

[How-to] Connect a Samba Share Automatically at Start-up

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As good (or quite frankly brilliant) as the Pi is, the capacity of an SD card isn't going to go far; so connecting to my trusty NAS drive (e.g. shared folder) was going to be a necessity and as I was going to be using it a lot, automatically mounting it when the Pi started was also needed.

I was going to need Samba to connect to my NAS, which can be installed using:

Install/Update Samba

Using Debian Squeeze

Smbfs is required and while smbclient is not, its a useful tool that I thought I might need in the future.

- `sudo apt-get install smbfs smbclient`

Using Raspbian

Samba is already installed and **smbfs** has been depreciated in *wheezy*.

Using Raspbmc

Samba is already installed but I needed to installed **cifs-utils** in order to mount my NAS drive.

```
sudo apt-get install cifs-utils
```

Make a directory to mount your NAS too

I choose to put it in the pi user's home directory using the structure */home/pi/server/share*:

```
cd /home/pi
mkdir myNAS
cd myNAS
mkdir myShare
```

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Edit the fstab file

I needed to edit the **fstab** file to mount the NAS drive at startup:

```
sudo nano /etc/fstab
```

I added the following line to the bottom of the file:

```
//myNAS/myShare /home/pi/myNAS/myShare cifs  
username=your_username,password=your_password,workgroup=your  
_workgroup,users,auto,user_xattr 0 0
```

And saved the changes.

WARNING - this will mean your username & password is stored in plain text viewable to all on the device, if this is going to be a problem you can use a credentials file, see *[How-to] Mount Samba Shares in fstab using a Credential File*.

Test it

I tested the change by mounting the NAS drive using the command:

```
sudo mount -a
```

I then navigated to the mount directory and successfully retrieved a directory listing from my NAS:

```
cd /home/pi/MyNAS/MyShare  
ls
```

Success!

Reboot

To be double sure, reboot and make sure your NAS is connected:

- `sudo shutdown -r now`