

#### **SFTP Command Cheat Sheet**

A quick reference guide for Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) commands, covering basic operations, file management, permissions, and advanced usage.



## **Basic SFTP Commands**

#### Connecting to a Server

sftp user@host	Connect to host as user.
sftp -P port user@host	Connect to host on a specific port as user. (Note: Capital -P is important.)
sftp -i identity_file user@host	Connect using the key specified by identity_file for authentication.
sftp host	Connect to host as current local user.
exit or bye	Terminate the SFTP session.

## Navigating the SFTP Environment

pwd	Print working directory on the remote host.
1pwd	Print working directory on the local host.
cd path	Change remote directory to path .
lcd path	Change local directory to path.
ls	List files in the current remote directory.
11s	List files in the current local directory.
ls -1	Show more details about files in the current remote directory.

## File Transfer Operations

<pre>get remote_file local_file</pre>	Download remote_file and save it as local_file.
<pre>get remote_file</pre>	Download remote_file and save it with the same name locally.
<pre>put local_file remote_file</pre>	Upload local_file and save it as remote_file .
put local_file	Upload local_file and save it with the same name remotely.
mget remote_files	Download multiple remote_files .
mput local_files	Upload multiple [local_files].

# File Management

## Basic File Operations

mkdir directory_name	Create a new directory on the remote server.
rmdir directory_name	Remove a directory on the remote server (must be empty).
rm filename	Remove a file on the remote server.
rename old_path new_path	Rename a file or directory on the remote server.
ln -s target	Create a symbolic link on the remote server.

#### File Permissions

chmod mode	Change permissions of a file or directory on the remote server.
chown owner path	Change the owner of a file or directory on the remote server.
chgrp group path	Change the group of a file or directory on the remote server.
stat path	Display file or directory attributes.

## File Transfer Options

reget remote_file local_file	Resume downloading remote_file to local_file .
reput local_file remote_fil e	Resume uploading local_file to remote_file .
set_transf er_option	Example: set progress true. Sets options for file transfers. Use help to see available options.
<pre>get -P remote_file local_file</pre>	Download with preservation of modification times, access times, and modes.
<pre>put -P local_file remote_fil e</pre>	Upload with preservation of modification times, access times, and modes.

## **Advanced SFTP Usage**

#### **Command Execution**

!comman	Execute a local shell command. Example:  [11s -1].
version	Display the SFTP version.
help [command	Get help on SFTP commands. If no command is given, it prints general help.

## **Batch Processing**

sftp -b	Run SFTP commands from a
batch_file	batch_file . Each line in the file is
user@host	treated as an SFTP command.
Example batch file:	<pre>get remote_file local_file put local_file remote_file exit</pre>
sftp -b -	Read commands from standard input.

## Configuration

-/.ss h/conf ig	You can pre-define connection settings in your SSH configuration file. This allows you to use shorthand commands.
	Example:
	Host myserver
	HostName server.example.com
	User myuser
	Port 2222
	<pre>IdentityFile ~/.ssh/mykey</pre>
	Then connect with: sftp myserver

# **Troubleshooting and Tips**

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Common Errors SFTP Tips

#### Permission Denied:

Ensure you have the necessary permissions on both the local and remote systems. Check file and directory permissions, and that your SSH key (if used) is properly configured and authorized on the remote server.

#### Connection Refused:

Verify that the remote server is running and accessible on the specified port. Firewall rules may be blocking the connection.

#### File Not Found:

Double-check the spelling and path of the file or directory you are trying to access. Use pwd and pwd to confirm your current locations.

#### Tab Completion:

Use the Tab key to auto-complete file and directory names. This can save time and prevent typos.

#### Wildcards:

Use wildcards (  $\star$  , ? ) with <code>mget</code> and <code>mput</code> to transfer multiple files matching a pattern. Be careful to avoid unintended matches.

#### Quoting:

If a file or directory name contains spaces or special characters, enclose it in quotes.

#### Batch Scripting:

For repetitive tasks, create an SFTP batch script to automate the process.

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