

# Parallels<sup>®</sup> Plesk Control Panel

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## Parallels Plesk Control Panel 8.6 for Windows Client's Guide

# Copyright Notice

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# Preface

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## Who Should Read This Guide

This guide is intended for hosting resellers and owners of multiple domains, who were provided with access to Plesk control panel as part of their shared, dedicated or reseller hosting package.

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## Typographical Conventions

Before you start using this guide, it is important to understand the documentation conventions used in it.

The following kinds of formatting in the text identify special information.

<u>Formatting convention</u>	<u>Type of Information</u>	<u>Example</u>
<b>Special Bold</b>	Items you must select, such as menu options, command buttons, or items in a list.	Go to the <b>System</b> tab.
	Titles of chapters, sections, and subsections.	Read the <b>Basic Administration</b> chapter.
<i>Italics</i>	Used to emphasize the importance of a point, to introduce a term or to designate a command line placeholder, which is to be replaced with a real name or value.	The system supports the so called <i>wildcard character</i> search.

Monospace	The names of commands, files, and directories.	The license file is located in the <a href="http://docs/common/licenses">http://docs/common/licenses</a> directory.
Preformatted	On-screen computer output in your command-line sessions; source code in XML, C++, or other programming languages.	<pre># ls -al /files total 14470</pre>
Preformatted Bold	What you type, contrasted with on-screen computer output.	<pre># cd /root/rpms/php</pre>
CAPITALS	Names of keys on the keyboard.	SHIFT, CTRL, ALT
KEY+KEY	Key combinations for which the user must press and hold down one key and then press another.	CTRL+P, ALT+F4

---

## Feedback

If you have found a mistake in this guide, or if you have suggestions or ideas on how to improve this guide, please send your feedback using the online form at <http://www.parallels.com/en/support/usersdoc/>. Please include in your report the guide's title, chapter and section titles, and the fragment of text in which you have found an error.

# Getting Started

Plesk is the control panel software that you use for reselling shared hosting services, and hosting your own domain names and web sites.

You can manage the hosted domain names and web sites on your own, or delegate permissions to manage individual domains to other users. Upon delegation, a separate Domain Administrator's control panel environment is automatically created, providing your customer with site and e-mail management capabilities in accordance with the permissions you define.

Using the Domain Administrator's control panel, a site owner can:

- Change passwords for access to control panel and Web space through FTP,
- Publish and preview a Web site,
- Install, manage and remove databases and Web applications,
- Order and install SSL certificates to secure online transactions (this is possible for Web sites hosted on a dedicated IP address, which is not shared among other Web sites),
- Set up, manage and remove subdomains,
- Host personal Web pages for other users,
- Password protect areas of a Web site,
- Customize Web server error messages,
- Backup and restore a Web site with its databases and applications,
- Schedule automatic backups,
- Create, edit, remove mailboxes, and protect them against spam and viruses,
- Allow access to individual E-mail administration panel to mailbox owners (this is convenient when running mail hosting business or creating mailboxes for other users),
- Create, edit, remove mail forwarders and automatic replies,
- Create, manage, remove mailing lists, subscribe and unsubscribe users.

You have access to all these features from your own control panel, therefore, you will not need to use neither the Domain Administrator's nor E-mail Administrator's control panels.

To learn more about using Domain Administrator's control panel, please refer to the Domain Administrator Guide.

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## Logging In to Plesk

➤ *To log in to your Plesk control panel:*

- 1 Open your web browser, and in the address bar type the URL where your Plesk control panel is located.

For example, <https://your-domain.com:8443>, where your-domain.com is the domain name of your Web host.

- 2 Press ENTER. Plesk login screen will open.
- 3 Type the login name and password your provider gave you into the **Login** and **Password** boxes, respectively.
- 4 If you log in for the first time, select the language for your control panel from the **Interface language** drop-down box. If you had previously specified the interface language and saved it in your interface preferences, leave the **User default** value selected.
- 5 Click **Login**.

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**Note for hosting resellers:** Your customers who were granted access to control panel for managing their own web sites will need to specify their domain names in the **Login** box.

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## If You Forgot Your Password

➤ *To restore your forgotten password:*

- 1 In your web browser's address bar, type the URL where your Plesk control panel is located (for example, <https://your-domain.com:8443>)

- 2 Press ENTER.

Plesk login screen will open.

- 3 Click the **Forgot your password?** link.

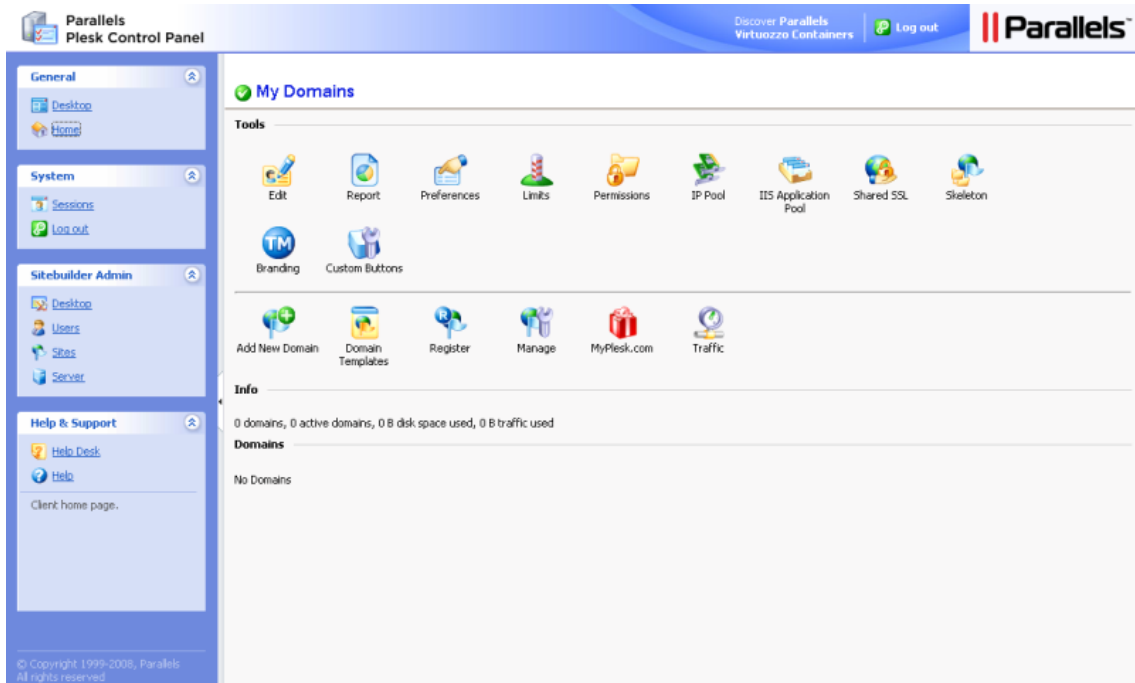
- 4 Type your login name into the **Login** box, and type your e-mail address registered in the system into the **E-mail** box.

- 5 Click **OK**.

Your password will be sent to your e-mail address.

# Becoming Familiar with Plesk's Interface

When you log in to control panel, it can open in either a **standard view**, a simplified **desktop view**, or a combination of both. The standard view is a customary view of the control panel divided into two main areas: navigation pane on the left and the main screen where operations are performed on the right.



The desktop view can show site statistics and shortcuts to the operations you frequently perform—everything you may need can now be accessible from a single screen.




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## Items in the Desktop View

The desktop view originally shows three sections:

- **Tools.** This group shows shortcuts to the operations that you can perform through the control panel. You can freely add and remove these shortcuts.
- **Statistics.** This shows the number of domains you have under your account, disk space and monthly bandwidth usage, and number of mailboxes on your hosted domains.
- **Favorites.** This group shows four types of shortcuts sorted by type and placed on the respective tabs. The **Domains** tab shows shortcuts to your favorite domains. The **Mail Accounts** tab shows shortcuts to the favorite e-mail accounts. The **Shortcuts** tab shows all other types of shortcuts that do not relate to domains and e-mail user accounts. The **Recent** tab shows last ten control panel screens you have been on. The **Favorites** group also provides search tool for finding domains and e-mail accounts. To use the search tool, type the search criteria (this can be any combination of symbols, search is case insensitive) and click  **Search**.

To customize your control panel in the Desktop view, refer to the Customizing Your Control Panel in the Desktop View (on page 23) section.

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## Using Wizards


When you work with Plesk in the Desktop view, you accomplish the tasks you need through wizards. Each wizard is a series of consecutive screens. To accomplish a task using a wizard, follow the instructions displayed on the wizard screens. For information on individual options, refer to the respective sections of this guide.

## Items in the Standard View

The navigation pane is located on the left. It gives you access to sets of administrative functions:

- **Home.** This is where you modify settings related to your account, manage Web sites and e-mail services.
- **Sessions.** When site and mailbox owners log in to control panel, or connect to the server via FTP protocol, they establish sessions that you can monitor and terminate.
- **Global Account.** This shortcut appears in your Plesk Control Panel when the single sign-on capabilities are switched on the hosting server. Single sign-on technology allows you to log in to different Parallels products using a single global login name and password. This shortcut is used for changing the global login settings.
- **Help Desk.** This is the help desk system integrated with your control panel. If your provider uses it, then you can use it to report your problems to provider's technical support staff.
- **Help.** Provides context sensitive help.
- **Log Out.** When finished working with control panel, click this icon to close your session.
- **Desktop** in the **SiteBuilder** group. The **Desktop** screen is divided into two areas: **Tasks** and **Statistics**. In the **Tasks** area you can see an overview of main functionalities of the Administrator Panel. In the **Statistics** area you can see how many users, sites, are currently in the system.
- **Sites** in the **SiteBuilder** group. On this screen you can see the list of available websites created in SiteBuilder and manage them.
- **Server** in the **SiteBuilder** group. This page allows you access to the SiteBuilder's server administration functions.

Below the **Help** icon, there is a context help tip area. It provides a brief description of the current screen or available operations. When you place the mouse pointer over a system element or status icon, it displays additional information.

To navigate through Plesk, you can also use a path bar: a chain of links that appears in the right part of the screen, below the banner area. To return to a previous screen, use  **Up Level** in the upper-right corner of the screen.

To find items in lengthy lists, use search boxes located above every list of items: type a search criterion into the input box, and click **Search**. A list will show the items matching the search criteria. To return back to viewing all items, click **Show All**. You can hide the search area by clicking **Hide Search**. To show the hidden search area, click **Show Search**.

To sort a list by a certain parameter in ascending or descending order, click on the parameter's title in the column heading. The order of sorting will be indicated by a small triangle displayed next to the parameter's title.

To customize your control panel in Standard view, refer to the Customizing Your Control Panel (on page 16) section.

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## Changing Your Contact Information and Password

➤ *If you need to update your contact information, or change password:*

- 1 On your Home page, click **Edit** in the **Tools** group.
- 2 Update your information as required, or type a new password, and click **OK**.

➤ *If you forgot your password:*

- 1 In your web browser's address bar, type the URL where your Plesk control panel is located.
- 2 For example, <https://your-domain.com:8443>.
- 3 Press ENTER. Plesk login screen will open.
- 4 Click the **Forgot your password?** link.
- 5 Type your login name into the **Login** box, type your e-mail address registered in the system into the **E-mail** box, and click **OK**.  
Your password will be sent to your e-mail address.

# Customizing Your Control Panel

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## Setting Up Global Account

Global Account is a single sign-on (SSO) technology feature that allows you to log in to different Parallels products using a single global login and password. If you have several accounts in Plesk Control Panel, you can connect them all to a global account and switch between these accounts without entering a password every time. You can also connect all your accounts in other Parallels products to your global account and switch between them without providing credentials.

➤ **To switch on support for single sign-on for your server, do the following:**

### In Plesk Control Panel for Linux/Unix

- 1 Find out the IP address of the SSO server that you will be using. It can be provided by your hosting company, or you can set up the SSO server on any machine that is accessible over the Internet, including your Plesk Control Panel server. For installation instructions, refer to the Plesk Control Panel Installation Guide.
- 2 Register your server with the single sign-on server: issue the command `<plesk_installation_directory>/admin/sbin/sso -server https://idp-master.example.com:11443`.
- 3 Switch on single sign-on: issue the command `<plesk_installation_directory>/admin/sbin/sso -e`.

### ➤ In Plesk Control Panel for Windows

- 1 Find out the IP address of the SSO server that you will be using. It can be provided by your hosting company, or you can set up the SSO server on any machine that is accessible over the Internet, including your Plesk Control Panel server. For installation instructions, refer to the Plesk Control Panel Installation Guide.
- 2 Register your server with the single sign-on server: issue the command `<plesk_installation_directory>\sso.exe -server https://idp-master.example.com:11443`.
- 3 Switch on single sign-on: issue the command `<plesk_installation_directory>\sso.exe -e`.

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## Creating A Global Account

After you create a global account and connect local accounts to it, you will be able to choose from any account connected to your global account when logging in under your global account.

➤ **To create a global account:**

- 1 Log in to Plesk, go to **Global Account** and click **Connect To Global Account**.
- 2 Select **Create new global account** and provide the login and password for your global account.
- 3 Click **OK**.

Your global account is active now, so you can proceed with connecting other accounts to it. Refer to [Connecting Local Accounts to Your Global Account](#) (on page 18) section for more information.

## Connecting Local Accounts To Your Global Account

➤ **To connect a local Plesk account to your global account:**

- 1 Log in to Plesk under the local account you want to connect.
- 2 Go to **Global Account** and click **Connect To Global Account**.
- 3 Make sure that **Use existing global account** option is selected and provide the login and password for the global account you want to connect to.
- 4 Click **OK**.

Repeat steps 1-4 for other local accounts as necessary.

➤ **To connect an account in another product with SSO support to your global account:**

- 1 Log in to software product with SSO support under the account you want to connect.
- 2 Follow the instructions on connecting to a global account in respective software product documentation. Make sure that you provide the credentials for the existing global account when you are asked to.

Repeat steps 1-2 for other accounts or products as necessary.

---

**Note.** Different software products may use different names for the Global Account feature, such as Federated Identity or Global Login. Refer to respective software product documentation for more information.

---

After you have connected all required accounts to your global account, you can log in under your global account all the time in any product where you have a local account connected to your global account. You will be shown the list of local accounts connected to your global account every time you log in under it, so you can choose which account you would like to use now. You can switch to another account any time you want. Refer to [Switching Between Accounts](#) (on page 19) section for more information.

## Switching Between Accounts

➤ *To switch to another account:*

- 1 Click **Switch User** in the upper right corner.
- 2 Select the account you want to switch to:
  - Choose the required local account from the list of accounts connected to your global account
  - or
  - Select **Specify credentials for another account** and provide login and password for a local account not connected to your global account or to another global account. You can also specify the language for your control panel from the **Interface language** menu. If you had previously specified the interface language for that account and saved it in its interface preferences, leave the **Default** value selected.
- 3 Click **OK**.

## Changing Global Account Password

➤ *To change password of your global account:*

- 1 Log in to Plesk under your global account or any local account connected to it.
- 2 Go to **Global Account** and click **Change Password**.
- 3 Enter your old and new passwords, and click **OK**.

## Disconnecting Local Accounts From Global Account

➤ *To disconnect a local account from your global account:*

- 1 Log in to Plesk under the local account you want to disconnect.
- 2 Go to **Global Account** and click **Disconnect From Global Account**.
- 3 Confirm the disconnection and click **OK**.

Repeat steps 1-3 for other local accounts as necessary.

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## Customizing Your Control Panel in the Standard View

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## Setting Interface Language and Skin for Your Control Panel

➤ *To change preferences of your control panel:*

- 1 On your Home page, click **Preferences** in the **Tools** group.
- 2 Specify the interface language, skin, interface customization templates.
- 3 If required, clear the **Prevent working with Plesk until page is completely loaded** checkbox and modify the creation or retention of SiteBuilder User by selecting or clearing the appropriate checkbox.
- 4 Click **OK**.

## Setting a Custom Logo

➤ *To set up a custom logo image that will be visible to your customers when they log in to Plesk control panel:*

- 1 On your Home page, click **Branding**.
- 2 Click **Browse...** to navigate to the desired image file that you have on your local computer.

We recommend that you use an image that is 50 pixels in height, in GIF, JPEG or PNG format, and preferably not larger than 100 kilobytes to minimize the download time.

- 3 If you wish to attach a hyperlink to the logo image, type the URL into the **Enter new URL for logo** box.
- 4 Click **OK** to submit.

➤ *To restore the original Plesk logo image:*

- 1 On your Home page, click **Branding**.
- 2 Click **Default Logo**.

## Adding a Hyperlink Button to Your Control Panel

- *To add a custom hyperlink button to your Plesk control panel and specify whether your customers will see it in their control panels:*
- 1 On your Home page, go to **Custom Buttons** and click **Add New Button**.
  - 2 Specify properties of the button:
    - Type the text that will show on your button in the **Button label** field.
    - Choose the location for your button. To place it in the right frame of your Home page, select the **Client home page** value from the **Location** drop-down box. To place it on each domain's administration screen (**Home > domain name**), select the **Domain Administration page** value. To place it in the left frame (navigation pane) of your control panel, select the **Navigation pane** value.
    - Specify the priority of the button. Plesk will arrange your custom buttons on the control panel in accordance with the priority you define: the lower the number – the higher is priority. Buttons are placed in the left-to-right order.
    - To use an image for a button background, type the path to its location or click **Browse** to browse for the desired file. It is recommended that you use a 16x16 pixels GIF or JPEG image for a button to be placed in the navigation pane, and 32x32 pixels GIF or JPEG image for buttons placed in the main frame.
    - Type the hyperlink of your choice to be attached to the button into the **URL** box.
    - Using the checkboxes, specify whether to include the information, such as domain name, FTP login, FTP password and other data to be transferred within the URL. These data can be used for processing by external web applications.
    - In the **Context help tip contents** input field, type in the help tip that will be displayed when you hover the mouse pointer over the button.
    - Select the **Open URL in the Control Panel** checkbox if you wish the destination URL to be opened in the control panel's right frame, otherwise leave this check box unchecked to open the URL in a separate browser window.
    - If you wish to make this button visible to the mailbox users with access to control panel, select the **Visible to all sub-logins** checkbox.
  - 3 Click **OK** to complete creation.




## Removing a Hyperlink Button from Your Control Panel

- *To remove a hyperlink button from your Plesk control panel:*
- 1 On your Home page, click **Custom Buttons** in the **Tools** group.
  - 2 Select a check box corresponding to the button that you wish to remove and click **✗ Remove Selected**.


---

# Customizing Your Control Panel in the Desktop View

➤ *To add or remove items from the desktop:*


- 1 Go to **Desktop** >  **Customize Desktop**.
- 2 In the **Tools** group, specify what tasks you would like to accomplish through the control panel. The appropriate shortcuts will be placed to the desktop. The **Selected tasks** list shows the tasks for which shortcuts are already placed on the desktop. The **Available tasks** list shows the tasks for which you do not yet have shortcuts on your desktop.
  - To add a shortcut to the desktop, select the required tasks in the **Available tasks** list and click **Add >>**.
  - To remove a shortcut from the desktop, select the task that you do not need in the **Selected tasks** list and click **<< Remove**.
- 3 To show your custom buttons on the desktop, select the **Custom buttons** check box.
- 4 To show the shortcut for creating new custom hyperlink buttons at the bottom of the desktop, select the **Create a new domain custom button** check box.
- 5 Specify whether to show the **Statistics** and **Favorites** groups and what items to show there. Clearing check boxes will remove the respective items from the desktop. The **Favorites** group shows the links to items or control panel screens that you added to desktop by navigating to the respective control panel screens and clicking the  **Create shortcut** or  **Add to favorites** icons.
- 6 Click **OK**.

➤ *To add a domain to the Favorites group of the desktop:*


- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you want to add to favorites.
- 2 Click the  **Add to favorites** icon at the upper right corner of the screen.
- 3 Specify the desktop shortcut label and the description.
- 4 Click **OK**.

➤ *To add a mail account to the Favorites group of the desktop:*


- 1 On your Home page, click the required domain name.
- 2 Click the **Mail** icon in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the e-mail address you want to add to favorites.

- 4 Click the  **Add to favorites** icon at the upper right corner of the screen.
- 5 Specify the desktop shortcut label and the description.
- 6 Click **OK**.


➤ **To add items to the Favorites group of the desktop:**

- 1 Navigate to the control panel screen you need.
- 2 Click the  **Create Shortcut** icon at the upper right corner of the screen.
- 3 Specify the desktop shortcut label and the description.
- 4 Click **OK**.

➤ **To remove items from the Favorites group of the desktop:**

- 1 On the desktop, click the shortcut that you wish to remove.
- 2 Click the  **Edit Favorites** icon in the upper right corner of the screen.
- 3 Click **Remove**.

OR

- 1 On the desktop, click the  icon corresponding to the shortcut that you wish to remove.
- 2 Click **Remove**.

# Viewing Resource Allotments and Hosting Features Included in Your Hosting Package





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## Viewing IP addresses Included in Your Hosting Package

To view the IP addresses included in your hosting package, on your Home page, click **IP Pool**. Your IP addresses are listed and the following supplementary information is given:

- An icon in the **S** (Status) column shows  if your IP address is properly configured on the network interface. If your IP address was removed from the network interface by your provider, an icon will show .
- An icon in the **T** (Type) column shows  if you were allotted a dedicated IP address, and  if the address is shared among other customers of your service provider. A dedicated IP address is not used by other users, so you can use it to host either:
  - A single e-commerce Web site secured with Secure Sockets Layer encryption,
  - or
  - A number of web sites that do not need Secure Sockets Layer encryption.

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**Note:** Shared IP addresses should be used for hosting only non e-commerce Web sites.



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- The **Certificate** column shows which SSL certificate (for what domain name) is tied to an IP address. See the section “Securing e-commerce transactions with Secure Sockets Layer encryption” for details.
- The **FTP over SSL** column shows whether it is possible to use secure FTP connection (FTP over SSL) on one of the domains hosted on this IP. To switch on FTP over SSL for an exclusive IP address, select the check box corresponding to the required IP address under the **FTP over SSL** column.
- The **Hosting** column shows a number of web sites hosted on an IP address. To view the domain names of these web sites, click the number in the **Hosting** column.

---

# Viewing Resource Allotments for Your Account

To view the resource allotments for your account, on your Home page, click **Limits**. The resource allotments are shown as follows:

- **Maximum number of domains.** The total number of domain names/web sites you can host on the server. This includes web sites that you host on this server, and domain forwarders that point to web sites hosted on other servers. Domain aliases (additional domain names for sites hosted on this server) are not limited by this resource type.
- **Maximum number of domain aliases.** Displays the maximum number of domain aliases that can be created for your domains.
- **Maximum number of subdomains.** Displays the maximum number of subdomains that can be hosted under your domains.
- **Disk space.** Shows you the total amount of disk space allocated to your account. This amount is measured in megabytes. It includes disk space occupied by all files related to your domains/web sites: web site contents, databases, applications, mailboxes, log files and backup files. This is the so-called soft quota: when it is exceeded, domain names and web sites are not suspended automatically, only the appropriate notices are sent to your provider's e-mail addresses and the resource overage is indicated by a corresponding icon  shown in the control panel to the left of your domain name.
- **MySQL databases quota and Microsoft SQL databases quota.** Displays the maximum disk space amount that MySQL and Microsoft SQL Server databases respectively can occupy on your domains.
- **Maximum amount of traffic.** Displays the maximum amount of data in megabytes that can be transferred from your websites during a month. Once the limit is reached, the appropriate notices are sent to your provider's e-mail addresses and the resource overage is indicated by a corresponding icon  shown in the control panel to the left of the domain name.
- **Maximum number of web users.** Shows the maximum number of personal web pages that you can host for other users under your domains. This service is mostly used in educational institutions that host non-commercial personal pages of their students and staff. These pages usually have web addresses like <http://your-domain.com/~username>.
- **Maximum number of additional Microsoft FrontPage accounts.** Displays the maximum number of additional Microsoft FrontPage accounts you can create on your domains.
- **Maximum number of additional FTP accounts.** Displays the maximum number of additional FTP accounts that you can create on your domains.
- **Maximum number of MySQL databases and Maximum number of Microsoft SQL Server databases.** Displays the maximum number of MySQL and Microsoft SQL Server databases respectively that can be hosted in your domains.
- **Maximum number of mailboxes.** Shows the maximum number of mailboxes that can be hosted in your domains.

- **Mailbox quota.** Displays the amount of disk space in kilobytes that is allocated to each mailbox in your domains.
- **Total mailboxes quota.** Displays the total amount of disk space available for all mailboxes on all your domains.
- **Maximum number of mail redirects.** Shows the maximum number of mail redirects that can be used in your domains.
- **Maximum number of mail groups.** Shows the maximum number of mail groups that can be used in your domains.
- **Maximum number of mail autoresponders.** Displays the maximum number of autoresponders that can be set up in your domains.
- **Maximum number of mailing lists.** Shows maximum the number of mailing lists that you can run in your domains.
- **Maximum number of Java applications.** Displays the maximum number of Java applications or applets that you can install on your domains.
- **Maximum number of IIS application pools.** Specify the total number of dedicated IIS application pools that the customer can allocate between his or her domains.
- **Maximum number of shared SSL links.** Shows the total number of subdomains (including their parent domain) that can link to the Master SSL domain defined by the server administrator.
- **Maximum number of ODBC connections.** Shows the maximum number of ODBC connections that you can use on your domains.
- **Validity period.** Shows the term for a hosting account. At the end of the term, your domain/web site will be suspended, its Web, FTP and mail services will no longer be accessible to the Internet users, and you will not be able to log in to the control panel.

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## Viewing the List of Operations You Can Perform within Your Control Panel

To view the list of operations you can perform within your control panel, on your Home page, click **Permissions**. The permissions for operations are listed as follows:

- **Access to control panel.** Shows whether you can access the control panel for managing domains and sites.
- **Domain creation.** Shows whether you can host new domain names/web sites on the server.
- **Physical hosting management.** Shows whether you can fully control hosting accounts for your web sites. If it says **No**, then you can only change FTP password for accessing your web spaces.
- **System access management.** Shows whether you can enable and disable access to the system through Remote Desktop.
- **Hard disk quota assignment.** Shows whether you can set up the hard quotas on disk space allocated to your sites.
- **Subdomains management.** Shows whether you can set up, modify and remove subdomains.
- **Domain aliases management.** Shows whether you are able to set up additional alternative domain names for web sites and allow users to do so.
- **Log rotation management.** Shows whether you can adjust the cleanup and recycling of processed log files for your site.
- **Anonymous FTP management.** Shows whether you can have an FTP directory where all users could download and upload files without the need to enter login and password. A web site should reside on a dedicated IP address in order to use anonymous FTP service.
- **FTP accounts management.** Shows whether you can create and manage additional FTP accounts.
- **Scheduler management.** Shows whether you can schedule tasks with the task scheduler. Scheduled tasks can be used for running scripts or utilities on schedule.
- **Domain limits adjustment.** Shows whether you can distribute the resources given to you by your service provider between your domains.
- **DNS zone management.** Shows whether you can manage the DNS zones of your domains.
- **Tomcat applications management.** Shows whether you can install Tomcat Java applications and applets on the web site through the control panel.
- **Mailing lists management.** Shows whether you can use mailing lists provided by the GNU Mailman software.
- **Spam filter management.** Shows whether you can use spam filter provided by the SpamAssassin software.
- **Antivirus management.** Shows whether you can use server-side antivirus protection for filtering incoming and outgoing mail.

- **Backup/restore functions.** Shows whether you can use the control panel's facilities to backup and restore your sites. Scheduled and on-demand backups are supported.
- **Ability to use remote XML interface.** Shows whether can remotely manage web sites through custom applications. The XML interface can be used for developing custom applications integrated with web sites, which could be used, for instance, for automating setup of hosting accounts and provisioning of services for customers purchasing hosting services from your reseller's site. The remote XML interface operations are limited to setting up and removing domain names/web spaces on the server, modifying domain and web site related preferences and hosting services, retrieving information on domains.
- **SiteBuilder.** Shows whether you can use SiteBuilder for creating and editing your web sites.
- **Hosting Performance Management.** Shows whether you can change the hosting performance preferences for your domains.
- **IIS Application Pool Management.** Shows whether you can manage your IIS application pool.
- **Web statistics management.** Shows whether you can manage web statistics for your domains.
- **Additional write/modify permissions management.** Shows whether you can manage additional write/modify permissions for your domains. These permissions are required if your web applications are using a file-based database (like Jet) located in the root of `httpdocs` or `httpsdocs` folders. Please note that selecting this option might seriously compromise the web site security.
- **Shared SSL management.** Shows whether you can manage shared SSL for your domains.
- **User interface.** Shows what type of Plesk control panel interface you can use - standard, desktop, or both.
- **Desktop management.** Shows whether you can customize and manage your desktop interface.
- **Ability to select a database server.** Shows whether you can select a database server of each type for creating your databases, not only use the default database server.

# Implementing Hosting Plans Using Domain Templates


If you are going to resell hosting services or planning to host numerous domains and web sites, you may want to create hosting configuration presets, referred to as domain templates, that will simplify setting up hosting accounts for new domains and web sites. The templates cover all resource usage allotments, permissions and limits that you can define for a hosting account, plus mail bounce and Web statistics retention settings.

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## Creating Templates

To implement a hosting plan (or simplify setup of multiple domains), create a domain template, and define hosting services and resource allotments in accordance with your hosting plan:

- 1 On your Home page, click **Domain Templates** in the **Tools** group.
- 2 Click **Add New Domain Template**.
- 3 Specify the template properties:
  1. **Template name.** Specify a name for this template. During setup of a new hosting account, you will be prompted to select the required template by its name. Therefore, we recommend that you choose a meaningful name that corresponds to one of your hosting plans or describes the amount of allotted resources. For example, **Mail hosting, 1GB disk space, 500 mailboxes**.
  2. **Mail to nonexistent users.** Specify the domain-wide mail bounce options: When somebody sends an e-mail message to an e-mail address that does not exist under your domain, the mail server on your domain accepts mails, processes it, and when it finds out that there is no such a recipient under your domain, it returns the mail back to sender with the “this address no longer accepts mail” notice. You can choose to:
    - change the default notice if you do not like it (leave the **Bounce** option selected and type another message into the input box),
    - forward undelivered mail to another e-mail address (select the **Catch to address** option and specify the e-mail address you need), or
    - reject mail without accepting it (select the **Discard** option). This setting can decrease mail server load caused by a large amount of spam, which is often directed at randomly generated user names. However, for spammers this can somewhat speed up scanning your mail server for valid e-mail addresses.
  1. Choose the required WebMail client software in the **WebMail** menu to enable the ability to read mail through a browser-based WebMail application for users of mailboxes in this domain. If you don't want to provide this ability, select **None**.
  2. **Maximum number of domain aliases.** Specify the number of domain aliases that can be used for this domain.
  3. **Maximum number of subdomains.** Specify the number of subdomains that can be hosted under this domain.
  4. **Disk space.** Specify the total amount of disk space allocated to a hosting account associated with the domain. This amount is measured in megabytes. It includes disk space occupied by all files related to this domain/web site: web site contents, databases, applications, mailboxes, log files and backup files. This is the so-called soft quota: when it is exceeded, domain names and web sites are not suspended automatically, only the appropriate notices are sent to your and your provider's e-mail addresses and the resource overage is indicated by the icon  shown in the control panel to the left of the domain name (see the list of domain names on your Home page). And then it is up to you to decide what to do with the domain:

- you can notify the domain owner and suspend the domain/web site after a grace period until you receive the payment
  - or
  - upgrade the hosting plan for your customer (see the Upgrading Hosting Accounts (on page 39) section for more information).
1. **MySQL databases quota** and **Microsoft SQL databases quota**. Specify the maximum disk space amount that MySQL and Microsoft SQL Server databases respectively can occupy on a domain.
  2. **Maximum amount of traffic**. Specify the amount of data in megabytes that can be transferred from the web site during a month. Once the limit is reached, the appropriate notices are sent to your and your provider's e-mail addresses and the resource overage is indicated by a corresponding icon shown in the control panel to the left of the domain name (see the list of domain names on your Home page). When a web site starts attracting more visitors and requires more bandwidth, consider upgrading a hosting plan (see the instructions on upgrading hosting plan below).
  3. **Maximum number of web users**. Specify the number of personal web pages that the domain owner can host for other users under his or her domain. This service is mostly used in educational institutions that host non-commercial personal pages of their students and staff. These pages usually have web addresses like <http://your-domain.com/~username>.
  4. **Maximum number of additional Microsoft FrontPage accounts**. Specify the maximum number of additional Microsoft FrontPage accounts that can be created on a domain.
  5. **Maximum number of additional FTP accounts**. Specify the maximum number of additional FTP accounts that can be created on a domain.
  6. **Maximum number of MySQL databases** and **Maximum number of Microsoft SQL Server databases**. Specify the maximum number of MySQL and Microsoft SQL Server databases respectively that can be hosted on a domain.
  7. **Maximum number of mailboxes**. Specify the number of mailboxes that can be hosted in a domain.
  8. **Mailbox quota**. Specify the amount of disk space in kilobytes that is allocated to each mailbox in a domain.
  9. **Total mailboxes quota**. Specify the total amount of disk space available for all mailboxes on a domain.
  10. **Maximum number of mail redirects**. Specify the number of mail redirects that can be used in a domain.
  11. **Maximum number of mail groups**. Specify the maximum number of mail groups that can be used in a domain.
  12. **Maximum number of mail autoresponders**. Specify the number of automatic responses that can be set up in a domain.
  13. **Maximum number of mailing lists**. Specify the number of mailing lists that the domain owner can run in a domain. To allow the use of mailing lists, you should also put a check mark into the **Mailing lists** check box under the **Preferences** group.

14. **Maximum number of Java applications.** Specify the maximum number of Tomcat Java applications and applets that the domain owner can install in a domain.
  15. **Maximum number of shared SSL links.** Specify the maximum number of subdomains (including their parent domain) that can link to the Master SSL domain defined by the server administrator.
  16. **Maximum number of ODBC connections.** Specify the maximum number of ODBC connections that can be set up on a domain.
  17. **Validity period.** Specify the term for a hosting account. At the end of the term, the domain/web site will be suspended, its Web, FTP and mail services will no longer be accessible to the Internet users, and domain owner will not be able to log in to the control panel. Hosting accounts cannot be automatically renewed, therefore, in order to bring the hosted domain name/web site back to operation, you will need to manually renew the hosting account: on your Home page, click the domain name you need, click **Limits**, specify another term in the **Validity period** box, click **OK**, then click **Switch On** in the **Domain** group (**Home > domain name**).
  18. **Log rotation.** All connections to the Web server and requests for files that were not found on the server are registered in log files. These log files are analyzed by the statistical utilities running on the server, which then present graphical reports on demand. If you need to view the contents of these raw log files for debugging purposes, on your Home page, click the domain name you need, click **Log Manager**, and then click the log file name you need. To prevent these log files from growing too large, you should enable automatic cleanup and recycling of log files:
    - select the **Switch on log rotation** checkbox,
    - specify when to recycle log files,
    - specify how many instances of each log file to store on the server,
    - specify whether they should be compressed,
    - specify whether they should be sent to an e-mail address after processing.
1. Specify additional settings in the **Preferences** section.
    - **Mailing lists.** Select this checkbox to enable the ability to create and manage mailing lists on the domain.
    - **Retain traffic statistics.** Specify the number of months during which the bandwidth usage statistics should be kept on the server.
  1. **DNS.** Specify whether the DNS server on your Web host should act as a master (primary) or slave (secondary) name server for the domain name zone. A primary name server stores locally the zone file it serves, while a secondary server only retrieves a copy of this file from the primary. You would normally leave the **Master** option selected.
  2. **Physical hosting account.** If you are going to host not only domain names, but also web sites, select the **Physical hosting** checkbox and specify the hosting features:
    - **Hard disk quota.** In addition to the soft quota, you can specify the so-called hard quota that will not allow writing more files to the web space when the limit is reached. At attempt to write files, users will get "Out of disk space" error.

- **SSL support.** Secure Sockets Layer encryption is generally used for protecting transfer of sensitive data during online transactions on e-commerce Web sites that run on dedicated IP addresses. SSL certificates that participate in the encryption process are usually applied to a single domain name on a single IP address, therefore, each site that needs SSL protection must be hosted on a dedicated IP address. An exception to this is subdomains, which you can protect with a wildcard certificate. Installing an SSL certificate on a Web server that hosts several web sites with different domain names on a single IP address (shared or name-based hosting) is technically possible, however, it is not recommended: the encryption will be provided, but users will get warning messages on attempt to connect to the secure site. To allow SSL encryption for Web sites, select the **SSL support** check box.
- **SiteBuilder support.** SiteBuilder is an efficient and user-friendly WYSIWYG web site editor running through the web interface. Select the **Publish site with SiteBuilder** checkbox to give domain administrator the ability to access SiteBuilder and build web site through their Plesk control panel interface by clicking **SiteBuilder** on the domain management page or clicking the **Desktop** shortcut in the **SiteBuilder Admin** navigation pane group. The version of SiteBuilder coming in the standard Plesk distribution is fully functional and its use is not limited in any way by the manufacturer (but you can be restricted from accessing it by your service provider).
- **Microsoft FrontPage support.** Microsoft FrontPage is a popular web site authoring tool. To enable publishing and modifying the site through Microsoft FrontPage, select the **Microsoft FrontPage support** and **Microsoft FrontPage over SSL support** check boxes, and set the **Remote Microsoft FrontPage authoring** option to **allowed**.

---

**Note.** Microsoft FrontPage over SSL support is available only when SSL support is enabled on a domain.

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- **Support for programming and scripting languages widely used in development of dynamic Web sites and server-side Web applications.** Specify which of the following programming and scripting languages should be interpreted, executed or otherwise processed by the web server: Active Server Pages (ASP), Active Server Pages on .NET framework (ASP.NET), Server Side Includes (SSI), PHP hypertext preprocessor (PHP), Common Gateway Interface (CGI), Fast Common Gateway Interface (FastCGI), Internet Server Application Programming Interface (ISAPI), Perl, Python, ColdFusion and Miva scripting required for running Miva e-commerce solutions.

---

**Note.** You can change the version of ASP.NET and PHP you want to use in the corresponding drop-down menu. You can also specify the mode for running PHP applications - CGI, FastCGI or ISAPI.

---

- **Web statistics.** To allow you to view the information on the number of people visited the site and the pages of the site they viewed, select a module in **Web statistics** drop-down menu and select the **accessible via password protected directory /plesk-stat/** checkbox, if required. This will install the selected statistical software module, which will generate reports and place them into the password protected directory. The domain administrator will then be able to access Web statistics at the URL: <https://your-domain.com/plesk-stat/> using their FTP account login and password.

**Note.** If domain administrator changes the FTP credentials, web statistics access credentials do not change. The original login and password specified upon the domain creation should always be used for accessing password-protected web statistics directory.

---

- **Custom error documents.** When visitors coming to site request pages that the web server cannot find, web server generates and displays a standard HTML page with an error message. To give domain owner the ability to create their own error pages and use them on a web server, select the **Custom error documents** checkbox.
- 

**Note.** You can enable the support for all programming and scripting languages, web statistics and custom error documents at once by selecting **All services** checkbox in the **Services** group.

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- **Additional write/modify permissions.** This option is required if web applications on a domain are using a file-based database (like Jet) located in the root of httpdocs or httpsdocs folders. Please note that selecting this option might seriously compromise the web site security.
  - **Use dedicated IIS application pool.** This option enables the use of dedicated IIS application pool for web applications on a domain. Using dedicated IIS application pool dramatically improves the stability of domain web applications due to worker process isolation mode. This mode gives each web site hosted on the server the possibility to allocate a separate process pool for execution of its web applications. This way, malfunction in one application will not cause stopping of all the others. This is especially useful when you are using shared hosting package.
  - **Maximum CPU use.** To limit the amount of CPU resources that domain's IIS application pool can use, clear the **Unlimited** checkbox and provide a number (in percents) in the field.
- 4 Performance.** To avoid excessive usage of bandwidth, which can lead to resources overage, you can set various performance limitations for a domain.
- **Maximum network use.** To limit the maximum speed (measured in KB per second) that a domain can share between all its connections, clear the **Unlimited** checkbox and provide a number (in kilobytes) in the field.
  - **Connections limiting.** To limit the maximum number of simultaneous connections to a domain, clear the **Unlimited** checkbox and provide a number in the field
- 5** Click **OK** to complete creation of a template.

During setup of a hosting account for a new domain/web site, you will select the required template and the hosting account will be created and allocated the resources and hosting services you defined.

---

## Modifying Templates

➤ *To reflect the changes in your hosting package offerings that will apply to the newly created accounts:*

- 1 On your Home page, click **Domain Templates** in the **Tools** group.
- 2 Click the template name corresponding to the hosting plan you wish to update.
- 3 Modify the settings as required and click **OK**.

Note that modifying templates does not affect the existing domains and web sites.

---

## Removing Templates

➤ *To remove a template that you no longer need:*

- 1 On your Home page, click **Domain Templates** in the **Tools** group.
- 2 Select a check box corresponding to the template you no longer need.
- 3 Click **✗ Remove Selected**. Confirm removal and click **OK**.

# Managing Hosting Accounts

This chapter explains how to manage hosting accounts.


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## Upgrading Hosting Accounts

➤ *To modify settings for a single domain or Web site:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 To allocate more disk space, bandwidth and other resources, click **Limits** in the **Domain** group, adjust the following settings as required:
  - **Maximum number of domains.** The total number of domain names/web sites you can host on the server. This includes web sites that you host on this server, and domain forwarders that point to web sites hosted on other servers. Domain aliases (additional domain names for sites hosted on this server) are not limited by this resource type.
  - **Maximum number of domain aliases.** Specify the number of domain aliases that can be used for this domain.
  - **Maximum number of subdomains.** Specify the number of subdomains that can be hosted under this domain.
  - **Disk space.** Specify the total amount of disk space allocated to a hosting account associated with the domain. This amount is measured in megabytes. It includes disk space occupied by all files related to this domain/web site: web site contents, databases, applications, mailboxes, log files and backup files. This is the so-called soft quota: when it is exceeded, domain names and web sites are not suspended automatically, only the appropriate notices are sent to your and your provider's e-mail addresses and the resource overage is indicated by the icon  shown in the control panel to the left of the domain name (see the list of domain names on your Home page).
  - **MySQL databases quota and Microsoft SQL databases quota.** Specify the maximum disk space amount that MySQL and Microsoft SQL Server databases respectively can occupy on a domain.
  - **Maximum amount of traffic.** Specify the amount of data in megabytes that can be transferred from the web site during a month. Once the limit is reached, the appropriate notices are sent to your and your provider's e-mail addresses and the resource overage is indicated by a corresponding icon shown in the control panel to the left of the domain name (see the list of domain names on your Home page).
  - **Maximum number of web users.** Specify the number of personal web pages that the domain owner can host for other users under his or her domain. This service is mostly used in educational institutions that host non-commercial personal pages of their students and staff. These pages usually have web addresses like <http://your-domain.com/~username>.
  - **Maximum number of additional Microsoft FrontPage accounts.** Specify the maximum number of additional Microsoft FrontPage accounts that can be created on a domain.
  - **Maximum number of additional FTP accounts.** Specify the maximum number of additional FTP accounts that can be created on a domain.

- **Maximum number of MySQL databases and Maximum number of Microsoft SQL Server databases.** Specify the maximum number of MySQL and Microsoft SQL Server databases respectively that can be hosted on a domain.
  - **Maximum number of mailboxes.** Specify the number of mailboxes that can be hosted in a domain.
  - **Mailbox quota.** Specify the amount of disk space in kilobytes that is allocated to each mailbox in a domain.
  - **Total mailboxes quota.** Specify the total amount of disk space available for all mailboxes on a domain.
  - **Maximum number of mail redirects.** Specify the number of mail redirects that can be used in a domain.
  - **Maximum number of mail groups.** Specify the maximum number of mail groups that can be used in a domain.
  - **Maximum number of mail autoresponders.** Specify the number of automatic responses that can be set up in a domain.
  - **Maximum number of mailing lists.** Specify the number of mailing lists that the domain owner can run in a domain. To allow the use of mailing lists, you should also put a check mark into the **Mailing lists** check box under the **Preferences** group.
  - **Maximum number of Java applications.** Specify the maximum number of Tomcat Java applications and applets that the domain owner can install in a domain.
  - **Maximum number of IIS application pools.** Specify the total number of dedicated IIS application pools that the customer can allocate between his or her domains.
  - **Maximum number of shared SSL links.** Specify the total number of subdomains (including their parent domain) that can link to the Master SSL domain defined by the server administrator.
  - **Maximum number of ODBC connections.** Specify the maximum number of ODBC connections that can be set up on a domain.
  - **Validity period.** Specify the term for a hosting account. At the end of the term, the domain/web site will be suspended, its Web, FTP and mail services will no longer be accessible to the Internet users, and domain owner will not be able to log in to the control panel.
- 3 Click **OK**.
- 4 To add hosting features, such as support for programming languages and scripts, click **Setup** in the **Hosting** group, and adjust the following settings as required:
- **IP address.** If you have a number of IP addresses to choose from, select the required address from the **IP address** drop-down box. Notice that e-commerce sites need a dedicated IP address (not shared among other sites) to implement Secure Sockets Layer data encryption.

- **SSL support.** Secure Sockets Layer encryption is generally used for protecting transfer of sensitive data during online transactions on e-commerce Web sites that run on dedicated IP addresses. SSL certificates that participate in the encryption process are usually applied to a single domain name on a single IP address, therefore, each site that needs SSL protection must be hosted on a dedicated IP address. An exception to this is subdomains, which you can protect with a wildcard certificate. Installing an SSL certificate on a Web server that hosts several web sites with different domain names on a single IP address (shared or name-based hosting) is technically possible, however, it is not recommended: the encryption will be provided, but users will get warning messages on attempt to connect to the secure site. To allow SSL encryption for the Web site, select the **SSL support** check box.
- **Certificate.** If you have a number of SSL certificates to choose from, select the SSL certificate that must be used by Web server to encrypt online transactions to this web site.
- **FTP/Microsoft FrontPage Login and FTP/Microsoft FrontPage password.** Specify the user name and password that will be used for publishing the site to the server through FTP. Retype the password into the **Confirm Password** box.
- **Hard disk quota.** In addition to the soft quota, you can specify the so-called hard quota that will not allow writing more files to the web space when the limit is reached. At attempt to write files, users will get “Out of disk space” error.
- **Access to system.** This allows you to directly access the system through a Remote Desktop connection. However, allowing system access via RDP also poses a potential threat to the server security, so we recommend that you do not allow it, leaving the **Login prohibited** option selected.
- **SiteBuilder support.** SiteBuilder is an efficient and user-friendly WYSIWYG web site editor running through the web interface. Leave the **Publish site with SiteBuilder** checkbox selected to be able to access SiteBuilder and build web site through your Plesk control panel interface by clicking **SiteBuilder Wizard** on the domain management page or clicking the **Desktop** shortcut in the **SiteBuilder Admin** navigation pane group. The version of SiteBuilder coming in the standard Plesk distribution is fully functional and its use is not limited in any way by the manufacturer (but domain administrators can be restricted from accessing it).
- **Microsoft FrontPage support.** Microsoft FrontPage is a popular web site authoring tool. To enable publishing and modifying the site through Microsoft FrontPage, select the **Microsoft FrontPage support** and **Microsoft FrontPage over SSL support** check boxes, and set the **Remote Microsoft FrontPage authoring** option to **allowed**.

---

**Note.** Microsoft FrontPage over SSL support is available only when SSL support is enabled on a domain.

---

- **Support for programming and scripting languages widely used in development of dynamic Web sites and server-side Web applications.** Specify which of the following programming and scripting languages should be interpreted, executed or otherwise processed by the web server: Active Server Pages (ASP), Active Server Pages on .NET framework (ASP.NET), Server Side Includes (SSI), PHP hypertext preprocessor (PHP), Common Gateway Interface (CGI), Perl, Python, ColdFusion and Miva scripting required for running Miva e-commerce solutions.

---

**Note.** If ASP.NET support is enabled, ASP.NET version 2.0 is set as default. You can change the version in the corresponding drop-down menu.

---

- **Web statistics.** To allow you to view the information on the number of people visited the site and the pages of the site they viewed, select a module in **Web statistics** drop-down menu and select the **accessible via password protected directory /plesk-stat/** checkbox, if required. This will install the selected statistical software module, which will generate reports and place them into the password protected directory. The domain administrator will then be able to access Web statistics at the URL: <https://your-domain.com/plesk-stat/> using their FTP account login and password.

---

**Note.** If domain administrator changes the FTP credentials, web statistics access credentials do not change. The original login and password specified upon the domain creation should always be used for accessing password-protected web statistics directory.

---

- **Custom error documents.** When visitors coming to site request pages that the web server cannot find, web server generates and displays a standard HTML page with an error message. To give domain owner the ability to create their own error pages and use them on a web server, select the **Custom error documents** checkbox.

---


**Note.** You can enable the support for all programming and scripting languages, web statistics and custom error documents at once by selecting **All services** checkbox in the **Services** group.

---

- **Additional write/modify permissions.** This option is required if customer's web applications are using a file-based database (like Jet) located in the root of `httpdocs` or `httpsdocs` folders. Please note that selecting this option might seriously compromise the web site security.
- **Use dedicated IIS application pool.** This option enables the use of dedicated IIS application pool for web applications on a domain. Using dedicated IIS application pool dramatically improves the stability of domain web applications due to worker process isolation mode. This mode gives each web site hosted on the server the possibility to allocate a separate process pool for execution of its web applications. This way, malfunction in one application will not cause stopping of all the others. This is especially useful when you are using shared hosting package.

5 Click **OK**.

➤ **To modify settings for a number of domains or Web sites:**

- 1 On your Home page, select the check boxes corresponding to the domain names you need.
- 2 Click  **Group Operations** located above the list of domains.
- 3 Modify the settings as required and click **OK**.

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## Renewing Hosting Accounts

Hosting accounts cannot be automatically renewed, therefore, in order to bring the hosted domain name/web site back to operation, you need to manually renew the hosting account:

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Limits**.
- 3 Specify another term in the **Validity period** box and click **OK**.
- 4 Click **Switch On** in the **Domain** group.

---

## Suspending and Unsuspending Hosting Accounts

➤ *To suspend a domain/web site:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain you need.
- 2 Click **Switch Off**.

The domain/web site will be suspended, its Web, FTP and mail services will no longer be accessible to the Internet users, and domain owner will not be able to log in to the control panel.

➤ *To unsuspend a domain/web site:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain you need.
- 2 Click **Switch On**.

---

## Changing Web Hosting Type From Physical to Forwarding

If you hosted a site on the server with virtual (or physical) hosting account, and now you need only domain forwarding service for that site because it has been moved to another server, you should delete the hosting configuration and reconfigure the hosting account.

Before deleting hosting configuration for a site that was previously on a physical hosting account, make sure that the site owner has a local copy of his or her site because all files and directories related to a site are removed from the server when a hosting account is removed.

➤ **To reconfigure a hosting account:**

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Delete** in the **Hosting** group. Confirm removal and click **OK**. All directories and files related to the site will be removed.
- 3 Click **Setup**.


---

**Note:** Refer to the Hosting Web Sites (on page 47) chapter for detailed instructions on setting up hosting accounts.

---

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## Introducing Similar Changes to Numerous Hosting Accounts

- *To change hosting options for a number of hosting accounts at once:*
- 1 Click the **Domains** shortcut in the navigation pane.
  - 2 Select the check boxes corresponding to the domain names you wish to perform group operations on.
  - 3 Click  **Group Operations**.
  - 4 In the **Limits** section, you can see the list of all domain-specific limits. To change a certain limit, select an appropriate menu on the left side of the list. Adjust the settings as required:
    - Select **Unlimited** to remove the corresponding limit.
    - Select **Value** and type the numeric value to set the corresponding limit to the specified value.
    - Select **Increase (+)**, select the type of value (specific units or percentage) and type the numeric value to increase the corresponding limit by the specified value (in specific units or percents).
    - Select **Decrease (-)**, select the type of value (specific units or percentage) and type the numeric value to decrease the corresponding limit by the specified value (in specific units or percents).
    - Leave the **Do not change** value selected, to leave it as is.
  - 5 In the **Hosting** section, you can see the list of hosting parameters. To change a certain feature availability for the domains, select an appropriate option button to **Enable**, **Disable**, or **Do not change** to leave it as is.
  - 6 In the **Preferences** section, you can see the list of domain preferences. To set a certain preferences setting for the domains, select an appropriate option button to **Enable**, **Disable**, or **Do not change** to leave it as is.
  - 7 In the **Services** section, you can define availability of various domain services. To do this, select an appropriate option button to **Enable**, **Disable**, or **Do not change** to leave it as is.
  - 8 Click **OK**.

---

## Removing Hosting Accounts

➤ *To remove a domain/Web site with its Web content:*

- 1 On your Home page, select a check box corresponding to the domain name you wish to remove.
- 2 Click **✗ Remove Selected**, confirm removal and click **OK**.

➤ *To remove a subdomain with its Web content:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Subdomains** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Select the check box corresponding to the subdomain you wish to remove.
- 4 Click **✗ Remove Selected**, confirm removal and click **OK**.

# Hosting Web Sites

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## Predefining Content for New Web Sites

You can set your control panel to automatically include specific files and directories into Web spaces created for newly hosted Web sites. This can be a set of useful scripts, custom error messages, a placeholder index.html page, or any other files of your choice. These files can then be replaced, edited or removed on a per-site basis.

➤ ***To set up the control panel so as to automatically include your web content into web spaces:***

- 1 On your local file system, create the required directories: `httpdocs`, `httpsdocs`, `cgi-bin`, `anon_ftp`, `error_docs`.
- 2 Place the files you need into the directories you have created: Place web pages into `httpdocs` and `httpsdocs` directories, scripts to `cgi-bin` directory, and custom error messages to `error_docs` directory.
- 3 Pack the directories and files into an archive file in `tgz`, `tar`, `gz`, `rar` or `zip` format.

Make sure that the directories are in the root of the archive file and not in a subdirectory.

- 4 Log in to your Plesk control panel.
- 5 On your Home page, click **Skeleton** in the **Tools** group.
- 6 Click **Browse** to locate the archive file on your local computer, select the file, and click the **Send File** button.

➤ ***To revert back to the original structure of web server directories and files:***

- 1 On your Home page, click **Skeleton**.
- 2 Click **Default**.

---

## Obtaining Domain Names

Before you publish a site on the Internet, you must register your unique domain name with a domain name registration authority. A domain name is an easy-to-remember web site address.

When you want to visit a web site, you enter a domain name (e.g. `your-domain.com`) or a Uniform Resource Locator (e.g. <http://www.your-domain.com>) into your browser's address bar. In order to show you the requested site, your browser first needs to find out the IP address corresponding to the requested domain name because machines address each other by IP addresses—domain names were devised for humans. So, the browser queries the name servers in the distributed Domain Name System, which translates the requested domain name to IP address and returns the IP address to the browser. Finally, the browser connects to the web server at the specified IP address and retrieves the web pages from there. Thus, to allow other users to find your site by its domain name, you must register your domain name with the Domain Name System.

When choosing a domain name for your site, consider a word or combination of words that is relevant to your business, brand name, or topic of interest. A domain name should be easy to remember. If your domain name will comprise several words, you may want to separate these words with hyphens: this will help search engines distinguish between words, therefore, the users will be able to find your site faster.

To increase the chances to find your site for your customers, you may also want to buy the non-hyphenated version of the same domain name, for example, `yourdomain.com` and redirect it to your original domain - `your-domain.com`. To protect your domain name, you may want to register it in different top level domains: `your-domain.com`, `your-domain.net`. For a domain name comprising a single word that users can misspell and type incorrectly, you may also want to purchase one or few misspelled versions of your domain name that you will point to your original site. To give you a real life example of how this can be: there is the Google search engine with a primary web site address [www.google.com](http://www.google.com). Knowing that people sometimes swap two adjacent letters or type more letters than required, the three additional domain names pointing to the original site were set up: [www.gogle.com](http://www.gogle.com), [www.goolge.com](http://www.goolge.com), and [www.qoogle.com](http://www.qoogle.com).

Once you have decided on the right domain name, you can register it with a domain name registration authority, or ask your service provider to do that for you. Registration cost varies between registrars (usually from 4 to 10 US dollars per year).

It is possible to register and manage domain names through Plesk, if your service provider enabled this option.

- To register a domain name through Plesk, click **Register** on your Home page. You will be taken to MyPlesk.com website, where a simple step-by-step wizard will guide you through the registration procedure.
- To manage domain names through Plesk, click **Manage** on your Home page. You will be taken to MyPlesk.com website, where you can log in and manage your domain names.

---

## Setting Up Hosting Account for a Web Site

➤ *To host a web site on the server:*

- 1 On your Home page, click **Add New Domain**.
- 2 Specify the domain name just as you have registered it. Leave the **www** check box selected if you wish to allow users to access your site by a common and habitual URL like [www.your-domain.com](http://www.your-domain.com).  
Having the www alias preceding your domain name will not cost you anything, but it will allow users to get to your site no matter what they type in their browsers: [www.your-domain.com](http://www.your-domain.com) and your-domain.com will both point to your site.
- 3 If you have previously created a domain template and predefined all hosting features and resource usage allotments (as described in the Implementing Hosting Plans Using Domain Templates (on page 31) chapter), select the required template from the **Select template** box.
- 4 If you have a number of IP addresses to choose from, select the required address from the **Select an IP address** drop-down box.  
Notice that e-commerce sites need a dedicated IP address (not shared among other sites) to implement Secure Sockets Layer data encryption.
- 5 Make sure that there is a check mark in the **Proceed to hosting setup** check box and click **OK**.
- 6 Select the **Physical hosting** option to host the Web site on this machine and click **OK**.

Upon completion of this procedure, your control panel will set up the domain name server on this machine to serve the new domain name and prepare the web server to serve the new Web site: a new zone file with appropriate resource records will be added to the Domain Name Server's configuration files, a web space will be created inside the Web server's directory, and necessary user accounts will be created on the server.

---

**Note:** If your site is hosted on another machine, and you wish to set up your control panel's DNS server only to serve the DNS zone for that site, select either **Frame forwarding** or **Standard forwarding** option. With standard forwarding, a user is redirected to the site and the actual site's URL is shown in the user's browser, so the user always knows that he or she is redirected to another URL. With frame forwarding, a user is redirected to the site without knowing that the site actually resides at another location. For example: your customer has a free personal web site with his or her Internet Service Provider or a free Web host, and the Web site address is <http://www.geocities.com/~myhomepage>. The customer purchased a second level domain name [www.myname.com](http://www.myname.com) and wants you to provide domain forwarding to his Web site. In this case you would normally choose the **Frame forwarding** service. See the Serving Domain Names for Sites Hosted on Other Servers (Domain Forwarding) (on page 117) chapter for details.

---

- 7 Specify the properties of a hosting account:

- **SSL support.** Secure Sockets Layer encryption is generally used for protecting transfer of sensitive data during online transactions on e-commerce Web sites that run on dedicated IP addresses. SSL certificates that participate in the encryption process are usually applied to a single domain name on a single IP address, therefore, each site that needs SSL protection must be hosted on a dedicated IP address. An exception to this is subdomains, which you can protect with a wildcard certificate. Installing an SSL certificate on a Web server that hosts several web sites with different domain names on a single IP address (shared or name-based hosting) is technically possible, however, it is not recommended: the encryption will be provided, but users will get warning messages on attempt to connect to the secure site. To allow SSL encryption for Web sites, select the **SSL support** check box.
- **FTP/Microsoft FrontPage Login and FTP/Microsoft FrontPage password.** Specify the user name and password that will be used for publishing the site to the server through FTP. Retype the password into the **Confirm Password** box.
- **Hard disk quota.** Specify the amount of disk space in megabytes allocated to the web space for this site. This is the so-called hard quota that will not allow writing more files to the web space when the limit is reached. At attempt to write files, users will get the “Out of disk space” error. Hard quotas should be enabled in the server’s operating system, so if you see the “Hard disk quota is not supported” notice to the right of the **Hard disk quota** field, but would like to use the hard quotas, contact your provider or the server administrator and ask to enable the hard quotas.
- **Access to system.** This allows you to directly access the system through a Remote Desktop connection. However, allowing system access via RDP also poses a potential threat to the server security, so we recommend that you do not allow it, leaving the **Login prohibited** option selected.
- **SiteBuilder support.** SiteBuilder is an efficient and user-friendly WYSIWYG web site editor running through the web interface. Leave the **Publish site with SiteBuilder** checkbox selected to be able to access SiteBuilder and build web site through your Plesk control panel interface by clicking **SiteBuilder Wizard** on the domain management page or clicking the **Desktop** shortcut in the **SiteBuilder Admin** navigation pane group. The version of SiteBuilder coming in the standard Plesk distribution is fully functional and its use is not limited in any way by the manufacturer (but domain administrators can be restricted from accessing it).
- **Microsoft FrontPage support.** Microsoft FrontPage is a popular web site authoring tool. To enable publishing and modifying the site through Microsoft FrontPage, select the **Microsoft FrontPage support** and **Microsoft FrontPage over SSL support** check boxes, and set the **Remote Microsoft FrontPage authoring** option to **allowed**.

---

**Note.** Microsoft FrontPage over SSL support is available only when SSL support is enabled on a domain.

---

- **Support for programming and scripting languages widely used in development of dynamic Web sites and server-side Web applications.** Specify which of the following programming and scripting languages should be interpreted, executed or otherwise processed by the web server: Active Server Pages (ASP), Active Server Pages on .NET framework (ASP.NET), Server Side Includes (SSI), PHP hypertext preprocessor (PHP), Common Gateway Interface (CGI), Fast Common Gateway Interface (FastCGI), Internet Server Application Programming Interface (ISAPI), Perl, Python, ColdFusion and Miva scripting required for running Miva e-commerce solutions.

---

**Note.** You can change the version of ASP.NET and PHP you want to use in the corresponding drop-down menu. You can also specify the mode for running PHP applications - CGI, FastCGI or ISAPI.

---

- **Web statistics.** To allow you to view the information on the number of people visited the site and the pages of the site they viewed, select a module in **Web statistics** drop-down menu and select the **accessible via password protected directory /plesk-stat/** checkbox, if required. This will install the selected statistical software module, which will generate reports and place them into the password protected directory. The domain administrator will then be able to access Web statistics at the URL: <https://your-domain.com/plesk-stat/> using their FTP account login and password.

---

**Note.** If domain administrator changes the FTP credentials, web statistics access credentials do not change. The original login and password specified upon the domain creation should always be used for accessing password-protected web statistics directory.

---

- **Custom error documents.** When visitors coming to your site request pages that the web server cannot find, the web server generates and displays a standard HTML page with an error message. If you wish to create your own error pages and use them on your web server, select the **Custom error documents** check box.

---

**Note.** You can enable the support for all programming and scripting languages, web statistics and custom error documents at once by selecting **All services** checkbox in the **Services** group.

---

- **Additional write/modify permissions.** This option is required if your web applications are using a file-based database (like Jet) located in the root of `httpdocs` or `httpsdocs` folders. Please note that selecting this option might seriously compromise the web site security.
- **Use dedicated IIS application pool.** This option enables the use of dedicated IIS application pool for your web applications. Using dedicated IIS application pool dramatically improves the stability of your web applications due to worker process isolation mode. This mode gives each web site hosted on the server the possibility to allocate a separate process pool for execution of its web applications. This way, malfunction in one application will not cause stopping of all the others. This is especially useful when you are using shared hosting package.

## 8 Click **OK**.

Now your server is ready to accommodate the new web site, and the site owner can publish the site to the server. For instructions on publishing a Web site, refer to the Publishing a Site section of this guide.

---

**Note:** If you transferred this domain name from another Web host, you will need to update the host DNS address with the domain name registrar so as to point to your name servers: log in to your registrar's web site, locate the forms used to manage the domain host pointers, and replace the current DNS host settings with your name servers' hostnames. The information on new name servers will spread across the DNS system within 48 hours.

---

If you have registered several domain names that you would like to point to a site hosted on this server, you should set up domain aliases. Refer to the Setting Up Additional Domain Names for a Site (Domain Aliases) (on page 94) section for details.

If you need to host several domains on your machine that will point to a site hosted on another server, you should set up domain forwarding. Refer to the Serving Domain Names for Sites Hosted on Other Servers (Domain Forwarding) (on page 117) chapter for details.


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## Limiting the Amount of Resources a Site Can Consume

By default, new web sites that you set up without the help of domain templates, are allowed to consume unlimited amounts of bandwidth (data transfer) and disk space.

➤ **To limit the amount of resources this site can consume:**

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Limits**.
- 3 Adjust the resource usage allotments as required:
  1. **Maximum number of domain aliases.** Specify the number of domain aliases that can be used for this domain.
  2. **Maximum number of subdomains.** Specify the number of subdomains that can be hosted under this domain.
  3. **Disk space.** Specify the total amount of disk space allocated to a hosting account associated with the domain. This amount is measured in megabytes. It includes disk space occupied by all files related to this domain/web site: web site contents, databases, applications, mailboxes, log files and backup files. This is the so-called soft quota: when it is exceeded, domain names and web sites are not suspended automatically, only the appropriate notices are sent to your and your provider's e-mail addresses and the resource overage is indicated by the icon  shown in the control panel to the left of the domain name (see the list of domain names on your Home page).

Then it is up to you to decide what to do with the domain. You can notify the domain owner and suspend the domain/web site after a grace period until you receive the payment or upgrade the hosting plan for your customer (see the [Upgrading Hosting Accounts](#) (on page 39) section for more information).

4. **MySQL databases quota and Microsoft SQL databases quota.** Specify the maximum disk space amount that MySQL and Microsoft SQL Server databases respectively can occupy on a domain.
5. **Maximum amount of traffic.** Specify the amount of data in megabytes that can be transferred from the web site during a month. Once the limit is reached, the appropriate notices are sent to your and your provider's e-mail addresses and the resource overage is indicated by a corresponding icon shown in the control panel to the left of the domain name (see the list of domain names on your Home page). When a web site starts attracting more visitors and requires more bandwidth, consider upgrading a hosting plan (see the instructions on upgrading hosting plan below).
6. **Maximum number of web users.** Specify the number of personal web pages that the domain owner can host for other users under his or her domain. This service is mostly used in educational institutions that host non-commercial personal pages of their students and staff. These pages usually have web addresses like <http://your-domain.com/~username>. If you wish to allow execution of scripts embedded in personal web pages, select also the **Allow the web users scripting** check box.
7. **Maximum number of additional Microsoft FrontPage accounts.** Specify the maximum number of additional Microsoft FrontPage accounts that can be created on a domain.

8. **Maximum number of additional FTP accounts.** Specify the maximum number of additional FTP accounts that can be created on a domain.
  9. **Maximum number of MySQL databases and Maximum number of Microsoft SQL server databases.** Specify the maximum number of MySQL and Microsoft SQL Server databases respectively that can be hosted on a domain.
  10. **Maximum number of mailboxes.** Specify the number of mailboxes that can be hosted in a domain.
  11. **Mailbox quota.** Specify the amount of disk space in kilobytes that is allocated to each mailbox in a domain.
  12. **Total mailboxes quota.** Specify the total amount of disk space available for all mailboxes on a domain.
  13. **Maximum number of mail redirects.** Specify the number of mail redirects that can be used in a domain.
  14. **Maximum number of mail groups.** Specify the maximum number of mail groups that can be used in a domain.
  15. **Maximum number of mail autoresponders.** Specify the number of automatic responses that can be set up in a domain.
  16. **Maximum number of mailing lists.** Specify the number of mailing lists that the domain owner can run in a domain. To allow the use of mailing lists, you should also put a check mark into the **Mailing lists** check box under the **Preferences** group.
  17. **Maximum number of Java applications.** Specify the maximum number of Tomcat Java applications and applets that the domain owner can install in a domain.
  18. **Maximum number of ODBC connections.** Specify the maximum number of ODBC connections that can be set up on a domain.
  19. **Validity period.** Specify the term for a hosting account. At the end of the term, the domain/web site will be suspended, its Web, FTP and mail services will no longer be accessible to the Internet users, and domain owner will not be able to log in to the control panel. Hosting accounts cannot be automatically renewed, therefore, in order to bring the hosted domain name/web site back to operation, you will need to manually renew the hosting account: on your Home page, click the domain name you need, click the **Limits** icon, specify another term in the **Validity period** box, click **OK**, then click **Switch On** in the **Domain** group (**Home > domain name**).
- 4 Click **OK**.

## Allowing the Site Owner to Log in to Control Panel

➤ *To allow the site owner to log in to control panel for managing his or her web site:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Domain Administrator** in the **Domain** group.
- 3 Select the **Allow domain administrator's access** check box.
- 4 Type the password for access to the site owner's control panel.  
For security reasons, the password should be more than 8 symbols, and it should comprise a combination of letters, numbers, and punctuation; dictionary words and proper names should be avoided.
- 5 Specify the settings related to the appearance of user's control panel, if desired: interface language, theme (skin), the limit on number of characters that can appear on custom buttons placed into the control panel by the site owner.
- 6 Leave the **Allow multiple sessions** check box selected to allow the site owner to have several simultaneous sessions in the control panel.
- 7 Leave the **Prevent users from working with the control panel until interface screens are completely loaded** check box selected.

This will forbid users from submitting data or performing operations until the control panel is ready to accept them.

- 8 Specify the operations that the site owner will be able to perform in his or her control panel:
  - **Physical hosting management.** Allow or disallow full control of the hosting account and webspace.
  - **Hard disk quota assignment.** Allow or disallow the site owner to adjust the hard quota on disk space allocated to their web space.
  - **Subdomains management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to set up, modify and remove subdomains.
  - **DNS zone management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to manage the DNS zone of his or her domain. This is recommended only for experienced users.
  - **Log rotation management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to adjust the cleanup and recycling of processed log files.
  - **Scheduler management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to schedule tasks with the Scheduler. Scheduled tasks can be used for running scripts or utilities on schedule.
  - **Anonymous FTP management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to have an FTP directory where all users could upload and download files without the need to enter login and password. A web site should reside on a dedicated IP address in order to use anonymous FTP.
  - **FTP accounts management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to create, modify and remove additional FTP accounts.
  - **Java applications management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to install Tomcat Java applications and applets on the web site.

- **System access management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to access to the system through Remote Desktop.
  - **Mailing lists management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to use mailing lists.
  - **Backup/restore functions.** Allow or disallow the site owner to use the control panel's facilities to backup and restore their site. Scheduled and on-demand backups are supported.
  - **Spam filter management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to use spam filter provided by the SpamAssassin software.
  - **Antivirus management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to use server-side antivirus protection for filtering incoming and outgoing mail.
  - **SiteBuilder.** Allow or disallow the site owner to use SiteBuilder for creating and editing their web site.
  - **Hosting Performance Management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to change the hosting performance preferences for their domain.
  - **IIS Application Pool Management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to manage their IIS application pool.
  - **Web statistics management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to manage web statistics for their domains.
  - **Additional write/modify permissions management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to manage additional write/modify permissions for their domains. These permissions are required if site owner's web applications are using a file-based database (like Jet) located in the root of `httpdocs` or `httpsdocs` folders. Please note that selecting this option might seriously compromise the web site security.
  - **User interface.** Choose what type of Plesk control panel interface site owner can use - standard, desktop, or both.
  - **Desktop management.** Allow or disallow the site owner to customize and manage their desktop interface.
  - **Ability to select a database server.** Allow or disallow the site owner to select a database server of each type for creating his or her databases, not only use the default database server.
- 9** Specify the site owner's contact information.
- 10** Click **OK**.

Now you can tell your customer the control panel's URL, login and password. The URL is **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**, where `<user's_domain_name>` is the domain name without the www alias. The login name that the site owner should specify in order to log in to the control panel is his or her domain name, for example, `your-domain.com`.

---

## Publishing a Site

Publishing your site means uploading web pages, scripts and graphic files that compose your site to your web space in any of the following ways:

- Through FTP connection
- Through Plesk File Manager
- Through Secure Shell connection (only for users of Linux and FreeBSD operating systems)
- Through Microsoft FrontPage software (only for users of Microsoft Windows operating systems)

FTP is one of the most common and easiest ways to upload files.

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## **Publishing Sites Through FTP**

- 1 Connect to the server with an FTP client program, using FTP account credentials that you specified during setup of hosting account or obtained from your provider.  
Enable the passive mode if you are behind a firewall.
- 2 Upload files and directories that should be accessible through HTTP protocol to the `httpdocs` directory, and files/directories that should be transferred securely over SSL protocol to the `httpsdocs` directory.
- 3 Place your CGI scripts into the `cgi-bin` directory.
- 4 Close your FTP session.

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## **Changing FTP Password**

### ➤ *To change FTP password for a Web site owner:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Setup** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Specify new password.
- 4 Click **OK**.

## Using Additional FTP Accounts


If you are working on your web site together with someone else or host subdomains for other users, you might want to create additional FTP accounts.

### In this section:

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### Creating Additional FTP Accounts

➤ **To create an additional FTP account for a domain:**


- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **FTP Accounts**.
- 3 On the **Additional FTP Accounts** tab, click **Add New FTP Account**.
- 4 Specify the **FTP account name** in the appropriate field.
- 5 Specify the **Home directory** by clicking  and select the directory required. Alternatively, you can specify the path in the input field.
- 6 Type the new password into the **New password** and **Confirm password** boxes.
- 7 By default, the **Hard disk quota** is set to **Unlimited**. To set the required parameter, clear the **Unlimited** checkbox and type the amount of disk space in megabytes into the **Hard disk quota** box.
- 8 If required, select the **Read permission** checkbox. The FTP account users will be able to view the content of the home directory and download files from it.
- 9 If required, select the **Write permission** checkbox. The FTP account users will be able to create, view, rename and delete directories in the home directories.

If you don't grant any permissions, the connection to the FTP account will be made, but the home directory will be not displayed for users.

- 10 Click **OK**. A new additional FTP account will be added.


## Changing Settings of Additional FTP Accounts

➤ *To change the properties of an additional FTP account:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **FTP Accounts**.
- 3 On the **Additional FTP Accounts** tab, click the required account in the list.
- 4 Specify the **FTP account name** in the appropriate field.
- 5 Specify the **Home directory** by clicking  and select the directory required. Alternatively, you can specify the path in the input field.
- 6 Type the new password into the **New password** and **Confirm password** boxes.
- 7 By default, the **Hard disk quota** is set to **Unlimited**. To set the required parameter, clear the **Unlimited** checkbox and type the amount of disk space in megabytes into the **Hard disk quota** box.
- 8 If required, select the **Read permission** checkbox. The FTP account users will be able to view the content of the home directory and download files from it.
- 9 If required, select the **Write permission** checkbox. The FTP account users will be able to create, view, rename and delete directories in the home directories.  
  
If you don't grant any permissions, the connection to the FTP account will be made, but the home directory will be not displayed for users.
- 10 Specify the changes as required and click **OK**.

## Removing Additional FTP Accounts

➤ *To remove an additional FTP account:*


- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **FTP Accounts**.
- 3 On the **Additional FTP Accounts** tab, select the checkbox corresponding to the account you want to remove and click  **Remove Selected**.
- 4 Confirm removal and click **OK**. The FTP account will be removed.


## Uploading Sites Through Plesk File Manager

- 1 Log in to Plesk control panel.
- 2 Click the domain name you need.
- 3 Click **File Manager** in the **Hosting** group.
- 4 Create and upload files and directories.


Place the files and directories that should be accessible via HTTP protocol to the `httpdocs` directory, and files/directories that should be transferred securely over SSL protocol to the `httpsdocs` directory. Place your CGI scripts into the `cgi-bin` directory.


- To create a new directory within your current location, click **Add New Directory** in the **Tools** group, specify the directory name and click **OK**.
- To create new files in the required directory, click **Add New File** in the **Tools** group, in the **File creation** section specify the file name, select the **Use html template** check box, if you want file manager to insert some basic html tags to the new file, and click **OK**. A page will open allowing you to enter the content or html-formatted source of a new file. After you are done, click **OK**.
- To upload a file from the local machine, click **Add New File** in the **Tools** group, specify the path to its location in the **File source** box (or use **Browse** to locate the file), and click **OK**. You can upload up to 3 files at once through three separate **File Source** boxes. If you are uploading an archive file (.zip or .rar), select the corresponding **Upload archive and extract it** check box to extract the uploaded archive contents in the folder where the file was uploaded.
- To view or edit an existing file, click its name. When editing an HTML file, Plesk opens internal WYSIWYG editor by default. If you want to edit the source code of the HTML file, click **Html**. To return back to WYSIWYG mode, click **Design**.


When you upload web content through File Manager or FTP, your control panel automatically sets the appropriate access permissions for files and directories. To change the permissions of files and directories, click . For more information about the system of permissions, refer to the Setting File and Folder Access Permissions (on page 134) section.

To preview a Web page in your browser, click .

To rename a file or directory, click . Type in a new name and click **OK**.

To copy or move a file or directory to another location, select the required file or directory using the appropriate check box, and click  **Copy/Move**. Specify the destination for the file or directory to be copied or renamed to, then click **Copy** to copy, or **Move** to move it.

To update the file or directory creation date, click  **Change Timestamp**. The time stamp will be updated with the current local time.

To calculate the size of selected files, select the checkboxes corresponding to the files which size you wish to see and click  **Size**.

To remove a file or directory, select the corresponding check box, and click **X Remove Selected**. Confirm removal and click **OK**.

## Publishing Sites from Microsoft FrontPage

Microsoft FrontPage deals with two kinds of Web sites: disk-based and server-based. In short, a disk-based site is a FrontPage Web site you create on your local hard disk and then later publish to a Web server. A server-based site is one you create and work with directly on a Web server, without the extra step of publishing. This section provides you with instructions on publishing only disk-based web sites.

You can publish disk-based web sites either through FTP or HTTP. If your server is running FrontPage Server Extensions, you would publish your site to an HTTP location. For example: <http://your-domain.com/MyWebSite>. If your server supports FTP, you would publish to an FTP location. For example: <ftp://ftp.your-domain.com/myFolder>.

After publishing, you can manage your site through FrontPage Server Extensions.

➤ **To access FrontPage Server Extensions management interface:**

- 1 Log in to Plesk.
- 2 Click the domain name you need.
- 3 Click **FrontPage Management** in the **Hosting** group.
- 4 According to the **Microsoft FrontPage support** settings of the domain, one of the following icons will appear next to **Add New FrontPage Subaccount**:
  - Click **FrontPage WebAdmin** to manage a site, which is not protected by SSL.
  - Click **FrontPage-SSL WebAdmin** to manage an SSL-enabled site.
- 5 Type your FrontPage administrator's login name and password, and click **OK**.

For instructions on using FrontPage server extensions, see online help (**FP WebAdmin > Help**) or visit Microsoft web site.

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## Publishing from Microsoft FrontPage through FTP

➤ *To publish files through FTP:*

- 1 Open your FrontPage program.
- 2 Open a FrontPage Web site: open **File** menu and select the **Open Site** item.
- 3 Go to **Remote Web site** view: click the **Web Site** tab, and then the **Remote Web Site** button at the bottom of the window.
- 4 Set up your Remote Web Site Properties:
  - Click the **Remote Web Site Properties** button in the upper-right corner of the window.
  - Select **FTP** as the remote Web server.
  - In the **Remote Web site location** box, type your host name (e.g., <ftp://ftp.your-domain.com>)
  - In the **FTP directory** box, type your FTP directory if your hosting company provided one. Leave it blank if they did not specify one.
  - Select the **Use Passive FTP** check box if your computer or network is protected by a firewall.
- 5 Click **OK** to connect to the remote site.

The Remote Web site view will show files that you have in your local and remote sites.
- 6 Click the **Publish Web site** button in the lower-right corner of the window.

## Publishing from Microsoft FrontPage through HTTP

- *To publish files through HTTP on a server that supports FrontPage Server Extensions:*
- 1 Open your FrontPage program.
  - 2 Open a FrontPage Web site: open **File** menu and select the **Open Site** item.
  - 3 Go to **Remote Web site** view: click the **Web Site** tab, and then the **Remote Web Site** button at the bottom of the window.
  - 4 Click the **Remote Web Site Properties** button in the upper-right corner of the window.
  - 5 On the **Remote Web Site** tab, under **Remote Web server type**, click **FrontPage or SharePoint Services**.
  - 6 In the **Remote Web site location** box, type the Internet address, including the protocol, of the remote Web site that you want to publish folders and files to — for example, <http://www.your-domain.com> — or click **Browse** to locate the site.
  - 7 Do any of the following:
    - To use Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) for establishing a secure communications channel to prevent the interception of critical information, click **Encryption connection required (SSL)**. To use SSL connections on your Web server, the server must be configured with a security certificate from a recognized certificate authority. If the server does not support SSL, clear this check box. Otherwise, you will not be able to publish folders and files to the remote Web site.
    - To remove specific types of code from Web pages as they are being published, on the **Optimize HTML** tab, select the options you want.
    - To change the default options for publishing, on the **Publishing** tab, select the options you want.
  - 8 Click **OK** to connect to the remote site.  
The **Remote Web site** view will show files that you have in your local and remote sites.
  - 9 Click the **Publish Web site** button in the lower-right corner of the window.

## Changing Microsoft FrontPage Settings

If you want Microsoft FrontPage to use its own IIS Index Server to build the full-text index of your Web site.

➤ **To make Microsoft FrontPage use its own IIS Index Server:**

- 1 From your Home page go to **domain name > FrontPage Management > Preferences.**
- 2 Select **Use the IIS Index Server** check box and click **OK.**

If you use FrontPage forms that submit information by e-mail on your site, you may want to specify the following preferences:

- **SMTP mail server that will be used for sending mail.** By default, SMTP server specified in the domain's DNS zone is used for sending mail. If no SMTP server is specified in the zone, then FrontPage uses the mail service running on the server where the domain (site) is hosted.
- **Sender's e-mail address.** By default, domain owner's e-mail address is used. If the domain owner's e-mail address is not specified in domain owner's profile, then FrontPage uses the e-mail address of the client, to whom the domain belongs. If the client's e-mail address is not specified in the client's profile, then the server administrator's e-mail address is used.

➤ **To change the preferences:**

- 1 From your Home page go to **domain name > FrontPage Management > Preferences.**
- 2 Under **Mail Settings** specify the SMTP server and the e-mail address you want to use, and then click **OK.**

## Using Additional Microsoft FrontPage Accounts

If you are working on your web site together with someone else or host subdomains for other users, you might need to create additional Microsoft FrontPage accounts.

### In this section:

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## Creating Additional Microsoft FrontPage Accounts

➤ *To create an additional Microsoft FrontPage account for a domain:*

- 1 On your Home page click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **FrontPage Management** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Click **Add New FrontPage Account**.
- 4 Specify the login and password for this account.
- 5 If you wish to limit the amount of disk space that can be used by this account, clear the **Unlimited** checkbox and type the desired value in megabytes into the **Hard disk quota** box.

When the specified limit is exceeded, the account owner will not be able to add files to his or her web space.

- 6 Click **OK** to finish the creation of an additional Microsoft FrontPage account.

## Changing Settings of Additional Microsoft FrontPage Accounts

➤ *To change settings for an additional Microsoft FrontPage account:*

- 1 On your Home page click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **FrontPage Management** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Click the required account in the list.
- 4 Adjust the settings as necessary and click **OK** to save changes.

## Removing Additional Microsoft FrontPage Accounts


➤ *To remove an additional Microsoft FrontPage account:*

- 1 On your Home page click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **FrontPage Management** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Select the checkbox corresponding to the account you wish to remove.
- 4 Click **✗ Remove Selected**.
- 5 Confirm the removal and click **OK**.

## Publishing Sites from SiteBuilder

➤ *To publish a Web site from Sitebuilder:*

- 1 Log in to your control panel.
- 2 Click the domain name you need.
- 3 Click **Setup** and check whether the **Publish site with Sitebuilder** check box is selected. Click **OK** to return to the domain page.
- 4 Click **Sitebuilder Wizard**.
- 5 After Sitebuilder is loaded, follow the instructions provided in Sitebuilder documentation to publish the Web site. You can find Sitebuilder documentation at <http://www.parallels.com/en/products/sitebuilder/win/docs/> (<http://www.parallels.com/en/products/sitebuilder3win/docs/>).

To access Sitebuilder Wizard for a domain, you can also click the corresponding button in the list of domains. 

## Publishing Sites with Adobe Dreamweaver

Before publishing a site from Dreamweaver, you need to define the site properties, that is, you need to tell Dreamweaver where your site files are located on your computer, and to specify the server to which you want to publish the site.

➤ *To define a site in Dreamweaver:*

- 1 From the **Site** menu, choose **New Site**. The Site Definition screen opens.
- 2 Click the **Advanced** tab.
- 3 In the **Local Info** category, specify the following:
  - **Site name**. This will show in Web browser's title bar.
  - **Local root folder**. This is the folder on your computer where all of your site files are stored. For example `c:\My Site`
  - **Default images folder**. Specify the folder where your site's graphic files are stored. For example `c:\My Site\images`
  - **HTTP address**. Specify your domain name. For example, <http://your-domain.com>
- 4 From the **Category** menu, select the **Remote Info** item.
- 5 From the **Access** menu, select the **FTP** option. Most likely, your server supports publishing through FTP (File Transfer Protocol, commonly used for transferring files over the Internet).
- 6 Specify the following settings:
  - **FTP host**. Type your FTP host name without the `ftp://` prefix. For example, `your-domain.com`.

- **Host directory.** Specify the directory on the server where your site will reside. In most cases, this is `htdocs`.
  - **Login and password.** Specify the login name and password for access to the FTP account.
  - **Use passive FTP.** Select this option only if your computer is behind a firewall.
- 7 To ensure that you specified the correct login and password, and that Dreamweaver can connect to the server, click the **Test** button.
  - 8 To save the settings, click **OK**.

➤ *To publish your site:*

- 1 Open your site in Dreamweaver.
- 2 From the **Site** menu, select the **Put** option (or press **Ctrl+Shift+U** simultaneously).

---

## Previewing a Site

Once you published a site on the server, you may want to make sure that it functions properly in the actual hosting environment. You can preview the site through your favorite Web browser, even if the information on the domain name has not yet propagated in the Domain Name System. Note that Adobe Flash and CGI scripts will not work during preview. Also, site preview does not work for Web sites and Web pages that include absolute paths to other files (like `<a href="http://domain.tld/image.gif">`).

➤ *To preview a site:*

- 1 On your Home page click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Site Preview** in the **Hosting** group.

# Configuring ASP.NET

ASP.NET is a flexible set of tools and web development technologies that allows you to employ a number of applications based on ASP.NET framework. Plesk supports both 1.1.x and 2.0.x versions of the .NET framework and allows configuring most of its settings.

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## Configuring ASP.NET for Domains

Most ASP.NET configuration settings that commonly need to be customized in order for ASP.NET applications to function in a desirable way can be edited through Plesk.


➤ **To configure ASP.NET for a domain:**

- 1 On your home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **ASP.NET** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Set up the strings that determine database connection data for ASP.NET applications which use databases. This option is available only for ASP.NET 2.0.x.

When you open the ASP.NET configuration page for the first time, sample connection parameters with common constructions are displayed. You can then delete them and specify your own strings.

- To add a string, enter the required data into the **Name** and **Connection Parameters** input fields and click  next to them.
  - To remove a string, click  next to it.
- 4 Set up custom error messages that will be returned by ASP.NET applications in the **Custom Error Settings** field:
    - To set the custom error messages mode, select an appropriate option from the **Custom error mode** menu:
      - **On** - custom error messages are enabled.
      - **Off** - custom error messages are disabled and detailed errors are to be shown.
      - **RemoteOnly** - custom error messages are displayed only to remote clients, and ASP.NET errors are shown to the local host.
    - To add a new custom error message (which will be applied unless the **Off** mode was selected), enter the values in the **Status Code** and **Redirect URL** fields, and click .
      - **Status Code** defines the HTTP status code resulting in redirection to the error page.
      - **Redirect URL** defines the web address of the error page presenting information about the error to the client.

Due to possible conflicts, you cannot add a new custom error message with an error code that already exists, but you can redefine the URL for the existing code.

    - To remove a custom error message from the list, click  next to it.
  - 5 Configure compilation settings in the **Compilation and Debugging** field:
    - To determine the programming language to be used as default in dynamic compilation files, choose an entry from **Page default language** list.
    - To enable compiling retail binaries, leave the **Switch on debugging** checkbox empty.

- To enable compiling debug binaries, select the **Switch on debugging** checkbox. In this case, the source code fragments containing error will be shown in a diagnostic page message.

---

**Note.** When running applications in debug mode, a memory and/or performance overhead occurs. It is recommended to use debugging when testing an application and to disable it before deploying the application into production scenario.

---

**6** Configure encoding settings for ASP.NET applications in the **Globalization Settings** section:

- To set an adopted encoding of all incoming requests, enter an encoding value into the **Request encoding** field (default is utf-8).
- To set an adopted encoding of all responses, enter an encoding value into the **Response encoding** field (default is utf-8).
- To set an encoding which must be used by default for parsing of `.aspx`, `.asmx`, and `.asax` files, enter an encoding value into the **File encoding** field (default is Windows-1252).
- To set a culture which must be used by default for processing incoming web requests, select an appropriate item from the **Culture** list.
- To set a culture which must be used by default when processing searches for a locale-dependent resource, select an appropriate item from the **UI Culture** list.

**7** Set a code access security trust level for ASP.NET applications in the **Code Access Security** field.

CAS trust level is a security zone to which applications execution is assigned, defining what server resources the applications will have access to.

---

**Important.** When an assembly is assigned a trust level that is too low, it does not function correctly. For more information on the permissions levels see [http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/en-us/dnnetsec/html/THCMCh09.asp?frame=true#c09618429\\_010](http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/en-us/dnnetsec/html/THCMCh09.asp?frame=true#c09618429_010).

---

**8** Enable the usage of the auxiliary scripts in the **Script Library Settings** field. Specifying the script library settings is necessary if the validation web controls are used on your web site. This option is available only for ASP.NET 1.1.x.

- If you need to use auxiliary scripts (specifically, scripts implementing objects for validating input data), provide the settings for .NET framework script library. To do so, enter the path beginning with the domain root directory preceded by the forward slash into the **Path to Microsoft script library** field, or click the folder icon next to the **Path to Microsoft script library** field and browse for the required location.
- To initiate the auto-installation of files containing the scripts to the specified location, select the **Install** checkbox. If the files already exist there, they will be rewritten.

**9** Set client session parameters in the **Session Settings** field:

- To set up the default authentication mode for applications, select an appropriate item from the **Authentication mode** list. **Windows** authentication mode should be selected if any form of IIS authentication is used.
- To set up time that a session can idle before it is abandoned, enter appropriate number minutes into the **Session timeout** field.

10 Click **OK** to apply all changes.

---




**Note:** Plesk supports separate configurations for different versions of the .NET framework (1.1.x and 2.0.x).

---

## Configuring ASP.NET for Virtual Directories

To improve the performance of ASP.NET-based web applications, Plesk allows using individual settings of .NET framework per virtual directory.

➤ **To configure ASP.NET for a virtual directory:**

- 1 On your home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Web Directories**.
- 3 Browse to the required directory and enter it.
- 4 Click **ASP.NET**.
- 5 Set up the strings that determine database connection data for ASP.NET applications which use databases. This option is available only for ASP.NET 2.0.x.
  - When you open the ASP.NET configuration page for the first time, sample connection parameters with common constructions are displayed. You can then delete them and specify your own strings.
  - To add a string, enter the required data into the **Name** and **Connection Parameters** input fields and click  next to them.
  - To remove a string, click  next to it.
- 6 Set up custom error messages that will be returned by ASP.NET applications in the **Custom Error Settings** field:
  - To set the custom error messages mode, select an appropriate option from the **Custom error mode** menu:
    - **On** - custom error messages are enabled.
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    - **RemoteOnly** - custom error messages are displayed only to remote clients, and ASP.NET errors are shown to the local host.
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  - **Status Code** defines the HTTP status code resulting in redirection to the error page.
  - **Redirect URL** defines the web address of the error page presenting information about the error to the client.

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- To remove a custom error message from the list, click  next to it.

**7** Configure compilation settings in the **Compilation and Debugging** field:

- To determine the programming language to be used as default in dynamic compilation files, choose an entry from **Page default language** list.
- To enable compiling retail binaries, leave the **Switch on debugging** checkbox empty.
- To enable compiling debug binaries, select the **Switch on debugging** checkbox. In this case, the source code fragments containing error will be shown in a diagnostic page message.

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- To set an encoding which must be used by default for parsing of `.aspx`, `.asmx`, and `.asax` files, enter an encoding value into the **File encoding** field (default is Windows-1252).
- To set a culture which must be used by default for processing incoming web requests, select an appropriate item from the **Culture** list.
- To set a culture which must be used by default when processing searches for a locale-dependent resource, select an appropriate item from the **UI Culture** list.

**9** Set a code access security trust level for ASP.NET applications in the **Code Access Security** field.

CAS trust level is a security zone to which applications execution is assigned, defining what server resources the applications will have access to.

---

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---

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- If you need to use auxiliary scripts (specifically, scripts implementing objects for validating input data), provide the settings for .NET framework script library. To do so, enter the path beginning with the domain root directory preceded by the forward slash into the **Path to Microsoft script library** field, or click the folder icon next to the **Path to Microsoft script library** field and browse for the required location.

- To initiate the auto-installation of files containing the scripts to the specified location, select the **Install** checkbox. If the files already exist there, they will be rewritten.

**11** Set client session parameters in the **Session Settings** field:

- To set up the default authentication mode for applications, select an appropriate item from the **Authentication mode** list. **Windows** authentication mode should be selected if any form of IIS authentication is used.
- To set up time that a session can idle before it is abandoned, enter appropriate number minutes into the **Session timeout** field.

**12** Click **OK** to apply all changes.

---

**Note:** Plesk supports separate configurations for different versions of the .NET framework (1.1.x and 2.0.x).

---

## Restoring Default ASP.NET Configuration

➤ *To restore the default ASP.NET configuration:*

- 1 On your home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **ASP.NET** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Click **Set to Default**.
- 4 Confirm the restoring and click **OK**.

## Changing .NET Framework Version for Domains

Since Plesk supports both 1.1.x and 2.0.x versions of the .NET framework, it is possible to choose the version used by your domains on a per-domain basis.

➤ *To change the version of .NET framework used by a domain:*

- 1 On your home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **ASP.NET** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Click **Change Version** in the **Tools** group. If this button is absent, only one version of .NET framework is available. You can see the version number in the **Framework Version** field.
- 4 Select the required version number and click **OK**.
- 5 Click **OK** to save changes.

Alternatively, on your home page you can click the domain name you need, then click **Setup** and select the .NET framework version in the **Microsoft ASP.NET support** drop-down menu.

## Changing .NET Framework Version for Virtual Directories

In order to provide running ASP.NET applications which use different .NET framework versions within one domain, Plesk allows setting up the framework version per virtual (web) directory, where the applications are deployed.

➤ *To choose the version of .NET framework for a virtual (web) directory:*

- 1 On your home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Web Directories** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Enter the required web directory and click **ASP.NET** in the **Tools** group.
- 4 Select the required .NET framework version and adjust other settings as necessary.
- 5 Click **OK**.

---

## Setting PHP Version for a Domain

➤ *To set PHP version for a domain:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the required domain name in the list.
- 2 Click **PHP Settings**.
- 3 Choose the required version of PHP and click **OK**.

---

# Deploying Databases

If your web server incorporates data processing applications or is designed to generate web pages dynamically, you will likely need a database for storing and retrieving data. You can either create a new database for your site or import the data from your previously backed up MySQL or Microsoft SQL database.

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## Creating and Importing Databases

➤ *To create a new database on your hosting account:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Databases**.
- 3 Click **Add New Database**.
- 4 Enter a name for the database.  
We recommend that you choose a name that starts with a Latin alphabet symbol and comprises only alphanumeric and underscore symbols (up to 64 symbols).
- 5 Select the database type that you are going to use: **MySQL** or **Microsoft SQL Server**.
- 6 Select the database server of the selected type from the list. Click **OK**.
- 7 To set up database administrator's credentials, click **Add New Database User**.
- 8 Type a user name and a password that will be used for accessing the contents of the database.
- 9 Click **OK**.

➤ *To import an existing database:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Databases**.
- 3 Click **Add New Database**.
- 4 Enter a name for the database. We recommend that you choose a name that starts with a Latin alphabet symbol and comprises only alphanumeric and underscore symbols (up to 64 symbols).
- 5 Select the database type that you are going to use: **MySQL** or **Microsoft SQL Server**.
- 6 Select the database server of the selected type from the list. Click **OK**.
- 7 To set up database administrator's credentials, click **Add New Database User**.
- 8 Type a user name and a password that will be used for accessing the contents of the database. Click **OK**.
- 9 Click **WebAdmin** in the **Tools** group. An interface to phpMyAdmin (or ASPEnterpriseManager) database management tool will open in a separate browser window.

If you have a MySQL database:

1. Click **Query window** in the left frame, click the **Import files** tab,
2. Select the text file that contains the data and click **Go**.

3. Click the **Insert data from a text file** link.

If you have a MS SQL database:

1. Click the name of your database in the left frame
2. Click **Query** (the magnifying glass button)
3. Copy the text of your script into the text area and click **Run Query**.

To manage your databases and their contents, use your favorite MySQL or Microsoft SQL Server client or the web based database management tool accessible from Plesk control panel (**Home > domain name > Databases > Database name > WebAdmin**).

## Creating Database User Accounts

If you collaborate with other people on managing a web site and wish to give them access to the database, you should create separate user accounts for them.

➤ *To create a database user account:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Databases** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the required database name. A list of database users will open.
- 4 Click **Add New Database User**.
- 5 Type a user name and a password that will be used for accessing the contents of the database. Click **OK**.

## Changing Database User Passwords

➤ *To change password for a database user:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Databases** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the required database name. A list of database users will open.
- 4 Click the database user's name.
- 5 Type a new password and click **OK**.

## Removing Database User Accounts

➤ *To remove a database user account:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Databases** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the required database name. A list of database users will open.
- 4 Select a check box corresponding to the user account that you wish to remove.
- 5 Click **✗ Remove Selected**. Next, confirm removing and click **OK**.

## Removing Databases

➤ *To remove a database with its contents:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Databases** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Select a check box corresponding to the database that you wish to remove.

If the required check box appears grayed out, this means that this database is used by a site application and you can remove it only by uninstalling the respective application.

- 4 Click **✗ Remove Selected**.
- 5 Confirm removal and click **OK**.

---

## Accessing Data From External Databases

If you want to access the data from an external database management system, you should use Open Database Connectivity (ODBC) drivers. For example, you can install a Microsoft Access ODBC driver, creating a connection to external Microsoft Access database, and let your web applications use this database for storing their data.

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## Creating Connections to External Databases by Installing New ODBC Drivers

To let your web applications use external databases for storing the data, you need to create connections to these external databases by installing appropriate ODBC drivers.

- ***To install a new ODBC driver, creating a connection to an external database:***
  - 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click **ODBC Data Sources** in the **Services** group.
  - 3 Click **Add New ODBC DSN**.
  - 4 Specify the ODBC connection name and description in the corresponding fields.
  - 5 Select the required driver in the **Driver** field.
  - 6 Click **OK**.
  - 7 Choose the appropriate options on the driver configuration screen. Typically, you should specify the path to the database, user credentials and other connection options, depending on the selected driver.
  - 8 Click **Test** to check whether the connection will function properly with provided settings. Click **Finish** to complete the creation.

## Changing Settings Of Existing ODBC Connections

- ***To change settings of an existing ODBC connection:***
  - 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click **ODBC Data Sources** in the **Services** group.
  - 3 Click the required connection name in the list.
  - 4 Change the settings as needed.
  - 5 Click **Test** to check whether the connection will function properly with new settings. Click **Finish** to save changes.

## Removing Connections to External Databases


➤ *To remove a redundant ODBC connection:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **ODBC Data Sources** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Select the checkbox corresponding to a connection you want to remove.
- 4 Click **✗ Remove Selected**, confirm the removal and click **OK**.

## Installing Applications

To enhance your web sites with valuable features, such as guest books, forums, hit counters, photo galleries, and e-commerce solutions, you can install the respective applications from the control panel's script library (**Home > domain name > Application Vault**). The number and variety of available applications depend on your provider's policy and your hosting plan.

➤ **To install an application on a site:**


- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Application Vault** in the **Hosting** group. A list of applications installed on your site will be displayed.
- 3 Click **Add New Application** in the **Tools** group.
- 4 In the left menu, select a category to which the application you need belongs.
- 5 Select the required application in the list, and then click  **Install**.
- 6 Some applications will display a license agreement. Read the license agreement carefully, and if you agree with it, select the **I agree** check box and click **Next >>**.
- 7 Specify whether you wish to create a hyperlink to the application and place it in the control panel.
- 8 Specify the installation preferences and other information that may be required by the application (the requirements may vary among applications). Click **Install**.
- 9 If you have chosen to create a hyperlink button inside your control panel, specify its properties:
  - Type the text that will show on your button in the **Button label** box.
  - Choose the location for your button. To place it on the domain administration screen (**Home > domain name**), select the **Domain Administration page** value as the location. To place it in the left frame (navigation pane) of your control panel, select the **Navigation pane** value.
  - Specify the priority of the button. The buttons you create will be arranged on the control panel in accordance with the priority you define: the lower the number – the higher is priority. Buttons are placed in the left-to-right order.
  - To use an image for a button background, type the path to its location or click **Browse** to browse for the desired file. It is recommended that you use a 16x16 pixels GIF or JPEG image for a button to be placed in the navigation pane, and 32x32 pixels GIF or JPEG image for buttons placed in the main frame.
  - Type the hyperlink to be attached to the button into the **URL box**.
  - Using the checkboxes, specify whether to include the data, such as domain id and domain name to be transferred within the URL. These data can be used for processing by external web applications.

- In the **Context help tip contents** input field, type in the help tip that will be displayed when you hover the mouse pointer over the button.
- Select the **Open URL in the Control Panel** checkbox if you wish the destination URL to be opened in the control panel's right frame, otherwise leave this checkbox unchecked to open the URL in a separate browser window.
- If you wish to make this button visible to the domain owners and e-mail users who you granted access to control panel, select the **Visible to all sub-logins** checkbox.


**10** Click **OK** to complete creation.

Now the application is installed and you can insert a link to this application into the web pages of your site, for example, on your home page. Otherwise, you and your users will have to access this application by typing its URL, which can be too long to remember.

➤ **To access the web interface of an application, do any of the following:**

- Type the URL in your browser. For example: <http://your-domain.com/forum/>.
- Go to **Home > domain name > Application Vault**, and click an icon , corresponding to the application you need.
- If you chose to add a hyperlink button to your Plesk control panel during installation of an application, then click the respective button on the domain administration screen (**Home > domain name**) or navigation pane.


➤ **To reconfigure an application, change the application administrator's password, or to install a license key for a commercial application:**

- 1 Go to **Home > domain name > Web Applications**.
- 2 Click an icon  corresponding to the application.

➤ **To upgrade an application to a newer version (if it is available on the server):**

- 1 Go to **Home > domain name > Web Applications**.
- 2 Click a corresponding shortcut in the **U** column.


➤ **To uninstall an application:**

- 1 Go to **Home > domain name > Application Vault**, and select a check box corresponding to the application that you no longer need.
- 2 Click  **Remove Selected**. The application will be uninstalled and its databases removed from the server.

If you want a certain Web-application to be started when someone tries to enter a domain, it can be done by creating a default domain application.

➤ **To set an application as default for a domain:**

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.

- 2 Click **Application Vault** in the **Hosting** group. A list of applications installed on the site will be displayed.
- 3 Select a checkbox corresponding to the Site Application name you want to set as default, then click  **Default**. Click **OK** to confirm the creation of the default Site Application.

Now, when a user enters an URL in the address field of his browser (e.g. <http://example.com>), he is taken to the default Web-application.

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## Installing Java Web Applications

You can install Java Web application packages in the Web archive format (WAR). These Java applications are not distributed with Plesk, therefore you should obtain them separately.

➤ **To install a Java Web application:**

- 1 From your Home page, go to **domain name > Web Applications > Java Applications** tab and click **Switch On**.

This will start the Tomcat service, which provides an environment for Java code to run in cooperation with a web server.




- 2 Click **Install New Application**.
- 3 Specify the path to an application package you wish to install (this can be an application package in WAR format saved on your computer's hard drive), or click **Browse** to navigate to it, then click **OK**.

Now the application is installed and the respective entry is added to the list of installed Java applications (**domain name > Web Applications > Java Applications**).

➤ **To access the web interface of a Java Web application, do any of the following:**

- From your Home page, go to **domain name > Web Applications > Java Applications** tab, and click a respective hyperlink in the **Path** column.
- Type the URL in your browser. For example: <http://your-domain.com:9080/storefront/>.

➤ **To stop, start or restart a Java Web application:**

- 1 From your Home page, go to **domain name > Web Applications > Java Applications** tab. A list of installed applications will open.
- 2 Locate an application on the list, and use the icons in the right part of the list to perform the required operations:
  - To start an application, click the icon .
  - To stop an application, click the icon .
  - To restart an application, click the icon .

➤ **To uninstall a Java Web application:**

- 1 From your Home page, go to **domain name > Web Applications > Java Applications** tab.
- 2 Select a check box corresponding to the application that you no longer need. Click **✗ Remove Selected**, confirm the removal and click **OK**.

The application will be uninstalled and its databases removed from the server.

## Installing ASP.NET Web Applications

In addition to the applications from the Application Vault and Java Web Applications, you can install ASP.NET Web application packages provided with Plesk.

➤ **To install an application on your site:**

- 1 On your Home page click the required domain name and go to **Web Applications > ASP.NET 1.1 Applications**.

A list of ASP.NET 1.1 web applications installed on your site will be displayed.


- 2 Click **Install New Application** in the **Tools** group. A list of site applications available for installation will be displayed. To specify which application you wish to install, select a radio button corresponding to the application of your choice.

- 3 Click  **Install**.

- 4 Specify the domain folder in which the application should be installed, database name for the application, and click **Install**.

Now the application is installed and you can insert a link to this application into the web pages of your site, for example, on your home page. Otherwise, you and your users will have to access this application by typing its URL, which can be long enough to remember.


➤ **To access the web interface of an application, do any of the following:**

- Type the URL in your browser. For example: <http://your-domain.com/forum/>.
- On your Home page click the required domain name and go to **Web Applications > ASP.NET 1.1 Applications**, and click an icon , corresponding to the application.

➤ **To reconfigure an application or change the application administrator's password:**

On your Home page click the required domain name and go to **Web Applications > ASP.NET 1.1 Applications**, and click an icon , corresponding to the application.

➤ **To uninstall an application:**


- 1 On your Home page click the required domain name and go to **Web Applications > ASP.NET 1.1 Applications**, and select a check box corresponding to the application that you no longer need.
- 2 Click  **Remove Selected**. The application will be uninstalled and its databases removed from the server.

If you want a certain Web-application to be started when someone tries to enter a domain, it can be done by creating a default domain application.

➤ **To set an application as default for a domain:**

- 1 On your Home page click the required domain name and go to **Web Applications > ASP.NET 1.1 Applications**.

A list of application packages installed on the site will be displayed.

- 2 Select a checkbox corresponding to the application package you want to set as default, then click  **Default**. Click **OK** to confirm the creation of the default Site Application.

Now, when a user enters an URL in the address field of his browser (e.g. <http://example.com>), he is taken to the default Web-application.

## Configuring Data Source Names for Adobe ColdFusion

If you are using Adobe ColdFusion, you can configure data source names (DSNs) for ColdFusion through Plesk. Data name sources allow your ColdFusion web applications to use local and remote databases for processing and storing application data.

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## Creating a New Data Source Name

- *To create a new Data Source Name for Adobe ColdFusion on a domain:*
  - 1 On your Home page, click the required domain name, go to **ColdFusion DSN** and click **Add New ColdFusion DSN**.
  - 2 Specify the data source name and select the required driver for this data source in the **Driver** menu. **Click Next >>**.
  - 3 Choose the appropriate options on the driver configuration screen. Typically, you should specify the path to the database, user credentials and other connection options, depending on the selected driver. Refer to Adobe ColdFusion documentation for more information on the driver configuration options.
  - 4 Click **OK** to finish.

## Changing Settings of a Data Source Name

- *To change the settings Data Source Name for Adobe ColdFusion on a domain:*
  - 1 On your Home page, click the required domain name, go to **ColdFusion DSN** and click the required data source name in the list.
  - 2 Specify the data source name and select the required driver for this data source in the Driver menu. Click **Next >>**.
  - 3 Choose the appropriate options on the driver configuration screen. Typically, you should specify the path to the database, user credentials and other connection options, depending on the selected driver. Refer to Adobe ColdFusion documentation for more information on the driver configuration options.
  - 4 Click **OK**.

## Removing a Data Source Name

- *To remove a redundant ColdFusion DSN connection:*
  - 1 On your Home page, click the required domain name and go to **ColdFusion DSN**.
  - 2 Select the check box corresponding to a DSN connection you want to remove.
  - 3 Click **X Remove Selected**, confirm the removal and click **OK**.

# Using IIS Application Pool

IIS Application Pool contains all web applications on your domains. If your service provider has given you a dedicated IIS application pool, it allows you to have a level of isolation between web applications used by your domains and web applications used by other domain owners that host their web sites on the same server. Because each application pool runs independently, errors in one application pool will not affect the applications running in other application pools.

Once you enable the application pool, all web applications on your domains will be using it.

To stop all applications running in the application pool, click **IIS Application Pool** on your home page and click **Stop**.

To start all applications in the application pool, click **IIS Application Pool** on your home page and click **Start**.

To restart all applications running in the application pool, click **IIS Application Pool** on your home page and click **Recycle**. This can be handy if some applications are known to have memory leaks or become unstable after working for a long time.

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## Setting Up IIS Application Pool

➤ *To enable IIS application pool for a domain:*

- 1 On your Home page, select a domain from the list.
- 2 Click **IIS Application Pool**.
- 3 Click **Switch On**.
- 4 To limit the amount of CPU resources that this domain's application pool can use, select the **Switch on CPU monitoring** checkbox and provide a number (in percents) in the **Maximum CPU use (%)** field.
- 5 Click **OK**.

➤ *To enable IIS application pool for all your domains:*

- 1 On your Home page, click **IIS Application Pool**.
- 2 Click **Switch On**.
- 3 To limit the amount of CPU resources that the application pool can use for all your domains, select the **Switch on CPU monitoring** checkbox and provide a number (in percents) in the **Maximum CPU use (%)** field.
- 4 Click **OK**.

## Disabling IIS Application Pool

➤ *To disable IIS application pool for a domain:*

- 1 On your Home page, select a domain from the list.
- 2 Click **IIS Application Pool**.
- 3 Click **Switch Off**.
- 4 Click **OK**.

➤ *To disable IIS application pool for all your domains:*

- 1 On your Home page, click **IIS Application Pool**.
- 2 Click **Switch Off**.
- 3 Click **OK**.

# Organizing Site Structure with Subdomains

Subdomains are additional domain names that enable you to:

- Organize logically the structure of your site
- Host additional Web sites or parts of a Web site on the same server without the need to pay for registration of additional domain names

An example of using subdomains:

You have a Web site `your-product.com` dedicated to promoting your software product. For publishing user’s guides, tutorials and list of frequently asked questions, you can organize the subdomain ‘userdocs’ so that your users will be able to access online user documentation directly by visiting the domain name `userdocs.your-product.com`.


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## Setting Up Subdomains

➤ *To set up a subdomain:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Subdomains**.
- 3 Click **Add New Subdomain**.
- 4 Select the required **Hosting type** and click **OK**:
  - Select **Physical hosting** to create a virtual host for the domain.
  - Select **Subdomain on subfolder** to create a virtual subdomain. **Subdomain on subfolder** will use physical structure of the domain. The creation of a separate FTP user account will be not possible: the FTP user account of the domain will be used.
- 5 Type the subdomain name as required. This can be, for example, a topic of a site, organization department, or any other combination of letters, numbers and hyphens (up to 63 characters in length). To add the **WWW** prefix, select the appropriate checkbox.

The subdomain name must begin with an alphabet character. Subdomain names are case insensitive.
- 6 If you are creating subdomain on subfolder, specify the physical location for the subdomain files in the **Site home directory** field:
  - Clear the **Create physical directory for subdomain** checkbox and specify the existing directory to the right of **httpdocs** field. You can click  to browse for the required directory, select it and click **OK**.
  - Leave the **Create physical directory for subdomain** checkbox selected to create a corresponding physical directory with the same name as the subdomain.
- 7 If you are creating subdomain with physical hosting, specify the FTP user account for it:
  - If this subdomain will hold a part of your own Web site that you manage on your own, leave the **Use the FTP user account of the main domain** option selected.
  - If this subdomain will hold a separate web site that will belong to or will be managed by another person, select the **Create a separate user account for this subdomain** option, and specify the login name and password that will be used for accessing the web space through FTP and publishing web site content. Specify the hard disc quota in the appropriate field in megabytes or leave the **Unlimited** checkbox selected. When the specified limit is exceeded, you will not be able to add files to the web space, and editing existing files may corrupt them.
- 8 Leave the **Publish site with SiteBuilder** checkbox selected to be able to access SiteBuilder and build web site through your Plesk control panel interface. When the **Publish site with SiteBuilder** option is selected, a site will be created in SiteBuilder.

All publishing parameters will be set in the paths predefined: for subdomain with **Physical hosting** - /subdomains/SUBDOMAINNAME/httpdocs/sitebuilder; for subdomain with **Subdomain on subfolder** - /httpdocs/SUBDOMAINNAME/.

- 9 If you want to enable **Microsoft FrontPage support**, select the appropriate checkbox. Enable or disable **Remote Microsoft FrontPage authoring** by selecting the appropriate option.
- 10 Specify the programming languages support in the **Services** group by selecting the required languages. Use **select all** or **clear all** to select or clear all of the languages available.

If the ASP.NET support is disabled on the domain for which you are creating subdomain, it is also unavailable on **Subdomain on subfolder**. In case the ASP.NET support is enabled on the domain, the ASP.NET is available for subdomain created on a subfolder.

- 11 To allow you to view the information on the number of people visited the site and the pages of the site they viewed, select a module in **Web statistics** drop-down menu and select the **accessible via password protected directory /plesk-stat/** checkbox, if required. This will install the selected statistical software module, which will generate reports and place them into the password protected directory. The subdomain administrator will then be able to access Web statistics at the URL: <https://subdomain.domain.com/plesk-stat/> using their FTP account login and password.

---

**Note.** If subdomain administrator changes the FTP credentials, web statistics access credentials do not change. The original login and password specified upon the subdomain creation should always be used for accessing password-protected web statistics directory.

---

- 12 Select the **Additional write/modify permissions** option if this subdomain's web applications will use a file-based database (like Jet) located in the root of `httpdocs` or `httpsdocs` folders. Please note that selecting this option might seriously compromise the web site security.
- 13 To complete the setup, click **OK**. It may take up to 48 hours for the information on new subdomain to spread in the Domain Name System and become available to the Internet users.

To publish web content to the subdomain's web space, follow the instruction presented in the Publishing a Site (on page 57) section.

## Removing Subdomains

- *To remove a subdomain with its web content:*
- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Subdomains**.
- 3 Select a check box corresponding to the subdomain name that you wish to remove, and click **✗ Remove Selected**.
- 4 Confirm removal and click **OK**. The subdomain configuration and its web content will be removed from the server.

---

## Setting Up Additional Domain Names for a Site (Domain Aliases)

If you have registered with a domain name registrar several domain names that you would like to point to the same web site that you host on this server, you should set up domain aliases.

If you need to serve several domain names that point to a web site hosted on another server, you should set up domain forwarding: see the *Serving Domain Names for Sites Hosted on Other Servers (Domain Forwarding)* (on page 117) section for instructions.

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## Setting Up a Domain Alias

➤ *To set up a domain alias:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name for which you wish to set up additional domain names.
- 2 Click the **Domain Aliases** icon.
- 3 Click the **Add Domain Alias** icon.
- 4 Type the desired domain alias name, for example alias.com.

Domain aliases can comprise letters, digits and hyphens. Each part of the domain alias between dots should not be longer than 63 symbols.

- 5 Select the **Synchronize DNS zone with the primary domain** check box if you want the domain alias to use the same DNS zone resource records as in primary domain. With this setting, any subsequent changes in resource records of the primary domain's zone will be applied to the DNS zone of this domain alias.
- 6 Select the **Mail** check box, if you want e-mail directed at the e-mail addresses under the domain alias to be redirected to the e-mail addresses under your original domain name.

Example: You have an e-mail address [mail@yourdomain.com](mailto:mail@yourdomain.com). You have set up an alias for your domain name, for example, alias.com. If you want to receive mail to your mailbox [mail@yourdomain.com](mailto:mail@yourdomain.com) when it is sent to [mail@alias.com](mailto:mail@alias.com), select the **Mail** check box.

- 7 Select the **Web** check box. Otherwise, the web server will not serve the web content to users coming to your site by typing the domain alias in their browsers.
- 8 Select the **Java Web applications** check box if you have Java applications installed on your site and you want them to be accessible through the domain alias.
- 9 Click **OK**.

## Modifying Properties of a Domain Alias

➤ *To change the properties of an alias:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Domain Aliases**.
- 3 Click the alias name you need.
- 4 Click **Preferences** in the **Tools** group.

➤ *To modify resource records in the DNS zone of a domain alias:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Domain Aliases**.
- 3 Click the alias name you need.
- 4 Click **DNS Settings**.
- 5 Add, edit or remove the resource records as required:
  - To add a resource record to the zone, click **Add New Record**. Specify the required values and click **OK** to write the values to the zone.
  - To modify a resource record, under the **Host** column, click a hyperlink corresponding to the record you need.
  - To remove a record, select a check box corresponding to the record you wish to remove and click **✗ Remove Selected**.

## Removing a Domain Alias

➤ *To remove an alias from a domain:*


- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Domain Aliases**.
- 3 Select a check box corresponding to the domain alias that you want to remove.
- 4 Click **✗ Remove Selected**.
- 5 Confirm removal and click **OK**.

# Using Virtual Directories

A virtual directory in Plesk is a link to existing physical directory that is present on the server's hard disk. Virtual directories can have a number of specific settings like custom ASP.NET configuration, access permissions, URL password protection, and so on.

Since any virtual directory can have its own settings, including customized ASP.NET configuration, virtual directories are very useful in setting up your web applications, especially those written in ASP.NET. For example, if you have three web applications that use ASP.NET version 1.1, and you need to install one web application that uses ASP.NET version 2.0, you can create a virtual directory for the ASP.NET 2.0 application, configure ASP.NET settings for this directory, enabling version 2.0 only for this directory, and successfully install the required application.

Virtual directories can also be used as aliases. For example, you have a web application installed on your domain 'example.com' in the physical folder '/my\_data/web\_apps/forum'. To access this web application, users need to type 'example.com/my\_data/web\_apps/forum', which is hard to remember and too long to type. You can create virtual directory 'forum' in the root of your virtual host, and link this virtual directory to '/my\_data/web\_apps/forum', so users who want to access the web application have to type 'example.com/forum', which is much shorter and easier to remember.

To open a virtual directory in your browser, click the required domain name on your Home page, click **Web Directories**, and click the  icon corresponding to the directory you wish to open.

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## Creating Virtual Directories

➤ *To create a new virtual directory on a domain:*

- 1 On your home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Web Directories** in the **Hosting** group. You are in your web site root now.
- 3 Navigate to the directory in which you want to create a new virtual directory.
- 4 Click **Add New Virtual Directory**.

---

**Note.** To create a physical directory instead of virtual directory, click **Add New Directory**, specify the name of the directory and click **OK**.

---


- 5 Specify the required parameters:
  - **Name** - specify the virtual directory name.
  - **Path** - specify the virtual directory path:
    - Select the **Create physical directory with the same name as virtual directory** checkbox to automatically create a physical directory with the same name as the virtual directory you are creating.
    - Clear the **Create physical directory with the same name as virtual directory** checkbox and specify the path in the field to select the physical directory that already exists.
  - **Script source access** - select this checkbox to allow users to access source code if either Read or Write permissions are set. Source code includes scripts in ASP applications.
  - **Read permission** - select this checkbox to allow users to read files or directories and their associated properties.
  - **Write permission** - select this checkbox to allow users to upload files and their associated properties to the virtual directory or to change content in a write-enabled file. Write access is allowed only if browser supports the PUT feature of the HTTP 1.1 protocol.
  - **Directory browsing** - select this checkbox to allow users to see a hypertext listing of the files and subdirectories in the virtual directory.
  - **Log visits** - select this checkbox if you want to store the information about visits of the virtual directory.
  - **Create application** - select this checkbox to make the web directory an IIS Application. The directory becomes logically independent from the rest of the web-site.
  - **Execute permissions** - select the appropriate program execution level allowed for the virtual directory.
    - **None** - allow access only to static files such as HTML or image files.
    - **Scripts only** - allow running scripts only, not executables.
    - **Scripts and Executables** - remove all restrictions so that all file types can be executed.

- **ASP Settings** - set specific settings for ASP-based web applications.
  - If you are using ASP-based applications that cannot operate correctly under data transfer restrictions currently set by IIS, deselect the **Defined by parent directory** check box corresponding to the field you want to change and type in the required number.
  - If you want to enable debugging of ASP applications on the server side, deselect the corresponding **Defined by parent directory** check box and select the **Enable ASP server-side script debugging** check box.
  - If you want to enable debugging of ASP applications on the client side, deselect the corresponding **Defined by parent directory** check box and select the **Enable ASP client-side script debugging** check box.

Note that if you are trying to change ASP Settings for the root web directory, the default check box names will be **Defined by IIS** instead of **Defined by parent directory**.

6 Click **OK** to complete the creation.

➤ **To set access permissions for a virtual directory:**

- 1 Click the required domain name on your Home page.
- 2 Click **Web Directories**.
- 3 Click the  icon corresponding to the directory you wish to open, and set the access permissions for this directory and all its files.

Refer to the Setting File and Folder Access Permissions (on page 134) section for more information on setting access permissions.


➤ **To configure ASP.NET for a virtual directory:**

- 1 Click the required domain name on your Home page,
- 2 Click **Web Directories**.
- 3 Browse to the required directory and enter it.
- 4 Click **ASP.NET** and set the options accordingly.

Refer to Configuring ASP.NET for Virtual Directories (on page 72) section for more information on configuring ASP.NET

## Changing Virtual Directory Settings

➤ **To change preferences of an existing virtual directory on a domain:**

- 1 On your home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Web Directories** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Find the directory which preferences you wish to change, and click , or click **Preferences** in the required directory.
- 4 Change the preferences of the virtual directory:
  - **Name** - specify virtual directory name.


- **Path** - specify the path to the physical directory which virtual directory is linked to.
- **Script source access** - select this checkbox to allow users to access source code if either Read or Write permissions are set. Source code includes scripts in ASP applications.
- **Read permission** - select this checkbox to allow users to read files or directories and their associated properties.
- **Write permission** - select this checkbox to allow users to upload files and their associated properties to the virtual directory or to change content in a write-enabled file. Write access is allowed only if browser supports the PUT feature of the HTTP 1.1 protocol.
- **Directory browsing** - select this checkbox to allow users to see a hypertext listing of the files and subdirectories in the virtual directory.
- **Log visits** - select this checkbox if you want to store the information about visits of the virtual directory.
- **Create application** - select this checkbox to make the web directory an IIS Application. The directory becomes logically independent from the rest of the web-site.
- **Execute permissions** - select the appropriate program execution level allowed for the virtual directory.
  - None** - allow access only to static files such as HTML or image files.
  - Scripts only** - allow running scripts only, not executables.
  - Scripts and Executables** - remove all restrictions so that all file types can be executed.
- **Allow to use parent paths** - select this checkbox to allow using double period in the pathname when referring to a folder above the current web directory. This makes users able to move up the folder tree without knowing the folder name or the whereabouts in the hierarchy. If the option is selected, parent path directories should not have the **Execute permission** checkbox selected in their preferences, so that applications do not have the ability of unauthorized running of programs in the parent paths.
- **Allow application execution in MTA (multi-threaded apartment) mode** - select this checkbox to allow the application execution in multi-threaded apartment (MTA) mode. Otherwise the application will run in a single-threaded apartment (STA) mode. Using STA, each application pool is executed in a dedicated process. With MTA, several concurrent application pools are executed in one thread which can increase performance in some cases.
- **Use default documents** - select this checkbox to allow the use of default documents for the current web directory. The default document is sent when users access the directory on the Web without a specific file name (for example, using 'http://www.parallels.com' as opposed to 'http://www.parallels.com/index.html'). If this checkbox is cleared and the **Directory browsing** checkbox is selected, the Web server returns a folder listing. If this checkbox is cleared and the **Directory browsing** checkbox is cleared as well, the Web server returns an "Access Forbidden" error message.

- **Default documents search order** - specifies the order in which IIS searches for the default document, sending user the first available file it finds. If no match is found, IIS behaves as in the cases when the default content page is disabled.
- **Allow anonymous access** - select this checkbox if you want to make the directory public so that web users could access it without authentication.
- **Require SSL** - select this checkbox to enable SSL-only access to the folder.
- **ASP Settings** - set specific settings for ASP-based web applications.
  - If you are using ASP-based applications that cannot operate correctly under data transfer restrictions currently set by IIS, deselect the **Defined by parent directory** check box corresponding to the field you want to change and type in the required number.
  - If you want to enable debugging of ASP applications on the server side, deselect the corresponding **Defined by parent directory** check box and select the **Enable ASP server-side script debugging** check box.
  - If you want to enable debugging of ASP applications on the client side, deselect the corresponding **Defined by parent directory** check box and select the **Enable ASP client-side script debugging** check box.

Note that if you are trying to change ASP Settings for the root web directory, the default check box names will be **Defined by IIS**. instead of **Defined by parent directory**.

5 Click **OK** to save changes.

➤ **To change access permissions for a virtual directory:**

- 1 Click the required domain name on your Home page.
- 2 Click **Web Directories**.
- 3 Click the  icon corresponding to the directory you wish to open, and change the access permissions for this directory and all its files.

Refer to the Setting File and Folder Access Permissions (on page 134) section for more information on setting access permissions.

➤ **To reconfigure ASP.NET for a virtual directory:**

- 1 Click the required domain name on your Home page,
- 2 Click **Web Directories**.
- 3 Browse to the required directory and enter it.
- 4 Click **ASP.NET** and change the options accordingly.

Refer to the Configuring ASP.NET for Virtual Directories (on page 72) section for more information on configuring ASP.NET

## Adding and Removing MIME Types

Multipurpose Internet Mail Exchange (MIME) types instruct a Web browser or mail application how to handle files received from a server. For example, when a Web browser requests an item on a server, it also requests the MIME type of the object. Some MIME types, like graphics, can be displayed inside the browser. Others, such as word processing documents, require an external helper application to be displayed.

When a web server delivers a Web page to a client Web browser, it also sends the MIME type of the data it is sending. If there is an attached or embedded file in a specific format, IIS also tells the client application the MIME type of the embedded or attached file. The client application then knows how to process or display the data being received from IIS.

IIS can only operate files of registered MIME types. These types could be defined both on the global IIS level and on the domain or virtual directory level. Globally defined MIME types are inherited by all the domains and virtual directories while ones defined on the domain or virtual directory level are used only for the area where they are defined. Otherwise, if the web server receives request for a file with unregistered MIME type, it returns the 404.3 (Not Found) error.

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## **Adding MIME Types**

➤ ***To add a new MIME type for a virtual directory on a domain:***

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Web Directories** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Navigate to the required virtual directory and enter it.
- 4 Select the **MIME Types** tab.
- 5 Click **Add New MIME Type**.
  - Type the filename extension in the **Extension** field. Filename extension should begin with a dot (.), or a wildcard (\*) to serve all files regardless of filename extension.
  - Specify the file content type in the **Content** field.
  - You can either select the appropriate value from the list or define a new content type. To do this, select **Custom...** and enter the content type in the input box provided.
- 6 Click **OK** to finish the creation.

## Changing MIME Types

- *To edit an existing MIME type for a virtual directory on a domain:*
  - 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click **Web Directories** in the **Hosting** group.
  - 3 Navigate to the required virtual directory and enter it.
  - 4 Select the **MIME Types** tab.
  - 5 Select the required MIME type in the list.
    - Type the filename extension in the **Extension** field. Filename extension should begin with a dot (.), or a wildcard (\*) to serve all files regardless of filename extension.
    - Specify the file content type in the **Content** field.
    - You can either select the appropriate value from the list or define a new content type. To do this, select **Custom...** and enter the content type in the input box provided.
  - 6 Click **OK** to save changes.

## Removing MIME Types

- *To remove a MIME type for a virtual directory on a domain:*
  - 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click **Web Directories** in the **Hosting** group.
  - 3 Navigate to the required virtual directory and enter it.
  - 4 Select the **MIME Types** tab.
  - 5 Select the checkbox corresponding to the MIME type you wish to remove.
  - 6 Click **✗ Remove Selected**.
  - 7 Confirm removal and click **OK**.

## Setting PHP Version for Virtual Directories

In addition to be able to choose the PHP version you would like to use on each of your domains, you also have the additional ability to specify the PHP version for any given virtual directory on your domains, allowing you to use web applications that require PHP4 as well as PHP5.

➤ *To set PHP version for a virtual directory:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Web Directories** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Click **PHP Settings**.
- 4 Choose the required version of PHP and click **OK**.

## Removing Virtual Directories

➤ *To remove an existing virtual directory:*

- 1 On your home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Web Directories** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Select the checkbox corresponding to the directory you wish to remove.
- 4 Click **✗ Remove Selected**.
- 5 Confirm the removal and click **OK**.

---

# Hosting Personal Web Pages on Your Web Server

You can host on your Web server personal Web pages for individuals who do not need their own domain names. This service is popular with educational institutions that host non-commercial personal pages of their students and staff.

These pages usually have web addresses like <http://your-domain.com/~username>, however, you can set up personal web pages with alternative web addresses like <http://username@your-domain.com>, if you like.

➤ *To accommodate a personal web page on your server, allocate a separate web space and set up an FTP account for publishing:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Web Users** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Click **Preferences**.
- 4 If you wish to allow execution of scripts embedded in personal web pages, select the **Allow the web users scripting** check box.
- 5 Click **OK**.

The settings you have defined at the steps 3 and 4 are common for all personal web pages you might host on your web server. Therefore, you will not need to perform steps 3 and 4 next time you set up a web space for a personal web page.

- 6 Click **Add New Web User**.
- 7 Specify a user name and password that will be used for accessing the web space through FTP and publishing the web page.

You can use only lower-case alphanumeric, hyphen and underscore symbols in user name. The user name should begin with an alphabet character. It cannot contain white spaces. The password cannot contain quotation marks, white space, user's login name, and should be between 5 and 14 characters in length.

- 8 If you wish to limit the amount of disk space that can be occupied by the Web page content, clear the **Unlimited** checkbox and type the desired value in megabytes into the **Hard disk quota** box.

When the specified limit is exceeded, the Web page owner will not be able to add files to his or her web space.

- 9 Select the **Additional write/modify permissions** option if this web user's web applications will use a file-based database (like Jet) located in the root of `httpdocs` or `httpsdocs` folders. Please note that selecting this option might seriously compromise the web site security.
- 10 Specify the programming languages that should be supported for the Web page.

For example, if the web page is written in PHP, select the **PHP support** check box.

- 11 Click **OK**.

Now you can tell your user the FTP account credentials, so that he or she can publish their web page.

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## **Changing FTP Password for a Web Page Owner**

➤ *To change FTP password for a web page owner:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Web Users** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Click the user name you need.
- 4 Type the new password into the **New password** and **Confirm password** boxes.
- 5 Click **OK**.

## **Allocating More Disk Space to the Web Page Owner**

➤ *To allocate more disk space to the web page owner:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Web Users** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Click the user name you need.
- 4 Type the amount of disk space in megabytes into the **Hard disk quota** box.
- 5 Click **OK**.

## **Removing Web Page Owner's Account**

➤ *To remove a web page owner's account together with their web page:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Web Users** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Select a check box to the right of the user name you wish to remove and click **X Remove Selected**.
- 4 Confirm removal and click **OK**.

---

# Setting Up Anonymous FTP Access to the Server

If you host a site on a dedicated IP address, you can set up a directory within the site, where other users will be able to anonymously download or upload files through FTP. Once anonymous FTP is enabled, the users will be able to log in to the <ftp://ftp.your-domain.com> with the “anonymous” login name and any password.

➤ **To allow anonymous FTP access:**

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **FTP Management** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Click the **Anonymous FTP** tab.
- 4 To activate anonymous FTP service, click **Switch On**.
- 5 To set up a welcoming message to be displayed when users log in to FTP site, select the **Display login message** check box and type the message text in the input field as desired.

Note that not all FTP clients display welcoming messages.

- 6 To allow visitors to upload files to the `/incoming` directory, select the **Allow uploading to incoming directory** check box.
- 7 To allow users to create subdirectories in the `/incoming` directory, select the **Allow creation of directories in the incoming directory** check box.
- 8 To allow downloading files from the `/incoming` directory, select the **Allow downloading from the incoming directory** checkbox.
- 9 To limit the amount of disk space that can be occupied by uploaded files, clear the **Unlimited** check box corresponding to the **Limit disk space in the incoming directory** option, and specify the amount in kilobytes.

This is the hard quota: the users will not be able to add more files to the directory when the limit is reached.

- 10 To limit the number of simultaneous connections to the anonymous FTP server, clear the **Unlimited** check box corresponding to the **Limit number of simultaneous connections** option and specify the number of allowed connections.
- 11 To limit the bandwidth for anonymous FTP connections, clear the **Unlimited** check box corresponding to the **Limit download bandwidth for this virtual FTP domain** option and enter the maximum bandwidth in kilobytes per second.
- 12 Click **OK**.

➤ **To modify settings for anonymous FTP server or switch it off:**

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **FTP Management** in the **Hosting** group.

- 3 Click the **Anonymous FTP** tab.
- 4 Adjust the settings as required and click **OK**. To switch off the anonymous FTP service, click **Switch Off** in the **Tools** group.

---

## Customizing Web Server Error Messages

When visitors coming to your site request pages that the web server cannot find, the web server generates and displays a standard HTML page with an error message. The standard error messages may inform of problems, but they do not usually say how to resolve them or how to get the lost visitor on his way, and they also look dull.

You may want to create your own error pages and use them on your web server. With Plesk you can customize the following error messages:

- 400 Bad File Request. Usually means the syntax used in the URL is incorrect (e.g., uppercase letter should be lower-case letter; wrong punctuation marks).
- 401 Unauthorized. Server is looking for some encryption key from the client and is not getting it. Also, wrong password may have been entered.
- 403 Forbidden/Access denied. Similar to 401; a special permission is needed to access the site – a password and/or username if it is a registration issue.
- 404 Not Found. Server cannot find the requested file. File has either been moved or deleted, or the wrong URL or document name was entered. This is the most common error.
- 500 Internal Server Error. Could not retrieve the HTML document because of server-configuration problems.

➤ **To configure Plesk's web server to show your custom error pages:**

- 1 Switch on support for custom error documents through Plesk.
  1. On your Home page click the required domain name.
  2. Click **Setup**.
  3. Select the **Custom Error Documents** check box.
  4. Click **OK**.
- 2 Click the required domain name on your Home page and go to **Web Directories** to see the list of error documents for the root web directory (error documents located here are used for all domain web pages). If you want to customize error pages for a certain web directory, go to that directory.
- 3 Click **Error Documents** tab and click the required error document in the list.
  - To use the default document provided by IIS for this error page, select **Default** in the **Type** menu.
  - To use a custom HTML document already located in the `error_docs` directory on a domain, select **File** in the **Type** menu and specify the file name in the **Location** field.
  - To use a custom HTML document located in directory other than `error_docs` on a domain, select **URL** in the **Type** menu and enter the path to your document in the **Location** field. The path should be relative to the virtual host root (that is, `<vhosts>\<domain>\httpdocs`).

For example, you have created a file `forbidden_403_1.html` and saved it in the `my_errors` directory located in the `httpdocs`. To use this file as an error document, the following path should be entered in the **Location** field:  
`/my_errors/forbidden_403_1.html`.

---

**Note.** You can use both FTP and File Manager to upload your custom error document to the server. By default, all error documents are stored in the `/vhosts/your-domain.com/error_docs/` directory.

---

- 4 Once the web server is restarted, it will start using your error documents.

---

## Customizing DNS Zone Configuration for Domains

For each new domain name, your control panel automatically creates DNS zone in accordance with the configuration preset defined by your provider. The domain names should work fine with the automatic configuration, however if you need to perform custom modifications in the domain name zone, you can do that through your control panel.

To view the resource records in a DNS zone of a domain, click the required domain name on your home page and click **DNS Settings** in the **Services** group. A screen will show all resource records for the selected domain.

---

**Note:** Here you can update the DNS zone with multiple changes in DNS records at once, and then confirm the changes by clicking the **Apply** button. Unconfirmed changes will not be saved.

---

To learn about modifying resource records in the DNS zone of a domain alias, refer to the Setting Up Additional Domain Names for a Site (Domain Aliases) (on page 94) section.

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## Adding Resource Records

➤ *To add a new resource record to the zone of a domain:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **DNS Settings** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click **Add New DNS Record** in the **Tools** group.
- 4 Select a resource record type, and specify the appropriate data:
  - For an A record you will need to enter the domain name for which you wish to create an A record. If you are simply defining an A record for your main domain, then you should leave the available field empty. If you are defining an A record for a name server then you will need to input the appropriate entry for the given name server (ie. ns1). Then, you need to enter the appropriate IP address to which to associate the domain name.
  - For a NS record, you will need to enter the domain name for which you wish to create the NS record. If you are defining an NS record for your main domain, then you will leave the available field blank. Then enter the appropriate name server name in the field provided. You will need to enter the complete name (i.e. ns1.mynameserver.com).
  - For a MX record, you will need to enter the domain for which you are creating the MX record. For the main domain, you would simply leave the available field blank. You will then need to enter your mail exchanger, this is the name of the mail server. If you are running a remote mail server named 'mail.myhostname.com' then you would simply enter 'mail.myhostname.com' into the field provided. You will then need to set the priority for the mail exchanger. Select the priority using the drop-down box: 0 is the highest and 50 is the lowest. Keep in mind you would also need to add the appropriate A record, and/or CNAME if applicable for the remote mail exchange server.
  - For a CNAME record, you will need to first enter the alias domain name for which you wish to create the CNAME record. You then need to enter the domain name within which you want the alias to reside. Any domain name can be entered. It does not need to reside on the same server.
  - For a PTR record you will first enter the IP address/mask for which you wish to define the pointer. Then enter the appropriate domain name for this IP to be translated to.
  - For a TXT record, you will be able to enter an arbitrary text string, which could be a description or an SPF record.
  - For a SRV record, you will need to enter the service name, protocol name, port number, and target host. Service and protocol names should start with the underline symbol. You can also specify the priority of service and weight of service in the appropriate fields.
  -
- 5 Click **OK** to submit the data.

---

**Note:** When you are finished with modifying DNS records of the DNS zone, confirm the changes by clicking the **Apply** button on the DNS zone screen (**DNS Settings**). Unconfirmed changes will not be saved.

---

## Modifying Resource Records

➤ *To modify the properties of a resource record for a domain:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click the **DNS Settings** icon in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the hyperlink in the **Host** column corresponding to the resource record you want to modify.
- 4 Modify the record as required and click **OK**.

➤ *To modify the entries in the Start of Authority (SOA) record for a domain:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **DNS Settings**.
- 3 Select the **SOA Records** tab.
- 4 Specify the desired values:
  - **Refresh Interval.** This is how often the secondary name servers check with the primary name server to see if any changes have been made to the domain's zone file. Plesk sets the default value of three hours.
  - **Retry Interval.** This is the time a secondary server waits before retrying a failed zone transfer. This time is typically less than the refresh interval. Plesk sets the default value of one hour.
  - **Expire Interval.** This is the time before a secondary server stops responding to queries, after a lapsed refresh interval where the zone was not refreshed or updated. Plesk sets the default value of one week.
  - **Minimum TTL.** This is the time a secondary server should cache a negative response. Plesk sets the default value of one day.
  - **Default TTL.** This is the amount of time that other DNS servers should store the record in a cache. Plesk sets the default value of one day.
- 5 Click **OK**.

Usage of serial number format recommended by IETF and RIPE is mandatory for many domains registered in some high-level DNS zones, mostly European ones. If your domain is registered in one of these zones and your registrar refuses your SOA serial number, using serial number format recommended by IETF and RIPE should resolve this issue.

Plesk servers use UNIX-timestamp syntax for configuring DNS zones. UNIX timestamp is the number of seconds since January 1, 1970 (Unix Epoch). The 32-bit timestamp will overflow by July 8, 2038.

RIPE recommends using YYYYMMDDNN format, where YYYY is year (four digits), MM is month (two digits), DD is day of month (two digits) and NN is version per day (two digits). The YYYYMMDDNN format won't overflow until the year 4294.

- *To change the Start of Authority (SOA) serial number format to YYYYMMDDNN for a domain:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **DNS Settings**.
- 3 Select the **SOA Records** tab.
- 4 Select the **Use serial number format recommended by IETF and RIPE** check box.

---

**Note:** See the sample of SOA serial number generated with the selected format. If the resulting number is less, than the current zone number, the modification may cause temporary malfunction of DNS for this domain. Zone updates may be invisible to Internet users for some time.

---

- 5 Click **OK**.

## Modifying Common Access Control List (ACL)

You can modify the common Access Control List (ACL) via Plesk. ACL contains all hosts to which DNS zone transfers for all zones are allowed.

- *To modify the common Access Control List (ACL) for a domain:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **DNS Settings** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Select **Transfer Restrictions** tab.
  - To add a network to ACL, specify the IP address and mask in the **IP address/mask** field and click **Add Network**.
  - To delete a network from ACL, select the checkbox corresponding to the required network in the list, click **✗ Remove Selected**, confirm the removal and click **OK**.

## Removing Resource Records

- *To remove a resource record from the zone:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **DNS Settings** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Select a check box corresponding to the record you wish to remove.
- 4 Click **✗ Remove Selected**.
- 5 Confirm removal and click **OK**.

---

**Note:** When you are finished with modifying DNS records of the DNS zone, confirm the changes by clicking the **Apply** button on the DNS zone screen (**DNS Settings**). Unconfirmed changes will not be saved.

---

## Restoring the Original Zone Configuration

- *To restore the original zone configuration in accordance with the configuration preset defined by your provider:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **DNS Settings** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click **Restore Defaults**.
- 4 In the **IP address** drop-down box, select the IP address to be used for restoring the zone and specify whether a www alias is required for the domain.
- 5 Confirm the restoration and click **OK**. The zone configuration will be recreated.

- *To reset the entries in the Start of Authority (SOA) record to default settings:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **DNS Settings** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Select the **SOA Records** tab.
- 4 Click **Restore Defaults**.

- *To restore the default Start of Authority (SOA) serial number format (UNIX timestamp) for a domain:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **DNS Settings** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Select the **SOA Records** tab.
- 4 Clear the **Use serial number format recommended by IETF and RIPE** check box.

---

**Note:** See the sample of SOA serial number generated with the selected format. If the resulting number is less, than the current zone number, the modification may cause temporary malfunction of DNS for this domain. Zone updates may be invisible to Internet users for some time.

---

- 5 Click **OK**.

---

## Serving Sites with External Domain Name Servers

If you host web sites on this server and have a standalone DNS server acting as a primary (master) name server for your sites, you may want to set up your control panel's DNS server to function as a secondary (slave) name server:

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **DNS Settings**.
- 3 Click **Switch** in the **Tools** group.
- 4 Specify the IP address of the primary (master) DNS server.
- 5 Click **Add**.
- 6 Repeat steps from 1 to 5 for each web site that needs to have a secondary name server on this machine.

➤ **To make the control panel's DNS server act as a primary for a zone:**

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **DNS Settings**.
- 3 Click **Switch** in the **Tools** group. The original resource records for the zone will be restored.

If you host web sites on this server and rely entirely on other machines to perform the Domain Name Service for your sites (there are two external name servers - a primary and a secondary), switch off the control panel's DNS service for each site served by external name servers:

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **DNS Settings**.
- 3 Click **Switch Off** in the **Tools** group. Turning the DNS service off for the zone will refresh the screen, so that only a list of name servers remains.

---

**Note:** The listed name server records have no effect on the system. They are only presented on the screen as clickable links to give you a chance to validate the configuration of the zone maintained on the external authoritative name servers.

---

- 4 Repeat the steps from 1 to 3 to switch off the local domain name service for each site served by external name servers.
- **If you wish to validate the configuration of a zone maintained on authoritative name servers:**
- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click **DNS Settings**.

- 3** Add to the list the entries pointing to the appropriate name servers that are authoritative for the zone: click **Add**, specify a name server, and click **OK**. Repeat this for each name server you would like to test.  
The records will appear in the list.
- 4** Click on the records that you have just created. Plesk will retrieve the zone file from a remote name server and check the resource records to make sure that domain's resources are properly resolved.  
The results will be interpreted and displayed on the screen.

---

## Serving Domain Names for Sites Hosted on Other Servers (Domain Forwarding)

If you need to serve a domain name or several domain names that point to a web site hosted on another server:

- 1 On your Home page, click **Add New Domain**.
- 2 Specify the domain name.

Leave the **www** check box selected if you wish to allow users to access the site by a common and habitual URL like [www.your-domain.com](http://www.your-domain.com). Having the **www** alias preceding the domain name will allow users to get to the site no matter what they type in their browsers: [www.your-domain.com](http://www.your-domain.com) and [your-domain.com](http://your-domain.com) will both point to the site.
- 3 Leave the **Create domain without template** option selected in the **Select template** menu.
- 4 If you have a number of IP addresses to choose from, select the required address from the **Select an IP address** drop-down box.

Notice that e-commerce sites need a dedicated IP address (not shared among other sites) to implement Secure Sockets Layer data encryption.
- 5 Make sure that there is a check mark in the **Proceed to hosting setup** check box and click **OK**.
- 6 Choose the forwarding type: select either **Frame forwarding** or **Standard forwarding** option.

With standard forwarding, a user is redirected to the site and the actual site's URL is shown in the user's browser, so the user always knows that he or she is redirected to another URL. With frame forwarding, a user is redirected to the site without knowing that the site actually resides at another location, therefore, **Frame forwarding** should be preferred.
- 7 Click **OK**.
- 8 Specify the destination URL: the current web site address that you would like this domain to point to.
- 9 Click **OK**.
- 10 Repeat the steps from 1 to 9 to add as many domain forwarders as required.

---

## Renaming Domains

➤ *To rename a domain:*

- 1 Click the required domain name on your Home page.
- 2 Click **Rename Domain**.
- 3 Type a new name for a domain in the **Domain name** field. Leave the **www** check box selected if you wish to allow users to access your site by a common URL like [www.your-domain.com](http://www.your-domain.com).

Having the www alias preceding your domain name will not cost you anything, but it will allow users to get to your site no matter what they type in their browsers: [www.your-domain.com](http://www.your-domain.com) and your-domain.com will both point to your site.

- 4 Click **OK**. The operation might take several minutes, during which all domain services will be stopped.

Since domain renaming involves modifying DNS records, allow up to 48 hours for DNS propagation after the renaming.

---

## Suspending and Unsuspending Domains

➤ *To suspend a domain/web site:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click the **Switch Off** icon.

The domain/web site will be suspended, its Web, FTP and mail services will no longer be accessible to the Internet users, and domain owner will not be able to log in to the control panel.


➤ *To unsuspend a domain/web site:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click the **Switch On** icon.


---

## Removing Domains

➤ *To delete a domain with its Web content:*

- 1 On your Home page, select a check box corresponding to the domain name you wish to remove.
- 2 Click  **Remove Selected**, confirm removal and click **OK**.

➤ *To delete a subdomain with its Web content:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click the **Subdomains** icon in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Select the check box corresponding to the subdomain you wish to remove.
- 4 Click  **Remove Selected**, confirm removal and click **OK**.

# Protecting Web Sites

In this chapter you will find out how to increase the security of your web sites and their data.

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# Securing E-commerce Transactions with Secure Sockets Layer Encryption

If you are running an e-commerce business, you need to secure transactions between your customers and your site. To prevent the valuable data, such as credit card numbers and other personally identifiable information from stealing, you should use the Secure Sockets Layer protocol, which encrypts all data and transfers them securely over the SSL connection. And even if someone intercepts the data for malicious intent, they will not be able to decrypt and use them.

To implement the Secure Sockets Layer protocol on your web server, you should purchase an SSL certificate from a reputable certificate vendor (these vendors are called Certificate Authorities), and then install this certificate on your site. To enable SSL protection, you must host your site on a dedicated IP address, which is not shared among other web sites.

There are numerous certificate authorities to choose from. When considering one, pay attention to reputation and credibility of the CA. Knowing how long they have been in business and how many customers they have will help you make the right choice.

Your Plesk control panel provides facilities for purchasing SSL certificates from Comodo, GeoTrust, Inc and GoDaddy.

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## Obtaining and Installing SSL Certificates from Comodo, GeoTrust, Inc. or GoDaddy

- *To purchase an SSL certificate through MyPleskCom online store and secure your site:*
  - 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click **Certificates** in the **Services** group. A list of SSL certificates that you have in your repository will be displayed.
  - 3 Click **Add New Certificate**.
  - 4 Specify the certificate properties:
    - Certificate name. This will help you identify this certificate in the repository.
    - Encryption level. Choose the encryption level of your SSL certificate. We recommend that you choose a value more than 1024 bit.
    - Specify your location and organization name. The values you enter should not exceed the length of 64 symbols.
    - Specify the domain name for which you wish to purchase an SSL certificate. This should be a fully qualified domain name. Example: [www.your-domain.com](http://www.your-domain.com).
    - Enter the domain administrator's e-mail address.
  - 5 Make sure that all the provided information is correct and accurate, as it will be used to generate your private key.
  - 6 Click **Buy Cert**. Your private key and certificate signing request will be generated — do not delete them. MyPlesk.com login page will open in a new browser window.
  - 7 Register or login to an existing MyPlesk.com account and you will be taken step by step through the certificate purchase procedure.
  - 8 Choose the type of certificate that you wish to purchase.
  - 9 Click **Proceed to Buy** and order the certificate. In the **Approver E-Mail** drop-down box, please select the correct Approver e-mail.
  - 10 The approver e-mail is an e-mail address that can confirm that certificate for specific domain name was requested by an authorized person.
  - 11 Once your certificate request is processed, you will be sent a confirmation e-mail. After you confirm, the SSL certificate will be sent to your e-mail.
  - 12 When you receive your SSL certificate, save it on your local machine or network.
  - 13 Return to the SSL Certificates repository (**Home > domain name > Certificates**).
  - 14 Click **Browse** in the middle of the page and navigate to the location of the saved certificate. Select it, and then click **Send File**. This will upload and install the certificate against the corresponding private key.

**15** Return to your domain's administration screen (**Home > domain name**) and click **Setup** in the **Hosting** group.

**16** Select the SSL certificate that you wish to install from the **Certificate** drop-down box.

If there is no **Certificate** drop-down box on the screen, this means that you are on a shared hosting account; therefore, you need to upgrade your hosting package and purchase a dedicated IP address from your hosting provider.

**17** Select the **SSL support** check box and click **OK**.

## Obtaining and Installing SSL Certificates from Other Certification Authorities

- *To secure your site with an SSL certificate from other certificate authorities:*
- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click **Certificates** in the **Services** group. A list of SSL certificates that you have in your repository will be displayed.
  - 3 Click **Add New Certificate**.
  - 4 Specify the certificate properties:
    - Certificate name. This will help you identify this certificate in the repository.
    - Encryption level. Choose the encryption level of your SSL certificate. We recommend that you choose a value more than 1024 bit.
    - Specify your location and organization name. The values you enter should not exceed the length of 64 symbols.
    - Specify the domain name for which you wish to purchase an SSL certificate. This should be a fully qualified domain name. Example: [www.your-domain.com](http://www.your-domain.com).
    - Enter the domain administrator's e-mail address.
  - 5 Make sure that all the provided information is correct and accurate, as it will be used to generate your private key.
  - 6 Click **Request**. Your private key and certificate signing request will be generated and stored in the repository.
  - 7 In the list of certificates, click the name of the certificate you need. A page showing the certificate properties opens.
  - 8 Locate the **CSR section** on the page, and copy the text that starts with the line **-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----** and ends with the line **-----END CERTIFICATE REQUEST-----** to the clipboard.
  - 9 Visit the Web site of the certification authority from which you want to purchase an SSL certificate, and follow the links on their site to start a certificate ordering procedure. When you are prompted to specify CSR text, paste the data from the clipboard into the online form and click **Continue**. The certification authority will create an SSL certificate in accordance with the information you supplied.
  - 10 When you receive your SSL certificate, save it on your local machine or network.
  - 11 Return to the SSL Certificates repository (**Home > domain name > Certificates**).
  - 12 Click **Browse** in the middle of the page and navigate to the location of the saved certificate. Select it, and then click **Send File**. This will upload and install the certificate against the corresponding private key.
  - 13 Return to your domain's administration screen (**Home > domain name**) and click **Setup** in the **Hosting** group.

- 14 Select the SSL certificate that you wish to install from the **Certificate** drop-down box.

If there is no **Certificate** drop-down box on the screen, this means that you are on a shared hosting account; therefore, you need to upgrade your hosting package and purchase a dedicated IP address from your provider.

- 15 Select the **SSL support** check box and click **OK**.

## Creating and Installing Free Self-signed SSL Certificate

If you do not want to purchase SSL certificates, but still need to secure your site, you can create a self-signed certificate and install it on your web server. This will provide data encryption; however, your customers' browsers will show warning messages telling that your certificate is not issued by a recognized authority. Thus, using self-signed certificates is not recommended as it will not instill confidence in customers, and is likely to adversely affect your online sales.

➤ **To secure your site with a self-signed SSL certificate:**

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Certificates** in the **Services** group. A list of SSL certificates that you have in your repository will be displayed.
- 3 Click **Add New Certificate**.
- 4 Specify the certificate properties:
  - Certificate name. This will help you identify this certificate in the repository.
  - Encryption level. Choose the encryption level of your SSL certificate. We recommend that you choose a value more than 1024 bit.
  - Specify your location and organization name. The values you enter should not exceed the length of 64 symbols.
  - Specify the domain name for which you wish to generate an SSL certificate. For example: [www.your-domain.com](http://www.your-domain.com).
  - Enter the domain owner's e-mail address.
- 5 Click **Self-Signed**. Your certificate will be generated and stored in the repository.
- 6 Return to your domain's administration screen (**Home > domain name**) and click **Setup** in the **Hosting** group.
- 7 Select the self-signed SSL certificate from the **Certificate** drop-down box.

If there is no **Certificate** drop-down box on the screen, this means that you are on a shared hosting account; therefore, you need to upgrade your hosting package and purchase a dedicated IP address from your hosting provider.
- 8 Select the **SSL support** check box and click **OK**.

## Uninstalling a Certificate from Your Site

- *To uninstall a certificate from your site and disable SSL protection:*
- 1 Make sure that the certificate you want to remove is not used at the moment.
  - 2 On your Home page, click the domain name you need and then click **Setup**. The **Certificate** drop-down box indicates which SSL certificate is currently used.
  - 3 If the certificate that you want to remove is currently in use, you should first release it: in the **Certificate** drop-down box, select another certificate and click **OK**.
  - 4 Remove the certificate from repository.
  - 5 To permanently remove the certificate from repository, on your Home page, click the domain name you need and then click **Certificates** in the **Services** group.
  - 6 Select a check box corresponding to the certificate that you no longer need and click **✗ Remove Selected**.
  - 7 Confirm removal and click **OK**.
  - 8 Disable SSL support if you no longer need it.
  - 9 On your Home page, click the domain name you need and then click **Setup**.
  - 10 Clear the **SSL support** check box and click **OK**.

## Configuring Shared SSL and Master SSL Domain

Shared SSL is a means of securing the access to a site with SSL (Secure Sockets Layer) for site owners without having them purchase their own SSL certificate. Web sites that employ shared SSL are, in fact, using the certificate shared by another domain. The domain that shares its SSL certificate with others is called Master SSL Domain. Before your domains can use shared SSL, you need to configure the Master SSL Domain. It can be done on the server level, so that in theory any domain, including yours, can use shared SSL, and on the client level, so that only your domains can use shared SSL.

➤ ***To configure the Master SSL Domain and enable shared SSL for your domains:***

- 1 On your Home page, click **Shared SSL**.
- 2 Select the **Enable shared SSL** checkbox.
- 3 Select the required domain name from the **Domain name** drop-down menu. Only those domains that are hosted by you and have SSL enabled, are present in the list.
- 4 Click **OK**.

➤ ***To disable shared SSL for your domains:***

- 1 On your Home page, click **Shared SSL**.
- 2 Clear the **Enable shared SSL** checkbox.
- 3 Click **OK**.

## Using SSL Certificate Shared By Another Domain (Shared SSL)

Shared SSL is a means of securing the access to a site with SSL (Secure Sockets Layer) without purchasing your own SSL certificate. Websites that employ shared SSL are, in fact, using the certificate shared by another domain. The domain that shares its SSL certificate with others is called Master SSL Domain.

---

**Note.** In order to use shared SSL, the Master SSL Domain should be set either by your server administrator or by you on another domain, if you have the permission to do so.

---

➤ **To use SSL certificate of the Master SSL Domain, enabling shared SSL use:**

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Shared SSL** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Select the **Switch on shared SSL** checkbox.
- 4 Specify the virtual directory name in the corresponding input field. The virtual directory with the supplied name will be created on the Master SSL Domain. This directory will be used for accessing your site through SSL.

For example, let us suppose that you have a domain named `mydomain.com`, Master SSL Domain is defined as `master_ssl_domain.com`, and the virtual directory name you supplied is `my_virtual_dir`. In this case, to access your site through SSL, you need to use the following address:  
[https://master\\_ssl\\_domain.com/my\\_virtual\\_dir](https://master_ssl_domain.com/my_virtual_dir).

---

**Note.** You cannot use your domain name (e.g., `mydomain.com`) to access your site via SSL if you are using shared SSL.

---

- 5 Select the directory where protected content is located on your domain. The documents within specified directory will be accessible only through SSL. You can only choose either `httpdocs` or `httpsdocs` as a target directory.
- 6 To make your domain accessible via SSL only, select the **Require SSL** checkbox.
- 7 Click **OK**.

➤ **To stop using SSL certificate of the Master SSL Domain, disabling shared SSL use:**

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Shared SSL** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Clear the **Switch on shared SSL** checkbox.
- 4 Click **OK**.

---

## Restricting Bandwidth Usage For Domains

To avoid excessive usage of bandwidth, which can lead to resources overage, you can limit bandwidth usage for a domain.

➤ *To limit the bandwidth for a domain:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Performance** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Select the **Switch on bandwidth throttling** checkbox.
- 4 Input the maximum speed (measured in KB per second) that a domain can share between all its connections in the **Maximum network use (KB/S)** field.
- 5 Click **OK**.

---

## Restricting the Amount of Simultaneous Web Connections to Domains

To avoid Denial Of Service attacks and to prevent excessive usage of bandwidth, you can set a limit of maximum number of simultaneous web connections your domain can have.

➤ *To limit the maximum number of simultaneous web connections to a domain:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Performance**.
- 3 Select the **Switch on connections limiting** checkbox.
- 4 Input the maximum number of simultaneous connections in the **Connections limited to** field.
- 5 Click **OK**.

---

## Protecting Sites From Bandwidth Stealing (Hotlinking)

Hotlinking (also called file leeching, remote linking, direct linking, bandwidth stealing or bandwidth banditism) is a term used for describing a situation when a web page of one domain owner is directly linking to images (or other multimedia files) on the web host of another domain owner, usually using an <IMG> tag. If your domains are hotlinked, you may face the problem of excessive bandwidth usage.

➤ ***To protect a domain from hotlinking:***

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Hotlink Protection** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Click **Switch On** to enable the protection from hotlinking.
- 4 Specify the extensions of files you wish to be protected from hotlinking (e.g. jpg, bmp, etc) in the **Protected files extensions** field. When listing several file extensions, separate them with spaces.
- 5 Click **OK**.

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## Allowing and Disallowing Domains to Directly Link to Your Domain Files

You can also allow and disallow certain domains to directly link to your domain files.

➤ *To allow a domain directly link to your domain files:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Hotlink Protection**.
- 3 Input the domain name in the **Friendly domains** field.
- 4 Click **Add**.
- 5 Repeat steps 2 and 3 to add other domains, if necessary, and click **OK** when finished.

➤ *To disallow a domain directly link to your domain files:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Hotlink Protection**.
- 3 Select the domain in the **Friendly domains** field.
- 4 Click **Remove**.
- 5 Click **OK**.

---


## Restricting Access to Web Server's Resources with Password Protection

If you have URLs on your site that only authorized users should see, restrict access to these URLs with password protection.





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## Protecting a Resource

- *To password protect a directory in your site and to specify authorized users:*
- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Web Directories** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 On the **General** tab, click the required name from the Web directories list and select the **Protection** tab. Alternatively, you can click the  icon corresponding to the directory you want to protect.
- 4 Click **Protect** to set up a protection.
- 5 To add an authorized users, click **Add New User** in the **Tools** group.
- 6 Specify the login name and password that will be used for accessing the protected area. The password should be from 5 to 14 symbols in length. Click **OK**.
- 7 Click **Preferences** to type a a resource description or a welcoming message that your users will see when they visit your protected area in the **Realm access text** input field. Click **OK**.
- 8 To add more authorized users for this protected resource, repeat the steps 6 and 7.

## Adding and Removing Authorized Users

- *To add an authorized user of a protected directory:*
  - 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click **Web Directories** in the **Hosting** group.
  - 3 On the **General** tab, click the required name from the Web directories list and select the **Protection** tab. Alternatively, you can click the  icon corresponding to the required directory.
  - 4 Click **Add New User** in the **Tools** group.
  - 5 Specify the login name and password that will be used for accessing the protected area. The password should be from 5 to 14 symbols in length.
  - 6 Click **OK**.
  
- *To change password for an authorized user of a protected directory:*
  - 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click **Web Directories** in the **Hosting** group.
  - 3 On the **General** tab, click the required name from the Web directories list and select the **Protection** tab. Alternatively, you can click the  icon corresponding to the required directory.
  - 4 Click the user's name from the Protected URL users list.
  - 5 Specify the new password and confirm it.
  - 6 Click **OK**.
  
- *To revoke a permission to access the protected directory from a user:*
  - 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click **Web Directories** in the **Hosting** group.
  - 3 On the **General** tab, click the required name from the Web directories list and select the **Protection** tab. Alternatively, you can click the  icon corresponding to the required directory.
  - 4 Select a check box corresponding to the user's name.
  - 5 Click  **Remove Selected**. Confirm the operation and click **OK**.

## Unprotecting a Resource

- *To remove password protection and make the resource available to the public:*
- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click **Web Directories** in the **Hosting** group.
  - 3 On the **General** tab, click the required name from the Web directories list and select the **Protection** tab. Alternatively, you can click the  icon corresponding to the required directory.
  - 4 Select a check box corresponding to the name of the directory, from which you want to remove protection.
  - 5 Click  **Remove Selected**. The protection will be removed and the contents of the directory will be accessible to the public without restrictions

---

## Setting File and Folder Access Permissions

Plesk provides setting up file and folder access permissions, including defining special permissions and permissions inheritance, similarly to the way it is presented in Windows interface.

---



**Note.** For security reasons, permissions for Administrators, SYSTEM and Plesk Domain Administrator cannot be changed or removed.

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## Setting and Changing Access Permissions for Groups and Users


- *To set or change access permissions for a group or user:*
- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click **File Manager**.
  - 3 Click  corresponding to the required file or folder.
    - To change or remove permissions from a group or user, click the required name in the **Group or user names** list.
    - To set permissions for a group or user, which is not in the **Group or user names** list, select the required user/group name from the drop-down box located above the list and click : the user/group appears in the list. Select it.
  - 4 To allow or deny permissions to a selected group/user, select the **Allow** or **Deny** checkboxes corresponding to permissions listed under **Permissions for [user/group name]**.
- 
- Note.** If check boxes in **Allow** and/or **Deny** columns are shaded, it means that the corresponding permissions are inherited from a parent folder.
- 
- To deny the permission, which are inherited from a parent object as allowed, select the required checkboxes under **Deny**. This will override inherited permissions for this file/folder.
  - To allow the permission, which are inherited from a parent object as denied, clear the **Allow inheritable permissions from the parent to propagate to this object and all child objects. Include these with entries explicitly defined here** checkbox: this removes the inherited permissions. Then select the required check boxes under **Allow** and **Deny**.
- 5 Click **OK**.

## Removing Access Permissions from Groups and Users


➤ *To remove access permissions from a group or user:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **File Manager**.
- 3 Click  corresponding to the required file or folder.
- 4 Select the required name in the **Group or user names** list and click  next to it.

---


**Note:** The  icons appear unavailable for entries with permissions inherited from a parent object.

---

- 5 Select the required entry.
- 6 Clear the **Allow inheritable permissions from the parent to propagate to this object and all child objects. Include these with entries explicitly defined here** checkbox.
- 7 Select the entry again and click .
- 8 Click **OK**.

## Setting Up Access Permissions Inheritance for Files and Folders




➤ *To set up access permissions inheritance for files and folders:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **File Manager** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Click  corresponding to the required file or folder.
- 4 To make the file/folder inherit permissions from a parent folder (if it does not), select the **Allow inheritable permissions from the parent to propagate to this object and all child objects. Include these with entries explicitly defined here** checkbox.
- 5 To make the files and folders, which are contained in this folder, inherit the folder permissions defined here, select the **Replace permission entries on all child objects with entries shown here that apply to child objects** checkbox.
- 6 Click **OK**.

## Setting, Changing and Removing Special Access Permissions

You can also set, change and remove special permissions including advanced management of folder permissions inheritance. In **Advanced** permissions management mode, several permission entries can be associated with a single group or user, each containing different set of permissions. Also, the list of permissions in **Advanced** mode is more detailed and gives more opportunities for fine-tuning file/folder permissions. It contains permissions that cannot be seen in Microsoft Windows interface, but present combinations of native Microsoft Windows permissions. They are Read Control, Write Control, and Execute Control.

➤ **To set, change or remove file/folder special permissions:**

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **File Manager** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Click  corresponding to the required file or folder.
- 4 Click **Advanced**.
  - To create a permission entry for a group or user, select the required name from the **Group or user names** list and click .
  - To set or change file/folder permissions for a group or user, select the required name from the **Group or user names** list, select the required **Allow** and **Deny** checkboxes corresponding to permissions listed under **Permissions for [group/user name]**.
  - To remove a permission entry for a group or user, select the required name from the **Group or user names** list and click .
  - To make child objects of a folder inherit its permissions defined under **Permissions for [group/user name]**, select the **Replace permission entries on all child objects with entries shown here that apply to child objects** checkbox, and select checkboxes in the **Apply onto:** list which correspond to objects you want to inherit the permissions.
- 5 Click **OK**.

## Setting Access Permissions for Virtual Directories

Access permissions can also be applied to virtual (web) directories.


➤ *To set access permissions for a virtual directory:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Web Directories**.
- 3 Navigate the web site structure and click the required directory.
- 4 Click **Permissions** in the **Tools** group and set access permissions for this virtual directory, as described in the sections above.

## Repairing Access Permissions

If some scripts on your sites stop working, this might be due to the incorrectly defined or corrupted file and folder access permissions. It is advised to run check and repair process to restore proper access permissions, thereby restoring scripts functioning.

➤ *To check and repair access permissions for a domain or a group of domains, restoring scripts functioning:*

- 1 On your Home page, select the checkboxes corresponding to the domain names you want to perform permissions check on.
- 2 Click  **Check permissions**.
- 3 Adjust the settings as required:
  - Clear the **Check-only mode** checkbox to check and repair access permissions. Leave the **Check-only mode** checkbox selected to run the checking in the read-only mode, when permissions are only checked (with errors reported), but not fixed.
  - Leave the **Send notification by e-mail** checkbox selected to receive check and repair report by e-mail, and specify the required e-mail address in this field.
- 4 Click **OK**. Plesk will start checking permissions and correcting them, if the corresponding option is set. Please note that this procedure might take a lot of time, depending on the complexity of file and folder structure of your domains.

# Viewing Statistics

To find out the amount of bandwidth and disk space used by a site, in the list of domain names at the bottom of your Home page, see the **Disk Usage** and **Traffic** columns.

To find out the detailed statistics regarding the amount of bandwidth used by a site, click **Traffic** on your Home page and select the required site by clicking its name in the **Domain name** column.

➤ *To find out how many people visited a site, from what countries, and what pages of the site they viewed:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Report**.
- 3 View the statistics for the web pages or files downloaded from or uploaded to specific areas of your site:
  - To view the statistics for web pages transferred from your site over hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP), click **Web Stats**.
  - To view the statistics for web pages transferred from your site over secure hypertext transfer protocol (HTTPS), click **Web Stats SSL**.
  - To view statistics for files transferred over file transfer protocol (FTP), click **FTP Stats**.
  - To view the bandwidth usage by months, click **Traffic History**.
  - To view the bandwidth usage by FTP, Web and mail services in this domain, click **Traffic**.





Alternately, you can view the Web statistics for a site by visiting the following URL: <https://your-domain.com/plesk-stat>. When prompted for username and password, specify the credentials for your FTP account.

To view a detailed report on server resources and hosting features used by a specific domain name/web site, on your Home page, click the domain name you need, and then click **Report**. A report will open.

To view a consolidated report on all your web sites and your hosting account, on your Home page, click **Report**. A report will open.

Common operations on reports:

- To get more details, select the **Full Report** option from the **Report** drop-down menu.

- To adjust the amount of information presented in a report, click  **Customize**, and then modify an existing report template (to do this, click a report template name) or create a new report template (to do this, click **Add New Layout**). Next, specify how much information you want in each section of the report: select **None** if you do not want any information, select **Summary** if you want a concise overview, or select **Full** if you need a detailed report. Select the **Use as default report** check box and click **OK**. To delete a custom report layout, select the checkbox corresponding to the report layout name and click  **Remove Selected**.
- To print the report, click  **Print**. A report will open in a separate browser window. Select the **File > Print** option from the browser's menu to print the report.
- To send the report by e-mail, type the recipient's e-mail address into the input box located to the right of the Report group and click  **Send by E-mail**. If you are the recipient, then you do not need to specify an e-mail address: the system assumes by default that you are the report recipient and specifies your e-mail address registered with your control panel account.
- To have the reports automatically generated and delivered by e-mail on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis, click **Report Delivery** and follow the instructions supplied in the Automating Report Generation and Delivery by E-mail section.

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## Automating Report Generation and Delivery by E-mail

- *To receive consolidated reports on your account status on a regular basis:*
  - 1 On your Home page, click **Report**.
  - 2 Click **Layouts**.
  - 3 Under the **Name** column, click the report type you need.
  - 4 Click **Report Delivery**.
  - 5 Click **New Delivery Schedule**.
  - 6 To receive the report to your e-mail address registered with the system, select the **the client** value from the **Deliver to** drop-down menu. To receive the report to another e-mail address, select the **the e-mail address I specify** option and type the e-mail address.
  - 7 Select the delivery interval from the **Delivery frequency** drop-down menu. You can have the report delivered each day, each week, or each month.
  - 8 Click **OK**.
- 
- *To change the delivery schedule for an account status report:*
  - 1 On your Home page, click **Report**.
  - 2 Click **Layouts**.
  - 3 Under the **Name** column, click the report type you need.
  - 4 Click **Report Delivery**.
  - 5 Under the **Frequency** column, click a hyperlink corresponding to the delivery schedule you would like to change.
  - 6 Adjust the settings as required and click **OK**.
- *To stop receiving the account status reports:*
  - 1 On your Home page, click **Report**.
  - 2 Click **Layouts**.
  - 3 Under the **Name** column, click the report type you need.
  - 4 Click **Report Delivery**.
  - 5 Select a check box corresponding to the delivery schedule and click **✗ Remove Selected**. Confirm removal and click **OK**.
- 
- *To receive detailed reports on a specific domain/web site on a regular basis:*
  - 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.

- 2 Click **Report**.
- 3 Click **Layouts**.
- 4 Under the **Name** column, click the report type you need.
- 5 Click **Report Delivery**.
- 6 Click **Add Delivery Schedule**.
- 7 To receive the report to your e-mail address registered with the system, select the **client** value from the **Deliver to** drop-down menu. To receive the report to another e-mail address, select the **e-mail address I specify** option and type the e-mail address.
- 8 Select the delivery interval from the **Delivery frequency** drop-down menu. You can have the report delivered each day, each week, or each month.
- 9 Click **OK**.



➤ ***To change the delivery schedule for a detailed domain/web site report:***

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Report**.
- 3 Click **Layouts**.
- 4 Under the **Name** column, click the report type you need.
- 5 Click **Report Delivery**.
- 6 Under the **Frequency** column, click a hyperlink corresponding to the delivery schedule you would like to change.
- 7 Adjust the settings as required and click **OK**.



➤ ***To stop receiving the account status reports:***

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Report**.
- 3 Click **Layouts**.
- 4 Under the **Name** column, click the report type you need.
- 5 Click **Report Delivery**.
- 6 Select a check box corresponding to the delivery schedule and click **✗ Remove Selected**. Confirm removal and click **OK**.

---


## Viewing Log Files and Configuring Recycling of Log Files

All connections to the Web server and requests for files that were not found on the server are registered in log files. These log files are analyzed by the statistical utilities running on the server, which then present graphical reports on demand. You may want to download these log files to your computer for processing by third-party statistical utilities, or view their contents for web server debugging purposes.

➤ ***To prevent these log files from growing too large, you should enable automatic cleanup and recycling of log files:***

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Log Manager** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Click **Log Rotation** in the **Tools** group.
- 4 Click **Switch On** in the **Tools** group. If you see only **Switch Off** there, this means that log recycling is already switched on.
- 5 Specify when to recycle log files and how many instances of each log file to store on the server. Also specify whether they should be compressed and sent to an e-mail address after processing.
- 6 Click **OK**.

➤ ***To view the contents of a log file or download it to your computer:***

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Log Manager** in the **Hosting** group. A list of log files will show.
  - To specify the number of lines from the end of the log file that you would like to view, type a number into the input box under the **Preferences** group.
  - To view the contents of a log file, click its filename.
  - To download a file to your computer, click an icon , corresponding to the file you need.
  - To remove a processed log file from the server, select a corresponding check box and click **✗ Remove Selected**. Confirm removal and click **OK**.

# Backing Up And Restoring Your Data

With the current version of backup and restore utilities installed with your control panel, you can:

**Back up individual domains (Web sites).** The backup archive will include all data related to domain administrator's account (except for resource allotments and permissions to perform operations within the control panel), domain (web site) and mail services, including the contents of mailboxes, anti-spam and anti-virus settings.

**Schedule backups.** You can schedule the backup of your domains.

**Restore your data from backup archives.**

Your customers granted with the permission to use the backup and restore facilities can back up and restore their own account settings and Web sites through the control panel. Your customers will find shortcuts to their backup repositories on their Home pages (**Home > Backup**).

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## Backing Up Individual Domains (Web Sites)

- *To back up a domain (web site):*
- 1 Click the domain name you need on your Home page.
  - 2 Click **Backup** in the **Domain** group.
  - 3 Click **Create Backup** in the **Tools** group.
  - 4 Specify the backup method:
    - **Create backup file and store in repository** - backup file is created and stored on Plesk server.
    - **Do not store backup file in repository, only download it** - backup file is created on the Plesk server, and as soon as it's done, you download it to your computer. After the download is complete, backup file is erased from Plesk server.
    - **Create the backup file and store on FTP server** - backup file is created on the local Plesk server and stored on the FTP server of your choosing. If you select this option, you need to specify the path to the FTP server, FTP credentials (login and password) and base FTP directory in the corresponding fields.
  - 5 Specify the backup file name in the **Backup file name** field and additional comments in the **Comments** field.
  - 6 Select the **Suspend domain** checkbox, if you wish to suspend all domain activity during the backup. Note that suspended domains aren't available to the visitors.
  - 7 Select the **Notify by e-mail** checkbox and specify the e-mail, if you want to be notified about the backup.
  - 8 Click **Back Up**.
  - 9 The backup will start and the progress will be shown.
  - 10 Upon completion of the backup process you will be shown a window displaying the backup results, including errors, if they were encountered. Click **OK**.

## Backing Up Your Databases

Plesk allows you to back up and subsequently restore your databases, including their users and content. You can:

- Back up your databases with all data and users
- Restore databases from backup files
- Download, upload and remove database backup files
- Recover users who became orphaned after the restoration.

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## Backing Up Databases

### ➤ *To back up a database:*

- 1 Go to **domain name > Databases > database name** and click **Back Up Now**.
- 2 Specify the name of the backup file and click **OK**.
- 3 If you want to download the resulting backup file, click the file name on the next page after the backup process was finished. Specify the location where you want to save the file and click **Save**.
- 4 Click **OK**.

### ➤ *To back up all databases on your domain:*

- 1 Go to **domain name > Back Up > Database Backup Repository**, make sure that **All domain repositories** is selected in the **Database** field, and click **Back Up Now**.
- 2 Specify the name of the backup file and click **OK**.
- 3 If you want to download the resulting backup file, click the file name on the next page after the backup process was finished. Specify the location where you want to save the file and click **Save**.
- 4 Click **OK**.

## Restoring Databases

➤ *If the database already exists and you only need to restore its contents:*

- 1 Go to *domain name* > **Databases** > *database name* > **Database Backup Repository**, select the required backup file from the list and click **Restore Selected**.

If you do not have the backup file on your server, you can upload the backup file to the server repository from your local machine. Refer to [Uploading Database Backup Files To Server](#) (on page 149) section for more information.

- 2 Confirm the restoration by selecting the corresponding check box and click **OK**.

If you are restoring MS SQL database, there is a possibility that some database users will be orphaned. In order to provide the ability to access and use the database for these users, you need to repair them. Refer to [Recovering Orphaned Database Users](#) (on page 150) section for more information.

➤ *If the database does not exist and you need to recreate it from scratch:*

- 1 Go to *domain name* > **Databases** and click **Add New Database**.
- 2 Specify the database name, type and server for the database you are restoring.

---

**Note.** You can specify a new database name, but you must choose the correct database type: for example, if you are trying to restore a MySQL database, choose MySQL database type.

---

- 3 Select the **Restore database from backup file** check box.
- 4 Specify the location of the database backup file. You can upload a backup file from your local machine or specify a file located on the server.
- 5 Provide the default username and password for the restored database.
- 6 Click **OK**.

If you are restoring MS SQL database, there is a possibility that some database users will be orphaned. In order to provide the ability to access and use the database for these users, you need to repair them. Refer to [Recovering Orphaned Database Users](#) (on page 150) section for more information.

## Maintaining Database Backup Files Repository

Your database backup files are stored in your own database backup repository, accessible by going to *domain name* > **Backup** > **Database Backup Repository** on your home page. Each database has its own backup files repository. To see backup files for a specific database, select the required database from the **Database** menu. By default, the database backup repository shows backup files for all databases on a domain.

In the database backup repository you can:

- Upload database backup files stored on another computer

- Download database backup files to another computer
- Remove redundant database backup files from database backup repository

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## Uploading Database Backup Files To Server


➤ *To upload a backup file to backup repository:*

- 1 Go to *domain name* > **Backup** > **Database Backup Repository** and click **Upload Backup File**.
- 2 Select the database in which repository you want to upload the backup file to in the **Database name** menu.
- 3 Click **Browse...** and select the required backup file.
- 4 Leave the **Restore database backup immediately upon uploading** check box selected if you want the database contents to be restored immediately after the backup file is uploaded.
- 5 Click **OK**.

The database backup file will be uploaded to the backup repository of the specified database.

## Downloading Database Backup Files From Server


➤ *To download a backup file from backup repository:*

- 1 Go to *domain name* > **Backup** > **Database Backup Repository**.
- 2 Select the database which backup files you want to browse in the **Database** menu. Leave **All domain databases** selected if you want to browse backup files of all databases on a domain.
- 3 Click  icon corresponding to the database backup file you want to download
- 4 Select the location where you want to save the backup file and click **Save**.

The backup file will be downloaded from the backup repository.

## Removing Database Backup Files From Server

➤ *To download a backup file from backup repository:*

- 1 Go to *domain name* > **Backup** > **Database Backup Repository**.
- 2 Select the database which backup files you want to browse in the **Database** menu. Leave **All domain databases** selected if you want to browse backup files of all databases on a domain.
- 3 Select a check box corresponding to the database backup file you wish to remove. Click  **Remove Selected**, confirm removal and click **OK**.

## Recovering Orphaned Database Users

If you are restoring MS SQL database, there is a possibility that some database users will be orphaned. In order to provide the ability to access and use the database for these users, you need to repair them.

➤ **To check if a database has orphaned users:**

- 1 Go to **domain name > Databases > database name**.
- 2 If you see a warning saying that there are several orphaned users that should be repaired in order to function properly, you have orphaned users who need to be repaired.

➤ **To repair orphaned users:**

- 1 Go to **domain name > Databases > database name** and click **Repair now** button corresponding to the orphaned user you want to repair.
- 2 Provide a password for this user and click **Repair**.  
If a user is supposed to be a sysuser without a password, run repair with empty password field.
- 3 Repeat steps 1-2 as necessary to repair all orphaned users.

---

## Scheduling Backups

- *To schedule backup of a single domain (web site):*
- 1 Click the domain name you need on your Home page.
- 2 Click **Backup** in the **Tools** group.
- 3 Click **Scheduled Backup Settings** in the **Tools** group.
- 4 Specify when and how often to perform backup.
- 5 Choose the backup repository files location:
  - **Domain dumps** - backup files are stored on Plesk server.
  - **FTP** - backup files are stored on the remote FTP. If you select this option, you need to specify the path to the FTP server, FTP credentials (login and password) and base FTP directory in the corresponding fields on the **FTP Account Properties** page (**Home > domain name > Backup > FTP Account Properties**).
- 6 Specify the maximum number of stored backup files in the corresponding field.
- 7 Specify the combination of symbols that backup file names should begin with. This will help you distinguish between backup files.
- 8 Select the **Suspend domain** checkbox, if you wish to suspend all domain activity during the backup. Note that suspended domains aren't available to the visitors.
- 9 Click **Switch On** in the **Tools** group.
- 10 Click **OK**.

---

## Restoring Data From Backup Archives

➤ *To restore a domain (Web site):*

- 1 Click the domain name you need on your Home page.
- 2 Click **Backup** in the **Tools** group.
- 3 Click the backup file name you need.
- 4 Select the **Suspend domain** checkbox, if you wish to suspend all domain activity during the restore. Note that suspended domains aren't available to the visitors.
- 5 Select the **Notify by e-mail** checkbox and specify the e-mail, if you want to be notified about the restore.
- 6 Click **Restore**.
- 7 Upon completion of the restoring process you will be shown a window displaying the restoration results, including errors, if they were encountered.
- 8 Click **OK**.

---

## Maintaining Your Backup Files Repository

Domain backups are stored in separate backup repositories for each domain you are hosting. They are accessed by clicking the required domain name on your home page and clicking **Backup**. You can manage these backup repositories by:

- Uploading backup files stored on another computer
- Downloading backup files to another computer
- Removing redundant backup files from backup repository

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## Uploading Backup Files to Server

➤ *To upload backup file to the backup repository:*

- 1 Click the domain name you need on your Home page.
- 2 Click **Backup** in the **Tools** group.
- 3 Click **Browse...** and select the required backup file.
- 4 Click **Upload**.
- 5 Click **OK**.

The backup file will be uploaded to the backup repository.


➤ *To upload backup file to the backup repository from FTP:*

- 1 Click the domain name you need on your Home page.
- 2 Click **Backup** in the **Tools** group.
- 3 Click **FTP Account Properties**.
- 4 Specify the path to the FTP server, FTP credentials (login and password) and base FTP directory in the corresponding fields.
- 5 Click **OK**. This will return you to the previous screen.
- 6 Click **Browse...** and select the required backup file.
- 7 Click **FTP Upload**.
- 8 Click **OK**.

The backup file will be uploaded to the backup repository.

## Downloading Backup Files from Server

➤ *To download backup file from the backup repository:*

- 1 Click the domain name you need on your Home page.
- 2 Click **Backup** in the **Tools** group.
- 3 Click the  icon corresponding to the backup file you wish to download.
- 4 Select the location where you wish to save the backup file and click **Save**.

The backup file will be downloaded from the backup repository.

## Removing Backup Files from Server

➤ *To remove backup file from the backup repository:*

- 1 Click the domain name you need on your Home page.
- 2 Click **Backup** in the **Tools** group.

- 3 Select a checkbox corresponding to the backup file you wish to remove.
- 4 Click **X Remove Selected**.
- 5 Confirm removal and click **OK**.

# Using E-mail Services

You can use a number of different e-mail services with a single e-mail account. For example, you can have an e-mail address that will accept mail as any standard mailbox, forward to a number of recipients, and send an automatic response to the original message sender.

If you are going to serve mailboxes under a specific domain with an external mail server, follow these steps:

- 1 Go to **Home > domain name > DNS Settings**.
- 2 In the **Record type** column, locate an MX record, and click the respective link in the **Host** column on the left.
- 3 In the **Enter mail exchanger** box, type the external mail server's host name, for example, `mailserver.example.com`.
- 4 Click **OK**.
- 5 Click **Up Level** to return to the domain management screen.
- 6 Click **Mail**.
- 7 Click **Switch Off**.

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## Creating Mailboxes

If you wish to have an e-mail address associated with a site, like [yourname@domain.com](mailto:yourname@domain.com), you should create a mailbox. To do this:

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click the **Mail** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click **Add New Mail Account**.
- 4 Your domain name is shown to the right of @ sign, so you only need to specify the desired name for the mailbox.

This can be, for example, your first name and last name separated by a dot, a department name, or any other text in Latin symbols. The name should be short enough to remember. It can comprise alphanumeric, dash, dot and underscore symbols.

- 5 Specify a password that you will use for accessing your mailbox.
- 6 Make sure that a check mark is present in the **Mailbox** check box.
- 7 Click **OK**.

Now your mailbox is created on the provider's server, and you can set up your favorite e-mail program so as to receive and send e-mail messages through your new mailbox.

➤ **To create mailboxes for other users:**

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click the **Mail** icon in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click **Add New Mail Account**.
- 4 Your domain name is shown to the right of @ sign, so you only need to specify the desired name for the mailbox.

This can be, for example, user's first name and last name separated by a dot, a department name, or any other text in Latin symbols. The name should be short enough to remember. It can comprise alphanumeric, dash dot and underscore symbols.

- 5 Specify a password that mailbox owner will use for accessing his or her mailbox.
- 6 Make sure that a check mark is present in the **Mailbox** check box.
- 7 If required, limit the amount of disk space that this mailbox and its autoresponder attachment files can use. To do this, under **Mailbox quota** select the **Enter size** option and type the desired value in kilobytes.
- 8 To allow the mailbox owner to manage his or her mailbox through a mailbox administration panel, select the **Control panel access** check box and specify the language for the user's control panel.
- 9 Click **OK**.

- 10** To allow the mailbox owner configure and use spam filter and antivirus, click **Permissions**, select the respective check boxes and click **OK**.

Now, the mailbox is created, and a separate e-mail administration panel has been set up in Plesk. To enter it, the mailbox owner should visit the URL <https://your-domain.com:8443>, type his or her e-mail address into the **Login** box, type the password for the mailbox into the **Password** box, and then click **Login**.

## Setting Up Your E-mail Program for Retrieving Mail from Your Mailbox

➤ *To set up Microsoft Outlook Express:*

- 1 Open Microsoft Outlook Express.
- 2 Go to **Tools > Accounts**.
- 3 Click the **Mail** tab to open a list of your mail accounts.
- 4 Click the **Add >** button and select the **Mail ...** item.
- 5 Enter your name as you want it to appear in any messages you send, and click **Next >**.
- 6 Type your e-mail address that you created through Plesk (for example, [your.name@your-domain.com](mailto:your.name@your-domain.com)), and click **Next >**.
- 7 Select the protocol of your incoming mail server.
- 8 Specify the mail domain name as the incoming and outgoing mail server (for example: mail.your-domain.com), and click **Next >**.
- 9 Type your e-mail address in the **Account name** box (for example: [your.name@your-domain.com](mailto:your.name@your-domain.com)).
- 10 Type your password. This should be the password that you specified during creation of the mailbox through Plesk.
- 11 Leave the **Remember password** box checked, if you do not wish to be prompted to enter password each time your e-mail program connects to the mail server to check for new mail, and click **Next >**.
- 12 To complete setting up your e-mail program, click **Finish**.

➤ *To set up Mozilla Thunderbird:*

- 1 Open Mozilla Thunderbird.
- 2 Go to **Tools > Account Settings...**
- 3 Click **Add Account**. The Account Wizard will open.
- 4 Leave the **Email account** option selected, and click **Next >**.
- 5 Enter your name as you want it to appear in any messages you send.
- 6 Type your e-mail address that you created through Plesk.  
For example, [your.name@your-domain.com](mailto:your.name@your-domain.com). Click **Next >**.
- 7 Select the protocol of your incoming mail server.
- 8 Specify the mail domain name as the incoming and outgoing mail server (for example: mail.your-domain.com), and click **Next >**.
- 9 In the Incoming User Name box, specify your full e-mail address (for example, [your.name@your-domain.com](mailto:your.name@your-domain.com)), and click **Next >**.

- 10** Enter the name by which you would like to refer to this account (for example, Work Account) and click **Next >**.
- 11** Verify that the information you entered is correct, and click **Finish**.
- 12** Click **OK** to close the Account Settings wizard.

---

## Accessing Your Mail From a Web Browser

You can read your mail and compose new messages even if you are far from your home or office computer. To do this, you first need to allow access to the Horde Webmail interface that is integrated with your control panel. Then you can work with your mail from any computer that is connected to the Internet and has a Web browser program installed.

To allow access to the Webmail interface:


- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click the **Mail** icon.
- 3 Click **Preferences**.
- 4 Choose the required WebMail client software in the **WebMail** menu to enable the ability to read mail through a browser-based WebMail application for users of mailboxes in this domain.
- 5 Click **OK**.

---

**Note:** Activation and deactivation of Webmail for a domain involves modifications in DNS zone, therefore, there is actually a certain delay present when activating and deactivating Webmail due to the speed of DNS registration mechanisms.

---

To access your mailbox through Webmail:

- 1 Find a computer with Internet connection, for example, in an Internet café.
- 2 Do any of the following:
  - Open a web browser, and type the URL: <http://webmail.your-domain.com>, where your-domain.com is the name of your domain. Press ENTER. A login screen will open. Type the user name and password that you specified during creation of your mailbox and click **Log in**.
  - Open a web browser and type the URL to access your Plesk control panel, for example: <https://your-domain.com:8443>. Press ENTER. Log in to Plesk, click the domain name you need, and click the **Mail** icon in the **Services** group. Then, click an icon  to the right of your e-mail address. A login screen will open and your user name will be prefilled. Type the password that you specified during creation of your mailbox and click **Log in**.

---

## Protecting Mailboxes From Spam

To protect your mailbox from undesirable correspondence, do not publish your e-mail address on Internet forums and switch on the server-side spam filter provided by the SpamAssassin software. Also ask your provider to switch on protection from spam and phishing based on DomainKeys.

DomainKeys is based on sender authentication. When an e-mail claims to originate from a certain domain, DomainKeys provides a mechanism by which the recipient system can credibly determine that the e-mail did in fact originate from a person or system authorized to send e-mail for that domain. If the sender verification fails, the recipient system discards such e-mail messages. Verification of incoming mail can be switched on only by your provider; however, you can switch on signing of e-mail messages that are sent from your domain: **Home > domain name > Mail > Preferences > Use DomainKeys spam protection system to sign outgoing e-mail messages** option.

When you need to publish your e-mail address, you may want to create a disposable e-mail address - e-mail alias - for your primary e-mail address, and publish it instead. All messages sent to the e-mail alias will come into your mailbox. Once you start getting spam, remove that alias and create another one. If you have a mailbox at another domain or mail server, you may want to set up a disposable e-mail forwarder.


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## Setting Up Additional Disposable E-mail Addresses (Mail Aliases)

➤ *To set up an e-mail alias for a mailbox:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the e-mail address you need.
- 4 Click **Add New Mail Alias**.
- 5 Type a desired name and click **OK**.

The messages addressed to your additional e-mail address (e-mail alias) will get to your mailbox. You can see the list of currently used mail aliases by clicking  **Show Aliases** on the page that lists mail accounts under the domain.

➤ *To remove an e-mail alias from a mailbox:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the e-mail address you need.
- 4 Select the check box corresponding to the alias that you wish to remove, and click  **Remove Selected**.

## Setting Up Spam Filter

If you receive undesirable correspondence to an e-mail address that you cannot or do not want to remove, consider setting up spam filter for your mailbox. To do this,

- Enable SpamAssassin spam filter on the Plesk server, if supported by your provider, and
- Install spam filtering software of your choice to work with e-mail program on your home or office computer.

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## Switching on Spam Filter

- *To switch on spam filtering for a mailbox:*
- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click the **Mail** icon in the **Services** group.
  - 3 Click the e-mail address you need.
  - 4 Make sure that Spam Filter is enabled: see whether the Spam Filter status shows **On** in the **Info** group. If it shows **Off**, ask your service provider to enable the spam filtering.
  - 5 Click **Spam Filter**.
  - 6 Select **Switch on spam filtering** checkbox.
  - 7 Click **OK**.
  - 8 Click **Up Level** to return to the mailbox management page.

Now all the incoming mail will be filtered on the server side. By default, spam filter does not delete spam mail, it only adds the "X-Spam-Flag: YES" and "X-Spam-Status: Yes" headers to the message, and "\*\*\*\*\*SPAM\*\*\*\*\*" text string to the beginning of Subject line of each message recognized as spam. These settings are fine if you prefer to filter mail with a filtering program installed on your local computer – once mail has been retrieved from your mailbox.

If you rely entirely on the Plesk server's spam filter, you may configure it so as to automatically delete the suspicious messages as they come. To configure the spam filter, follow the instructions below.

## Configuring Spam Filter

➤ *To configure the spam filter for a mailbox:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click the **Mail** icon in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the e-mail address you need.
- 4 Click **Spam Filter** in the **Tools** group. Configure the following settings as desired:
  - **Use server wide settings.** Select this option if your provider or server administrator has prepared black and/or white lists of e-mail addresses that you would like to use together with your own restrictions. Black list, shown under **Black list** group, includes e-mail addresses of spammers, and White list, shown under **White list** group, includes e-mail addresses of trustworthy correspondents or entities. If the **Use server wide settings** check box is grayed out, i.e. not selectable, this means that there are no preconfigured spam filter settings on the server.
  - **Hits required for spam.** This setting adjusts spam filter sensitivity. SpamAssassin performs a number of different tests on contents and subject line of each message. As a result, each message scores a number of points. The higher the number, the more likely a message is spam. For example, a message containing the text string “BUY VIAGRA AT LOW PRICE!!!” in Subject line and message body scores 8.3 points. By default, the filter sensitivity is set so that all messages that score 7 or more points are classified as spam.
  - If you receive lots of spam messages with the current setting, to make filter more sensitive, try setting a lesser value in the **Hits required for spam** box; for example, 6.
  - If you are missing your e-mails because your spam filter thinks they are junk, try reducing filter sensitivity by setting a higher value in the **Hits required for spam** box.

---

**Note:** To further improve spam filter accuracy, you may want to train your spam filter on e-mail messages you receive (see the instructions on improving accuracy of spam detection below).

---

- **What to do with spam mail.** If you are sure that your spam filter is accurate, you may want to set the filter to automatically delete all incoming messages recognized as spam. To do this, select the **Delete** option. If you wish to filter mail with the software on your local computer, select the **Mark as spam and store in mailbox** option, and then specify how spam filter should mark the messages recognized as spam. “X-Spam-Flag: YES” and “X-Spam-Status: Yes” headers are added to the message source by default, and if you want, the spam filter will also include a specific text string to the beginning of Subject line.
- 5 To save your changes, click **OK**.
  - 6 If you do not want to receive e-mail from specific senders, add their e-mail addresses to the spam filter’s black list.
    - To add an entry to the black list, under **Black list** group, type an e-mail address into the **E-mail pattern** box. For example: [address@spammers.net](#), [\\*@spammers.net](#). An asterisk (\*) means any combination of symbols. Click **Add**.
    - To remove an entry from the black list, select it and click **Remove**.

- 7 If you want to be sure that you will not miss e-mail from specific senders, add their e-mail addresses to the spam filter's white list.
  - To add an entry to the white list, under **White list** group, type an e-mail address into the **E-mail pattern** box. For example: [address@mycompany.com](mailto:address@mycompany.com), [\\*@mycompany.com](mailto:*@mycompany.com). An asterisk (\*) means any combination of symbols. Click **Add**.
  - To remove an entry from the black list, select it and click **Remove**.
- 8 If you want spam filter to consider some networks to be trusted:
  - Select the **Trusted Networks** tab.
  - To add an entry to the list, enter a network address into the fields next to **Network/Mask** and click **Add**.

A network is specified by its starting IP address in the first four fields of the **Network/Mask** field group. The fifth field is for specifying network mask. It should be a number ranging from 1 to 32, which shows how many higher bits set to '1' the mask contains. For example, for the mask 255.255.255.0 you should specify 24 as the fifth parameter.
  - To remove an entry from the list, select a network and click **Remove**.

The relay hosts on trusted networks are considered not to be potentially operated by spammers, open relays, or open proxies. A trusted host could conceivably relay spam, but will not originate it, and will not forge header data. DNS blacklist checks will never query for hosts on these networks.

## Improving Accuracy of Spam Detection

You can improve accuracy of spam detection by training the spam filter on the e-mail messages that you have in your mailbox.

➤ **To improve accuracy of spam detection:**

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click the **Mail** icon in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the e-mail address you need.
- 4 Click the **Spam Filter** icon in the **Tools** group.
- 5 Click the **Training** icon in the **Tools** group.

All e-mail messages you have in your mailbox are presented on the screen.

- 6 Train the spam filter.

In most cases, you can tell if a message is spam by looking at its subject line and sender's name. If they do not give you any clue, try looking inside the message using your e-mail program or webmail interface.

- To mark a message as spam, select the corresponding check box and click '**It's Spam!**'.
  - To mark a message as not spam, select the corresponding check box and click '**It's Not Spam!**'.
  - To remove any information on a given message from the spam filter database, select the corresponding check box and click '**Forget It!**'.
- 7 Once finished with training, you can remove spam e-mails from your mailbox using your e-mail program or Webmail interface.

## Clearing Spam Filter's Database

If you have accidentally made your spam filter learn a great number of spam e-mails as non-spam or vice versa, your spam filter will likely produce incorrect results. In this case, clear the spam filter's database and then repeat training.

➤ **To clear spam filter's database:**

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click the **Mail** icon in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the e-mail address you need.
- 4 Click the **Spam Filter** icon in the **Tools** group.
- 5 Click the **Training** icon in the **Tools** group.
- 6 Click the **Clear** button.

## Switching off Spam Filter

- *To switch off spam filtering for a mailbox:*
  - 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click the **Mail** icon in the **Services** group.
  - 3 Click the e-mail address you need.
  - 4 Click **Spam Filter** in the **Tools** group, then clear the **Switch on spam filtering** check box, click **OK** and click **Up Level**.

---

## Protecting Mailboxes From Viruses

To defend your system from viruses, do not open suspicious e-mail attachments, enable anti-virus protection on the server side, if this service is provided by your hosting company, and be sure to have a firewall and anti-virus software installed on your personal computer. Also keep your operating system up-to-date and timely install security hot fixes and patches.

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## Switching on Antivirus Protection

➤ *To switch on antivirus protection for a mailbox:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail**.
- 3 Click the e-mail address you need.
- 4 Click **Antivirus** in the **Tools** group.
- 5 Choose the desired mail scanning mode. You can switch on scanning for incoming and outgoing mail in the corresponding menus. You can also use default server-wide settings both for incoming and outgoing mail.
- 6 Click **OK**.

When an infected e-mail message arrives, the appropriate notice is sent to the mailbox owner and the message is placed into a quarantine directory on the server. Only the server administrator can view infected messages stored in the quarantine directory.

## Switching off Antivirus Protection

➤ *To switch off antivirus protection for a mailbox:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail**.
- 3 Click the e-mail address you need.
- 4 Click **Antivirus** in the **Tools** group.
- 5 Choose the **Do not scan for viruses** option in both **Incoming mail** and **Outgoing mail** menus.
- 6 Click **OK**.

---

## Suspending and Unsuspending Mailboxes

➤ *To temporarily suspend e-mail services for a mailbox:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail**.
- 3 Click the e-mail address, whose e-mail services you wish to suspend.
- 4 Click **Mailbox** in the **Tools** group.
- 5 Clear the **Mailbox** check box.
- 6 Click **OK**.

➤ *To resume e-mail services for a suspended mailbox:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail**.
- 3 Click the e-mail address, whose e-mail services you wish to resume.
- 4 Click **Mailbox** in the **Tools** group.
- 5 Select the **Mailbox** check box.
- 6 Click **OK**.

➤ *To temporarily suspend e-mail services for all mailboxes in a domain:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail**.
- 3 Click **Switch Off** in the **Tools** group.


➤ *To resume e-mail services for all mailboxes in a domain:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail**.
- 3 Click **Switch On** in the **Tools** group.

---

## Removing Mailboxes

➤ *To remove a mailbox:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail**.
- 3 Select a check box corresponding to the mailbox that you wish to remove.
- 4 Click  **Remove Selected**.
- 5 When prompted, confirm removal and click **OK**.

---

## Switching off the Mailbox Service When You Have Decided to Turn Your Account into a Mail Forwarder

If you are going to use your existing e-mail account as a mail forwarder or mailing list, you are recommended to switch off the mailbox service: a mailbox keeps all incoming messages and messages are not removed automatically after being forwarded. Therefore, if you choose to have the “mailbox + mail forwarder” configuration on your account, be sure to clean up the mailbox from time to time.

➤ *To switch off the mailbox service for your account discarding all messages in your mailbox:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click the **Mail** icon.
- 3 Click the required e-mail address.
- 4 Click the **Mailbox** icon in the **Tools** group.
- 5 Deselect the **Mailbox** check box.
- 6 Click **OK**.

---

## Setting Up Mail Forwarding to a Single E-mail Address

➤ *To set up an e-mail address that will accept mail and forward it to another e-mail address:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click **Add New Mail Account**.
- 4 Specify the desired name for the mail forwarder next to **Mail account name**.

The domain name is shown to the right of @ sign, so you only need to type the name. This can be, for example, your first name and last name separated by a dot, a department name, or any other text in Latin symbols. The name should be short enough to remember. It can comprise alphanumeric, dash dot and underscore symbols.

- 5 Clear the **Mailbox** and **Control panel access** check boxes.
- 6 Click **OK**.
- 7 Click **Redirect** in the **Tools** group.
- 8 Select the **Redirect** check box.
- 9 Type the destination e-mail address to which you would like to forward e-mail.
- 10 Click **OK**.

➤ *To set up an e-mail address that will accept mail, pass it through the spam filter and then forward it to another e-mail address:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click **Add New Mail Account**.
- 4 Specify the desired name for the forwarder's e-mail address next to **Mail account name**.

The domain name is shown to the right of @ sign, so you only need to type the name. This can be, for example, your first name and last name separated by a dot, a department name, or any other text in Latin symbols. The name should be short enough to remember. It can comprise alphanumeric, dash dot and underscore symbols.

- 5 Make sure that the **Mailbox** check box is selected.  
Without a mailbox, you will not be able to apply spam filtering.
- 6 Specify a password that will be used for accessing the mailbox: You will likely need to clean the contents of mailbox from time to time.

- 7 Click **OK**.
- 8 Click **Redirect** in the **Tools** group.
- 9 Select the **Redirect** check box.
- 10 Type the destination e-mail address to which you would like to forward e-mail.
- 11 Click **OK**.

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## **Suspending and Unsuspending Mail Forwarders**

➤ *To suspend a mail forwarder:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail**.
- 3 Click the e-mail address, whose forwarding service you wish to suspend.
- 4 Click **Redirect** in the **Tools** group.
- 5 Clear the **Redirect** check box.
- 6 Click **OK**.

➤ *To unsuspend a mail forwarder:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail**.
- 3 Click the e-mail address, whose forwarding service you wish to resume.
- 4 Click **Redirect** in the **Tools** group.
- 5 Select the **Redirect** check box.
- 6 Click **OK**.

---

## Setting Up Mail Forwarding to Multiple E-mail Addresses

➤ *To set up an e-mail address that will accept mail and forward it to multiple other e-mail addresses:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the required e-mail address.
- 4 Click **Mail Group**.
- 5 Click **Add New Member**.

You should add at least one e-mail address before enabling mail forwarding to several e-mail addresses.

- 6 Enter the desired external e-mail address into the **E-mail** input field or select one or more of the listed mail accounts using check boxes.
- 7 Click **OK**.
- 8 Click **Switch On**.

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## Adding and Removing Recipient Addresses

➤ *To add an external e-mail address to the list of mail accounts that receive forwarded e-mail correspondence:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the required e-mail address.
- 4 Click **Mail Group**.
- 5 Click **Add New Member**.
- 6 Enter the desired external e-mail address into the **E-mail** input field.
- 7 Click **OK**.

➤ *To remove an external e-mail address from the list of mail accounts that receive forwarded e-mail correspondence:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the required e-mail address.
- 4 Click **Mail Group**.
- 5 Select the check box corresponding to the e-mail address you wish to remove from the list.
- 6 Click **✗ Remove Selected**. Confirm removal and click **OK**.

➤ *To add an e-mail address registered on your server to the list of mail accounts that receive forwarded e-mail correspondence:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the mail account you wish to add to the subscription list.
- 4 Click **Groups**.
- 5 Select the required multiple e-mail forwarder in the **Available mail groups** list.
- 6 Click **Add >>**.
- 7 Click **OK**.

An e-mail address registered on your server can also be added to the subscription list using the procedure for adding an external e-mail address (see above).

➤ *To remove an e-mail address registered on your server from the list of mail accounts that receive forwarded e-mail correspondence:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the e-mail address you wish to remove from the subscription list.

- 4 Click **Groups**.
- 5 Select the required multiple e-mail forwarder in the **Member of the following mail groups** list.
- 6 Click **<< Remove**.
- 7 Click **OK**.

An e-mail address registered on your server can also be removed from the subscription list using the procedure for removing an external e-mail address (see above).

## Switching off Mail Forwarding to Multiple E-mail Addresses

- *To switch off the e-mail forwarding to several e-mail addresses:*
- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click **Mail** in the **Services** group.
  - 3 Click the required e-mail address.
  - 4 Click **Mail Group**.
  - 5 Click **Switch Off**.

---

## Removing Mail Forwarders


- *To remove a mail forwarder:*
- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click **Mail**.
  - 3 Select a check box corresponding to the mail forwarder that you wish to remove.
  - 4 Click **✗ Remove Selected**.
  - 5 When prompted, confirm removal and click **OK**.

## Setting Up Automatic Reply

If you are going on vacation and will not be able to check your mail for a while, you may want to leave a vacation notice that will be automatically sent to your correspondents once they send e-mail to your address. This is done with automatic reply facility, also referred to as autoresponder. Aside from vacation notices, organizations can use automatic replies to notify customers that their orders or technical support requests were received and will soon be processed. Automatic replies can include pre-written messages in plain text or HTML format, and they can contain attached files as well.

➤ **To set up automatic reply for a mailbox:**

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail**.
- 3 Click the e-mail address, for which you wish to set up an automatic reply.
- 4 Click **Autoresponders** in the **Tools** group.
- 5 If you are not going to attach any files to the automatic reply, proceed to the step 6. To attach a file to the automatic reply:
  1. Click **Attachment Files** in the **Tools** group.
  2. Click **Browse** to locate the file, and once selected, click **Send File**.

The file will be added to the attachment files storage, and you will be able to attach this file to a number of different automatic replies.
  3. Once finished, click  **Up Level** and proceed to the next step.
- 6 Click **Add New Autoresponder** in the **Tools** group.
- 7 Configure the automatic reply:
  1. Type a name for this automatic reply into the **Autoresponder name** box.

For example, Vacation notice.
  2. If you want this automatic reply to be sent in reply to any incoming e-mail message, in the **Request** group, leave the **always respond** option selected. If you wish to automatically reply only to e-mail messages that contain specific words in the message text or subject line, select the appropriate option, and type the word combination in the **Request text** input box.
  3. By default, the subject line of incoming e-mail will be inserted into the automated reply. To use a custom subject, type it into the **Answer with subject** subject input box.

4. As your correspondents may not figure out that the message they received from you was an automatic response, they may want to respond to your auto-reply. So, you should specify your e-mail address as the **Return address**, otherwise, their messages will be directed at the autoresponder's address.
  5. Type your message in the **Reply with text** field.
  6. To limit the number of automated responses per day to the same e-mail address, enter the desired number in the **Reply to unique e-mail address not more than** input box under **Limits**.

The default setting is to respond no more than ten times in one day to the same e-mail address.
  7. To reduce mail server load, you may want to limit the number of unique addresses that the autoresponder will remember. To do this, enter the desired number into the **Store up to** box.
  8. If you want your incoming mail to be forwarded to another e-mail address while you are away, specify an e-mail address in the **Forward request to e-mail** box.
  9. Attach your files, if needed. To do this, click the **Add New Attachment** button, select the check box corresponding to the file that you previously uploaded to the attachment storage, and click **OK**. To remove an attached file from the automatic reply, select the corresponding checkbox, and click **✗ Remove Selected**.
- 8 Click **OK**.
  - 9 Click **Switch On** in the **Tools** group.

---


## Switching off Automatic Reply

➤ *To switch off an automatic reply for a mailbox:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail**.
- 3 Click the e-mail address, for which you wish to switch off the automatic reply.
- 4 Click **Autoresponders** in the **Tools** group.
- 5 Click **Switch Off**.

The automatic reply is now switched off. Its configuration is not deleted from the control panel, so the next time you need to use this automatic reply, repeat the above procedure, clicking **Switch On** on the last step.

➤ *To delete an automatic reply configuration that you no longer need:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail**.
- 3 Click the e-mail address you need.
- 4 Click **Autoresponders** in the **Tools** group.
- 5 Select a check box corresponding to the configuration name, and click  **Remove Selected**.

---

## Setting Up Site-wide Preferences for Handling Mail to Nonexistent Users (Mail Bounce)

When somebody sends an e-mail message to an e-mail address that does not exist under your domain, the mail server, by default accepts mail, processes it, and when it finds out that there is no such a recipient under the domain, it returns the mail back to sender with the “this address no longer accepts mail” notice. You can choose to:

- Continue returning all such mail back to senders (**Bounce** option),
- Forward all such mail to the specified e-mail address (**Catch to address** option),
- Forward all such mail to another mail server with the specified IP address (**Redirect to external mail server with IP address** option),
- Reject such mail without accepting it and without notifying senders (**Discard** option).


This setting can decrease mail server load caused by a large amount of spam, which is often sent to randomly generated user names. However, for spammers, this can somewhat speed up scanning your mail server for valid e-mail addresses.

➤ ***To configure the site-wide settings for handling mail to nonexistent users:***

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail**.
- 3 Click **Preferences**.
- 4 Choose a desired option and specify the information as required.
- 5 Click **OK**.

---

## Introducing Similar Changes to a Number of Mail Accounts at Once

- *To introduce similar changes to a number of mail accounts at once:*
- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
  - 2 Click **Mail** in the **Services** group.
  - 3 Select the check boxes corresponding to the mail accounts whose settings you want to change.
  - 4 Click  **Group Operations**.
  - 5 Adjust the settings as necessary:
    - Select **Switch on** to enable the corresponding option for the selected mail accounts.
    - Select **Switch off** to disable the corresponding option for the selected mail accounts.
    - Leave **Do not change** selected if you do not want to change the corresponding option.
  - 6 Click **OK**.

---

## Maintaining Mailing Lists

If you want to deliver offers and promotions to your customers, run a newsletter, or inform visitors of your site of recent updates, you should set up a mailing list on your site and subscribe your users to it or invite them to subscribe themselves.

Mailing list is a convenient way to reach a number of readers at once: it contains a list of subscribers' e-mail addresses, which are combined under a single e-mail address, to which you post your information or a newsletter.

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## Setting Up a Mailing List

➤ *To create a mailing list:*

1 On your Home page click the required domain name, go to **Mail > Mailing lists** tab and click **Add New Mailing List**.

2 Specify the desired name for the mailing list.

This can be, for example, a department name, a topic of the mailing list, or any other text in Latin symbols. The name should be short enough to remember. It can comprise alphanumeric, dash, dot and underscore symbols.

3 Specify the mailing list administrator's e-mail.

If you need to change the mailing list administrator's e-mail later, go to **domain name > Mail > Mailing lists** tab > **mailing list name > Preferences** and specify the new e-mail address.

4 Leave the **Notify administrator of the mailing list creation** check box selected.

You will receive instructions on using and managing the mailing list at the administrator's e-mail you specified. Keep that message for your records.

5 Click **OK**.

You will be taken to the page where you can subscribe users to your new mailing list. Refer to the **Subscribing and Unsubscribing Users** section for more information.

## Subscribing and Unsubscribing Users

➤ *To subscribe one user to a mailing list:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the required domain name, go to **Mail > Mailing lists** tab > *mailing list name* and click **Add New Member**.
- 2 Specify subscriber's e-mail address in the **E-mail** field and click **OK**.

➤ *To subscribe several users to the mailing list:*


- 1 Create a list of user e-mail addresses you want to add and save it on your computer. The list should be in plain text format and contain one e-mail address per line.
- 2 On your Home page, click the required domain name, go to **Mail > Mailing lists** tab > *mailing list name* and click **Add New Member**.
- 3 Select **Add from a text file (one e-mail address per line)** option and click **Browse**. In the opened window find your list of user e-mail addresses on your computer and click **OK**.
- 4 Click **OK** to subscribe the users in your list of user e-mail addresses to the mailing list.

➤ *To unsubscribe users from mailing list:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the required domain name, go to **Mail > Mailing lists** tab > *mailing list name*.
- 2 Select a check box to the left of the user's e-mail address.
- 3 Click **✗ Remove Selected**. Confirm removal and click **OK**.

## Exporting The List Of Subscribed Users

➤ *To export the list of users subscribed to a mailing list:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the required domain name and go to **Mail > Mailing lists** tab.
- 2 Click the  icon corresponding to the required mailing list.
- 3 Select the place you want to save the list of subscribed users to and click **OK**.

## Posting to Your Mailing List

To post a newsletter issue or other information to the mailing list, send it by e-mail to the mailing list's e-mail address. All subscribed users will receive it.

## Removing Mailing Lists

➤ *To remove a mailing list from site:*

- 1 On your Home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Mail** in the **Services** group.
- 3 Click the **Mailing lists** tab.
- 4 Select a check box corresponding to the mailbox that you wish to remove.
- 5 Click **✗ Remove Selected**.
- 6 When prompted, confirm removal and click **OK**.

# Scheduling Tasks

If you need to run scripts on your site at specific time, use the task scheduler on your provider's server to make the system automatically run the scripts for you.

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## Scheduling a Task

- *To schedule a task for a domain:*
  - 1 On your Home page, select the required domain from the list.
  - 2 Click **Scheduled Tasks** in the **Hosting** group.
  - 3 Click **Add New Task**.
  - 4 Input a name for your task in the **Description** field.
  - 5 In **Scheduler notification**, specify whether the scheduler should notify you when it runs this task. The following options are available:
    - **Switched off** - do not notify you.
    - **Send to the default e-mail** - send the notification to your default e-mail address.
    - **Send to the e-mail I specify** - send the notification to the e-mail specified in the corresponding field. After selecting this option, you need to input the required e-mail in the field on the right.
  - 6 Specify which command to run. Type it into the **Path to executable file** input box. If you need to run the command with certain options, type them in the **Arguments** field.
  - 7 Select the appropriate priority in the **Task priority** field. Task priority can be set to **Low**, **Normal** or **High**.
  - 8 Specify when to run your command by selecting the appropriate check boxes in the **Hours**, **Days of Month**, **Months** or **Days of Week** fields.
  - 9 Click **OK** to schedule the task or click **Run Now** to schedule the task and immediately run it.

---

## Suspending and Resuming Execution of Tasks

- *To temporarily suspend execution of scheduled task:*
  - 1 On your Home page, select the required domain name from the list.
  - 2 Click **Scheduled Tasks** in the **Hosting** group.
  - 3 Select the system user account on whose behalf the task is executed.
  - 4 Locate the task that you want to suspend and click the command name.
  - 5 Clear the **Switched on** check box and click **OK**.
  
- *To resume execution of scheduled task:*
  - 1 On your Home page, select the required domain name from the list.
  - 2 Click **Scheduled Tasks** in the **Hosting** group.
  - 3 Select the system user account on whose behalf the task is executed.
  - 4 Locate the task whose execution you want to resume and click the command name.
  - 5 Select the **Switched on** check box and click **OK**.

---

## Unscheduling a Task

- *To unschedule a task:*
  - 1 On your Home page, select the required domain name from the list.
  - 2 Click **Scheduled Tasks** in the **Hosting** group.
  - 3 Select the system user account on whose behalf the task is executed.
  - 4 Select a check box to the left of the task that you want to unschedule.
  - 5 Click **✗ Remove Selected**.
  - 6 Confirm removal and click **OK**.





# Monitoring Connections to Control Panel and FTP Services

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## Monitoring Connections to Control Panel


- *To find out who of your customers is logged in to the control panel at the moment:*
- 1 Click **Sessions** in the navigation pane. All sessions including yours will be presented and the following details will be displayed:
  - **Type.** A type of control panel user who established the session:
    -  for client.
    -  for domain or Web site owner.
    -  for mailbox owner.
  - **Login.** The login name the user is logged in as.
  - **IP address.** The IP address from which the control panel is accessed.
  - **Logon time.** The date and time when the user logged in to the control panel.
  - **Idle time.** The time that user was not doing anything in the control panel while being logged in.
- 2 To refresh the list of user sessions, click **Refresh**.
- 3 To end a user session, select the respective check box and click  **Remove Selected**, then confirm removal and click **OK**.

---

## Monitoring Connections to FTP Service

- *To find out who is connected to your server via FTP, in what directories they currently are and what files they are uploading to or downloading from the server:*
- 1 Click **Sessions** in the navigation pane.
  - 2 Click the **FTP Sessions** tab. All sessions including yours will be presented and the following details will be displayed:
    - **Type.** The type of user who established the session:
      -  for users not registered with the control panel.
      -  for anonymous FTP users.
      -  for domain or web site administrators.
      -  for subdomain administrators.
      -  for web users (owners of personal web pages without individual domain names).
    - **Status.** The current status of FTP connection.
    - **FTP user login.** The login name used for access to FTP account.
    - **Domain name.** The domain the FTP user is currently connected to.
    - **Current location.** The directory the FTP user is currently at.
    - **File name.** The file name being operated on.
    - **Speed.** Transfer speed in kilobytes.
    - **Progress, %.** The file transfer operation progress in percentage.
    - **IP address.** The IP address from which the FTP account is accessed.
    - **Logon time.** The time lapsed since the moment user logged in.
    - **Idle time.** The time that user was not doing anything while being connected to the server through FTP.
  - 3 To refresh the list of FTP sessions, click **Refresh**.

## Accessing The Server Via Remote Desktop (RDP)

- 4 To end a session, select the respective check box and click  **Remove Selected**.

The remote desktop (RDP) access feature allows you to remotely login to the Plesk server and interact with it via standard Microsoft Windows desktop interface.

➤ **To access the server via Remote Desktop interface:**

- 1 On your home page, click the domain name you need.
- 2 Click **Remote Desktop** in the **Hosting** group.
- 3 Set up screen resolution for the session in the **Screen resolution for terminal session** menu.

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**Note:** Higher resolutions are more taxing for your connection, decreasing the interaction speed and spending more bandwidth.

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- 4 Choose the connection method according to your browser:

- **Microsoft RDP ActiveX** - recommended to use with Internet Explorer browser, since it may not work with other browsers. When you use this method for the first time, your browser will automatically install the required ActiveX component, if Internet Explorer security settings permit this. If your browser displays security alerts, try to temporarily lower security measures in the browser options.
- **properoJavaRDP** - recommended to use with Netscape, Mozilla, or Firefox browsers, since it may not work with Internet Explorer. Only 8.0 and higher versions of Opera are supported. This component requires Java Runtime Environment (JRE) to be installed on your system. If you do not have JRE, you can download it from <http://java.sun.com/j2se/1.5.0/download.jsp> (version 1.4 and higher) and install it before using the remote desktop feature.

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**Note:** You don't need to install JDK (Java Development Kit) in order for the RDP feature to work.

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If you use Internet Explorer or Mozilla, you should open the Terminal Services Configuration console in the Microsoft Windows (**Start > Administrative Tasks**), and set the **Licensing** option to **Per user** on the **Server Settings** screen.

- 5 Click **OK**. A new window will open with an area where your interaction with the server's desktop will take place.
- 6 Log in to the system. By default, Plesk uses the domain's FTP/Microsoft FrontPage login. You can supply any valid login and password.
- 7 After logging in to the system you can start working with it as with regular Windows desktop.

➤ **To finish your Remote Desktop session:**

- Close the browser window with the remote desktop session. This way, the session you had will be detached from your desktop, but it will keep running on the server, so when you log in there next time, you will see the remote desktop in the state you left it,  
or
- Select **Start > Log off** if you want to quit the session permanently (all running sessions consume the server's resources).

# Using Help Desk for Resolving Your Customers' Issues and Requesting Assistance from Provider

If your hosting company provides a Help Desk solution integrated with the control panel, then you can use it to

- report your problems to your provider's technical support staff, and
- receive problem reports or requests for assistance from your own customers – Web site owners.

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## Viewing Trouble Tickets in Your Help Desk

- *To check for new tickets from your users, or to view the status of tickets you submitted:*
- 1 Click the **Help Desk** shortcut in the navigation pane. All tickets submitted by you and your customers will be listed and the following supplementary information will be displayed:
    - **Id:** identification number assigned by the system upon submission,
    - **Ticket Subject:** a summary entered by the ticket reporter,
    - **Ticket Status:** new, reopened, closed,
    - **Reporter Type:** a type of control panel user account or an e-mail address the ticket came from - a client, domain administrator, e-mail user with access to control panel, or user submitted a ticket by e-mail,
    - **Reporter Name:** a name of person who submitted the ticket, domain names for tickets submitted by domain owners, or e-mail addresses for tickets submitted by e-mail,
    - **Modified:** the date the ticket was modified - a comment appended, or status changed,
    - **Category:** the category to which the ticket is related.
  - 2 To see what is inside a ticket, click a ticket id or ticket subject.

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## Commenting and Closing Trouble Tickets

- *To close a ticket when the issue was resolved or to post your comment:*
- 1 Click the **Help Desk** shortcut in the navigation pane.
  - 2 Locate the ticket you need and click its subject or identification number.
  - 3 To close, reopen or post a comment to the ticket, select the operation you would like to perform from the **Ticket Event** drop-down box, and type a new comment into the **New Comment** input field if required.
  - 4 Click **OK** to submit.

---

## Submitting a Problem Report to Your Service Provider

➤ *To submit a new problem report to your service provider:*

- 1 Click the **Help Desk** shortcut in the navigation pane.
- 2 Click **Add New Ticket** in the **Tools** group.
- 3 Type the ticket subject, select the category the issue is related to, and type in the problem description.
- 4 Click **OK**.

The ticket is now submitted to the system and sent to your provider. You will be notified by e-mail when the issue is resolved.