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This is a list of the commands available when using the Microsoft Windows command-line FTP client (requires TCP/IP to be installed). All information is from the Windows NT help files. If you need to use the "raw" FTP commands instead of these interpreted commands (for example, if you're [writing your own FTP client](#)), please consult [this list](#) instead.

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

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: `asci i`

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`