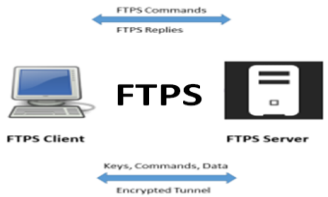
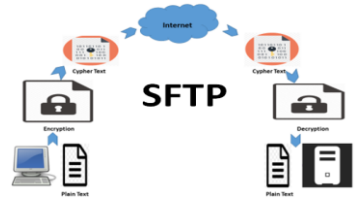
# FTPS vs SFTP

| PARAMETERS | FTPS | SFTP |
|---|---|---|
| |  |  |
| **Connection Security** | via SSL/TLS | via SSH channel |
| **Port** | 990/TCP for the FTPS control channel. 989/TCP for the FTPS data channel. | SFTP port number is 22. |
| **Security** | Server authentication is verified using a public key infrastructure. Client authentication can also be performed via username / password or client certificate verification. | Server authentication is achieved by securely distributing the server's public key to clients. Clients can be authenticated using username and password or public key authentication. |
| **Connections Requirement** | At least 2 ports required, one port to issue commands and a separate data port for each and every directory listing or file transfer. | Only 1 port is required (commands and data use the same connection). |
| **Algorithms** | Asymmetric, symmetric, and key exchange. | Asymmetric, symmetric, and key exchange. |
| **Authentication** | Performed via x.509 certificates | Performed via SSH keys |
| **Server Requirements** | Requires a server X.509 certificate and private key. | Most SSH server installations will include SFTP support (or Open SSH can be used) |
| **Compatibility** | Many functions can sometimes lead to client and server interoperability issues. | SFTP generally is compatible with many modern devices and systems (Linux and Unix) but is not suitable for communicating in legacy like VCL and .NET frameworks. |
| **Configuration** | Can cause firewall/transmission issues due to more complex configuration requirement. | Primarily due to its streamlined connections, reduced firewall issues are experienced. |
| **Performance** | Offers the highest possible secure transfer speeds. | SFTP is a robust and flexible protocol. |
| **File/Directory Manipulation** | FTPS commands are limited and not standardized, hence require additional administrative configuration. | Many standardized controls and commands for activities such as file directory manipulation, permissions locking, etc. |
| **Server to Server Communication** | FTPS supports server to server communication. | Server-to-server communications are not well-supported. |

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