

Update Preferences

(WHM >> Home >> Server Configuration >> Update Preferences)

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Overview

This interface allows you to define how your server performs software updates and upgrades.

Note:

cPanel & WHM installs the `at` daemon (`atd`) during the update process. This daemon validates the system's health after each update. If the update analysis process encounters any errors, the `at` daemon emails a report to your contact email address.

cPanel & WHM Updates

This section of the interface allows you to select a release tier. The release tier that you select controls when the system performs an upgrade to a new major version of cPanel & WHM.

Additionally, this interface allows you to specify how your server performs an update within a major version.

Note:

If you perform an update that includes multiple major versions of cPanel & WHM, the update process upgrades your server to each intermediate version. The update process performs compatibility checks for each version prior to the upgrade to that version. If the process encounters blockers, it finishes on the most recent release of cPanel & WHM that is compatible with your system.

For more information, read our [Upgrade Blockers](#) documentation.

Release Tier

Select a cPanel & WHM tier that matches your requirements. For more information, read our [cPanel & WHM Product Versions and the Release Process](#) documentation.

Warning:

After you upgrade to a new major version of cPanel & WHM, you **cannot** downgrade to a previous major version of cPanel & WHM.

- For this reason, you **cannot** select a release tier that represents a downgrade.
- The icon appears next to the description for tiers that represent a downgrade.

The following table describes each of the cPanel & WHM release tiers:

Tier	Description	Publication Frequency
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<p><i>LTS</i></p>	<p>Long-Term Support (LTS). If you do not wish to upgrade cPanel & WHM, you can select a cPanel & WHM version for as long as cPanel supports it.</p> <p>The following table lists the LTS dates for the current versions of cPanel & WHM:</p> <p>For cPanel & WHM version 62 and later, LTS release lifespans extend to March 31st of the year after that version's release date. We will no longer provide LTS for versions that fall outside of this time frame. Only one release each year qualifies for LTS. Other versions will only get updates while they're in the STABLE, RELEASE, or CURRENT tiers. Any cPanel & WHM version that's not present in this table doesn't qualify for LTS.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="586 632 1008 926"> <thead> <tr> <th>cPanel & WHM Version</th> <th>Approximate Release Date</th> <th>Anticipated End of Life</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>62</td> <td>February 2017</td> <td>June 2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td>70</td> <td>May 2018</td> <td>March 2019</td> </tr> <tr> <td>78</td> <td>February 2019</td> <td>March 2020</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <div data-bbox="586 947 1008 1241" style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px;"> <p>Important: When cPanel & WHM releases reach <i>End of Life</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They become unavailable for installation. • They don't receive fixes or patches from cPanel, L.L.C. • We archive their documentation. </div>	cPanel & WHM Version	Approximate Release Date	Anticipated End of Life	62	February 2017	June 2018	70	May 2018	March 2019	78	February 2019	March 2020	<p>Not applicable.</p>
cPanel & WHM Version	Approximate Release Date	Anticipated End of Life												
62	February 2017	June 2018												
70	May 2018	March 2019												
78	February 2019	March 2020												
<p><i>STABLE</i></p>	<p>This version has received considerable public exposure, testing, and verification.</p>	<p>Published least frequently.</p>												
<p><i>RELEASE</i></p>	<p>This version is feature-complete and we tested it thoroughly. It contains all intended features and functionality. New installations default to <i>RELEASE</i>.</p>	<p>Published more frequently than STABLE.</p>												
<p><i>CURRENT</i></p>	<p>We tested and verified this version, but it may not contain all of the proposed functionality of a release. This tier resembles the "release candidate" tier that other publication schemes use.</p>	<p>Published more frequently than RELEASE.</p>												

EDGE	<p>We only perform rudimentary testing on this version. We may significantly modify these features in future releases. This version usually lacks official public documentation.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Warning: Due to the dynamic nature of EDGE builds, only use EDGE to test for compatibility and functionality in a controlled environment. We do not recommend this tier for production servers.</p> </div>	Published most frequently (up to several times per week).
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Automatic upgrades to new major versions

To reduce support ticket influx, automatic upgrades to subsequent major versions of cPanel & WHM do not always occur immediately. In certain scenarios, the system applies a zero-to-four-business-day delay before your automatic upgrade executes.

The system applies a delay if all of the following statements are true:

1. You use the RELEASE or STABLE tier.
2. You do not run the upgrade manually.
3. Your current version is only one major version older than the target major version.
4. You do not run the upgrade with the *Force* option.

The system randomly selects the length of your delay. For example, if the system detects a new major version on a Friday, the upgrade does not take place until the following Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday.

When we release a major version, you may perform any of the following actions:

- Use the *Force* option in the [Upgrade to Latest Version](#) interface (*WHM >> Home >> cPanel >> Upgrade to Latest Version*) to upgrade immediately.
- Do nothing, unless you set your release tier to *LTS*, to allow the automatic upgrade to occur as described above.
- To prevent future automatic upgrades, change your selected release tier to *LTS*.

Warning:

Before an upgrade, ensure that the new version is compatible with any third-party software or customizations to your system. We recommend that you stage the upgrade on a test system before you upgrade your production system.

Daily Updates

Use this menu to select how you want cPanel & WHM to update. You can choose from the following options:

- *Automatic* — Select this option if you want cPanel & WHM to automatically update through a cron job every night at midnight.
- *Manual Updates Only* — Select this option if you wish to manually update cPanel & WHM.
 - Command line — Run the `/usr/local/cpanel/scripts/upcp` script as the `root` user.
 - WHM — Navigate to the [Upgrade to Latest Version](#) interface (*WHM >> Home >> cPanel >> Upgrade to Latest Version*).
- *Never Update* — Select this option if you do not want cPanel & WHM to update.

Note:

The maintenance portion of the `/usr/local/cpanel/scripts/upcp` script always runs as part of the nightly cron job, regardless of the update settings.

Staging Directory

The upgrade to newer versions of cPanel & WHM requires a minimum amount of disk space in order to stage the files necessary. This feature determines where the system places the staging files.

Note:

If the selected directory does not have enough disk space for the update, the system automatically selects a different directory for the next attempt. An email will notify you of the new selection, and you will have 24 hours to change the new directory.

To select the staging directory for the updates, perform one of the following actions:

- Keep the default directory. This defaults to the `/usr/local/cpanel` directory.
- Enter a new directory. If you enter a path to a different directory, the system will automatically create the `cpanel__HOSTNAME__upcp_s` tagging subdirectory at that location, where `hostname` is the name of the actual server.
- Select a partition. The path to the selected partition will appear in the *Directory* text box. The *Available Partitions* table displays the available disk space on each of your partitions.

Operating System Package Updates

This feature determines whether the nightly maintenance tasks will update the RPM packages from your operating system distribution. This is similar to the `yum update` command.

- *Automatic* — Select this setting to automatically update the operating system packages when the `/usr/local/cpanel/scripts/upcp_s` script runs.
- *Manual Updates Only* — Select this setting if you wish to manually run the `/usr/local/cpanel/scripts/upcp` script to update operating system packages.
- *Never Update* — Select this setting if you do not wish to update the operating system packages when the `/usr/local/cpanel/scripts/upcp` script runs. If you select this option, you **must** run the `/usr/local/cpanel/scripts/rpmup2` script to update your operating system packages.

Notes:

- This setting does not impact cPanel-provided RPMs.
- In cPanel & WHM version 68 and later, the `/usr/local/cpanel/scripts/sysup` script automatically updates the EasyApache 4 RPMs. This update occurs regardless of your local configuration. The following settings will **not** prevent an automatic update:
 - The `RPMUP` variable set to `never` in the `/etc/cpupdate.conf` file.
 - The *Operating System Package* set to *Never Update* in WHM's *Update Preferences* interface (*WHM >> Home >> Server Configuration >> Update Preferences*).

Apache SpamAssassin™ Rules Updates

This feature defines how you wish to update the Apache SpamAssassin rules.

- *Automatic* — Select this setting to automatically update Apache SpamAssassin rules when the `/usr/local/cpanel/scripts/upcp_s` script runs.
- *Manual Updates Only* — Select this setting if you wish to manually run the `/usr/local/cpanel/scripts/upcp` script to update Apache SpamAssassin rules.
- *Never Update* — Select this setting if you do not wish to update Apache SpamAssassin rules when the `/usr/local/cpanel/scripts/upcp` script runs.

Notes:

- When the cPanel update script (`/usr/local/cpanel/scripts/upcp`) runs, it updates Apache SpamAssassin through the Apache SpamAssassin update script (`/usr/local/cpanel/scripts/sa-update_wrapper`).
- For more information about Apache SpamAssassin rules, read the [Apache SpamAssassin](#) documentation.

Send my settings to all configuration cluster servers

Select the *Send my settings to all configuration cluster servers* checkbox to send your *Update Preferences* settings to all of the servers that currently exist in your configuration cluster.

Note:

The interface only displays the *Send my settings to all configuration cluster servers* checkbox if you have already added additional servers to the configuration cluster with the *Configuration Cluster* interface (*WHM >> Home >> Clusters >> Configuration Cluster*).

If you selected this option, the interface may require several seconds to load when you click *Save*, and will then display a confirmation message:

- Click *Show Details* to view the status of each server in the configuration cluster.
- An error icon (



-) in the *Status* column indicates that the server **failed** to receive the settings.
- The *Message* column displays additional information about servers that failed.

Additional documentation

Suggested documentation [For cPanel users](#) [For WHM users](#) [For developers](#)

- [The cPanel & WHM Update Configuration File — /etc/cpupdate.conf](#) — Learn about how to manually edit the `/etc/cpupdate.conf` file.
- [cPanel & WHM Product Versions and the Release Process](#) — Learn about cPanel & WHM's product versions and release process.
- [Update Server Software](#) — This interface allows you to manually update software dependencies that your operating system installed, and which cPanel & WHM requires in order to run.
- [How to Update Your System](#) — Learn how to update the various services and packages on your server.

Content by label

There is no content with the specified labels



- [Update Preferences](#)
- [Download Security](#)
- [Upgrade Blockers](#)
- [cPanel Long-Term Support](#)
- [Configuration Cluster](#)

- [Guide to the Feature Showcase - Troubleshooting](#)
- [Guide to the Feature Showcase](#)
- [Guide to the Feature Showcase - The drivers.json File](#)
- [WHM API 1 Functions - update_configclusterserver](#)
- [WHM API 1 Functions - delete_configclusterserver](#)