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# Getting CMS Up & Running

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**Alexander B.**

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## GHOST CMS INSTALLATION

### 1.1 Installation Steps

#### 1. Update your system

Ensure your server is up to date: `$ sudo apt update && sudo apt upgrade -y`

#### 2. Install Node.js, npm, and Yarn

Ghost CMS requires Node.js (LTS version). You may consider looking up Ghost documentatoin to check required version. At the time of publishing this guide, the versions of Nide.js and Ghost CMS are summarized in the table below:

Node.js Version	Support Level
17.x and below	Unsupported
18.x (Node v18 Hydrogen LTS)	Supported
19.x	Unsupported
<b>20.x (Node v20 Iron LTS)</b>	<b>Recommended</b>
21.x	Unsupported
<b>22.x (Node v22 Jod LTS)</b>	<b>Supported</b>
23.x and above	Unsupported

To install Node.js, npm, and Yarn:

```
$ curl -sL https://deb.nodesource.com/setup_21.x | sudo -E bash -  
$ sudo apt install -y nodejs  
$ sudo npm install -g yarn
```

#### 1. Install Ghost-CLI

Ghost-CLI is a command-line tool for installing and managing Ghost:

```
$ sudo npm install -g ghost-cli@latest
```

#### 2. Create a directory for Ghost

Choose a directory (e.g., `/var/www/ghost`) and set correct permissions:

```
$ sudo mkdir -p /var/www/ghost  
$ sudo chown $USER:$USER /var/www/ghost  
$ cd /var/www/ghost
```

**3. Install Ghost**

Run the install command inside your Ghost directory:

```
$ ghost install
```

**4. Configure Nginx and SSL (optional but recommended)**

Ghost-CLI can set up Nginx and SSL for you during installation. Follow the prompts to enable these features.

**5. Start Ghost**

Once installed, start Ghost:

```
$ ghost start
```

**6. Access the Ghost Admin**

Open your browser and go to `http://your-domain.ca/ghost` to complete the setup via the web interface.



## SETTING UP FRONT END

### 2.1 Domain Name



Configuring DNS entries for your registered domain name is essential for directing internet traffic to your website and associated services. Proper DNS setup ensures that users can access your site using your chosen domain, and that email and other services function reliably.

You can typically find your domain name details in your domain registrar's account dashboard or in the confirmation email you received when you registered the domain. This information is necessary for managing DNS records and verifying domain ownership.

### 2.1.1 DNS Configuration

Type	Name	Content
A	domain-name.ca	Public IP Address
MX	domain-name.ca	mail.domain-name.ca

## 2.2 E-Mail Delivery Services

### 2.2.1 Marketing E-Mail Campaigns (MAILGUN)

#### Important

To enable Ghost CMS to send authentication emails, newsletters, and marketing messages, you need to configure an email delivery service. Mailgun is natively supported by Ghost CMS, making integration simple and reliable. Just sign up for a Mailgun account, add your domain, and update your Ghost configuration to start sending emails with minimal hassle.

### 2.2.2 Business E-Mail (Google Workspace)

## CONFIGURATIONS

### 3.1 Nginx

Reverse Proxy Configuration (non-SSL)

```
map $status $header_content_type_options {
    204 "";
    default "nosniff";
}

server {
    listen 80;
    listen [::]:80;

    server_name activcount.ca www.activcount.ca;
    root /var/www/activcount/system/nginx-root; # Used for acme.sh SSL verification.
    ↪(https://acme.sh)

    location / {
        proxy_set_header X-Forwarded-For $proxy_add_x_forwarded_for;
        proxy_set_header X-Forwarded-Proto $scheme;
        proxy_set_header X-Real-IP $remote_addr;
        proxy_set_header Host $http_host;
        proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:2368;

        add_header X-Content-Type-Options $header_content_type_options;
    }

    location ~ /\.well-known {
        allow all;
    }

    client_max_body_size 50m;
}
```

#### Important

This configuration is for a reverse proxy setup with Nginx, which forwards requests to the Ghost CMS instance running on port 2368. Ensure that the server name matches your domain and that the root directory and port number are set correctly.

**Tip**

You may run the command `ghost ls` to display the port number of the Ghost CMS instance.

## Reverse Proxy Configuration (SSL)

```
map $status $header_content_type_options {
    204 "";
    default "nosniff";
}

server {
    listen 443 ssl http2;
    listen [::]:443 ssl http2;

    server_name activcount.ca;
    root /var/www/activcount/system/nginx-root; # Used for acme.sh SSL verification
    ↪(https://acme.sh)

    ssl_certificate /etc/letsencrypt/activcount.ca/fullchain.cer;
    ssl_certificate_key /etc/letsencrypt/activcount.ca/activcount.ca.key;
    include /etc/nginx/snippets/ssl-params.conf;

    location / {
        proxy_set_header X-Forwarded-For $proxy_add_x_forwarded_for;
        proxy_set_header X-Forwarded-Proto $scheme;
        proxy_set_header X-Real-IP $remote_addr;
        proxy_set_header Host $http_host;
        proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:2368;

        add_header X-Content-Type-Options $header_content_type_options;
    }

    location ~ /\.well-known {
        allow all;
    }

    client_max_body_size 1g;
}
```

## 3.2 Ghost CMS

configuration.json

```
{
  "url": "https://domain-name.ca",
  "server": {
    "port": 2370,
    "host": "127.0.0.1"
  },
  "database": {
    "client": "mysql",
```

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```
    "connection": {
      "host": "127.0.0.1",
      "user": "ghost-66",
      "password": "generated_password",
      "database": "ghost_db"
    },
    "mail": {
      "transport": "SMTP",
      "options": {
        "host": "smtp.mailgun.org",
        "port": 587,
        "secure": false,
        "service": "Mailgun",
        "auth": {
          "user": "postmaster@domain-name.ca",
          "pass": "password"
        }
      }
    },
    "logging": {
      "transports": [
        "file",
        "stdout"
      ]
    },
    "process": "systemd",
    "paths": {
      "contentPath": "/var/www/ghost-cms-website/content"
    }
  }
}
```



## FREQUENTLY USED COMMANDS

### 4.1 To specify the Node.js version to use for Ghost CMS

```
$ nvm use 20.11.1
```

### 4.2 To list information about the Ghost CMS instance

```
$ ghost ls
```