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Requirements

- Although it wouldn't be too hard to make a firmware image that supports SFTP, you'll need a router with enough space to install [Optware](#) until someone does that.
- You'll need access to Perl, either using the [Optware](#) package on your router or on another machine, to follow this tutorial exactly. You can substitute another utility that can edit binary files if you prefer.
- It's smart to disable the built-in Dropbear daemon before you begin this tutorial and do this via telnet. Otherwise, when you attempt to disable the built-in version later, it will kill all Dropbear processes including your new one and you'll have to manually restart the new version by running the following command in the web interface.

```
/opt/etc/init.d/S51dropbear start
```

Install the Packages

- Install the [Optware](#) Dropbear package.

```
ipkg-opt install dropbear
```

- Install the [Optware](#) SFTP server package.

```
ipkg-opt install openssh-sftp-server
```

- Configure `/opt/etc/init.d/S51dropbear` to set the Dropbear command line arguments you need.

Note: You can use the following command to find the default command line arguments

```
ps | grep dropbear
```

Modify the Dropbear Executable

- If you don't have Perl installed on your router, copy `/opt/sbin/dropbear` to a machine that does have it. Regardless, make sure that you work with a copy in case something goes wrong.
- Modify the executable to use `/opt/libexec/sftp-server` instead of `/usr/libexec/sftp-server`.

```
perl -pi -e 's/\usr/libexec/sftp-server/\opt/libexec/sftp-server/g' dropbear
```

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- Copy the modified Dropbear executable into /opt/sbin. (You can overwrite the existing /opt/sbin/dropbear since it's just a symbolic link to /opt/sbin/dropbearmulti.)

Alternate way, using built-in sed command instead of Perl

```
sed 's/\usr/libexec/\opt/libexec/g' dropbearmulti > dropbear.modified
```

(This is a huge hack, all due to the fact that we can't get to /usr/libexec/sftp-server directly. Otherwise we could just install the OpenSSH sftp-server and be done with it).

Test It

- Start the Dropbear server.

```
/opt/etc/init.d/S51dropbear start
```

- Attempt to connect with an SFTP client. It should work!