

Uploading your store

Publishing your store to the web

How EROL publishes to the web

EROL has its own built-in, easy-to-use FTP module that automates the web publishing process. Not only does it send your updated files to the web with the click of a button, it is intelligent enough to help you maintain streamlined remote folders by automatically matching your remote store to your local version.

To publish your store to the web,

1. Click the Publish to Web button
2. Select your desired upload method
3. Set your host details
4. Click 'Next'
5. After your files have been collated, click 'Upload'

Setting your host details

In order to upload your store to your website, EROL requires various host details from you. If you are uncertain of any of these fields, your server administrator or ISP will be able to help you.

The host details required by EROL are:

Compulsory fields

- Host Address:
- User Name:
- Password:
- Website Address:

Non-compulsory fields

- Public Folder:
- Store Folder:

Optional field

Path to CGI-bin:

You can always change and/or modify your host details in Store > Options > Host Details.

The different publishing options

Whenever you upload your store to the web, you are required to select an upload method appropriate to your needs.

You can choose between:

- Upload NEW/MODIFIED Files
This method will upload any files that are new or have changed since the last upload. It is recommended you use this method the first time you upload to the web.

- Upload MODIFIED files and Delete OBSOLETE files from remote system
This method performs the same operation as 'Upload NEW/MODIFIED Files', however it will intelligently clean up your remote system by deleting files that it recognises have been deleted from your local system.
- Upload ALL files
This method is only required if files have been lost from the remote server or you have changed host. This method will take longer than a normal upload.

Collating and FTP'ing the files

Once you have selected an upload method, set your host details and clicked 'Next', EROL will collate all the files required for upload.

This is an automatic process and requires no user input.

Once the collation of files is completed, click 'Upload' to begin publishing your store to the web.

Losing a connection during upload

If your connection to the Internet gets dropped during the upload process, EROL will warn you that this has occurred. You will be prompted to retry the upload, or cancel it.

If you retry, EROL will dial out again and continue uploading from where you left off. If you cancel, the FTP module will close down. If you decide to upload again later, EROL will upload the remaining files that were not sent due to the connection resetting (you will need to select 'Upload NEW/MODIFIED Files' as your upload method).

Manually publishing your store to the web

You can manually upload your store to the web using your preferred FTP software if you are not comfortable using the EROL FTP module.

In order to complete this successfully you will need to extract all web based files (i.e. *.html, *.gif and *.jpg files) from the EROL root folder, as well as the 'images' folder, and upload these to your web space.

Manually publishing your store to the web is not recommended.

Publishing your store to CD-ROM

An overview of CD-Rom Publication

EROL can be published to CD-ROM in addition to being published to the web. This can provide your customers with the ability to browse your store offline – meaning quicker and cheaper access to your products.

Other benefits include:

- Include large multi-media files such as sound and video to your which would be unsuitable for the web.
- Publish your store to CD-ROM business cards or custom-shaped CD-ROMs
- Faster browsing for customers
- Connection to the Internet only to send orders

Publishing your store onto a CD-Rom

To publish your store to CD-ROM:

1. Make a copy of all web based files (i.e. *.html, *.gif and *.jpg files) in the root of EROL as well as a copy of the 'images' folder.
2. Burn the copied data onto CD
3. Run erol.html to launch your store

Alert customers to price changes

EROL's Order Verification script will cross check any orders made from a CD-ROM store, and alert the customer – when they submit their order - that the prices of the goods purchased have changed. The script will display the new prices.

If the customer agrees with the new prices, they can continue with the purchase. If they disagree they can go back to the store and change their order.

In order for the Order Verification to operate, you must:

- a) Have an online version of your store where price changes can be uploaded to
- b) Input the path to your CGI-bin in Host Details

It is not recommended to publish your store to CD-Rom if the above to criteria are not met.