

Safe Rollback Practices

What This Covers

This guide explains how to safely manage and reverse changes made through Steel Security.

Rollback is a critical part of using hardening features responsibly and ensures you can recover quickly if something does not behave as expected.

Why Rollback Matters

Security changes can affect how your site behaves.

Even well-designed protections may:

- interfere with specific plugins or themes
- impact custom configurations
- behave differently across hosting environments

Rollback ensures that any change can be safely reversed if needed.

How Steel Security Supports Rollback

Steel Security is designed to apply hardening in a **controlled and reversible way** wherever possible.

This means:

- changes are applied intentionally
- original states are preserved where applicable
- controls can be disabled or reverted

This approach allows you to experiment safely without risking long-term issues.

When to Use Rollback

You should consider rolling back a change if:

- your site functionality breaks
- a feature stops working as expected
- you observe unexpected behavior after applying hardening

Always investigate the most recent change first.

Safe Rollback Workflow

Follow this process to safely revert changes:

1. Identify the most recent hardening control applied
2. Navigate to the relevant hardening section
3. Disable or revert the control
4. Test your site functionality
5. Confirm the issue is resolved

Work one change at a time to isolate the cause.

Verifying a Rollback

After reverting a change:

- test key areas of your site
- confirm expected behavior is restored
- return to the Scan page to validate results

This ensures both functionality and security are understood.

Rollback vs Manual Changes

Some findings may require manual fixes outside of Steel Security.

In these cases:

- Steel Security cannot automatically revert changes
- you will need to restore files or configurations manually

Always keep backups when making manual changes.

Limitations

Rollback is designed to be safe and predictable, but:

- not all changes can be automatically reversed
- server-level configurations may behave differently
- hosting restrictions may limit reversibility

Steel Security will only offer rollback where it is safe to do so.

Best Practices

- Apply one change at a time
 - Test immediately after each change
 - Keep a recent backup of your site
 - Use a staging environment when possible
 - Document changes if managing multiple sites
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Common Questions

What if I'm not sure what caused the issue?

- Revert the most recent change first
 - Test after each rollback
 - Continue step-by-step until the issue is resolved
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Can I undo all changes at once?

It is not recommended.

Reverting changes individually helps identify the cause and prevents unnecessary rollback of safe improvements.

Does rollback affect my scan results?

Yes.

Reverting a change may cause a finding to reappear in the next scan.

This is expected and reflects the current state of your site.

Tips

- Think of hardening as reversible improvements, not permanent changes
 - Use rollback as a safety net, not a fallback for careless changes
 - Prioritize understanding before applying controls
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What to Do Next

After confirming a rollback:

1. Review the related finding again
 2. Determine if an alternative solution is needed
 3. Continue applying safe, appropriate hardening
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Related

- [Applying Hardening Safely](#)
 - [Working with Scan Findings](#)
 - [Hardening Reference](#)
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