

Your Own Domain – \$8.99/yr 12/22/08

By Bart Koslow

Why would you want your own domain? I have had my own domain for seven or eight years. There are numerous advantages, and at today's prices (only \$8.99 a year) it is a must for most of our members.

The most obvious advantage comes when you change your ISP (Internet Service Provider) and your accompanying email address changes. I just changed my ISP from Adelphia to Verizon. Even though my ISP email address changed from bartkoslow at adelphia.net to bartkoslow at verizon.net I did not have to notify anyone of the change and my email kept coming as if no change had been made. How? It's simple. I just went to my domain, koslow.net, (my email address is bart at koslow.net) and changed my email forwarding address from the old Adelphia one to the new Verizon address. My respondents still email to bart at koslow.net, are completely unaware of the change and had no need to know.

I like the vanity effect of having my own domain which labels me as a sophisticated computer person. Neither of the preceding two advantages is one advertised by the domain people. Here is a list of the many advertised advantages of a domain for \$8.99 a year:

Domains:

.com Special first year \$3.99 | .net | .org | .info | .us | .name | biz | : \$8.99 per year.

Private Domain Management: Free. Register your domain with confidential contact data, so your personal information stays private.

Manage Unlimited Domains - add as many domains as you'd like and manage them all with a single account and a single Control Panel login.

Subdomains: 5 - Subdomains divide your main website into smaller sections for easier navigation. Each subdomain is created under the primary domain account and functions as a fully operating site. It's the perfect way to guide frequent visitors directly to their destination.

External Domains : 5 - point an external domain to your domain.

DNS Management - provides you with a reliable and simple way of managing your domains, enabling you to optimize the logistics of your web addresses and sites.

Choice of name server - Point your domain names to whichever domain name servers you would like.

A record - Change your IP Address.

MX record - Change the mail server responsible for directing mail to your domain name.

URL Masking – If you have your website at another location, masking allows your domain name to remain on display in the browser's address bar when someone selects “yourdomain.com” and they are forwarded to your website at another location (for example at AOL.com), but they still see “yourdomain.com” in their browser's address bar. This is particularly important if you wish to redirect domain names.

Domain Contact Management - allows easy handling of your domain contacts records (registrant, administrative, and technical contact).

Domain Access with or without "WWW" - web servers are configured to recognize your web address with or without the "www" heading, making it even easier for people to reach your site.

E-MAIL FEATURES

E-mail accounts: 1 (You may set up to 200 E-mail aliases with email forwarding – see below))

You choose between POP3 and IMAP, since both protocols are supported. No matter which you choose, you can configure all aspects of your e-mail accounts at any time through the Control Panel.

IMAP & POP3 Supported - You choose your mail protocol! With POP3 (Post Office Protocol-version 3) accounts, you can configure the destinations and personalize every address. With IMAP (Internet Message Access Protocol), you have the ability to access your mail from any computer since e-mails are stored on the mail server. Plus, you can set up folders so incoming mail can be sorted into the folders you designate.

Mailbox space: mail accounts optimized with 2 GB mailbox space, so you can send, receive, and store all your electronic correspondence - even with large attachments!

E-mail Aliases : 200. Set up an individual address for a subject or a person to be handled under your new domain name. (i.e: sales@yourdomain.com, info@yourdomain.com, etc.). The e-mails are funneled to any e-mail address you choose.

E-mail Auto-responder - Create an auto-responder to automatically reply to any e-mail sent to a particular address.

E-mail Forwarding - You can easily divert all e-mails received under your new domain addresses to any other external e-mail addresses.

Catch-all E-mail Addresses - This great feature enables you to capture all e-mails that have been sent to a non-existent e-mail address at your domain. This is ideal for recovering e-mail that is incorrectly addressed or misspelled.

Spam Filter & Virus Scanner : optional

Don't let spam and viruses slow you down. ALL e-mail accounts with Virus Guard from Symantec and a customizable Spam Guard, so your inbox is always secure.

PACKAGE FEATURES:

Starter Website Builder

Create a 3-page mini website in minutes, with no programming or HTML. Professional templates and an easy-to-use editor make it easy and convenient to get your site online quickly.

Search Engine Tools: Get your site out there on the web's leading search engines such as Yahoo and Google. With full versions of Hello Engines! Professional 4.1 Professional and Ranking Toolbox 4.0, you can adjust a few parameters quickly and efficiently to ensure that the search engines display your website in one of the first positions.

Control Panel - You can configure and manage all your domain names, e-mail addresses, and your website by using a single, unified Control Panel. Since it's browser-based, you can access the Control Panel from anywhere there is an Internet connection.

Support

24/7 Phone & E-mail Support - free, unlimited support by phone and e-mail, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. No setup fee.

Where do you obtain this bargain. Just go to 1and1.com. You will be happy you did!