Eliminate Netlify 300-minute build lockouts by deploying to Cloudflare Pages

> *“Our website build quota on Netlify ran out in two days, freezing deployments and locking us behind an unexpected paywall.”*

Category: operations **Setup Time:** ~15 minutes **Estimated Hours Saved:** 2 hrs/week **Direct Software Cost:** $0 / month

SOLUTION SUMMARY

Migrate your static site continuous deployment from Netlify to Cloudflare Pages. Cloudflare allocates 500 completed builds per month on its free tier—metered by build count, not CPU minutes—with unlimited bandwidth and at-cost wholesale domain registration. This removes the build-minute ceiling, keeps your pipeline moving, and prevents catastrophic deployment freezes.

REQUIRED TOOLS & DIRECT WHOLESALE UTILITIES

- **Cloudflare Pages:** **(Free Tier / Wholesale)**
- **Netlify:** **(Free Tier / Wholesale)**

STEP-BY-STEP APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Point domain nameservers to Cloudflare DNS**
   Add your domain in Cloudflare (Free plan) and update your registrar's nameservers to Cloudflare. This routes traffic through Cloudflare's Anycast edge, so visitors keep reaching the site during the cutover.

2. **Connect your Git repository to Cloudflare Pages**
   In the Cloudflare dashboard, navigate to Workers & Pages > Create application > Pages > Connect to Git, and select your repository and production branch.

3. **Configure static build commands and output directory**
   Set Build command to 'node build.js' (or your project's SSG build command) and Output directory to 'public'. Set environment variable NODE_VERSION=20.

4. **Ensure _headers and _redirects are generated into public/**
   Verify your build script outputs security headers (CSP, HSTS) into public/_headers and 301 rules into public/_redirects. Cloudflare Pages reads these automatically on deployment.

5 **Attach custom domain and verify deployment**

Under Pages Custom Domains, attach your apex domain and www subdomain. Cloudflare automatically issues and provisions SSL certificates within seconds.

5-POINT QUALITY VERIFICATION PROTOCOL

[ ] **Carrier & Webhook Test:** Confirm webhook listener receives test payload and returns HTTP 200 within 500ms.

[ ] **End-to-End Simulation:** Execute live test event from personal device and verify SMS/email delivery.

[ ] **Anti-Spam & Rate Limit Check:** Verify repeated submissions do not trigger duplicate messages to clients.

[ ] **Direct Ownership Audit:** Confirm all API keys, accounts, and credentials belong directly to your practice.

[ ] **Staff Notification Verification:** Verify practice manager/receptionist receives real-time push alert with dial link.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Will our website experience downtime during the migration from Netlify to Cloudflare Pages?

A: No. Because both platforms serve pre-rendered static files, you can deploy and verify the Cloudflare Pages preview URL before switching your domain's DNS records.

Q: Does Cloudflare Pages charge for bandwidth if our traffic spikes?

A: No. Unlike Netlify which caps free tier bandwidth at 100GB/month, Cloudflare Pages provides unlimited, unmetered bandwidth on all tiers.

Q: Can we manage custom redirects and HTTP security headers without Netlify?

A: Yes. Cloudflare Pages natively supports plain-text _headers and _redirects files placed directly in your build output folder.

Source: dgfcorporations.com/fixes/netlify-build-minute-limits-vs-cloudflare-pages/ · Free to use, modify & deploy

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