

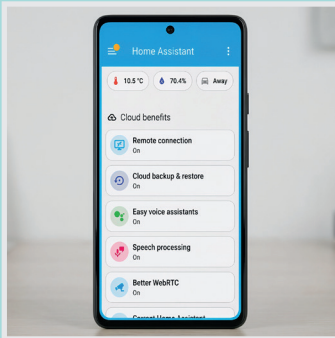
Home Assistant

Remote access via VPN



VPN - Virtual Private Network

- Virtual private networks allow networks to connect to each other or to mobile devices without a physical connection.
- For example, if a smartphone is connected to your home network via VPN, it behaves anywhere in the world as if you were at home on your own Wi-Fi network.
- This allows you to easily access all network devices, such as cameras, printers or your Home Assistant server, even when you're on the go.
- The connection is always encrypted and therefore secure against eavesdropping, even in public Wi-Fi (hotel, café, airport).
- Any VPN service provider can be used, depending on requirements and technical understanding.
- The simplest solution is to use the already integrated **Home Assistant Cloud** or, alternatively, the free **Tailscale VPN**.

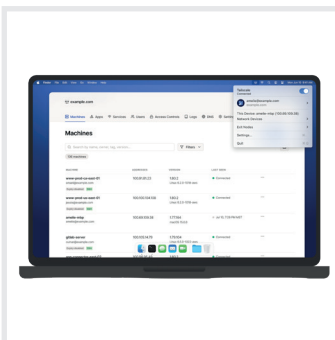


Home Assistant Cloud - The „All Inclusive“ solution

- Directly from the creators of Home Assistant.
Nabu Casa (<https://www.nabucasa.com>)
- Minimal configuration effort, simply log in directly in Home Assistant.
- Costs: €7.50 per month or €75 per year

The following features are included:

- Secure remote access without extensive configuration.
- Creating and restoring cloud backups
- Easy Amazon Alexa & Google Assistant integration
- Home Assistant voice assistant “Assist”
- Improved camera streaming (WebRTC)
- Speech output with improved text-to-speech function
- Supports the further development of Home Assistant



Tailscale - the free VPN solution

- Free open-source VPN solution for up to 3 people / 100 devices.
- Uses WireGuard for data transmission (secure, established and trusted).
- No router configuration required, such as port forwarding or opening.
- Easily configure Tailscale via your account on a website.
- Authentication keys are renewed every 180 days (can be disabled).

Requirements:

- Smartphone with the Home Assistant Companion app already set up
- A (free) Tailscale account
- Tailscale app installed on the Home Assistant server
- Tailscale app installed on your smartphone
- Approximately 30 minutes of your time

Step-by-step instructions on the back!



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Flexibility | Comfort | Energy efficiency | Security



Home Assistant

Setting up Tailscale VPN

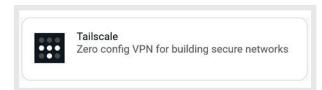
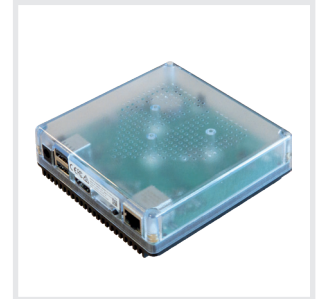
1. Install Tailscale on Home Assistant

Preparations

- For configuration, you need a PC with access to your Home Assistant's network.
- Create a free Tailscale account at: <https://login.tailscale.com/start>
- Stay logged into the account you just created.

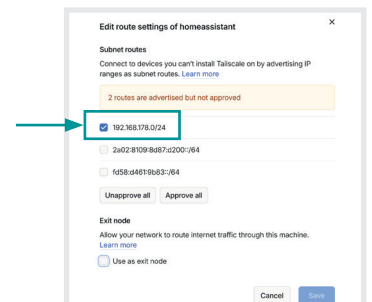
Configure Home Assistant

- Log in to your Home Assistant at <http://homeassistant.local:8123>
- Open [Settings] → [Apps].
- Click [Install App] in the bottom right corner.
- Enter „Tailscale“ in the search field.
- Install the app.
- Enable the watchdog and automatic updates.
The watchdog will automatically restart the Tailscale app after updates or crashes.
- Start the app by clicking [Start].
- Click the [Open Web UI] button and then click [Login] to link your Home Assistant to your Tailscale account.



2. Configure the VPN for remote access

- To access your local network from outside your network, you need to enable it in the Tailscale Admin Panel.
To do this, log in to <https://login.tailscale.com/admin>
- Under „Machines“, locate the entry for your Home Assistant.
- Click [...] to the right of the entry.
- Select [Edit route settings].
- Check the box next to the entry with the IP address of your home network, followed by „/24“, for example: **192.xxx.xxx.0/24**.
This allows all connected devices to access your home network.
- Click [Save].



3. Install the Tailscale app on your smartphone

- Search for the „Tailscale“ app in your app store.
- Install and launch the app.
- Log in with your account details from step 1.
- Establish the VPN connection by tapping [Connect].
- Launch the Home Assistant Companion app.
- You can now access your Home Assistant from anywhere.



Please note:

If you receive a warning that the connection has been blocked when trying to connect via Tailscale VPN, you need to adjust the security level in the Home Assistant app:

Settings → Companion App → Server & Devices → click the Servername.

Under „Security level...“, select [Less secure].

To make this change, your smartphone **must** be on your home network!

