**STEP BY STEP PROCESS FOR WEBSITE HOSTING ON HOSTANGER SERVER**

To host a website and create a database with a domain on Hostinger, a cloud hosting provider, follow these step-by-step instructions:

**Step 1: Purchase a Domain and Hosting Plan**

1. **Sign Up on Hostinger:**
   * Go to the [Hostinger website](https://www.hostinger.com/).
   * Create an account or log in if you already have one.
2. **Choose a Hosting Plan:**
   * Select a web hosting plan based on your requirements (e.g., **Shared Hosting**, **Cloud Hosting**, **WordPress Hosting**).
   * You can start with a basic plan or go for more advanced options if you need more resources.
3. **Register or Connect a Domain:**
   * If you don't have a domain, you can purchase one from Hostinger during the checkout process.
   * If you already have a domain, connect it to Hostinger by updating the DNS records (more on this later).
4. **Complete the Purchase:**
   * After choosing a plan and domain, complete the payment and sign up.

**Step 2: Access Hostinger's Control Panel (hPanel)**

1. **Log into Hostinger's hPanel:**
   * After signing up, log into Hostinger's control panel (called **hPanel**). It’s similar to cPanel but with a more user-friendly interface.
2. **Set Up the Website:**
   * From the dashboard, click on **Hosting** and select your domain.
   * Click **Manage** to open the control panel for your domain.

**Step 3: Upload Website Files**

You have two primary ways to upload website files on Hostinger:

* **Using Hostinger’s File Manager**

1. **Open File Manager:**
   * In the hPanel, find **Files** > **File Manager**.
2. **Upload Your Website Files (.html file):**
   * Navigate to the ***public\_html*** directory, which is the root folder where your website’s files should go.
   * Upload all website files (e.g., HTML, CSS, JavaScript, PHP files) here.
3. **For php file**

* Open the ***public\_html*** directory (or subdomain folder).
* Click Upload Files and select your PHP file.
* Navigate to **https://yourdomain.com/yourfile.php** in your browser to view the file.

**Step 4: Create a Database**

1. **Access the Database Management Tool:**
   * In the hPanel, navigate to **Databases** > **MySQL Databases**.
2. **Create a New Database:**
   * Enter a name for the database, a username, and a secure password.
   * Click **Create** to generate the database.
   * Note the database name, username, and password for later use.
3. **Manage the Database:**
   * Use **phpMyAdmin** (accessible via hPanel under Databases) to manage the database, such as creating tables or importing data.

**Step 5: Configure Website to Use the Database**

1. **Edit Website Configuration Files (If Needed):**
   * For content management systems (CMS) like WordPress, edit the **wp-config.php** file to add your database details:

**Php**

**E.g.**

**define('DB\_NAME', 'your\_database\_name');**

**define('DB\_USER', 'your\_database\_user');**

**define('DB\_PASSWORD', 'your\_database\_password');**

**define('DB\_HOST', 'localhost');**

* + For custom websites, you need to adjust your configuration settings to connect to the newly created database.

1. **Test Database Connection:**
   * Open your website and ensure that it can connect to the database (e.g., if it's a dynamic website or CMS).

**Step 6: Point Domain to Hostinger (If Domain is Purchased Elsewhere)**

1. **Access Domain DNS Settings:**
   * If your domain is registered with a different provider (e.g., GoDaddy), log into your domain registrar's account.
2. **Update Nameservers:**
   * Replace your current DNS nameservers with Hostinger’s nameservers:

**E.g.**

**ns1.dns-parking.com**

**ns2.dns-parking.com**

* + This points your domain to Hostinger’s servers.

1. **Wait for DNS Propagation:**
   * It may take up to 24-48 hours for the DNS changes to propagate, although it’s usually much faster.

**Step 7: SSL (Secure Socket Layer) Setup (Optional but Recommended)**

1. **Enable Free SSL Certificate:**
   * Go to **SSL** in the Hostinger dashboard.
   * Click on **Install** next to your domain to activate the free SSL certificate.
2. **Force HTTPS Redirect (Optional):**
   * After SSL is installed, ensure your site uses HTTPS by enabling "force HTTPS" in your website’s settings (e.g., .htaccess file or CMS settings).

**Step 8: Test Your Website**

1. **Open Your Website:**
   * Visit your domain (e.g., www.yourdomain.com) to verify the website is live.
2. **Check All Functions:**
   * Test if the database connection works (especially for dynamic sites).
   * Ensure that your SSL certificate is working, and the site loads with HTTPS.

**Step 9: Website Maintenance**

1. **Backups:**
   * Regularly back up your website and database via hPanel or an automated backup tool.
2. **Monitor Website Performance:**
   * Use Hostinger’s tools or third-party services to monitor website uptime and speed.

By following these steps, you can successfully host a website, create a database, and link your domain using Hostinger’s services.