Using File Dog's FTP Module

File Dog use the internet standard file transfer protocol (FTP) to transfer files between your PC and your internet host computer.

FTP transfers with File Dog can be accomplished manually, or through an automated fetch event. This section describes manual transfers. Automated transfers are described in the Setting Up Fetch Events tutorial.

File Dog's FTP module consists of two windows. The Host Connections window, which is the first window you see, and the File Transfer window where you do the file transfers.

Step 1. Open the Host Connections window.

From the Main window click on the FTP button on the toolbar or select "FTP" from the "Tools" menu. The Host connections window will display. The Host Connections window is used to setup the FTP session.

Note:
The Host Connections window has three "tabs". These tabs are used for saving logon profiles. You can save up to three profiles for use with automated events. Profiles are the logon parameters that are used for an FTP session. You might use File Dog and never use more than the first tab, but if you regularly logon to more than one FTP host, you can do that without having to retype profile information every time you change hosts.

Step 2. Enter the host profile information.
The first time you use a profile, or if you change it, you must enter the correct information into the required boxes on this window. The mandatory entries are: 1) FTP Host. 2) User ID. 3) Password. 4) Port. 5) Timeout. In most cases you can leave Port and Timeout at their default values, but you must enter a value for the other three. When using File Dog (not this tutorial) Click on the "what's this" button if you need to know what to put in a box.

Step 2a. Optional. Save your profile settings.
Once you have entered the required information press the "Save" button if you want to have this information re-display the next time you open this window.

Step 3. Select a dialer.
If you use a dialup internet connection, then you can elect to use File Dog's dialer by putting a check next to this option. The advantage to doing so is that if you use it, File Dog's dialer will automatically dial (you don't need to to push any buttons) and will automatically disconnect when you finish the FTP session.

You can use your existing dialer with File Dog if this option is not checked. Some dialers need "hands-on" interaction to connect, and/or may not disconnect soon after the session is finished. You should test a little bit if you want to use a dialer other than File Dog's.

Note:
If you elect to use File Dog's dialer, it is important that another dialer is not operating when you press "Connect". If so, the logon will usually fail. You can have another dialer on your PC, just be sure it isn't connected when File Dog attempts to connect.

Step 4. Connect to the host.
Press "Connect" to have File Dog connect your PC with the host computer as profiled on the currently displayed tab. Your Winsock (internet connection software) will be called by File Dog, and if you are not currently connected to the internet, your dialup connection window may display (depending on your configuration). Your computer must connect, and then logon to your host. It's typical for it to take 20-

30 seconds for the connection to be made, and when it is, the File Transfer window will display.

The File Transfer window shows files and folders on both your PC, the left part of the window, and the host you are connected to, the right part of the window. This window also has a "what's this" button, so when using File Dog (not this tutorial) click on it, and then move to any button, box, or other area, and click again to get help.

Step 5. Activate the desired folder and directory.
Before you transfer files, you must make sure the correct folder is active on your PC, and the correct directory (folder) is active on the host.

Step 5a. Select a local folder.
On the left side of the window, click on the down arrow next to the drive box to see the drives recognized by your PC, and click on the drive you need. Then, double-click on a listed folder to open it. The folder icon appears slightly open, and the contents (files) in that folder will appear in the file list box below it.

Note:
The active folder is shown (in text) between the drive and folder list boxes.

Step 5b. Select a remote directory.
On the host computer (right side of the window) you change the directory by double-clicking on the desired directory in the directory list box. To move up one directory level you double-click on the two dots (.. UP ONE LEVEL) in the directory list box.

Note:
The active directory is shown (in text) above the directory list box.

Step 6. Select files for transfer.
Select the file(s) you want to transfer by clicking on them in either file list box (when selected their background will turn blue. To select multiple files, hold down the Ctrl key and click on additional files. Also, you can select the entire list by clicking on the "Select All" button.

Note
You cannot transfer files to a FTP server that does not allow it. Nor can you delete or rename files on FTP servers unless you have appropriate permissions.

Step 7. Set the transfer options.
There are two transfer options on the transfer window.
First, the ASCII or Binary Transfers option. In most cases you should use binary transfers, but if you transfer text files you may want to use ASCII. When using File Dog (not this tutorial) use the "what's this help for a full explanation of this option.

The second option is "Move files". On the right part of the window is a "Move" check box. If there is a check mark in this box files will be moved, not copied, during the transfer. If you want to have a copy of the file(s) on both your PC and the host after the transfer, make sure this box is not checked.

Note:
On the "Tools" menu is another option called "Show All Files". If there is a check mark next to it, then the file list box for your PC will display "system" and "hidden" files. Typically these are not data files, and not files you would be sending to a host. To change this setting, click on the "Tools" menu, then click on "Show All Files".

Step 8. Transfer the selected file(s).
To start a transfer click on the appropriate button ("Send to Host" or "Retrieve") below the file list box. The selected files will be transferred, and the activity log will be updated to show the transfer activity.

During the transfer the buttons for the host computer will be dimmed (inactivated). When the transfer finishes, the transferred files will be shown in the receiving file list box.

Note:
If you want to setup a fetch event for retrieving remote files just select a remote file, and click on the "Retrieve Later" button. Doing so copies the target (file address) to windows clipboard and displays the Main window. There you can easily paste the target to the "File Address" box. From the Main window you can return directly to the Transfer window. See the "Setting Up Fetch Events" tutorial for details on this procedure.

Note:
In addition to transferring files, you can also create, delete, and rename folders and files on your PC from this window. While it is possible to do these things, you may want to do them with another file management utility like Windows Explorer (files or folders deleted with File Dog are NOT sent to the recycle folder). You can easily access Explorer by clicking on it from the "Tools" menu.

Step 9. Close the Transfer window.

Close the Transfer window by clicking on the close button (button with an X) in the upper right corner of the window. Or click on the "Main" button. File Dog's Main window will display.

Note:
When you are using File Dog, use the extensive on-line help, including the "what's this" help button to learn more about the Transfer window functions.

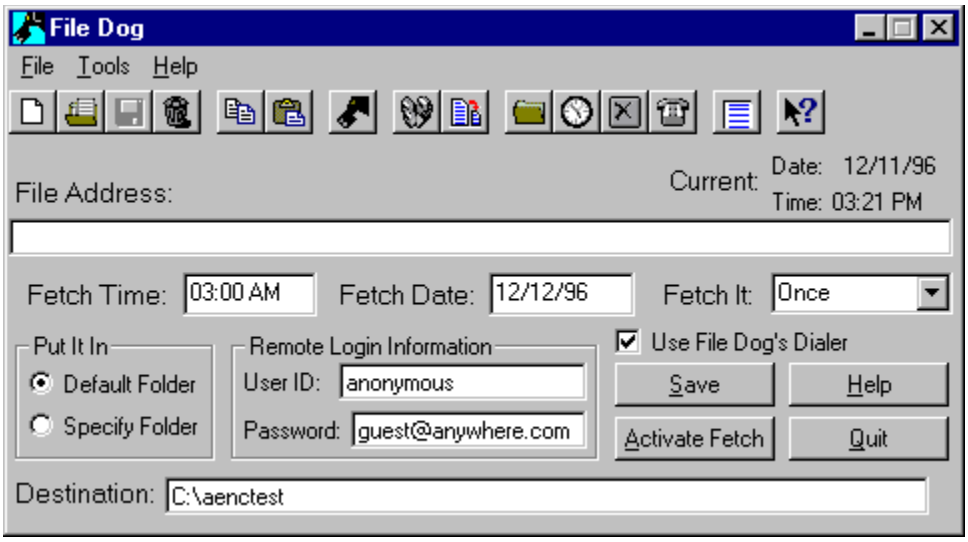
Q: Can I use File Dog for anonymous FTP?
A: Yes. File Dog's FTP is fully functional, and you can log onto any internet FTP host that you have logon access, including anonymous.

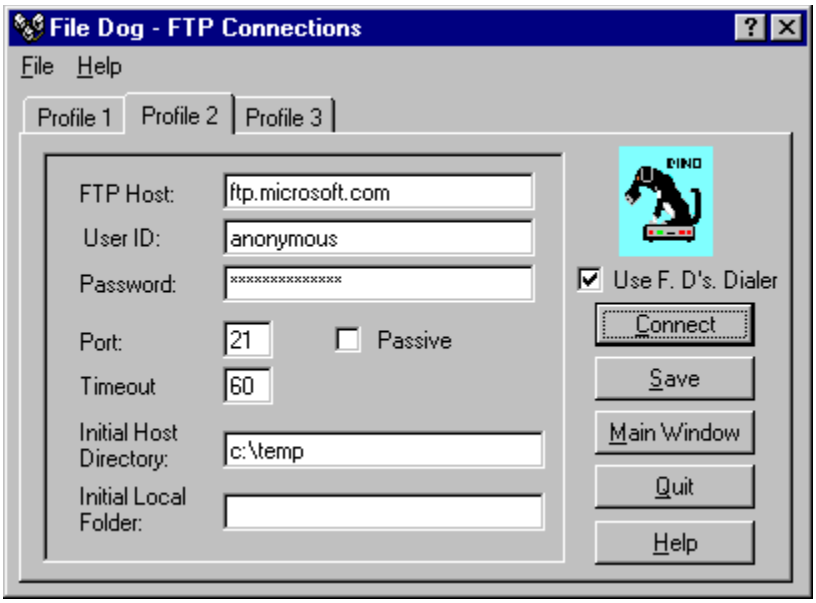
Q: How fast do files transfer?
A: That's dependent on many factors: The speed of your connection, the current demands on the host computer, and the current "traffic" on the internet. In good conditions a 14.4kbps modem will transfer one megabyte in just over 10 minutes. A 28.8kbps mode will transfer almost twice as fast.

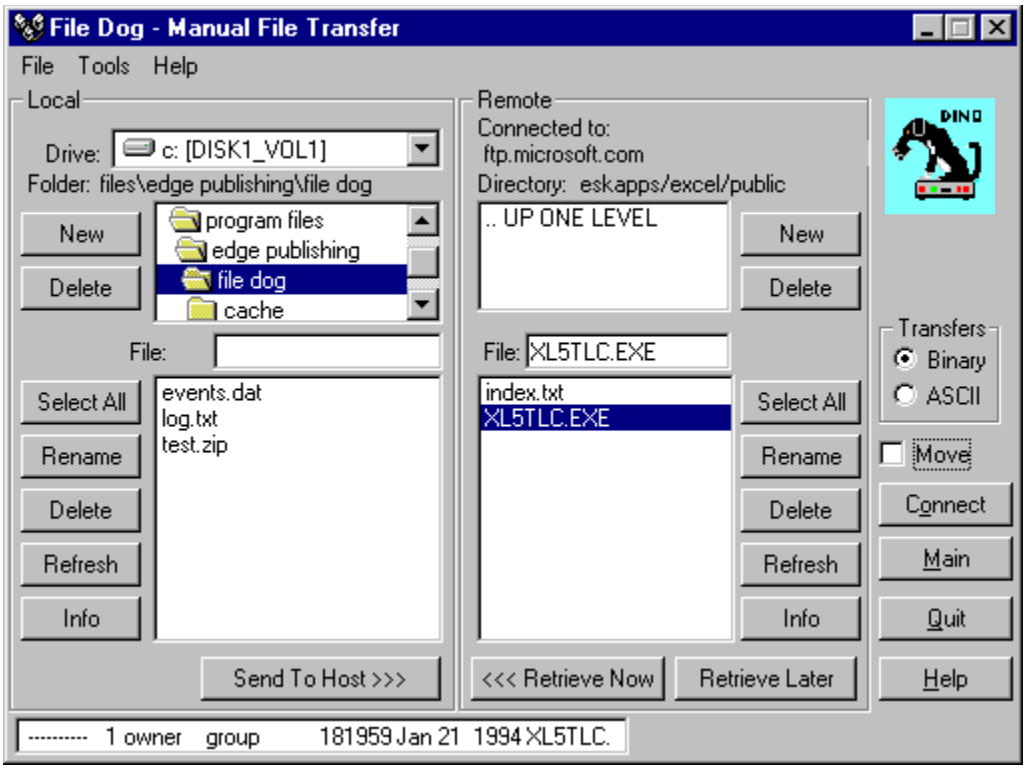
Q: Can I log onto two hosts at the same time?
A: No. You can setup multiple host profiles in the Host Connections window, but you can be connected to only one host at a time.

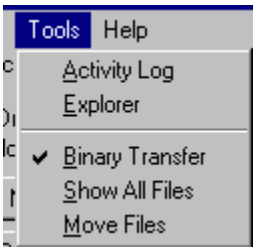
Q: What happens if I cancel a transfer mid-way through the transfer?
A: The current file being transferred, and any subsequent files that are selected will not be transferred. You should be careful to note that in some cases the file that was in process of transfer will display as if it transferred, but it will not be the complete file.

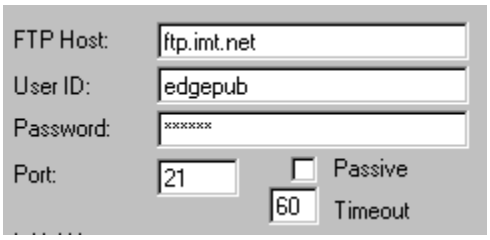
Q: How do I change to a different host?
A: Press the "Connect" button. The Host Connections window will display. Change the host information to reflect the profile for the new host (or change to a different tab if the host profile has been saved) then press connect.


File Dog
File Tools Help
File Address:
Current: Date: 12/11/96
Time: 03:21 PM
Fetch Time: 03:00 AM
Fetch Date: 12/12/96
Fetch It: Once
Put It In
Default Folder
Specify Folder
Remote Login Information
User ID: anonymous
Password: guest@anywhere.com
Use File Dog's Dialer
Save
Help
Activate Fetch
Quit
Destination: C:\aenctest


File Dog - FTP Connections
File
Help
Profile 1
Profile 2
Profile 3
FTP Host:
ftp.microsoft.com
User ID:
anonymous
Password:
Port:
21
Passive
Timeout
60
Initial Host Directory:
c:\temp
Initial Local Folder:
DINO
Use F. D's. Dialer
Connect
Save
Main Window
Quit
Help

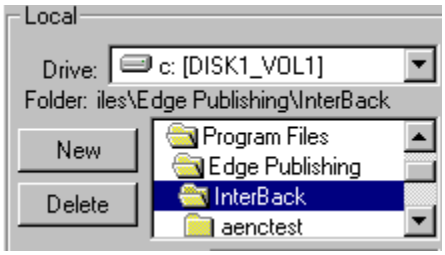

File Dog - Manual File Transfer
File Tools Help
Local
Drive: c: [DISK1_VOL1]
Folder: files\edge publishing\file dog
New
Delete
program files
edge publishing
file dog
cache
File:
Select All
Rename
Delete
Refresh
Info
events.dat
log.txt
test.zip
Send To Host >>>
Remote
Connected to:
ftp.microsoft.com
Directory: eskapps/excel/public
.. UP ONE LEVEL
New
Delete
File: XL5TLC.EXE
index.txt
XL5TLC.EXE
Select All
Rename
Delete
Refresh
Info
<<< Retrieve Now
Retrieve Later
DINO
Transfers
Binary
ASCII
Move
Connect
Main
Quit
Help
---------- 1 owner group 181959 Jan 21 1994 XL5TLC.

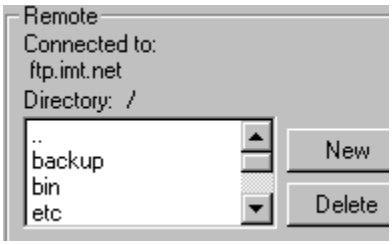

Tools
Help
Activity Log
Explorer
Binary Transfer
Show All Files
Move Files


FTP Host:
ftp.imt.net
User ID:
edgepub
Password:
******
Port:
21
Passive
60
Timeout

Reference: IMT

Initial Host
Directory:


Local
Drive:
c: [DISK1_VOL1]
Folder: iles\Edge Publishing\InterBack
New
Delete
Program Files
Edge Publishing
InterBack
aenctest


Remote
Connected to:
ftp.imt.net
Directory: /
..
backup
bin
etc
New
Delete

Transfers
Binary
ASCII
Move