Upgrading cPanel and WHM to the Latest Version by Hand: Upgrade to Latest Version and upcp

WHM/cPanel · https://www.hyyat.com/en/knowledgebase/upgrade-cpanel-whm/

The short way Open **cPanel, then Upgrade to Latest Version** and click **Click to Upgrade**. WHM updates itself to the newest build on your chosen release tier, and sites keep running throughout. The SSH equivalent is `/scripts/upcp`.

Embedded media: https://www.hyyat.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/11/hyyat-whm-upcp-en.mp4?_=1

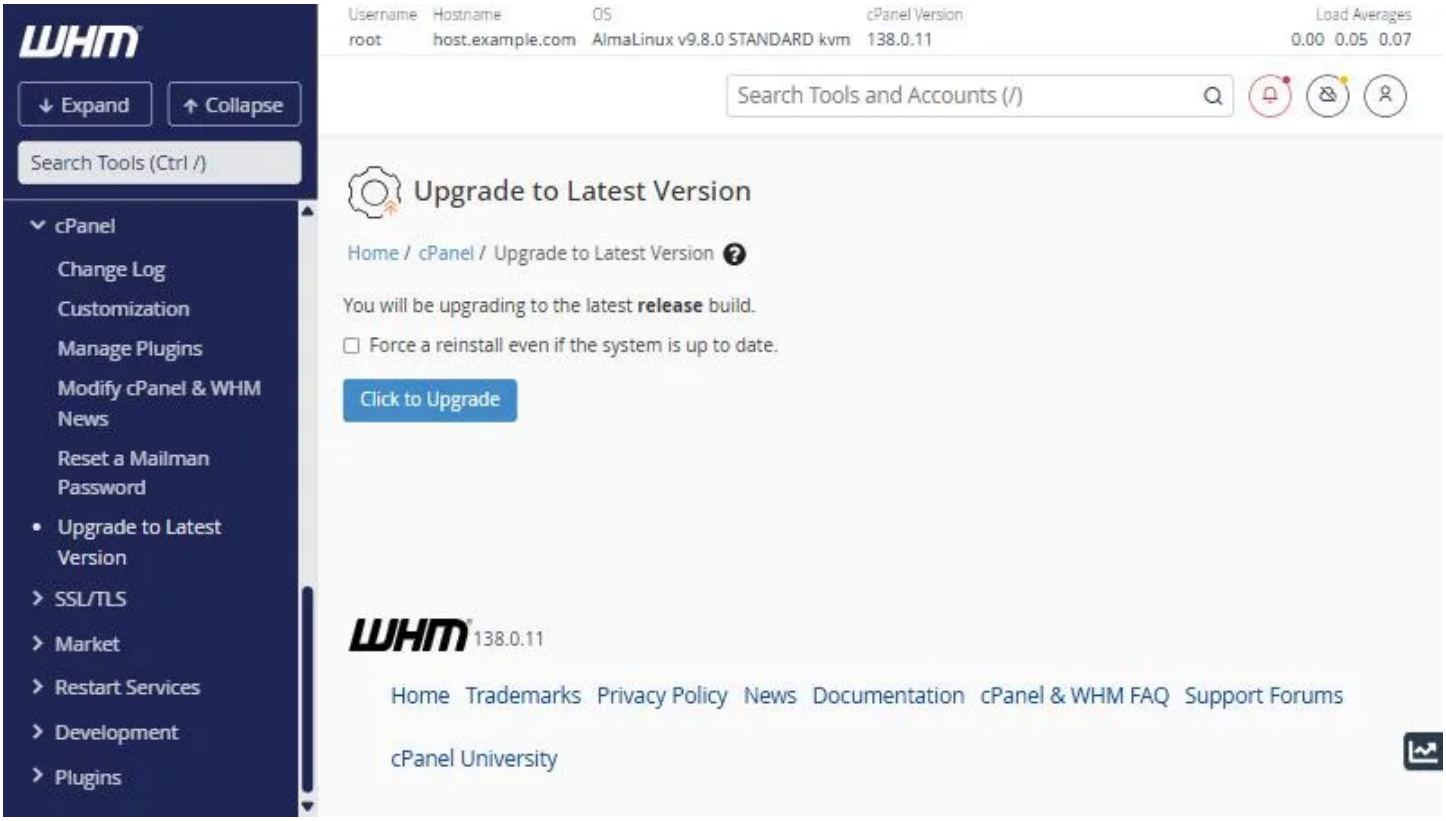
cPanel updates itself every night when automatic updates are on, and that is what we recommend. There are times you need an update now, though: a security fix announced today, a new feature you need, or a nightly update that failed and you want to rerun while watching. That is when the manual update comes in.

Before you start

- Access to WHM as **root** at `https://your-server-hostname:2087` (or the server IP on port 2087). Avoid the old port 2086: it is not encrypted.
- Enough free space on the main disk partition.
- Knowing which release tier is set (Release, Stable or LTS); changing it is covered in automatic updates in Update Preferences.

From WHM

`WHM › cPanel › Upgrade to Latest Version`



1. **Open the tool** the page tells you which tier will be used, such as **release**.
2. **Decide on reinstalling Force a reinstall even if the system is up to date** reinstalls the current build even if it is current. Only use it to repair a damaged installation.
3. **Click Click to Upgrade** the update starts and shows a live log.
4. **Do not close the page too early** the update carries on in the background if you do, but the log helps if something goes wrong.

From the command line

```
/scripts/upcp            # normal update
/scripts/upcp --force    # forced reinstall
tail -f /var/cpanel/updatelogs/update.*.log   # follow the log
```

Over SSH, run it inside `screen` or `tmux` so the update survives a dropped connection.

What happens during the update

The server downloads the new cPanel files, updates related packages, rebuilds some configuration and restarts cPanel's own services. Sites and mail keep running; the WHM and cPanel interfaces may drop for a moment near the end. It also checks installed packages and repairs what needs it.

Where to read the result

Place	What it shows
The version number at the top of WHM	The current build after the update, such as 138.0.x
`/var/cpanel/updatelogs/`	A full log for each update with its date
The WHM contact email	A message when a nightly update fails

Update failed?

Message or symptom	Fix
Not enough disk space	Free space on the root partition and `/usr`, then retry
System package conflict	Update the OS with `dnf update` first, then rerun upcp
The update has been stuck for a long time	Check the log for the current step. Do not stop it unless it has really stalled
A message that the operating system is no longer supported	New cPanel versions need a supported OS. Plan an upgrade or a move

A manual update does not jump release tiers. On LTS you will not get the newest Release build. If updates are turned off entirely (Never Update), the manual update will not run until you change that.

Check afterwards

- The version at the top of WHM changed or is already the newest.
- The last log line shows the update finished successfully.
- Sites and mail work.

cPanel update questions

Do sites go down during a cPanel update?

No, they keep running. The WHM and cPanel interfaces may drop for a moment.

Do I need to reboot after updating?

Not usually. If the kernel was updated, WHM shows a notice asking for one.

Can I roll back to an older version?

cPanel does not officially support downgrades. Choose the LTS tier if stability matters more to you than new features.

Do I need manual updates if automatic updates are on?

No, except to apply an urgent fix before the nightly run.

Related guides

- Turning On Automatic cPanel and WHM Updates in Update Preferences
- Checking cPanel Server Health in WHM: Load, Memory, Processes and Services in Five Screens
- Restarting Services in WHM: Apache, Database, Mail and DNS Without Rebooting the Server
- How to Install cPanel and WHM on Your Server
- cPanel and WHM on a VPS — The Complete 2026 Guide: What They Are, Licensing, and When to Choose Them

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