

Section 1: Telnet Before we learn about SSH (Secure Shell), we need to talk about Telnet. VTY (Virtual Teletype) lines are used to let you access and control a router or switch from a distance (remotely). It also allows remote access to devices, but SSH encrypts the data, keeping it secure from hackers. Like Telnet, SSH requires a client and server, but it uses TCP port 22. The big problem with Telnet is that it sends everything in plain text, including usernames and passwords. SSH (Secure Shell) is a safer replacement for Telnet. Most Cisco devices have 5 VTY lines (some have 16), numbered from 0 to 4. In short, VTY lines are important for remote access either Telnet or SSH, and management of network devices. Telnet uses TCP port 23 by default.