SFTP Command Cheat Sheet

SFTP commands don't have to be intimidating. Whether you're downloading files, managing remote directories, or setting permissions, this cheat sheet will help you master the CLI.

Navigation Commands

Command	Description
cd <path></path>	Change remote directory to 'path'
lcd <path></path>	Change local directory to 'path'
pwd	Display remote working directory
lpwd	Print local working directory

Directory Listing

Command	Description
ls [-1afhlnrSt] [path]	Display remote directory listing
lls [1afhlnrSt] [path]	Display local directory listing
df [-hi] [path]	Display filesystem statistics

Directory Management

Command	Description
mkdir <path></path>	Create remote directory
lmkdir <path></path>	Create local directory
rmdir (nath)	Remove remote directory

File Operations

Command	Description
rename <oldpath> <newpath></newpath></oldpath>	Rename remote file
rm <path></path>	Delete remote file
<pre>ln [-s] <oldpath> <newpath></newpath></oldpath></pre>	Link remote file (-s for symlink)
symlink <oldpath> <newpath></newpath></oldpath>	Symlink remote file

File Transfer Commands

Command	Description
<pre>get [-afPpRr] <remote> [local]</remote></pre>	Download file
<pre>put [-afPpRr] <local> [remote]</local></pre>	Upload file
mget [-fPpRr] <remote> [local]</remote>	Multiple get from server
<pre>mput [-fPpRr] [local] <remote></remote></pre>	Multiple put from local
reget [-fPpRr] <remote> [local]</remote>	Resume download file
reput [-fPpRr] [local] <remote></remote>	Resume upload file

Common Flags

-a:	Resume transfer if possible	-p: Preserve timestamps
-f:	Force overwrite	-R or -r: Recursive transfer

-P: Preserve attributes

Permissions & Properties

Command	Description		
chmod mode <path></path>	Change permissions of file		
chown own <path></path>	Change owner of file		
chgrp grp <path></path>	Change group of file		

System Commands

Command	Description
!command	Execute command in local shell
!	Escape to local shell
exit or quit	Quit sftp
help or ?	Display help text
version	Show SFTP version
progress	Toggle progress meter

How to use this cheat sheet

The first word is the sftp command

Text within [square brackets] is optional

Text within <angle brackets> is required

Spaces between commands, options, and paths are required