

Plesk Migration Self-Managed Migration

This FAQ is intended to support customers who are **migrating their Plesk installation themselves** from an **old VM to a new VM**.

The migration is performed **independently by the customer** using Plesk tools.

What data can be migrated?

Using the **Plesk Migration Manager (Plesk Migrator)**, the following can be transferred:

- Websites & web files
- Databases
- Email accounts & messages
- DNS zones (if managed in Plesk)
- SSL certificates
- Subscriptions, customers & resellers

Requirements

What do I need before starting?

You must have:

- Administrator access to **both Plesk servers** (source and target)
- Network connectivity between both servers
- Sufficient disk space on the target VM
- Access credentials (IP, root/admin login) for the old VM
- Recommendation: Before migration, a complete backup of the old VM or via Plesk should be created

Do Plesk versions need to match?

No, but:

- The **target Plesk version must be equal to or newer** than the source
- The target operating system must be supported by Plesk

Migration via Plesk

How do I start the migration?

1. Log in to **Plesk on the new VM**
2. Go to **Tools & Settings → Migration & Transfer Manager**
3. Select Plesk as the source
4. Enter the IP address and credentials of the old VM
5. Select the objects to migrate
6. Start the migration

Can I migrate multiple domains at once?

Yes.

You can migrate:

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- Complete subscriptions
- Customers or resellers

Individual domains cannot be migrated separately from their subscription.

Can I test the migration before going live?

Yes.

Recommended approach:

- Complete the migration
- Do **not** change DNS yet
- Test websites using the temporary IP or local hosts file

DNS & IP Addresses

Will the server IP address change?

Yes.

The new VM will usually have a **different IP address**.

Who is responsible for DNS changes?

The customer.

After migration, you must update:

- A / AAAA records
- MX records (if mail is handled externally)
- SPF, DKIM, and DMARC records to point to the new IP.

How can downtime be minimized?

- Lower DNS TTL values in advance
- Perform the migration outside peak hours
- Switch DNS only after successful testing

Email & SSL

Are emails fully migrated?

Yes, if selected in the Migration Manager:

- Mailboxes
- Email content
- Forwarders

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- Autoresponders

What happens to SSL certificates?

- Existing certificates are migrated
- Let's Encrypt certificates may need to be **reissued** after DNS changes
- Check in **Plesk → Websites & Domains → SSL/TLS Certificates**

After the Migration

What should I verify?

We strongly recommend checking:

- Login to the new Plesk panel
- Website functionality
- Database connections
- Sending and receiving emails
- SSL certificate validity
- Cron jobs
- PHP versions and extensions

When can the old VM be shut down?

Only after:

- All websites and services are working on the new VM
- No emails are being delivered to the old server

Recommended: **48-72 hours of parallel operation**

Responsibility & Support

Does the provider support the migration?

No.

The migration is **fully self-managed by the customer**.

Support is limited to:

- Availability of the new VM
- Infrastructure or connectivity issues

Official Plesk documentation on migration:

Plesk provides detailed information on how migrations work using Plesk Migrator, including step-by-step instructions:

[Plesk Documentation and Help Portal](#)

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Author: MG

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