EECS - Connect to EECS SSH servers using Windows

This KB article will help you connect to EECS SSH servers from Windows using various methods. Powershell is the recommended method, but alternatives are provided if Powershell doesn't fit for your situation.

If you need help changing your EECS password, see this KB article.

Table of Contents

- Powershell
- PuTTY
- Windows Subsystem for Linux (WLS)
- Related articles

Powershell

Windows 10 supports SSH through Powershell. To use Powershell:

1. Open Powershell by pressing Win+X or searching “Powershell” in the Start menu
2. In the Powershell window, type `ssh <your_eecs_username>@sig1.eecs.wsu.edu` and hit Enter

Pro Tip

`sig1.eecs.wsu.edu` can get quite busy at times. For a list of alternate EECS SSH servers that are currently available, see this KB article.
3. On your first login, you may see a message about fingerprint verification. Type **yes** and hit **Enter**

![Image of fingerprint verification prompt]

4. Now enter your EECS password and hit **Enter**. Note that during this process, nothing will be shown while typing your password!

![Image of password entry]

**Congrats! You’ve successfully connected to EECS SSH servers using Powershell!**

**PuTTY**

PuTTY is the classic way to connect to SSH servers on Windows. Although using PuTTY is no longer needed because of SSH's availability in Powershell (see the section above for instructions on connecting with Powershell), some people still prefer to use PuTTY for advanced usecases or for when Powershell with SSH isn’t available.
1. Download PuTTY from https://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/putty/latest.html, and install or execute the program. There are versions available that can be installed (requiring admin rights), and there are versions that can be run directly from the download (not requiring admin rights).

2. Once you've launched PuTTY, you'll see a window like the one below

![PuTTY Configuration Window](image)

3. Set the **Host Name**, **Port**, and **Connection type** as shown in the image below

   Pro Tip
   sig1.eecs.wsu.edu can get quite busy at times. For a list of alternate EECS SSH servers that are currently available, see this KB article.
4. Click **Open**. On your first login, you may see a message about fingerprint verification. Click **Yes** to continue.
5. Enter your **EECS Username** and **Password** to log in. **Note that during this process, nothing will be shown while typing your password!**

Congrats! You’ve successfully connected to EECS SSH servers using PuTTY!

**Windows Subsystem for Linux (WLS)**

If neither option above works for you, you might want to consider using Windows Subsystem for Linux. This is a much more advanced method, but might be convenient if you plan on using Linux for more than just SSH’ing to EECS servers.

> WLS is only available on Windows 10

1. Open the Microsoft Store and search **Linux**
2. Choose a linux distro.
   a. If you are unsure which to choose, we recommend Ubuntu 18.04 LTS.
3. Click **Get** to begin the installation
4. When the installation has finished, search for your Linux version under the start menu and **run** it.
If you get the following error message you must have administrator privileges and run the following command from Powershell (see above). Otherwise skip to step 5:  
```
Enable-WindowsOptionalFeature -Online -FeatureName Microsoft-Windows-Subsystem-Linux
```

5. Follow the on screen instructions to initialize your distro. If at any point you are lost, visit this site.
6. After you have successfully created the Linux environment, follow this guide to connect to EECS SSH servers from Linux.

Related articles

- EECS - Available SSH servers
- EECS - Connect to EECS SSH servers using Linux
- VCEA - Purchase Process for Computers and Hardware
- EECS - Use NoMachine (NX Client) to connect to CentOS 6 servers
- EECS - How to Enable 2FA on gitlab.eecs.wsu.edu