GO ANYWHERE®
Managed File Transfer

WinSCP Free SFTP Client versus GoAnywhere Client Software

Which is better: a free FTP or SFTP client like WinSCP or a Managed File Transfer solution like GoAnywhere MFT? This table explores the similarities and differences between WinSCP and GoAnywhere to help you make the best decision for your organization's file transfer needs.

Client Features	WinSCP	GoAnywhere MFT
Supports a variety of server connections	✓ SFTP, FTPS, FTP, SCP, WebDav	✓ SFTP, FTPS, FTP, SCP, WebDav HTTPS, Web Services
Notes: GoAnywhere also supports AS2 and a proprietary UDP connection for accelerated file transfer.		
File transfers can be automated	✓ Through written scripts	✓ Through graphical wizards. No scripts or programming skills necessary
Notes: With GoAnywhere, you can define and automate transfers using the built-in scheduler, any third-party scheduler, or when defined conditions for a transfer are met.		
Monitor local directories for changes and sync with the remote directory	✓ Uses commands; partially replaces commercial remote directory drive mapping tools	✓ Monitors local file systems, FTP and Secure FTP sites and network folders
Notes: GoAnywhere can monitor a folder internally or externally. If a change to that folder is identified, a file exchange will be immediately initiated.		
Can be accessed through a browser-based interface	✗ Only through the desktop software	✓ Access through popular browsers including IE, Edge, Firefox, Chrome and Safari
Notes: Defining file transfers in GoAnywhere is done through a browser, making initial product installation and future upgrades easy and simple to navigate.		
Can be installed on multiple platforms	✗ Windows only	✓ Including Windows, VMware, Linux, IBM i, AIX, Unix, Mac OS, and cloud computing platforms
Notes: GoAnywhere can be installed on almost any platform and migrated to another platform (including cloud platforms like AWS and Microsoft Azure) with minimal effort.		
Directory operations can be performed (copy, move, delete, rename, makedir, search and replace)	% **With limitations**. Recursive operations with directories can only be performed one file at a time	✓ Use Advanced Workflows to automate directory operations for multiple files at a time
Notes: GoAnywhere includes 60+ built-in tasks. In addition to directory operations, tasks are available to retrieve/distribute files, transform data, encrypt/decrypt files, compress/decompress files, and more.		

Client Features	WinSCP	GoAnywhere MFT
Tracks and logs session events for future auditing and reporting needs	✓ Events are logged in a session log (unstructured) and in an XML log (structured)	✓ Generates comprehensive records for all file service activity and workflow processes. Data is stored as a searchable list and can be exported to a .csv file
Notes: GoAnywhere stores detailed audit records for all file activity and workflow processes that run in the product. You can search this audit data through the browser-based administrator interface.		
Administrators can restrict and control who can access certain functions in the solution	✓ System admins can restrict password storing, file opening and editing, server connections, and enforce the use of authentication banners	✓ System admins can assign users to roles that allow them to perform certain actions (managing encryption keys and dashboards, accessing audit logs, creating workflows, etc)
Notes: GoAnywhere can authenticate users against LDAP, Active Directory, IBM i profiles, RADIUS, RSA SecurID, Google Authenticator, Duo Security, and other IAM (Identity and Access Management) solutions.		
Can execute commands	✓ Supports remote commands (need a separate shell session) and custom commands	✓ Allows commands and APIs that can be installed onto various platforms and run from system command lines, scripts, programming languages, third party schedulers, and web services
Notes: GoAnywhere can interface to your existing applications by providing tasks to call local programs and commands on the system. These tasks can be placed within GoAnywhere Projects as part of an overall workflow of processes to perform.		
Includes a Key Manager to create and manage SSH keys	✗ Keys are generated using PuTTYgen, a separate product	✓ Keys are generated with GoAnywhere's Key Manager. You can also import/export keys as needed
Notes: GoAnywhere's key and certificate management tools can generate SSL certificates, SSH keys, and Open PGP keys.		
Allows file transfers to be scheduled to run at a later date	% **With limitations**. Requires custom scripts and use of Windows scheduling tools	✓ File transfers can be scheduled through Advanced Workflows and GoAnywhere's built-in scheduler
Notes: Transfers can be scheduled in GoAnywhere to run at specific dates/times, in intervals, when called from an external application, or when a Monitor is configured to initiate an exchange.		
Can be put into a FIPS 140-2 compliance mode that uses NIST-certified encryption algorithms	✗ Does not provide official FIPS compliance or certifications	✓ Provides a FIPS 140-2 Compliance Mode. When enabled, it only permits the use of FIPS 140-2 compliant ciphers for encryption processes
Notes: The FIPS 140-2 certified algorithms (ciphers) in GoAnywhere are provided by an embedded RSA security module and apply to all SSH and SSL communications within the product.		

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