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How to set the PHP maximum upload file size in an .htaccess file

This article describes how to change the maximum upload file size for PHP scripts by using the **upload_max_filesize** and **post_max_size** directives in an .htaccess file.

> The information in this article only applies to products listed in the **Article Details** sidebar. If you have a different product, such as shared or reseller hosting, you should use custom php.ini files to configure your PHP environment instead. For information about how to do this, please see this article.

> This article assumes that you have already set up a custom .htaccess file. If you have not already set up a custom .htaccess file, please read this article first.

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Changing the maximum upload file size

You may want to change the maximum upload file size for your web site. For example, you can set a lower limit to prevent users from uploading large files to your site. To do this, change the **upload_max_filesize** and **post_max_size** directives in an .htaccess file.

To change the maximum upload file size for your PHP scripts, follow these steps:

1. Log in to your account using SSH.

2. Use a text editor to add the following line to the .htaccess file. Replace *xx* with the maximum upload file size that you want to set, in megabytes:

   ```
   php_value upload_max_filesize xxM
   ```

3. Add the following line to the .htaccess file. Replace *xx* with the maximum HTTP POST file size that you want to set, in megabytes:

   ```
   php_value post_max_size xxM
   ```

> To ensure that file uploads work correctly, the **post_max_size** directive should be a little larger than the **upload_max_filesize**. For example, to set a

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Article Details

Relevant Products:
- Any server running PHP as an Apache module
- Managed Flex Dedicated Server activated on or after January 16, 2014
- Managed VPS activated on or after January 16, 2014

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Reviewed: Jul 02, 2014

Skill Level: Intermediate

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file upload limit of 20 megabytes, you could set the **upload_max_filesize** directive to **20M**, and the **post_max_size** directive to **21M**.

4. Save the changes to the .htaccess file and exit the text editor.

5. To verify that the new setting is active, create a PHP test file that contains the following code in the same directory where the .htaccess file is located:

```
<?php phpinfo(); ?>
```

6. Load the test file in your web browser, and then search for the name of the directive. The **Local Value** column should display the new setting that you specified in the .htaccess file.

More Information

- To view a complete list of php.ini directives, please visit http://www.php.net/manual/en/ini.list.php.

- For more information about the **upload_max_filesize** directive, please visit http://www.php.net/manual/en/ini.core.php#ini.upload-max-filesize.

- For more information about the **post_max_size** directive, please visit http://www.php.net/manual/en/ini.core.php#ini.post-max-size.

Related Articles

Custom .htaccess files for PHP settings
If you have a managed VPS or Flex Dedicated Server, you can use .htaccess files to customize a wide range of PHP settings for your web site. Learn how here.

Using PHP directives in custom .htaccess files
These articles explain how to set various PHP directives in an .htaccess file. For example, you can control error logging, specify time zone information, and more. Please note that these articles only apply to managed VPS or Flex Dedicated Server accounts.

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