

How to Connect from Home

with Windows

Originally by Matt Johnson, Fall 2006

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You should read this guide if you want to work from home by connecting to the school computers. With this set-up you can work just as if you are sitting at a lab terminal and keep all your files together and easily accessible from the lab.

This guide won't help with learning to use the UNIX environment. This guide also won't help if you are using a Mac, so if you're on a Mac go to the other guide!

Connecting with Windows

First you need to download two software packages: SSH Secure Shell and Exceed. You can get them from these links with CalNet authentication:

<http://software-central.berkeley.edu/all/ssh+secure+shell> (a nice, small download)

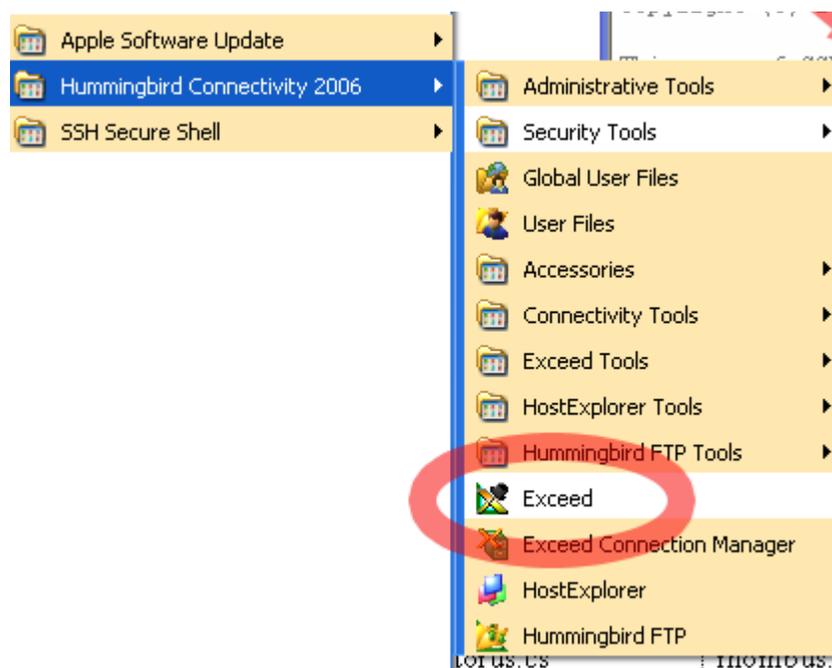
<http://software-central.berkeley.edu/all/exceed> (get the Desktop Client, exceed-2006-win.exe)

Part 1: Exceed Setup (Optional)

Exceed is a program that essentially runs in the background and, when paired with your SSH connection, can enable windowing and mouse-based interactions. To read more about the X11 windowing system, check out <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/X11>

You don't have to set up Exceed if you really don't want to, but if you install it you'll have access to graphical windows, and you can do things like use your mouse in emacs.

After you run the executable installer (exceed-2006-win.exe) and restart, look for it in the “Hummingbird Connectivity” folder in your Start > All Programs menu:

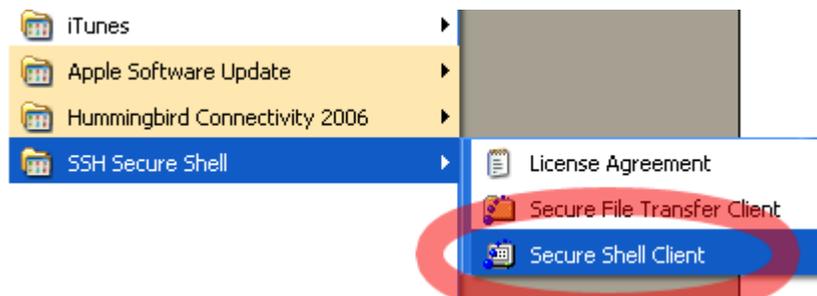


Click on it to start it up, and note that it's pretty much invisible. After you start Exceed, you are ready to open SSH and make a connection to a server.

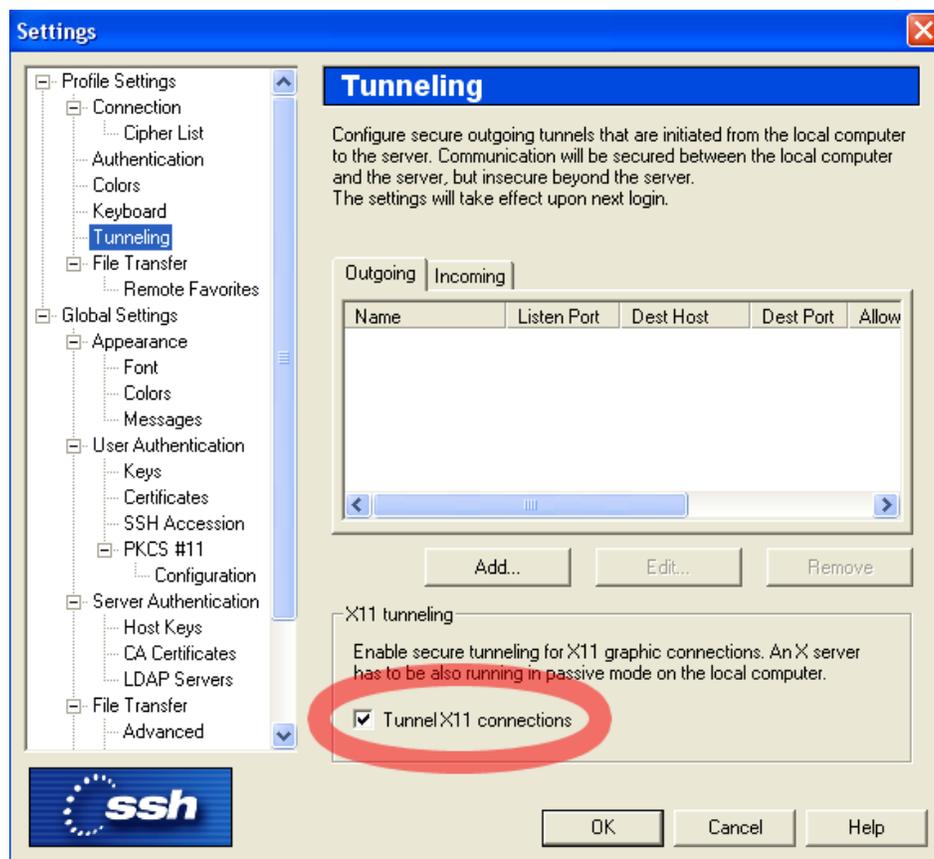
Part 2: SSH Secure Shell Setup (required)

Secure Shell (SSH) is the program that will establish a network connection to a Berkeley server. After you connect it will act just like the text-based terminals in the lab, so you will use it for opening programs and interacting with the filesystem. For more information on SSH, read <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ssh>

After you download SSH, open the executable file (ssh_client-3.2.9-win.exe) and click through the installation screens. When the installation is done, look for "SSH Secure Shell" in the Start > All Programs menu, and open up "Secure Shell Client."

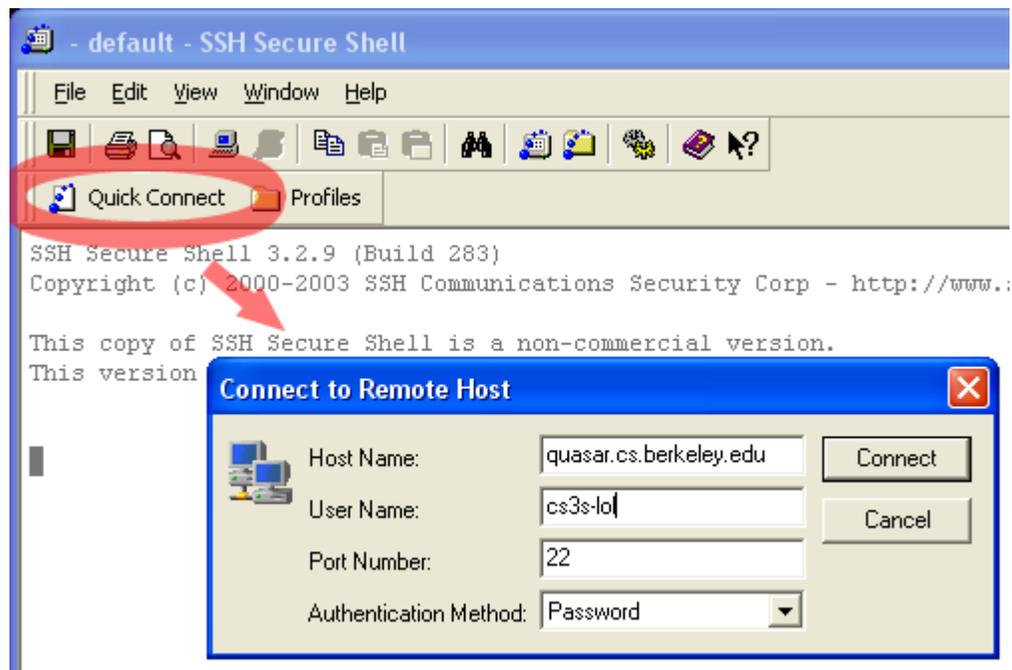


But before you connect! If you installed Exceed (Part 1), there is a preference you need to set in SSH to allow the windowing connection. In the SSH window, go to Edit > Settings and look for "Tunneling" in the left pane (It's under Profile Settings > Connection > Tunneling). Click "Tunneling" to highlight it and check the box next to "Tunnel X11 Connections."



After you check the box, click “OK” and you are ready to connect with SSH, and you can start emacs in a beautiful separate window! (Be sure to use the emacs& command to start it in the background, or else it will tie up your SSH window. Alternately, you can open another connected SSH terminal window by clicking the button to the right of the binoculars).

Click the “Quick Connect” button in the top-left corner to connect.



There are several fields to fill in; the “Host Name” is the name/address of the server you are going to connect to. As long as it’s a Berkeley CS server, the host name doesn’t really matter because your files will follow you around wherever you choose to connect. Here are a bunch to choose from:

cory.eecs	c199.eecs	po.eecs	h30.cs	h50.cs
nova.cs	star.cs	pulsar.cs	solar.cs	quasar.cs
torus.cs	rhombus.cs	sphere.cs	pentagon.cs	cube.cs

Add “.berkeley.edu ” to the one you choose, so that “h50.cs” becomes “h50.cs.berkeley.edu”

In “User Name” you need to type your class account name (something like “cs61a-xx”). The “Port Number” field should be set to 22, and the “Authentication Method” should be Password.

Click “Connect” and type in your class account password. You’ll see a bunch of text in the window followed by a command prompt blinking patiently. Hey, I know you! You’re that command prompt from the lab! Now you can use all your favorite commands (ls, cd, emacs, etc.) and program as if you were at a lab terminal.

If you have any problems with SSH or Exceed check your firewall settings to make sure you aren’t blocking either one (this is a fairly common problem with the BeSecure firewall). If you need more help, just ask your friendly TA!