Creating a website using Code

Fdsc in computing

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# Introduction

I am a 2nd year student of the Ulster University foundation degree in computing.

Before I undertaken the course I have a strong educational background in Mathematics and a working background in Accountancy, Sales and Administration.

My work-based learning was spent using the most cost effective means to create a website.

Using my knowledge gained from [www.codecademy.com](http://www.codecademy.com) which introduced me to HTML, CSS and briefly JAVAscript. I furthered my skills with the help of [www.w3schools.com/](http://www.w3schools.com/) and [www.getbootstrap.com](http://www.getbootstrap.com) to help create professional looking websites which are freely hosted on https://github.com/ . The only real costs came from domain registration which in reality is a very small percentage of the cost of alternative methods of creating and operating a website.

Throughout this project I will be unravelling the jargon above and debunking any thoughts of how constructing a website can be time consuming and costly. I will also show how learning the code behind the make up of a website can help even novices to web development produce top quality work and how creative individuals can get their own ideas onto the web.

## The Plan

I will be structing my project logically.

Firstly, I will talk about the possible ways to create a website.

* The Foundations used to build a website
* The Website Builders
* How to customise Website Builders

Secondly, how websites are viewed.

* Websites from a Browsers point of view
* Focus on Google Chrome

Now comes the explanation on how the coding languages HTML and CSS produce a website.

* Introduction to HTML
  + The key tags and elements
* Introduction to CSS
  + Linking with class names and ID’s

Then I will talk about Google’s development tools, which are vital for helping to edit your own website are replicate others.

* Google’s development tools and how to access them

Using CDN’s to speed up your development

* Introduction to CDN’s
* How and where to use Bootstrap
  + How to customise it to your taste

Now you are ready to put a website together.

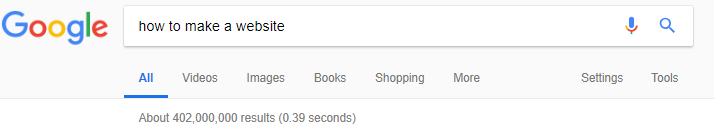
* Website hosting
* Github pages

Now your website is online.

* Introduction to domains
  + Registering with 123-reg

# Where to start

When trying to create a website where is the 1st place you go?

If you’re like me, you will turn on your laptop, load up a browser and search the internet until you find a website that tells you, THIS IS HOW TO MAKE A WEBSITE.

As illustrated google can provide 402 million results instantly[[1]](#footnote-1).

The problem which many individuals find is being bombarded with information can be very overwhelming and seeing all these different options, they still do not explain where to start.

Your website project can take months if you were to read all the popular articles and then it may still not be clear which foundation you need to start bringing your idea to reality.

## Terminology

The idea of creating anything of substance is going to take time, there will be new words, technical jargon and much more.

This article from 2009 helped me

<https://www.smashingmagazine.com/2009/05/web-design-industry-jargon-glossary-and-resources/>

but does contain over 50 different words, terms, acronyms and some slang. Most of which won’t be needed for this project.

This is where making a website can start to feel overwhelming. Therefore, I try not to think of it as MAKING but instead think of it as BUILDING. As building anything suggests it can now be as good as you like.

### House vs Website

A house and a website can be though of as comparable, a house needs doors and windows the same way a website needs some way to access it and look appealing. But much like a house a website cannot be made without the proper foundations in place.

# The Foundation to Building a website

Starting from the bottom you have a number of options[[2]](#footnote-2) but I will focus on these 2 options:

1. Using a do-it-yourself website builder
2. Using a pre-made theme or template for an open source content management system (CMS)

## Website Builders

These expensive overpriced limited accessories are not my favourite choice when it comes to building.

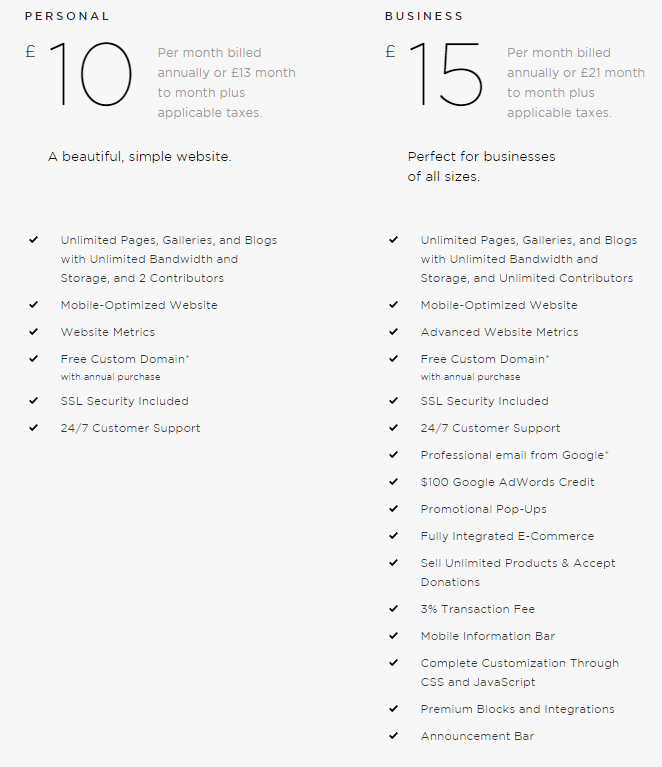
The main reason against website builders is cost[[3]](#footnote-3). I 100% agree that this put me off using website Builders.

Let’s take a look first at Squarespace.com

### Squarespace

A top performing website builder[[4]](#footnote-4)

Here is a break down of their Pricing.



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2. <https://clutch.co/web-designers/resources/options-for-building-a-website> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <https://itseeze.com/blog/6-reasons-why-you-shouldn-t-build-your-own-website/> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <https://www.sitebuilderreport.com/> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)