

Sentinel Agent Simple Setup Guide

For sites that are not on WordPress: Shopify, Wix, custom sites, apps, and more. This guide gets Sentinel watching your website. No technical skills needed. Follow the steps in order.

SETUP TIME

10 min, once

STEPS

7, in order

CHECK FREQUENCY

30 min, auto

SKILLS NEEDED

None

Prefer not to do this yourself?

Reply to your Sentinel welcome email and we will set it up with you.

BEFORE YOU START

What you need first

Sentinel licence key	In your welcome email, in a yellow box. It looks like JUYKWGVPZU8XVBO0.
A computer that stays on	Or a server. Sentinel checks your site every 30 minutes, so the computer running it needs to be awake for those checks to happen.
About 10 minutes	Once. After setup, Sentinel runs on its own.

1 Install Python

Python is the free tool that runs Sentinel. You only ever do this once.

- 1 Go to python.org/downloads.
- 2 Click the big yellow Download Python button.
- 3 Open the file you downloaded.
- 4 Important: on the first screen, tick the box that says 'Add python.exe to PATH' at the bottom. This one tick saves a lot of trouble.
- 5 Click Install Now and wait for it to finish. Click Close.

NOTE You will not see Python open anything. That is normal. It works quietly in the background.

2 Download Sentinel

- 1 Open your welcome email and click Download the agent.
- 2 Your browser saves a file ending in .zip. It usually lands in your Downloads folder.
- 3 Find that file, right-click it, and choose Extract All, then Extract.
- 4 You now have a folder with the Sentinel files inside. Open it. You are looking for a file called config.json.

3 Add your website and your key

The only step where you type anything. You are filling in two blanks.

- 1 Right-click config.json and choose Open with, then Notepad.
- 2 Find the line with your website address. It looks like this:

```
"url": "https://your-website.com",
```

Change it to your real website address. Keep the quote marks.

- 3 Find the line with your key. It looks like this:

```
"site_token": "PASTE-YOUR-SENTINEL-LICENCE-KEY-HERE"
```

Replace it with the key from your welcome email. Keep the quote marks.

- 4 Save the file: File, then Save, or press Ctrl and S together. Close Notepad.

DONE That is the hard part done.

4 Test that it works

One safe test run that checks your site but sends nothing.

- 1 Open the Sentinel folder.
- 2 Click once in the address bar at the top of the folder window, type cmd, and press Enter. A black box opens. This is normal.
- 3 Copy this line, paste it into the black box, and press Enter:

```
> py sentinel_agent.py --config config.json --once --dry-run
```

- 4 You will see a few lines appear, each with your website and a word like OK. If you see OK next to uptime, Sentinel reached your site.

FIX If it says it cannot find the file, you are in the wrong folder. Make sure the black box shows the folder that contains config.json.

5 Turn it on for real

In the same black box, paste this and press Enter:

```
> py sentinel_agent.py --config config.json --once
```

That is one check done and sent to Sentinel.

6 Keep it watching every 30 minutes

You have two easy choices.

Leave it running

In the black box, paste this and press Enter:

```
> py sentinel_agent.py --config config.json --loop
```

Sentinel now checks your site every 30 minutes on its own. Leave the black box open and the computer on. If you close it or restart, run this line again.

Set and forget

MOST POPULAR

Want it to start on its own every time and run in the background? Reply to your Sentinel welcome email. We will set that up for you in a few minutes. It is the part most people prefer we handle.

7 See your results

Open the status link from your welcome email. It looks like:

```
imbilladigitalagency.com/sentinel/status/?key=YOUR-KEY
```

There you will see, live:

- Your plan and how many days are left on your trial.
- How many pages Sentinel is watching, and when it last checked.
- Whether you are all clear, or have any open issues.
- Anything that broke, in plain English, and what Sentinel did about it.

ALERTS When something breaks, Sentinel emails you straight away with what is wrong and how to fix it. When your site recovers, it emails you again to say it is sorted.

QUICK ANSWERS

Common questions

Do I need to keep the black box open?

Only if you used the leave-it-running option in Step 6. If we set up set and forget for you, no.

Will this slow my site down?

No. Sentinel checks your site from the outside, like a normal visitor, on a schedule.

What if I lose my key?

Open your status page and use email me my link, or reply to any Sentinel email.

It says python is not recognised.

Python was installed without the PATH tick from Step 1. Reinstall Python and make sure you tick Add python.exe to PATH, then try again.

I am on a Mac.

The steps are the same, except in Step 4 you open Terminal, and you type python3 instead of py.

Need a hand?

Reply to any Sentinel email, or contact Imbilla Digital Agency. We are happy to set it up for you.

A yellow square with a black letter 'S' inside, representing the Sentinel logo.