

# Select a PHP Binary

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## Overview

The cPanel Server Daemon (`cpsrvd`) **must** know the path to the specific PHP binary that you wish to use to process PHP scripts (for example, `phpMyAdmin`). There are several PHP binaries from which you may choose.

## The cPanel-provided PHP binary

The `/var/cpanel/usecphp` file, when it exists, causes the `cpsrvd` daemon to use a non-system PHP that cPanel, Inc. provides. You may wish to use this functionality if Apache's version of PHP does not include all of the features to run inside of the `cpsrvd` daemon. This PHP binary contains all of the necessary options to run inside of the `cpsrvd` daemon.

The cPanel-provided PHP binary exists on the system as one of the following files:

- `/usr/local/cpanel/3rdparty/bin/php`
- `/usr/local/cpanel/3rdparty/bin/php-cgi`

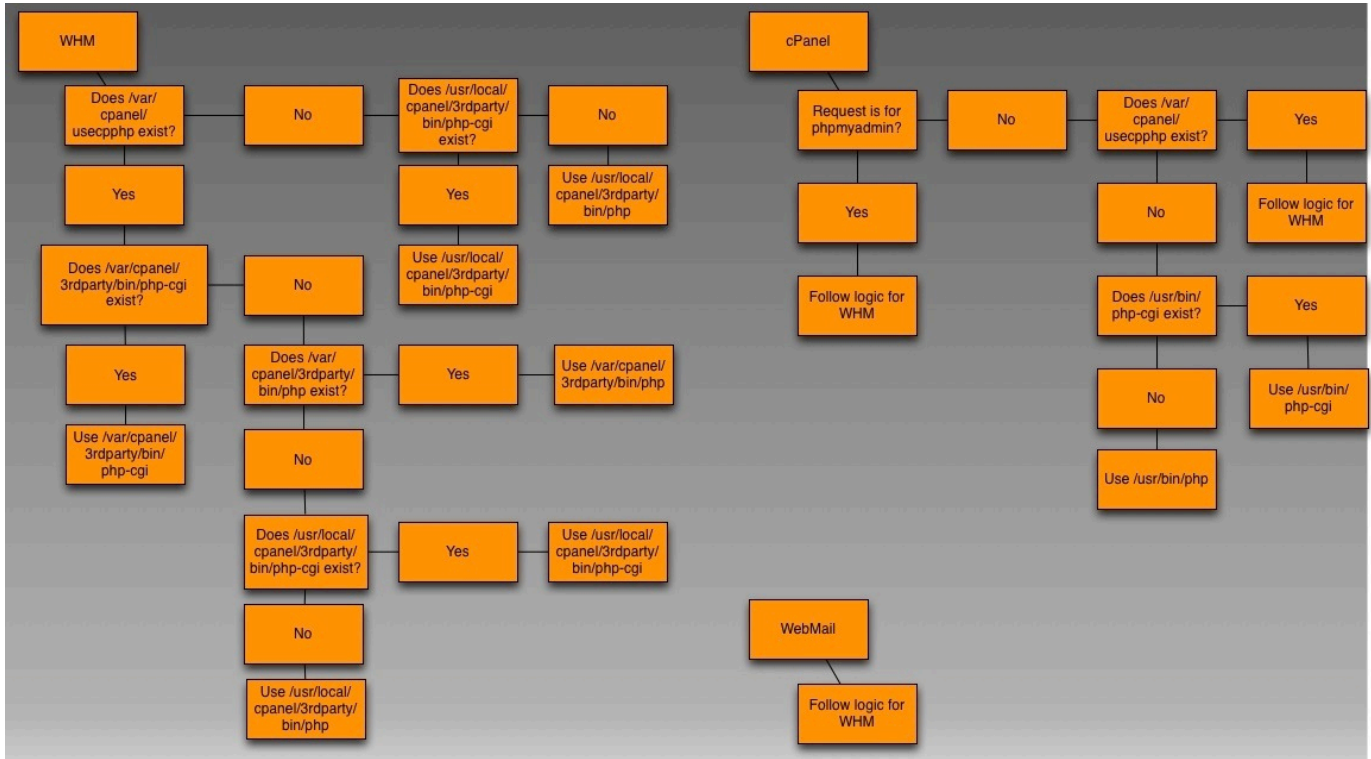
**Note:**

The system prefers the `php-cgi` file over the `php` file if both are available and executable.

## PHP binary use

If `/var/cpanel/usecphp` does **not** exist, WHM uses the PHP binary (`/usr/local/cpanel/3rdparty/bin/php-cgi`). You can modify the behavior in the `/var/cpanel/3rdparty/bin/php` file. If the binary exists, is executable, and the `/var/cpanel/usecphp` file exists, then the `cpsrvd` daemon will always use this binary.

Use the following flowchart to determine which PHP binary the `cpsrvd` daemon uses:



*cPanel & WHM PHP binary flowchart*

**Remember:**

- The system prefers the `php-cgi` file over the `php` file if both are available and executable.
- The system only uses the `/usr/bin/php` file if the `usecphp` file does not exist and the request is for a third-party product.

## Additional documentation

Suggested documentation For cPanel users For WHM users For developers

- [Select a PHP Binary](#)

### Content by label

There is no content with the specified labels



- [Select a PHP Binary](#)
- [cPanel PHP Upgrade 5.4 to 5.6](#)
- [Tutorial - Create a New WHM Interface in PHP](#)