

Deployment Guide - Stock Check Tool

Complete manual deployment guide for updating your PWA.

Quick Deployment Checklist

- Make your code changes
- Increment service worker version
- Git commit and push
- Deploy to Vercel
- Verify deployment (optional alias update)

Step-by-Step Deployment

Step 1: Make Your Code Changes

Edit whatever files you need (components, styles, features, etc.)

Step 2: Update Service Worker Version IMPORTANT

Open `client/public/sw.js` and increment the version number:

```
// Find this line:  
const CACHE_VERSION = '5.2' // UPDATE THIS ON EACH DEPLOYMENT!  
  
// Change to (increment the number):  
const CACHE_VERSION = '5.3' // UPDATE THIS ON EACH DEPLOYMENT!
```

Why? This forces users to download the new version instead of using old cached files.

Step 3: Git Commit & Push

```
# Stage all changed files  
git add .  
  
# Create commit with descriptive message  
git commit -m "Describe what you changed here"  
  
# Push to GitHub  
git push
```

Step 4: Deploy to Vercel

```
# Navigate to client folder (if not already there)
cd client

# Deploy to production with API URL
vercel --prod --yes --build-env VITE_API_URL=https://stockcheck-
api.onrender.com/api
```

Wait for deployment to complete (~20-30 seconds)

You'll see output like:

```
Production: https://client-xxxxx-scydom-chins-projects.vercel.app
```

Step 5: Update Vercel Alias (Usually Automatic)

Vercel usually auto-updates the alias, but if you want to manually update:

```
# Copy the deployment URL from Step 4 output
# Then run:
vercel alias set client-xxxxx-scydom-chins-projects.vercel.app client-scydom-
chins-projects.vercel.app
```

Most of the time you can skip this step - Vercel handles it automatically!

⌚ Complete Example

Let's say you changed a button color to blue:

```
# 1. Already made changes to Button.jsx

# 2. Open client/public/sw.js and change:
#     const CACHE_VERSION = '5.2'
#     to
#     const CACHE_VERSION = '5.3'

# 3. Commit and push
git add .
git commit -m "Change submit button color to blue"
git push

# 4. Deploy to Vercel
cd client
vercel --prod --yes --build-env VITE_API_URL=https://stockcheck-
api.onrender.com/api
```

```
# 5. (Optional) Manually update alias if needed
vercel alias set client-NEW-URL.vercel.app client-scydom-chins-projects.vercel.app
```

🔗 Understanding Vercel Aliases

What is an Alias?

Every deployment creates a unique URL:

- `client-abc123-scydom-chins-projects.vercel.app` (1st deploy)
- `client-def456-scydom-chins-projects.vercel.app` (2nd deploy)
- `client-ghi789-scydom-chins-projects.vercel.app` (3rd deploy)

An **alias** is a permanent URL that never changes:

- `client-scydom-chins-projects.vercel.app` ← **Your stable URL**

Why Use Aliases?

Benefits:

- Same URL forever - never changes
- Render's `CLIENT_URL` stays the same
- Users don't need new URL every time
- Alias automatically points to latest deployment

Without Aliases:

- New URL every deployment
- Must update Render's CORS settings every time
- Users confused by changing URLs

💻 What Users Will See

After you deploy:

1. Within **30 seconds**, users will see a **yellow update notification**
2. They click the notification (or refresh page)
3. New version loads with your changes
4. Done! 🎉

⚠️ Important Notes

Always Remember:

1. **Increment service worker version** before deploying
2. **Push to GitHub first** before deploying to Vercel
3. **Include API URL** in Vercel deploy command

4. Test the deployment after it completes

Version Numbering:

- Small fixes: `5.2` → `5.3` (increment decimal)
 - Big features: `5.9` → `6.0` (increment major)
 - Just be consistent!
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⌚ When to Deploy Backend (Render)

You only need to update Render if:

- ✗ You changed files in `server/` folder
- ✗ You modified API routes
- ✗ You changed database logic

You DON'T need to update Render if:

- ✓ You only changed frontend (client) code
- ✓ You updated UI/styles/components
- ✓ You modified client-side logic only

Most deployments only need Vercel update!

sos Troubleshooting

Users Not Seeing Update Notification?

- Check service worker version was incremented
- Wait 30 seconds (update checker runs every 30s)
- Ask users to hard refresh: `Ctrl+Shift+R` (Windows) or `Cmd+Shift+R` (Mac)

Deployment Failed?

- Check if you're in the `client` folder
- Verify `vercel.json` exists in client folder
- Check internet connection
- Try running `vercel login` first

Alias Not Working?

- Run `vercel alias ls` to see current aliases
 - Manually set alias using command in Step 5
 - Contact Vercel support if issue persists
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📞 Quick Commands Reference

```
# Deploy to Vercel
cd client
vercel --prod --yes --build-env VITE_API_URL=https://stockcheck-
api.onrender.com/api

# List deployments
vercel ls

# List aliases
vercel alias ls

# Set alias manually
vercel alias set SOURCE_URL TARGET_ALIAS

# Check deployment logs
vercel inspect DEPLOYMENT_URL --logs

# Git commands
git add .
git commit -m "Your message"
git push
```

🎓 Learning Resources

- [Vercel Documentation](#)
 - [Service Worker Guide](#)
 - [Git Basics](#)
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Last Updated: December 2025 **Current Version:** 5.2 **Production URL:** <https://client-scydom-chins-projects.vercel.app>