

Setting up an OpenVPN tunnel between RUTX and Mikrotik device



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Introduction

OpenVPN is an open-source software application that implements virtual private network (VPN) techniques for creating secure point-to-point or site-to-site connections in routed or bridged configurations and remote access facilities.

This guide provides a configuration example with details on how to configure OpenVPN connection between MikroTik and RUTXxx routers. The server will be MikroTik device and the client will be our RUTXxx router.

The information in this page is updated in accordance with the [RUTX_R_00.02.01.1](#) firmware version.

Prerequisites

- One RUTXxx router of any type
- One Mikrotik router (this configuration example was created using Mikrotik rb750gr3)
- Server must have a Public Static or Public Dynamic IP address
- At least one end device (PC, Laptop) to configure the routers
- WinBox application

Configuration scheme



Server (Mikrotik) configuration

Connect to MikroTik by using **WinBox** application and press **New Terminal**.



Now create certificates by using these commands (these will be valid for 10 years):

```
/certificate
```

```
add name=ca-template common-name=example.com days-valid=3650 key-size=2048  
key-usage=crl-sign,key-cert-sign
```

```
add name=server-template common-name=*.example.com days-valid=3650 key-  
size=2048 key-usage=digital-signature,key-encipherment,tls-server
```

```
add name=client-template common-name=client.example.com days-valid=3650 key-  
size=2048 key-usage=tls-client
```

Created certificates will need signing, use these commands:

```
sign ca-template name=ca-certificate
```

```
sign server-template name=server-certificate ca=ca-certificate
```

```
sign client-template name=client-certificate ca=ca-certificate
```

Now you need to export those certificates:

```
/certificate
```

```
export-certificate ca-certificate export-passphrase=""
```

```
export-certificate client-certificate export-passphrase=12345678
```

Now go to **Files** and export those certificates by simply dragging them to your desktop.



Now go back to **Terminal** and create a separate pool of IP addresses for clients by using this command:

```
/ip
```

```
pool add name="vpn-pool" ranges=192.168.8.10-192.168.8.99
```

Instead of editing the default encrypted profile, we need to create a new one. Assumption is your MikroTik will also be a DNS server. And while at it, create a bit more secure user/password:

```
/ppp
```

```
profile add name="vpn-profile" use-encryption=yes local-address=192.168.8.250  
dns-server=192.168.8.250 remote-address=vpn-pool
```

```
secret add name=user profile=vpn-profile password=password
```

Adjust firewall by using this command:

```
/ip firewall filter
```

```
add chain=input protocol=tcp dst-port=1194 action=accept place-before=0
comment="Allow OpenVPN"
```

Now enable OpenVPN server interface:

```
/interface ovpn-server server
```

```
set default-profile=vpn-profile certificate=server-certificate require-
client-certificate=yes auth=sha1 cipher=aes128,aes192,aes256 enabled=yes
```

Client (RUTXxx) configuration

Access RUTXxx WebUI and go to **Service > VPN > OpenVPN**. There create a new configuration by selecting role **Client**, writing **New configuration name** and pressing **Add** button. It should appear after a few seconds. Then press **Edit**.



Then apply the following configuration.



1. **Enable** Instance.
2. Select **Protocol** (TCP).
3. Select **Authentication** (TLS/Password).
4. Select **Encryption** (AES-128-CBC 128).
5. Write **Remote host/IP address** (MikroTik public IP address).
6. Write **Keep alive** (10 120).
7. Write **Remote network IP address** (192.168.8.0).
8. Write **Remote network IP netmask** (255.255.255.0).
9. Write **User name** and **Password** which you created on Mikrotik (you created it by using this command: `secret add name=user profile=vpn-profile password=password`).
10. Upload **Certificate authority**, **Client certificate**, **Client key** (use those exported files).
11. Write **Private key decryption password** (you created it by using this command: `export-certificate client-certificate export-passphrase=12345678`).
12. Press **Save**.

Testing configuration

Try to ping the remote VPN endpoint via **CLI** or **SSH** using this command:

```
ping 192.168.8.250
```

