How to install ioncube on jump server?

7 admin March 5, 2026 Installation 51418

How to install Ioncube on jumpserver or bastion host?

Overview: IonCube Loader is typically installed to enable PHP scripts encoded with IonCube to run on a server. These scripts are often proprietary or contain sensitive intellectual property and are encoded to protect them from unauthorized access or modification. By installing IonCube Loader, the server can interpret and execute these encoded scripts, allowing them to function as intended while maintaining their security measures.

The user needs root access to the server to configure Ioncube for PHP.

Step 1: Download the latest Ioncube version from the site mentioned below.

> https://www.ioncube.com/loaders.php

Users would need to identify whether your **system architecture is 32-bit or 64-bit**. The subsequent command would help you with it.

```
root@gateway:~# file /bin/ping

/bin/ping: setuid ELF 64-bit LSB shared object, AMD x86-64, version 1 (SYSV), for GNU/Linux 2.6.9, stripped
```

As evident, the architecture is 64-bit.

Download the Ioncube package designed for 64-bit systems and extract it to /usr/local/ioncube.

```
root@gateway:~# wget https://downloads.ioncube.com/loader_downloads/ioncube_loaders_lin_x86-64.tar.gz
```

```
root@gateway:~# tar -zxf ioncube_loaders_lin_x86-64.tar.gz && mv ioncube /usr/local
```

How do I update an already installed ionCube Loader?

Step 1: Create new directory and move existing ioncube files.

```
root@gateway:~# mv /usr/local/ioncube /usr/local/ioncube_backup
```

Step 2: Re-download Ioncube package and extract it to correct directory.

```
root@gateway:~# wget https://downloads.ioncube.com/loader_downloads/ioncube_loaders_lin_x86-64.tar.gz

root@gateway:~# tar -zxf ioncube_loaders_lin_x86-64.tar.gz && mv ioncube /usr/local
```

Step 3: Restart web server and FPM if available.

```
root@gateway:~# systemctl restart apache2

root@gateway:~# systemctl restart php-fpm
```

Step 2: Identify the PHP version you're running on your system.

```
root@gateway:~# php -v

PHP 8.4.18 (cli) (built: Feb 13 2026 15:59:43) (NTS)
```

Step 3: Edit the PHP configuration file & add the corresponding Ioncube loader.

Load the Iocube version corresponding to the PHP version running on the server.

Example: If the PHP Version is 8.1, The Ioncube loader should be ioncube_loader_lin_8.1.so

For RHEL 8:

```
root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php.ini

zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_7.2.so


root@gateway:~# systemctl restart httpd

root@gateway:~# systemctl restart php-fpm (if installed)
```

For Ubuntu 18:

```
root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php/7.2/cli/php.ini

zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_7.2.so


root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php/7.2/apache2/php.ini

zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_7.2.so


root@gateway:~# systemctl restart apache2
```

For Ubuntu 20:

```
root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php/7.4/cli/php.ini

zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_7.4.so


root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php/7.4/apache2/php.ini

zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_7.4.so


root@gateway:~# systemctl restart apache2
```

For Ubuntu 22:

```
root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php/8.2/cli/php.ini

zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_8.2.so


root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php/8.2/apache2/php.ini
```

```
zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_8.2.so


root@gateway:~# systemctl restart apache2
```

For Ubuntu 24:

```
root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php/8.2/cli/php.ini

zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_8.2.so


root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php/8.2/apache2/php.ini

zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_8.2.so


root@gateway:~# systemctl restart apache2
```

For Debian 9:

```
root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php/7.0/cli/php.ini

zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_7.0.so


root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php/7.0/apache2/php.ini

zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_7.0.so


root@gateway:~# systemctl restart apache2

root@gateway:~# systemctl restart php-fpm (if installed)
```

For Debian 10/11:

```
root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php/7.3/cli/php.ini

zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_7.3.so


root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php/7.3/apache2/php.ini

zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_7.3.so


root@gateway:~# systemctl restart apache2

root@gateway:~# systemctl restart php-fpm (if installed)
```

For AlmaLinux 9, 8:

```
root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php.ini
```

```
zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_7.2.so


root@gateway:~# systemctl restart httpd
root@gateway:~# systemctl restart php-fpm
```

For SUSE LINUX 15:

```
root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php7/cli/php.ini
zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_7.4.so


root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php7/apache2/php.ini
zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_7.4.so


root@gateway:~# apachectl restart
root@gateway:~# systemctl restart php-fpm (if installed)
```

For Debian 9 Nginx:

```
root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php/7.0/cli/php.ini
zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_7.0.so


root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php/7.0/fpm/php.ini
zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_7.0.so


root@gateway:~# systemctl reload nginx.service
root@gateway:~#  systemctl reload php7.0-fpm.service
```

For Centos 7:

```
root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php.ini
zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_8.1.so


root@gateway:~# systemctl restart httpd
```

For Centos 7 Nginx:

```
root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php.ini
zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_8.1.so
```

```
root@gateway:~# systemctl restart nginx
```

For Centos 8:

```
root@gateway:~# vi /etc/php.ini

zend_extension = /usr/local/ioncube/ioncube_loader_lin_7.2.so



root@gateway:~# systemctl restart httpd
```

Step 4: Check the PHP version again to see whether Ioncube has been loaded properly.

```
root@gateway:~# php -v

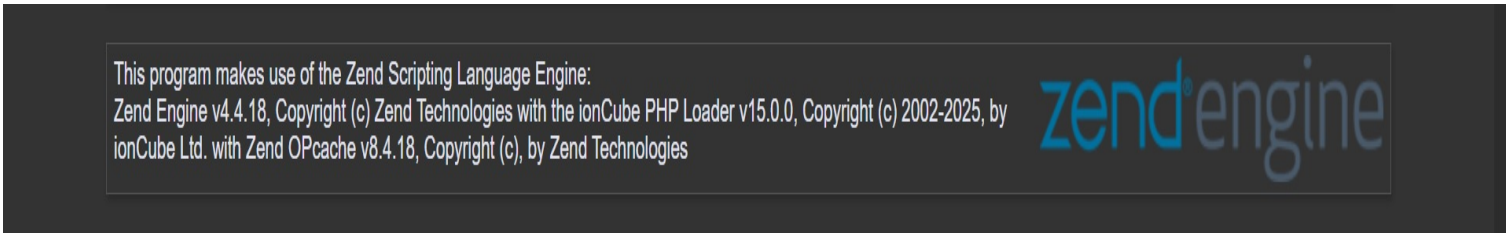
PHP 8.4.18 (cli) (built: Feb 13 2026 15:59:43) (NTS)
Copyright (c) The PHP Group
Built by Debian
Zend Engine v4.4.18, Copyright (c) Zend Technologies
with the ionCube PHP Loader v15.0.0, Copyright (c) 2002-2025, by ionCube Ltd.
with Zend OPcache v8.4.18, Copyright (c), by Zend Technologies
```

Step 5: Ensure that Ioncube decoders are loaded by viewing the PHP configuration page.

```
root@gateway:~# echo "<?php phpinfo()?>" >> /var/www/html/phpinfo.php
```

Access the information page, and it will display the loaded Ioncube version. As observed, ionCube version 12.0.5 is currently loaded.





Redownload and update ionCube. Also, ensure that the Zend Engine version is v4.3.30, ionCube PHP Loader is v15.0.0, and Zend OPcache is v8.3.30.

If the versions do not match, remove the existing ionCube Loader and download it again.

Contact our **support department** if you face any further difficulties.

Related Articles:

Install and switch different versions of PHP in Ubuntu
Upgrade PHP to 8.1 in Debian
Upgrade PHP to 8.2 in OpenSUSE 15