

Quick Start Guide

If you need more information – see [Links below](#).

`mercury.swin.edu.au` is a server provided by the University that runs the **Linux** operating system and the **Apache** web server. There are several ways to access **mercury** from a windows computer, but the relevant ones for web page hosting are:

1. **Secure Shell (SSH)** using the PuTTY client. *Used to set up your account.*
2. **Secure Copy (SCP)** using the WinSCP client *Used to transfer files to the server*
3. **HTTP access** using any web browser *Used to request your pages*

[1]

Set up your account

(You only need to do this once)

Use **PuTTY** to log-in to `mercury.swin.edu.au`

Username: a lowercase **s** followed by all **seven** or **ten** digits of your student ID.

example: "s1234567" or "s987654x". or "s1001234567"

Password: your SIMS password

Note in PuTTY when you type in your password, it is not visible

if successful, this will trigger scripts to make your web directories ready for use.

See notes below, about the directories that are created.

[2]

Transfer files to the Server

Use **WinSCP** to connect to mercury *(on campus or at home)*

Create and transfer your files to mercury, under folder **www/htdocs**

(Later you can configure the text editor in WinSCP, and directly edit your files on mercury)

See notes below, about where to place files

[3]

Request and view your webpages via a client Browser

Use **Firefox** Browser to request and view your files via HTTP

example: `https://mercury.swin.edu.au/cos10011/s1234567/lab01/`

where **cos10011** is your subject code and **s1234567** is your Username

Before you can view your webpages through a browser, a pop-up dialog will ask for 'authentication' – provide your SIMS username and password.

Where to place files, and how to view them in a browser:

Once you have successfully completed Step 1, directories are created in your home directory **s1234567**,
The **htdocs** and **cgi-bin** directories map to URLs *There is also a **data** directory, but ignore that for now.*

Directories on the Server	maps to >	URL through the browser
<code>~/cos10011</code>		
<code>~/cos10011/www</code>		
<code>~/cos10011/www/htdocs</code>	maps to >	<code>https://mercury.swin.edu.au/cos10011/s1234567</code>
<code>~/cos10011/www/cgi-bin</code>	maps to >	<code>https://mercury.swin.edu.au/cos10011/cgi-s1234567</code>

Links:

Changing your SIMS
password:

<https://passwordreset.swin.edu.au/>