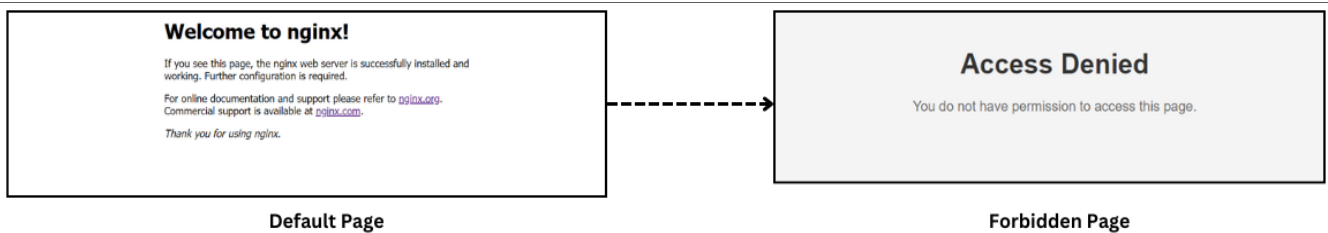


Disable apache default page and replace with an error page.

721 Rakhi April 28, 2025 [General](#) 2509

Can we remove the welcome.conf page and replace it with any error page?

Overview: This article explains how to configure your web server (Apache or Nginx) to display a "403 Forbidden" error page instead of the welcome page when accessing your domain.



Do follow the below steps to disable welcome page and show up the forbidden page.

Step 1: Rename the Welcome Page Configuration.

Rename the welcome page configuration file to disable it.

```
root@gateway:~# mv /etc/httpd/conf.d/welcome.conf  
/etc/httpd/conf.d/welcome.conf.backup
```

Step 2: Edit Apache Configuration.

Edit the Apache configuration file to make the necessary changes.

```
root@gateway:~# vim /etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf
```

Step 3: Modify Directory Options Locate the line that starts with `<Directory "/var/www/html">` and make the following changes:

Before:

```
<Directory "/var/www/html">
Options Indexes FollowSymLinks
...
</Directory>
```

After:

```
<Directory "/var/www/html">
# Options Indexes FollowSymLinks
Options -Indexes
...
</Directory>
```

Step 4: Check Configuration Syntax and Restart Apache

Run a configuration test to ensure there are no syntax errors. If the test is successful, restart Apache.

```
root@gateway:~# apachectl configtest
```

If the output is Syntax OK, proceed with restarting Apache.

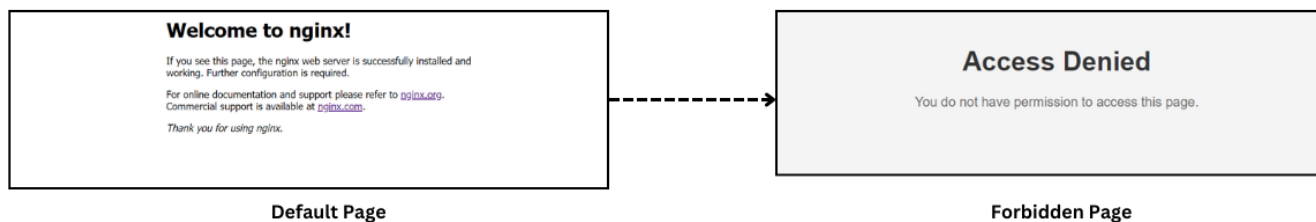
```
root@gateway:~# systemctl restart httpd
```

After completing these steps, try accessing your domain. You should see a "403 Forbidden" error page instead of the welcome page.

Forbidden

You don't have permission to access this resource.

-
- If you are trying to configure the same with the nginx web server.



Step 1: Move the Default Nginx Welcome Page

Rename the Nginx welcome page (index.nginx-debian.html) to disable it.

```
root@gateway:~# cd /var/www/html/ && mv index.nginx-debian.html index.nginx-debian.html.backup
```

Step 2: Create an error.html page.

Create a custom HTML error page named error.html using Nano (you can use any text editor you prefer):

```
root@gateway:~# nano /var/www/html/error.html
```

```
<html lang="en">
<head>
<meta charset="UTF-8">
<title>Error Page</title>
<style>
body {
font-family: Arial, sans-serif;
background-color: #f4f4f4;
margin: 50px;
padding: 20px;
text-align: center;
}
h1 {
color: #333;
}
p {
color: #666;
}
```

```
</style>
</head>
<body>
<h1>Access Denied</h1>
<p>You do not have permission to access this page.</p>
</body>
</html>
```

Step 3: Configure Nginx to Use the Error Page.

Edit the Nginx default site configuration file (/etc/nginx/sites-available/default) to configure Nginx to use the custom error page for **Access Denied** error:

```
root@gateway:~# nano /etc/nginx/sites-available/default
```

Before:

```
location / {
try_files $uri $uri/ =404;
}
```

After:

```
location / {
try_files $uri $uri/ =404;
}
error_page 403 /error.html;

location = /error.html {
internal;
}
```

Step 4: Test Nginx Configuration.

Test the configuration file and reload the nginx service.

```
root@gateway:~# nginx -t
```

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

Now try to access the domain and see for Access Denied Page.

Access Denied

You do not have permission to access this page.

Feel free to take the help of [support](#) if you encounter any issues or need further assistance!

Related Articles:

[Error log file and configuration file for troubleshooting.](#)

Online URL:

<https://www.ezeelogin.com/kb/article/disable-apache-default-page-and-replace-with-an-error-page-721.html>