Shellfire OpenVPN Setup

Windows

This guide explains how to configure your Windows PC to work with a Shellfire OpenVPN connection.

Index

1. Required data and files

Setting up a OpenVPN connection to your Shellfire VPN on Windows (XP, Vista or 7) works as follows.

You need the following data from your VPN details that can be found in your Shellfire QuickAccess customer center:

- the downloaded configuration package (click "download")

You also need to download and install the OpenVPN client software which you can get for free from www.openvpn.net . Choose "Windows Download" and make a default installation of OpenVPN. The configuration package contains certificates for authentication required for highest connection security.

Navigation note: How to find your VPN details
- www.shellfire.net
- Log in to using your customer id or your e-mail address and your password
- Open the QuickAccess customer center bar
- Click on your VPN id (sfxxxxx)
- Your VPN details show up with the required data and your configuration package can be downloaded

Warning: Username and password for your OpenVPN connection are not the same as the ones for your Shellfire website account!

Warning: In case your VPN is not currently set to OpenVPN, you have to change the VPN type to OpenVPN from your customer center, first.

2. Importing OpenVPN config files

Unzip all files from the download package into the "config" subdirectory of your OpenVPN Installation folder. With a default installation of OpenVPN, this should be:

C:\Programme\OpenVPN\config   (german 32 Bit Windows)
C:\Program Files (x86)\OpenVPN\config   (international 64-bit Windows)

You are ready to go – your OpenVPN configuration is already set.

Important note for Windows Vista and 7 users:
To set up your OpenVPN connection correctly, you have to start the programm with administrator rights. To do set this up permanently, you can right-click your shortcut to the OpenVPN GUI (Start -> all programs -> OpenVPN -> OpenVPN GUI), choose "Properties" and go to the "Compatibility" tab. Here, set the "Run this programm as an administrator" option.
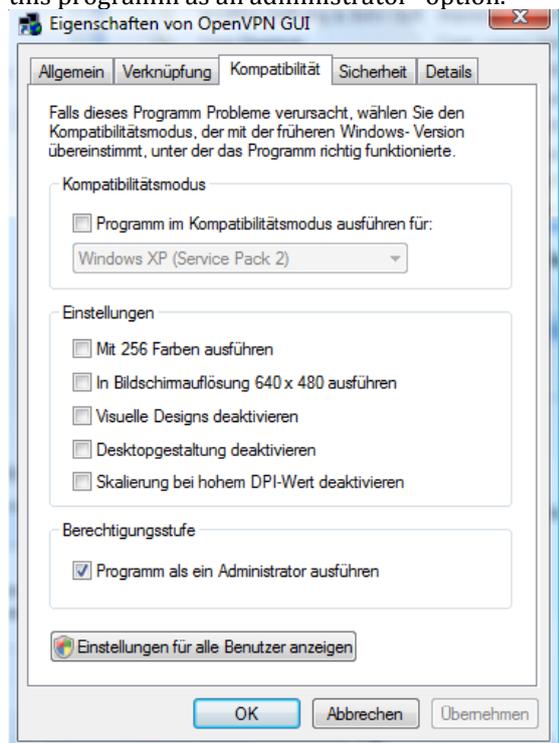
3. Connecting / disconnecting

After rebooting your Computer or after being disconnected from the internet, the VPN connection usually disconnects and has to be reconnected.

To connect, follow these steps:

1) Start -> All Programs -> OpenVPN -> OpenVPN GUI
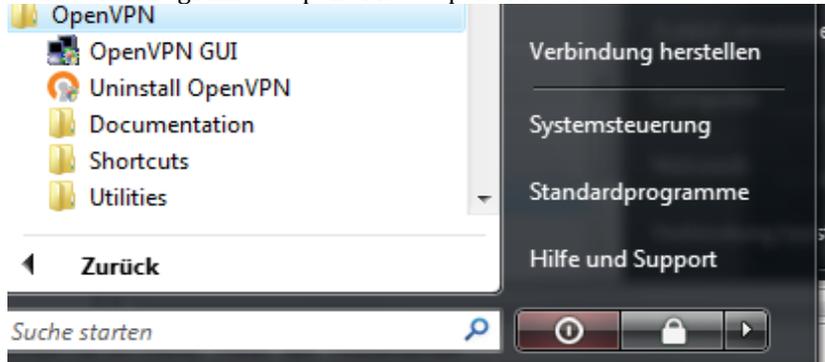
2) Windows Vista and Windows 7 users are asked for their permission to run the programm as an administrator. Confirm this.

3) On the lower right of your screen, you will now see the OpenVPN symbol:

4) Right-click it and choose „connect"

5) If you get the message "client is now connected" along with green lights in the try icon, you have successfully connected to the VPN.
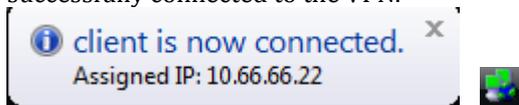
6) To disconnect, right-click the icon again and choose "disconnect".

4. Checking your connection status

If the VPN connection to the Shellfire server has been set up correctly, your IP address on the web is replaced by the IP address of the VPN server.

You can check this by following these steps:

1) Make sure the VPN connection is disconnected (step 4)

2) Visit http://www.whatsmyip.org/ and note your IP address.

> Your IP Address is 123.123.123.123

3) Now, connect to the VPN server (step 4)

4) Reload the page http://www.whatsmyip.org/ and check your new IP address.

> Your IP Address is 111.111.111.111

In this example, the first IP address is 123.123.123.123 and the second IP address is 111.111.111.111. As both IPs are different from each other, you can tell that your connection is working nicely. If you get the same IP addresses with and without VPN, check your settings or contact our support.