How to Prevent cPanel Users from Creating Certain Domains

Overview

cPanel & WHM allows you to deny cPanel users the ability to create certain domains or use certain top-level domains (TLDs). This feature is useful, for example, to deny cPanel users the ability to park a well-known domain (such as `google.com`) on top of a domain.

For more information about the domains that cPanel users can create, read our Aliases and Addon Domains documentation.

Add to the list of user-denied domains

To add to the list of domains that cPanel & WHM does not allow users to create, perform the following steps:

1. From the command line, run the following command to view the default list of domains that cPanel & WHM does not allow users to create.

   ```
   cat /usr/local/cpanel/etc/commondomains
   ```

   - If the file contains a large number of entries, run the `grep 'example.com' /usr/local/cpanel/etc/commondomains` command to determine whether the `example.com` domain exists in the list.

     > ⊘ **Warning:**
     >
     > Do **not** edit this file directly. System updates overwrite any changes to this file. Instead, follow the next step to create a new file.

2. With a text editor, add the domains and TLDs that you do not want to allow users to create to the `/var/cpanel/commondomains` file.
   - Add each domain or TLD on a separate line, and do **not** prepend or append a dot to the domains. For example:

     ```
     a.com
     b.com
     c.com
     .cat
     .ninja
     ```

   - **Only** add domain names and TLDs to this file (for example, `example.com`). When you list a domain name, cPanel & WHM will automatically prevent the creation of subdomains for that domain or domains under a TLD. For example, if you list the `example.com` domain, users also cannot create the `sub.example.com` domain.
3. In the *Domains* section of WHM's *Tweak Settings* interface (*WHM >> Home >> Server Configuration >> Tweak Settings*), set the *Prevent cPanel users from creating specific domains* setting to *On*.

Additional documentation

- Service Subdomains Use the cPanel Service SSL
- How to Prevent cPanel Users from Creating Certain Domains
- How to Copy Addon Domains to a New Account
- What is Domain TLS