



20 Essential FTP Commands

To get you started with file transfer protocol, here is a list of the most common FTP commands and their basic descriptions. This chart makes a great cheat sheet for new programmers or a handy reference for pros who are juggling a lot of technical information. You'll be an FTP wizard in no time!



?	Access the help screen. Request information about FTP commands.
ascii	Set file transfer mode to ASCII. Usually the default setting.
binary	Set file transfer mode to binary. Binary is needed to transfer non-ASCII files.
bye	Exit FTP environment.
cd	Change directory.
close	Terminate an FTP session.
delete	Delete a file.
dir	Lists the contents of the remote directory. Includes files and subdirectories.
get	Get file from remote server/computer. Copies file to local computer.

help	Request a list of all available FTP commands. Help screen displays additional information about a command if the command is entered after help.
lcd	Change local directory.
ls	List file names in the current remote directory.
mget	Copy multiple files from the remote system to the local computer.
mkdir	Make a new directory within the current remote directory.
mput	Send multiple files from local computer to remote system.
open	Open connection with another system.
put	Send file to remote server/computer.
pwd	Show pathname of current directory.
quit	Exit FTP environment.
rmdir	Remove directory on the remote server/computer.

