

# Wireless setup guide for Linux

## Configuring Linux to connect to RMIT-WPA wireless network

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# 1 Introduction

This guide describes how to connect a Linux computer to the RMIT secure wireless network (RMIT-WPA). It assumes no knowledge of wireless or network configurations and includes a section on troubleshooting.

The steps for getting connected are configuring Network Manager and setting the proxy. Configuration should take no more than 10 minutes.

For further information about the network, please refer the RMIT web site page [About RMIT's wireless network](http://www.rmit.edu.au/its/wireless) via <http://www.rmit.edu.au/its/wireless>.

## 1.1 Operating system support

Your Linux distribution must have the following:

- Linux kernel version 2.6 or higher
- Network Manager 0.7.0 or higher
- WPA Supplicant 0.6.3 or higher
- Drivers available for your wireless network card

The following is a list of Linux distributions that meet these criteria:

- Fedora 9
- Ubuntu 8.04
- Suse 10.2

# 2 Instructions for Linux users

## 2.1 Preparation

Before beginning your wireless configuration, please check the following:

- Ensure that your Novell (NDS) account is active and that the password has not expired. This is your staff 'e' number or your student 's' number
- Ensure that the PC's wireless port is operational, or install the wireless card as per the manufacturer's instructions.

## 2.2 Connecting to RMIT-WPA secure wireless network

Follow these steps to configure and establish a new connection. If you have already established a connection and wish to edit the settings, refer to section 2.5 [Editing existing settings](#).

Step 1. Click the **Network Manager** icon in the System Tray. It will show a list of networks that are available for connection.

Step 2. Select **RMIT-WPA**.

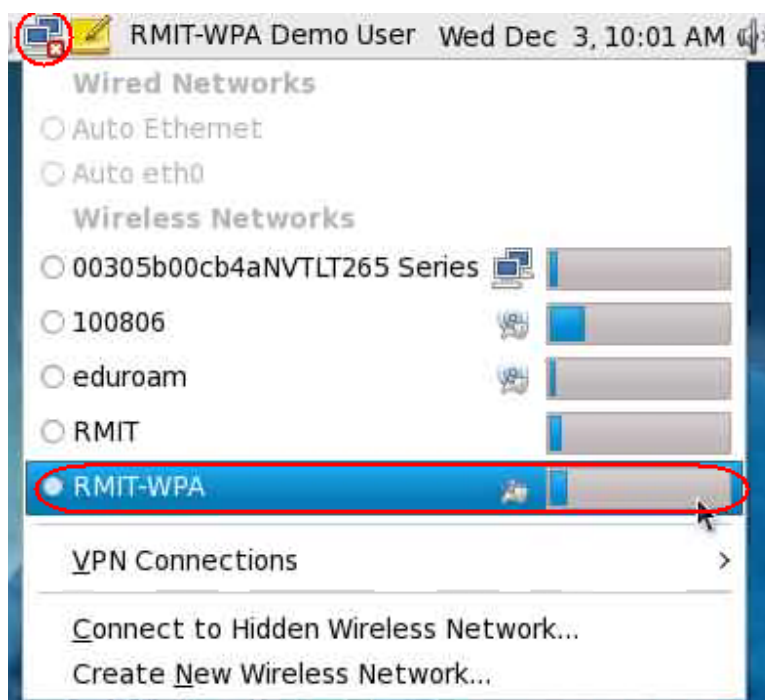


Figure 1. There may be many networks available.

The Wireless Network Secrets Required screen will appear.

Step 3. Select **PAP** in the Inner Authentication pop-up box.

Step 4. Enter your **RMIT ID** and **password** into the user name and password boxes.

Step 5. Leave the default settings for all other options and click **connect**.



Figure 2. Entering network credentials.

- Step 6. Tick the **Don't warn me again** checkbox and click **Ignore** when the no certificate warning pops up.

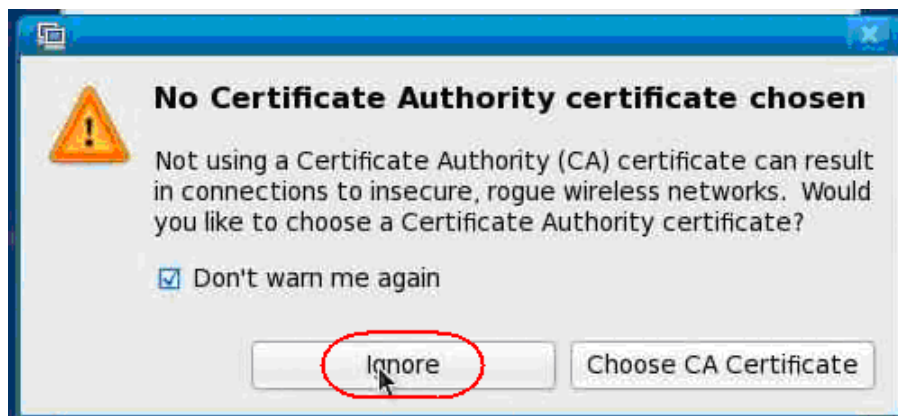


Figure 3. No Certificate Authority is required.

- Step 7. Wait for the connection to complete.

Once connected, the Network Manager icon changes to a vertical bar graph.



Figure 4. A successful connection shows as a pop-up balloon in the System Tray.

- Step 8. To test that the wireless connection is working, you can try browsing to the [RMIT web site](http://www.rmit.edu.au) (<http://www.rmit.edu.au>). If you can see the RMIT home page, you now need to continue to section 2.3 to configure your browser's proxy for external internet browsing.

If you cannot see the RMIT home page, continue to section 2.5 [Editing existing settings](#) to check that your settings match those in Figure 2.

## 2.3 Configuring proxy settings for external browsing

All internet browsing via RMIT networks must go through RMIT's proxy servers. Proxy servers log all internet activity. Follow these steps to configure the proxy for your preferred browser. If they have already been set, use these instructions to check that they are correct.

Links to the section for your browser are listed below:

- [Firefox 3.0+](#) Section 2.3.1
- [Konqueror 4.1+](#) Section 2.3.2
- [GNOME Desktop 2.22+](#) Section 2.3.3

### 2.3.1 Firefox 3.0

Step 1. Start Firefox

Step 2. Click the **Edit** menu then **Preferences**.

Step 3. Click **Advanced** on the top of the options dialogue then click the **Network** tab.

Step 4. Click **Settings**.

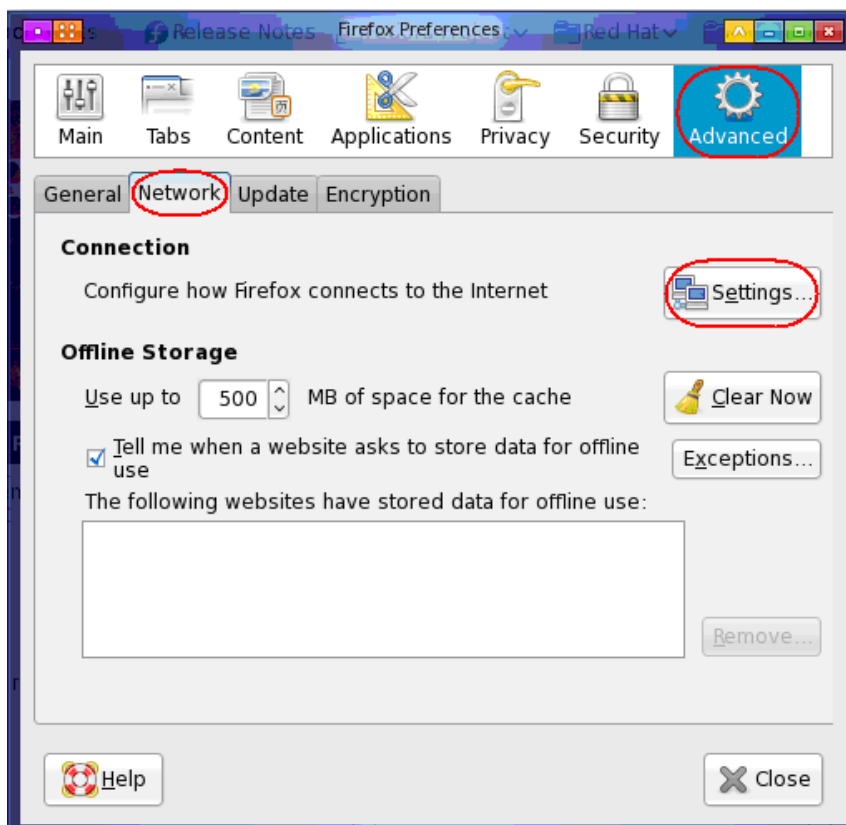


Figure 5. Accessing proxy settings in Firefox 3.

Step 5. Select the **Automatic Proxy Configuration URL** option and enter **http://wpad.rmit.edu.au/wpad.dat** in the space provided.

Step 6. Click **Ok** and then **Close**.

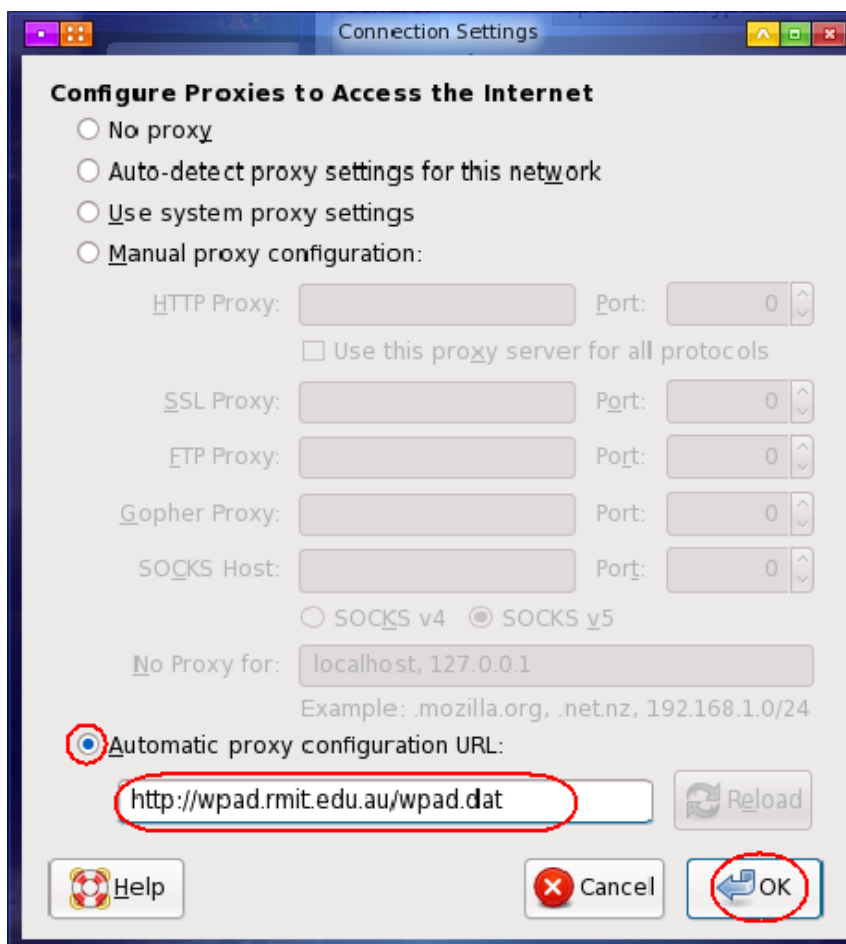


Figure 6. Double check your URL spelling!

## 2.3.2 Konqueror 4.1

Step 1. Start Konqueror.

Step 2. Click the **Settings** menu then **Configure Konqueror**.

Step 3. Click **Proxy** in the left hand navigation menu.

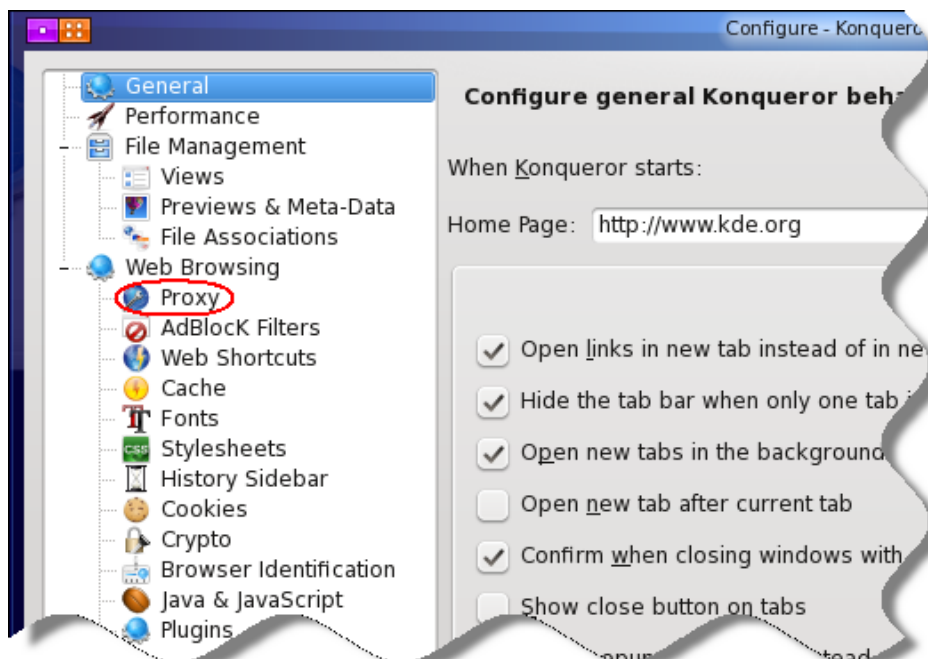


Figure 7. Accessing the proxy settings.

Step 4. Select the **Use the following proxy configuration URL** and enter **http://wpad.rmit.edu.au/wpad.dat** in the text box.

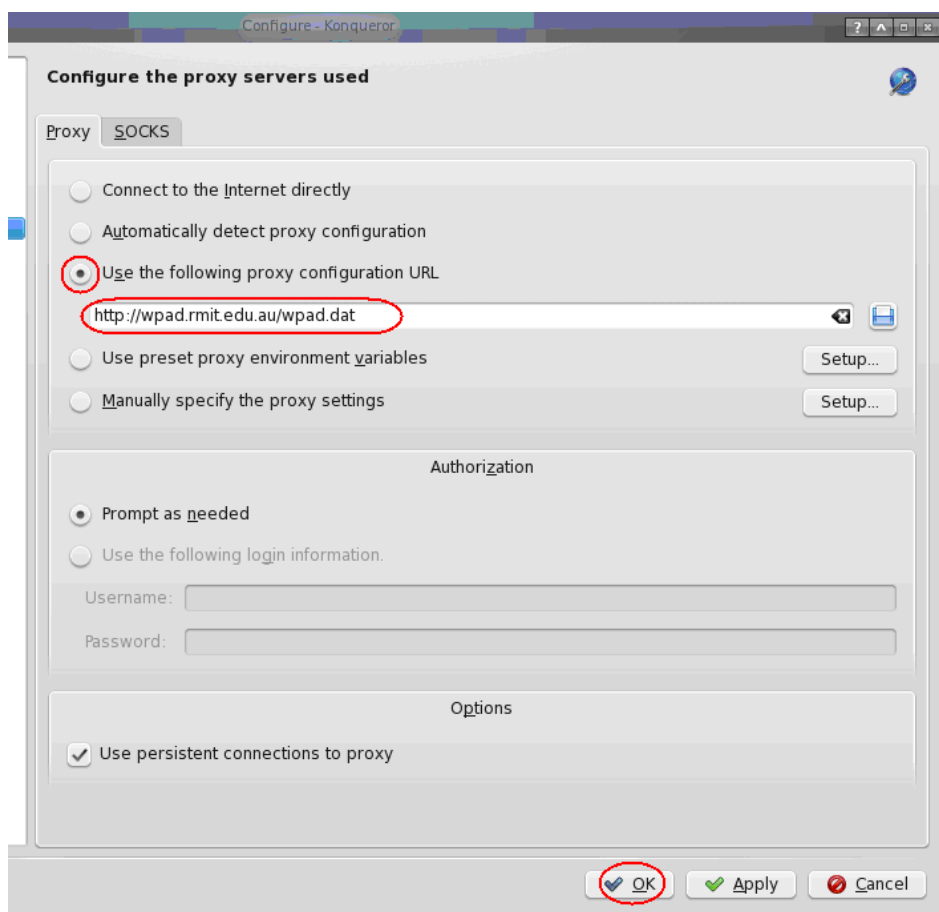


Figure 8. Double check your URL spelling!

### 2.3.3 GNOME Desktop 2.22

Step 1. At the GNOME Desktop, select **System > Preferences > Internet and Network > Network Proxy**

Step 2. Select **Automatic proxy configuration**.

Step 3. Enter **http://wpad.rmit.edu.au/wpad.dat** next to Auto configuration URL.

Step 4. Click **Close**.

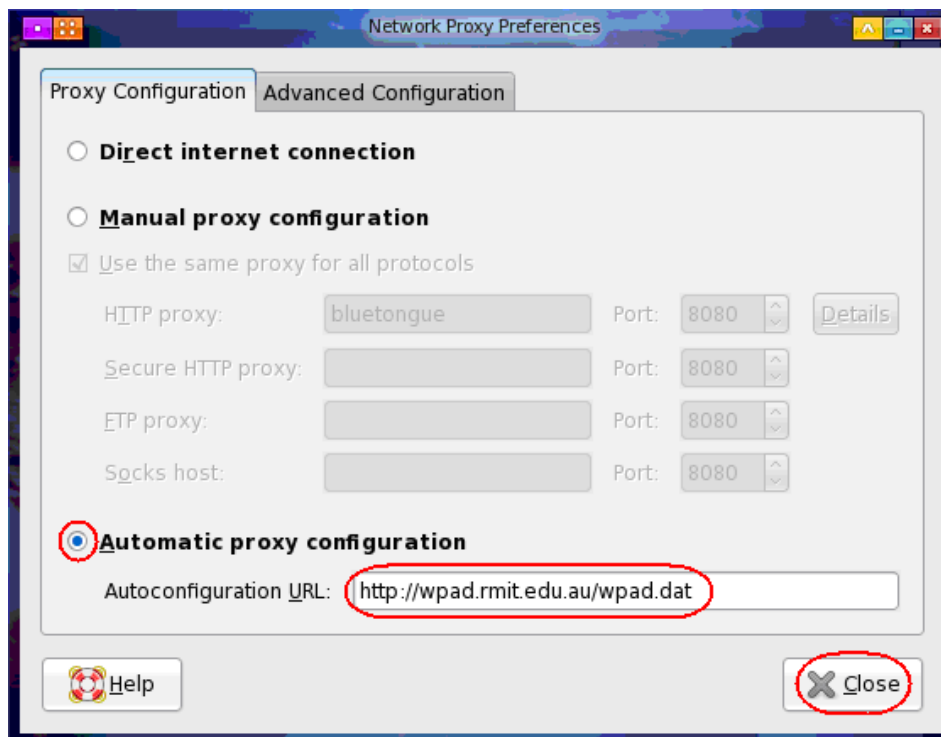


Figure 9. Double check your URL spelling!

## 2.4 Updating your RMIT password

If you have changed your RMIT password recently and not connected to the wireless network since, Network Manager will pop-up prompting for your credentials when you next try to connect.

Step 1. Enter your new password.

Step 2. Click **connect**.

You can also access the saved password using the instructions in the following section, 2.5 Editing existing settings.

## 2.5 Editing existing settings

If you are having trouble connecting and wish to check or update your settings, here's how you can access the saved network secrets for the RMIT-WPA network:

Step 1. Click the **Network Manager** icon in the System Tray. If you are connected to any network the icon will appear as a vertical bar graph as in Figure 10. If not connected, it will appear as two computer screens with a red and white cross under it, as in Figure 11.



Figure 10. Network Manager connected icon.



Figure 11. Network Manager disconnected icon.

Step 2. Click **Edit Connections**

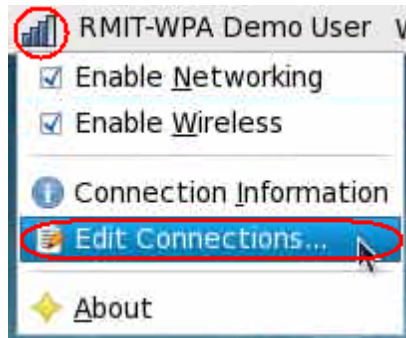


Figure 12. Accessing existing connection settings.

Step 3. Click the **Wireless** tab.

Step 4. Select **Auto RMIT-WPA** in the list of wireless networks and click **Edit**.

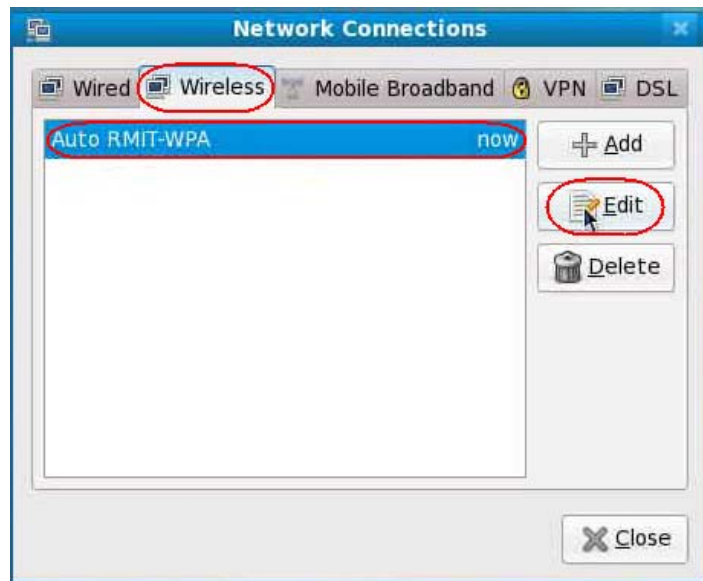


Figure 13. Selecting a network to edit.

Step 5. Click the **Wireless Security** tab.

Step 6. Review and edit settings if required. If you make any changes, click **Apply** and then **Close**.



Figure 14. Check settings against those shown here or re-enter your password.

## 3 Troubleshooting

### 3.1 Mobile wireless connectivity

A constant connection must be maintained as the wireless connection to a laptop uses a secure tunnel. Disconnection simply requires reconnection and possibly to re-login to any web sites you were signed into at the time of disconnection. To avoid being disconnected from the RMIT wireless network:

- Minimise movement while logged in to the wireless network
- Do not leave a wireless location
- Avoid movement between non-contiguous wireless areas. For example, moving from The Hub to Building 37 will cause disconnection, as there is no wireless support when crossing Swanston Street
- Moving out of a wireless location then returning will have the same effect i.e. the wireless network connection will be lost.

### 3.2 Wireless support

IT Helpdesk is available for troubleshooting the connection to the wireless network.

Limited assistance is available at:

- **IT Helpdesk** via the web: <http://www.rmit.edu.au/its/ithelp>, email: [helpdesk@rmit.edu.au](mailto:helpdesk@rmit.edu.au) or telephone: (03) 9925 8888
- **IT Support Desks**. Bookings are required, and can be made at the following locations:

Campus	Location	Description
City	Building 8 Level 3	Student IT services (03) 9925 3663
	Building 8 Level 3	Swanston Library Information counter
	Building 108	Bourke Street, College of Business
Bundoora	Building 210	Bundoora Library
Brunswick	Building 514 Level 2	Brunswick Library