CloudFlare Installation Guide for Plesk Panel 11.x and 10.4.4

Part I: CloudFlare Integration for the Hoster
Part II: CloudFlare Installation for Customer / Site Owner
Part III: Notes and FAQs

IMPORTANT:

To follow these instructions, you must already be a CloudFlare Partner. To sign up as a partner, visit: https://www.cloudflare.com/certified-partners

Before you start, note the following:

- The CloudFlare Plesk plugin works on Plesk 11.x or 10.4.4. It does not support older versions
- You must be using the DNS server provided with Parallels Plesk Panel – not an external source
- It can take up to 1 hour for the DNS to propagate
- You do not need a License key to activate CloudFlare Free – the field can be left blank in installation
Part I: CloudFlare Integration for Hosters

Step 1: Install software to preserve original visitor IP in log files

All requests to a CloudFlare-protected website will come from the CloudFlare IP address ranges: [http://www.cloudflare.com/ips](http://www.cloudflare.com/ips).

a) DO NOT THROTTLE OR RATE-LIMIT these IP addresses, or your customers' website visitors will see a "Website Offline" page. Please whitelist CloudFlare's IP range.

b) CloudFlare passes the original visitor IP address in the header of every request. To retrieve the original visitor IP from the header, install the appropriate software on your server:

For Parallels Plesk Panel 11.x on Linux: You can install mod_cloudflare directly from inside Parallels Plesk Panel by going to “Add or Remove Components” → “Plesk Hosting Features” → “CloudFlare Apache Module”. Once done, you can skip directly to Step 2.

For Parallels Plesk Panel 11.x on Windows or Parallels Plesk Panel 10.4.4: Software to preserve the original visitor IP address can be found in the Downloads section of the CloudFlare partner portal at: [https://partners.cloudflare.com/downloads](https://partners.cloudflare.com/downloads)

Step 2: Install the CloudFlare APS Package

a) In your Parallels Plesk Panel, when in “Service Provider View”, click on the "Tools and Settings" button.

b) Click on "Application Vault" button

c) Click "My Apps" tab

d) Click "Add App" and go to “Select an app from Application Catalog”

e) Find “CloudFlare for Parallels Plesk” by scrolling down the alphabetical list

f) Click “OK”
Step 3: Configure the CloudFlare APS Package

a) In the Installed Apps tab, click on the “CloudFlare for Parallels Plesk” app link

b) Click on the Settings Button

c) Enter the following information:

- Your Host API Key: this can be found on the Account Settings page in the CloudFlare Partner Portal: https://partners.cloudflare.com/account-settings

- The password to the 'admin' user of Plesk (so that the package can communicate needed DNS changes to the API). If you ever change your 'admin' password in the future, be sure to update it here too.

- 'localhost' as the Plesk Base URL.

At this point, your customers will be able to enable CloudFlare for their websites from the application section in your Plesk control panel.
Step 4: Enable CloudFlare for three test sites

Follow Part II instructions on the next page
Part II: CloudFlare Installation for Customers / Site Owners

Step 1: Enabling CloudFlare

a) When logged in as a customer, click on the “Applications” tab

d) Click on “CloudFlare for Parallels Plesk” available in the Feature Applications area

NOTE: Click on the name of the package only – do not click on “Buy Now” if you want to install the Free version.
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e) Click on “Install” and fill in the e-mail address and password fields on the next screen. This will create the site owner account on CloudFlare.com and associate the domain name with it. If activating a “CloudFlare Performance Plus” plan, the license key may be entered on this screen also.
f) After installed, CloudFlare will begin protecting and accelerating all access to the 'www' subdomain on that website. To enable CloudFlare on additional subdomains, click on “Settings” and add them to the comma-separated list.
Part III: Notes and FAQs

1) **How do I know if CloudFlare is working**
To ensure that CloudFlare was properly installed use Terminal to check. Open Terminal and enter the following dig command.

dig www.mydomain.com

Output without CloudFlare-enabled:

```
www.mydomain.com 10782 IN CNAME www.mydomain.com
```

Output with CloudFlare-enabled:

```
```

If you see '.cdn.cloudflare.net', then CloudFlare is enabled.

2) **How does signing up through a CloudFlare Certified Partner different from signing up on cloudflare.com**

The plugins and API provision CloudFlare via delegating CNAMEs. Your customers continue to point their domain to your authoritative DNS servers. You do the delegation for them via the plugins or API.

*Note: this is different than websites that sign up at cloudflare.com directly.*

Since CloudFlare works through CNAMEs, CloudFlare cannot be enabled on the root domain, which is an A record. If your customer wants to use CloudFlare to accelerate and protect traffic going to the root domain, they must add a redirect in the .htaccess file to 'www'. As a reference, here is one example:

```
RewriteEngine On
# Rewrite added for CloudflareInstall - mysite.com
# Wednesday 25th of August 2010 04:59:42 AM
RewriteCond %{HTTP_HOST} ^mysite.com$ [NC]
RewriteCond %{SERVER_PORT} ^80$
RewriteRule ^(.*)$ http://www.mysite.com/$1 [R=301,L]
```

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3) I have enabled CloudFlare on three websites, what should I do next

You will receive an email outlining next steps and providing you with a Launch Plan.

4) Where do I go for additional resources and technical support

Technical Support: Submit a Technical Support question here: https://support.cloudflare.com/anonymous_requests/new and select “Hosting Partners” in the category menu

Additional questions: Email plesk@cloudflare.com

We look forward to getting you up and running as a Certified Partner.

Regards,
The CloudFlare Team