

# Copying Files from Local to Remote Server with SCP on Ubuntu 22.04

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SCP (Secure Copy Protocol) is a command that securely **transfers files from a local to a remote** server through SSH. During copying files, SCP keeps your data safe and secure through encryption. Moreover, you can **move multiple files from a local to a remote** server.

Through this guide, we will explore how to **copy files from a local to a remote server** using SCP Command on Linux (Ubuntu 22.04).

Also, read [How To Connect To Linux Server Remotely](#)

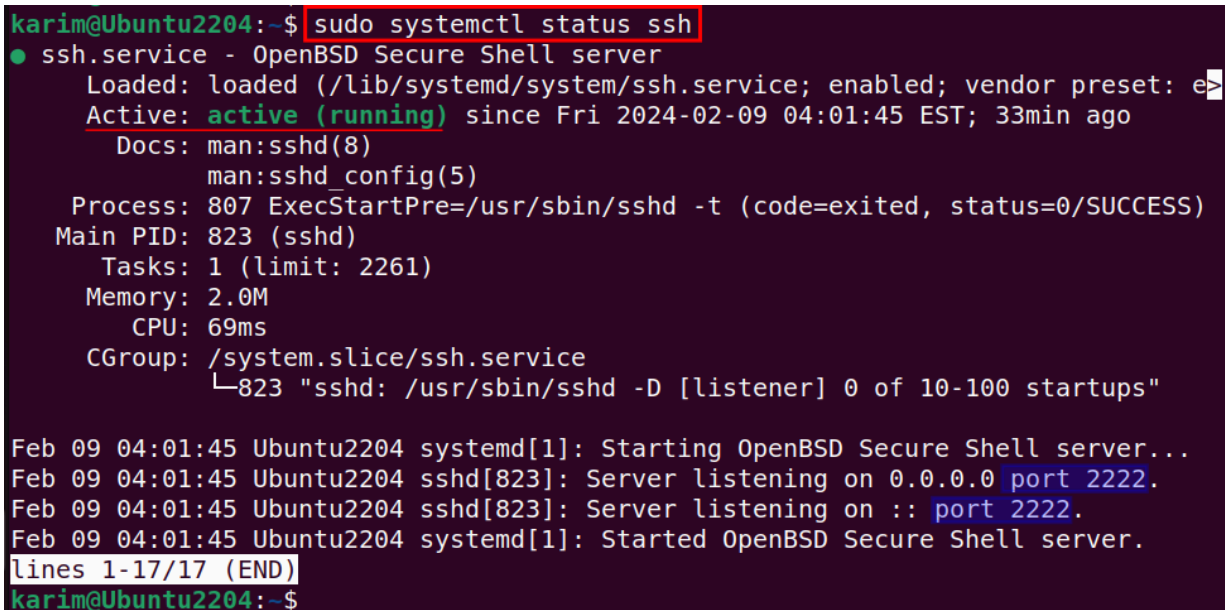
## with scp on Ubuntu 22.04?

You can securely copy or **transfer files from a local to a remote server** through SCP on Ubuntu 22.04 using the following guide.

### Check SSH Status

Before using SCP to copy files to a remote server, ensure SSH is active on your Ubuntu system. You can check the status of SSH using the following command:

```
sudo systemctl status ssh
```

[Copy](#)

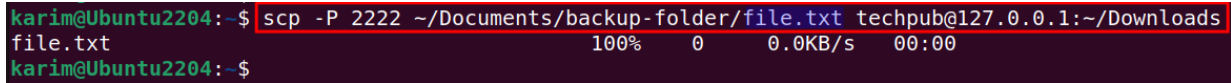
```
karim@Ubuntu2204:~$ sudo systemctl status ssh
● ssh.service - OpenBSD Secure Shell server
   Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/ssh.service; enabled; vendor preset: en
   Active: active (running) since Fri 2024-02-09 04:01:45 EST; 33min ago
     Docs: man:sshd(8)
           man:sshd_config(5)
   Process: 807 ExecStartPre=/usr/sbin/sshd -t (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
    Main PID: 823 (sshd)
      Tasks: 1 (limit: 2261)
     Memory: 2.0M
        CPU: 69ms
    CGroup: /system.slice/ssh.service
            └─823 "sshd: /usr/sbin/sshd -D [listener] 0 of 10-100 startups"

Feb 09 04:01:45 Ubuntu2204 systemd[1]: Starting OpenBSD Secure Shell server...
Feb 09 04:01:45 Ubuntu2204 sshd[823]: Server listening on 0.0.0.0 port 2222.
Feb 09 04:01:45 Ubuntu2204 sshd[823]: Server listening on :: port 2222.
Feb 09 04:01:45 Ubuntu2204 systemd[1]: Started OpenBSD Secure Shell server.
lines 1-17/17 (END)
karim@Ubuntu2204:~$
```

The status command will display the active or inactive status of the SSH service on your screen, along with information about the active port (i.e., port 22 or 2222) of a remote server.

### Transfer Single File

```
scp -P 2222 ~/Documents/backup-folder/file.txt  
techpub@127.0.0.1:~/Downloads
```

[Copy](#)

```
karim@Ubuntu2204:~$ scp -P 2222 ~/Documents/backup-folder/file.txt techpub@127.0.0.1:~/Downloads  
file.txt                                100%   0    0.0KB/s   00:00  
karim@Ubuntu2204:~$
```

A brief explanation of the above command is:

- **-P 2222:** A dedicated port for the remote server.
- **~/Documents/backup-folder/file.txt:** Absolute path of the file on your local system.
- **techpub@127.0.0.1:** Remote server
- **:~/Downloads:** Path on the remote server to copy files.

In short, this command will transfer “file.txt” from the local to the remote directory, such as /Downloads.

## Transfer Two or More Files

The SCP also allows you to transfer two or more files. First, navigate to the directory containing the files you want to copy:

```
cd ~/Documents/backup-folder/
```

[Copy](#)

Now, run the command using the following syntax to copy files to the remote directory:

```
scp -P 2222 file.txt image.jpg techpub@127.0.0.1:~/Downloads
```

[Copy](#)

```
karim@Ubuntu2204:~/Documents/backup-folder$
```

The list of copied files will be displayed on your terminal screen after the successful execution of the command.

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### Copy Files From Different Paths

You can also copy files from different paths to the remote directory through the command:

```
scp -P 2222 ~/Documents/backup-folder/file.txt ~/Documents/sample.doc Copy  
techpub@127.0.0.1:~/Downloads
```

```
karim@Ubuntu2204:~$ scp -P 2222 ~/Documents/backup-folder/file.txt ~/Documents/sample.doc  
techpub@127.0.0.1:~/Downloads  
file.txt                                100%   0    0.0KB/s   00:00  
sample.doc                             100%   0    0.0KB/s   00:00  
karim@Ubuntu2204:~$
```

### Copy an Entire Directory

command:

`scp -r -P 2222 ~/Documents/backup-folder techpub@127.0.0.1:~/Downloads` Copy

```
karim@Ubuntu2204:~$ scp -r -P 2222 ~/Documents/backup-folder techpub@127.0.0.1:~/Downloads
file.txt                                100%   0   0.0KB/s   00:00
image.jpg                              100%   0   0.0KB/s   00:00
karim@Ubuntu2204:~$
```

The above command will copy all the contents of the backup-folder to the **~/Downloads** directory on the remote server.

## Verify Files After Transfer

To confirm whether the file(s) has been copied to the remote server, run the command:

`ssh techpub@127.0.0.1 -p 2222 "ls -l ~/Downloads/"` Copy

```
karim@Ubuntu2204:~$ ssh techpub@127.0.0.1 -p 2222 "ls -l ~/Downloads/"
total 4
drwx----- 3 techpub techpub 4096 Feb  9 04:51 backup-folder
-rwxr-xr-x  1 techpub techpub   0 Feb  9 05:01 file.txt
-rwxr-xr-x  1 techpub techpub   0 Feb  9 04:59 image.jpg
-rw-rw-r--  1 techpub techpub   0 Feb  9 05:01 sample.doc
karim@Ubuntu2204:~$
```

The list of copied files on your screen indicates that you have successfully transferred files with the scp command on Ubuntu 22.04.

## Conclusion

The SCP command facilitates the secure **transfer of files from a local to a remote** server. Its syntax, "scp [options] [destination]," can be executed within the Ubuntu terminal. This post provided a

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## FAQ

What is SCP?



What is SCP used for in the Ubuntu system?



Can I use SCP to transfer file(s) to a remote server?



How do I check if SCP is installed on my Ubuntu 22.04 system?



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