

## Quick Start Guide

If you need more information – see [Links below](#).

`mercury.swin.edu.au` is a server provided by the University that runs the **Linux** operating system and the **Apache** web server. There are several ways to access **mercury** from a windows computer, but the relevant ones for web page hosting are:

1. **Secure Shell (SSH)** using the PuTTY client. *Used to set up your account.*
2. **Secure Copy (SCP)** using the WinSCP client *Used to transfer files to the server*
3. **HTTP access** using any web browser *Used to request your pages*

# [1]

### Set up your account

*(You only need to do this once)*

Use **PuTTY** to log-in to `mercury.swin.edu.au`

**Username:** a lowercase **s** followed by all **seven** or **ten** digits of your student ID.  
example: "`s1234567`" or "`s987654x`". or "`s1001234567`"

**Password:** your SIMS password

*Note in PuTTY when you type in your password, it is not visible*

**if successful**, this will trigger scripts to make your web directories ready for use.

*See notes below, about the directories that are created.*

# [2]

### Transfer files to the Server

Use **WinSCP** to connect to mercury *(on campus or at home)*

Create and transfer your files to mercury, under folder `www/htdocs`

*(Later you can configure the text editor in WinSCP, and directly edit your files on mercury)*

*See notes below, about where to place files*

# [3]

### Request and view your webpages via a client Browser

Use **Firefox** Browser to request and view your files via HTTP

example: `https://mercury.swin.edu.au/cos10011/s1234567/lab01/`

where `cos10011` is your subject code and `s1234567` is your Username

*Before you can view your webpages through a browser, a pop-up dialog will ask for 'authentication' – provide your SIMS username and password.*

### Where to place files, and how to view them in a browser:

Once you have successfully completed Step 1, directories are created in your home directory `s1234567`,  
The `htdocs` and `cgi-bin` directories map to URLs *There is also a `data` directory, but ignore that for now.*

Directories on the Server	maps to >	URL through the browser
<code>~/cos10011</code>		
<code>~/cos10011/www</code>		
<code>~/cos10011/www/htdocs</code>	maps to >	<code>https://mercury.swin.edu.au/cos10011/s1234567</code>
<code>~/cos10011/www/cgi-bin</code>	maps to >	<code>https://mercury.swin.edu.au/cos10011/cgi-s1234567</code>

### Links:

About mercury: <https://feenix.swin.edu.au/help/>

Changing your SIMS password: <https://passwordreset.swin.edu.au/>