

"Web Hosting/Domain Names"

SMAD 404

Advanced Multimedia

Domain Names/Web Hosting

Domain Names

<http://www.secondlevel.toplevel>

<http://www.acme.com>

Top Level Domains

.com
.net
.org
.edu
.mil

Second Level Domains

.jmu
.yahoo
.msnbc
.washingtonpost
.drsteveanderson

Domain Names/Web Hosting

Sub-Domains

<http://subdomain.secondlevel.toplevel>

<http://joomla.acme.com>

Domain Names/Web Hosting

Two Types of TLDs

• **Global TLDs (gTLDs)**

- .com
- .net
- .org
- .edu
- .mil

• **Country Code TLDs (ccTLDs)**

- .uk (Great Britain)
- .fr (France)
- .tv (Tuvalu)

Domain Names/Web Hosting

Domain Name Registration

- You “buy” (register) a second level domain within a specific domain.

Verisign: (formerly Network Solutions)
<http://www.netsol.com>

- Once registered all the domain names (com net org)
- Still manages the database

Domain Names/Web Hosting

Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)

- ICANN accredits other companies to do registrations

Accredited Registrars:

<http://www.icann.org/registrars/accredited-list.html>

- Each works with the “Sponsoring Organization”

Domain Names/Web Hosting

Domain Name Registration

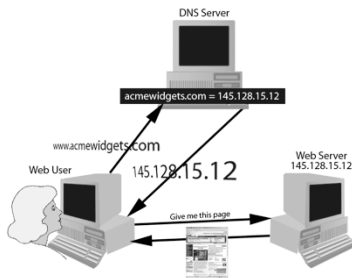
NEW Global Top Level Domains

- .aero** (now operational)
- .biz** (now operational, but litigation is slowing)
- .coop** (now operational)
- .info** (now operational)
- .museum** (now operational)
- .name** (now operational)
- .pro** (under negotiation)

Domain Names/Web Hosting

Domain Names, IP Addresses and Hosting

- Domain names need a "DNS Lookup"



Domain Names/Web Hosting

Domain Names, IP Addresses and Hosting

- DNS Records
 - "A Name" (The main record)
acmewidgets.com → 145.128.15.12
- This maps a domain name to an IP address
 - "C Name" ("Canonical name")
www.acmewidgets.com → acmewidgets.com
- This maps a domain name to another domain name
- Acts as an "alias" for a host name
- Allows multiple domain names to point to one i.e.
- www.acmewidgets.com → acmewidgets.com
- mp3.acmewidgets.com → acmewidgets.com

Domain Names/Web Hosting

Web Hosting Considerations

- **Types of Web Hosting**
 - Free Hosting
 - Good for very low traffic sites (i.e. personal/family)
 - No technical support
 - Usually comes with advertising display
 - No ability for your own domain name
 - <http://www.freehosting.com/username>
 - Shared (Virtual) Hosting
 - Most common and very cost effective
 - A web server contains your site and maybe 100 other sites
 - You can still have your own domain name
 - Dedicated Hosting
 - Your site is on a dedicated server. Only your site is on the server.
 - Advanced features, greater database support
 - Co-Location
 - You place your own web server on their premises.
 - Company has more bandwidth, security and safety

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Web Hosting Considerations

- **Storage Space**
 - Most sites need no more than 10 – 100 megabytes
 - Add up the size of all your pages and images
 - You'll need a bit more to accommodate growth/more pages
- **Data Transfer ("Bandwidth") per Month**
 - The amount of data you're allowed per mo.
 - Average site needs no more than...1.5 Gigabytes
 - Large commercial sites may need more than 100 Gigabytes
 - **QUESTIONS:**
 - What is the monthly restriction on my account?
 - How much will I billed for exceeding this?

Domain Names/Web Hosting

Web Hosting Considerations

- **Connection Speed**
 - Test the speed of the hosting company site
 - See if they have links to people they host. Check their speed
 - Check www.alexacom and check the "speed"

Site Stats for beaweb.org:

- Traffic Rank for beaweb.org: 280,095 (#109,135)
- Speed: Very Fast (83% of sites are slower), Avg Load Time: .8 Seconds (what's this?)
- Other sites that link to this site: 629
- Popups: None
- Online Since: 30-Sep-1997

- **FTP Access**
 - Ability to upload and download files via FTP

Domain Names/Web Hosting
Web Hosting Considerations

- **Email Capability**
 - The # of email accounts
 - john@acmewidgets.com
 - sue@acmewidgets.com
 - Types of email
 - **POP: Post Office Protocol**
 - Emails are received and held on the mail server until you pick it up with a client program (i.e. Outlook, Eudora). You then pull it off the server and the email is stored on your computer
 - Designed to support email on a single computer
 - **IMAP: Internet Message Access Protocol**
 - Emails is not removed from the server
 - Allows you to manage email from several computers without having to transfer messages back and forth
 - **Web-Based Email**
 - Access via a web page (i.e. Yahoo! And Hotmail)

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Web Hosting Considerations

- **Email Forwarding**
 - Allows individuals to have multiple "personalities"
 - postmaster@acmewidgets.com should forward to mary@acmewidgets.com
 - sales@acmewidgets.com should forward to mary@acmewidgets.com
 - Could also forward to an email account not part of your own domain name i.e. mary@jmu.edu
- **Formmail**
 - A tool (CGI program) that allows a visitor to your site to click "Submit" on a form and have it get to you
 - Doesn't use <mailto:> which doesn't always work

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Web Hosting Considerations

- **Server Platform**
 - **Windows (Web "Services" from Microsoft)**
 - Good if you plan to use ASP (Active Server Pages)
 - Good if you plan to use Access and Microsoft SQL Server
 - Good if you plant to use Front Page
 - **Unix (The original web server operating system)**
 - Extremely stable OS
 - **Linux (Web server runs in Linux OS)**
 - Often runs Apache (web server software) for Linux

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Web Hosting Considerations

- **Database Support**
 - Used for sites with large quantities of information
 - Two parts: 1) Database 2) Scripting Language Support
- **Databases**
 - A database server that holds information for a web page
 - MySQL
 - MS Access
 - SQL Server
 - Oracle
- **Server-Side Scripting Language Support**
 - Used to put the data into the database and take it back out to display on a web page
 - PHP (Hypertext Pre-Process)
 - ASP (Microsoft's "Active Server Pages")
 - CFML (Macromedia's "ColdFusion Markup Language")
 - JSP (Java Server Pages)

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Web Hosting Considerations

- **phpMyAdmin**
 - A tool to manage the MySQL Database
 - If you intend to use MySQL, this will make your life much easier

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Web Hosting Considerations

- **Control Panel**
 - Control Panel Demos
 - <http://oneworldhosting.com/support/control01.html>
 - http://www.exclusivehosting.net/hosting/cp_demo.html
 - <http://www.cpanel.net/products/cpanelwhm/try-demo.html>
 - <http://demo.nomonthly.com/controlpnl/index.html>
 - Control Panel Video
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bghnoTJDb4Y>

Domain Names/Web Hosting
Web Hosting Considerations

- **Multimedia Support**
 - Real Server? Windows Media Server?
- **Technical Support**
 - 24/7 phone, Chat?
- **E-Commerce Support**
 - Storefront, cookies, SSL, Certificates, Miva Merchant?
- **Cost**
 - What are you getting for how much?

THE END
