



## DOMAIN REGISTRATION IN OTHER COUNTRIES... WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

### Who should we use to register a domain name?

Use an agent that is an accredited registrar, or an authorized reseller for an accredited registrar. Most UK domain names are administered by Nominet UK. You can find advice on choosing a registrar on their website. For international domain names (such as .com), search the list at [www.internic.net](http://www.internic.net); for other country codes (such as .fr), look at [www.iana.org](http://www.iana.org). Carefully check the terms and conditions any agent uses for domain name registration.

- It is important that the domain name is registered in your name and with your contact details, not the name of the agent. This helps to protect your rights to the domain name and reduces the risk of administrative problems.
- Check that you will have the right to move your registration to another agent if you choose, and what the charges for doing this would be.
- Check what their charges are. As well as the initial registration charge, you will have to pay renewal fees and may be charged if you need to change your administrative details.

#### 1.1 Check the small print

- You should ask to see copies of the Terms and Conditions for domain name registration. If these are not easily available to you - usually via their website - insist on having a copy and study it thoroughly so you understand the contract that you are entering into.
- Check that the registrar's Terms and Conditions for domain name registration confirm that your domain name will be registered to you in your name and not in the name of the registrar or another third party.
- Pay particular attention to your rights to move your business and your domain name to another registrar, and whether there is a charge for doing so.

- Confirm what their renewal policy is and whether you need to renew your hosting service (and other Internet services, web hosting, email forwarding, etc.) separately from your domain name.
- Currently .UK domain names can be registered for a period of one to ten years.

### **1.2 Check their credentials**

- Seek recommendations from other Internet users and ask the prospective registrar for testimonials from other customers.
- Find out whether the registrar has signed up to an industry code of conduct or has won any relevant industry awards or accolades.

### **1.3 Check the support offered**

- Confirm whether you are dealing with a reseller of the registrar, or the registrar themselves and how you can contact them in the future if you need support.
- Find out where the registrar is based as you may have a preference or business need for a registrar that is based in your time zone or country of operation.
- Find out what types of customer and technical support they offer and when these services are available. For example, some registrars offer 24/7 online support whilst others offer telephone support during office hours