

How to Configure PHP and suEXEC from the Command Line

[Overview](#)

[View a list of options](#)

[Additional documentation](#)

Overview

The `rebuild_phpconf` script on your server allows you to update your server's `php.conf` file (located at `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/rebuild_phpconf`). When you do this, you can change Apache's PHP handler configuration, change the default version of PHP that your server uses, and enable or disable the suEXEC feature.

Notes:

- This document **only** applies to systems that run EasyApache3.
- This script offers nearly the same functionality as WHM's *Configure PHP and suEXEC* interface (*WHM >> Home >> Service Configuration >> Configure PHP and SuExec*). Users who are more comfortable with a graphical interface may prefer that method.
- In cPanel & WHM version 72 and later, you can use cPanel's *Terminal* interface (*cPanel >> Home >> Advanced >> Terminal*) or WHM's *Terminal* interface (*WHM >> Home >> Advanced >> Terminal*) to access the command line from within the interface.
- The system logs suEXEC errors to the `/usr/local/apache/logs/suexec_log` file.

View a list of options

To see a list of all of the options and arguments for this script, run the following command:

```
/usr/local/cpanel/bin/rebuild_phpconf --help
```

The system displays the following usage information:

```
Usage: /usr/local/cpanel/bin/rebuild_phpconf [--dryrun] [--no-restart]
[--no-htaccess]
[--current|--available] [--errors] <Default PHP> <PHP4 Handler> <PHP5
Handler> <Suexec>
--dryrun           : Only display the changes that would be made
--no-restart      : Don't restart Apache after updating the php.conf link
--no-htaccess     : Don't update user configurable PHP mime mapping.
--current         : Show current settings
--available       : Show available handlers and PHP SAPIs
--errors          : Print additional errors on stderr instead of only writing
to log
<Default PHP>    : Version of PHP to set as default handler for .php files
<PHP# Handler>  : Type of Apache module to use in serving PHP requests
<Suexec>        : enabled, disabled, 1 or 0
```

Important:

You **must** specify a value for the arguments within the `<>` brackets.

For example, if you wish to use PHP 5 with CGI as the PHP handler and suEXEC enabled, run the following command:

```
/usr/local/cpanel/bin/rebuild_phpconf 5 none cgi 1
```

The following table lists the possible arguments to use:

Parameter	Description
<code>--dryrun</code>	Use this argument if you wish to compile and view the PHP configuration file before you use it on your server. This is useful when you check for errors and security flaws before Apache uses this PHP configuration. You will need to run the script again without the <code>--dryrun</code> argument in order to effect your PHP configuration changes.
<code>--no-restart</code>	Use this argument if you do not wish to restart Apache after you update the PHP configuration file.
<code>--no-htaccess</code>	Use this argument if you do not wish to update users' <code>.htaccess</code> files.
<code>--current</code>	This argument displays the current <code>php.conf</code> settings and does not change the configuration. The system displays the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The version of PHP that the system currently uses by default.• The SAPI (server API, or interface) that the system currently uses to run PHP 4.• The SAPI that the system currently uses to run PHP 5.• Whether suEXEC is enabled.• Displays whether RUID2 is installed or available.
<code>--available</code>	This argument displays available <code>php.conf</code> settings but does not change the configuration. The system displays the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The PHP request handlers that are available to Apache.• The SAPI (server API) that the system compiles into the PHP 4 binary.• The SAPI that the system compiles into the PHP 5 binary.• Whether suEXEC is available.• Displays whether RUID2 is installed or available.
<code>--errors</code>	Use this argument if you wish for the system to display additional <code>php.conf</code> error messages, as well as write the errors to the system's <code>/log</code> files.
<Default PHP>	The default version of PHP that the server will use. You may select any functional version that is correctly installed on your server. <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;">Warning: cPanel & WHM no longer support PHP 4.</div>
<PHP4 Handler>	Apache uses this handler type to serve PHP 4 requests. <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;">Note: The following are valid input options for this parameter:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <code>cgi</code>• <code>dso</code>• <code>none</code>• <code>fcgi</code>• <code>suphp</code></div>

<PHP5 Handler>	<p>Apache uses this handler type to serve PHP 4 requests.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #f0e68c; padding: 10px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Note: The following are valid input options for this parameter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cgi • dso • none • fcgi • suphp </div>
<suexec>	<p>Whether you wish to enable the Apache suEXEC feature on your server.</p>

Important:
Some of the handlers may not be available due to Apache's configuration.

For more information about PHP handlers, read our [Apache PHP Request Handling](#) documentation.

Additional documentation

Suggested documentation For cPanel users For WHM users For developers

- [How to Configure PHP and suEXEC from the Command Line](#)
- [How to Prevent Email Abuse](#)
- [How to Manage Your php.ini Directives with PHP-FPM](#)
- [How to Set Up \(PHP\) Composer](#)
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- [WHM API 1 Functions - php_set_vhost_versions](#)
- [Guide to the LiveAPI System - LiveAPI Methods](#)
- [Tutorial - Call UAPI's SSL::install_ssl Function in Custom Code](#)
- [UAPI Functions - LangPHP::php_get_impacted_domains](#)
- [WHM API 1 Functions - php_fpm_config_get](#)