

# Moving the Crons Directory

We recommend moving the `crons` directory to a private directory above your web root. This will prevent web-based access and help to protect your WHMCS installation.

To do this, you must move the directory **and** update WHMCS's configuration to use it successfully.

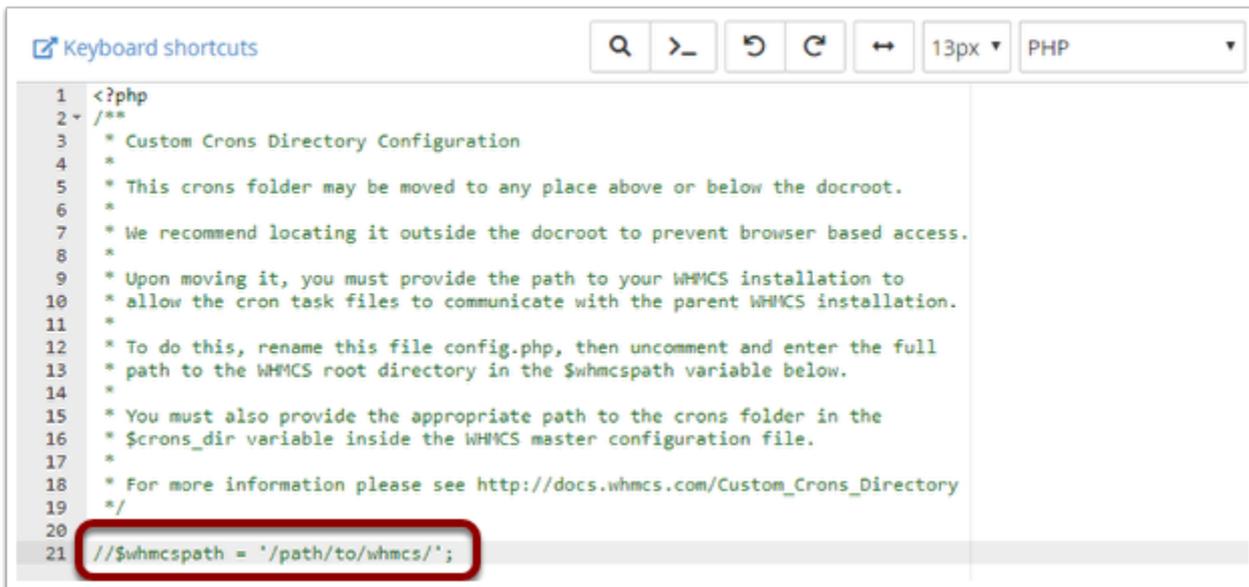
 We recommend performing this task and other security measures immediately after installing WHMCS. For a full list, see [More Ways to Secure Your WHMCS Installation](#).

## Moving the crons Directory

 This process involves editing multiple configuration files. You can do this using the file management tools in your hosting control panel (for example, **Files >> File Manager** in cPanel) or using the command line.

To move the directory and update WHMCS's configuration:

1. Move the entire `/crons/` directory and its contents to the new location.
2. If you have already configured [cron tasks](#) or [email forwarders](#)., update them to use the new directory path.
3. If you have not already done so, rename the `config.php.new` file to `config.php`.
4. Open the `config.php` file and locate the `$whmcspath` line.



```
1 <?php
2 /**
3  * Custom Crons Directory Configuration
4  *
5  * This crons folder may be moved to any place above or below the docroot.
6  *
7  * We recommend locating it outside the docroot to prevent browser based access.
8  *
9  * Upon moving it, you must provide the path to your WHMCS installation to
10 * allow the cron task files to communicate with the parent WHMCS installation.
11 *
12 * To do this, rename this file config.php, then uncomment and enter the full
13 * path to the WHMCS root directory in the $whmcs_path variable below.
14 *
15 * You must also provide the appropriate path to the crons folder in the
16 * $crons_dir variable inside the WHMCS master configuration file.
17 *
18 * For more information please see http://docs.whmcs.com/Custom_Crons_Directory
19 */
20
21 // $whmcs_path = '/path/to/whmcs/';
```

5. Delete the two `/` characters at the beginning of the line and replace `/path/to/whmcs/` with the full path to your installation. For example:

```
$whmcs_path = '/home/username/public_html/whmcs/';
```

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6. Save and close the file.

7. Open the `configuration.php` file in your WHMCS installation root directory.

8. Add the following line to the bottom of the file, where `/home/username/whmcs_crons/` is the location of your new directory:

```
$crons_dir = '/home/username/whmcs_crons/';
```

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9. Update the cron job to use the new directory path. For example, you can use the steps below to update the cron job in cPanel:

- a. In the cPanel interface, go to **Advanced >> Cron Jobs**.
- b. Choose **Edit** for the existing cron job for the `cron.php` file.

Minute	Hour	Day	Month	Weekday	Command	Actions
*/*	*	*	*	*	/opt/cpanel/ea-php56/root/usr/bin/php -q /home/whmcs/help/public_html/whmcs/crons/cron.php	 Edit  Delete

c. Update the command to use the correct new path.

d. Click **Edit Line**.

## Custom crons Locations and Upgrades

Applying updates or patches after customizing your `crons` directory location requires an additional step. You **must** upload any updated `crons` files from the default location to your custom directory.

If you do not move the files, you will see errors and issues with WHMCS's automation.