

Port Numbers Quick Reference Card

Security+ Essential Ports - MEMORIZE THESE!

Web Traffic

Port	Protocol	Encrypted?	Purpose
80	HTTP	✗ NO	Unencrypted web traffic
443	HTTPS	✓ YES	Encrypted web traffic (SSL/TLS)

Remote Access

Port	Protocol	Encrypted?	Purpose
22	SSH	✓ YES	Secure remote access & SFTP
23	Telnet	✗ NO	Unencrypted remote access (DON'T USE)
3389	RDP	✓ YES*	Remote Desktop Protocol (*if configured properly)

File Transfer

Port	Protocol	Encrypted?	Purpose
20/21	FTP	✗ NO	Unencrypted file transfer (DON'T USE)
22	SFTP	✓ YES	Secure file transfer (uses SSH)
989/990	FTPS	✓ YES	FTP over SSL/TLS

Email

Port	Protocol	Encrypted?	Purpose
25	SMTP	✗ NO	Send email (outgoing)
587/465	SMTPS	✓ YES	Secure SMTP
110	POP3	✗ NO	Receive email (downloads & deletes)

Port	Protocol	Encrypted?	Purpose
995	POP3S	✓ YES	Secure POP3
143	IMAP	✗ NO	Receive email (syncs)
993	IMAPS	✓ YES	Secure IMAP

Network Services

Port	Protocol	Purpose
53	DNS	Domain name resolution
67/68	DHCP	Automatic IP address assignment

Directory Services

Port	Protocol	Encrypted?	Purpose
389	LDAP	✗ NO	Directory queries (like Active Directory)
636	LDAPS	✓ YES	Secure LDAP

File Sharing & Database

Port	Protocol	Purpose
445	SMB	Windows file sharing (BLOCK AT FIREWALL!)
1433	MS SQL	Microsoft SQL Server
3306	MySQL	MySQL Database
161	SNMP	Network device management

Memory Tips

Pattern Recognition:

- Protocols ending in "S" are usually encrypted (HTTPS, FTPS, LDAPS, etc.)
- SSH (22) is one less than Telnet (23) and infinitely more secure!
- Common web: 80 (HTTP) and 443 (HTTPS)
- Email receiving: 110 (POP3) and 143 (IMAP)

Critical Security Ports:

- **22** - SSH (secure remote access)
- **443** - HTTPS (secure web)
- **445** - SMB (ransomware spreads here - BLOCK IT!)
- **3389** - RDP (common attack target)

Port Ranges:

- 0-1023: Well-known ports (memorize these!)
 - 1024-49151: Registered ports
 - 49152-65535: Dynamic/ephemeral ports
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Study Strategy

- ✓ Make flashcards for each port
- ✓ Quiz yourself daily: "What port is HTTPS?"
- ✓ Practice scenario questions: "Port 3389 is being scanned - what service?"
- ✓ Group by function: web, email, file transfer, etc.

Security+ Exam Reality: You WILL see multiple questions about port numbers. This is non-negotiable memorization!