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AmeriWeb Hosting Monthly e-Newsletter



News and helpful information from your friends at AmeriWeb Hosting February 2019



2019 Pricing Adjustments

We are happy to announce our 2019 prices for almost all services will see **NO INCREASES!** We are proud of this as we've not had a general increase in over 5 years. You benefit!

Hosting prices no increase for 2019

Hourly rate no increase for 2019

Packages no increase for 2019

Domain Names small increase for 2019 - Unfortunately our registrar has raised their prices over the last two years, and we can no longer absorb the recent increase. We have gone from making about 80¢ per domain to losing between 50¢-\$2.90 per domain (depends upon the extension). We are increasing 2019 prices slightly to help us break even. Our .com domains were \$9.95 and we made 50¢ years ago. Now we are losing 90¢.

EFFECTIVE MARCH 1 we are raising the domain cost for our domain registrations and renewals slightly to break even or to preserve a thin 80¢ markup.

If you wish to renew your domain(s) at the old rate, contact me by email and I will put the order through at the old rate for a year (or up to 10 years),

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as long as you do so prior to March 1.

On a happy note, we have added 75+ new extensions. Call me if you have need for something different!



HOW TO

Domain Names

If you have ever transferred a domain name from one company to another, the first question is "Do you know what your Authorization Code is?"

Auth/EPP code is used as a protection mechanism to ensure that only the rightful domain owner can control the transfer of the domain registration. It is one of the essential security measures against unauthorized transfers.

A domain authorization code (also referred to as an Auth Code or an EPP Code) provides an extra level of security for the domain name registration. This code is unique to each domain name and is assigned by the registrar at the time of registration.

You'll need an Auth Code to transfer a domain from one registrar to another. You will not need an Auth Code when renewing your domain at the same registrar.

What is Registrar Lock?

Registrar Lock is a safety feature that prevents unauthorized domain transfers. By default, this feature is enabled for all your domains, and must be turned off prior to transferring a domain.

Each registrar hides the Auth Code in a different place, usually on the DNS page (but not always). Why do they do this? Because if you can't find it, you will eventually run out of time and are forced to stay where you are and renew in place. They get another year!

If you are having problems with your domain, feel free to contact me. I can help!



MARKETING

HTTPS? SSL? TLS?

The HTTPS standard was invented by the Netscape Corporation in 1999. The World Wide Web was in its early stages, and the growth of eCommerce was hampered by the reluctance of the public to enter credit card details into unsecure Web pages. HTTPS addressed these fears by incorporating encryption in the connection.

The encryption method used for HTTPS uses the public key system. This involves an encryption key that can only be reversed by a different private key. Communications is encrypted in such a way as to make it very difficult to decrypt, unless you have the

key.

The defining feature of HTTPS was the Secure Socket Layer, which abbreviates to SSL. The regular exchange of messages of HTTPS was exactly the same as with HTTP. However, the SSL security features executed at the point of connection establishment made those communications secure. The Secure Socket Layer has since been superseded by the Transport Layer Security (TLS) Protocol. However, people still refer to the security features of HTTPS as SSL, rather than TLS.

The number one reason for switching to HTTPS is security. By upgrading your website to HTTPS, you can rest assured knowing that your visitors' data and your site's data are protected.

Theoretically, SSL security is only necessary when the client is sending data to the server. There is really no need for such procedures merely to request a webpage. The process is used where the client will be posting data through the transferred webpage back to the browser, and where that data is of a sensitive nature.

However, for the past few years, Google revealed that was giving HTTPS websites a slight boost in their ranking signal. Since then, more and more website owners have made the switch from HTTP to HTTPS. Google is pushing so hard for SSL Connections, that it's now starting to make all the unencrypted websites feel shame, so this is basically something you can't ignore.

Although the cost SSL certificates may vary, if you're using AmeriWeb Hosting for your website or your online store, you can easily obtain an SSL Certificate for free. In fact, we may already have it installed for you. To test, go to your web site URL, replacing the http:// portion with https:// .

If you have any questions, I am a great resource to call!



Q: Is there any use for an old yet running computer?

A: Some people use old computers as a part of a network to store massive amounts of data between several working computers. Some are repurposed to educational programming - kids games and tutorials. Sometimes they are great for mad scientist experiments, often subjected to the whims of older kids.

Use your imagination, an old computer may still have value to your family even if you can't sell it for much.

Q: I hear many great things about Linux. Why do we pay money for Windows when Linux is free?

A: Linux is free, but it is more difficult to run and the learning curve is longer. There are fewer programs to run on Linux, but it uses less resources so it runs faster. You can run it on an old computer (see above) and get great results. Windows does cost, and it is easy to operate. The learning curve is short, and there are literally thousands of programs to choose from. Because of the way it works, Windows uses up more resources and tends to run slower.

Whichever you choose, free but difficult, or costly but easy, I do wish you all the best!

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