

# File Transfer Protocol (FTP)

# FTP Programs

- There are many free FTP programs for both PC and Mac, including:
  - FileZilla (both)
  - Cyberduck (Mac)
  - Fetch (Mac)
- Take a few minutes to download and install one please

# What is FTP?

- Remember that a website is just a collection of files
- These files need to "live" somewhere on the internet
- If they lived on your computer, your website would shut down every time it is not connected to the web
- FTP, or "File Transfer Protocol", is simply one of many ways to move your website to another computer (the server) that can host it with better uptime

# Why use FTP?

- Provides a clear, simple, Finder or Windows Explorer-like interface to drag and drop your files into
- No need to use the command line
- Is the most basic form of website **deployment** - the act of putting your website up for the world to see

# Where should I FTP my website to?

- Normally, you or your client would create a hosting account using many of the online services that offer one
- To try this out without creating a hosting account, you can use NYCDA's free hosting service

nycda.zone<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Please make sure to always have a local copy of files uploaded to the nycda.zone server. There are no guarantees on uptime or file availability for this service.

# Necessary information to deploy your site

- host #the server where your website lives
- username
- password
- port #specifies FTP (21) or SFTP (22). Use SFTP if possible, otherwise use FTP
- All of this should be provided upon signing up for your web host, or nycda.zone

# Deploying your website with FTP

- Enter the information on the last slide into your FTP program of choice and click "Connect"
- Your website will go in a folder that usually has a name like:
  - public\_html
  - www
  - public
- Drag your website files into this folder to begin the transfer of files
- When you're done, go to your website's URL to ensure the transfer was a success