

Hosting: htdocs & cgi-bin folders

What are the htdocs and cgi-bin folders for and how do I use them?

These folders are only on our Linux hosting environments. When you look at the root of your hosting environment through your FTP client or web development software you will see 3 folders.

- htdocs
- cgi-bin

The htdocs folder is for all of your world accessible content. That's where you put all your pages that you want people to see so when someone goes to <http://www.mysite.com/>. This will include files with the extensions of .htm, .html, .jpg, and .gif to name a few. The introduction page **MUST** be index.html so when someone goes to <http://www.mysite.com/> they will get your first page. The cgi-bin folder is for CGI Scripts. CGI scripts must have the .pl extension and be placed in the cgi-bin folder or the server will not execute them. The cgi-bin folder is called to from your main website by use of an alias. To call your scripts you will use something like this.

<http://www.mysite.com/cgi-bin/myscript.pl>

Depending on your script(s) you may need to make adjustments to accomodate this method. If for some reason you need the "absolute" path to your site for scripts you are attempting to use. The path is /var/www/<mydomainname>/. The domain name does not have the .com, .net, .org or whatever other extension you may be using. The htdocs and cgi-bin folders are in that folder directly.