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SSH through HTTPS

The following guide describes how to set up a SSH connection with tunnels through a HTTPS connection. As long as HTTP on port 80 and HTTPS on port 443 is enabled, you can establish a SSH connection.

Setup

Other setups than the one explained below are of course possible, but here is an overview on how I set up my environment.

- 1. SSH connection to a linux server running Debian 7 and Ubuntu 12.04
- 2. SSH public key authentication, login with password is disabled
- 3. Tunnels to services on my server, for example the web interface of BackupPC
- 4. Transfer files from and to the server with WinSCP
- 5. You will need a google account to be able to use the http proxy

Installation

The connection will be established through your browser. At this time, I got it working with Chrome only.

- 1. Download Chrome and install the Secure Shell plugin.
- 2. Open Secure Shell in Chrome and enter the following settings:

```
free form text (line 1): name your connection, for example the server's
name
username: <user>
hostname: <www.mydomain.com>
port: <port> (note: this is the SSH port on the server)
relay options: --proxy-host=relay.wsn.at --proxy-port=443 --use-ssl
Identy: <your SSH keypair>
SSH Arguments: -L 7000:anothermachine:80 -L 22:localhost:22
Terminal Profile: leave at default or give the current profile any name
```

- 3. Note on SSH keypair: upload your SSH keypair, e.g. id_rsa and id_rsa.pub generated on your server (you might want to rename the files to *myserver_id_rsa* and *myserver_id_rsa.pub*, if you want to establish SSH connections to more than one machine)
- 4. Note on SSH Arguments: this is just an example. The first -L option establishes a tunnel to anothermachine's HTTP port through port 7000 on your client from where you initiate the connection, the second option establishes a tunnel to the server's SSH service you are connecting to. You will need this if you want to exchange files with the server through WinSCP
- 5. Download *puttygen.exe* from the PuTTY download page. Convert *myserver_id_rsa* to *myserver.ppk*, as WinSCP requires a PuTTY formatted private key.
- 6. Download WinSCP and enter the following settings:

File protocol: SFTP

Host name: <www.mydomain.com>

Port: 22

User name: <user>

Click button Advanced, then select your myserver.ppk file under

SSH->Authentication

Now, open Secure Shell in Chrome, establish the connect, then start WinSCP and connect. After a short while, you should see your remote directory.

Links

- Chrome download
- Secure Shell plugin
- WinSCP download
- PuTTY download
- nassh-relay documentation and download
- nassh-relay
- Web-based SSH
- SSH/OpenSSH/PortForwarding
- SSH Through or Over Proxy
- List of TCP and UDP port numbers

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