

Table Of Contents

Table Of Contents	1
Copy from Linux to Linux/UNIX system	2
Copy from Windows to Linux/UNIX system	2

[Home](#) > [Faq](#) > [AIX](#)

Linux or UNIX securely copy files across a network computer

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Q. FTP is insecure, how do I securely copy files across a network computer? My network has Windows and Linux systems.

A. You need to use Openssh client and server technology to copy between two more network computers. You can also find free ssh client tools. scp copies files between hosts on a network. It uses ssh for data transfer, and uses the same authentication and provides the same security as ssh.



[1]

Copy from Linux to Linux/UNIX system

Copy file called data.txt to ras.nixcraft.in Linux system (vivek is username):

```
$ scp data.txt vivek@ras.nixcraft.in:/home/vivek
```

Copy more than two files:

```
$ scp data.txt pic.jpg vivek@ras.nixcraft.in:/home/vivek
```

Copy /data directory and all files inside /data i.e. recursively copy entire directories:

```
$ scp -r /data vivek@ras.nixcraft.in:/home/vivek
```

Copy from Windows to Linux/UNIX system

You can download any one of the following free Windows SCP client

- [PSCP](#) ^[2]
- [WinSCP](#) ^[3]

Just install above client and follow on screen instructions.

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[1] Image: <http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/category/networking/>

[2] PSCP: <http://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/%7Esgtatham/putty/download.html>

[3] WinSCP: <http://winscp.net/>