

# Change Hostname

For cPanel & WHM version 58

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How to change your hostname

## Overview

The Internet uses your hostname as a label by which to identify your physical server. This interface allows you to change your server's hostname.

### Important:

- Do **not** select a hostname that begins with `www` or a number, or that ends with a hyphen (-).
- You **must** use a fully-qualified domain name (FQDN) that contains two periods (for example, `hostname.example.com`).
- Do **not** choose a hostname that a cPanel account on your server will use.

### Notes:

- Do **not** select a socially-unacceptable hostname. The hostname will appear in mail headers.
- Only use lowercase, Latin-script letters in hostnames.

The system displays your current hostname under the *Current Hostname* heading.

## How to change your hostname

### Note:

Whenever you change the server's hostname, you **must** use one of the following methods:

- Enter the new hostname in the [Setup Networking](#) section of WHM's [Initial Setup Wizard](#) interface.
- Use WHM's [Change Hostname](#) interface ([Home >> Networking Setup >> Change Hostname](#)).
- Call WHM API 1's `sethostname` function.
- Run the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/set_hostname` utility as the `root` user.

These methods ensure that all of the necessary system and service changes occur.

### Important:

If you update your hostname, the system blocks user access to the following interfaces and services:

- Horde Webmail
- Calendars and Contacts (CalDAV/CardDAV)

The system restores access to these interfaces and services after the hostname update completes. For more information, read our [Interface Lock Scripts](#) documentation.

1. To change your hostname, perform the following steps:
2. Enter the new hostname into the *New Hostname* text box.

### Remember:

Your new hostname **must** meet the following requirements:

- It is a FQDN.
- It is registered with a registrar.
- It follows the instructions in the *Instructions* section.

3. Click *Change*. A popup window will appear that prompts you to add an A entry.
4. Click *Add An A Entry for your hostname*.
5. Review the information about your server and, if it is correct, click *Add Entry*.

The system will automatically configure the new hostname and add the correct A entry.

**Note:**

- When you change your hostname, the system preserves the old hostname so that currently-running services can function in a consistent environment until you reboot the server.
- If you **must** change your hostname for non-cPanel configuration files or services, these services continue to function until you manually adjust them.
- If you use External Authentication, you **must** update the Redirection URI settings in the configuration settings at the external authentication provider's site to reflect the new hostname.