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# Forcing a HTTPS redirect in cPanel

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## Overview:

Avoid security warnings when accessing your site with an SSL certificate and forced HTTPS redirect.

## Prerequisites:

1. Ensure you have a valid SSL installed on your cPanel services. If you do not have one, you can use cPanel's AutoSSL service by [following this guide](#).
2. Authenticate your IP for access to cPanel
  1. In a web browser window, go to <https://webhostauth.micron21.com>
  2. Complete the reCAPTCHA challenge (the "I'm not a robot" box)

## Method

1. Log into your cPanel hosting service.
2. Navigate to the "**Domains**" tool.
3. Toggle the "**Force HTTPS Redirect**" option to on for any domains with an SSL installed.
4. This change should be immediate. To test, clear your browser cache and open your website, ensuring you specify HTTP://. The URL will automatically be redirected to the HTTPS:// version of the URL.

## Manual Method

If you have any issues with the above method, you can manually create the redirect by adding the following code to the top of your ".htaccess" file:

```
# START HTTPS
RewriteEngine On
RewriteCond %{HTTPS} !on
RewriteRule (.*) https://%{HTTP_HOST}%{REQUEST_URI} [L,R=301]
# END HTTPS
```

## Editing your ".htaccess" file:

1. Log into your cPanel hosting service.
2. Navigate to the "**File Manager**" tool, which is under "**Files**".

3. Navigate to the "**public\_html**" folder or to the folder where your website is located.
4. Locate your ".**htaccess**" file, right-click on it, then click "**Edit**".
  1. By default, the ".**htaccess**" will be hidden - as it is a dot file. To reveal dot files in the File Manager, click "**Settings**" (top-right), then select "**Show Hidden Files**", and then **save** this.
  2. If the file doesn't exist, click the "**+ File**" button to the top-left of the page, then create one of the same name.
5. Paste the above code at the top of the file on its own lines.