

## How To File An Internet Domain Registration

The process of Internet domain registration is surprisingly easy. All it takes to register one or more domain names is an internet connection. Boiled down to the simplest terms, one needs to select a domain registrar, choose a domain name, enter the required registration information, and provide payment, as required by the registrar. However, if one is not familiar with these terms or the basic management of Internet domain registration it may not seem so straightforward. This can result in a reluctance to initiate the process. Registrar, domain, domain name...what exactly does it mean? If you do not think you have the full concept, this article may be helpful.

The term domain refers to the actual website. Domain name is the location of the site, often referred to as the Internet address. A website that has been accredited as a domain registrar will manage your Internet domain registration, collecting the necessary information, sending it to a central directory, and maintaining your registration records. There are many domain name registrars available. A Web host will not only process your Internet domain registration, but will help you build and maintain a website as well. Using a Web host for Internet domain registration may be a more comfortable option for those with limited technical knowledge.

The hardest part of completing an Internet domain registration may be finding an available domain name. Like postal addresses, Internet domain names must follow a specified format and be unique. The format requires two parts: the name, usually preceded by www., followed by an extension. Today there are many extensions to choose from, but you are probably most familiar with .com or .net. For instance, www.myname.net is a sample domain name format. It is wise to choose a name that indicates the nature of your website. Together, the name and extension must form a domain name no one else has registered. The Internet has a governing body, ICANN, which ensures each domain name is unique, and that the required information is collected during the Internet domain registration. The InterNIC website provides access to the database of Internet domain registration data. This database is called WHOIS.

Fortunately, most Internet domain registrars provide a search to determine availability of the name you want. If your choice is not available, the search may provide alternate names, which you can select. If none are satisfactory, you can enter a new name and search again until you find an available name that suits your need. Now you are on your way. Fill out the required information and file. Done! You have completed your Internet domain registration and the registrar will notify you by email when it is available.

### About the Author

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