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Answers to Even-numbered Exercises

2. What happens if you transfer an executable program file in ASCII mode?

The file will be corrupted: Any bytes that match a NEWLINE will be altered, resulting in a program that will not execute properly.

4. How would you prevent local users from logging in on a vsftpd server using their system username and password?

Put the following line in /etc/vsftpd/vsftpd.conf:

local_enable=N0

6. What is the difference between cd and lcd in ftp?

A cd command changes the remote working directory; an lcd command changes the local working directory.

8. Why is it advantageous to run vsftpd in a chroot jail?

Any program that listens for Internet connections is vulnerable to compromise. If a daemon that runs as **root** is compromised, the entire system is compromised. The **vsftpd** daemon does not run as **root**, but it may still be possible for a malicious user to use a local **root** exploit to gain **root** access. Running **vsftpd** in the restricted environment of a chroot jail makes it significantly less likely that a malicious user can compromise the system. Without **root** access, the malicious user can see only other files in the chroot jail, rendering an attack harmless.

10. How would you configure **vsftpd** to run through **xinetd**, and what would be the main advantage of this approach?

To configure vsftpd to run through xinetd, set listen=NO in /etc/vsftpd/vsftpd.conf, install xinetd, and create an xinetd configuration file for vsftpd in /etc/xinetd.d. This configuration allows you to provide finer-grained access control to the server.