# How do I use the OpenAFS PPA on Ubuntu?

## Q: How do I use the OpenAFS PPA on Ubuntu?

### Answer

On Ubuntu Linux, the OpenAFS software which provides the `/afs` filesystem is available in two flavors: provided by Ubuntu itself and provided by the OpenAFS team via an Ubuntu Personal Package Archive (PPA).

The software in the PPA is newer and keeps up to date with Ubuntu Kernel updates better than the Ubuntu-provided version, so we recommend using that when possible.

ℹ️ As of Ubuntu groovy, you also need to install the openafs-krb5 package, it won't automatically be installed as a dependency.

### Determine if you need to enable the PPA

ℹ️ If you installed your workstation using the Debathena installer, you should not need to follow this procedure, unless you specifically opted out of using the PPA at the time.

To determine if you need to enable the PPA, run the following command:

**apt-cache policy | grep -i openafs/stable**

If you see output similar to the following, the PPA is enabled and you do not need to follow this procedure. The word **precise** below should match your Ubuntu version (e.g. precise, trusty).

```
 500 http://ppa.launchpad.net/openafs/stable/ubuntu/ precise/main Translation-en
  500 http://ppa.launchpad.net/openafs/stable/ubuntu/ precise/main i386 Packages
  500 http://ppa.launchpad.net/openafs/stable/ubuntu/ precise/main amd64 Packages
```

If you saw no output from the command, you will likely need to enable the PPA.

### Become root

If your workstation has a root password, you can type `su`, press Enter, and enter the password when prompted. If not, and you are an administrative user (for example, the user and password you created when you initially installed Ubuntu), you can type `sudo -i` and enter your personal password when prompted.

### Enable the PPA

⚠️ This process is somewhat time-consuming, and **interrupting it can render your workstation entirely unusable**, so please set aside 30 minutes to complete this procedure. Ensure that nobody else is logged in to your workstation, and ensure that you are not accessing any files in AFS.

1. Type `add-apt-repository -y ppa:openafs/stable` and press enter.
1. Type `apt-get update` and press enter.
1. Type `apt-get -y install openafs-modules-dkms` and press enter.

When the last step completes (it may take some time, and can take as long as 15 or 20 minutes depending on how many old kernels you have installed), you will need to restart openafs as follows:

`/etc/init.d/openafs-client restart`