

Domain & Hosting Information

In ART 264 Interactive Design II you will be required to purchase a domain name and secure hosting for your class site.

Two activities and two fees:

- Select a domain name, register and pay for a domain name.
- Select a hosting provider for your site (the site uses your domain name), set up an account and pay for hosting.
- **YOU MAY NOT USE A FREE SERVICE FOR HOSTING.** *There are hosting providers that advertise free domain and hosting but these are usually a hoax and will charge you later to let your site remain on their server.*

Domain

A domain is an identification that is used to locate a specific web site via the Internet. Domain names must be registered as part of the Domain Name System (DNS). Typically your domain name is registered through your hosting provider.

Select a domain name

Choose a name you will want to keep for a long period. If you let your domain name lapse (do not pay the monthly/annual fee) you will likely lose the domain. Never let your domain name expire unless you intend to let it go. A third party reseller may purchase it.

Choose something easy to remember such as your name. Do not use hyphens or underscores in your domain name. Remember that you will be telling people the name of your domain and if you have a hyphen you have to say hyphen.

Register a domain name

It is best to have more than one variation of your chosen name in mind when you begin your search. Have a credit card ready and open a Word document to take notes.

Hosting providers

There are a number of hosting providers available. Two well know companies are Bluehost and GoDaddy. Go to their site and complete research before you go through the registration and hosting process.

Bluehost

<http://www.bluehost.com/>

GoDaddy (NOTE: not recommended due to slow load time)

<http://www.godaddy.com/>

Set up hosting

It is best to have your domain registration and hosting with the same provider.

- Call the service provider to set up your account for hosting.
- Talk to them about hosting options and be sure you have a plan that provides **no less than five subdirectories**.
- Always have a Word document open and be ready to make notes.
- Keep a record of the help center and the billing support telephone numbers.
- **Be careful not to be talked into spending extra money.** They are on the phone to make money and it is easy to be talked into spending hundreds of dollars unexpectedly. Do not be intimidated. At the end of your call be sure you know how much you are spending. If you are surprised by the cost tell them you will call back later.
- Make a record of what you ordered including the cost of the hosting and the length of time secured.

Account Information

You will need the following information to log into your account after the hosting is set up. Ask them for this information.

- Your account/customer number
- PIN
- Your user name
- Your password

FTP information

This information is used to set up your remote hosting in Dreamweaver and may not be the same as your account/customer information. Ask them for this information.

- IP address/hostname (preferable numbers and not a name)
- Username
- Password

Email

You will have email available with your hosting. Ask them about this if you are interested. Often you can login directly to their server.

- URL for their email login
- Email address (you choose this – name@example.com)
- Password