



<https://websitesilk.co.za>

Web Developer's Step-by-Step Cheat Sheet for **SUCCESSFUL HTTP to HTTPS moves:**

✓	
	Browse https version to determine any issues like mixed content or incorrect rendering, to prioritise fixing
	Determine previously preferred version of website www/non-www (via Search Console preference / index) & use consistently
	Open all html, php, css & js etc web files to replace any home page URL references to the correct https://www/non-www version
	If the website references home page as e.g. Index.html, rather change it to the https://www.example.co.za/ version
	Double-check that any canonical meta-tags correctly references https and the preferred www/non-www version
	Update non-html web pages like pdf, word, excel etc downloads that references the website URL
	Put live and test to ensure all web pages render correctly
	Edit .htaccess file to ensure redirects are in place to cover all versions to go to the correct https & www/non-www version
	If any previous page-level redirects were in place, change the target URL's to reflect https & www/non-www version
	Test .htaccess to ensure that all versions of the website correctly redirects to the https & www/non-www version
	Update sitemap.xml to reference the correct https & www/non-www version
	On new Google Search Console, load all 4 versions of the website http/https, www/non-www combinations
	Remove the old sitemap.xml from the old http version is was previously submitted against
	Submit the updated sitemap.xml against the correct https & www/non-www version
	Inspect the correct https & www/non-www home page, and then submit it for indexing
	If you have other client websites that link through to this client, update the URL's there to be correct too.
	On Adwords, Bing etc, make copies of Ads, Sitelinks etc and change the landing page to the correct https & www/non-www version
	Provide your client with prompts on what they'd need to change: e.g. Letterheads, Social Media Accounts, E-mail signatures
	Do some PR for yourself and your client & advise them to use the opportunity too - well done!
	Check back on Search Console for possible errors and index coverage progress regularly until settled.

From: <https://websitesilk.co.za/moving-from-http-https.html>