Securing the Configuration File

We recommend adjusting the permissions for the `configuration.php` file in your WHMCS root directory. This file contains sensitive data that you can't recover without a backup copy of the file.

Changing the file permissions helps to avoid accidentally overwriting, editing, or deleting the file.

> ℹ️ We recommend performing this task and other security measures immediately after installing WHMCS. For a full list, see [More Ways to Secure Your WHMCS Installation](#).

Changing File Permissions

`400` permissions provide the system with read-only access and prevent anyone else from reading, editing, or executing the file.

To change the file permissions, run the following command while in your WHMCS root directory:

```
chmod 400 configuration.php
```

📋 Click to copy

Errors Loading WHMCS

While `400` permissions suffice for most systems, some server configurations may require you to set the permission to `440` or `444`.

If you encounter an error loading the application after setting the permission to `400`, try `440` and then `444`.

License Key Updates

If you need to update your license key, you must set the permissions on this file to `755` to allow the system to edit the file. After the updating the key, you can revert the permissions to `400`.