

# Tailscale

## What is Tailscale?

Tailscale is a zero-configuration mesh VPN built on the modern, secure WireGuard® protocol. It connects all of your devices — computers, phones, servers and your SKAARHOJ Controller — into a single private network called a *tailnet*. Once devices are signed in to the same tailnet they can reach each other directly and securely from anywhere in the world, with no port forwarding, firewall changes or public IP addresses required.

On a SKAARHOJ Controller this is especially useful for:

- Reaching the controller's web interface remotely — for example to configure or support a system that is at another location.
- Giving the controller secure access to other devices or SKAARHOJ Controllers in your tailnet, for example to share Devices. (See [Sharing Devicecores](#))
- Routing the controller's traffic through an *exit node* so it appears to be on another network.

Each device on a tailnet receives a stable private IP address in the `100.x.y.z` range and an easy-to-remember MagicDNS name, so you can always reach it at the same address even if its physical network changes.

## Installing the Tailscale app on your Controller

Tailscale is delivered as an installable package in SkaarOS. Open the **Packages** page from the top menu (or browse to `/system/`), find **Tailscale** in the list and install it.

System Home Configuration Simulator Apps Bulk Uploader Tailscale Packages Settings Device: Blue Pill Server 20 SKAARHJ

Browse Package Store Show pre-releases

Installed Packages Update All (2)

Search...

Status ↑	Settings	Name	Package Description	Versions	Update
Running	⚙️	core-sony-ptz	Core for Sony PTZ's that provides extended functionality	1.1.0	Up to date
Running	⚙️	hardware-manager	Connecting the native panel to reactor	1.0.7	Up to date
Running	⚙️	system-manager	skaarOS init system and webui	1.0.19-pre2	Update to 1.0.19
Running	⚙️	Testtube	testing application for device cores	1.0.14-pre1-gorelea...	Up to date
Running	⚙️	Reactor	main application for connecting hardware and device cores	2.2.7-pre7	Up to date
Running	⚙️	Bulk Uploader	Bulk firmware uploader for SKAARHJ devices	0.0.2	Up to date
Running	⚙️	Tailscale	Tailscale VPN management for skaarOS	0.1.1	Update to 0.1.2
Running	⚙️	skaarOS	main operating system	1.4	Up to date
Stopped	⚙️	core-aja-kumo	Core for AJA KUMO routers	1.1.3-pre1	Up to date
Stopped	⚙️	core-ari-camera	core to control ARRI Cinema Cameras via CAP and SSCP	1.0.7	Up to date
Stopped	⚙️	core-bmd-atem	core for BlackMagicDesign ATEM Video Mixers	2.0.0	Up to date
Stopped	⚙️	core-canon-xc	Core for Canon cameras supporting the XC protocol	1.0.12-pre2	Up to date
Stopped	⚙️	core-nxt	core providing NXT WebSocket controller for SKAARHJ panels	0.0.1-test1	Up to date
Stopped	⚙️	core-panasonic-ptz	Panasonic PTZ Broadcast IP Cameras	2.0.0-pre25	Up to date
Stopped	⚙️	core-protocol-arnetdmx	core for controlling Arnet devices	0.3.6	Up to date
Stopped	⚙️	core-protocol-emberplus	core to control Ember+ devices as a consumer	0.1.4	Up to date
Stopped	⚙️	core-protocol-http	Request arbitrary user defined resources on HTTP resources	1.0.7-pre1-unsecure...	Up to date
Stopped	⚙️	core-protocol-onvif	Core to control onvif protocol security cameras	0.0.1	Up to date
Stopped	⚙️	core-protocol-osc	Send and receive OSC commands	0.0.6-pre1	Up to date
Stopped	⚙️	core-protocol-sw-p-OB	Routers compatible with the Probel SW-P-OB (SWPOB) protocol	1.0.3	Up to date

System Manager: Frontend: x-fe227a0 - master | Backend: x-fe227a0+ | Build Time: 026-06-12T 4:16:05+ Copyright © 2026 SKAARHJ Support

Click into the package and press **Start** so its status shows **Running**, then refresh the page. The **Open WebUI** button becomes available — click it to open the Tailscale app.

Enable the **Show in Menu** toggle to add a **Tailscale** tab to the top menu bar for quick access.

Make sure you run at least **skaarOS 1.4** and **system-manager 1.0.18** for tailscale to work smoothly

## Connecting to your tailnet (login)

Open the Tailscale app and stay on the **Status** tab. If the controller is not yet connected you will see a **Login to Tailscale** button.

1. Click **Login to Tailscale**. The app prepares a secure login link and opens the Tailscale sign-in page in a new browser tab.

2. Sign in with your Tailscale account (or create a free account — see below) and authorize this device to join your tailnet.
3. The app shows “*Waiting for authentication...*” while it waits, then automatically switches to **Connected** once the device is approved.

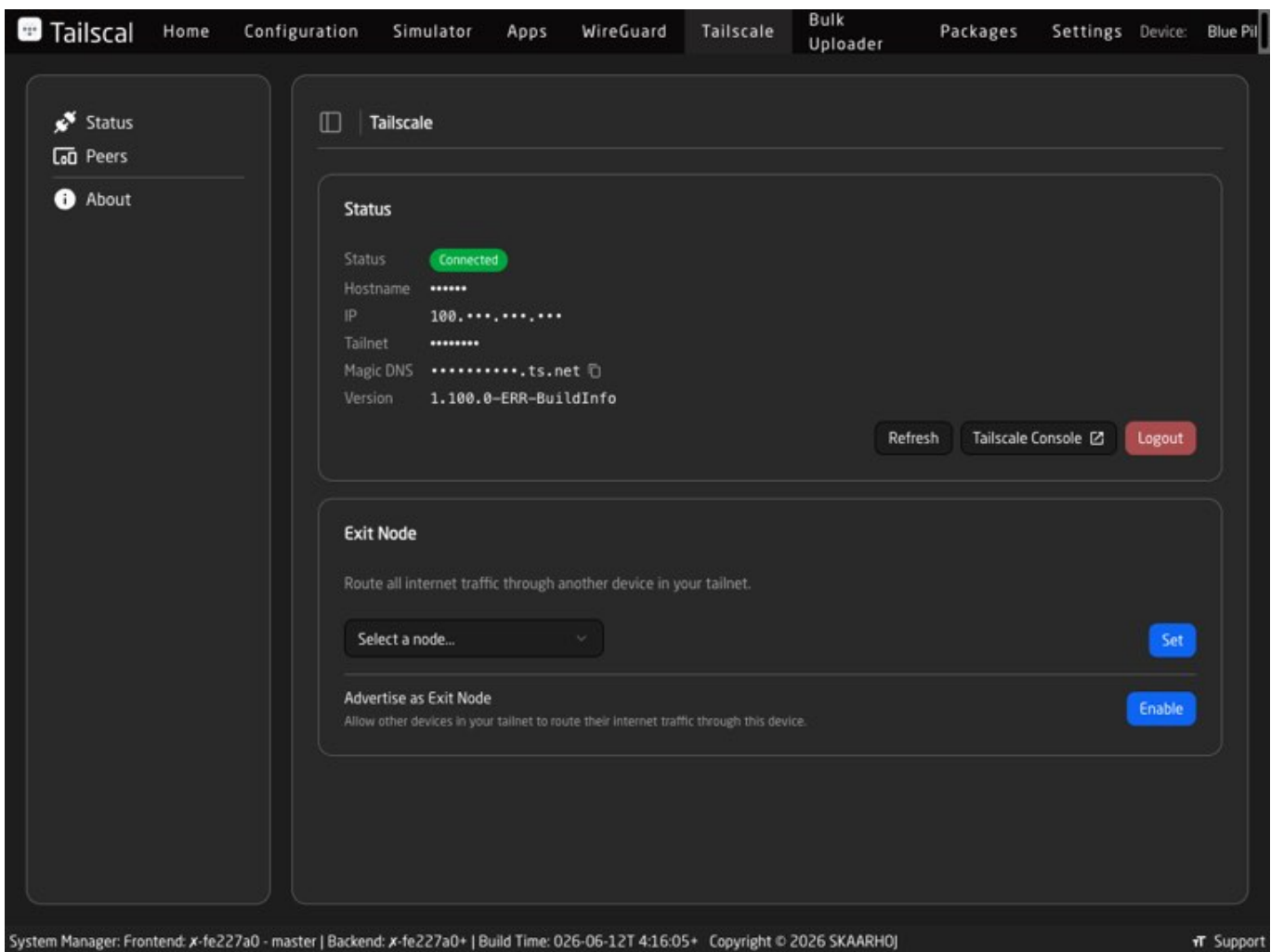
You need a Tailscale account to log in. Creating one is free for personal use — see **Tailscale’s free tier** below.

# Using the app

The app has three tabs in the left sidebar: **Status**, **Peers** and **About**.

## Status

The Status tab shows the controller’s connection at a glance:



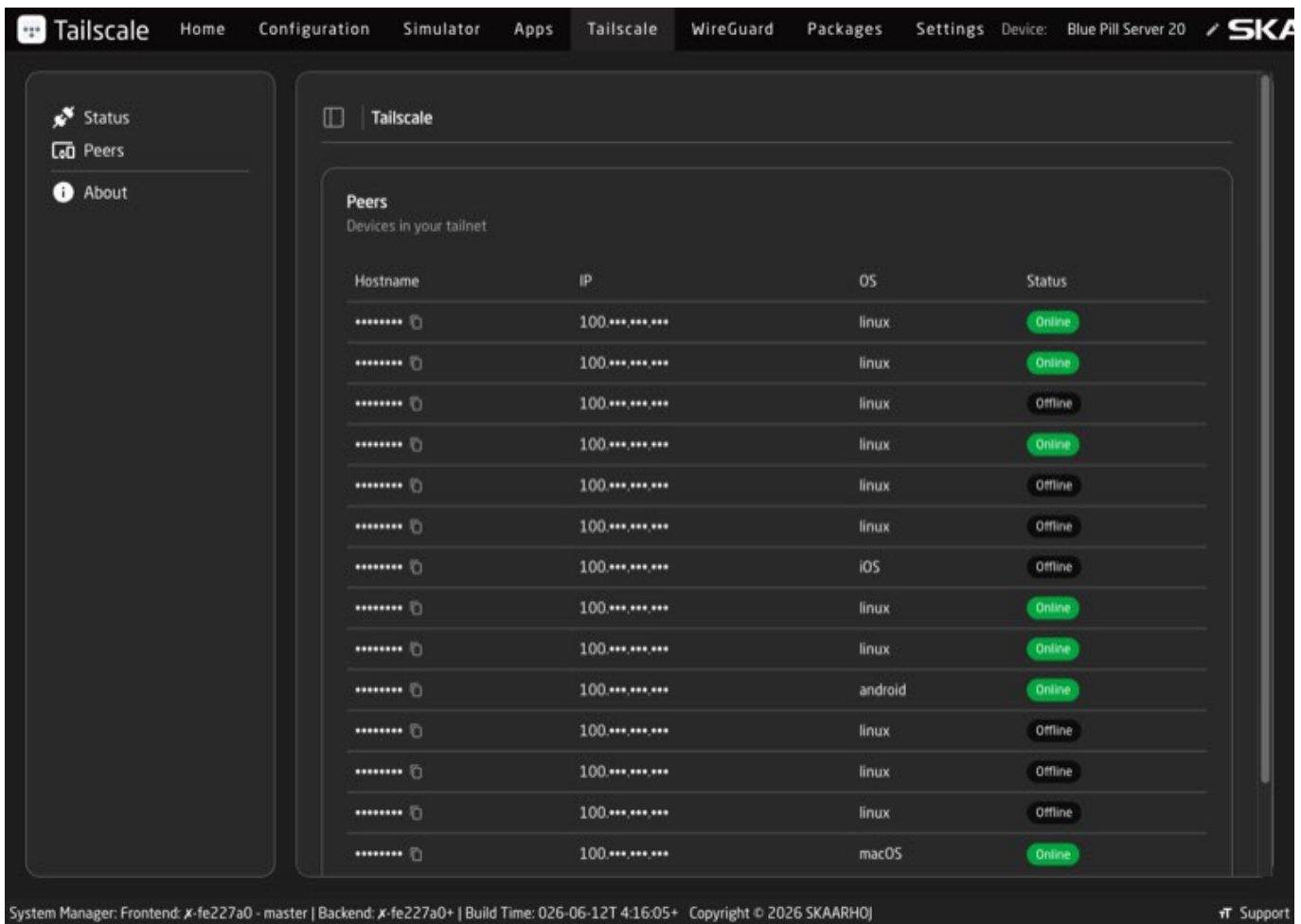
- **Status** — *Connected* when the controller is on the tailnet.

- **Hostname, IP** (the `100.x.y.z` tailnet address) and **Tailnet** name.
- **Magic DNS** — the device’s DNS name, with a copy button so you can paste it into a browser or another tool.
- **Version** — the running Tailscale version.

From here you can **Refresh** the status, open the **Tailscale Console** (the admin website where you manage your tailnet) or **Logout** to disconnect the controller.

## Peers

The Peers tab lists every other device in your tailnet, with its hostname, tailnet IP, operating system and online status. Use the copy buttons to quickly copy a device’s DNS name or IP address.



## Exit Node

On the Status tab the **Exit Node** card lets you route the controller’s internet traffic through another device in your tailnet — select a node and click **Set**. You can also **Enable** “Advertise as Exit Node” to let other devices route their traffic through this controller (this must be approved in the Tailscale admin console).

# Tailscale's free tier

Tailscale offers a free **Personal** plan that is more than enough for typical usecases. It includes:

- Up to 6 users and unlimited devices.
- Secure peer-to-peer connections between all your devices.
- **MagicDNS** and split tunnelling.
- **Subnet routers** and **exit nodes**.
- Access Control Lists (ACLs), Tailscale SSH, Taildrop file sharing and Funnel.

For the current, exact limits see the official [Tailscale pricing page](#).

## Install Tailscale on your other devices

To reach your SKAARHOJ Controller remotely, install the Tailscale client on the devices you want to connect from — your laptop, phone or another server — and sign them in to the **same tailnet**.

Official installation guides:

- [macOS](#)
- [Windows](#)
- [Linux](#)
- [iOS](#)
- [Android](#)

General installation and quick-start documentation is available at [tailscale.com/kb/1017/install](https://tailscale.com/kb/1017/install).

All devices must be signed in to the same tailnet to see each other. You can manage your devices, approve exit nodes and invite users from the Tailscale admin console at [login.tailscale.com/admin](https://login.tailscale.com/admin).

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