

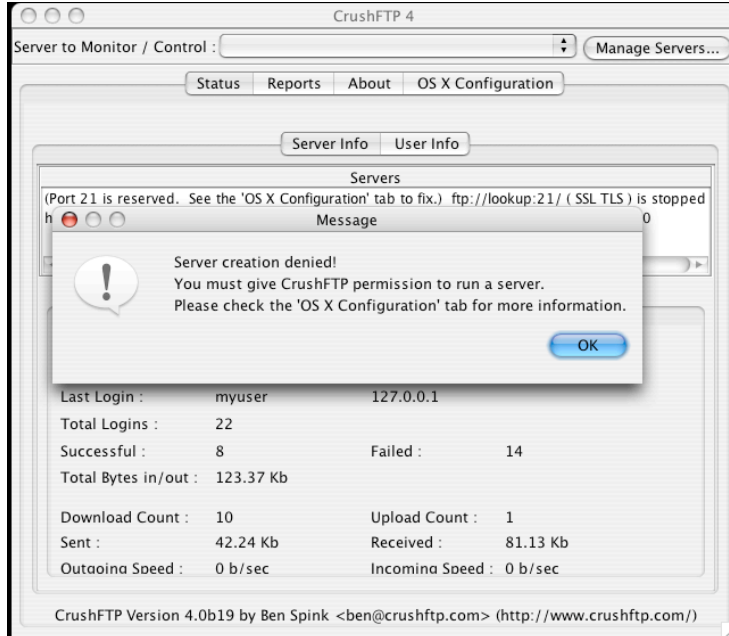
CrushFTP4 Quick Start Guide

These instructions were accurate as of 12/6/06 with CrushFTP 4.0b19.

(Please note, all references to "VFS" stand for virtual file system. Also, all testing was performed from the server machine to rule out firewall access issues.)

Getting Started

Launch CrushFTP4. You will see a please register dialog if you are unregistered. After that, this window should appear. If you get the dialog indicating the server could not use port 21 because of permissions, click OK, and go to the OS X tab to fix it.



Click the button "Authenticate CrushFTP". Then enter your normal OS X username / password credentials to grant CrushFTP access. CrushFTP will automatically restart after you have done this.

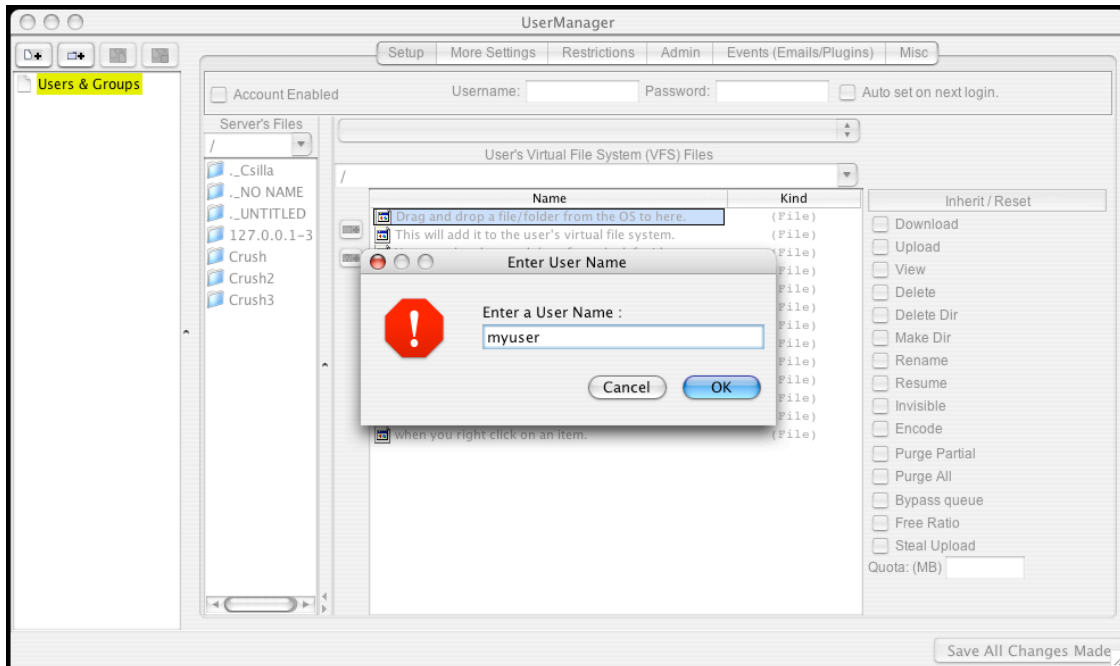
CrushFTP needs special privileges in order to run a server. Before you can use any of the below options, you must first authenticate for CrushFTP. This modifies the CrushFTP executable so that from now on it will have permission to run a server.

Authenticate CrushFTP

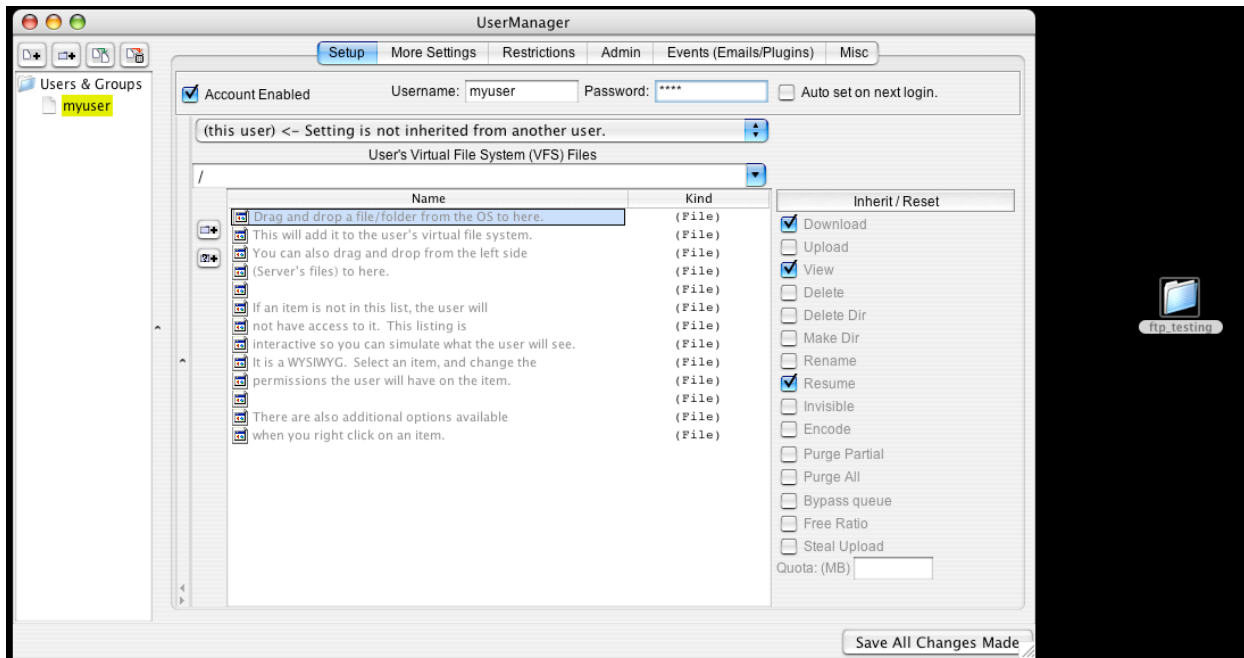
De-authenticate CrushFTP

Creating a User

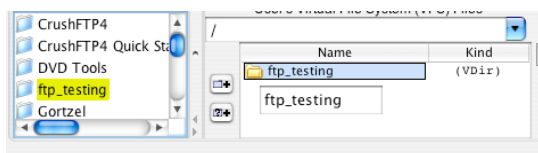
Select "Users / Groups..." from the file menu to create your first user for the server. Click the top left button in this window to create a new user. I gave my user the name "myuser" in this case.



You should now see a window similar to this. You may or may not see a list of drives directly under "Account Enabled". There is a vertical divider that can be dragged to show / hide them. In this example, my drives are hidden as I am going to drag and drop from the finder into the users VFS area on this window. (The area that tells you to Drag and drop...) There are two buttons to the left of this. The top one is the folder with a "+" sign next to it. This lets you create "virtual" folders. These are folders that will always be download only as they do not represent a real folder on your hard drive. It allows you to construct a virtual filesystem laid out in the way you want which may be different than your real folder structure on your hard drive. I am not using it in this example, but instead am going to drag over a real folder from my desktop and grant access to it. This picture is wide, so scroll to the right to see the folder I am about to drag and drop into the VFS area. **Don't forget to set a password by typing one in the password field!**

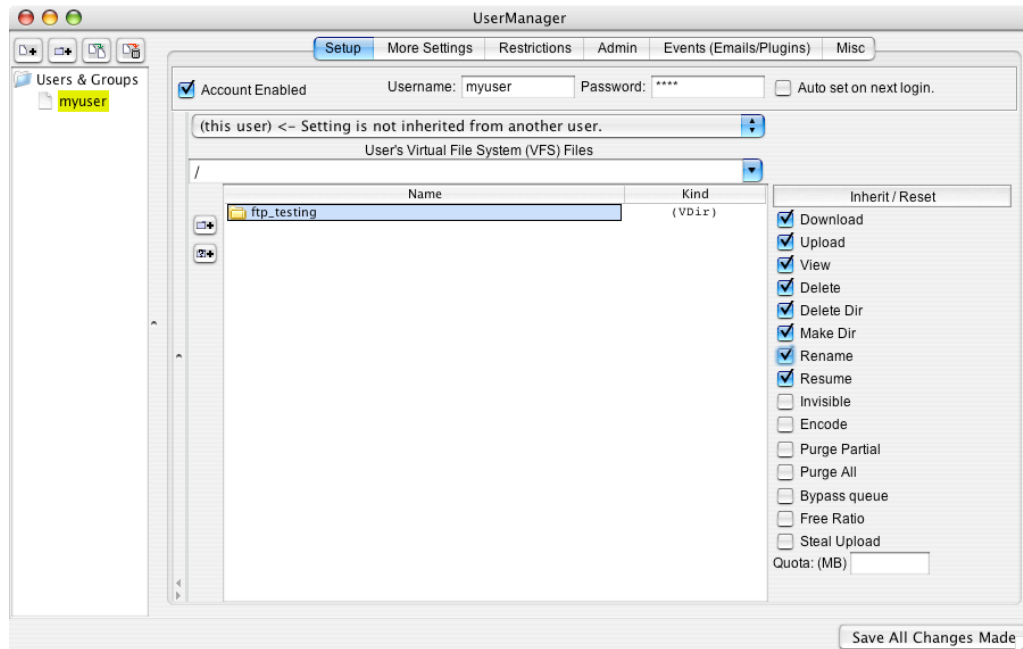


Here is a screenshot where I used the built in browser to add a folder to the users VFS. I dragged the divider to the right so I could see the folders. I then browsed to pick a folder, and then dragged it to the right and dropped it in the users VFS area. (The weird looking edit field with "ftp_testing" in it is the drag in progress...) However, this was only for demonstration purposes, so I then removed the item by right clicking on it. I then dragged and dropped from my Finder's Desktop as I stated I was going to do above.

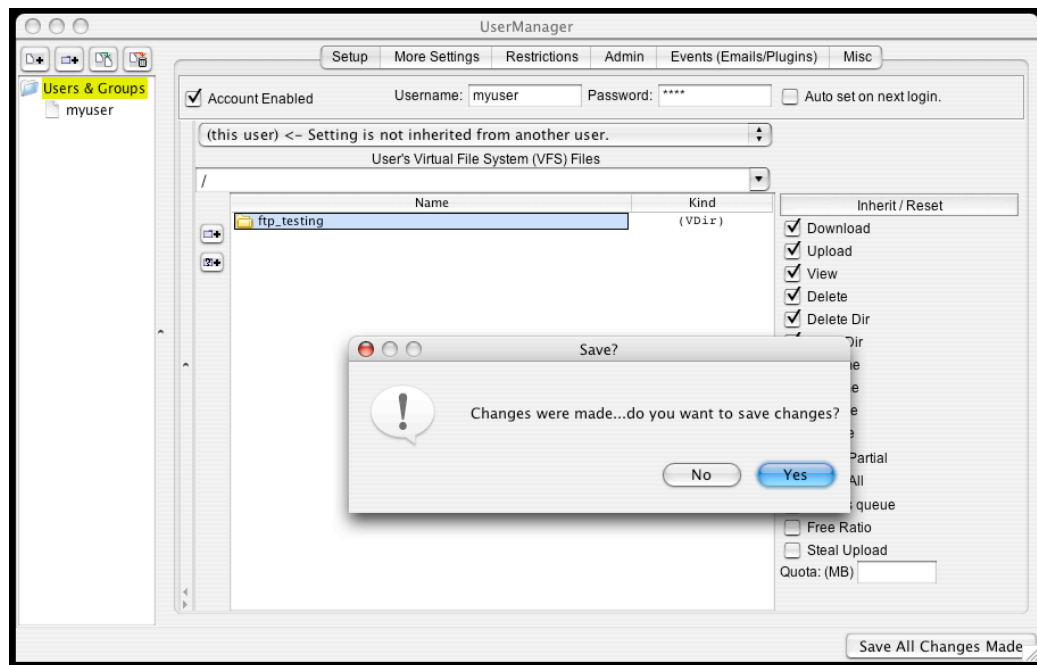


I have just dropped the folder "ftp_testing" in there, and added the check marks on the left for Upload, Delete, Delete Dir, Make Dir, and Rename. Now we are ready to login and test this user. (Since this

user only has a single folder as part of their VFS, when they login, they will automatically start inside "ftp_testing". If however we added another item by dragging in another folder here, the users would instead start at the root and see both folders listed giving them the option of which they wanted to go into.)



Close the user manager now. When you do, you will be prompted if you want to save changes you just made to this user. Click Yes!



Testing Your New User

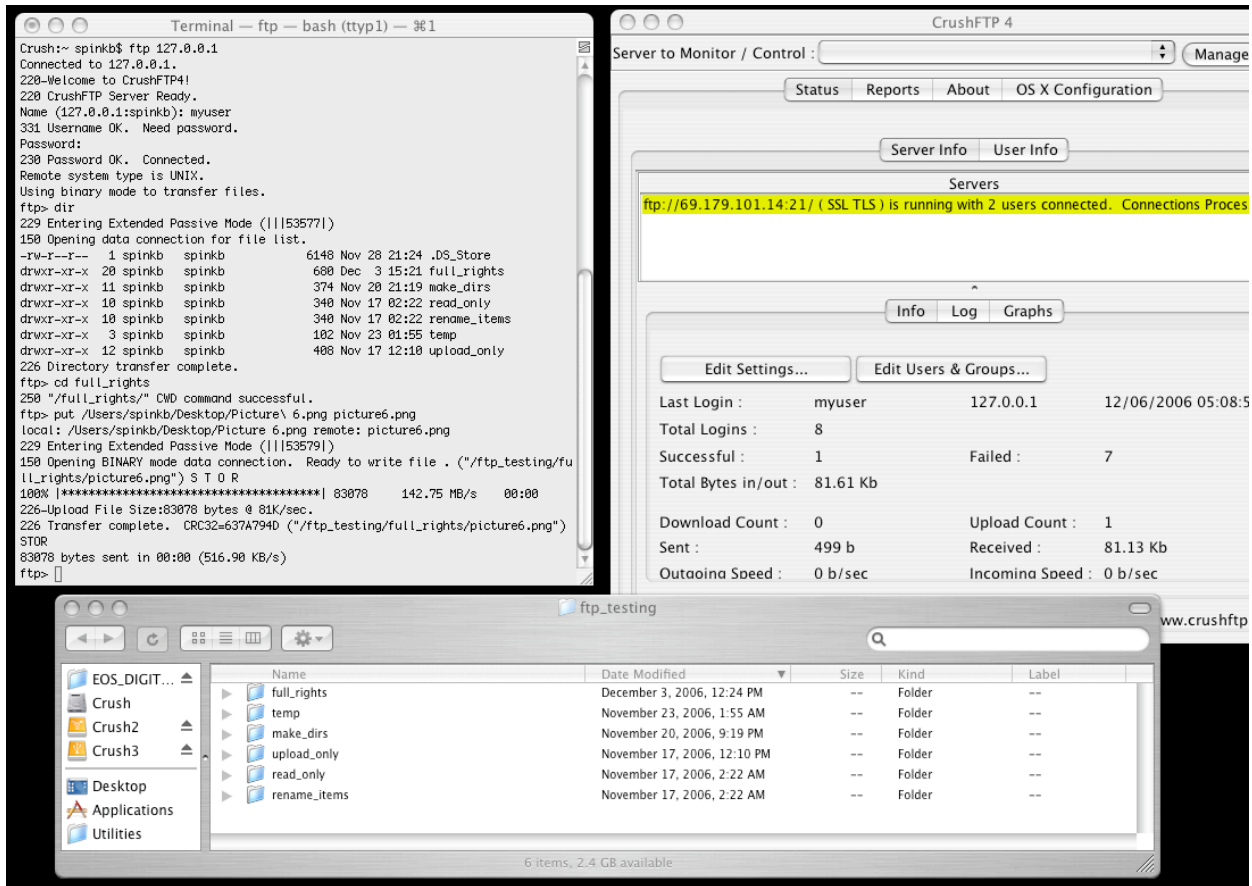
Now for a quick test of this user. I just opened up terminal in my Utilities folder inside my applications folder. I then typed "ftp 127.0.0.1" and hit return. This ftp's to the local machine you are on. Since I used the default settings of CrushFTP, I am running on port 21 for FTP. I am doing it this way since I want to eliminate any firewalls as being a potential problem for our testing. We will deal with them later. If you do have your OS X firewall enabled, please disable it for this test. At the end of this document I show how to configure it. Its in your sharing control panel. Also keep the "FTP Server" item in your sharing control panel off. I also show you at the end of this document how to enable integration with it.

Enter your username and hit return. Then enter the password and hit return. (*Password is not visible while you type it!*)

Next, type in "dir" and hit return to see a listing of items in your root. In this case, its a listing of "ftp_testing".

Down at the bottom you see the real folder "ftp_testing", and above in the terminal window you see where the contents are listed the same. The terminal shows an invisible file ".DS_Store" that the finder hides from you. That's normal.

Next I uploaded a file. I could have done it here, but instead went into the "full_rights" folder with a "cd full_rights". I then did an upload with "put /Users/spinkb/Desktop/Picture 6.png picture6.png". The backslash is there because the filename had a space in it and you have to specify the space is part of the command or else terminal would have separated the command. The upload was successful!

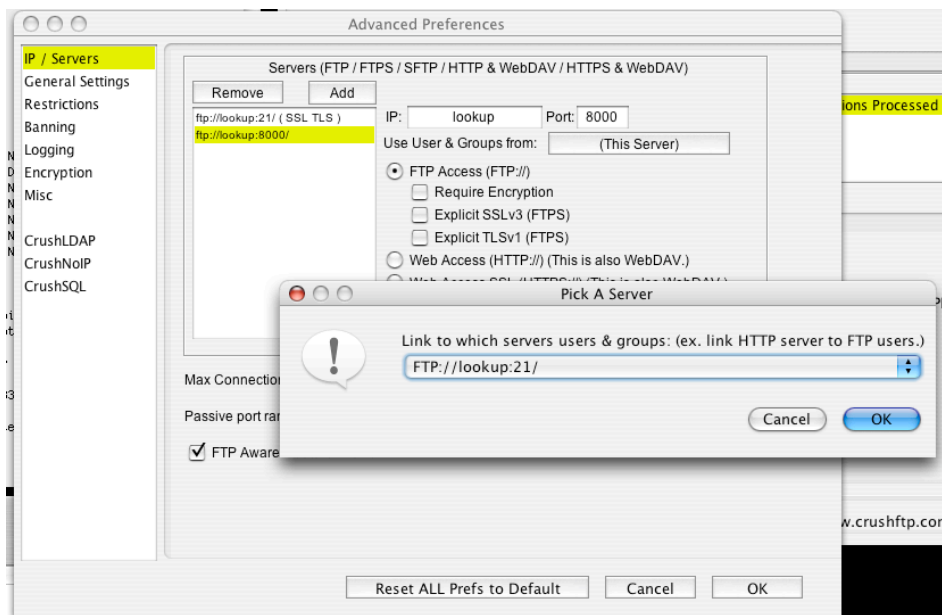


You can of course use whatever FTP client you choose, I used terminal just to show the step by step progression of logging in, changing directories and finally uploading.

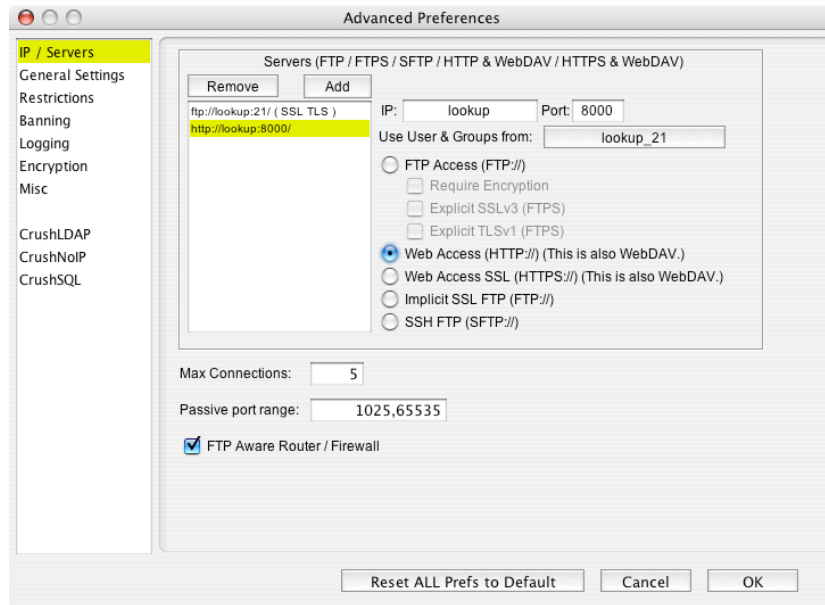
Setting up the WebInterface

Now on to setting up a web server to enable the CrushFTP web interface!

From the main CrushFTP window, choose "Preferences..." from the CrushFTP application menu. Click the "Add" button on this "IP / Servers" pane. I used a port of "8000" because my port 80 is in use by another web server. (www.crushftp.com) The next dialog lets you choose where your users will be stored / referenced. Since I want to share my users between my FTP server and my WWW server, I choose to link this servers users from "FTP://lookup:21/".

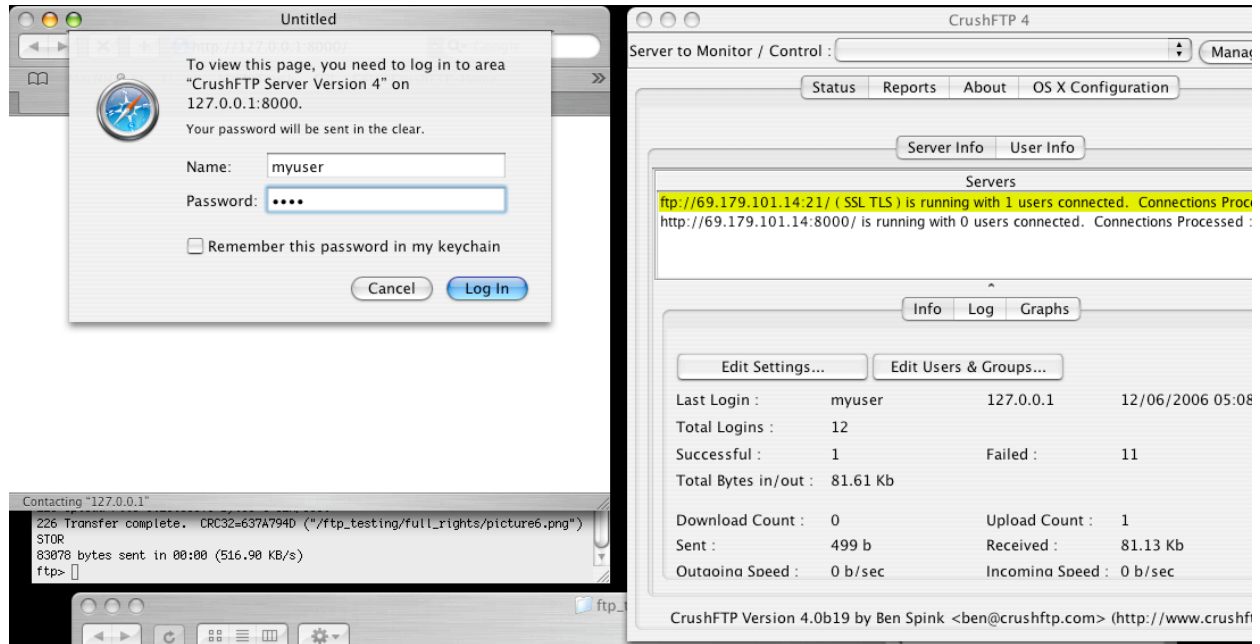


The default for new server items is the "FTP" protocol...but as I said, we are setting up a HTTP (WWW / Web) server, so click the "Web Access" radio button to change it. Now we are ready, click OK and lets go test it.

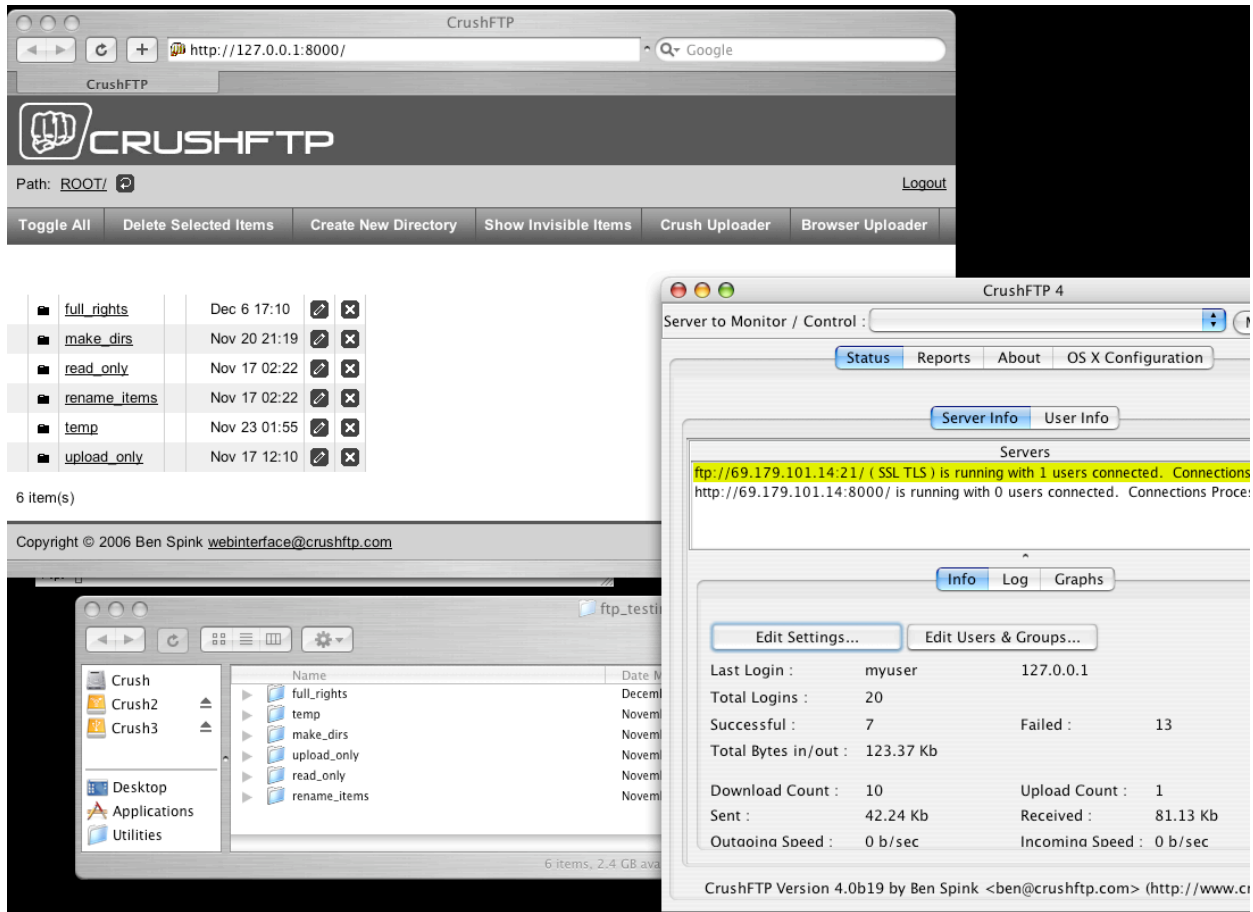


Testing the WebInterface

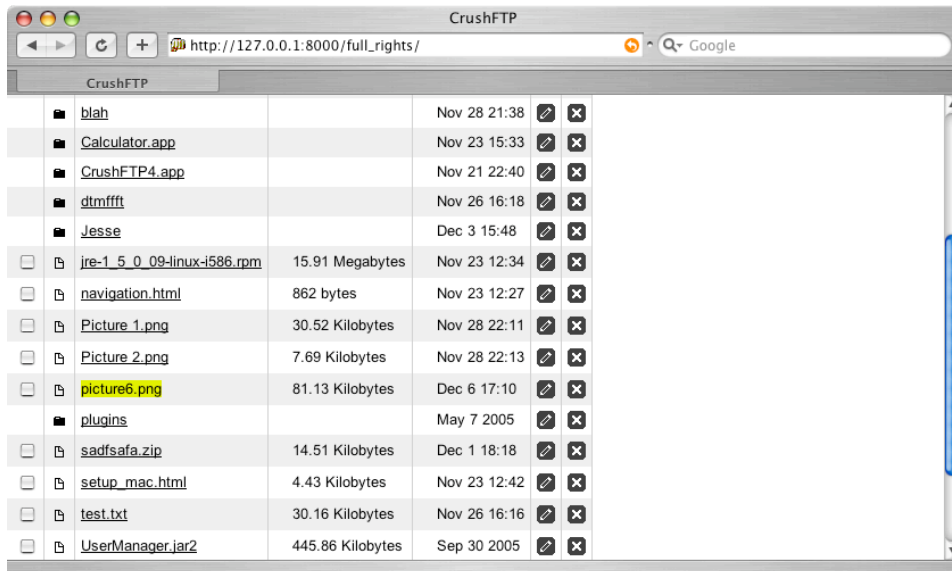
Open up your web browser (Safari in my example), and put in : "http://127.0.0.1:8000". (If you did not use port 8000, use the appropriate port for whatever you used. If you used 80, then you don't need to specify the port.) You should now be prompted with a login dialog. Enter in your username and password we configured for the FTP server and login.



This next picture is very large...I apologize, but I had to fit it all in. This shows that I have loaded the web page after entering my username and password. CrushFTP is generating the web interface from the "WebInterface" files. Be careful if editing these...it can be easy to mess up the whole interface! Plus, if you edit them, and I make changes, you will need to manually merge your changes with my changes if you want my changes in a future version of CrushFTP. From here, I clicked on "full_rights" to see its contents.



As expected, it contains the picture file I uploaded above via the FTP commands.



This completes the basic FTP / Web setup. There are a couple more advanced options you may want to do, and I will describe them below. If you don't care about email events, firewall setup, or OS X integration with the sharing control panel, then you can stop here. Otherwise, continue reading for some more advanced topics.

Trouble Shooting

If you are having trouble accessing your server from another machine, or from across the internet, I have written a diagnostic tool available for use for free at:

CrushFTP Diagnostic Check

IP :
Port : (21=FTP,80=HTTP,443=HTTPS)
Username :
Password :
Path :
Protocol :
Show Details : (Displays every detail of each step.)

The diagnostic test will do the following:

- Login.
- Change to the path specified.
- Do a directory listing.
- Upload a tiny text file.
- Rename the file.
- Delete the file.
- Make an empty directory.
- Rename the directory.
- Delete the directory.
- Disconnect.

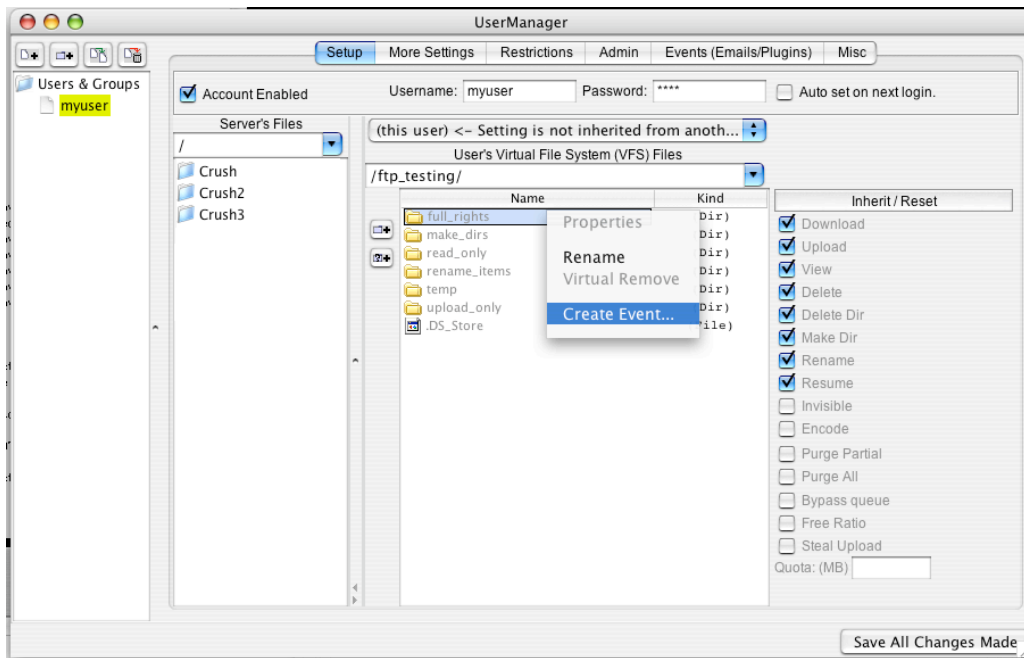
It will then generate a report of what worked and what failed. It will also give suggestions on how to fix issues.

It will perform common steps and report back to you on what its "guess" is for any issues it runs into.

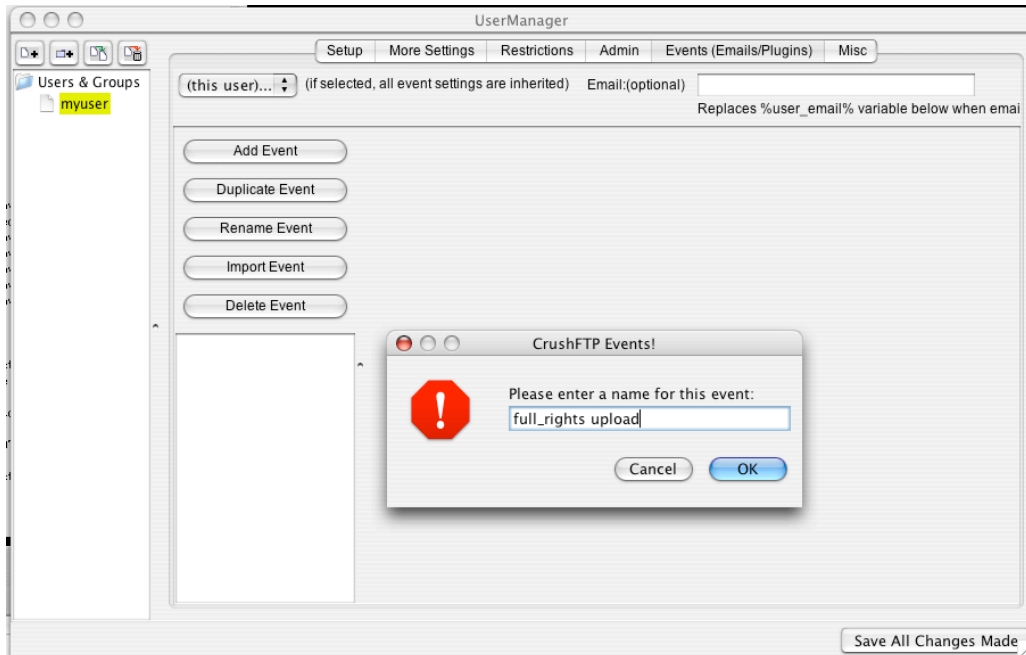
Advanced Topics

Setting up Email Events

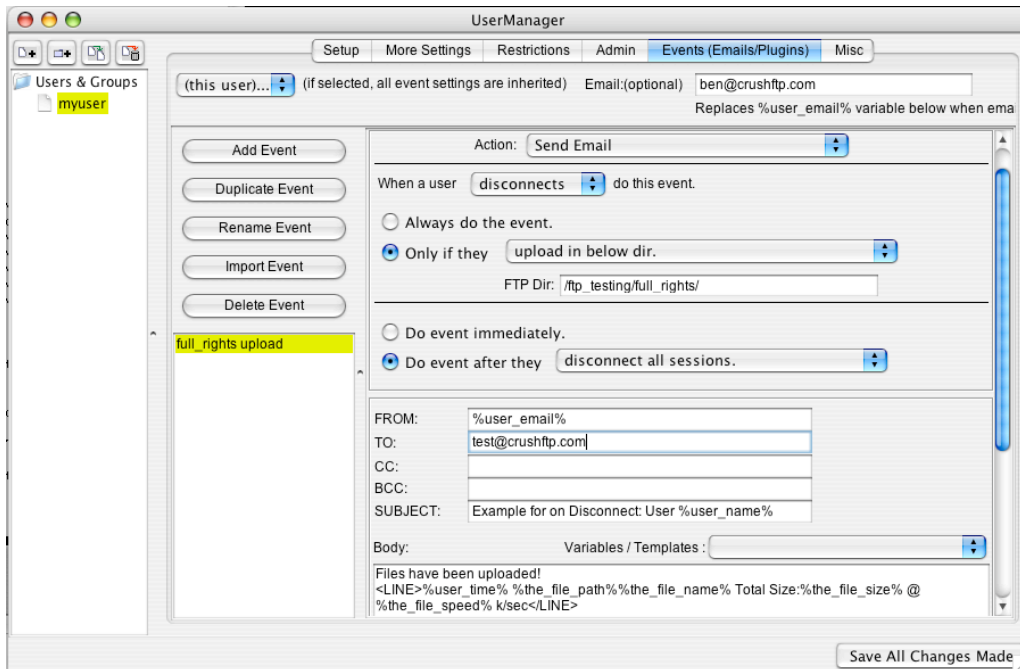
If you want to setup email notifications when a user uploads a file, you can do so from the user manager of CrushFTP. Lets go back and edit our user we created. I double clicked in the VFS area on the folder "ftp_testing" that I had added for this user. The VFS area lets you browse and preview what the user will see when they login. I then right clicked on the "full_rights" folder and selected "Create Event..."



I gave the event a name in reference to the folder I was making the event on.

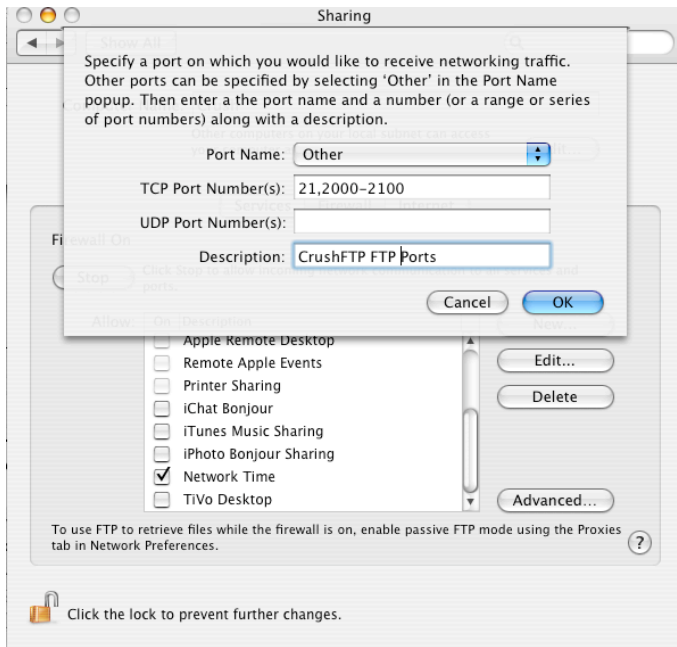


I then setup the event as the picture indicates. I want an email when the user disconnects all sessions, but only if they uploaded in the dir listed. The user will see the dir as "/full_rights/" but as I mentioned above, that is because CrushFTP automatically started them inside "ftp_testing". The body of the email is where the fun is really at. All email variables must be inside <LINE></LINE> elements. The text inside those will be repeated for each item the user uploaded.

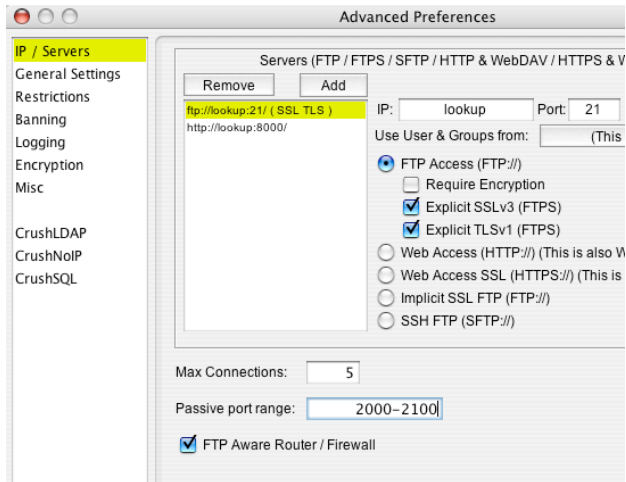


Firewall Configuration & PASV Ports

If you want to enable your OS X firewall, be sure to configure it to allow access for CrushFTP. By default it only auto configures if you are using the built in "FTP Server" option in the sharing control panel. here is an example of a sample configuration item I created for the firewall.



I then went into CrushFTP's preferences and specified the same ranges I used in the firewall configuration. The server was already set to use port 21, but I set the PASV ports to be 2000-2100 just like I had in the firewall.



OS X Integration

If you want to simplify things, you can enable OS X Integration under the OS X tab as well. When you do this, here is what happens.

CrushFTP must still be running. It just runs on a port like 2121. OS X accepts connections for you on port 21, and launches mini little CrushFTP Daemons. Each daemon forwards the connection on to CrushFTP on port 2121. The Sharing control panel now can be used to enable or disable access to CrushFTP. The sharing control panel will also enable access through the firewall for you eliminating the above steps as well. Keep in mind though, if you don't keep CrushFTP running on port 2121, then the daemon processes that try and connect to it will fail and the FTP connections on port 21 will fail as well.

Feedback?

That's it! I hope this quick start guide has been helpful!

Send me comments on any issues you run into. Ultimately I want CrushFTP to be so easy to setup that it will naturally flow without even needing to read this guide. So if you ran into areas where things didn't seem to make sense until you read this guide, please let me know.

--Ben Spink
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