Can I create SSH to tunnel HTTP through server like it was proxy?

Asked 11 years, 11 months ago, Active 7 months ago, Viewed 89k times

Question:

Say I have a `server` and `client`. I need to create connection from `client` to a `website` through `server` like it was proxy.

Is it possible to do this using a SSH tunel, or do I have to install some proxy service to the `server`?

Answers:

A1: You can do this using ssh

```
ssh -L 80:remotehost:80 user@myserver
```

You will have a tunnel from your local port 80 to the remotehost port 80 then. This does not have to be the same as myserver. To make that transparent you should add an entry to the hosts file. If you don't do that vhosts will not work. If you want a SOCKS-proxy connection you could also use

```
ssh -D 5000 user@myserver
```

This will create a SOCKS-proxy on localhost port 5000 which routes all requests through myserver.

A2:

- **3** If you need that tunnel to be available from clients outside your box, add the -g option.
– [mr-euro](#) [Oct 26 '09 at 15:35](#)

- **1** The command as written didn't work for me. I had to replace the remote host with the loopback like this: ssh -L 80:127.0.0.1:80 user@myserver
– [eficker](#) [Jun 24 '14 at 0:37](#)

- Would be more usefull if the remote port were diferent from the local one
  ```
  ssh -L 81:remotehost:80 user@myserver local port 81 talks as if it was 80 on remote.
  ```
– [Rafareino](#) [Jul 19 '16 at 18:14](#)

- **1** If you want to add the SOCKS proxy through your ~/.ssh/config, use: `Host myserver User user DynamicForward 5000`
– [bonh](#) [Feb 22 '17 at 18:03](#)

"To make that transparent you should add an entry to the hosts file" perhaps you could elaborate on this bit?
– mallwright May 21 at 18:29

A3: Yes it is possible. Run

```
ssh -D port user@host
```

and set up your client to use your box as a SOCKS proxy. If you need a HTTP proxy specifically then you can use Proxychains and route it via the previous SOCKS.

A4: sshuttle works like an VPN but over SSH.

> Transparent proxy server that works as a poor man's VPN. Forwards over ssh. Doesn't require admin. Works with Linux and MacOS. Supports DNS tunneling.

https://github.com/sshuttle/sshuttle

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edited Oct 27 '18 at 21:36

MLu

answered Jun 24 '14 at 15:11

Kasper Grubbe

A5: Putty does this pretty well too.

Under SSH, go to Tunnels. At the bottom, put 8080 in the port, and for destination, leave it blank and select the "Dynamic" radio button. That's all you need to do, now connect to the server using Putty.

Once connected, you have a proxy server running on your localhost at port 8080 which will proxy all requests thru your server.

Now use a web browser and setup the proxy by setting host=localhost and port=8080 and make sure it is a SOCKS proxy that you select. I do this all the time, so if you use Firefox, make sure to install the FoxyProxy plugin since it makes turning the proxy on/off a one click affair.

Caution: Be aware that by default, your DNS requests are not proxied. So the website that you visit via the proxy will still be logged (if they log this stuff). You can set firefox to proxy DNS requests as well, it just doesnt do it by default.

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edited Dec 17 '20 at 9:36

mit

answered Oct 26 '09 at 15:58

J Sidhu

A6: To allow a proxy to be run a computer, and allow other clients to connect to you will need the -g option. So for example, you would run this on the server named foo:

```
ssh -g -ND 9191 root@remotehost
```

You can then set the proxy in the browser of a client to use server foo and port 9191 for a SOCKS proxy. The clients will send their requests too foo, who in turn will forward the request through ssh to remotehost. So on the internet, it will look like they are using remotehost.

If you want to forward DNS requests as well with firefox, edit the about:config in firefox and set network.proxy.socks_remote_dns to true.

edited Oct 26 '09 at 15:54
answered Oct 26 '09 at 15:40

Kyle Brandt

A7: You can use SSHUTTLE, heres a tutorial on how to use it,
https://etherarp.net/sshuttle-a-vpn-for-the-lazy/

heres a tutorial how to set it up to work as a service,

https://medium.com/@mike.reider/using-sshuttle-as-a-service-bec2684a65fe

answered Oct 23 '19 at 21:45

perfecto25

A8: 0

I experienced some difficulties while trying to forward sockets. Especially in the situation where nginx uses a socket to serve flask based website: Here is my experience:

Socket forwarding could be written like this:

```
ssh -R /run/temp1.sock:/run/temp2.sock somehost -N
```

temp1.sock refers to a socket on the remote site. **ssh does not accept to use an existing remote socket**, but needs to create it. It is created with 600 permission, so after creation, one must make it available to nginx by adding w/r privileges to www-data user.

edited Feb 22 at 12:26

Andrew Schulman

answered Feb 22 at 6:20

Farazdak