

Web Hosting

Web hosting is a way to get your website online. For a website to be seen on the internet, it needs a web server to reside on. A web server is similar to your very own computer, except usually with more power and speed, which are stored inside of "data centers" where extremely high-speed connections are running and all these servers are there for one reason, and one reason only – to get your website online.

Web hosting services are provided by web hosts who provide you with space on a server on which to store your web pages so that they are viewable online to others. Web hosts deal with the technical end of web hosting, providing both the equipment and the expertise to troubleshoot any problems that may arise. Web hosts can be as diverse as multinational telecommunications companies to small local businesses.

Web hosts provide you with features likes:

- Space on the server
- At least 10 POP email accounts yourdomain.com
- Yourdomain.com
- Bandwidth
- FTP access
- Control panel
- Scripting & database facilities

the amount of bandwidth you purchase can be crucial to the success of your site. Generally speaking, the more bandwidth you have, the more traffic your site will be able to handle at one time. To determine how much bandwidth you'll need, you must first:

Estimate how big each page on your site is, and how many people are going to view it. To do this, add up the size of every image on the page and the size of the page's HTML files. Then multiply this figure by the number of views you expect for that page per month. For example, if you had three 10k images on your page and a 2k HTML file, you would have 32k of data on that page. Multiply that by your expected page views (let's say 100,000 per month), and you get 3.2G of data to be transferred that month for that page. Now recalculate this number for each page, and you'll know approximately how much bandwidth your entire site requires.

How can you save bandwidth?

- Keep your pages as small as possible This means tight HTML programming to reduce file size, and compacting your pictures and graphics to reduce image size. Use the JPEG image format for your photos and the GIF format for graphics - their compression abilities are second to none.
- Use Cascading Style Sheets (CSS). Another effective way to save bandwidth is to use CSS. Designed to reduce HTML file size, CSS attribute values for any HTML element/command at the beginning of the document, rather than repeating them throughout.