4: Configuring firewall

This step is **essential when your firewall is enabled**. If your firewall is enabled you won't be able to access your NextCloud 12 instance; on the other hand if it isn't enabled you shouldn't have any problems and you can simply skip this step.

Tip!

Keep in mind **having a firewall enabled is a good security practice and you should already have one enabled**.

In order for the firewall to work, it must be enabled. This guide **will not include** this part. When you enable a firewall many things can go wrong, e.g. you're using [SSH](#), you enable the firewall and your connection is cut and can't connect otherwise, hence you should carefully **review the documentation** from your distribution.

To open the ports needed by NextCloud 12 follow these steps:

UFW

UFW is the default firewall in Ubuntu, if you're using one, you're probably using **UFW**.

```
ufw allow http
ufw allow https
```

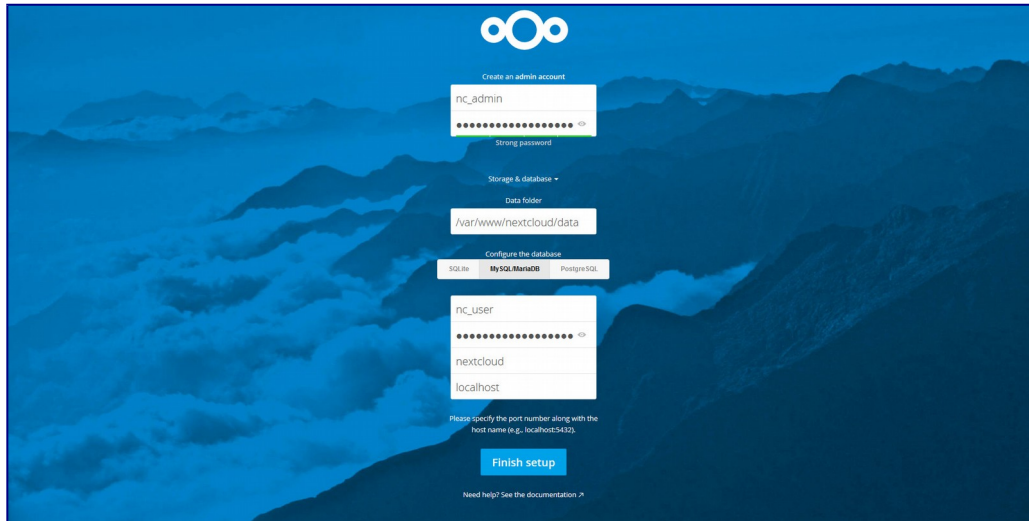
IPtables

IPtables is an older firewall (still widely used), **if you're not using UFW** you can use **IPtables** directly.

```
iptables -A INPUT -p tcp -m tcp --dport 80 -j ACCEPT
iptables -A INPUT -p tcp -m tcp --dport 443 -j ACCEPT
```

Step 5: Install

Once you're done with selecting the **database**, it's time to install everything. Head to http://YOUR_IP_ADDRESS/nextcloud/ and you will be facing the following screen:



The image shows the Nextcloud installation wizard. It has a blue background with a mountain and cloud pattern. The Nextcloud logo is at the top. The form is divided into sections: 'Create an admin account' with fields for 'nc_admin' and a password; 'Storage & database' with a dropdown menu; 'Data folder' with the path '/var/www/nextcloud/data'; 'Configure the database' with a dropdown menu showing 'MySQL/MariaDB' selected; 'nc_user' with fields for 'nextcloud' and 'localhost'; and a 'Finish setup' button. There is also a link to 'Need help? See the documentation'.

Select an administrator username and password, then you can select the **data folder**, but if you don't know what you're doing it's best if you leave it with the default value. Then click on "**Storage & Database**" to select the **database** you chose during step 2. Fill everything and if you've followed all the steps correctly you should be seeing the **Files app**:

