

Automatically backup web server data with WinSCP via FTP

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In essence, the **FTP** protocol - File Transfer Protocol is a form of data transfer between many different computers. Formed and developed over a long time, **FTP** and **SFTP - Secure File Transfer Protocol** are still the most popular protocols in the world today. To apply for the test below, you need to prepare:

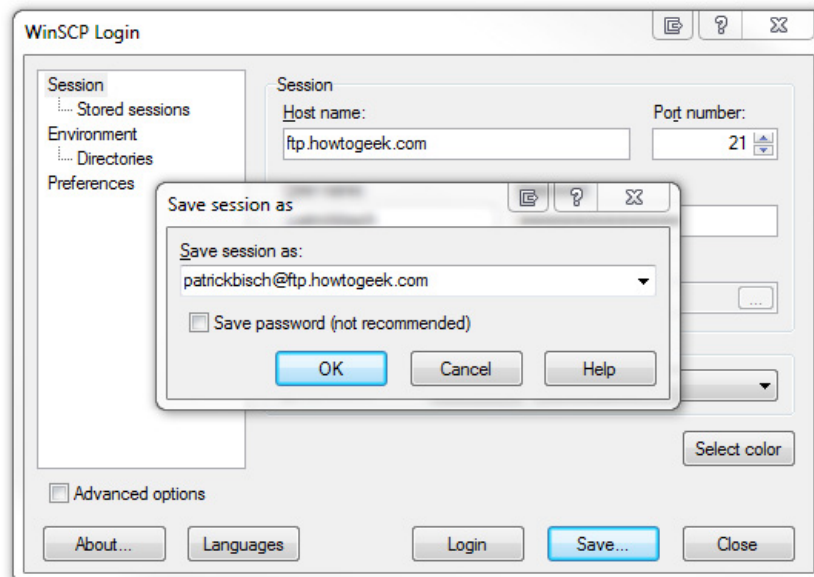
- **Server FTP**
- Computer using **Windows** operating system
- WinSCP version - for **Windows**

Set up WinSCP:

The first thing we need to do here is to install **WinSCP** on a **Windows** computer:



Then, you need to create a new one section profile to use in later sessions. At the Login screen, we enter the host name (eg **ftp.howtogeek.com**), **Username** and **Password** , select **FTP** or **SFTP** , change the appropriate **Port** value. Then click **Save** to save this profile:



Create Script:

Here, we will create a simple code for the system to log in to the **FTP** server, communicate with **WinSCP** to download the missing files, then create a log file to record all **FTP** operations. To get started, open **NotePad** and copy the code below:

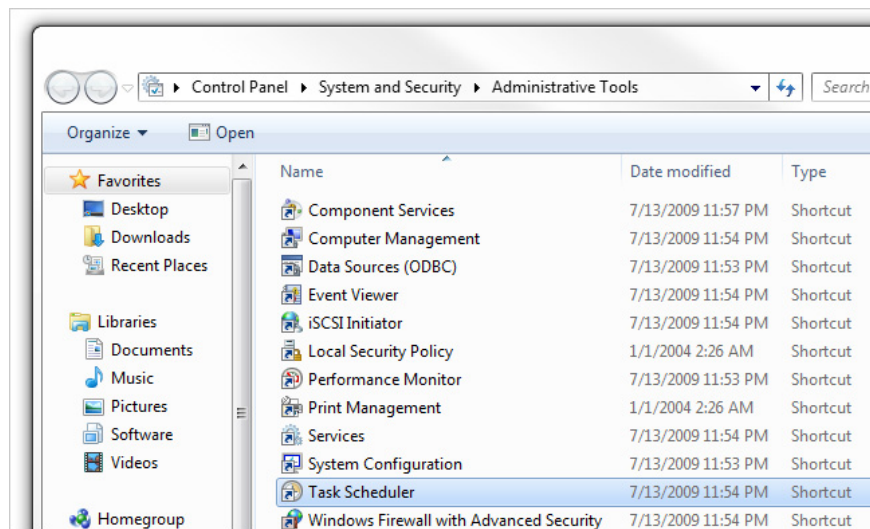
```
batch tùy ch?n
tùy ch?n confirm
open patrickbisch@ftp.howtogeek.com
cd backups
tùy ch?n chuy?n ??i binary
get / testremote *f: backupstestlocal *
synchronize local f: backupstestlocal testremote
exit
```

Specifically, **WinSCP** will automatically respond to system notifications to avoid interruption in the middle of operation, then overwrite newly created files. Continue, log in to the **FTP** server based on the profile created above, change the directory structure (if necessary), pass the binary code (as opposed to **ASCII**). Finally, the application will filter the diagram, **FTP** directory structure on the remote server, and transfer the necessary files to the specified directory. You can refer here .

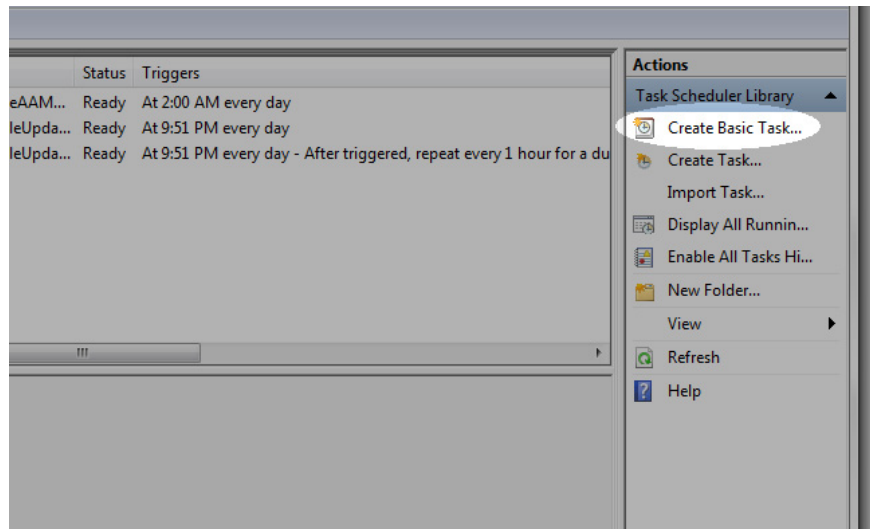
Before running or editing this script, you should create a test directory on local and remote computers (to avoid possible confusion). On the local machine, we create the **testlocal** directory (here is **F: backups**) and testremote on the **FTP** server. Then, run the script, if successful, save the above code into any folder on your computer.

Set up automatic mode for scripts:

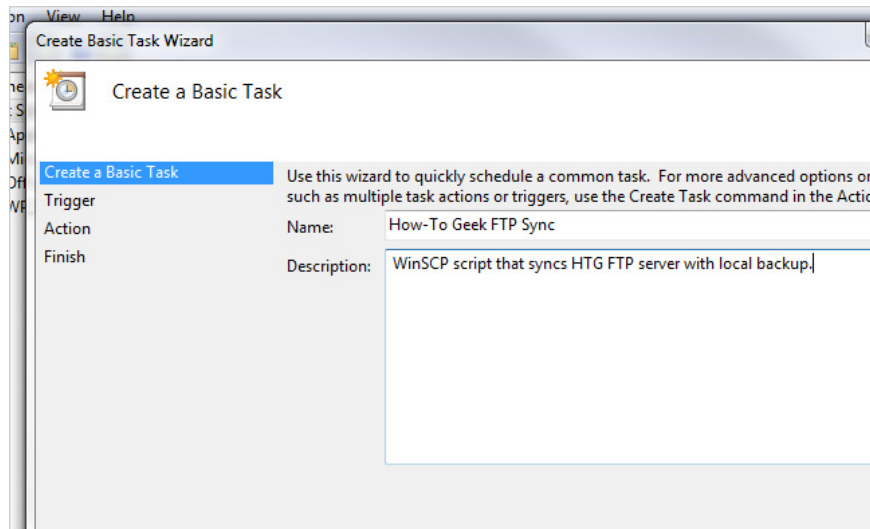
For the rest of the process, we'll let **Windows** do it - based on the built-in **Task Scheduler** feature. You open **Control Panel> System and Security> Administrative Tools> Task Scheduler:**



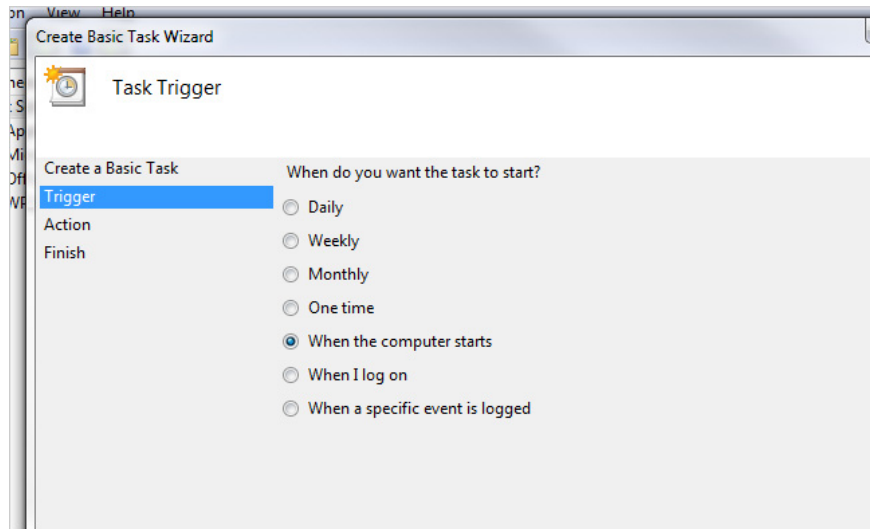
In the right window, click **Create Basic Task:**



Give a short name and description for this operation, click **Next** to continue:

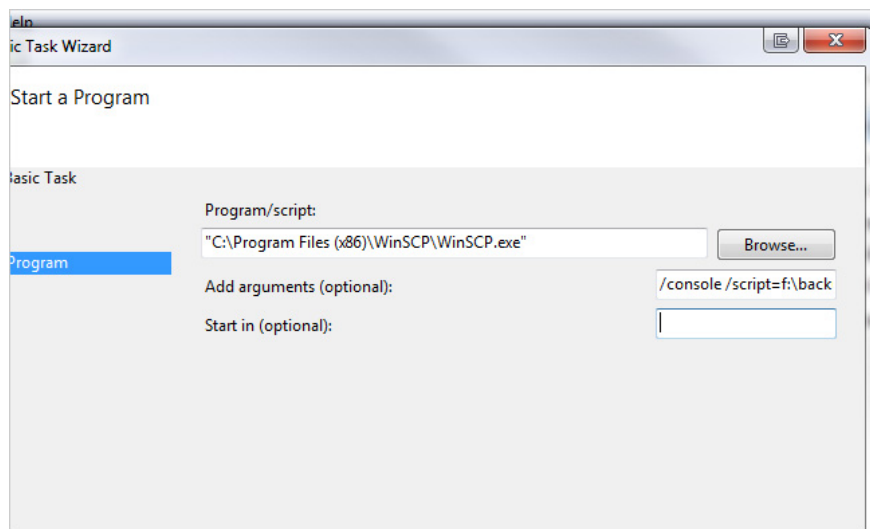


The next option is the operation mode over time, in this test, we want the script to run every time the computer starts. So you choose **When the computer starts**:



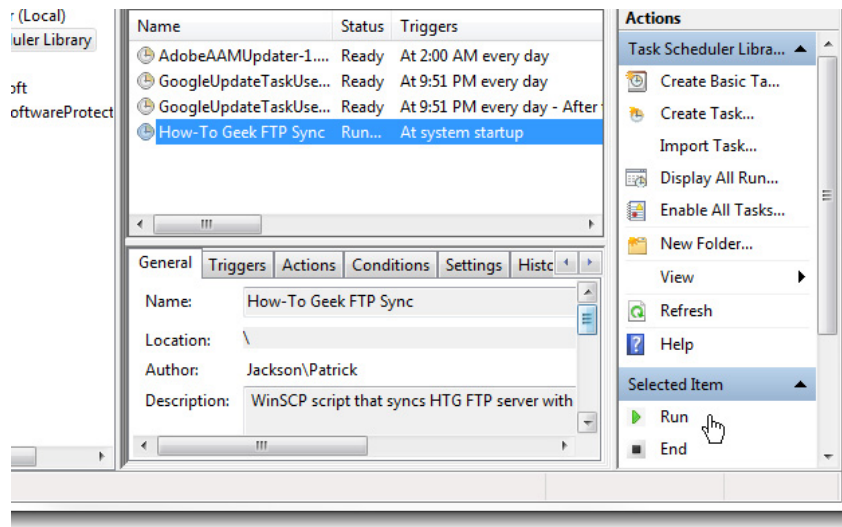
On the next screen, select **Start a program** and click **Next** . The system will ask us to point the path to the file to be executed. Click the Browse button and point to **C: Program FilesWinSCPWinSCP.exe** . Below, you enter:

/console /script=f:backupsync.txt /log=f:backuplog.txt



Change the details at this argument as appropriate

After that, the system will display all general information as well as details of the whole process, check again and click **Finish** . And to make sure the system will work as expected, you should click the **Run** button to make sure there are no errors arising:



Very simple and easy, wish you success!

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