

How-to: Transfer Your Site with Backup & Migration Free

May 28, 2021 | Backup & Migration Free

WPvivid Backup Plugin can help you [transfer one WordPress site to another](#) in just a few simple steps. It supports two migration methods:

1. Automatic Transfer

The simplest option for transfers between two sites and from a dev environment to a live server.

2. Manual Transfer:

The best option if you are experiencing any connection, permission, or [database issues](#) with the automatic transfer.

Whether you choose the automatic or manual transfer, the plugin must be installed on both websites.

[Download and install WPvivid Backup Plugin](#) on both the destination website and the site you want to copy. We recommend that you try the automatic transfer first, because it requires the least amount of steps for you to complete. The final steps, [restoring the website](#), is the same for both processes.

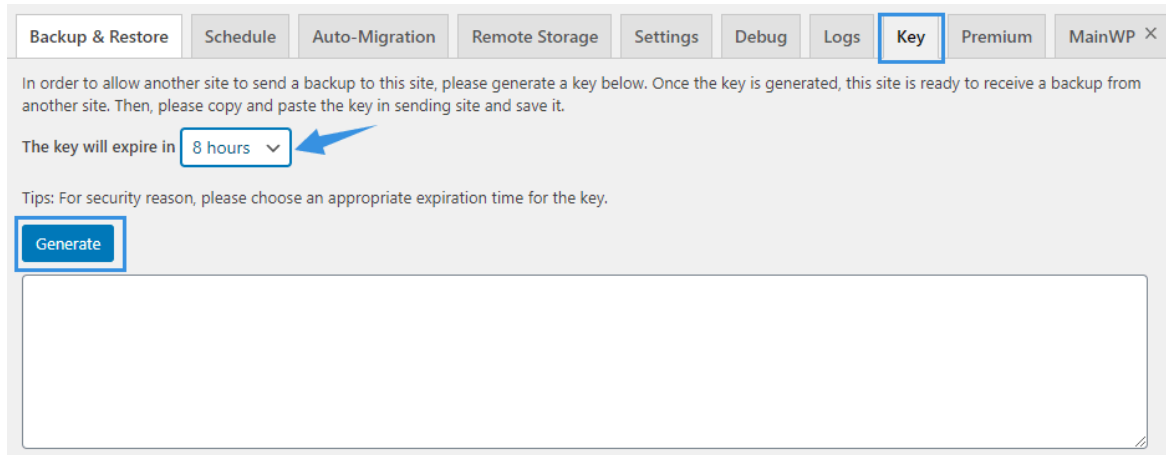
Automatic Transfer

Step 1: Generate a Key

To transfer files safely between the two websites, you need to generate a key on the destination website. Once the key is generated, the destination website is ready to receive files.

On the destination website, go to *WPvivid >> Key*. Select the key's expiration time.

You can choose between 2, 8 and 24 hours. Then select the Generate button:



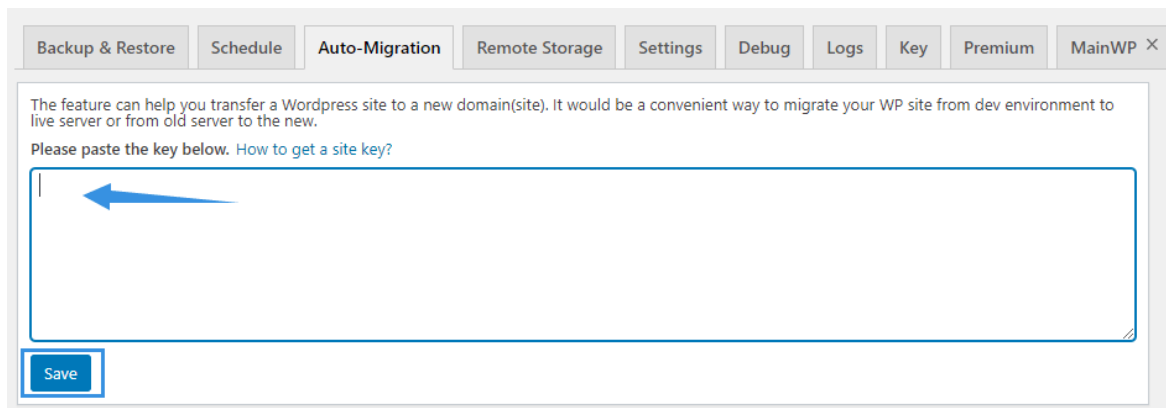
The screenshot shows the 'Key' tab in the WPvivid plugin interface. The 'Key' tab is highlighted with a blue border. Below the tabs, there is a text box with instructions: 'In order to allow another site to send a backup to this site, please generate a key below. Once the key is generated, this site is ready to receive a backup from another site. Then, please copy and paste the key in sending site and save it.' Below this, there is a dropdown menu labeled 'The key will expire in' with '8 hours' selected. A blue arrow points to the dropdown. Below the dropdown is a tip: 'Tips: For security reason, please choose an appropriate expiration time for the key.' At the bottom left, there is a blue 'Generate' button.

A key is generated for you by the plugin. Copy this key, as we are going to use it in step 2.

Step 2: Entering the key and starting the transfer

Return to the WordPress admin area of the site that you would like to copy.

Go to *WPvivid >> Auto-Migration* tab and add your key:



The screenshot shows the 'Auto-Migration' tab in the WPvivid plugin interface. The 'Auto-Migration' tab is highlighted with a blue border. Below the tabs, there is a text box with instructions: 'The feature can help you transfer a Wordpress site to a new domain(site). It would be a convenient way to migrate your WP site from dev environment to live server or from old server to the new. Please paste the key below. [How to get a site key?](#)' Below this, there is a large text input field with a blue border and a blue arrow pointing to it. At the bottom left, there is a blue 'Save' button.

Select one of the three available options:

- Database + Files (Entire website)
- All files (Exclude Database)
- Only Database

Choose the content you want to transfer

Database + Files (WordPress Files)

WordPress Files (Exclude Database)

Only Database

Choose what to migrate [Pro feature: learn more](#)

Note:

- In order to successfully complete the migration, you'd better deactivate [301 redirect plugin](#), [firewall and security plugin](#), and [caching plugin](#) (if they exist) before transferring website.
- Please migrate website with the manual way when using Local by Flywheel environment.

[Clone then Transfer](#)

Click *Clone then Transfer* to begin.

During the entire transfer, you can monitor the progress with the progress bar. You will be notified of the Database Size, File Size, Total size, Uploaded, Speed, and Network Connection.

Below are two examples of how the different stages of the transfer are reported:

The connection is ok. Now you can transfer the site [http://\[redacted\].com](#) to the site [http://\[redacted\].com](#)

Database Size: 0 File Size: 0 Total Size: 19.66 MB Uploaded: 18.00 MB Speed: 149.8kb/s

Network Connection: OK

Uploading [\[redacted\].com_wpvivid-5d525f3f3d9e5_7_backup_all.zip](#) Progress: 91%, running time: 1min31second

[Cancel](#)

How long the transfer takes depends on your connection speed and the size of your website.

When the transfer is complete, the following message will be displayed:

WPvivid Backup Plugin

Transfer succeed, you have to refresh the backup list of target site in wpvivid plugin.

When you have completed these steps, please skip to Restoring the website.

Manual Transfer

Log in to the [website](#) that you would like to copy, and go to WPvivid >> Backup & Restore.

Step 1: Create a backup

A detailed explanation on how to create a backup is part of our Get Started series, please see [Get Started: Create a Manual Backup](#).

Step 2: Download the backup to your computer

Select the Download option from the list of available backups.

Note: If the backup is stored in remote storage, our plugin will retrieve the backup to your web server first.

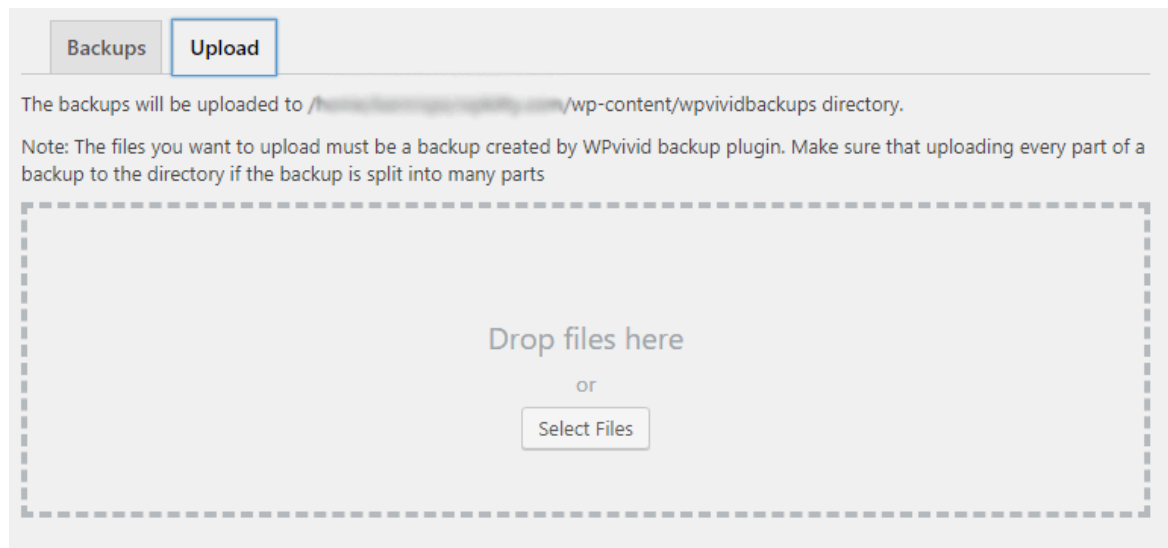
Step 3: Upload the backup to your destination website

There are two suggested ways to upload the backup to your destination website.

Option one:

1. On the destination website, go to *WPvivid >> Backup & Restore*.
2. Select the Upload option and upload the backup file(s):

Note: If you got multiple parts/files, please select and upload them at once.



Option two:

1. Upload the backup files to the destination website via a [ftp client](#): The plugin has automatically created a folder for your backups at: `/wp-content/wpvividbackups`
2. Make sure that all the backup files are placed in the correct folder.

Restoring The Website

Step 1: Find the files in backup list

Head over to the destination website and go to *WPvivid >> Backup & Restore*, you will see the newly transferred files has been automatically added to the list of available backups:

Backup	Storage	Download	Restore	Delete
<input type="checkbox"/> Dec 29, 2020 15:36 Type:Manual Log	FTP SFTP	Download	Restore	Delete
<input type="checkbox"/> Uploaded Backup: Nov 25, 2020 22:00 Type:Upload Log	FTP SFTP	Download	Restore	Delete
<input type="checkbox"/> Delete the selected backups				

Step 2: Restoring the backup

A detailed guide on how to restore the backup can be found here: [Get Started: Restore Your Site from a Backup.](#)

Important:

The restore function will replace [the site's themes](#), plugins, uploads, database and/or other content directories with the existing equivalents in the selected backup.

Click the *Restore* button after the backup in the list, you will be asked to confirm the changes. You will then be able to follow the process through the log, where you can see files being extracted and restored.

Backups Upload **Restore** X

Restore backup from: Dec 29, 2020 15:36

Please do not close the page or switch to other pages when a restore task is running, as it could trigger some unexpected errors.

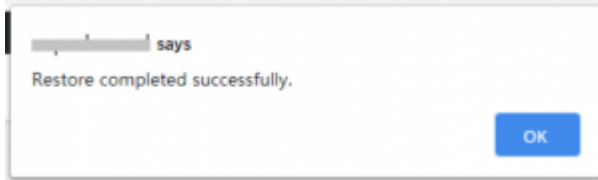
Restore function will replace the current site's themes, plugins, uploads, database and/or other content directories with the existing equivalents in the selected backup.

Tips: The plugin detects automatically either site restoration or migration (replacing the domain name) based on the current domain name. If the domain name in backup file is same as the current one, it starts restoring. On the contrary, restoring backup means to replace with the current domain name. The precondition is that the backup is created by version 0.9.21 or later.

Restore

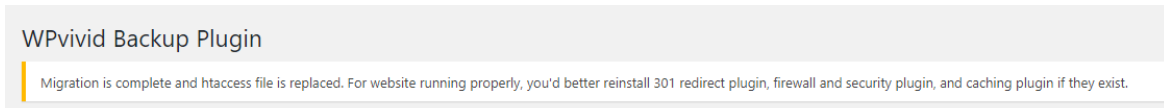
Once completed, a window will pop up notifying you of the success of restoration.

Click *OK* to confirm, you'll then be automatically logged out of the admin area.



Next, log in to the site using new credentials (credentials of the site you've transferred).

And then, what you have been waiting for:



Congratulations!

With the migration complete, please test your website carefully to make sure it works as expected.

How to Migrate A Site to A New Host And Keep the Domain Unchanged

The correct procedure to migrate a website but keep the same domain would be:

1. Create a full backup (database + files) of the source site and download it to your computer.
2. Go to your domain provider's website and point your domain name to the new hosting. See this [example tutorial](#).
3. Install WordPress on the new host and install WPvivid Backup Plugin.
4. Upload the backup to the target site (using WPvivid plugin's upload function or using an FTP to upload the backup to the wp-content/wpvividbackups folder) then restore.
5. Check and make sure the new site works as expected, then delete the source site.

Or if you'd like to use the 'Auto Transfer' option, follow the steps below:

1. Install WordPress on the target server and make sure it is accessible and connectable. You can still install and access WordPress when you do not have another domain name for the target site, you can use the IP address of the new server. See this [example tutorial](#) or contact your web host for help if you are not sure how to do this.

2. Use WPvivid auto migration feature to transfer files from the source to the target site.
3. Point your domain name to the new server and make sure it takes effect(it will take you to the new site when you visit the domain). To do that, go to the target site backend > Settings > General > change the *WordPress Address (URL)* and *Site Address (URL)* to the domain name > Save changes.
4. Restore the site using the transferred backup.
5. Check and make sure the new site works as expected, then delete the source site.

Troubleshooting

If you are experiencing issues with the automated transfer, please try to the manual transfer first. Here some known issues and the solutions:

Error: A key is required

This message is presented if you have accidentally clicked the transfer button before pasting your key.

Error: 404 Error. Page Not Found

If you encounter this error when you click on pages or menus on the site after migration. Please go to Settings > Permalink, and click *Save Changes* button.

Generally, our plugin updates the permalinks automatically when completing the processing of migration, but it could fail to update the permalinks on some webhostings. In that case, you can update it manually.

cURL error 28 -Operation timeout

Please try again. If this problem persist, try to increase the memory limit in your servers php.ini file. If you are not comfortable editing the file, contact your webhost support and see if they can help.

Transfer failed: Error establishing a database connection

If this error is presented when you select Database + Files (Entire website), select the Only Database option instead and then attempt the transfer again.

If the transfer is successful, you can then select the All Files (Exclude Database)

option to transfer the rest of your site.

You will need to restore both backup files on your destination site.

The transfer is taking too long

If there are no error messages and if the progress bar is moving, then the transfer is still being handled. How long the transfer takes depends on your connection speed and the size of your website.

More issues and corresponding solutions can be found on our [troubleshooting issues on WPvivid Backup plugin](#).

Troubleshooting

Free: Backup & Migration Free

Pro: Staging & Dev Environment

Pro: Backup & Migration

Documentation

[Install WPvivid Plugins Pro](#)

Free – Image Optimization

Free – Backup & Migration

Free – Backup for MainWP

Pro – Image Optimization

Pro – Backup & Migration

Pro – Staging & Dev Environment

Backup & Migration Free

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Restore Site from A Backup

Overview: Remote Storage

Auto-Migration

Overview: Key

Overview: Schedule

Advanced Settings

Overview: Logs

Overview: Debug

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