

Tips for Creating Your Own Website

Domain Names

Looking Up Domain Availability

- ❖ www.whois.com
- ❖ www.godaddy.com
- ❖ <https://domains.google/#/>

Best places to buy domain names and range of prices.
I also recommend buying domain privacy protection.

- ❖ Bluehost (domain + site)

	basic	plus	prime best value
	normally \$7.99 \$3.95* per month	normally \$10.99 \$5.95* per month	normally \$14.99 \$5.95* per month
	select	select	select
websites	1	unlimited	unlimited
website space	50 GB	unmetered	unmetered
bandwidth	unmetered	unmetered	unmetered
performance	Standard	Standard	Standard
included domains	1	1	1
arked domains	5	unlimited	unlimited
sub domains	25	unlimited	unlimited

- ❖ GoDaddy (domain + site)
- Domain Pricing

<p>Get the domain that will never go out of style.</p> <p>\$2.99* was \$14.99²</p> <p>Register</p>	<p>The domain for entrepreneurs.</p> <p>\$11.99* was \$16.99²</p> <p>Register</p>	<p>Satisfy the world's buyers with .shop</p> <p>\$9.99* was \$44.99²</p> <p>Register</p>	<p>Everyone wants to be .online</p> <p>\$4.99* was \$49.99²</p> <p>Register</p>
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Domain Pricing

<p>Economy</p> <p>Best price for a basic site.</p> <p>As low as \$3.99/mo On sale - Save 50% \$7.99/mo when you renew⁴</p> <p>Add to Cart</p> <p>1 website 100 GB storage Unlimited bandwidth Free email included Free domain* with annual plan Site backup & restore (paid option)</p>	<p>Deluxe</p> <p>A great home for your multiple sites.</p> <p>As low as \$4.99/mo On sale - Save 54% \$10.99/mo when you renew⁴</p> <p>Add to Cart</p> <p>Unlimited websites⁹⁹ Unlimited storage Unlimited bandwidth Free email included Free domain* with annual plan Site backup & restore (paid option)</p>	<p>Ultimate</p> <p>Handles the most complex sites and heaviest traffic.</p> <p>As low as \$7.99/mo On sale - Save 52% \$16.99/mo when you renew⁴</p> <p>Add to Cart</p> <p>Unlimited websites⁹⁹ Unlimited storage Unlimited bandwidth Free email included Free domain* with annual plan Site backup & restore (paid option)</p>
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Domain + Host Pricing

Best Platforms to Host Website



Cost Structure

- Free

Plans

Free

- Free to build, host, and maintain with a Google or Gmail account
- 10 GB storage
- Good reference for Google sites: <http://www.kirksvillewebdesign.com/about-google-sites>
- Must buy custom domain name from other sites
- Pre-populated/pre-designed templates and themes
- One-click page creation

Examples

<https://sites.google.com/site/dianelcoffey>

<https://sites.google.com/site/iamdingkai/home>

<https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/gabe-chan/>



Cost Structure

- Free - \$0 for life
- Personal - \$2.99/per month billed yearly
- Premium - \$8.25 per month billed yearly

Plans

Free

- workpress.com domain
- Jetpack: SEO, spam protection, social sharing, site stats
- Access to hundreds of free themes
- Basic design customization (pre-set color schemes and background designs)
- 3 GB Storage Space
- wordpress.com Ads included

Personal

- Custom domain name
- Jetpack: SEO, spam protection, social sharing, site stats
- Access to hundreds of free themes
- Basic design customization (pre-set color schemes and background designs)
- 6 GB Storage Space
- wordpress.com Ads removed

Premium

- Custom domain name
- Jetpack: SEO, spam protection, social sharing, site stats
- Access to hundreds of free themes
- Advanced design customization
- 13 GB Storage Space
- wordpress.com Ads removed
- VideoPress support

Examples

<https://amandagorton.wordpress.com/>

<https://www.audreydorelien.com>



Cost Structure

- Personal - \$12/per month billed annually or \$16 month to month

Plans

Personal

- Website limited to 20 pages/galleries/blogs
- Unlimited bandwidth and storage
- Mobile-optimized website
- Tracks web analytics: site visits, traffic sources, popular content, mobile usage, site search queries
- Free Custom Domain with annual purchase for the first year, domains will renew at standard rate after the first year
- SSL Security Included
- 24/7 Customer Support

Examples

<http://kathryn-grace.squarespace.com/>

<http://www.ursulalang.net/>

<http://www.kailinclarke.com/>



Cost Structure

- Connect Domain (basic) - \$5/month
- Combo (Personal Use) - \$8/month
- Unlimited (Entrepreneurs and Freelancers) - \$14/month

Plans

Connect

- 1 GB Bandwidth
- 500 MB Storage
- Connect Your Domain
- Displays Wix Brand Ads

Combo

- 2 GB Bandwidth
- 3 GB Storage
- Connect Your Domain
- Free Domain
- Removes Wix Brand Ads

Unlimited

- Unlimited Bandwidth
- 10 GB Storage
- Connect Your Domain
- Free Domain
- Removes Wix Brand Ads
- \$300 Ad Vouchers
- Site Booster App
- Form Builder App

Examples

<http://jgordonroth.wixsite.com/philosophy>

<http://grayhannahl.wixsite.com/professional-site/resume>

<http://www.philipgordonchen.com/>



Cost Structure

- Free (Basic Use) - \$0
- Starter (Personal Use) - \$8/month when paid annually

Plans

Free

- Drag and drop builder
- Displays Weebly ads
- 500 MB storage
- weebly.com Subdomain

Starter

- Drag and drop builder
- No Weebly ads
- Unlimited storage
- Connect Your Domain
- Advanced Site Stats

Examples

<http://hannahjeanmiller.weebly.com>

<http://allisonkshaw.weebly.com>

<http://shelbywms.weebly.com>

<http://umntransit.weebly.com>

Wordpress Specific Advice

Popular themes

- Twenty seventeen, Twenty sixteen, Twenty fifteen ...: Each year WP comes up with a new theme that can be downloaded for free.
- Sparkling
- Dazzling. www.audreydorelien.com
- beautiful-jekkyl. www.ericchyn.com

Useful packages to include on your website

- **StatCounter**: a web traffic analysis tool. You can see which cities your visitors come from and also key words they used to find your page.
- **Imagify**: Dramatically reduce image file sizes without losing quality, make your website load faster, boost your SEO and save money on your bandwidth using Imagify, the new most advanced image optimization tool
- **PDF Embedder**: Embed PDFs straight into your posts and pages, with flexible width and height. No third-party services required. Useful if you want a PDF of your CV to appear on your website
- **Twitter Follow Button**: Add the Follow Button to your blog to increase engagement and create a lasting connection with your audience. After enabling this plugin visit the widgets page
- **WP GIF Player**: An easy to use GIF Player for Wordpress.