OpenClaw Setup Guide for Ubuntu — Cloud Model & Telegram Integration

> This guide covers the full setup and configuration of OpenClaw on Ubuntu 22.04/24.04 LTS, including connecting a Telegram bot using OpenClaw's native integration.

Part I: Telegram Bot Setup

Prerequisites: Get Your Telegram API Credentials

Step 1 — Create a Bot and Obtain the Token

1. In Telegram, search for **@BotFather**
2. Open the chat with BotFather
3. Send the `/newbot` command
4. When prompted, provide the following:
   - **Display name:** e.g., `MyAIAssistant`
   - **Username:** must end with `bot`, e.g., `my_ai_assistant_bot`
5. Once done, BotFather will send you an API Token that looks like this:

```
1234567890:ABCdefGHIjkIMNOpqrsTUVwxyz
```

> ↙ Tip: Your Bot Token acts as the authentication key for your bot. Copy it to a safe location — you'll need to paste it during setup.

Part II: Initial Configuration

1. Open a terminal and run the following commands:

```
# Check the installed version
openclaw --version
# Run a self-diagnostic check
openclaw doctor
```

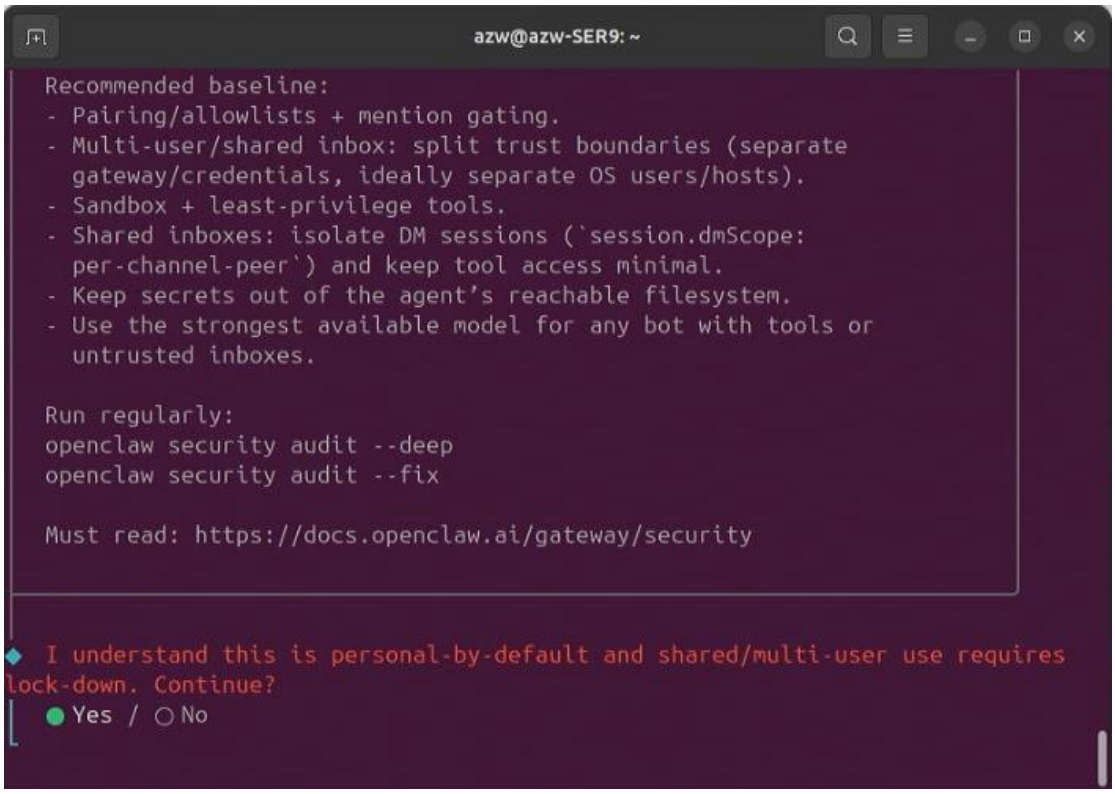
Run the Setup Wizard

```
# Start the interactive setup wizard（The --install-daemon flag also configures OpenClaw to start on boot）
openclaw onboard --install-daemon
```

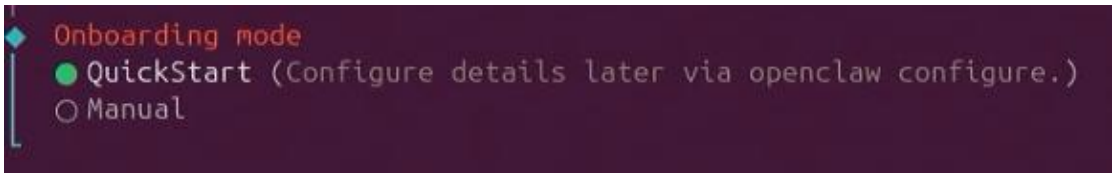
Wizard Walkthrough

The wizard will walk you through the following configuration steps:

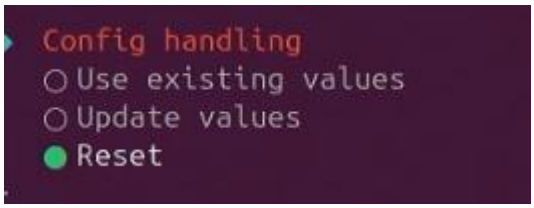
1. When asked if this is for personal use, select "yes" and press Enter to continue



2. Choose a setup mode: select "Quickstart" (recommended) for a guided experience, or "Manual" for full control



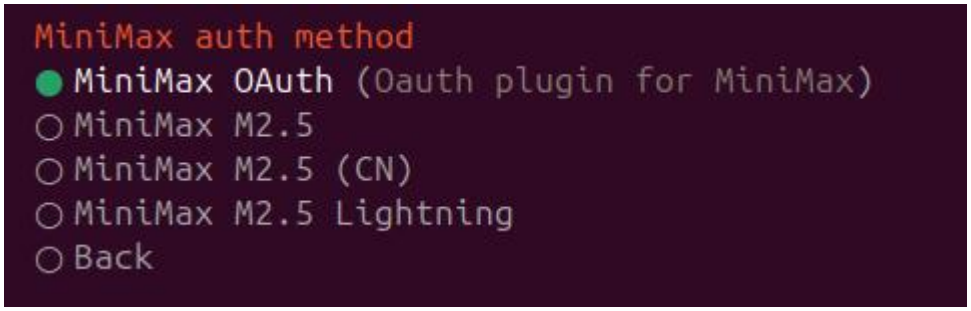
3. When prompted about existing configuration, select "Reset"



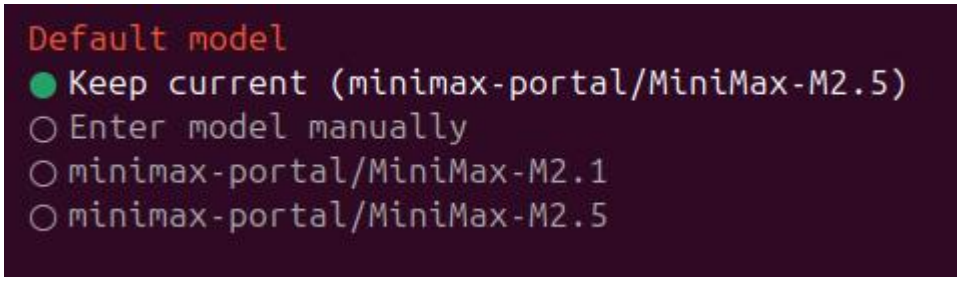
4. When asked for the reset scope, select "Full reset" to start from scratch

5. Select your AI model provider: select the cloud model you have subscribed to. This example uses MiniMax.

6. Select an authentication method, if you are signed in to your MiniMax account, choose the login authorization. If you only have an API key, select the appropriate model under "Other".



7. Choose your default model from the list



8. Select Telegram as your messaging platform

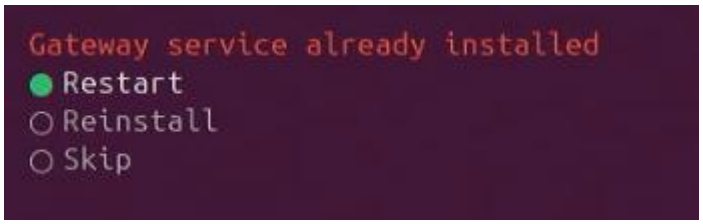
9. Paste your saved Bot Token

10. Select the skills you want to install (use Space to toggle, Enter to confirm)

11. Configure any external API keys. If you don't have any at this time, select "NO" to skip

12. Enable hooks as needed. Installing all hooks is recommended for full functionality

13. Restart the gateway service to apply your changes



14. Open the web UI to start chatting with OpenClaw

Part III: Pair OpenClaw with Your Bot

1. In Telegram, search for the bot username you created earlier
2. Open the bot's chat
3. Tap or click the Start button to start the bot
4. Ensure the OpenClaw service is running in the background. Send any message to the bot (e.g. "Hello")
5. The bot will automatically respond with a pairing code

In your terminal, run the following command to link OpenClaw to your bot:

```
# Replace YOUR_PAIRING_CODE with the code sent by the bot
openclaw pairing approve telegram YOUR_PAIRING_CODE
```

A confirmation message will indicate that pairing was successful.

Part IV: Test the Integration

Return to Telegram and send any message to your bot. If setup is complete, your bot will respond via OpenClaw, confirming the integration is live.

Quick Command Reference

Command	Description
`openclaw`	Start an interactive terminal session
`openclaw onboard`	Re-run the setup wizard
`openclaw config`	View or edit global settings
`openclaw dashboard`	Open the web management dashboard
`openclaw skills`	Manage installed skills
`openclaw gateway start`	Start the gateway daemon
`openclaw gateway stop`	Stop the gateway
`openclaw gateway restart`	Restart the gateway
`openclaw gateway logs`	View gateway logs

`openclaw --help`	Show all available commands and options

Default dashboard URL: http://127.0.0.1:18789

Once your bot replies with 'OpenClaw is online', your self-hosted AI assistant is fully operational!