



**STORMSHIELD**



GUIDE

**STORMSHIELD SSL VPN CLIENT**

# INSTALLATION GUIDE

Version 5.1

Document last updated: April 20, 2026

Reference: [sns-en-ssl\\_vpn\\_installation\\_guide-v5.1](#)



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## Change log

Date	Description
April 20, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Explanations added to the sections "Installing the Stormshield SSL VPN client" and "Updating the Stormshield SSL VPN client", regarding the management of DNS servers provided by the SNS firewall on macOS and Linux operating systems</li><li>- Requirement added in the section "Installation on a Linux operating system"</li></ul>
December 01, 2025	Following sections added: "Deploying saved connections through a script in a group policy (GPO)", "Updating the Stormshield SSL VPN client for Linux", and "Updating the Stormshield SSL VPN client for macOS"
October 22, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Explanations added in the section "Specific characteristics of the Stormshield SSL VPN client"</li><li>- Link to the Stormshield SSL VPN client v5 administration guide added</li></ul>
July 29, 2025	Link to the Stormshield SSL VPN client v5 user and configuration guide added
July 22, 2025	New document



## Getting started

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Welcome to the Stormshield SSL VPN Client version 5.1 installation guide.

SSL VPN allows remote users to securely access an organization's resources - internal or otherwise - via the SNS firewall. An SSL VPN client, such as the Stormshield SSL VPN client, has to be installed on each user's workstation in order to set up a connection.

This guide explains how to download, install, update and uninstall the Stormshield SSL VPN client on Windows, Linux and macOS operating systems.



# Specific characteristics of the Stormshield SSL VPN client

This section presents some of the specific characteristics of the Stormshield SSL VPN client.

## Compatible versions and operating systems

For more information on operating systems and compatible versions, refer to the section [SSL VPN Client](#) in the *Network Security & Tools Product Life Cycle document*.

## Ports and protocols

In a default configuration, the Stormshield SSL VPN client must be able to contact the following ports to set up connections.

Source	Destination	Protocol/Port (default)	Purpose of the connection
Client (SSLVPNService) <b>Stormshield mode only</b>	SNS firewall	TCP/443 (captive portal)	Retrieving the VPN configuration and sending information to the SNS firewall to verify the compliance of the client workstation (ZTNA)
Client (OpenVPN)	SNS firewall	UDP/1194 (SSL VPN)	Setting up the connection
Client (OpenVPN)	SNS firewall	TCP/443 (SSL VPN)	Setting up the connection (compatibility)

To set up a connection with the SNS firewall, the Stormshield SSL VPN client always uses UDP first to ensure optimal performance. This sequence is defined in the VPN configuration file provided by the SNS firewall.

## Running scripts (Windows only)

The Windows Stormshield SSL VPN client can automatically run scripts on the user's workstation every time a connection is opened or closed.

The SNS firewall provides these scripts to the Stormshield SSL VPN client. These scripts have to be added to the configuration of the SNS firewall's SSL VPN service. For more information, refer to the [SSL VPN administration guide for SNS firewalls and Stormshield SSL VPN clients](#).

## Limitations and explanations on usage

For more information, refer to the section [Limitations and explanations on usage](#) in the *Stormshield SSL VPN Client v5 Release Notes*.



## Installing on a Windows operating system

This section explains how to download, install, update and uninstall the Stormshield SSL VPN client for Windows. It also explains how to deploy saved connections through a script in a group policy (GPO).

### Downloading the installer for Windows

1. Download the Stormshield SSL VPN client installer from:
  - The [Stormshield SSL VPN](#) website, or
  - Your [MyStormshield area](#) in **Downloads > Downloads > Stormshield Network Security > SSL VPN**.

Two MSI packages are available: one in French, and the other in English, which will determine the language of the installer. Once it has been installed, the Stormshield SSL VPN client can be used in English or French, depending on the language selected in the user's session settings.

2. In the Windows command prompt, retrieve the hash of the downloaded MSI package with the command:

```
CertUtil -hashfile <filename> SHA256
```

Replace *<filename>* with the name of the downloaded MSI package.

3. Compare the result with the hash that can be seen on the website used for downloading the MSI package:
  - On the [Stormshield SSL VPN](#) website: click on **SHA256**,
  - In your [MyStormshield area](#), in the **SHA256** column in the download table, click on **Show**.Hashes have to be identical.

### Installing the Stormshield SSL VPN client

#### **i** NOTE

The Stormshield SSL VPN client is now installed for all users on the workstation.

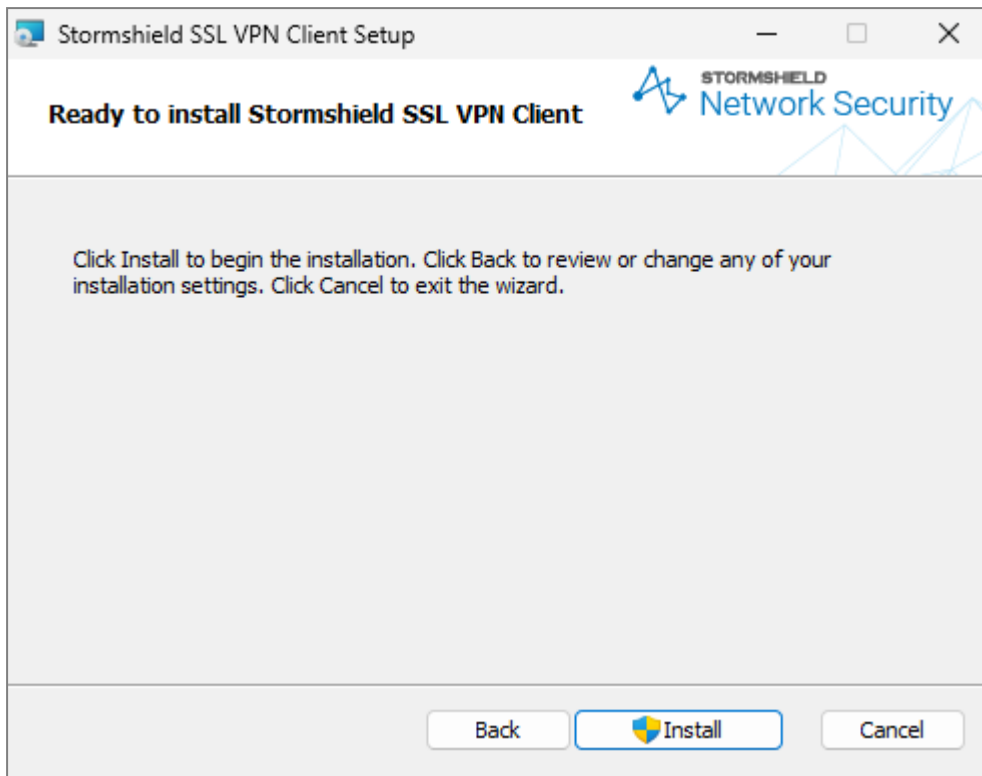
To update the Stormshield SSL VPN client, refer to the section [Updating the Stormshield SSL VPN client](#).

### Manual installation with the MSI package

You must be the local workstation administrator or enter the login and password of an administrator account in order to install the Stormshield SSL VPN client.

1. Run the MSI package that was [downloaded earlier](#).
2. Follow the steps in the installation wizard.

Once it is installed, the Stormshield SSL VPN client will automatically start.



## Deployment via a group policy (GPO)

You can configure the Stormshield SSL VPN client deployment GPO together with the [saved connection deployment GPO](#) to deploy them in succession.

1. Run the server manager on the domain controller.
2. In the upper menu bar, click on **Tools > Group Policy Management**.
3. In the list on the left, right-click on the Microsoft Active Directory domain name and select **Create a GPO in this domain, and link it here...**
4. Name the GPO and click on **OK**.
5. Right-click on the name of the GPO that you have just created, and select **Edit**.
6. In the window to edit the GPO, expand the menu on the left **Computer Configuration > Policies > Software Settings**.
7. Right-click on **Software installation** and select **New > Package**. Select the MSI package that was [downloaded earlier](#).
8. Select **Advanced** deployment mode and click on **OK**.
9. Right-click on the package that you have just added, and select **Properties**.
10. If you wish to do so, you can rename this package installation instance in the **General** tab.
11. In the **Deployment** tab, click on **Advanced options...** and select **Ignore language when deploying this package**. Click on **OK**.
12. Click on **OK**.

The deployment will automatically run when a workstation connects to the corporate network. Once it is deployed, the Stormshield SSL VPN client will automatically start.



## Installing in command line

1. Open the Windows command prompt as an administrator.
2. Go to the folder containing the MSI package that was [downloaded earlier](#).
3. Run this command to start the deployment:

```
msiexec /i <filename> /qn
```

- Replace *<filename>* with the name of the downloaded MSI package.
- Keep the `/qn` options in order for the deployment to take place silently without showing the progress bar. Use `/qb!` options to show the progress bar.

Once it is installed, the Stormshield SSL VPN client will automatically start.

## Deploying saved connections through a script in a group policy (GPO)

You can configure this GPO together with the [Stormshield SSL VPN client deployment GPO](#) to deploy them in succession.

For this GPO, Stormshield provides a sample script. You can customize it to suit your requirements, or write your own script.

### Operating principle of the script `ImportAddressBook-GPO.ps1`

The script `ImportAddressBook-GPO.ps1` provided by Stormshield is a sample.

Through a GPO, this script makes it possible to deploy a `.book` file that contains saved connections on a pool of Windows workstations. Saved connections are deployed in exactly the same manner on each workstation. This deployment overwrites and replaces the user's saved connections with those that have been deployed.

If necessary, you can customize this script so that it can perform other actions, or you can write your own script.

### Downloading the script `ImportAddressBook-GPO.ps1`

To download the script `ImportAddressBook-GPO.ps1`:


1. In your [MyStormshield area](#), go to **Downloads > Downloads > Stormshield Network Security > SSL VPN**.
2. Click on the name of script `ImportAddressBook-GPO.ps1` to download it.

### Creating and copying the `.book` to be deployed

To configure the GPO, you will need the `.book` file containing the saved connections that you wish to deploy.

1. Open the Stormshield SSL VPN client on one of your workstations.
2. In the **Saved connections** menu, add the saved connections that you wish to deploy. If necessary, refer to the section [Description of connection modes and available fields](#) in the *Stormshield Stormshield SSL VPN client v5 user and configuration guide*.



3. Export the saved connections:
  - a. Click on the  button at the top right, then click on **Export**.
  - b. Select the location to save the .book file, give it a name, and then click on **Save**.
  - c. In the **Protect file** window, leave the **Password** field empty. Protected files cannot be deployed with the script **ImportAddressBook-GPO.ps1**.
4. Copy the .book file into a shared folder that can be accessed from your domain controller, and by the workstations in your organization to which the GPO applies.







### Configuring the GPO

1. Copy the script that you wish to use for the GPO on your domain controller.
2. Run the server manager.
3. In the upper menu bar, click on **Tools > Group Policy Management**.
4. In the list on the left, right-click on the Microsoft Active Directory domain name and select **Create a GPO in this domain, and link it here...**
5. Name the GPO and click on **OK**.
6. Right-click on the name of the GPO that you have just created, and select **Edit**.
7. In the window to edit the GPO, expand the menu on the left **User configuration > Policies > Windows settings**, and click on **Scripts (opening/closing session)**.
8. Double-click on **Opening sessions**.
9. In the properties window, go to the **PowerShell scripts** tab, and click on **Add...**
10. In the window to add the script:
  - a. In the **Script name** field, select the script to be used for the GPO.
  - b. In the **Script settings** field, enter the full path to access the .book file to be deployed. If the path contains spaces, it must be placed between quotation marks.
  - c. Click on **OK** to confirm adding the script.
11. Click on **OK** to confirm changes to the properties.

The deployment will automatically run when a user opens a session while being connected to the corporate network. When saved connections have been deployed, they will be available in the **Saved connections** menu on the Stormshield SSL VPN client.

## Updating the Stormshield SSL VPN client

### Matrix of updates to version 5

Original version	Information to take into account when updating to version 5
Version 2 Version 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Clients in version 2 or 3 must be uninstalled before updating to version 5.</li> <li> Address book entries are added to saved connections [*].</li> <li> Imported connection profiles (OVPN files) will be lost.</li> </ul>
Version 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Update possible without uninstalling version 4. The program that installs the update to version 5 will replace the current version.</li> <li> Address book entries are added to saved connections [*].</li> <li> Imported connection profiles (OVPN files) will be lost.</li> </ul>



Original version	Information to take into account when updating to version 5
Version 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✔ Update possible without uninstalling version 5. The program that installs the update to version 5 will replace the current version.</li><li>✔ Saved connections retained.</li></ul>

[\*] The "Address book" is now named "Saved connections" in version 5. During an update to version 5, address book entries in older versions are added to saved connections, either automatically, or by entering the address book password the first time that the Stormshield SSL VPN client starts up, if the address book is protected. The original address book will be kept as it is.

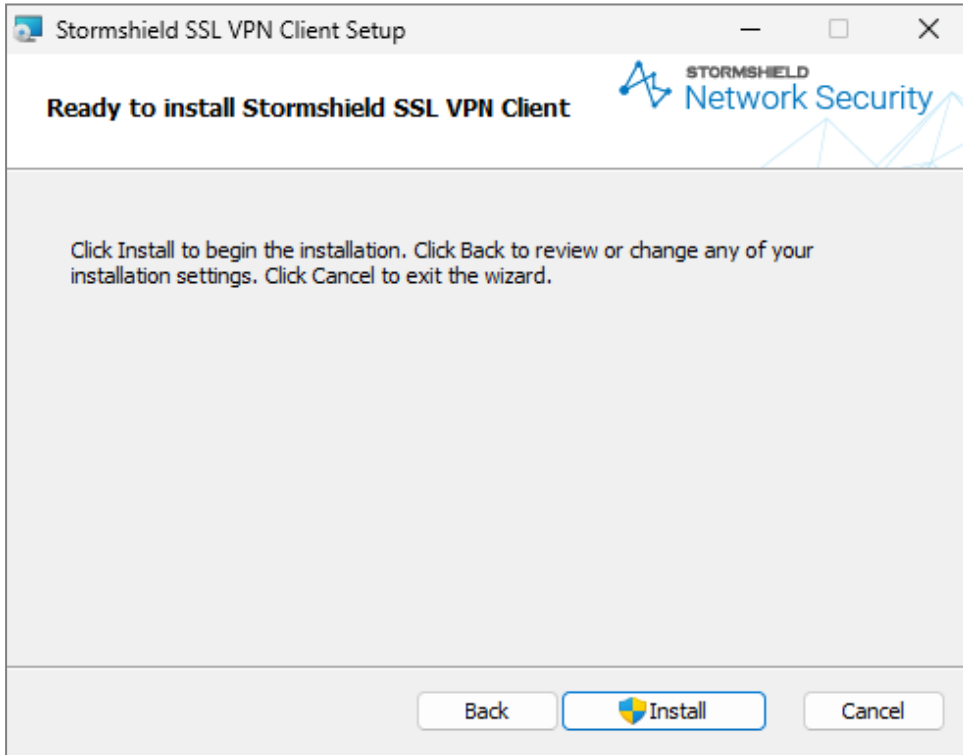
**! IMPORTANT**  
Downgrades to a lower version are not supported. If you wish to go back to an earlier version, you must first uninstall the current version, then install the new version.

### Manual update with the MSI package

You must be the local workstation administrator or enter the login and password of an administrator account in order to install the Stormshield SSL VPN client update.

1. Run the MSI package of the new version that was [downloaded earlier](#).
2. Follow the steps in the installation wizard.

Once it has been updated, the Stormshield SSL VPN client will automatically start.





## Deployment of the update via a group policy (GPO)

1. Run the server manager on the domain controller.
2. In the upper menu bar, click on **Tools > Group Policy Management**.
3. In the list on the left, right-click on the name of the GPO in question and select **Edit**.
4. In the window to edit the GPO, expand the menu on the left **Computer Configuration > Policies > Software Settings**.
5. Right-click on **Software installation** and select **New > Package**. Select the new MSI package that was **downloaded earlier**.
6. Select **Advanced** mode and click on **OK**.
7. Right-click on the package that you have just added, and select **Properties**.
8. In the **General** tab, rename this installation instance if necessary, by adding the Stormshield SSL VPN client version number, for example.
9. In the **Deployment** tab, click on **Advanced options...** and select **Ignore language when deploying this package**. Click on **OK**.
10. In the **Upgrades** tab:
  - a. The installation instance of the previous package is shown with the caption **Upgrade**. Select it and click on **Remove**. This property has to be changed in order for the update to be launched correctly.
  - b. Click on **Add...**, select the update package, et select **Uninstall the existing package, then install the upgrade package**. Click on **OK**.The installation instance of the previous package is now associated with the **Replace** operation.
11. Click on **OK**.

The update package is now ready to be deployed. The deployment will automatically run when a workstation connects to the corporate network. Once the update has been deployed, the Stormshield SSL VPN client will automatically start.

## Updating in command line

1. Open the Windows command prompt as an administrator.
2. Go to the folder containing the MSI package that was **downloaded earlier**.
3. Run this command to start the update:

```
msiexec /i <filename> /qn
```

  - Replace *<filename>* with the name of the downloaded MSI package.
  - Keep the **/qn** options in order for the deployment to take place silently without showing the progress bar. Use **/qb!** options to show the progress bar.

Once the update has been installed, the Stormshield SSL VPN client will automatically start.

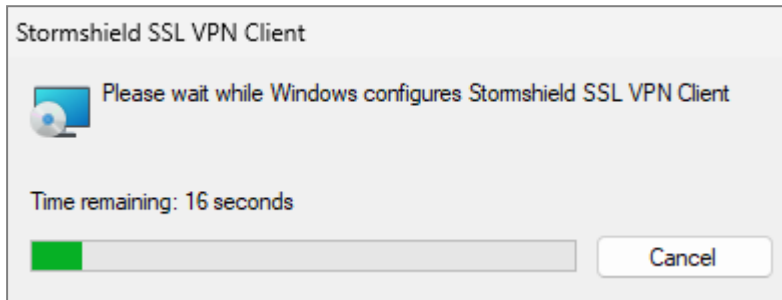
## Uninstalling the Stormshield SSL VPN client

You must be the local workstation administrator or enter the login and password of an administrator account in order to uninstall the Stormshield SSL VPN client.

1. Ensure that the Stormshield SSL VPN client is no longer running.
2. Go to the Windows **Start** menu and open **Settings**.



3. In Windows 11, go to **Applications > Installed applications**.  
In Windows 10, go to **Applications > Applications and features**.
4. In Windows 11, locate **Stormshield SSL VPN Client** and click on ... > **Uninstall**.  
In Windows 10, select **Stormshield SSL VPN Client** and click on **Uninstall**.
5. Click once again on **Uninstall** to start uninstalling.
6. Wait while the Stormshield SSL VPN client uninstalls.



The Stormshield SSL VPN client is now uninstalled for all users on the workstation.



## Installing on a macOS operating system

This section explains how to download, install, update and uninstall the Stormshield SSL VPN client for macOS.

### Downloading the installation package for macOS

1. Download the installation package [.pkg file] of the Stormshield SSL VPN client:
  - The [Stormshield SSL VPN](#) website, or
  - Your [MyStormshield area](#) in **Downloads > Downloads > Stormshield Network Security > SSL VPN**.
2. In a terminal, retrieve the hash of the downloaded package with the command:

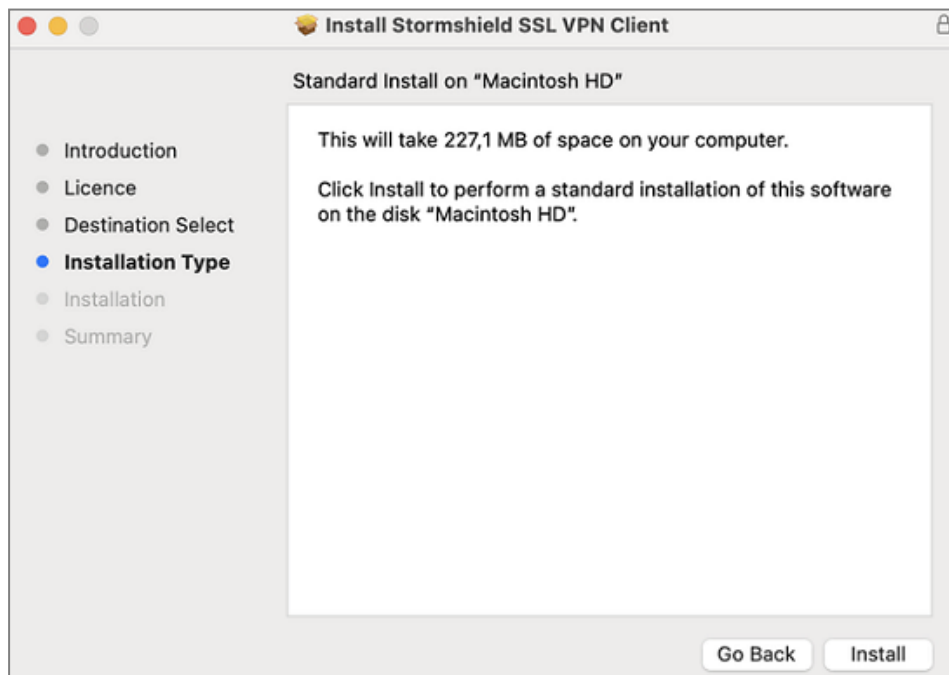
```
shasum -a 256 <filename>
```

Replace *<filename>* with the name of the downloaded package.
3. Compare the result with the hash that can be seen on the website used for downloading the package:
  - On the [Stormshield SSL VPN](#) website, click on **SHA256**,
  - In your [MyStormshield area](#), in the **SHA256** column in the download table, click on **Show**.Hashes have to be identical.

### Installing the Stormshield SSL VPN client

You must be the local workstation administrator in order to install the Stormshield SSL VPN client.

1. Run the installation package [.pkg file] that was [downloaded earlier](#).
2. Follow the steps in the installation wizard.



A mobile device management (MDM) solution can also be used to deploy the Stormshield SSL VPN client. Such solutions are not covered in this section.



## Updating the Stormshield SSL VPN client

### Matrix of updates to version 5

Original version	Information to take into account when updating to version 5
Version 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✔ Update possible without uninstalling version 5. The program that installs the update to version 5 will replace the current version.</li><li>✔ Saved connections retained.</li></ul>

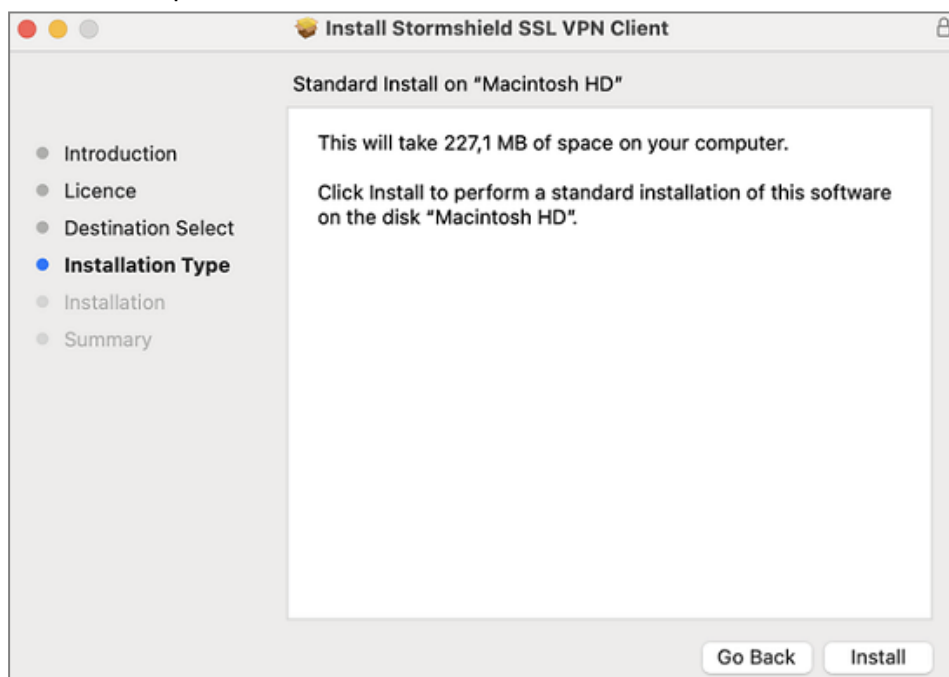
#### ! IMPORTANT

Downgrades to a lower version are not supported. If you wish to go back to an earlier version, you must first uninstall the current version, then install the new version.

### Updating in macOS

You must be the local workstation administrator in order to update the Stormshield SSL VPN client.

1. Ensure that the Stormshield SSL VPN client is no longer running.
2. Install the update by running the package (.pkg file) that [was downloaded earlier](#).
3. Follow the steps in the installation wizard.



#### i NOTE

As of version 5.1.3 of the Stormshield SSL VPN client, the scripts **sslvpn\_connect.sh** and **sslvpn\_disconnect.sh** are no longer needed in order to manage the DNS servers provided by the SNS firewall. To delete them, go to the following location:

/Applications/Stormshield/SSL VPN Client.app/Contents/MacOS/Modules/ssl-vpn/etc/



## Uninstalling the Stormshield SSL VPN client

You must be the local workstation administrator in order to uninstall the Stormshield SSL VPN client.

1. Ensure that the Stormshield SSL VPN client is no longer running.
2. Go to the **Finder**, then go to the **Applications** folder.
3. Right-click on the Stormshield SSL VPN client icon, and click on **Send to Recycle bin**.
4. Empty the bin to delete the application.



# Installing on a Linux operating system

This section explains how to download, install, update and uninstall the Stormshield SSL VPN client for Linux.

## **i** NOTE

Some of the commands in this section use a particular package manager. Adapt them if you are using a different manager.

## Requirements

### An openvpn package in version 2.7

If the SNS firewall is configured to provide Stormshield SSL VPN clients with DNS servers [checkbox "Use DNS servers provided by the firewall" selected], these DNS servers can only be supported with OpenVPN in version 2.7. Ensure that you choose a suitable repository, or update the `openvpn` package if necessary.

## Downloading the installation package for Linux

1. Download the Stormshield SSL VPN client installation package from:
  - The [Stormshield SSL VPN](#) website, or
  - Your [MyStormshield area](#) in **Downloads > Downloads > Stormshield Network Security > SSL VPN**.

The installation package is available in `.deb` format for Ubuntu distributions, and `.rpm` format for Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) distributions.

2. In a terminal, retrieve the hash of the downloaded package with the command:

```
sha256sum <filename>
```

Replace `<filename>` with the name of the `.deb` or `.rpm` downloaded package.

3. Compare the result with the hash that can be seen on the website used for downloading the package:
  - On the [Stormshield SSL VPN](#) website, click on **SHA256**,
  - In your [MyStormshield area](#), in the **SHA256** column in the download table, click on **Show**.

Hashes have to be identical.

## Installing the Stormshield SSL VPN client


### Installing in Ubuntu

1. Install the Stormshield SSL VPN client:

```
sudo apt install ./<filename>
```

- Replace `<filename>` with the name of the `.deb` package [downloaded earlier](#).
- With the `apt` tool, you have to provide the file path of the package to be installed. In the example, `/` indicates that the package is available in the current folder.



2. Ensure that the  icon of the Stormshield SSL VPN client appears in the system tray. With the default desktop environment, the icon automatically appears once the Stormshield SSL VPN client is running.

If you have changed the configuration of the default desktop environment, or if you are using a different environment, you will need to enable certain options or install an additional package to display the icon. For more information, refer to the documentation on the selected desktop environment.

## Installing in Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL)


1. Manually add a repository to provide the **openvpn** dependency, which is not available by default in RHEL. For example, you can add the EPEL (**Extra Packages for Enterprise Linux**) repository:

```
sudo dnf install https://dl.fedoraproject.org/pub/epel/epel-release-latest-9.noarch.rpm
sudo dnf update -y
```

2. Install the Stormshield SSL VPN client:

```
sudo dnf install ./<filename>
```

- Replace *<filename>* with the name of the .rpm package **downloaded earlier**.
- With the *dnf* tool, you have to provide the file path of the package to be installed. In the example, */* indicates that the package is available in the current folder.

3. Ensure that the  icon of the Stormshield SSL VPN client appears in the system tray. With the default desktop environment, you need to install and configure a package that allows the icon to be displayed, such as the **gnome-shell-extension-appindicator** package.

If you are using a different desktop environment, refer to its documentation on how to display the icon.

## Updating the Stormshield SSL VPN client

### Matrix of updates to version 5

Original version	Information to take into account when updating to version 5
Version 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✔ Update possible without uninstalling version 5. The program that installs the update to version 5 will replace the current version.</li><li>✔ Saved connections retained.</li></ul>

#### IMPORTANT

Downgrades to a lower version are not supported. If you wish to go back to an earlier version, you must first uninstall the current version, then install the new version.



## Updating in Ubuntu and Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL)

1. Ensure that the Stormshield SSL VPN client is no longer running.
2. Install the Stormshield SSL VPN client update:

- In Ubuntu:

```
sudo apt install ./<filename>
```

- In Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL):

```
sudo dnf install ./<filename>
```

In the commands above, replace <filename> with the name of the package that was **downloaded earlier**. Do note that with the *apt* and *dnf* tools, you need to provide the file path of the package to be installed [/ indicates that the package is available in the current folder].

### **i** NOTE

As of version 5.1.3 of the Stormshield SSL VPN client, and if you have the **openvpn** package in version 2.7 (see [Requirements](#)), the scripts **sslvpn\_connect.sh** and **sslvpn\_disconnect.sh** are no longer needed in order to manage the DNS servers provided by the SNS firewall. To delete them, go to the following location:

```
/opt/stormshield/sslvpnclient/modules/ssl-vpn/etc/
```

## Uninstalling the Stormshield SSL VPN client

1. Ensure that the Stormshield SSL VPN client is no longer running.
2. Uninstall the Stormshield SSL VPN client:

- In Ubuntu:

```
sudo apt remove sslvpnclient
```

- In Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL):

```
sudo dnf remove sslvpnclient
```



## Further reading

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To configure and use the Stormshield SSL VPN client, refer to the [Stormshield SSL VPN client v5 user and configuration guide](#).

To configure the SSL VPN service on SNS firewalls and monitor connected users, refer to the [SSL VPN administration guide for SNS firewalls and Stormshield SSL VPN clients](#).

Additional information and responses to questions you may have about the Stormshield SSL VPN client are available in the [Stormshield knowledge base](#) (authentication required).



# STORMSHIELD

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