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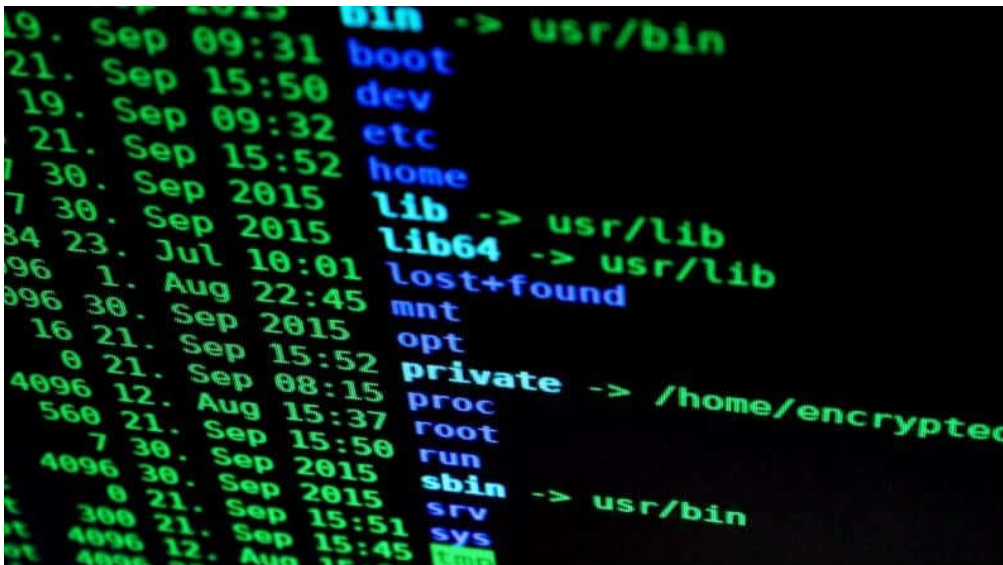
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## Enable SSH Windows Server 2019

[Pedro Pina](#) [0 Comments](#)

### Introduction

So, do you want native SSH in Windows Server? With Windows Server 2019, that is now possible!

SSH can be natively enabled on Windows Server 2019, both the SSH server and client! Although it does seem “illogical” to have SSH installed on a Windows Server machine, the truth is that, nowadays, our work environments are

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Besides OpenSSH, Windows Server 2019 brought us a lot other new features, which you can check out here: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-server/get-started-19/whats-new-19>

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# Install OpenSSH Server Windows Server 2019

Unfortunately, or no, it looks like we'll have to get our hands "dirty"! It is not possible to add this feature via Server Manager (correct me if I'm wrong!) and we will have to add it via Powershell!

To get the name of the "package" to install, open a Powershell window as administrator and type:

```
1 | Get-WindowsCapability -Online -Name Open*
```

You'll see that we have available an Open SSH Server and an Open SSH Client.

```
Administrator: Windows PowerShell
PS C:\> Get-WindowsCapability -Online -Name Open*

Name           : OpenSSH.Client~0.0.1.0
State          : Installed
DisplayName    : OpenSSH Client
Description    : OpenSSH-based secure shell (SSH) client, for secure key management and access to remote machines.
DownloadSize   : 1323493
InstallSize    : 5301402

Name           : OpenSSH.Server~0.0.1.0
State          : NotPresent
DisplayName    : OpenSSH Server
Description    : OpenSSH-based secure shell (SSH) server, for secure key management and access from remote machines.
DownloadSize   : 1297677
InstallSize    : 4946932

PS C:\>
```

Let's start by installing the OpenSSH Server. Type the following in the Powershell window.

```
1 | Add-WindowsCapability -Online -Name OpenSSH.Server~0.0.1.0
```

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```
Online      : True
RestartNeeded : False
}

PS C:\>
```

## Verify the OpenSSH server installation

To verify that the OpenSSH server is properly installed **type**:

1 | **Get-Service** sshd ?

1 | **Get-Service** ssh-agent ?

```
Administrator: Windows PowerShell
PS C:\> Get-Service sshd

Status Name          DisplayName
-----
Stopped sshd            OpenSSH SSH Server

PS C:\> Get-Service ssh-agent

Status Name          DisplayName
-----
Stopped ssh-agent    OpenSSH Authentication Agent

PS C:\>
```

You will see that both services are in a “Stopped” status. Before starting the OpenSSH services, we need to enable them and set them to start at boot up. For that **type**:

1 | **Set-Service** -Name sshd -StartupType Automatic ?

1 | **Set-Service** -Name ssh-agent -StartupType Automatic ?

Now, let’s start both services. **Type**:

1 | **Start-Service** sshd ?

1 | **Start-Service** ssh-agent ?

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```
PS C:\> Get-Service sshd

Status Name          DisplayName
-----
Running sshd         OpenSSH SSH Server

PS C:\> Get-Service ssh-agent

Status Name          DisplayName
-----
Running ssh-agent  OpenSSH Authentication Agent

PS C:\>
```

## Testing the connection to the SSH server

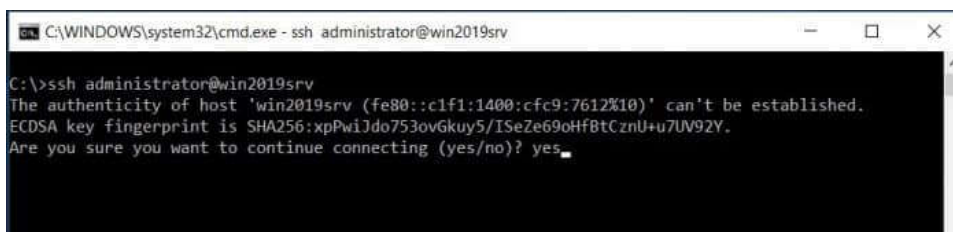
As stated previously, starting with Windows 10 1803, Windows 10 also comes with its own SSH client, which I already installed in my Windows 10 laptop. From here I am going to try to connect to the SSH server I've just installed in my Windows 2019 server.

On a Windows 10 machine, or Linux for that matter, open a command prompt (or terminal) and **type**:

```
1 | ssh administrator@Win2019srv ?
```

(Win2019srv is the name of my Windows Server 2019 box)

Type “yes” at the warning message and press “Enter”



```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe - ssh administrator@win2019srv

C:\>ssh administrator@win2019srv
The authenticity of host 'win2019srv (fe80::c1f1:1400:cfc9:7612%10)' can't be established.
ECDSA key fingerprint is SHA256:xpPwiJdo753ovGkuy5/ISeZe69oHfBtCznU+u7UV92Y.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no)? yes
```

Type your password and you're in! You can run any command you want as if you were sitting in front of your server box!

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```
WIN2019SRV
administrator@WIN2019SRV C:\Users\Administrator>cd \

administrator@WIN2019SRV C:\>dir
Volume in drive C has no label.
Volume Serial Number is 3A81-C396

Directory of C:\

09/15/2018  12:19 AM  <DIR>          PerfLogs
03/23/2019  08:21 AM  <DIR>          Program Files
09/15/2018  02:08 AM  <DIR>          Program Files (x86)
03/23/2019  07:44 AM  <DIR>          Users
03/23/2019  07:38 AM  <DIR>          Windows
               0 File(s)              0 bytes
               5 Dir(s) 42,516,299,776 bytes free

administrator@WIN2019SRV C:\>
```

Now that we've confirmed that the OpenSSH server is working properly, let's install the OpenSSH client!

## Install OpenSSH Client Windows Server 2019

Back on the Windows Server 2019 computer, at the powershell prompt **type**:

```
1 | Add-  
   WindowsCapability -Online -Name OpenSSH.Client~~~~0.0.1.0
```

If you now **type** "ssh", you'll see that the OpenSSH client has been properly installed.

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## Testing the OpenSSH client

To test the OpenSSH I am going to connect to one of my Linux computers, which is a Raspberry Pi I have lying around :). So, from the server, I'll type:

```
1 | ssh pi@[IP address of my Linux box] ?
```

And that's it! We have installed the OpenSSH server and the OpenSSH client on Windows Server 2019!

If you'd like some more reference about installing OpenSSH in Windows Server

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