

SSH port

```
# $OpenBSD: sshd_config,v 1.102 2018/02/16
# This is the sshd server system-wide configuration file.
# sshd_config(5) for more information.
# This sshd was compiled with PATH=/usr/bin:/bin:
# The strategy used for options in the default sshd_config(5)
# OpenSSH is to specify options with their default values,
# possible, but leave them commented. Uncommented options
# default value.

#Port 22
#AddressFamily any
#ListenAddress 0.0.0.0
#ListenAddress ::
```

What Port Does SSH Use?

[Secure Shell \(SSH\)](#) uses TCP port 22.

SSH was created as a solution to replace both file transfer protocol FTP (port 21) and remote access protocol telnet (port 23), so port 22 was a particularly fitting choice.

Changing SSH port on the server

You can make SSH server run on any available port by changing the Port directive in the `/etc/SSH/sshd_config` file.

Usually Port is the very first option defined in the file, and it's commented out if default value is used:

#Port 22

```
#AddressFamily any
#ListenAddress 0.0.0.0
#ListenAddress ::
```

just updated this section by uncommenting Port and changing 22 to the port number you need, like 212 in this example:

Port 212

```
#AddressFamily any
#ListenAddress 0.0.0.0
#ListenAddress ::
```

For privileged port (port number less than 1024), you would have to start sshd as root.

For non-privileged port (port number above 1024), you can start sshd as a regular user on your server.

Best practice: change default SSH port

If you are running SSH server on publicly available IP addresses, it's best to minimize your chances of having SSH access compromised:

- change the default port for SSH (to limit chances of SSH being discovered by external scans)
- switch to key only authentication (prevents password brute force attacks)
- use firewall to allow SSH access from known IP networks only (if possible)

See Also

- [SSH command](#)
- [SSH port forwarding](#)
- [Important SSH server configuration options](#)
- [How To: Generate SSH key](#)

- [How To: Change SSH key passphrase](#)
- [SSH reference](#)