

SSH — Full Step by Step Guide (Beginner Friendly) + Important Options

Step 1: What is SSH?

SSH (Secure Shell) is a way to connect safely to another computer over the internet



It encrypts your data so no one can steal it.

Example use:

You sit at your laptop  and control a remote server .

Step 2: Install SSH

 On Ubuntu/Linux:

```
sudo apt update  
sudo apt install openssh-server
```

Check SSH status:

```
sudo systemctl status ssh
```

Step 3: Generate SSH Key (Recommended)

`ssh-keygen`

Press **Enter** for all options 

This creates:

```
~/.ssh/id_rsa      (private key )  
~/.ssh/id_rsa.pub (public key )
```

Step 4: Copy Key to Server

```
ssh-copy-id user@server_ip
```

Now passwordless login will work 

Step 5: Connect Using SSH

Basic command:

```
ssh user@server_ip
```

Example:

```
ssh ubuntu@192.168.1.10
```

Step 5.1: IMPORTANT SSH OPTIONS (For Tests & Real Use)

- ◆ **-p** → **Custom Port** 

```
ssh -p 2222 user@server_ip
```

- ◆ **-i** → **Use Private Key** 

```
ssh -i ~/.ssh/id_rsa user@server_ip
```

- ◆ **-v** → **Debug Mode** 

```
ssh -v user@server_ip
```

- ◆ **-X** → **GUI Forwarding** 

```
ssh -X user@server_ip
```

- ◆ **-L** → **Local Port Forwarding** 

```
ssh -L 8080:localhost:80 user@server_ip
```

- ◆ **-R** → **Remote Port Forwarding** 

```
ssh -R 9090:localhost:22 user@server_ip
```

Step 6: Change SSH Port (Optional)

Edit config:

```
sudo nano /etc/ssh/sshd_config
```

Find:

```
#Port 22
```

Change to:

```
Port 2222
```

Save the file 

Restart SSH:

```
sudo systemctl restart ssh
```

Check port:

```
Netstat -plunt | grep 2222
```

Step 7: Create SSH Client Config File

What is config ?

An SSH config file is a file that stores connection settings (like hostname, username, port, and key file) so you can connect to servers easily without typing long commands every time.

Create:

```
vim ~/.ssh/config
```

Add:

```
Host myserver
  HostName 192.168.1.10
  User ubuntu
  Port 2222
  IdentityFile ~/.ssh/id_rsa
```

Now connect:

```
ssh myserver
```

Step 8: Troubleshooting Commands

```
sudo systemctl status ssh  
sudo sshd -t  
ssh -v user@server_ip
```

🧠 Easy Summary (Remember This)

- ✓ SSH = Secure remote login 
 - ✓ Default port = 22 
 - ✓ sshd_config controls server 
 - ✓ ~/.ssh/config controls client 
 - ✓ SSH encrypts data 
-

📌 One Line Definition (Exam)

SSH is a secure protocol used to remotely access and control computers over encrypted connections.
