

E|TOUCHED Domain Services Domain Registration FAQ

Q. How do domain names work?

A. A domain name works like an address forwarding service. All of your Web site content sits on a computer with a unique address. This is called an IP address. An IP address is made up of a series of numbers, such as 123.23.234.45. Your domain name directs visitors to your site using this IP address.

We use domain names instead of IP addresses because most people find it easier to remember a name rather than a series of numbers.

Q. What is a Name Server?

A. Name servers are the Internet's equivalent to phone books. A name server maintains a directory of domain names that match certain IP addresses (computers). The information from all the name servers across the Internet is gathered in a central registry. This makes it possible for people across the Internet to access your Web site using a familiar domain name, instead of having to remember a series of numbers.

It usually takes about 4-8 hours for .COM and .NET domains and about 24-48 hours for all other domain extensions before name servers on other networks are able to access the information after the central registry gets it. This period is referred to as the propagation period.



Which name server you use depends on when you set up your hosting account. Our name servers are:

After January 31, 2007
ns5.secureserver.net
ns6.secureserver.net

November 15, 2006 – January 30, 2007
ns1.secureserver.net
ns2.secureserver.net

December 15, 2005 – November 14, 2006
ns3.secureserver.net
ns4.secureserver.net

Before December 14, 2005
ns1.secureserver.net OR wsc1.jomax.net
ns2.secureserver.net OR wsc2.jomax.net

Q. Who owns the domain name?

A. You. If you have not already registered the domain name, we can take care of this for you via our managed hosting and domain registration service.

Q. What is a domain name?

A. A domain name is a Web address, such as *coolexample.com*, that is linked to an IP address (which represents a physical point on the Internet). When someone types a domain name into a Web browser, the requested Web page displays.

A domain name consists of a top-level and a second-level domain. A top-level domain (TLD) is the part of the domain name located to the right of the dot (*coolexample.com*). The most common top-level domains are .com, .net, and .org. Some other popular top-level domains are .biz, .info, .name, and .ws. These common top-level domains have certain guidelines but are, for the most part, available to any registrant, anywhere in the world.

There are also restricted top-level domains (rTLDs), like .aero, .biz, .edu, .mil, .museum, .name, and .pro, these require the registrant to represent a certain type of entity or to belong to a certain community. For example, the .name TLD is reserved for individuals, while .edu is reserved for educational entities.

Country-code TLDs (ccTLDs) are for Web sites and registrants of a particular geographic location, such as .bz (Belize), .ca (Canada), .dk (Denmark), .ec (Ecuador), .ie (Republic of Ireland), .uk (United Kingdom), .us (United States), and .zw (Zimbabwe).

The part of the domain name located to the left of the dot (*coolexample.com*) — "yourpersonaldomain," in this case — is called the second-level domain (SLD) name. The second-level domain name is the "readable" part of the address and refers to the organization or entity behind the Internet address. Second-level domain names must be unique on the Internet and registered with an Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)-accredited registrar.