

Drupal 10 to 11 upgrade checklist

With the extra checks Drupal 12 will need

Checked against drupal.org on
26 September 2026

Site:	Prepared for:	Prepared by:	Date:
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Before you start

- ☐ Confirm the core version and PHP version. Drupal 11 needs 10.3.0 or later.
`drush status --fields=drupal-version,php-version`
- ☐ List every module and theme, contributed and custom, and every patch applied through Composer.
- ☐ Update contributed modules to their latest releases while the site is still on Drupal 10.
- ☐ Back up the database, the files directory and the code, then restore that backup somewhere once to prove it works.

Hosting: PHP and database

- ☐ PHP 8.3 or later for Drupal 11, with the zlib extension enabled.
- ☐ Database: MySQL 8.0, MariaDB 10.6, PostgreSQL 16 or SQLite 3.45 or later.
- ☐ Local, staging and production run the same PHP and database versions.

Upgrade Status

- ☐ Install Upgrade Status with Composer on the Drupal 10 site and scan everything.
`drush upgrade_status:analyze --all`
- ☐ Clear every item on the report for custom code, and record the contributed projects it flags.
- ☐ Treat a clean report as necessary, not sufficient. Click through the site with deprecation logging on.

Drupal Rector for custom code

- ☐ Install Drupal Rector and copy its configuration to the project root.
`composer require --dev palantirnet/drupal-rector`
`cp vendor/palantirnet/drupal-rector/rector.php .`
- ☐ Dry run first and review the diff, then run the same command again without the dry-run option.
`vendor/bin/rector process web/modules/custom --dry-run`
- ☐ Fix by hand what Rector leaves. Its documented limits include static calls such as `\Drupal::service()`.
- ☐ Allow Drupal 11 in the info file of each custom module and theme.
`core_version_requirement: ^10.3 || ^11`

Core modules removed in Drupal 11

- ☐ Actions UI, Activity Tracker, Book, Forum, Statistics and Tour left core in Drupal 11. If the site uses one, require its contributed project on Drupal 10.3 or later, before the core update.
- ☐ If the site used Statistics, remove its rule from a customised `.htaccess`.
- ☐ Help Topics and Single Directory Components are obsolete: their functionality is in core.

Contributed modules without a Drupal 11 release

- ☐ Check each project page by hand, including new major branches. Upgrade Status can miss a compatible release.
- ☐ Look in the issue queue for the Project Update Bot's "Automated Drupal 11 compatibility fixes" issue and any patches people have tested.
- ☐ Allow the current and the next major branch in `composer.json` while you wait, for example `"^6.1 || ^7.0"`, and find what still blocks the update.
`composer why-not drupal/core ^11`

- ☐ A module whose info file does not allow Drupal 11 yet installs with the Drupal Lenient Composer Plugin and a patch. drupal.org says the plugin should not be used in production.
- ☐ For an abandoned module, decide: replace it, drop the feature, or port it and post the patch in its queue.

Run the upgrade on a copy

- ☐ Work on a copy of production, with its database and files, never on production itself.
- ☐ Require Drupal 11 core without updating yet, allow the `symfony/runtime` Composer plugin that core needs from 11.4, then dry-run the update and run it.
`composer require 'drupal/core-recommended:^11' \`
`'drupal/core-composer-scaffold:^11' \`
`'drupal/core-project-message:^11' --no-update`
`composer config allow-plugins.symfony/runtime true`
`composer update --dry-run`
`composer update`
- ☐ Re-apply your changes to scaffold files such as `.htaccess` and `robots.txt`.
- ☐ Run the database updates, export the configuration and review the diff.
`drush updatedb`
`drush config:export`

Testing

- ☐ Run the automated tests the site has (PHPUnit, Behat), and run cron.
`drush cron`
- ☐ Watch the log while you click through the site.
`drush watchdog:tail`
- ☐ Walk the journeys that matter: log in, editing and publishing, forms, search, payments, integrations, scheduled jobs and emails.
- ☐ Compare key pages with the live site, and check that URLs and redirects are unchanged.

Rollback plan

- ☐ Agree before go-live who decides to roll back, and on what signal.
- ☐ Put the site in maintenance mode and dump the database just before the updates.
`drush maint:set 1`
`drush sql:dump --gzip --result-file=pre-d11.sql`
- ☐ Keep the previous release, code and `composer.lock`, ready to deploy again.
- ☐ Rolling back means the previous code plus the pre-update dump: Drupal cannot reverse database updates. Rehearse it once on staging.

Drupal 12 notes

- ☐ Drupal 12.0.0 is planned for the week of 7 December 2026. Until then these notes come from the 12.0.0-alpha1 release notes.
- ☐ Update to Drupal 11.4.0 or later before Drupal 12; drupal.org strongly recommends 11.5.0 or higher.
- ☐ PHP 8.5, compiled with argon2 support, and MariaDB 10.11 or MySQL 8.0.
- ☐ Ban, Contact, Field Layout, History, Settings Tray, Shortcut, Telephone and Stable 9 move to contributed projects. Migrate Drupal and Migrate Drupal UI are removed with no contributed version.
- ☐ Use Upgrade Status 5.0 to scan for Drupal 12 on the Drupal 11 site. A major version cannot be skipped: Drupal 10 goes to 11 first.

Sources

The items that rest on a published rule come from these pages, read on 26 September 2026.

Actions UI removed: drupal.org/node/3438713

Activity Tracker removed: drupal.org/node/3444571

Book removed: drupal.org/node/3444573

Change record: Merge::key(): drupal.org/node/2205327

Database server requirements: drupal.org/docs/getting-started/system-requirements/database-server-requirements

Deprecated and obsolete extensions: drupal.org/docs/core-modules-and-themes/deprecated-and-obsolete

Drupal 11.0.0 release notes: drupal.org/project/drupal/releases/11.0.0

Drupal 12.0.0-alpha1 release notes:
drupal.org/project/drupal/releases/12.0.0-alpha1

Drupal core release schedule: drupal.org/about/core/policies/core-release-cycles/schedule

drupal-rector README: github.com/palantirnet/drupal-rector

Forum removed: drupal.org/node/3423968

How to upgrade from Drupal 10 to Drupal 11: drupal.org/docs/upgrading-drupal/upgrading-from-drupal-8-or-later/how-to-upgrade-from-drupal-10-to-drupal-11

How to upgrade from Drupal 11 to Drupal 12: drupal.org/docs/upgrading-drupal/upgrading-from-drupal-8-or-later/how-to-upgrade-from-drupal-11-to-drupal-12

PHP requirements: drupal.org/docs/getting-started/system-requirements/php-requirements

Rector on drupal.org: drupal.org/project/rector

Statistics removed: drupal.org/node/3423969

Tour removed: drupal.org/node/3422602

Upgrade Status project page: drupal.org/project/upgrade_status

Upgrade Status releases: drupal.org/project/upgrade_status/releases

Upgrading Drupal: drupal.org/docs/upgrading-drupal/upgrading-from-drupal-8-or-later

Using the Drupal Lenient Composer Plugin: drupal.org/docs/develop/using-composer/using-drupals-lenient-composer-endpoint