



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.	help	Request a list of all available FTP commands. Help screen displays additional information about a command if the command is entered after help.
ascii	Set file transfer mode to ASCII. Usually the default setting.	lcd	Change local directory.
binary	Set file transfer mode to binary. Binary is needed to transfer non-ASCII files.	ls	List file names in the current remote directory.
bye	Exit FTP environment.	mget	Copy multiple files from the remote system to the local computer.
cd	Change directory.	mkdir	Make a new directory within the current remote directory.
close	Terminate an FTP session.	mput	Send multiple files from local computer to remote system.
delete	Delete a file.	open	Open connection with another system.
dir	Lists the contents of the remote directory. Includes files and subdirectories.	put	Send file to remote server/computer.
get	Get file from remote server/computer. Copies file to local computer.	pwd	Show pathname of current directory.
		quit	Exit FTP environment.
		rmdir	Remove directory on the remote server/computer.

