



The Handbook

Codex

[http://codex.wordpress.org/Moving to a New Server](http://codex.wordpress.org/Moving_to_a_New_Server)

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Moving WordPress

There are times when you need to move WordPress around within your server, and times when you need to move WordPress from one server to another. WordPress is flexible enough to handle all of these situations.

Moving WordPress Within Your Site

To move the core WordPress files from one location on your server to another location on your server, basically moving WordPress around within your site, here are the step-by-step instructions:

1. Create the new location with these two options:
 1. If you will be moving your [WordPress core files](#) to a new directory, create the new directory.
 2. If you want to move WordPress to your root directory, make sure all [index.php](#), [.htaccess](#), and other files that might be copied over are backed up and/or moved, and that the root directory is ready for the new WordPress files.
2. Login to your blog.
3. Go to the [Administration](#) > [Options](#) > [General](#) panel.
4. In the box for **WordPress address (URI)**: change the address to the new location of your main WordPress core files.
5. In the box for **Blog address (URI)**: change the address to the new location, which should match the WordPress address (URI).
6. Click **Update Options**.
7. (Do not try to open/view your blog now!)
8. Move your WordPress core files to the new location. This includes the files found within the original directory, such as `http://example.com/wordpress` along with all of the directories in that directory, to the new location.
9. If you are using [Permalinks](#), go to the [Administration](#) > [Options](#) > [Permalinks](#) panel and update your Permalink structure to your [.htaccess](#) file, which should be in the same directory as the main `index.php` file.

It is important that you set the URI locations BEFORE you move the files.

You're done. Test your site to make sure that it works right. If the change involves a new address for your blog, make sure you let people know the new address, and consider adding some redirection instructions in your `.htaccess` file to guide visitors to the new location.

Giving WordPress Its Own Directory

There are times when you may need more control over where your WordPress files are on your server. You can have the core WordPress files in their own directory and limit the only WordPress files in your root directory to the `index.php` and `.htaccess` files. Some users want WordPress to power their site, but they also want to have their other programs

and directories segregated from WordPress to avoid conflicts.

To begin, you need three pieces of information:

1. The new address to which you will have moved the WP core files (eg. `http://example.com/wordpress`)
2. The new address of the directory to which you will move the basic `index.php` (eg. `http://example.com`)
3. The path in the file system to the new location to which you will move `wp-blog-header.php` (eg. `/home/user/public_html/wordpress/wp-blog-header.php`).

Note: To find the file system path to a directory: in a blank text file, add the following and save it as a PHP file, such as `filesystem.php`, and upload it to the directory for which you want to find the path. Run it by typing in the address in your browser to the file such as `http://example.com/wordpress/filesystem.php`:

```
<?php echo dirname(__FILE__); ?>
```

The process to move WordPress into its own directory and have the `index.php` in the root directory is as follows:

1. Create the new location for the core WordPress files to be stored.
2. Go to the [Options](#) panel.
3. In the box for **WordPress address (URI)**: change the address to the new location of your main WordPress core files. Example:
`http://example.com/wordpress/`
4. In the box for **Blog address (URI)**: change the address to the new location of the `index.php` file in your root directory. Example:
`http://example.com/index.php`
5. Click **Update Options**.
6. Move your WordPress core files to the new location. This includes the files found within the original directory, such as `http://example.com/wordpress` along with all of the directories in that directory, to the new location.
7. Copy the `index.php` and `.htaccess` files from the WordPress directory into the root of your site.
8. Open `index.php` in a [text editor](#)
9. Change the following and save the file. Change the line that says:
`require('./wp-blog-header.php');`
to the following, using your directory name for the WordPress core files:
`require('./wordpress/wp-blog-header.php');`
10. Login to the new location. It might now be
`http://example.com/wordpress/wp-login.php`
11. If you are using [Permalinks](#), go to the [Permalinks](#) panel and update your Permalink structure and copy these new rewrite rules to the `.htaccess` file in your site's root directory, the same directory as the main `index.php` file.

Caveats

The only catch is the "Edit this" links will no longer appear by every entry and comment if you're using this option. This is a limitation of how we're setting cookies, and this may be fixed in the future.

Moving WordPress to a New Server

If you are moving WordPress from one server to another, begin by backing up your data. This includes backing up your WordPress database as well as all the core files, images, plugins, and other files on your site. See [WordPress Backups](#) and [Backing Up Your Database](#) for more details.

Make a copy of your database. You will need to edit the .sql file, and in case of errors, it is important that you work on a copy.

Begin the process of working from copies of your backups.

1. [Edit wp-config.php](#) in the root WordPress directory to reflect the changes to the domain name, database name, user names and passwords, if necessary. If the domain name is the same, only add what is changed.
2. Edit the database file to reflect server changes. **If the domain name will remain the same, skip this step.** If you are moving to a new domain, the database file may have references to your previous domain name in it which need to be changed. These include website references, emails, and links to images within your site. They will need replacing with the new domain name. A simple way to do this is:
 1. Using a [text editor](#), open a **copy** of the .sql database file.
 2. Using the search and replace function, find all instances of the blog's old [URL](#) and replace it with the new URL.
 3. Repeat the process with your old email address. (For example, replacing `someone@example.com` with `someone@tutorial.com`)
 4. Save your changes.
3. Upload all your WordPress files, exactly as they were, to your new server.
4. [Restore the database](#).
5. From your [website control panel](#), choose **phpMyAdmin**, and select the database you are using.
6. Look inside the `wp_options` table and check that the values in `siteurl` and `home` are set to the new domain name and address.
7. Double check carefully that they are there and correct.

When you are ready to check your site, make sure to [clear your cache](#) and cookies so you will see the changes in your web browser.

Moving WordPress to a New Server with Fantastico

Some webhosts use a service called [Fantastico](#) (<http://netenberg.com/fantastico.php>), which can install a vanilla WordPress web with just a few clicks. You can transfer your blog to one of these webs, but the steps are slightly different.

Begin by backing up your data. This includes backing up your WordPress database as well as all the core files, images, plugins, and other files on your site. See [WordPress Backups](#) and [Backing Up Your Database](#) for more details.

Make a copy of your database. You will need to edit the .sql file, and in case of errors, it is important that you work on a copy.

Begin the process of working from copies of your backups.

1. **If** you have changed domain, edit the backed up database file to reflect this. A

simple way to do this is:

1. Using a [text editor](#), open a **copy** of the `.sql` database file.
 2. Using the search and replace function, find all instances of the blog's old [URL](#) and replace it with the new URL.
 3. Repeat the process with your old email address. (For example, replacing `someone@example.com` with `someone@tutorial.com`)
 4. Save your changes.
2. Upload your plugins and themes from your old site to the new one.
 3. Drop (delete) the database tables of the pre-installed Fantastico web.
 4. [Restore the database](#).

When you are ready to check your site, make sure to [clear your cache](#) and cookies so you will see the changes in your web browser.