🔑 SSH Connection Cheat Sheet: Windows ↔ Mac/Linux

This short cheat sheet provides **step-by-step instructions** on how to set up and use SSH to connect between Windows and Mac/Linux machines.

👉 The SSH command syntax is the same across platforms:

ssh user@IPaddress

Note: The key difference lies in **enabling the SSH server** on the target system.

🖥️ 1. Preparing Each System

⚙️ Windows (as SSH Server)

1. Open **Settings → Apps → Optional Features**.

2. Click **Add a feature** → search for **OpenSSH Server** → **Install**.

3. Start the service: Open **PowerShell as Administrator** and run:

   Get-Service sshd

   Start-Service sshd

4. Allow SSH through the firewall if prompted.

🐧 Mac/Linux (as SSH Server)

On Linux:

1. Check if SSH server is installed:

   sudo apt install openssh-server

2. Start the service:

sudo systemctl enable --now ssh

On macOS:

- Go to **System Preferences** → **Sharing** → enable ✅ **Remote Login**.

🔗 2. SSH Command Syntax

From any client machine, the syntax is always:

ssh username@IPaddress

Examples:

- **From Windows → Mac/Linux or Windows:**

  ssh bob@192.168.1.50

  - First time: may ask to confirm host key → type **yes**
  - Then enter **bob's password** (on the target machine).

- **From Mac/Linux → Windows or Mac/Linux:**

  ssh alice@192.168.1.50

  - First time: may ask to confirm host key → type **yes**
  - Then enter **alice's password** (on the target machine).

💡 3. Notes & Tips

- 🔑 Replace **username** with the actual account name on the target machine.

- 🌐 Replace **IPaddress** with the machine's LAN IP:

  - Windows → *ipconfig*

  - Mac/Linux → *ifconfig* or *ip a*

- 🛡️ First connection may ask to confirm the host key → type **yes**.

- 🚪 Use exit to close an SSH session.

✨ With this cheat sheet, you can quickly establish secure remote connections between **Windows** ↔ **Mac/Linux** systems!