

Parallels™ Plesk Billing

www.PleskBilling.com

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**Document to be used with:
Parallels Plesk Billing 5.6.0**

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Parallels™ Plesk Billing

Chapter 2: INSTALLATION / UPGRADE

Sections:

1. System Requirements
2. Installation
 1. via Shell access
 2. via FTP access
3. Upgrading
 1. via Shell access
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System Requirements

Before we start going through the installation process, let's make sure your server meets our minimum system requirements.

You will notice that throughout this document, I will refer to your hosting environment as your "server". We highly encourage you to run Parallels Plesk Billing on a dedicated server as opposed to a shared hosting account so that you have full control over the settings in your environment and your sensitive customer data is kept separate from other sites.

Operating System¹ (one of):

- Linux (any distribution: RedHat, CentOS, Gentoo, etc.)
- Windows

Web Servers (one of):

- Apache
- Lighttpd
- IIS (running PHP in CGI/FastCGI mode, ISAPI is not supported)

PHP² (one of):

- PHP 4 (version 4.4.0 or higher)
- PHP 5 (version 5.1.6 or higher)

PHP Configuration³:

- `memory_limit`
 - set to 64M or higher
- `safe_mode`
 - set to Off
- `register_long_arrays`
 - set to On
- `error_reporting`
 - set to 2039
- `open_basedir`
 - left unset
- **Required PHP Modules:**
 - curl
 - gd
 - mysql or mysqli
 - openssl
 - pcre
 - xml
 - zlib

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- 1 Parallels Plesk Billing is developed, tested and supported on Linux systems. While there is no reason that Parallels Plesk Billing will not run on Windows (and we do have plenty of customers running the application on Windows), you will receive best support running the application in a Linux environment. If you are going to proceed to install it in a Windows environment, we highly recommend that you have a qualified Windows server administrator on staff.
 - 2 As "The PHP Group" has officially made the End-of-Life announcement for all versions of PHP 4, we highly advise that you install Parallels Plesk Billing on a server with PHP 5 so as to maintain the most up-to-date and secure environment for your data.
 - 3 We do not support Suhosin. Parallels Plesk Billing will not install or operate in a PHP/Suhosin environment.

Database Servers:

- MySQL (version 4.0.11 and higher)

Fileset Decoders (one of):

- Zend Optimizer (3.3.0 or higher) → www.Zend.com
- IonCube Loaders (3.1.32 or higher) → www.IonCube.com

Installing Parallels Plesk Billing

Okay, your server is all setup. Fantastic. I'm going to walk you through installing Parallels Plesk Billing step-by-step. Before beginning, I encourage you to read through all of these steps to make sure you understand them completely.

There are two possible avenues to installing Parallels Plesk Billing. If you have shell access to your server and feel comfortable using it, this is the faster method to getting Parallels Plesk Billing installed. Otherwise, you will need to use an FTP client to connect to your server. I will detail both methods here.

A. Shell Method

This method assumes you have shell access to the server from which you will be hosting your Parallels Plesk Billing and are comfortable with using command line utilities.

1. Navigate to the Web-Accessible Folder on your Server

For example, if your website is being served out of `/var/www/myawesomecompany.com/httpdocs`, you would do:

```
# cd /var/www/myawesomecompany.com/httpdocs
```

2. Download the Latest Fileset

It is now time to download the Parallels Plesk Billing fileset to your server. Depending upon which encoder you picked, you should download the appropriate fileset. Please run one of the following commands:

```
# wget http://www.pleskbilling.com/download/files/modernbill-stable-zend.tar.gz
```

(or)

```
# wget http://www.pleskbilling.com/download/files/modernbill-stable-ioncube.tar.gz
```

3. Untar the Fileset

You must now extract the Parallels Plesk Billing fileset from the tarball using special parameters to preserve the file permissions set on the files/folders inside (this is important as the permissions are set properly on the "tmp" folder inside for it to be world readable and writable). After exploding the tarball, you will now find a folder called "modernbill" in your web-accessible folder. You may rename this resulting folder to whatever you like, but it will be referred to in the remainder of the documentation as "modernbill".

```
# tar -xvzpf modernbill-stable-zend.tar.gz
```

(or)

```
# tar -xvzpf modernbill-stable-ioncube.tar.gz
```

4. Installation Wizard

It is now time to begin working our way through the installation wizard. You may access this directly (assuming your domain name is www.myawesomecompany.com and you're using SSL encryption) at the following URL:

<https://www.myawesomecompany.com/modernbill/app-modernbill-admin/install/>

You may now follow the steps detailed in the installation wizard. It will alert you if your system does not meet the minimum requirements. Please heed its warnings and make the necessary changes it requires or inform your system administrator to make the required changes.

When the installation wizard is complete, you must remove the “install” directory before you can begin to use the product. This is for security reasons. You may do this from command line with the following command:

```
# rm -rf modernbill/app-modernbill-admin/install
```

5. Enjoy!

Congratulations! You have successfully installed Parallels Plesk Billing. You may access the login screen at:

<https://www.myawesomecompany.com/modernbill/app-modernbill-admin/>

You may now continue on to the “Configuration” portion of this document for information on how to begin using it.

B. FTP Method

This method assumes you have FTP access to the server from which you will be hosting your Parallels Plesk Billing and can use an FTP client application on your desktop computer.

1. Download the Latest Fileset

It is now time to download the Parallels Plesk Billing fileset to your desktop computer. Depending upon which encoder you picked, and which unpacking utility (ZIP vs. TAR.GZ) you should download the appropriate fileset. The latest filesets are always available at:

<http://www.PleskBilling.com/download/>

2. Unzip / Untar the Fileset

Using an unzipping or untarring program such as WinRAR (www.RARLabs.com), you should explode the compressed file to your computer's desktop. You should end up with a folder called “modernbill” on your desktop.

3. Upload the Files to your Server

Using an FTP client, upload the “modernbill” folder to your server in BINARY mode. In the office here, we use the open-source FileZilla FTP client (www.Filezilla-

Project.com). In FileZilla, you can force BINARY transfer of the uploading files by going to “Transfer → Transfer type → Binary”.

Uploading the files will probably take awhile. Grab a cup of coffee and a short story and we'll meet back here in a few minutes. Once the upload is finished, you may now rename your “modernbill” folder to whatever you want (however, for the remainder of this documentation, it will be referred to as the “modernbill” folder).

4. Set Proper Permissions

Welcome back! It's now time to set the proper permissions on the files you've uploaded to your server. The way to do this will differ between FTP clients, but you will need to recursively set mode “755” on all files and folders you've uploaded. Then set mode “777” on the “tmp” folder inside the “modernbill” folder. You should check on your FTP clients documentation for more information on how to do this.

4. Installation Wizard

It is now time to begin working our way through the installation wizard. You may access this directly (assuming your domain name is `www.myawesomecompany.com` and you're using SSL encryption) at the following URL:

<https://www.myawesomecompany.com/modernbill/app-modernbill-admin/install/>

You may now follow the steps detailed in the installation wizard. It will alert you if your system does not meet the minimum requirements. Please heed its warnings and make the necessary changes it requires or inform your system administrator to make the required changes.

When the installation wizard is complete, you must use your FTP client to remove the “install” directory before you can begin to use the product. This is for security reasons.

5. Enjoy!

Congratulations! You have successfully installed Parallels Plesk Billing. You can access the login screen at:

<https://www.myawesomecompany.com/modernbill/app-modernbill-admin/>

You may now continue on to the “Configuration” portion of this document for information on how to begin using it.

Upgrading Parallels Plesk Billing

This section will detail upgrading procedures for users of Parallels Plesk Billing 5.0.5 or later who wish to upgrade to the latest version. For special cases (users using 5.0.0 through 5.0.4, or users of Parallels Plesk Billing v4 who wish to migrate to v5), contact our support team for the proper documentation to be used in these situations.

Upgrading is not a difficult process, but there are a few things to keep in mind to make sure everything goes smoothly. Before beginning, I encourage you to read through all of these steps to make sure you understand them completely.

There are two possible avenues to upgrading Parallels Plesk Billing. If you have shell access to your server and feel comfortable using it, this is the faster method to getting Parallels Plesk Billing installed. Otherwise, you will need to use an FTP client to connect to your server. I will detail both methods here.

A. Shell Method

This method assumes you have shell access to the server from which you will be hosting your Parallels Plesk Billing and are comfortable with using command line utilities.

1. Navigate to the Web-Accessible Folder on your Server

For example, if your website is being served out of /var/www/myawesomecompany.com/httpdocs, you would do:

```
# cd /var/www/myawesomecompany.com/httpdocs
```

2. Backup Everything

Before starting further on this process, let's make a backup of everything you currently have (both the files and database) so that if something goes wrong, we can restore. Let's assume here that you renamed your "modernbill" folder to "billing" after you originally installed the product. So, you would have an existing directory structure like "billing/app-modernbill-admin", "billing/lib-modernbill", etc.

Let's move your files to a new location to back it up:

```
# mv billing billing.bak
```

Okay, you just renamed your "billing" folder to "billing.bak". For now, we'll leave this folder alone. Let's backup your database now. Before backing up the database, you should know the MySQL username and password to access your database. This can be found in the config.php file from your existing installation. You may quickly view that needed information by doing:

```
# cat billing.bak/lib-modernbill/include/config/config.php | grep db
```

We're going to assume that you saw the following information on your screen after running that command:

```
$CONF["dbType"] = "mysql";
$CONF["dbHost"] = "localhost";
$CONF["dbName"] = "billing_database";
$CONF["dbUser"] = "superUser";
$CONF["dbPass"] = "secretPass";
```

Using this information, we can now create a backup copy of the database with the following command:

```
# mysqldump --default-character-set=utf8 -u'superUser' -p'secretPass' \
-h'localhost' billing_database | gzip > billing_database_backup.sql.gz
```

Hold on to the `billing_database_backup.sql.gz` file. It's the database backup copy.

3. Download the Latest Fileset

It is now time to download the Parallels Plesk Billing fileset to your server. Depending upon which encoder you picked, you should download the appropriate fileset. Please run one of the following commands:

```
# wget http://www.pleskbilling.com/download/files/modernbill-stable-zend.tar.gz
```

(or)

```
# wget http://www.pleskbilling.com/download/files/modernbill-stable-ioncube.tar.gz
```

4. Untar the Fileset

You must now explode the tarball using special parameters to preserve the file permissions set on the files/folders inside (this is important as the permissions are set properly on the "tmp" folder inside for it to be world readable and writable). After exploding the tarball, you will now find a folder called "modernbill" in your web-accessible folder.

```
# tar -xvzpf modernbill-stable-zend.tar.gz
```

(or)

```
# tar -xvzpf modernbill-stable-ioncube.tar.gz
```

5. Rename the "modernbill" folder (optional)

If you originally had your "modernbill" folder renamed (as suggested in the above example, you had it named "billing"), it is now time to rename it to what it was before.

```
# mv modernbill billing
```

6. Copy your "config.php" file back into place

There is only one required file you must copy from your old fileset to the new one. The

config.php file containing the necessary database connection information must be copied over.

```
# cp billing.bak/lib-modernbill/include/config/config.php \
billing/lib-modernbill/include/config/config.php
```

7. Upgrade Wizard

It is now time to begin working our way through the upgrade wizard. You may access this directly (assuming your domain name is `www.myawesomecompany.com` and you're using SSL encryption) at the following URL:

<https://www.myawesomecompany.com/billing/app-modernbill-admin/install/>

You may now follow the steps detailed in the upgrade wizard.

When the upgrade wizard is complete, you must remove the “install” directory before you can begin to use the product. This is for security reasons. You may do this from command line with the following command:

```
# rm -rf modernbill/app-modernbill-admin/install
```

8. Template Changes (optional)

If you made any changes to the templates in Parallels Plesk Billing, now is the time to bring the changes over to the new fileset. Do not, under any circumstances, merely overwrite a particular template file or folder by copying it from the old fileset to the new fileset. You need to open your new files in a text-editor and merge your changes back in. Failure to transfer the templates properly will probably break your Parallels Plesk Billing if the template file being overwritten had been updated by our development team between the time your older version and the latest version was released.

9. Folder Aliasing (optional)

If you had your folder names aliased (ex. if you had the “app-modernbill-admin” folder renamed to “admin”), you may now alias them again. Please see the appropriate section later in this document for step-by-step instructions on how to accomplish this.

10. Enjoy!

Congratulations! You have successfully upgraded your Parallels Plesk Billing to the latest version.

B. FTP Method

This method assumes you have FTP access to the server from which you will be hosting your Parallels Plesk Billing and can use an FTP client application on your desktop computer.

1. Download the Latest Filesset

It is now time to download the Parallels Plesk Billing filesset to your desktop computer.

Depending upon which encoder you picked, and which unpacking utility (ZIP vs. TAR.GZ) you should download the appropriate fileset. The latest filesets are always available at:

<http://www.PleskBilling.com/download/>

2. Unzip / Untar the Fileset

Using an unzipping or untarring program such as WinRAR (www.RARLabs.com), you should explode the compressed file to your computer's desktop. You should end up with a folder called "modernbill" on your desktop.

3. Backup Everything

Before starting further on this process, let's make a backup of everything you currently have (both the fileset and database) so that if something goes wrong, we can restore. Let's assume here that you renamed your "modernbill" folder to "billing" after you originally installed the product. So, you would have an existing directory structure like "billing/app-modernbill-admin", "billing/lib-modernbill", etc.

Rename your "billing" folder to "billing.bak" to provide a backup of your fileset. For now, we'll leave this folder alone. You will need to backup your database as well. Without having shell access available, there is no "one" way to do this. You should contact your network host or system administrator to see what hosting control panels you might have available to you to create a backup of this database.

4. Upload the Files to your Server

Using an FTP client, upload the "modernbill" folder you have on your desktop to your server in BINARY mode. In the office here, we use the open-source FileZilla FTP client (www.Filezilla-Project.com). In FileZilla, you can force BINARY transfer of the uploading files by going to "Transfer → Transfer type → Binary".

Uploading the files will probably take awhile. Grab a cup of coffee and a short story and we'll meet back here in a little while. Once the upload is finished, you may now rename your "modernbill" folder to what it was before (for example, "billing").

5. Set Proper Permissions

Welcome back! It's now time to set the proper permissions on the files you've uploaded to your server. The way to do this will differ between FTP clients, but you will need to recursively set mode "755" on all files and folders you've uploaded. Then set mode "777" on the "tmp" folder inside the "modernbill" folder. You should check on your FTP clients documentation for more information on how to do this.

6. Copy your "config.php" file back into place

There is only one required file you must copy from your old fileset to the new one. The config.php file containing the necessary database connection information must be copied over. You can achieve this by downloading the "billing.bak/lib-modernbill/include/config/config.php" file to your desktop computer, then uploading it to "billing/include/config/config.php".

7. Upgrade Wizard

It is now time to begin working our way through the upgrade wizard. You may access this directly (assuming your domain name is `www.myawesomecompany.com` and you're using SSL encryption) at the following URL:

`https://www.myawesomecompany.com/billing/app-modernbill-admin/install/`

You may now follow the steps detailed in the upgrade wizard.

When the upgrade wizard is complete, you must use your FTP client to remove the "install" directory before you can begin to use the product. This is for security reasons.

8. Template Changes (optional)

If you made any changes to the templates in Parallels Plesk Billing, now is the time to bring the changes over to the new fileset. Do not, under any circumstances, merely overwrite a particular template file or folder by copying it from the old fileset to the new fileset. You need to open your new files in a text-editor and merge your changes back in. Failure to transfer the templates properly will probably break your Parallels Plesk Billing if the template file being overwritten had been updated by our development team between the time your older version and the latest version was released

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If you had your folder names aliased (ex. if you had the "app-modernbill-admin" folder renamed to "admin"), you may now alias them again. Please see the appropriate section later in this document for step-by-step instructions on how to accomplish this.

10. Enjoy!

Congratulations! You have successfully upgraded your Parallels Plesk Billing to the latest version.