

Upgrading Your Actinic Store To Actinic v7

Upgrading To The Latest Version

The standard way to upgrade to v7 is to upgrade your site(s) as you install v7. This will not affect your current live site(s) in any way. The data from your current site(s) will simply be copied into the new installation and then upgraded.

Please Note:

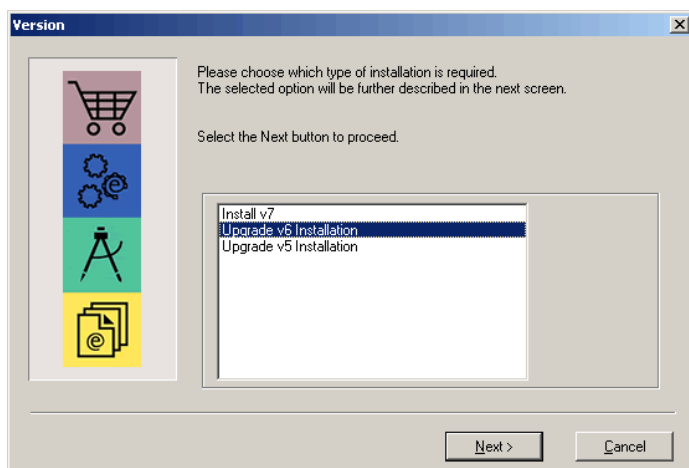
Using these instructions, you will be able to keep your existing site live and operational whilst you are configuring all your site data and templates to work with v7.

You should allow a few hours for the upgrade process (i.e. do not attempt this last thing on a Friday.)

Step 1: Install Version 7

Firstly, install Actinic v7 onto your PC.

As you start the installation process, you will have the choice to either 'Install New' or 'Upgrade Installation'. This is where you tell the installer that you want to upgrade your current Actinic site(s) now. Select the 'Upgrade Installation' option and click 'Next>'.



After this, you can specify the sites that you wish to upgrade. Select all the ones you want and then click 'Next>'. You will then need to decide which of your upgraded sites will become your 'Primary Site' (i.e. that one that first appears when Actinic starts). Select one and click 'Next>'.

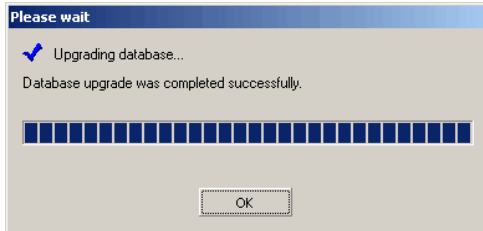
Actinic will then install its program files, and afterwards it will copy your selected sites from your current to your new installation.

Note: Don't forget that this will not affect your current installation – it will only copy the data from your current installation into the new version.

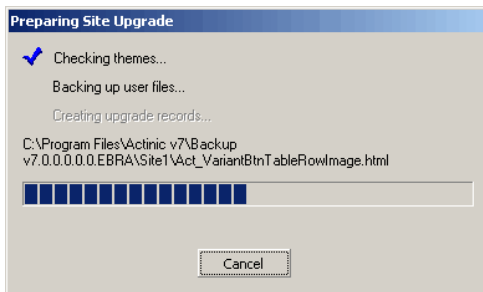
Once the installation has completed, you can start Actinic.

Step 2: The Site Upgrader

When you start Actinic, you will see a message about upgrading your database:

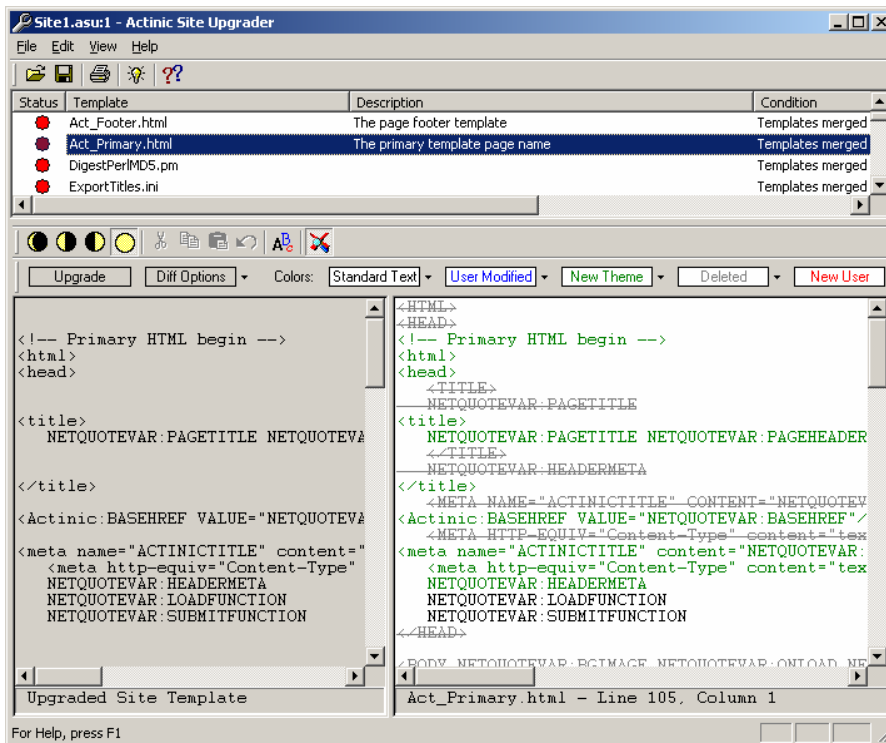


After this, there will be a message about upgrading the site.



After this, a dialogue box may appear offering to run the 'Site Upgrader' with three options - 'Yes', 'No' and 'Cancel'.


- Click 'No' and Actinic will simply apply a standard theme to your site (backing up your current templates beforehand).
- Click 'Yes' to launch the Site Upgrader, which will attempt to upgrade your templates to the latest version.



The Site Upgrader is designed to ensure your templates are compatible with the current version of Actinic. It does this by doing the following:

1. It will look at the theme that your design was based on and compare it to the same theme files in the version 7.
2. From that comparison, it generates a list of differences between the v7 templates and the original theme templates in your current Actinic site.
3. It will then attempt to apply these differences to your templates.
4. Any files that you have not touched will just be replaced by the upgrade. However, any templates that you have customised will have their contents merged with the new features in the v7 templates.

Note: Detailed instructions for the Site Upgrader are in 'ActSiteUpgrader.chm' in the 'Actinic v7' folder on your PC. This is the help file that first opens when you start the Site Upgrader.

The quickest (and often the best) thing to do is to make a note of all the HTML files that Actinic wants to upgrade. Then click the  icon to automatically upgrade your site templates. This will carry out the upgrade. You can then check over the upgraded templates during the testing phase (see below).

Any files changed by the Site Upgrader are backed up beforehand within a folder in your 'Actinic v7' called 'Backup n.n.n.n XXXX' (where 'n' is a number and 'X' is a letter). Use this to refer to your original customised templates.

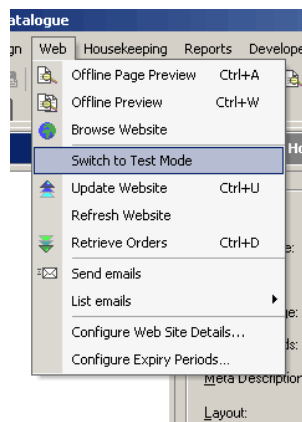
When your site has been upgraded, Actinic will then close and you will need to restart it.

You will now have your site upgraded to the new version.

Step 3: Testing The New Version

You can now change to 'Test Mode' in order to check the upgraded store works correctly online.

To do this, go to 'Web | Switch to Test Mode'.



When you next upload, Actinic will upload your store pages to a sub-folder called 'test' within the 'acatalog' folder online. Once you can verify the store is working correctly, you can switch out of test mode and prepare to put the site live.

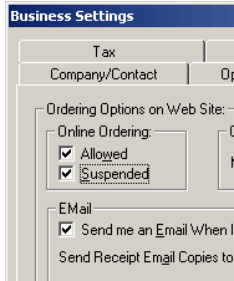
Note: You may want to check you have enough web space free before uploading your test store.

Step 4: Transferring Your Up-To-Date Order Data

You must now ensure that v7 will have the most up-to-date version of your store data that it can have.

Within your currently live copy of Actinic (v6), download all the latest orders from your website.

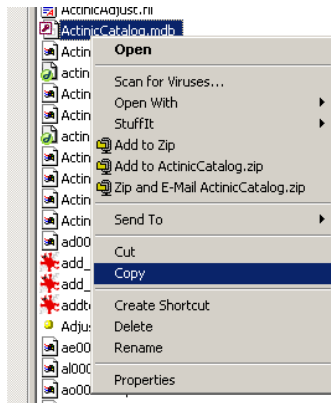
If you receive a large volume of sales, you may want to go to 'Business Settings | Ordering' and tick where it says 'Suspended'. Then upload your store. This will replace all your 'Add to Cart' buttons with a message saying 'CATALOG SUSPENDED'.



Note: You can edit the text of the 'CATALOG SUSPENDED' message in 'Design | Text'

After suspending online ordering, wait half an hour and download orders again to ensure there are none up there. This eliminates the risk of any orders being lost during the upgrade. Then exit Actinic.

Next, use Windows Explorer to go into your 'site folder' in your current installation. This is normally called 'Site1' within the 'Sites' folder. Within this folder, look for a file called 'ActinicCatalog.mdb'. This is the database that contains all your latest orders. Right-click on this file and select 'Copy'.



Then go into the 'Site1' (or equivalent) folder within the 'Actinic v7\Sites' folder on your PC. Right-click within this folder and select 'Paste'. You should get a message about overwriting files. Select 'Yes'. This has copied the very latest data into Version 7.

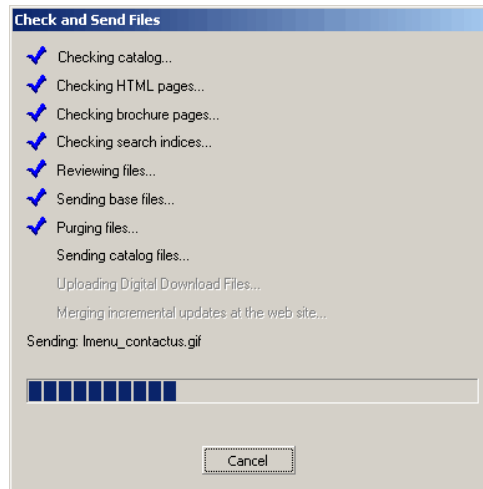
Now start Actinic v7 and the database will be upgraded. When Actinic starts, check that all your order data is present and correct.

Step 5: Uploading The New Version


To put your site live:

1. Go into your new site, and double-check that you are going to upload to the correct location by checking 'Advanced | Network Setup'. These settings should be identical to the settings in your old Actinic site.

2. Go to 'Web | Refresh Website' to upload the site.



3. Once it has uploaded successfully, go to 'Business Settings | Ordering' and un-tick 'Suspended' in order to make the site active again (if you ticked this box earlier).

4. You can now update the site by clicking the  button.