

Using an FTP Client

FTP programs ("clients") allow you to set permissions for files and directories on your remote host. This function is often called `chmod` or `set permissions` in the program menu.

In a [WordPress install](#), two files that you will probably want to alter are the index page, and the `css` which controls [the layout](#). Here's how you change `index.php` - *the process is the same for any file*.

In the screenshot below, look at the last column - that shows the permissions. It looks a bit confusing, but for now just note the sequence of letters.

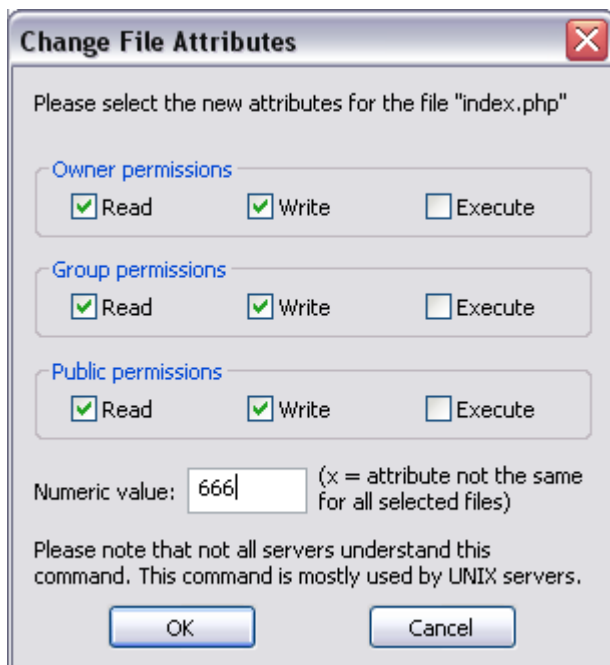
 wp-includes	File Folder	15/09/2004	18:53	drwxr-xr-x
 index.php	4394 PHP File	15/09/2004	18:53	-rw-r--r--
 print.css	412 Cascading ...	15/09/2004	18:53	-rw-r--r--



Initial permissions

Right-click 'index.php' and select 'File Permissions'

A popup screen will appear.



Altering file permissions

Don't worry about the check boxes. Just delete the 'Numeric value:' and enter the number you need - in this case it's 666. Then click OK.

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 index.php	4394 PHP File	15/09/2004	18:53	-rw-rw-rw-
 print.css	412 Cascading ...	15/09/2004	18:53	-rw-r--r--



Permissions have been altered

You can now see that the file permissions have been changed.

Unhide the hidden files

By default, most [FTP Clients](#), including [FileZilla](#), keep hidden files, those files beginning with a period (`.`), from being displayed. But, at some point, you may need to see your hidden files so that

you can change the permissions on that file. For example, you may need to make your [.htaccess](#) file, the file that controls [permalinks](#), writeable.

To display hidden files in FileZilla, it is necessary to select 'View' from the top menu, then select 'Show hidden files'. The screen display of files will refresh and any previously hidden file should come into view.

To get FileZilla to always show hidden files - under Edit, Settings, Remote File List, check the Always show hidden files box.