Unit 10

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IT117 - Website Development

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| Site | Bluehost | HostGator | Squarespace |
| Price | $26.99/Month | $179.04/Year | $26/Month  $216/Year |
| Space Provided | Unmetered | Unmetered | Unmetered |
| Emails Provided | Unlimited | Unlimited | 1\*  \*Free for first year then regular google pricing |
| Domains Hosted | Unlimited | Unlimited | 1 |
| Contract Restrictions | - | - | - |
| Advertisements | $200 included | $250 Included  $150 Google  $100 Bing | $100 Included |
| Templets/Scripts | WordPress Themes | WordPress Themes | Multiple included templets and scripts to create a full site from scratch. |
| Add-ons | SEO tools  $1.99/Month  Security Tools  $2.99/Month | Security Tools  $1.98/Month  Professional Email  $6.00/Month  Backups  $2.00/Month | Sales tools  $8.00/month |

While all the aforementioned web hosting options do have their merits in my opinion due to the shear number of features and extras offered HostGator stands above its competitors in nearly every way. With Host gator offering the largest included Ad money and lower overall price It beats out its competitors at every turn while matching them in the places they are known to excel such as Email, storage, and Domain hosting. On top of this HostGator also offer WordPress based theming which allows the user to easily create a site that looks the way they would like with little HTML or CSS knowledge.

Expanding on the notion of WordPress, we have the concept of content managers. WordPress is a well-known and widely used content manager. Content managers are tools used to manage the look and feel of your website. They range from simple “what you see is what you get” editors that allow you to create your site in either a set theme or graphical manner to tools that require a more expert level of knowledge in HTML and CSS but offer more customization. With WordPress offering both management styles depending on the user’s choice in theme. This means that a user has the option to spend more time designing their site to create a fully customized option that perfectly matches their needs. While they can also choose to publish their site faster with less effort while missing out on custom tweaks they want to achieve. While both of these options come with pros and cons due to WordPress offering both versions the likely hood that a user cannot find a solution that fits their needs is extremely low.

In retrospect, HostGator with its support for such versatile content management solutions, paired with its amazing features comes in as a nearly perfect hosting option. Thus, I find that it would be in most company’s best interest to host their site on HostGator while using WordPress as a backend. This creates a very functional site with professional emails and easy management all bundled up in a well-priced package.

References

Bluehost. (n.d.). *Shared web hosting plans*. Retrieved March 13, 2021, from https://www.bluehost.com/hosting/shared

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