

How to Customize SquirrelMail

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Warnings:

- This document is **only** valid for cPanel & WHM version 72 and earlier.
 - We [deprecated SquirrelMail](#) and its functionality in cPanel & WHM version 76 and removed it in cPanel & WHM version 78.
 - For more information about SquirrelMail's deprecation and removal, read our [cPanel Deprecation Plan](#) documentation.
- cPanel Technical Support does **not** provide assistance with the instructions in this article.

Overview

This document explains how cPanel & WHM versions 11.44 and earlier update the SquirrelMail webmail application, and how you can customize your SquirrelMail installation.

Important:

- In cPanel & WHM version 56 through 74, we shipped SquirrelMail as an RPM. To customize your SquirrelMail RPM, follow the directions in the [How to Build and Install Custom RPMs](#) documentation.
- Customization of SquirrelMail gives you full control over the end user experience. However, cPanel, LLC. does **not** support these customizations.

General installation procedure

Before you customize your SquirrelMail installation, it is useful to understand how cPanel & WHM updates SquirrelMail.

1. The `/scripts/upcp` script runs to update cPanel & WHM.
2. It also executes the `/usr/local/cpanel/install/webmail` script.
3. The `/usr/local/cpanel/install/webmail` script then executes the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-squirrelmail` script.

The `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-squirrelmail` script performs the following actions:

1. It uses the following command to remove the current SquirrelMail installation:

```
rm -rf /usr/local/cpanel/base/3rdparty/squirrelmail
```

2. It extracts the appropriate SquirrelMail source tarball to the `/usr/local/cpanel/base/3rdparty/` directory.

Note:

For more information, read the [Where to place a custom SquirrelMail tarball](#) section below.

3. It changes the ownership of the SquirrelMail installation to the `root` user and the `wheel` group.
4. It changes the SquirrelMail data directory's permissions to `755`.
5. It checks for the existence of the `/var/cpanel/squirrelmail/install` file.

Note:

For more information, read the [Prevent changes to the SquirrelMail configuration files](#) section below.

6. It extracts IMAP configuration values and copies them into place.

Prevent changes to the SquirrelMail configuration files

During Step 5 of the installation procedure, the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-squirrelmail` script checks for the existence of the `/var/cpanel/squirrelmail/install` file.

- If that file exists and is executable, the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-squirrelmail` script executes it and terminates.

Notes:

- This bypasses cPanel & WHM's manipulation of the SquirrelMail configuration files.
 - Step 6 of the installation procedure does **not** occur.
- If the `/var/cpanel/squirrelmail/install` file exists but is **not** executable, the file contents print to `STDOUT` and the normal cPanel & WHM configuration of SquirrelMail continues for the remaining steps.

Install a customized instance of SquirrelMail

There are several ways to customize the SquirrelMail installation.

For instructions on how to create a custom SquirrelMail tarball, read the [SquirrelMail](#) documentation.

Where to place a custom SquirrelMail tarball

For more information about how to place a custom SquirrelMail tarball, read the following non-sequential steps:

- When the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-squirrelmail` script runs, it checks for custom SquirrelMail tarballs. The following table lists the locations it checks:

Directory	Description
<code>/var/cpanel/squirrelmail/squirrelmail-$\\$sqversion-local.tar.gz</code>	Use this location for a compressed tarball that you want to apply to a specific SquirrelMail version.
<code>/var/cpanel/squirrelmail/squirrelmail-$\\$sqversion-local.tar</code>	Use this location for an uncompressed tarball that you want to apply to a specific SquirrelMail version.
<code>/var/cpanel/squirrelmail/squirrelmail-local.tar.gz</code>	Use this location for a compressed tarball that you want to apply to SquirrelMail regardless of version.
<code>/var/cpanel/squirrelmail/squirrelmail-local.tar</code>	Use this location for an uncompressed tarball that you want to apply to SquirrelMail regardless of version.

Notes:

If any of those tarballs exist, the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-squirrelmail` script uses that tarball instead of the cPanel-supplied tarball. cPanel & WHM uses the locations in the above list in the listed order.

For example, if the following statements are true, cPanel & WHM uses the `/var/cpanel/squirrelmail/squirrelmail-1.49a-local.tar.gz` file:

- Both the `/var/cpanel/squirrelmail/squirrelmail-local.tar` and `/var/cpanel/squirrelmail/squirrelmail-1.49a-local.tar.gz` files exist.
 - The `/var/cpanel/squirrelmail/squirrelmail-1.49a-local.tar.gz` file's version number is specified in the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-squirrelmail` script.
- The value that `$sqversion` represents in these locations **must** match the `sqversion` variable that the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-squirrelmail` script defines.

For example, if the `sqversion` parameter is set to the 1.49a version in the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-squirrelmail` script, save your custom tarball as the `squirrelmail-1.49a-local.tar.gz` file.

Important:

These tarballs **must** extract to the `/usr/local/cpanel/base/3rdparty/squirrelmail/` directory.

Where to place a custom overlay file

For more information about how to place a custom overlay file, read the following non-sequential steps:

- The overlay tarball allows you to customize specific aspects of SquirrelMail.

Note:

For example, you can use an overlay to change graphics, themes, or plugins.

- The overlay does **not** need to contain a complete SquirrelMail distribution. It only needs to contain the components that you wish to modify, because cPanel & WHM overlays it onto the SquirrelMail installation.

Note:

For example, it can contain one image file. However, it **must** contain a directory structure that mimics the structure of the `/usr/local/cpanel/base/3rdparty/squirrelmail` directory, but that starts with `squirrelmail`.

- Once you determine which tarball to use for the source install and extract it, the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-squirrelmail` script checks for the following files:

Directory	Description
<code>/var/cpanel/squirrelmail/overlay.\$sqversion.tar.gz</code>	Use this location for a compressed overlay you want to apply to a specific SquirrelMail version.
<code>/var/cpanel/squirrelmail/overlay.\$sqversion.tar</code>	Use this location for an uncompressed overlay you want to apply to a specific SquirrelMail version.
<code>/var/cpanel/squirrelmail/overlay.tar.gz</code>	Use this location for a compressed overlay you want to apply to SquirrelMail regardless of version.
<code>/var/cpanel/squirrelmail/overlay.tar</code>	Use this location for an uncompressed overlay you want to apply to SquirrelMail regardless of version.

Note:

As with the custom SquirrelMail tarballs above, the following statements are true:

- If the script locates multiple tarballs, it will use them in the order that is listed above.
- The value of the `$sqversion` variable **must** match the version number that the `/usr/local/cpanel/bin/update-squirrelmail` script specifies.

Install SquirrelMail plugins

To enable a SquirrelMail plugin, perform the following steps:

1. Run the `/usr/local/cpanel/base/3rdparty/squirrelmail/config/conf.pl` command to open the SquirrelMail Configuration menu.
2. Enter the number of the `Plugins` option. The code block below lists the available SquirrelMail plugins that appear:

Plugins

Installed Plugins

1. Login Authentication (login_auth) 3.0

Available Plugins:

2. administrator
3. Bug Report (bug_report) CORE
4. calendar
5. change_password 0.2
6. Demo (demo) CORE
7. filters
8. fortune
9. info
10. listcommands
11. mail_fetch
12. message_details
13. New Mail (newmail) CORE
14. Preview Pane (preview_pane) 2.0
15. sent_subfolders
16. spamcop
17. squirreldspell 0.5
18. Test (test) CORE
19. translate

3. Enter the number of the Plugin that you wish to install.
4. Save your changes and exit the SquirrelMail Configuration menu.

To test your new SquirrelMail configuration, navigate to `example.com/sessionid/3rdparty/SquirrelMail/src/configtest.php`, where `example.com` represents your domain name, and `sessionid` represents your current security token

Important:

Before you run the configuration test for SquirrelMail from a remote server, you **must** add the following line to the `/usr/local/cpanel/base/3rdparty/squirrelmail/config/config_local.php` file:

```
$allow_remote_configtest = true;
```

Additional documentation

Suggested documentation [For cPanel users](#) [For WHM users](#) [For developers](#)

- [How to Customize SquirrelMail](#)
- [How to Set Up Webmail Folders](#)
- [Server Profiles Roadmap](#)
- [Calendar and Contacts Server](#)
- [How to Set Up iOS Push Notifications](#)

- [Which Webmail Application Should I Choose](#)
- [How to Set Up Calendars and Contacts](#)

- [cPanel Analytics](#)
- [Webmail](#)
- [How to Log in to Your Server or Account](#)

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- [Tutorial - Integrate Custom Webmail Applications](#)