

10 Steps to Design Your Own Website

1. Canadian Internet Registration Authority (<http://www.cira.ca>)

Beware!!! Not all registration sites are honest.

Some unscrupulous registrars tempt you with very low priced packages that include everything. Domain, Hosting and an online web building tool.

If you are not satisfied with their services kiss your domain name goodbye.

2. You need to find someone to host your web site. The price varies, but the average is about \$10 per month, and up. The prices vary widely so check their references. I have used the same hosting company for the last 12 years.
3. You need an FTP (File Transfer Protocol) program to upload your files from your computer, and must learn how to use it. "Ipswitch WS_FTP_Pro12" is the program that I use.
4. You do not need a high quality professional-looking web site. Start with the basics and build from there.
5. Learn the basics of HTML, nothing fancy.

Go to sites such as:

<http://www.w3schools.com/default.asp>

<http://www.quackit.com>

6. You must have someone teach you the basic principles of how a server functions. Naming conventions, 8.3 , all lower case for Unix servers.
7. You do not need anything more than a simple text editor (notepad) to make your web pages.

You must save two files for each web page, one with the extension .html, and one with the extension .txt (plain text).

The .txt is the one you edit to make changes. You always save the text file first with the updates you have made, and then the .html file (which your web browser displays).

8. Design your web site locally on your computer until you are happy with the results, rather than utilizing a template hosting company.

9. The browser always loads the file named index.html from the root directory, unless the server is configured to do otherwise. So, name your home page, index.html (First Page).

10. Upload your pages with your FTP client, and check them to make sure everything works on the browser.

