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Web Design in WordPress

# Moving a WordPress Site to Hosting and Domain

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# Migration Process

- When the WordPress site is completed in a local environment (e.g. XAMPP) the next step is moving it to the internet or web hosting  
This process is called site migration
- Migration involves transferring all WordPress files and the database to the server
- The goal is to make the site publicly available under its own domain  
Migration can be performed automatically using plugins or manually using FTP tools and the database



# What is Hosting and Domain

- **Hosting** is online space where site files are stored (images themes plugins database)
- **Domain** is the address through which visitors access the site (e.g. [www.myfirstsite.com](http://www.myfirstsite.com))
- Hosting and domain together form the foundation of any web presentation
- During migration WordPress files are copied to the hosting account while the database is imported to the server
- The user then links the domain with hosting via DNS records



# Preparation for Migration

- Before starting it is necessary to
- Create a **backup** of the complete local project (files + database)
- Check that WordPress is up to date
- Ensure access to **cPanel** or hosting FTP credentials
- Create an empty MySQL database on the server to import the local database
- This preparation prevents errors during migration and allows quick correction if problems occur



# Automatic Migration using All-in-One WP Migration

- The easiest way to move a site is using the **All-in-One WP Migration** plugin  
After installation on the local site the user selects **Export → File** and downloads the .wpress file
- On the new WordPress (on hosting) the same plugin is installed and the user selects **Import → File** to upload the downloaded file
- The plugin automatically transfers all content settings and database without manual intervention
- This method is ideal for users who want a fast and secure transfer





Trusted by 60M+ sites: The gold standard for WordPress migrations, backups, and site transfers since 2013.

By [ServMask](#)

★★★★★ (7,582)

5+ Million Active Installations

Last Updated: 2 weeks ago

✓ Compatible with your version of WordPress

LEAVE FEEDBACK

- ☐ I have an idea [↗](#)
- ☐ I need help

Moj prvi sajt

New

Dashboard

Posts

Media

Pages

Kubio

Comments

Appearance

Plugins

Users

Tools

All-in-One WP Migration

Export

Import

Backups

Reset Hub Premium

Schedules Premium

Settings

Collapse Menu

Kubio PRO is now up to 30% OFF – design like a pro today!

EXPORT SITE

Search for <text> Replace with filip in the database

ADD

Advanced options (click to expand)

EXPORT SITE TO

FILE

GOOGLE DRIVE

FTP

DROPBOX

AMAZON S3

ONEDRIVE

PCLOUD

S3 CLIENT

GOOGLE CLOUD

DIGITALOCEAN

MEGA

BACKBLAZE B2

BOX

AZURE STORAGE

WEBDAV

AMAZON GLACIER

Preparing to export...

STOP EXPORT

Post

Thank you for creating with WordPress.

Version 6.8.3

Adding a New Page

# Manual Migration

- Manual migration requires more technical knowledge but provides complete control over the process
- It consists of two parts
  - **File transfer** – using an FTP client or **Total Commander**
  - **Database transfer** – exporting the local database and importing it on the hosting
- This method is useful when using custom server settings or specific file structures



# File Transfer via Total Commander

- **Total Commander** allows connection to the server via FTP protocol
- The user enters server address username password and port (usually 21)
- Once the connection is established local files (from **htdocs/site\_name**) are copied to the **public\_html** or **www** folder on the server
- The transfer may take several minutes depending on site size and internet speed
- After completion all WordPress files are available online





Total Commander (x64) 11.51 - NOT REGISTERED

Files Mark Commands Net Show Configuration Start Help

FTP Transfer mode Binary (archives, doc etc.) Disconnect Waiting for server... 226 53 matches total

0 ftp://vespaced@ves-pec.edu.rs@ftp-ves-pec.edu.rs \ ..

Name	Ext	Size	Date	Attr
[.]				<DIR>
[.cagefs]			06.04.2018 21:10	-771
[.caldav]			07.05.2024 10:07	-755
[.clselector]			08.10.2025 04:23	-755
[.clwpos]			22.02.2024 01:46	-700
[.cpaddons]			18.11.2019 14:47	-755
[.cpanel]			19.10.2025 23:03	-700
[.cphorde]			02.10.2019 23:33	-700
[.gnome2]			16.08.2011 17:12	-755
[.htpasswd]			19.01.2018 14:03	-750
[.koality]			03.04.2024 10:01	-755
[.pyzor]			21.12.2016 14:05	-755
[.razor]			20.10.2025 14:15	-755
[.softaculous]			15.07.2019 01:22	-711
[.spamassassin]			08.05.2025 11:10	-755
[.sqmailattach]			12.01.2011 01:15	-755
[.sqmaildata]			25.10.2012 02:22	-755
[.subaccounts]			07.05.2024 10:07	-755
[.trash]			12.03.2025 00:02	-700
[cache]			22.10.2016 09:58	-755
[desktop]			14.03.2018 12:57	-755
[etc]			03.04.2025 09:12	-750
[logs]			20.10.2025 19:02	-700
[lscache]			04.11.2024 10:50	G771
[mail]			05.02.2025 22:54	-751

0 k / 1.272.937 k in 0 / 21 file(s), 0 / 30 dir(s)

c:\xampp\htdocs\wordpress>

Name	Ext	Size	Date	Attr
[.]			17.10.2025 19:08	----
[wp-admin]			17.10.2025 19:08	----
[wp-content]			20.10.2025 21:27	----
[wp-includes]			17.10.2025 19:08	----
.htaccess		543	17.10.2025 19:10	-a--
index	php	405	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--
license	txt	19.903	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--
readme	html	7.425	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--
wp-activate	php	7.387	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--
wp-blog-header	php	351	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--
wp-comments-post	php	2.323	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--
wp-config	php	3.604	17.10.2025 19:09	-a--
wp-config-sample	php	3.336	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--
wp-cron	php	5.617	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--
wp-links-opml	php	2.502	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--
wp-load	php	3.937	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--
wp-login	php	51.414	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--
wp-mail	php	8.727	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--
wp-settings	php	30.081	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--
wp-signup	php	34.516	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--
wp-trackback	php	5.102	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--
xmlrpc	php	3.205	17.10.2025 18:54	-a--

0 k / 185 k in 0 / 18 file(s), 0 / 3 dir(s)

F3 View F4 Edit F5 Copy F6 Move F7 NewFolder F8 Delete Alt+F4 Exit

# Total Commander Migration

# Export and Import Database

- In XAMPP export the database from **phpMyAdmin** by clicking **Export** → **Quick** → **SQL**
- On the hosting in **phpMyAdmin** create a new empty database and select **Import** to upload the SQL file
- All data – posts users settings and links with themes – are transferred to the new server
- After import the database contains the same tables and data as the local site



phpMyAdmin

Server: 127.0.0.1

Databases SQL Status User accounts Export Import Settings Replication Variables Charsets Engines Plugins

Recent Favorites

New

- information\_schema
- mysql
- performance\_schema
- phpmyadmin
- test
- wordpress

### Exporting databases from the current server

**Export templates:**

**New template:**

Template name

**Existing templates:**

Template:

**Export method:**

☒ Quick - display only the minimal options  
☐ Custom - display all possible options

**Format:**

Console

Exporting the database from localhost

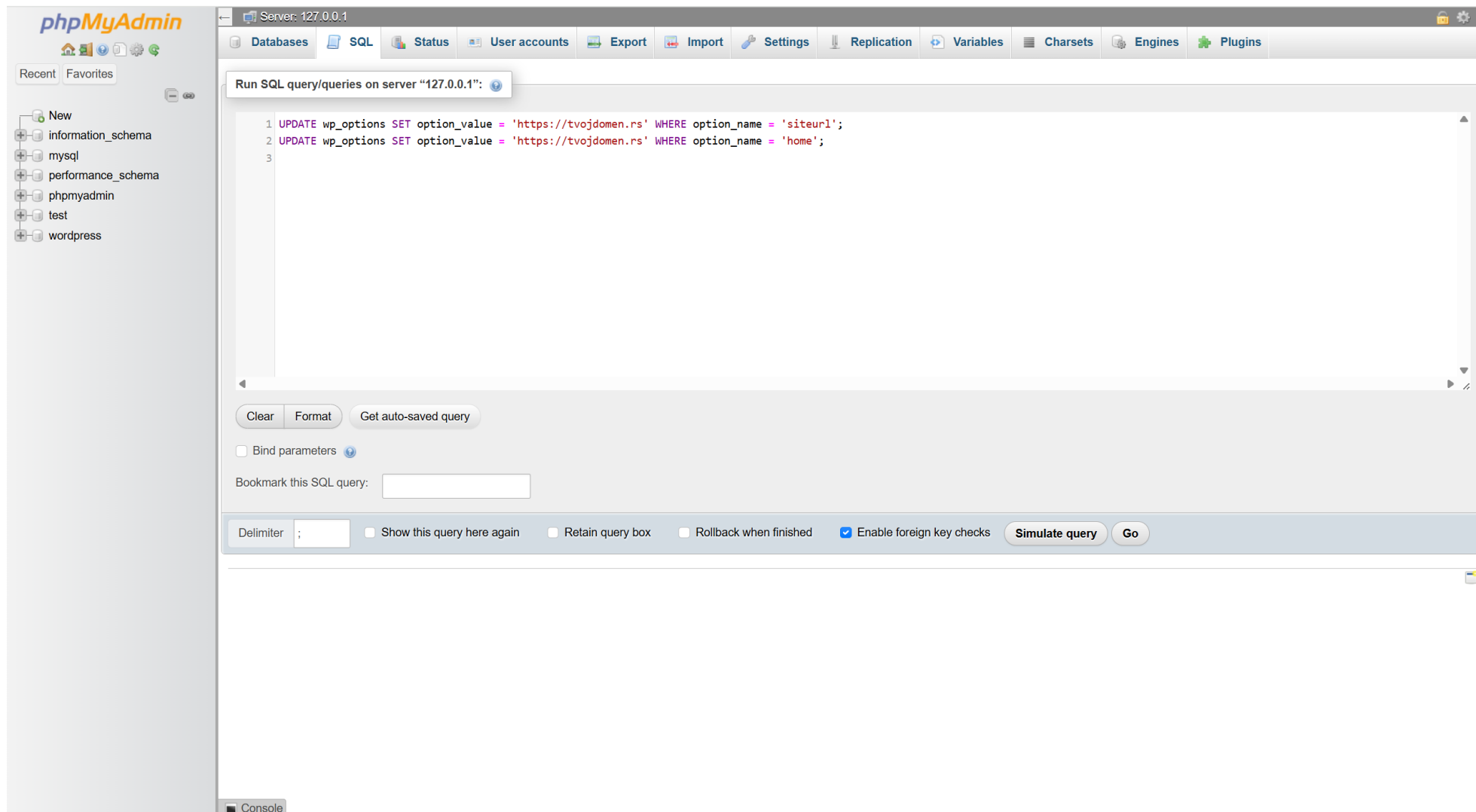
# Updating links in the database

- Because the site location has changed it is necessary to update all links that still point to *localhost*

This is done with an SQL command in *phpMyAdmin*:

- **UPDATE wp\_options SET option\_value = 'https://yourdomain.com' WHERE option\_name = 'siteurl';**
- **UPDATE wp\_options SET option\_value = 'https://yourdomain.com' WHERE option\_name = 'home';**
- This way WordPress recognizes the new address and all links on the site work correctly





The screenshot shows the phpMyAdmin web interface for a MySQL server at 127.0.0.1. The left sidebar displays a database tree with 'wordpress' selected. The main panel is titled 'Run SQL query/queries on server "127.0.0.1":' and contains two SQL queries:

```
1 UPDATE wp_options SET option_value = 'https://tvojdomen.rs' WHERE option_name = 'siteurl';
2 UPDATE wp_options SET option_value = 'https://tvojdomen.rs' WHERE option_name = 'home';
3
```

Below the query editor, there are buttons for 'Clear', 'Format', and 'Get auto-saved query'. A checkbox for 'Bind parameters' is present and unchecked. A 'Bookmark this SQL query:' field is also visible. At the bottom, there are checkboxes for 'Show this query here again', 'Retain query box', 'Rollback when finished', and 'Enable foreign key checks' (which is checked). The 'Delimiter' is set to semicolon (;). 'Simulate query' and 'Go' buttons are at the bottom right.

Example of updating links after moving the site to the domain

# Website verification and testing

- After the migration the user checks functionality
- whether the homepage opens
- whether images and links work
- whether plugins are active
- If the site does not load usually check *wp-config.php* (database information) and file structure on the server
- This testing phase is crucial before the site becomes publicly available





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# Questions & Answers

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