

## List of FTP commands for the Microsoft command-line FTP client

<http://www.nsftools.com/tips/MSFTP.htm>

### Command-line options

As you're starting the program from a DOS prompt:

```
ftp [-v] [-d] [-i] [-n] [-g] [-s:filename] [-a] [-w:window size] [computer]
```

- **-v** - Suppresses [verbose](#) display of remote server responses.
- **-n** - Suppresses auto-login upon initial connection.
- **-i** - Turns off interactive [prompting](#) during multiple file transfers.
- **-d** - Enables [debugging](#), displaying all ftp commands passed between the client and server.
- **-g** - Disables filename [globbing](#), which permits the use of wildcard characters in local file and path names.
- **-s:filename** - Specifies a text file containing ftp commands; the commands will automatically run after ftp starts. No spaces are allowed in this parameter. Use this switch instead of redirection (>).
- **-a** - Use any local interface when binding data connection.
- **-w:window size** - Overrides the default transfer buffer size of 4096.
- **computer** - Specifies the computer name or IP address of the remote computer to connect to. The computer, if specified, must be the last parameter on the line.

### Client commands

- **!** - Runs the specified command on the local computer
- **?** - Displays descriptions for ftp commands
- **append** - Appends a local file to a file on the remote computer
- **ascii** - Sets the file transfer type to ASCII, the default
- **bell** - Toggles a bell to ring after each file transfer command is completed (default = OFF)
- **binary** - Sets the file transfer type to binary
- **bye** - Ends the FTP session and exits ftp
- **cd** - Changes the working directory on the remote computer
- **close** - Ends the FTP session and returns to the command interpreter
- **debug** - Toggles debugging (default = OFF)
- **delete** - Deletes a single file on a remote computer
- **dir** - Displays a list of a remote directory's files and subdirectories
- **disconnect** - Disconnects from the remote computer, retaining the ftp prompt
- **get** - Copies a single remote file to the local computer
- **glob** - Toggles filename globbing (wildcard characters) (default = ON)
- **hash** - Toggles hash-sign (#) printing for each data block transferred (default = OFF)
- **help** - Displays descriptions for ftp commands
- **lcd** - Changes the working directory on the local computer
- **literal** - Sends arguments, verbatim, to the remote FTP server
- **ls** - Displays an abbreviated list of a remote directory's files and subdirectories
- **mdelete** - Deletes one or more files on a remote computer
- **mdir** - Displays a list of a remote directory's files and subdirectories
- **mget** - Copies one or more remote files to the local computer
- **mkdir** - Creates a remote directory
- **mls** - Displays an abbreviated list of a remote directory's files and subdirectories
- **mput** - Copies one or more local files to the remote computer
- **open** - Connects to the specified FTP server
- **prompt** - Toggles prompting (default = ON)
- **put** - Copies a single local file to the remote computer

- [pwd](#) - Displays the current directory on the remote computer (literally, "print working directory")
  - [quit](#) - Ends the FTP session with the remote computer and exits ftp (same as "bye")
  - [quote](#) - Sends arguments, verbatim, to the remote FTP server (same as "literal")
  - [recv](#) - Copies a remote file to the local computer
  - [remotehelp](#) - Displays help for remote commands
  - [rename](#) - Renames remote files
  - [rmdir](#) - Deletes a remote directory
  - [send](#) - Copies a local file to the remote computer (same as "put")
  - [status](#) - Displays the current status of FTP connections
  - [trace](#) - Toggles packet tracing (default = OFF)
  - [type](#) - Sets or displays the file transfer type (default = ASCII)
  - [user](#) - Specifies a user to the remote computer
  - [verbose](#) - Toggles verbose mode (default = ON)
- 

**!**

Runs the specified command on the local computer.

*Syntax: ! [command]*

Parameter(s):

*command* - Specifies the command to run on the local computer. If command is omitted, the local command prompt is displayed; type "exit" to return to ftp.

**?**

Displays descriptions for ftp commands. ? is identical to [help](#).

*Syntax: ? [command]*

Parameter(s):

*command* - Specifies the name of the command about which you want a description. If command is not specified, ftp displays a list of all commands.

## **append**

Appends a local file to a file on the remote computer using the current file type setting.

*Syntax: append local-file [remote-file]*

Parameter(s):

*local-file* - Specifies the local file to add.

*remote-file* - Specifies the file on the remote computer to which local-file will be added. If remote-file is omitted, the local filename is used for the remote filename.

## **ascii**

Sets the file transfer type to ASCII, the default.

*Syntax: ascii*

### Note

FTP supports two file transfer types, ASCII and binary image. ASCII should be used when transferring text files. See also [binary](#).

In ASCII mode, character conversions to and from the network standard character set are performed. For example, end-of-line characters are converted as necessary, based on the target operating system.

### **bell**

Toggles a bell to ring after each file transfer command is completed. By default, the bell is off.

*Syntax:* bell

### **binary**

Sets the file transfer type to binary.

*Syntax:* binary

### Note

FTP supports two file transfer types, ASCII and binary image. Binary should be used when transferring executable files. In binary mode, the file is moved byte-by-byte. See also [ascii](#).

### **bye**

Ends the FTP session with the remote computer and exits ftp.

*Syntax:* bye

### **cd**

Changes the working directory on the remote computer.

*Syntax:* cd *remote-directory*

### Parameter(s):

*remote-directory* - Specifies the directory on the remote computer to change to.

### **close**

Ends the FTP session with the remote server and returns to the command interpreter.

*Syntax:* close

### **debug**

Toggles debugging. When debugging is on, each command sent to the remote computer is printed, preceded by the string --->. By default, debugging is off.

*Syntax:* debug

### **delete**

Deletes a single file on a remote computer. See also [mdelete](#), which can delete multiple files.

*Syntax: delete remote-file*

Parameter(s):

*remote-file* - Specifies the file to delete.

## **dir**

Displays a list of a remote directory's files and subdirectories. See also [mdir](#), which can list multiple directories.

*Syntax: dir [remote-directory] [local-file]*

Parameter(s):

*remote-directory* - Specifies the directory for which you want to see a listing. If no directory is specified, the current working directory on the remote computer is used.

*local-file* - Specifies a local file to store the listing. If not specified, output is displayed on the screen.

## **disconnect**

Disconnects from the remote computer, retaining the ftp prompt.

*Syntax: disconnect*

## **get**

Copies a remote file to the local computer using the current file transfer [type](#). See also [mget](#), which can copy multiple files.

*Syntax: get remote-file [local-file]*

Parameter(s):

*remote-file*

Specifies the remote file to copy.

*local-file*

Specifies the name to use on the local computer. If not specified, the file is given the remote-file name.

## **glob**

Toggles filename globbing. Globbing permits use of wildcard characters in local file or path names. By default, globbing is on.

*Syntax: glob*

## **hash**

Toggles hash-sign (#) printing for each data block transferred. The size of a data block is 2048 bytes. By default, hash mark printing is off.

*Syntax: hash*

## help

Displays descriptions for ftp commands.

*Syntax: help [command]*

### Parameter(s):

*command* - Specifies the name of the command about which you want a description. If command is not specified, ftp displays a list of all commands.

## lcd

Changes the working directory on the local computer. By default, the working directory is the directory in which ftp was started.

*Syntax: lcd [directory]*

### Parameter(s):

*directory* - Specifies the directory on the local computer to change to. If directory is not specified, the current working directory on the local computer is displayed.

## literal

Sends arguments, verbatim, to the remote FTP server. A single FTP reply code is expected in return.

*Syntax: literal argument [ ... ]*

### Parameter(s):

*argument* - Specifies the argument to send to the FTP server.

## ls

Displays an abbreviated list of a remote directory's files and subdirectories.

*Syntax: ls [remote-directory] [local-file]*

### Parameter(s):

*remote-directory* - Specifies the directory for which you want to see a listing. If no directory is specified, the current working directory on the remote computer is used.

*local-file* - Specifies a local file to store the listing. If not specified, output is displayed on the screen.

## mdelete

Deletes one or more files on a remote computer.

*Syntax: mdelete remote-files [ ... ]*

### Parameter(s):

*remote-files* - Specifies the remote files to delete.

## mdir

Displays a list of a remote directory's files and subdirectories. Mdir allows you to specify multiple files.

*Syntax: mdir remote-files [ ... ] local-file*

**Parameter(s):**

*remote-files* - Specifies the directory for which you want to see a listing. Remote-files must be specified; type "-" to use the current working directory on the remote computer.

*local-file* - Specifies a local file to store the listing. Type "-" to display the listing on the screen.

## **mget**

Copies one or more remote files to the local computer using the current file transfer [type](#).

*Syntax: mget remote-files [ ... ]*

**Parameter(s):**

*remote-files* - Specifies the remote file(s) to copy to the local computer.

## **mkdir**

Creates a remote directory.

*Syntax: mkdir directory*

**Parameter(s):**

*directory* - Specifies the name of the new remote directory.

## **mls**

Displays an abbreviated list of a remote directory's files and subdirectories.

*Syntax: mls remote-files [ ... ] local-file*

**Parameter(s):**

*remote-files* - Specifies the files for which you want to see a listing. Remote-files must be specified; type "-" to use the current working directory on the remote computer.

*local-file* - Specifies a local file to store the listing. Type "-" to display the listing on the screen.

## **mput**

Copies one or more local files to the remote computer using the current file transfer [type](#).

*Syntax: mput local-files [ ... ]*

**Parameter(s):**

*local-files* - Specifies the local files to copy to the remote computer.

## **open**

Connects to the specified FTP server.

*Syntax: open computer [port]*

**Parameter(s):**

*computer* - Specifies the remote computer to connect to. Computer can be specified by IP address or

computer name (a DNS or HOSTS file must be available). If auto-login is on (default), FTP also attempts to automatically log the user in to the FTP server (see Ftp command-line options to disable auto-login).  
*port* - Specifies a port number to use to contact an FTP server.

## **prompt**

Toggles prompting. Ftp prompts during multiple file transfers to allow you to selectively retrieve or store files; [mget](#) and [mput](#) transfer all files if prompting is turned off. By default, prompting is on.

*Syntax:* prompt

## **put**

Copies a local file to the remote computer using the current file transfer [type](#). See also [mput](#), which can copy multiple files.

*Syntax:* put *local-file* [*remote-file*]

### Parameter(s):

*local-file* - Specifies the local file to copy.

*remote-file* - Specifies the name to use on the remote computer. If not specified, the file is given the local-file name.

## **pwd**

Displays the current directory on the remote computer.

*Syntax:* pwd

## **quit**

Ends the FTP session with the remote computer and exits ftp.

*Syntax:* quit

## **quote**

Sends arguments, verbatim, to the remote FTP server. A single FTP reply code is expected in return. Quote is identical to [literal](#).

*Syntax:* quote *argument* [ ... ]

### Parameter(s):

*argument* - Specifies the argument to send to the FTP server.

## **recv**

Copies a remote file to the local computer using the current file transfer [type](#). Recv is identical to [get](#).

*Syntax:* recv *remote-file* [*local-file*]

### Parameter(s):

*remote-file* - Specifies the remote file to copy.

*local-file* - Specifies the name to use on the local computer. If not specified, the file is given the remote-file name.

## **remotehelp**

Displays help for remote commands.

*Syntax: remotehelp [command]*

### Parameter(s):

*command* - Specifies the name of the command about which you want help. If command is not specified, ftp displays a list of all remote commands.

## **rename**

Renames remote files.

*Syntax: rename filename newfilename*

### Parameter(s):

*filename* - Specifies the file you want to rename.

*newfilename* - Specifies the new filename.

## **rmdir**

Deletes a remote directory.

*Syntax: rmdir directory*

### Parameter(s):

*directory* - Specifies the name of the remote directory to delete.

## **send**

Copies a local file to the remote computer using the current file transfer [type](#). Send is identical to [put](#).

*Syntax: send local-file [remote-file]*

### Parameter(s):

*local-file* - Specifies the local file to copy.

*remote-file* - Specifies the name to use on the remote computer. If not specified, the file is given the local-file name.

## **status**

Displays the current status of FTP connections and toggles.

*Syntax: status*

## **trace**

Toggles packet tracing; trace displays the route of each packet when running an ftp command.



*Syntax:* trace

## **type**

Sets or displays the file transfer type.

*Syntax:* type [ *type-name* ]

### Parameter(s):

*type-name* - Specifies the file transfer type; the default is ASCII. If *type-name* is not specified, the current type is displayed.

### Note

FTP supports two file transfer types, ASCII and binary image.

[ASCII](#) should be used when transferring text files. In ASCII mode, character conversions to and from the network standard character set are performed. For example, end-of-line characters are converted as necessary, based on the destination's operating system.

[Binary](#) should be used when transferring executable files. In binary mode, the file is moved byte-by-byte.

## **user**

Specifies a user to the remote computer.

*Syntax:* user *user-name* [*password*] [*account*]

### Parameter(s):

*user-name* - Specifies a user name with which to log in to the remote computer.

*password* - Specifies the password for *user-name*. If not specified, but required, ftp prompts for the password.

*account* - Specifies an account with which to log on to the remote computer. If *account* is not specified, but required, ftp prompts for the account.

## **verbose**

Toggles verbose mode. If on, all ftp responses are displayed; when a file transfer completes, statistics regarding the efficiency of the transfer are also displayed. By default, verbose is on.

*Syntax:* verbose