TP-LINK

The Reliable Choice

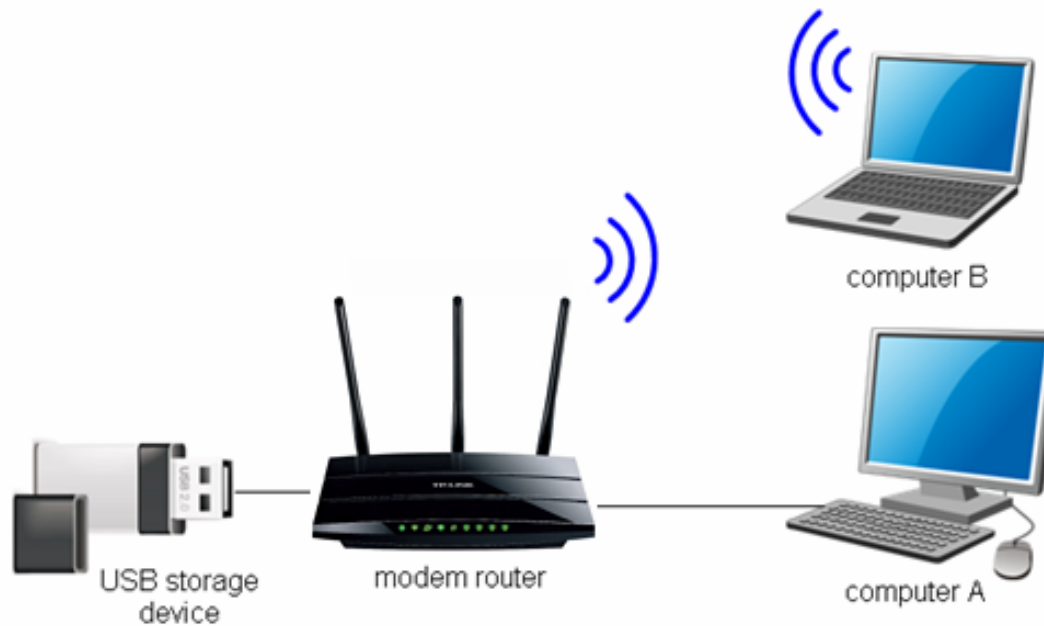# Storage Sharing Application Guide

Contents

Overview

The storage sharing feature allows you to share a USB storage device that's connected to the modem router, to other wired or wireless users in the same network.

Typical Topology

Here in this guide, we take the configuration procedures of TD-W8990 for example.

How to access shared folders

The modem router's Storage Sharing function is enabled by default, when the storage device is plugged into its USB port.

Please follow the steps to access the storage device.

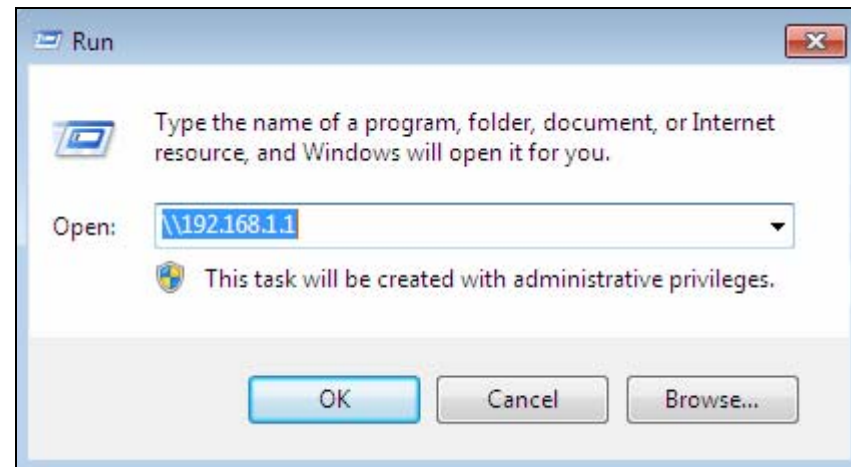- **For Windows Users:**

  Windows XP:
  - Go to *Start -> Run*
  - Input **\\192.168.1.1** in the dialog box
  - Click **OK**

  Windows Vista/7:
  - Go to *Start*
  - Type "**run**" in the search box
  - Open the run application
  - Input **\\192.168.1.1** in the dialog box
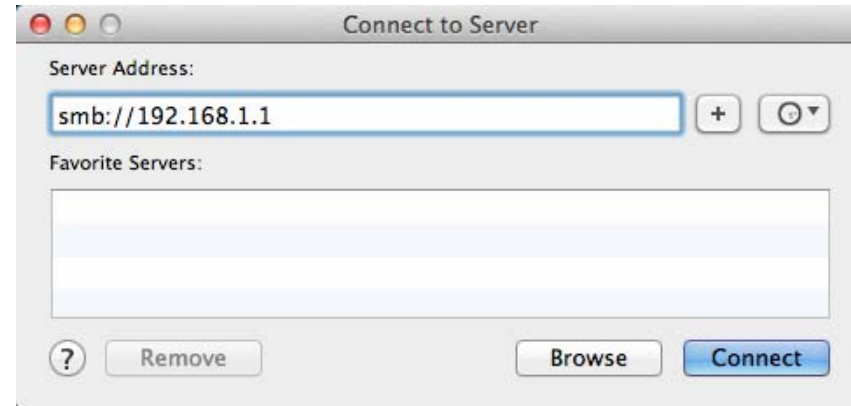 - Click **OK**

  Windows 8:
  - Move your mouse to the lower right corner and you will see **Search** icon in the Popups. Click it and search **run**
  - Open the run application
  - Input **\\192.168.1.1** in the dialog box
  - Click **OK**

- **For Mac OS X Users:**

  - On the top tray, go to *Go -> Connect to Server*
  - Input Server Address **smb://192.168.1.1**
  - Click **Connect**

- **For Linux Users:**

  - On the top tray, go to *Places -> Connect to Server*
  - Choose Service type **Windows share**
  - Input Server **192.168.1.1**
  - Click **Connect**

☞ **Note:**

(1) Some USB storage devices may require using the external power.

(2) To set up different accounts with their own access rights, please log into to the web-based management page and set it on USB Settings -> Storage Sharing and USB Settings -> User Accounts.

Now you have accessed the storage device, and you can read, edit, copy and delete the files in the storage device.

Extended Application

How to create a user account

Log onto the web-based management page, go to **USB Settings** ->**User Accounts** and follow the steps in the figure below.

☞ **Note:**

(1) The status of the new user is disabled by default. You need to click Enable in the Action column of user account table to enable folders access.

(2) User name "admin*" is a "Super User" with full-access permission. Its action that could access all active volumes and shared folders is enabled by default.

(3) The default user name/password of the Super User is admin/admin.

How to add a shared folder

Log onto the web-based management page, go to *USB Settings* -> *Storage Sharing* and follow the steps in the figures below.

Folder Browse

This page allow you to set a shared folder and access authorization for Storage Sharing service! It will not take effect when Anonymous access been enabled.

Share Name: tp-link

3. Type the Share Name in this field

Directory: /

Browse

4. Click Browse button

User Access Control Table:

Index	User Name	Access Authorization
1*	admin	◉ Full-Access ○ Read-Only ○ No-Access
2		
3		
4		
5		

* : "Super User", It has full-access permission to all actived volume(s) and share folder(s).

Apply

Folder Browse

This page allow you to set a shared folder and access authorization for Storage Sharing service! It will not take effect when Anonymous access been enabled.

Share Name: tp-link

Directory: /

[Hide]

The name of folders in the storage device can be shown here

5. Choose the storage device from the drop-down list box

Select Volume: Kingston (DataTraveler 2.0), sda1(1.9 GB,FAT32)

/sda1/

6. Click the directory of folder to be shared

tp-link
photo

User Access Control Table:

Index	User Name	Access Authorization
1*	admin	⦿ Full-Access ○ Read-Only ○ No-Access
2		
3		
4		
5		

* : "Super User", It has full-access permission to all actived volume(s) and share folder(s).

[Apply]

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Status	
Quick Setup	
Operation Mode	
Network	
DHCP Server	
Wireless	
USB Settings	
USB Mass Storage	
User Accounts	
Storage Sharing	
FTP Server	
Media Server	
Print Server	
Route Settings	
Forwarding	
Parent Control	
Firewall	
IPv6 Firewall	
IPv6 Tunnel	
Bandwidth Control	
IP & MAC Binding	
Dynamic DNS	
Diagnostic	
System Tools	

Storage Sharing Settings

Storage Sharing allows you to share the files on the USB storage device with other computers locally.

Server Status: Enabled [Disable]

☐ Anonymous access to all the volumes

Folder Table: (Any changes of this table will not take effect until you Apply it.)

Add a new folder successfully

☐	Share Name	Directory	User Access (F:Full-Access, R:Read-Only, N:No-Access)					Status	Edit
			1*	2	3	4	5		
☐	volume	/	F	-	-	-	-	Enabled	Edit
☐	tp-link	/tp-link	F	-	-	-	-	Enabled	Edit

* : "Super User". It has full-access permission (Read & Write) to all active volume(s) and share folder(s).

[Add New Folder] [Enable Selected] [Disable Selected] [Delete Selected]

[Apply]

Note:

1. Storage Sharing function is based on NetBIOS/SMB protocol which is supported by most Windows operating system and some other operating systems.

2. anonymous: All active volume(s) will be shared and authentication is not required.

3. You will be able to access the folders with the following methods:

For Windows OS: Open "Run" window in the Start menu and enter \\(IP Address) or \\(IP Address)\(Share Name)
e.g. \\192.168.1.1 or \\192.168.1.1\photo;

For Mac OS: Open "Connect to Server" window in the Go menu and enter smb://(IP Address) or smb://(IP Address)/(Share Name)
e.g. smb://192.168.1.1 or smb://192.168.1.1/photo.

➢ **Set Access Authorization**

There are three access authorization levels: full-access, read-only and no-access. The full-access user (i.e. super user) has full-access permission to add, delete and modify files in the storage device. The read-only user just has file-reading permission. And the no-access user is unable to access the storage device.

If you want to set access authorization for a user (eg. user1), please follow the steps illustrated in the figures below.

Status	**Folder Browse**	
Quick Setup		
Network	This page allow you to set a shared folder and access authorization for Storage Sharing service! It will not take effect when Anonymous access been enabled.	
DHCP Server		
Wireless	**Share Name:** volume	
USB Settings	**Directory:** /	
USB Mass Storage	Browse	
User Accounts		
Storage Sharing	**User Access Control Table:**	
FTP Server		
Media Server		
Print Server		
Route Settings		
Forwarding		
Parent Control		
Firewall		
Bandwidth Control		

User Access Control Table:

Index	User Name	Access Authorization
1*	admin	◉ Full-Access ○ Read-Only ○ No-Access
2	user1	○ Full-Access ○ Read-Only ◉ No-Access
3	user2	○ Full-Access ○ Read-Only ◉ No-Access
4		
5		

* : "Super User", It has full-access permission to all actived volume(s) and share folder(s).

3. Here you can set access authorization for user1

Apply

4. Click Apply to save your settings

➢ Anonymous Access

If the shared files have no secrets for all users, then anonymous access can be enabled for convenience. After the anonymous access is enabled, all the users will be able to access the storage device without a user name and password.

Troubleshooting

1. What can I do if I do not find the storage device on the web-based management page?

Go to *USB Settings* -> *Storage Sharing*. Please click *Disable*, and then click *Enable*.

2. What can I do if I forget the password to access the storage device?

There are two ways to resolve this problem.

Method one:

Log onto the web-based management page, go to *USB Settings* ->*User Accounts* and follow the steps in the figure below.

Method two:

Log onto the web-based management page, go to *USB Settings* -> *Storage Sharing*, and please tick the box according to the note in the following figure.

| Status |
| Quick Setup |
| Operation Mode |
| Network |
| DHCP Server |
| Wireless |
| USB Settings |
| USB Mass Storage |
| User Accounts |
| Storage Sharing |
| FTP Server |
| Media Server |
| Print Server |
| Route Settings |
| Forwarding |
| Parent Control |
| Firewall |
| IPv6 Firewall |
| IPv6 Tunnel |
| Bandwidth Control |
| IP & MAC Binding |
| Dynamic DNS |
| Diagnostic |
| System Tools |

Storage Sharing Settings

Storage Sharing allows you to share the files on the USB storage device with other computers locally.

Server Status: Enabled [Disable]

Tick this box to make anonymous access take effect → ☐ Anonymous access to all the volumes

Folder Table: (Any changes of this table will not take effect until you Apply it.)

☐	Share Name	Directory	User Access (F:Full-Access, R:Read-Only, N:No-Access)					Status	Edit
			1*	2	3	4	5		
☐	volume	/	F	-	-	-	-	Enabled	Edit

* : "Super User". It has full-access permission (Read & Write) to all active volume(s) and share folder(s).

[Add New Folder] [Enable Selected] [Disable Selected] [Delete Selected]

[Apply]

Note:

1. Storage Sharing function is based on NetBIOS/SMB protocol which is supported by most Windows operating system and some other operating systems.
2. anonymous: All active volume(s) will be shared and authentication is not required.
3. You will be able to access the folders with the following methods:
   For Windows OS: Open "Run" window in the Start menu and enter \\(IP Address) or \\(IP Address)\(Share Name)
   e.g. \\192.168.1.1 or \\192.168.1.1\photo;
   For Mac OS: Open "Connect to Server" window in the Go menu and enter smb://(IP Address) or smb://(IP Address)/(Share Name)
   e.g. smb://192.168.1.1 or smb://192.168.1.1/photo.