



Secure FTP Server Specification

Version 1.1

Last updated: September 2015

Revision History

Revision history for *PayPal Secure FTP Server*.

TABLE P.1 *Revision History*

Date	Description
September 2015	Various content changes
June 2013	Added note that sFTP reports include a Byte Order Mark (BOM).
October 2008	Correction: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changed report retention time on the Secure FTP Server from 14 days to 45 days.• Changed the Secure FTP server directory location from <code>ppreports</code> to <code>ppreports/outgoing</code>.
August 2006	The specification now includes detailed steps for creating a Secure FTP Server on https://www.paypal.com/
May 25, 2006	Correction: The directory structure on the PayPal Secure FTP Server includes a top-level directory named <code>ppreports</code> .
May 2006	Release of Secure FTP Server Version 1.0

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Secure FTP Server Interface Specification

The PayPal Secure FTP Server is a PayPal service for business partners and large merchants to programmatically retrieve the results of PayPal processing in the form of output data, such as reports from PayPal.

This is the specification for version 1.1 of the PayPal Secure FTP Server.

Security, Access Control, and Sign-up

The Secure FTP Server is access-controlled.

Sign-up for Secure FTP Server Service via Account Management

Business partners and large merchants must sign up for access to the Secure FTP Server by contacting their PayPal Account Manager.

The Account Manager ensures that access to the Secure FTP Server is granted.

PayPal sends an email message to the business partner primary email address indicating that access to the Secure FTP Server has been granted.

Secure FTP Server User Creation on www.paypal.com

After receiving email that Secure FTP Server access has been granted, the business partner must log in to PayPal and set up a Secure FTP Server user account.

Steps

1. Log into <https://www.paypal.com>
2. Click the **Profile** subtab in the upper right.
3. Click on **Profile and Settings** in the dropdown
4. Then select **My settings**
5. Then go to **Secure FTP Users**
6. On the displayed page, click **Add**
7. Verify your identity by reentering the full account number of the bank account associated with your PayPal account.

The Secure FTP Server username is prepopulated by the PayPal system.

8. From the displayed page, make a note of the PayPal-generated Secure FTP user account name.

9. Enter your first and last names.
10. Enter a password and reenter it for verification.

The password must follow the same rules as those for creating an account on <https://www.paypal.com>.

NOTE: The Secure FTP Server username and password are unique and distinct from usernames and passwords for logging into any other PayPal service, including <https://www.paypal.com>.

11. Agree to the Terms of Use.
12. Click **Create User**.

Creation of the Secure FTP Server username can take up to 48 hours. PayPal sends an email message to the business partner's primary email address indicating that the user name has been created and Secure FTP Server is ready for use.

Reports Archive

Reports are retained on the Secure FTP Server for 45 days after their creation.

Programmatic Access: sFTP

The PayPal Secure FTP Server is a secure File Transfer Protocol (sFTP) server. Programmatic access to the Secure FTP Server is by way of any sFTP client.

Secure FTP Server Name

The hostname of the Secure FTP Server is as follows:

`reports.paypal.com`

Usernames and Passwords

Business partners and large merchants select a Secure FTP Server username and password creating a Secure FTP Server user account.

No Password Reset

Passwords for accessing the Secure FTP Server cannot be reset by PayPal. To obtain a new password, a business partner must obtain a new Secure FTP Server user account.

Secure FTP Server Directory Structure

The Secure FTP Server has the following directory structure.

TABLE 1.1 Secure FTP Server Directory Structure

Directory Name	Purpose
ppreports/outgoing	To hold report files

Report File Naming Conventions

The file naming conventions for individual reports on the Secure FTP Server are detailed in the PayPal specifications for those individual reports, such as Settlement Report, Transaction Details Report, or the Dispute Report.

NOTE: A Byte Order Mark (BOM) is included on all sFTP reports.

Sample UNIX Shell Script for Retrieving Reports

The following UNIX shell script is an example of the programmatic retrieval of all reports from the Secure FTP Server. Lines on the left are for ease of reference, and comments explain the commands.

EXAMPLE 1.1 Example UNIX Shell Script for Retrieving Reports

Script	Comment
1. #!/bin/sh	A UNIX Bourne shell script
2. sftp reports.paypal.com <'EOF'	Start file transfer to or from host reports.paypal.com. This script is a “here” or “now” document: all lines between the first EOF and the last EOF will be processed by the sftp command. NOTE: The script does <i>not</i> contain the Secure FTP Server username and password.
3. cd ppreports/outgoing	Change to the ppreports/outgoing directory.
4. get STL-20060902.01.001.csv	Get a settlement report (version 1.0) dated 9/02/2006.
5. bye	Log off
6. EOF	End of script