

Upgrade manually



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Overview

In some environments using the Built-in Updater in Web mode is not reliable (such as due to web server timeouts) and running it in command-line mode is not an option (such as in some shared hosting environments). In these cases a manual upgrade may be the best approach.

A manual upgrade consists of downloading and unpacking the Nextcloud Archive file either to your PC or host. Then deleting your existing Nextcloud Server installation files and folders, **except** `data/` and `config/`, on your host. Then moving the new Nextcloud Server installation files into the appropriate place on your host, again preserving your existing `data/` and `config/` files. And doing a few other housekeeping items, such as making sure your installed apps are transferred into the new installation and adjusting permissions. That may sound like a lot, but detailed instructions are below.



Before upgrading, especially between major versions (e.g. v27.y.z -> v28.y.z) please review [critical changes](#) first. These are highlights of changes that may be required in your environment to accommodate changes in Nextcloud Server. These notes are periodically revised as needed so it is a good idea to revisit them even when proceeding with minor and maintenance upgrades just in case.



When upgrading manually, you must confirm your system meets the [System requirements](#) of the new version as well as that you are following the standard [upgrade requirements](#) (such as upgrading to the latest maintenance release *before* upgrading to a new major release).

Step-by-Step Manual Upgrade



Always start by making a fresh backup and disabling all 3rd party apps.

1. Back up your existing Nextcloud Server database, data directory, and `config.php` file. (See [Backup](#), for restore information see [Restoring backup](#))
2. Choose a target Nextcloud Server release from <https://nextcloud.com/changelog/> and download the Archive file (tarball or zip archive) into an empty directory outside of your current installation.



You cannot jump more than one major version forward at a time (i.e. 27->28 is okay, but 27->29 is not).

3. Unpack the the downloaded tarball or zip archive - e.g.:

```
unzip nextcloud-[version].zip
(or)
tar -xjf nextcloud-[version].tar.bz2
```

4. Stop your Web server.
5. In case you are running a cron-job for nextcloud's house-keeping disable it by commenting the entry in the crontab file:

```
crontab -u www-data -e
```

(Put a `#` at the beginning of the corresponding line.)

6. Rename your current Nextcloud directory, for example `nextcloud-old`.
7. Unpacking the new archive creates a new `nextcloud` directory populated with your new server files. Move this directory and its contents to the original location of your old server. For example `/var/www/`, so that once again you have `/var/www/nextcloud`.

8. Copy the `config/config.php` file from your old Nextcloud directory to your new Nextcloud directory.
9. If you keep your `data/` directory in your `nextcloud/` directory, move it from your old version of Nextcloud to your new `nextcloud/`. If you keep it outside of `nextcloud/` then you don't have to do anything with it, because its location is configured in your original `config.php`, and none of the upgrade steps touch it.
10. If you are using 3rd party application, it may not always be available in your upgraded/new Nextcloud instance. To check this, compare a list of the apps in the new `nextcloud/apps/` folder to a list of the apps in your backed-up/old `nextcloud/apps/` folder. If you find 3rd party apps in the old folder that needs to be in the new/upgraded instance, simply copy them over and ensure the permissions are set up as shown below.
11. If you have additional apps folders like for example `nextcloud/apps-extras` or `nextcloud/apps-external`, make sure to also transfer/keep these in the upgraded folder.
12. If you are using 3rd party theme make sure to copy it from your `themes/` directory to your new one. It is possible you will have to make some modifications to it after the upgrade.
13. Adjust file ownership and permissions:

```
chown -R www-data:www-data nextcloud
find nextcloud/ -type d -exec chmod 750 {} \;
find nextcloud/ -type f -exec chmod 640 {} \;
```

14. Restart your Web server.
15. Now launch the upgrade from the command line using `occ`, like this example on Ubuntu Linux:

```
sudo -E -u www-data php occ upgrade
```

(!) this MUST be executed from within your nextcloud installation directory

16. The upgrade operation takes a few minutes to a few hours, depending on the size of your installation. When it is finished you will see a success message, or an error message that will tell where it went wrong.
17. Re-enable the nextcloud cron-job. (See step 4 above.)

```
“ crontab -u www-data -e
```

(Delete the `#` at the beginning of the corresponding line in the crontab file.)

Login and take a look at the bottom of your Admin page to verify the version number. Check your other settings to make sure they're correct. Go to the Apps page and review the core apps to make sure the right ones are enabled. Re-enable your third-party apps.

Previous Nextcloud releases

You'll find previous Nextcloud releases in the [Nextcloud Server Changelog](#).

Troubleshooting

Occasionally, *files do not show up after an upgrade*. A rescan of the files can help:

```
sudo -E -u www-data php console.php files:scan --all
```

See [the nextcloud.com support page](#) for further resources.

Sometimes, Nextcloud can get *stuck in a upgrade* if the web based upgrade process is used. This is usually due to the process taking too long and encountering a PHP time-out. Stop the upgrade process this way:

```
sudo -E -u www-data php occ maintenance:mode --off
```

Then start the manual process:

```
sudo -E -u www-data php occ upgrade
```

If this does not work properly, try the repair function:

```
sudo -E -u www-data php occ maintenance:repair
```

📄 #3

📄 cocobook-sync 📄 2026-10-28 16:30:43 UTC

📄 cocobook-sync 📄 2026-10-29 01:09:26 UTC