

GoDaddy DNS Instructions: Migrate from Duda to Cloudflare Pages

Overview

These instructions walk through updating DNS in GoDaddy to move a site from Duda hosting to a Cloudflare Pages site. The `www` subdomain will be served by Cloudflare Pages, and the root domain (e.g., `yourdomain.com`) will redirect to `www` via GoDaddy's built-in domain forwarding.

What changes:

- The `www` CNAME record (updated to point to Cloudflare Pages)
- The two root `@` A records pointing to Duda IPs (deleted)
- GoDaddy Domain Forwarding is enabled for the root domain

What stays the same: Everything else — email (MX), SPF, DKIM, DMARC, other subdomains, nameservers

Before You Start

Have these ready:

1. **Your Cloudflare Pages hostname** — looks like `your-project-name.pages.dev`
 2. **GoDaddy login credentials** for the account that owns the domain
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Step 1: Log Into GoDaddy

1. Go to `https://dcc.godaddy.com/`
2. Sign in with the account that owns the domain
3. Click **My Products** in the top navigation

Step 2: Open DNS Management

1. In the **Domains** section, find the domain
2. Click the three-dot menu (or **DNS** button) next to it

3. Select **Manage DNS** — this opens the DNS Records table

Step 3: Update the `www` CNAME Record

1. In the DNS Records table, find the row where:
 - **Type** = `CNAME`
 - **Name** = `www`
2. Write down its current **Data** value in case you need to revert
3. Click the edit icon on that row
4. Replace the **Data** field with your Cloudflare Pages hostname:

```
your-project-name.pages.dev
```

(no `https://`, no trailing slash)

5. Leave **Name** as `www` and **Type** as `CNAME`
6. Set **TTL** to `1 Hour` (or the lowest option available for faster propagation during testing)
7. Click **Save**

Step 4: Delete the Duda A Records

1. Find every row where **Type** = `A` and **Name** = `@`
2. For Duda migrations, these are typically:
 - `@` → `35.172.94.1`
 - `@` → `100.24.208.97`
3. Click the delete (trash) icon on each and confirm

Step 5: Set Up GoDaddy Domain Forwarding

1. Leave the DNS Records page and go back to the domain's main settings page
2. Find the **Forwarding** section (sometimes labeled "Domain Forwarding" or under "Additional Settings")
3. Click **Add Forwarding** or **Manage**
4. Configure:
 - **Forward to:** `https://www.yourdomain.com`
 - **Forward type:** `301 (Permanent)`
 - **Forward with masking:** `No` (you want a real redirect, not a frame)

5. Save

GoDaddy will automatically create the A record(s) needed for forwarding to work — you don't need to add them manually.

Important: If GoDaddy won't save the forwarding because an @ A record still exists, go back to DNS and make sure all @ A records (and any @ CNAME records) are deleted first, then try again.

Step 6: Verify DNS Propagation

1. Wait a few minutes (can take up to 1 hour based on TTL)
2. Use <https://www.whatsmydns.net> to check:
 - www.yourdomain.com with type **CNAME** → should show your-project-name.pages.dev
 - yourdomain.com with type **A** → should show GoDaddy's forwarding IP (NOT the old Duda IPs)

Records You Should NEVER Change

Leave these alone — they're handling email, verification, and other services:

- All **MX** records (email delivery)
- All **TXT** records (SPF, DKIM, DMARC, domain verification)
- All other **CNAME** records (mail, autodiscover, blog, CDN, etc.)
- **NS** records (nameservers)
- **SOA** record

How the Final Routing Works

Visitor types...	DNS resolves to...	Result
yourdomain.com	GoDaddy forwarding service (auto-managed A record)	GoDaddy 301 redirects to www.yourdomain.com
www.yourdomain.com	Cloudflare Pages (via updated CNAME)	Cloudflare serves the new site

Rollback Plan

If something breaks:

1. Disable the GoDaddy forwarding
2. Re-add the original Duda A records (`35.172.94.1` and `100.24.208.97`) on `@`
3. Revert the `www` CNAME to its original value (from Step 3)

DNS changes take effect within the TTL window.

Troubleshooting

"DNS records not found" on Cloudflare side

Wait longer — propagation can take up to an hour. Retry the "Check DNS records" button.

Site loads but shows SSL error

Cloudflare needs a few minutes to provision the cert after DNS verification. Wait 5–10 minutes.

GoDaddy forwarding won't save

Make sure all `@` A records and any `@` CNAME records have been deleted first. GoDaddy needs to create its own record for forwarding to work.

Root domain still shows old Duda site after the change

DNS hasn't fully propagated yet, or a CDN/browser is caching. Clear your browser cache, try incognito, or test from a different network. Propagation can take up to 24 hours in rare cases.

Forwarding works but loses the path (e.g., `yourdomain.com/about` doesn't go to `www.yourdomain.com/about`)

Check the forwarding settings in GoDaddy — there's usually a "Forward path" or "Update nameservers and DNS settings to support this change" option. Enable path forwarding if available.