

Identify the purpose of File Transfer Protocol (FTP), Demonstrate the use of FTP, Describe the technical requirements involved in choosing a web host.

4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3

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# File Transfer Protocol

FTP is a standard [network protocol](#) used for the transfer of [computer files](#) between [a client and server](#) on a [computer network](#).

Users may authenticate themselves with a [clear-text](#) sign-in protocol, normally in the form of a username and password, but can connect anonymously if the server is configured to allow it



# Uses of FTP

FTP finds application in many day-to-day business operations that span business-to-business and peer-to-peer data transfer use cases, including:

- Organizations use FTP to allow employees to share files across different locations and branch offices.
- Employees use FTP to securely share files with coworkers and external business partners.
- IT teams use FTP to transfer data back to DR (disaster recovery) sites.
- Webmaster teams use FTP to transfer Web pages, Web application files, and images to their Web server.



# Technical requirements

If you know what type of site you plan to setup, such as a WordPress or ecommerce site for example, the first thing you need to check is that the hosting service you're considering supports its technical requirements.

Check on the information the host provides about the security measures taken to protect their servers. Look for things like assurances the host is running firewalls and malware detection.



## If Using WordPress

If you're setting up a WordPress site there are two areas you'll need to check for technical requirements. The first is the requirements of WordPress itself, and the second is those of any specific themes or plugins you know you want to use.

The two main requirements of WordPress are support for the language PHP, and the ability to setup a MySQL database. Right now, you'll need at least:

- **PHP 5.2.4**
- **MySQL 5.0.15**



# Databases

If you *are* setting up multiple sites, it's likely you will also need multiple databases. As with domains, it's common for entry level hosting packages to only allow a single database. Make sure there are enough databases for what you need to setup, or that you can upgrade your account later as required.



# Security

All sites need to be secure to a minimum level, but certain types of sites require more attention to security than others.

It is easy to find vulnerable sites to hack or scam, so it's important to have strong security. You'll need to put your own measures in place, such as using security plugins on a CMS.



