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PuTTY – 30 Useful Putty Commands for Beginners



What Is Putty?

Putty is an open source SSH client used to connect to a remote server. Putty is basically a terminal for windows based operating systems. It supports several network protocols, including SCP, SSH, Telnet, rlogin, and raw socket connection. PuTTY was originally written for Microsoft Windows, but it has been ported to various other operating systems. To work with Putty you need to know few basic Putty Commands.

Say you have a Linux Server set up.

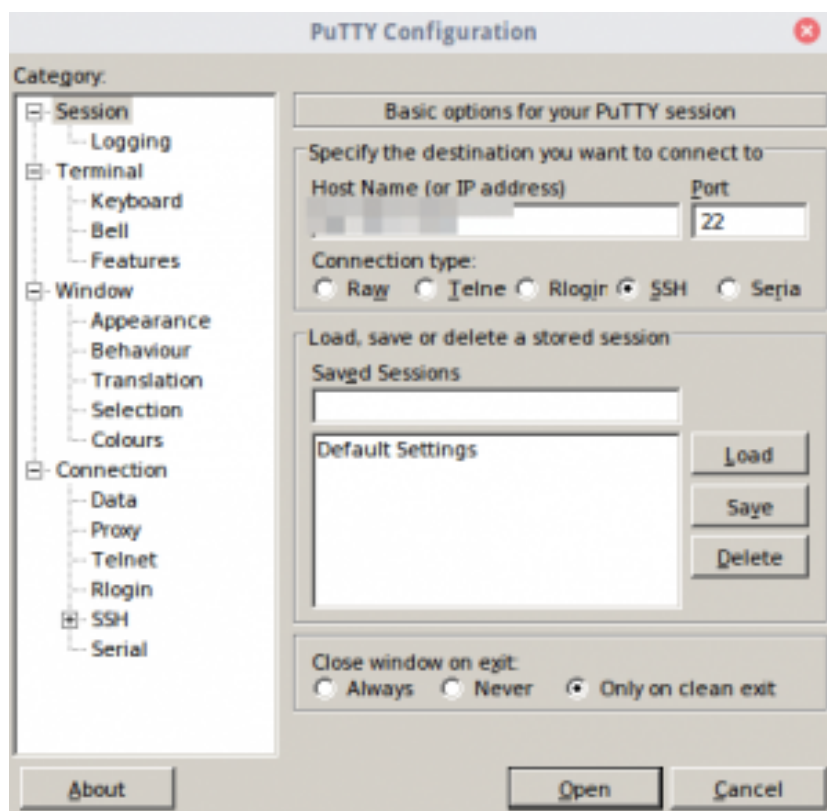
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What you will need to use Putty

1. A Linux based server
2. Putty installed on your computer
3. The server's IP address
4. Username
5. Password

Download Putty and save it on your desktop. You don't have to install it just click on it and it will run out of the box.

When you open putty you will see something similar to the below image

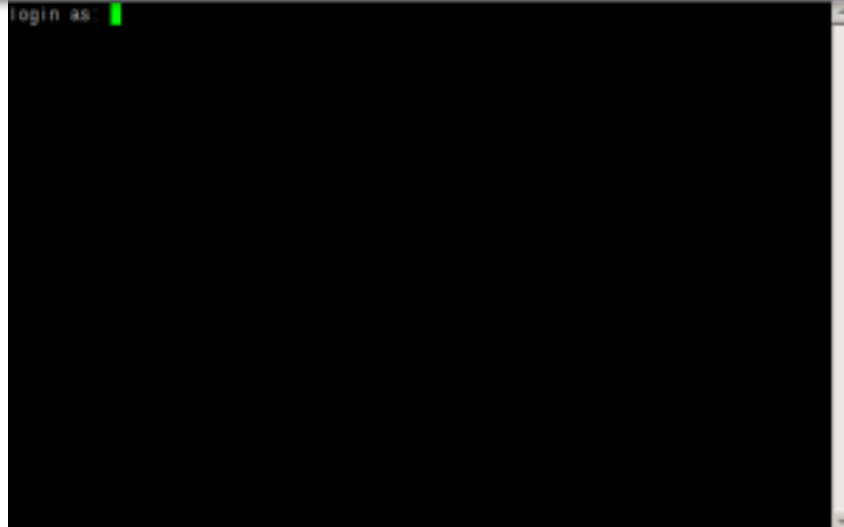


Out of all those options we are interested in well...just one and that's the Host Name field(the IP address).

Here you need to input your own server's IP address in order to connect to it.

Just enter the IP address making sure the connection type SSH is checked and port is 22.

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Useful SSH Putty Commands

1) How to find out where you are, the pwd command shows you *present working directory*.

```
pwd
```

2) Change directory

```
cd
```

The cd command is used to navigate into a specified directory on your server.

Example: cd /home (moves you into the home folder)

3) The same directory

```
cd .
```

Using this command you will remain in the same directory you were.

4) Move me up one directory

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Above command will navigate two steps back from current directory

5) Go to the previous directory

```
cd -
```

Above command will navigate to the previous directory.

6) Go to Home folder

```
cd ~
```

Above command will navigate to the home directory on your server.

7) Go to root

```
cd /
```

Above command will navigate to root.

How to List Directories and Contents

8) List files

```
ls  
usage: ls [option] [file]
```

Using the ls command in a folder will display all it's content.

Example: ls /home.

Will return all content of the folder /home.

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```
ls -a
```

10) Show contents with file size

```
ls -h
```

If you wish to see a directory's contents with file sizes just type `ls -h`

11) How to see sub-directories recursively

```
ls -r
```

The `ls -r` command is used to see sub-directories recursively.

12) How to see files by file size

```
ls -ls
```

13) List all folders in directory with details

```
ls -alh
```

How to Copy files/folders with Putty Commands

14) Copying a file

```
cp
```

To copy a file just use the `cp` command.

Example:

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```
cp -r
```

This one is used to copy the entire folder with all its contents.

16) Copy and rename

```
cp filename.php /home/filename2.php
```

How to Move files to different locations

17) Moving a file

```
mv
```

Example: `mv page.php /home/page.php`

18) Move and rename

```
mv page.php /home/newpage.php
```

19) Move file up one directory

```
mv filename ..
```

example: `mv index.html/ ..`

How to Create files/folders using Putty Commands

20) Create a folder

```
mkdir
```

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```
touch
```

Use the touch command to create different files and file extensions

Example: touch index.php

How to Compress/Uncompress files?

22) Compressing folders

```
zip -r foldername.zip foldername
```

Example: zip -r newfolder.zip newfolder

23) uncompressing folders

```
unzip
```

Example: unzip newfolder.zip

24) Compressing folders using tar -czvf

```
tar -czvf foldername.tar.gz foldername
```

Example: tar -czvf wp-content.tar.gz wp-content

25) uncompressing folders using tar -xvf

```
tar -xvf foldername.tar.gz
```

Example: tar -xvf wp-content.tar.gz

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```
rm
```

To delete a file on your server just use the rm command.

Example: rm index.php

27) Delete all files from a directory

```
rm *
```

This command is used to delete all contents from a directory.

Example: rm * foldername

28) Delete a folder/directory

```
rmdir
```

Use this command to remove directories.

How to change File permissions?

29) Change file permissions

```
chmod
```

Example: chmod 775 newfolder

30) Change permissions of folder and all files inside

```
chmod 755 folder name -R
```


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You can download PuTTY from the below URL

<http://www.putty.org/>

PuTTY for SSH

- [How to connect to a Linux Server using PuTTY](#)

You can also check other Linux commands from the below articles box.

List of Other Linux Command Articles

- [30 Linux Find Commands with Examples](#)
- [Grep commands in Linux/Unix with 11 simple examples](#)
- [10 Simple cURL commands in Linux with Examples](#)
- [13 Rsync command Examples in Linux](#)
- [How to use SED command in Linux with Examples](#)
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