How to Redirect 404 Pages to the Home Page

This one is useful for SEO purposes – I found it when searching for “htaccess 404 redirect to homepage” and it works great.

NOTE: I used to use this a lot, but it does seem better now to not send these redirects to the home page, but instead just show a really good 404 page that is helpful – one with search, your site design, and popular links. But, just in case, I’m keeping this page up in case someone needs it.

This is **another, great redirect** with high value. You can redirect all 404 pages to your home page and it’s a 301 redirect, which passes on the link juice. Doing this can often result in a **big boost in rankings** if your webmaster has been a little careless or if you bought a domain just for the link juice and you want to pass all the juice on – not just the home page. Or you could say you’re passing on all the URL authority instead of just the domain authority. (Source)

Copy

```
ErrorDocument 404 https://www.yourdomain.com/
```

And then **if you’re using WordPress and want to redirect all 404 pages to the home page**, the code above might not work since WordPress might use a 404 page already in your theme.

In that case, open up the 404.php file in your theme and use this code instead of what’s there now (create a child theme to prevent this being overwritten).

Copy

```
<?php
header("HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently");
header("Location: ".get_bloginfo('url'));
exit();
?>
```

Original article: https://tonyherman.com/how-to-redirect-404-pages-to-the-home-page/
PDF version: https://tonyherman.com/how-to-redirect-404-pages-to-the-home-page/?apa_pdf=1

Special Offer for Readers

1,000+ Channels • On-Demand Movies • **5 Devices**

$69.99/mo (~$2.33/day)

Try it for a month and see if you like it, then switch.

Start Your Trial

Click to learn more about CUE Broadcast

Tip: Get 3 friends of family to sign up and you it for free.