

## Help With Filing An Internet Domain Registration

It is not difficult to process an Internet domain registration. All it takes to register one or more domain names is an internet connection. The basic requirements are a domain registrar, a domain name, entry of essential information, and payment to 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. Not everyone has enough working knowledge of the terms to feel comfortable. Fortunately, all this can be put into perspective.

Domain means the Internet website itself. 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. Some, called Web hosts, will also assist you with creating and managing your website once you have completed your Internet domain registration. If you do not have a strong technical background, filing your Internet domain registration through a Web hosting site may be the answer.

The hardest part of completing an Internet domain registration may be finding an available domain name. The Internet domain name has a defined layout and must be one of a kind. 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. An example might be www.myownwebsite.com. It is wise to choose a name that indicates the nature of your website. The combination of the name and extension cannot be registered by anyone else. 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. Access to the information stored from the Internet domain registration process is available on the InterNIC website. The registry itself is WHOIS.

The good news is you can check the availability of your chosen name on the registrar website. 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. Once you have selected your domain name, the rest is easy. Fill out the required information and file. File the form. Your Internet domain registration is complete and your registrar will alert you when it is ready to use.

## About the Author

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