

# How to Customize Roundcube Webmail

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## Overview

### Warnings:

- This document is **only** valid for cPanel & WHM version 11.46 through 56. Customizations that use this method will **not** function in cPanel & WHM version 58 and later, because these versions ship Roundcube as an RPM.
- cPanel Technical Support does **not** provide assistance with the instructions in this article.
- To customize Roundcube for cPanel & WHM version 58 and later, read our [How to Build and Install Custom RPMs](#) documentation.
- cPanel, L.L.C. does **not** support Roundcube user experience customizations.

This document explains how to update and customize the Roundcube webmail application.

## Path and filenames for the database

The SQLite database uses the following path and filename, where `username` represents a cPanel account username and `domain` represents a domain name:

```
/home/username/etc/domain/username.rcube.db
```

Additionally, the database applies the following naming conventions, where `username` represents a cPanel account username:

Filename	Description	Example
<code>/home/username/etc/domain/username.rcube.db.unixtimestamp</code>	A backup file with a Unix timestamp.	<code>username.rcube.db.1495814375</code>
<code>/home/username/etc/domain/username.rcube.db.latest</code>	A symlink to the latest Roundcube backup.	<code>username.rcube.db.latest</code>
<code>/home/username/etc/domain/username.rcube.db.YYYYMMDDHHMMSS.sqlite2</code>	A SQLite v2 backup file.	<code>username.rcube.db.20170523105040.sqlite2</code>

## Roundcube updates

### Warning:

Because the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script **only** retains the last four backups, continuous execution of the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script may result in data loss. We **strongly** recommend that you maintain external backups and avoid continuous backups of non-operational Roundcube installations.

The method that cPanel & WHM uses to update Roundcube affects your customizations. cPanel & WHM uses the following process to update Roundcube:

1. The system runs the `/scripts/upcp` script to update cPanel & WHM.
2. The `/scripts/upcp` script runs the `/usr/local/cpanel/install/webmail` script.

**Note:**

During this step, the script will check for custom Roundcube tarballs. For more information, read the [Where to save a custom Roundcube tarball installation](#) section.

- The `/usr/local/cpanel/install/webmail` script executes the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script.
- The `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script runs the following command to remove the current Roundcube installation:

```
rm -rf /usr/local/cpanel/base/3rdparty/roundcube
```

- The `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script extracts the appropriate source tarball to the `/usr/local/cpanel/base/3rdparty/` directory.

**Note:**

During this step, the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script checks for the existence of the `/var/cpanel/roundcube/install` file and performs one of the following actions:

- If the `/var/cpanel/roundcube/install` is an executable file, the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script executes this file and then terminates the script.
  - This bypasses cPanel & WHM's manipulation of the Roundcube configuration files.
  - If the file successfully executes, steps 5 through 9 of the installation procedure do **not** occur.
- If the `/var/cpanel/roundcube/install` is **not** an executable file, the file's contents print to the `STDOUT` file and Roundcube continues with the installation procedure of the normal cPanel & WHM configuration.

- The `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script changes the ownership of the Roundcube installation to the `root` user and the `wheel` group.
- The `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script checks for the existence of the `/var/cpanel/roundcube/install` file.
- The `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script extracts MySQL® configuration values from the system settings.
- The `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script backs up Roundcube's MySQL database to the `/var/cpanel/roundcube/roundcube.backup.sql.currenttimestamp` file, where `currenttimestamp` represents the time at which the script ran.

**Note:**

The `/var/cpanel/roundcube/` directory **only** retains the four most recent copies of the Roundcube database backup.

- The `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script drops the Roundcube database from MySQL.
- The `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script updates Roundcube's configuration files and MySQL files with the server's settings.
- The `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script recreates Roundcube's database from the MySQL files.
- The `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script reloads the previous Roundcube database backup and finishes the update.

## Install a customized instance of Roundcube

There are many ways that you can customize Roundcube. For example, you can make simple configuration changes or completely replace the Roundcube tarball.

For instructions on how to customize Roundcube, read the [Roundcube wiki](#).

## Where to save a custom Roundcube tarball

During step 2 of the Roundcube update installation procedure, the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script checks for custom Roundcube tarballs. If any of these tarball files exist, cPanel & WHM uses them instead of the cPanel-provided tarball.

If the script locates multiple tarballs, it uses them in the following order, where `RCUBE_VERSION` represents the Roundcube version number:

Directory	Description
<code>/var/cpanel/roundcube/roundcube-RCUBE_VERSION-local.tar.gz</code>	Use this location for a compressed tarball that you want to apply to a specific Roundcube version.
<code>/var/cpanel/roundcube/roundcube-RCUBE_VERSION-local.tar</code>	Use this location for an uncompressed tarball that you want to apply to a specific Roundcube version.

<code>/var/cpanel/roundcube/roundcube-local.tar.gz</code>	Use this location for a compressed tarball that you want to apply to Roundcube, regardless of version.
<code>/var/cpanel/roundcube/roundcube-local.tar</code>	Use this location for an uncompressed tarball that you want to apply to Roundcube, regardless of version.

## Example

For example, cPanel & WHM uses the `/var/cpanel/roundcube/roundcube-0.4-local.tar.gz` file if the following statements are true:

- The `/var/cpanel/roundcube/roundcube-local.tar` and `/var/cpanel/roundcube/roundcube-0.4-local.tar.gz` files exist.
- The `/var/cpanel/roundcube/roundcube-0.4-local.tar.gz` file matches the version number that the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script specifies.

### Important:

- The value that `RCUBE_VERSION` represents in these locations **must** match the `RCUBE_VERSION` variable that the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script defines.
  - For example, if the `RCUBE_VERSION` parameter is version 0.4 in the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script, you **must** save your custom tarball as the `roundcube-0.4-local.tar.gz` filename.
- These tarballs **must** extract to the `/usr/local/cpanel/base/3rdparty/roundcube/` directory.

## Where to store a custom overlay file

The overlay tarball allows you to customize specific attributes of Roundcube, such as the use of an overlay to change graphics, themes, or plugins. It can also contain one image file.

The overlay does **not** require a complete Roundcube distribution. It only requires the components that you wish to modify, because cPanel & WHM will overlay it onto the Roundcube installation. However, the overlay requires a directory structure that matches the `/usr/local/cpanel/base/3rdparty/roundcube` directory structure and begins with the `roundcube` name.

After you determine which tarball to use for the source installation and extract it, the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script checks for the following directories. If the script locates multiple tarballs, it uses them in the following order, where `RCUBE_VERSION` represents a Roundcube version number:

Directory	Description
<code>/var/cpanel/roundcube/overlay.RCUBE_VERSION.tar.gz</code>	Use this location for a compressed overlay that you want to apply to a specific Roundcube version.
<code>/var/cpanel/roundcube/overlay.RCUBE_VERSION.tar</code>	Use this location for an uncompressed overlay that you want to apply to a specific Roundcube version.
<code>/var/cpanel/roundcube/overlay.tar.gz</code>	Use this location for a compressed overlay that you want to apply to Roundcube, regardless of version.
<code>/var/cpanel/roundcube/overlay.tar</code>	Use this location for an uncompressed overlay that you want to apply to Roundcube, regardless of version.

### Important:

The value of the `RCUBE_VERSION` variable **must** match the version number that the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-roundcube` script specifies.

## Additional documentation

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

- [Calendar and Contacts Server](#)
- [How to Set Up Webmail Folders](#)
- [How to Rebuild the Roundcube Database](#)

- [How to Customize Roundcube Webmail](#)
- [How to Convert Roundcube to SQLite](#)
  
- [Which Webmail Application Should I Choose](#)
- [How to Set Up Calendars and Contacts](#)
- [cPanel Analytics](#)
- [Webmail](#)
- [How to Log in to Your Server or Account](#)
  
- [Calendar and Contacts Server](#)
- [How to Set Up Webmail Folders](#)
- [How to Rebuild the Roundcube Database](#)
- [How to Customize Roundcube Webmail](#)
- [How to Convert Roundcube to SQLite](#)
  
- [Tutorial - Integrate Custom Webmail Applications](#)