

# How to Install, Configure and Use WinSCP (Windows Client for sFTP)



The sFTP secure File Transfer Protocol (also known as SSH File Transfer Protocol) allows you to transfer patient datasets securely to and from IDT's server. All data transfers are encrypted and we create a dedicated account for each user which is password protected so no-one else can access it.

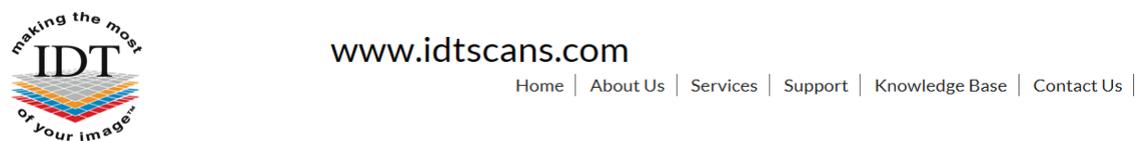
## Step 1:

Go to [www.idtscans.com](http://www.idtscans.com) and select the 'Support' option at the top of the home page.



## Step 2:

Select the option for **sFTP secure File Transfer Protocol**.



## Support

Please click on the links to access the Support pages:

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Software](#)
- [Downloads](#)
- [For the Patient](#)
- [For the Dentist](#)
- [For the Imaging Centre](#)
- [DICOM Uploader](#)
- [SFTP Secure File Transfer Protocol](#)
- [Remote Help](#)

### Step 3:

Click on the relevant link to download the latest version of WinSCP to your computer.



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## Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP)

### What is SFTP?

FTP (File Transfer Protocol) and SFTP (Secure File Transfer Protocol) are widely used protocols for working with remote files. These protocols allow a user on one computer to transfer files to and from another computer anywhere in the world. If you have downloaded files from the internet, you probably have been using the FTP protocol.

### Why Use SFTP?

FTP is not secure because it transmits all data (including passwords and usernames) in plain text. Anyone with a packet sniffer can get your password and download your patients' images!

SFTP is secure because it uses Secure Shell (SSH) for encryption. SFTP encrypts both commands and data, preventing passwords and sensitive information from being transmitted in clear text over the network.

SFTP is functionally similar to FTP but it uses a different protocol. Therefore, you cannot use a standard web browser such as Internet Explorer, Firefox or Chrome to connect to an SFTP server - you must use special client software such as 'WinSCP' or 'Filezilla'.

### What SFTP client software is available?

For Windows platforms please download and install [WinSCP](#)

For Macintosh OSX please download and install [Filezilla](#)

### PLEASE NOTE

**There may be some advertisements on the Download page. We do not recommend downloading or installing any product other than WinSCP.**



## WinSCP 5.17 Download

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WinSCP 5.17 is a major application update. New features and enhancements include:

- Improvements to sessions and workspace management, so that WinSCP can now easily restore tabs that were open when it was last closed.
- Hardware-accelerated [AES](#).
- Extension *Archive and Download* to archive remote files and download the archive.
- Improvements to Synchronization checklist window.
- Allowed sorting of find results.
- [SSH](#) core upgraded to PuTTY 0.73.
- The binaries are signed with new EV certificate valid until February 2023.
- [List of all changes](#).

[DOWNLOAD WINSCP 5.17.3 \(10.6 MB\)](#)

448,463 downloads since 2020-04-01



[What is this?](#)

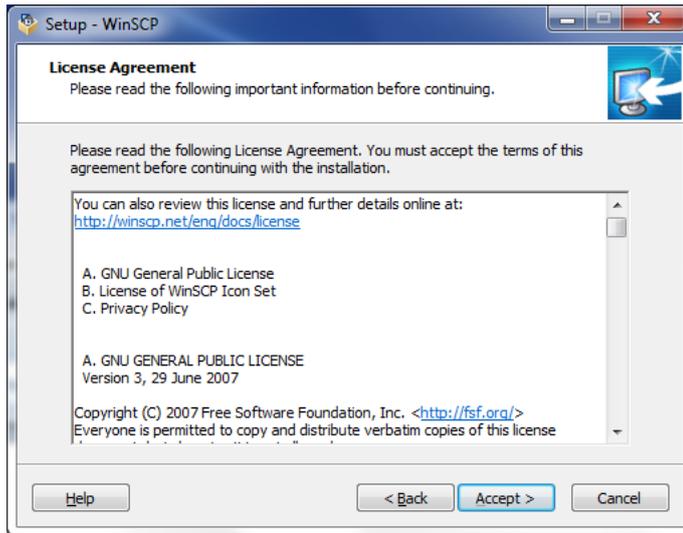
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**Step 4:**

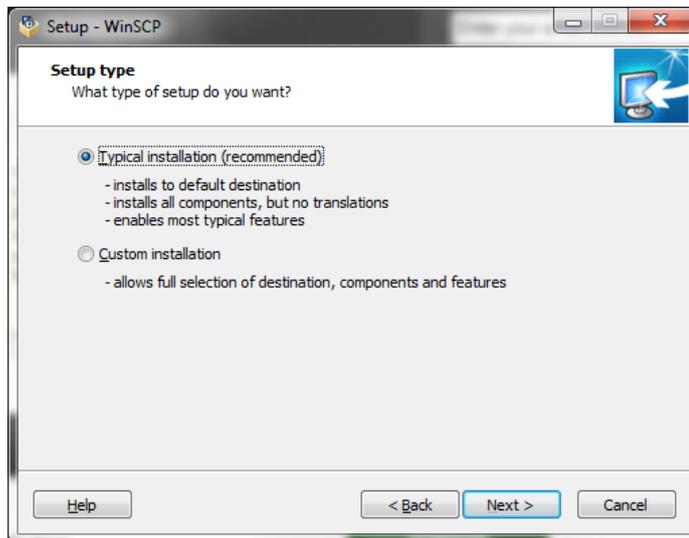
- Click **'Run'** or 'Open' when asked do you want to Run/Open or Save.



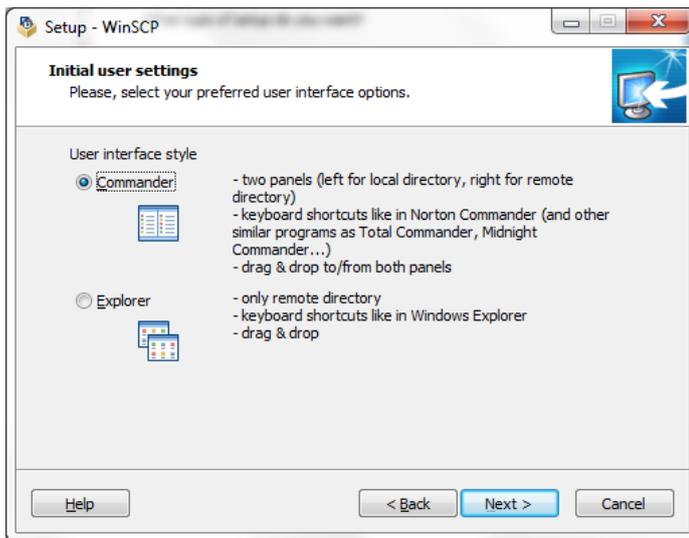
- Please **'Accept'** the Licence Agreement:



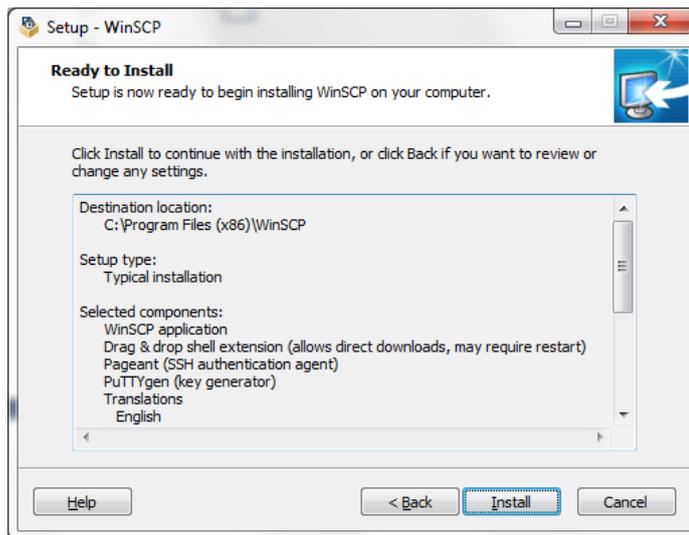
- Select **'Typical installation'** and click **'Next'**.



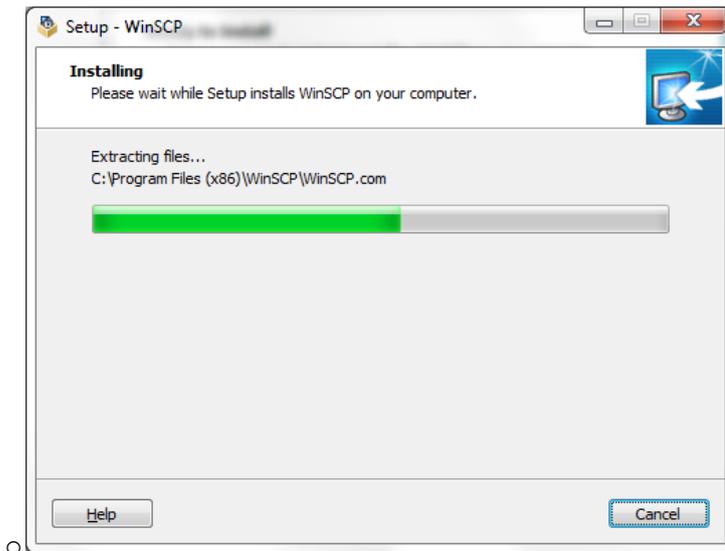
- Select **'Commander'** and click **'Next'**.



- Click **'Install'**



- This may take a few minutes.



- Once the installation has completed the below icon should appear on your desktop.



- Tick both boxes '**Launch WinSCP**' and '**Open Getting started page**' if not already selected. Then click '**Finish**'.



- If any additional web pages pop up you can ignore them; they are not required.

## How To Configure WinSCP

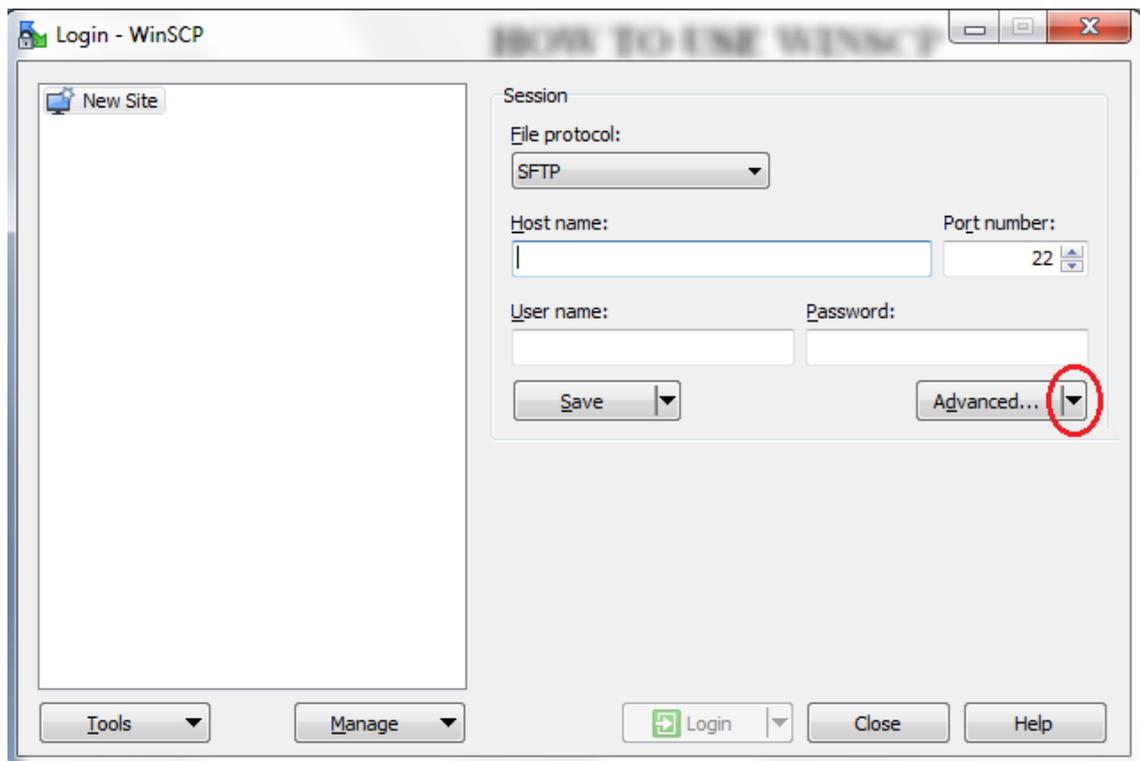
### Step 1:

Double click the '**WinSCP**' icon and follow the instructions below. You should only have to complete these steps once.

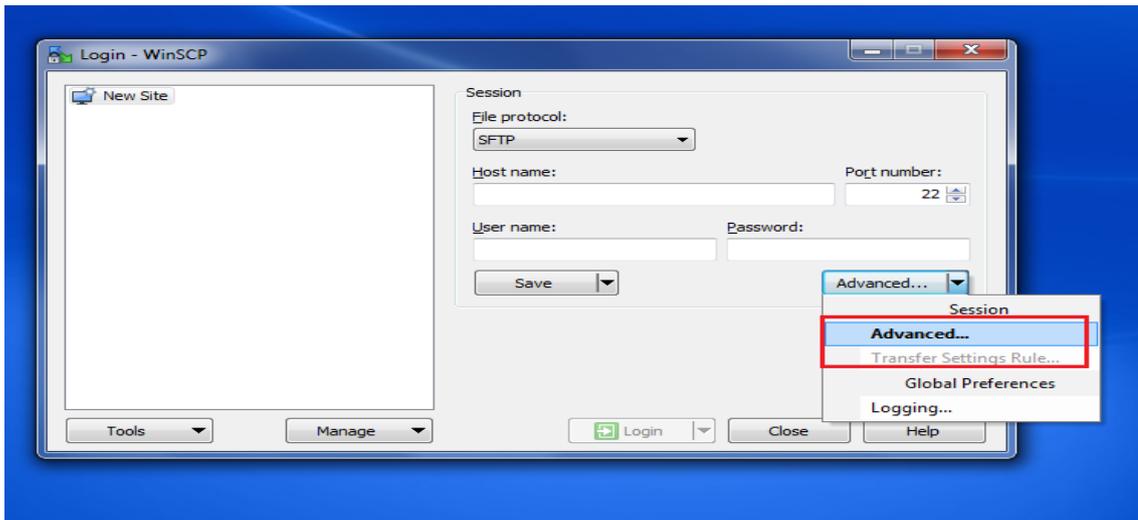


### Step 2:

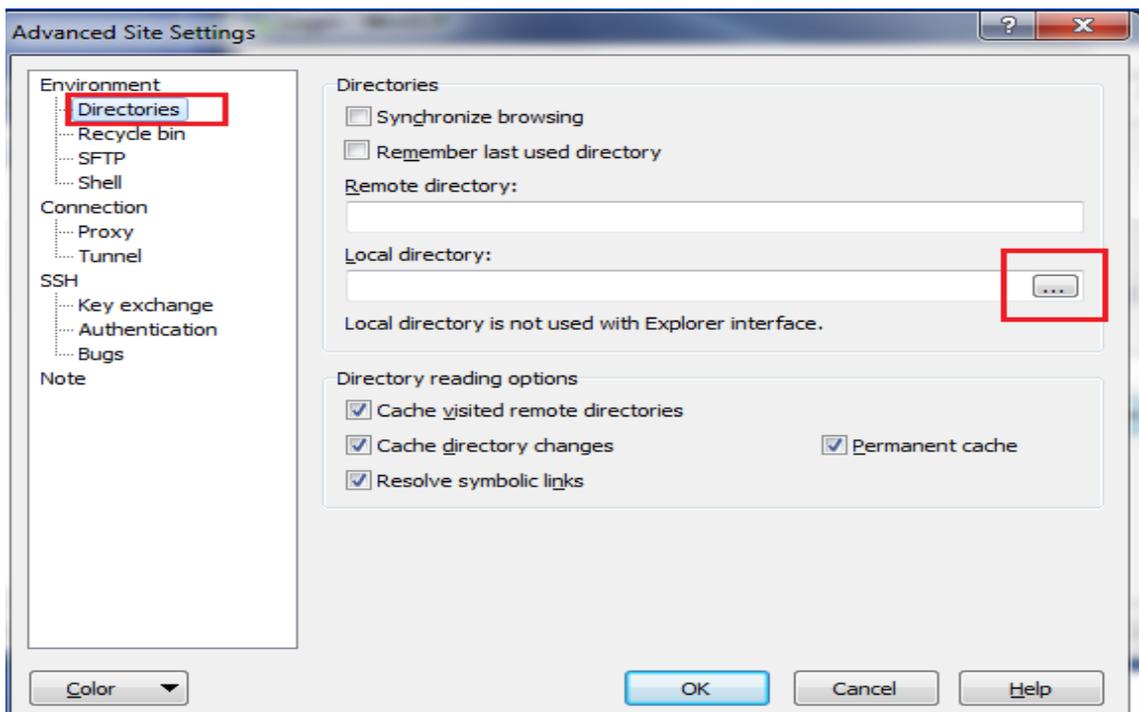
Click the arrow to the right of the '**Advanced**' button



- Select **'Advanced'** again, this time under the heading **'Session'**

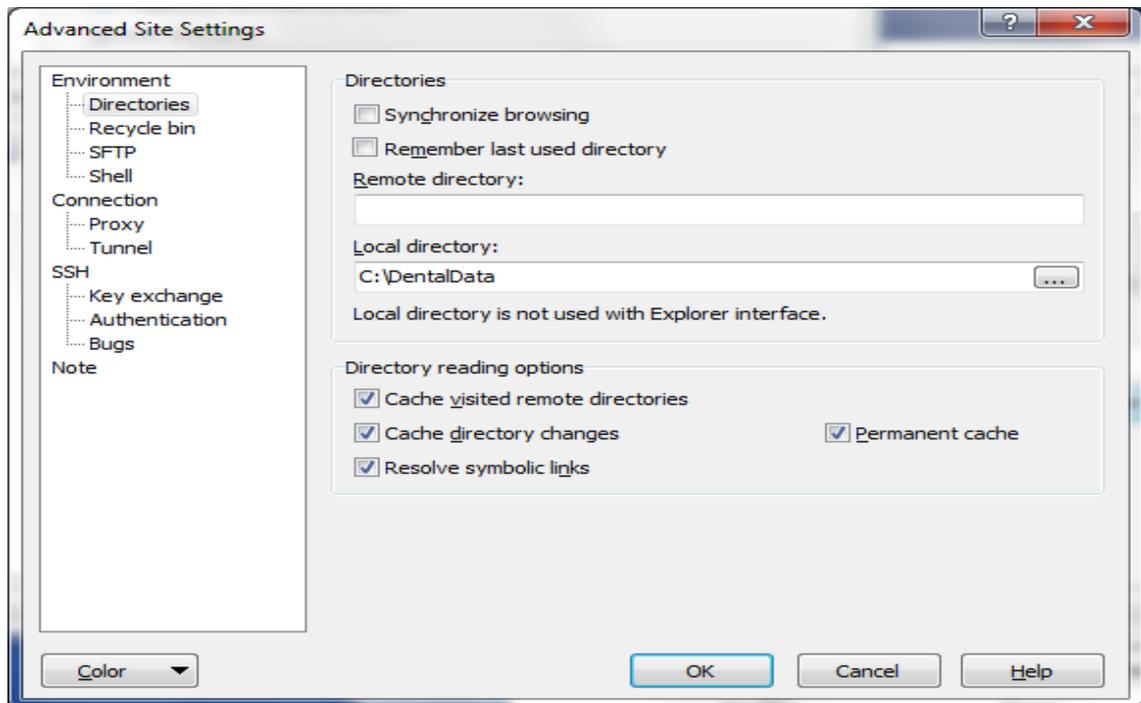


- Select **'Directories'** from the column on the left and ensure the following are ticked:
  1. Cache visited remote directories
  2. Cache directory changes
  3. Resolve symbolic links
  4. Permanent cache
- Please ensure that **"Remember last used directory"** is **NOT** ticked.
- Click on the 3 dots under **'Local Directory'**.
- Go to **'This PC', 'Local Disk (C:)', 'DentalData'** and click **'OK'**. The 'DentalData' folder would have automatically been created when you installed Simplant software, however, if it is not present you can create it now.



C:\DentalData should appear under 'Local directory'.

Click 'OK'.

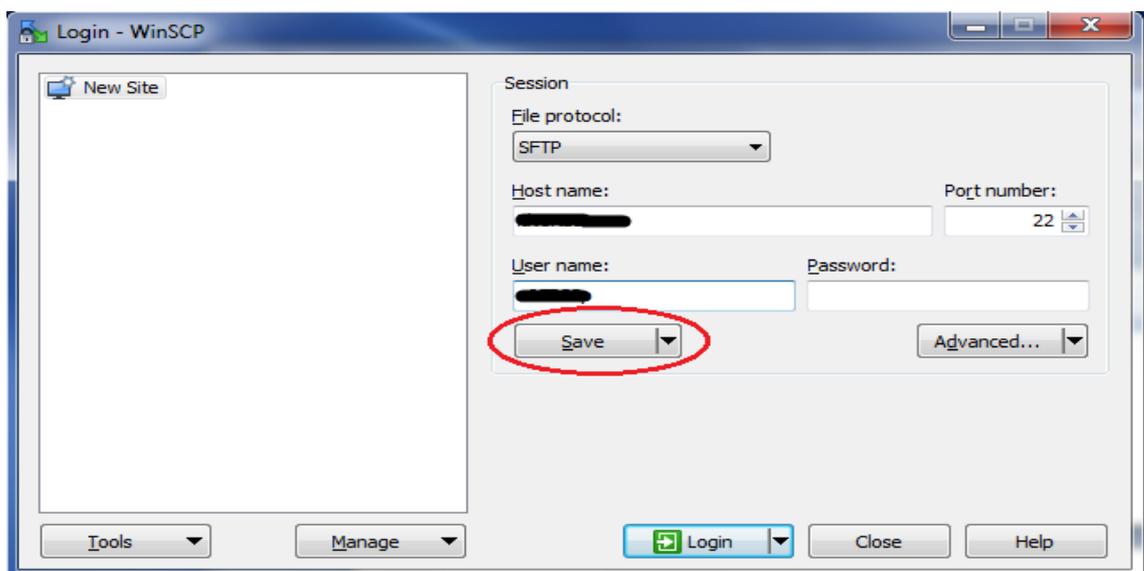


**Step 3:**

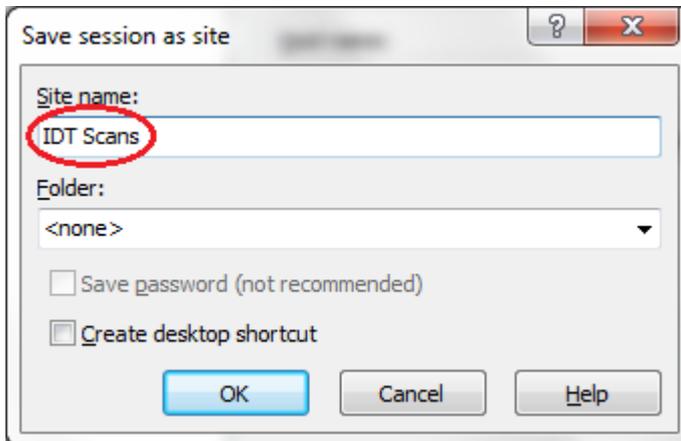
- Enter the 'Host name' and 'User name' that IDT provided you with.

**NOTE:**

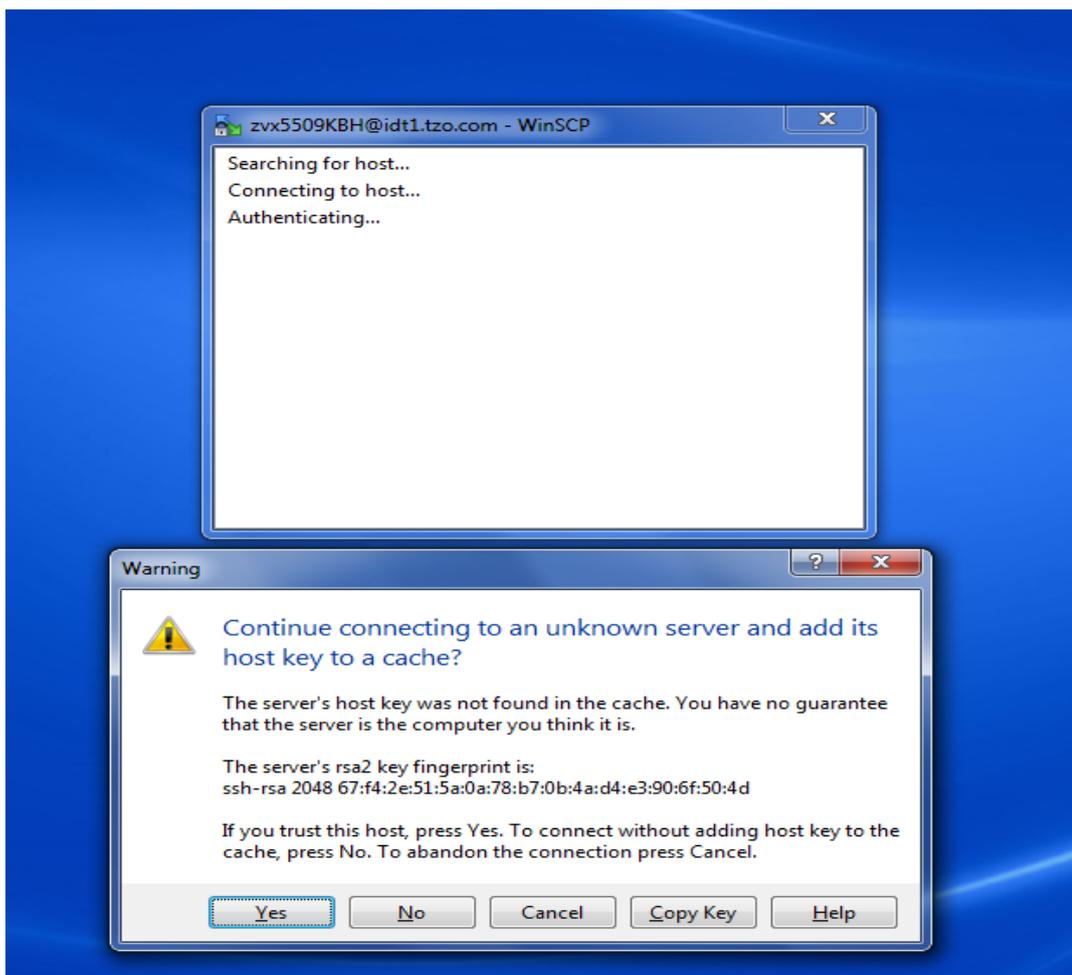
For security reasons, please do not enter and save your password at this point.



- Click 'Save'
- Change the Site name to 'IDT Scans' and click 'OK'.



- Click 'Login'. If it is the first time you have used sFTP on this computer, the following dialog box will appear:



- Click 'Yes'. You are now ready to start using WinSCP.

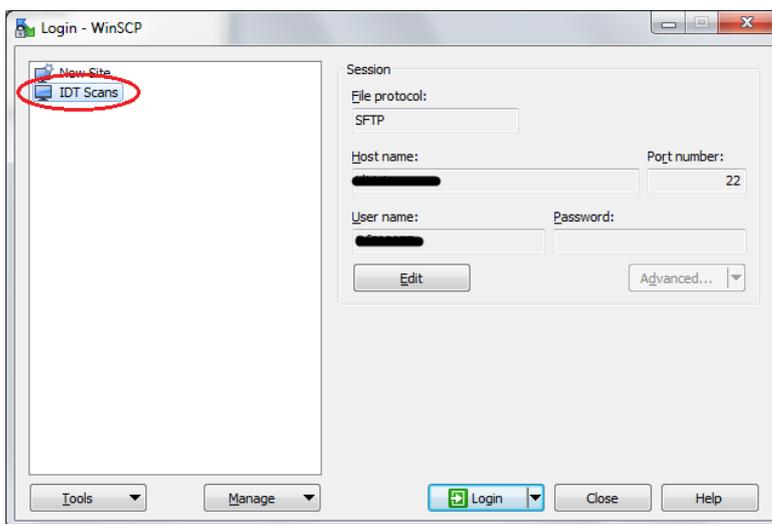
# How To Use WinSCP

## Step 1:

- Double click on the WinSCP icon on your desktop.

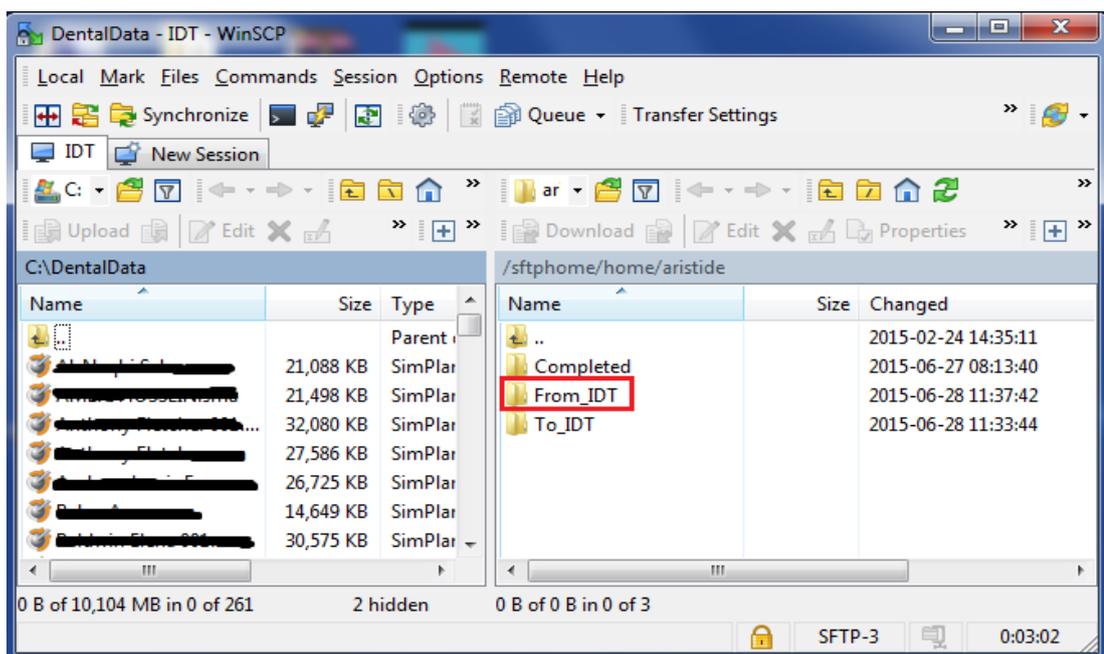


- Select 'IDT Scans' from the list of sessions in the left-hand pane.



- Click 'Login' and enter the password given to you by IDT. Click 'OK'

## Step 2:



- When you have connected you will be taken to a window showing two panes (see above)
- The **Left Pane** shows the folders on your computer. Please select the folder where you normally keep your patient images (usually in 'DentalData' on the C:\ drive) if this is not already selected.
- The **Right Pane** shows your folders on IDT's server. You will see the datasets that have been prepared for you by IDT. *No one else can see these files.*
- You can navigate within either of these panes the same way that you would in Microsoft File Explorer.
- To go up a level (to the parent directory) double-click the  .. icon.
- To copy files to or from IDT's server, simply drag and drop them to the destination folder and click **COPY** when prompted.

#### **NOTE**

You might lose your work if your connection is lost. So never MOVE files! We recommend that you always **COPY** them over.

#### **IMPORTANT**

Be sure to drag (Copy) the file from the 'From\_IDT' (right pane) to 'DentalData' (left pane) before attempting to view the images. **DO NOT** attempt to open the file in the 'From\_IDT' folder (e.g. by double-clicking it). If you do, it may not display the data correctly.

- When you are finished, simply quit the program by clicking the 'X' at the top right corner. You will be disconnected from IDT's Server.
- WinSCP is very powerful software and there are many other menus and command options. In most cases you will not need to use these.

Created 2015-06-26 by Danielle Fealy

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Revised 2025-03-17 RAR