

Change Hostname

(WHM >> Home >> Networking Setup >> Change Hostname)

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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 a hostname that ends with a hyphen (-).
- You **must** use a [fully-qualified domain name \(FQDN\)](#) that uniquely identifies the server (for example, `hostname.example.com` or `hostname.example.co.uk`).
- Do **not** choose a hostname that a cPanel account on your server will use.
- Do **not** choose a potential service subdomain as a hostname (for example, `cpanel.example.com` or `whm.example.com`).
- 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



Important:

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

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

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



Notes:

- Whenever you change the server's hostname, you **must** use one of the following methods to ensure that all of the necessary system and service changes occur:
 - Use WHM's [Change Hostname](#) interface (*WHM >> 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.
- If your cPanel & WHM server uses a cloud-based hosting provider, read our [Cloud-Hosted Hostname Solution](#) documentation.

To change your hostname, perform the following steps:

1. Enter the new hostname into the *New Hostname* text box.



Remember:

You **must** use a fully-qualified domain name as your new hostname. Your new hostname should also resolve to the server's main IP address.

2. Click *Change*. A popup window will appear that confirms the hostname change is in progress.
3. After the system changes your hostname, scroll to the bottom of the interface and click *Add An A Entry for your hostname*. WHM's [Add an A Entry for Your Hostname](#) interface (*WHM >> Home >> DNS Functions >> Add an A Entry for Your Hostname*).
4. 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.

**Notes:**

- When you change your hostname, the system preserves the old hostname until you reboot the server so that currently-running services can function in a consistent environment.
- 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.

Additional documentation

- [Change Hostname](#)
- [The set_hostname Utility](#)
- [Add an A Entry for Your Hostname](#)
- [1:1 NAT](#)
- [Basic WebHost Manager Setup](#)