::Guide to getting your website online::

While many of you have already developed your own web pages you've probably gotten to a stage where you want to put your website on the internet for everybody to see.

But what is the internet?

The internet a global network of computers interconnected throughout the world. The WWW (World Wide Web) resides on the internet. It is a collection of interconnected documents (web pages) and other resources, linked by hyperlinks.

So how can you get your webpage onto the internet?

Computers that provide webpages for others users are known as servers. Every computer on the internet has a unique address known as an IP Address (Internet Protocol). This allows the data to be routed from servers to users and

vice versa. All computers connected to the internet can share content to the rest of the internet. To do this you must turn your computer into a server which will "host" your website.

While you could turn your computer into a server to host (& many people do) for most simple websites this isn't the best way. There are a number of reasons why you shouldn't host your own website:

- Hosting your own website means that you have to keep your computer turned on AT ALL TIMES.
- Hosting your own website means that your computer may be open to hackers. You need to think carefully about security.
- If your website is very popular your computer and internet connection might not be fast enough.

It's because of these reasons that many people use external companies to host their website for them. You pay for a service where they allow you have access to one of their servers to host your website.

One last thing….

What is a Domain Name?

The IP address system is based on numbers. These numbers work great for computers but make it difficult for humans to remember. A domain name is a human readable address links to a specific IP address. Every domain name has a suffix that indicates which top level domain (TLD) it belongs to; for example: *.com, .ie, .co.uk* etc. For example the domain name *www.google.ie* corresponds to the IP address of 74.125.138.94.

::Setting up a web host::

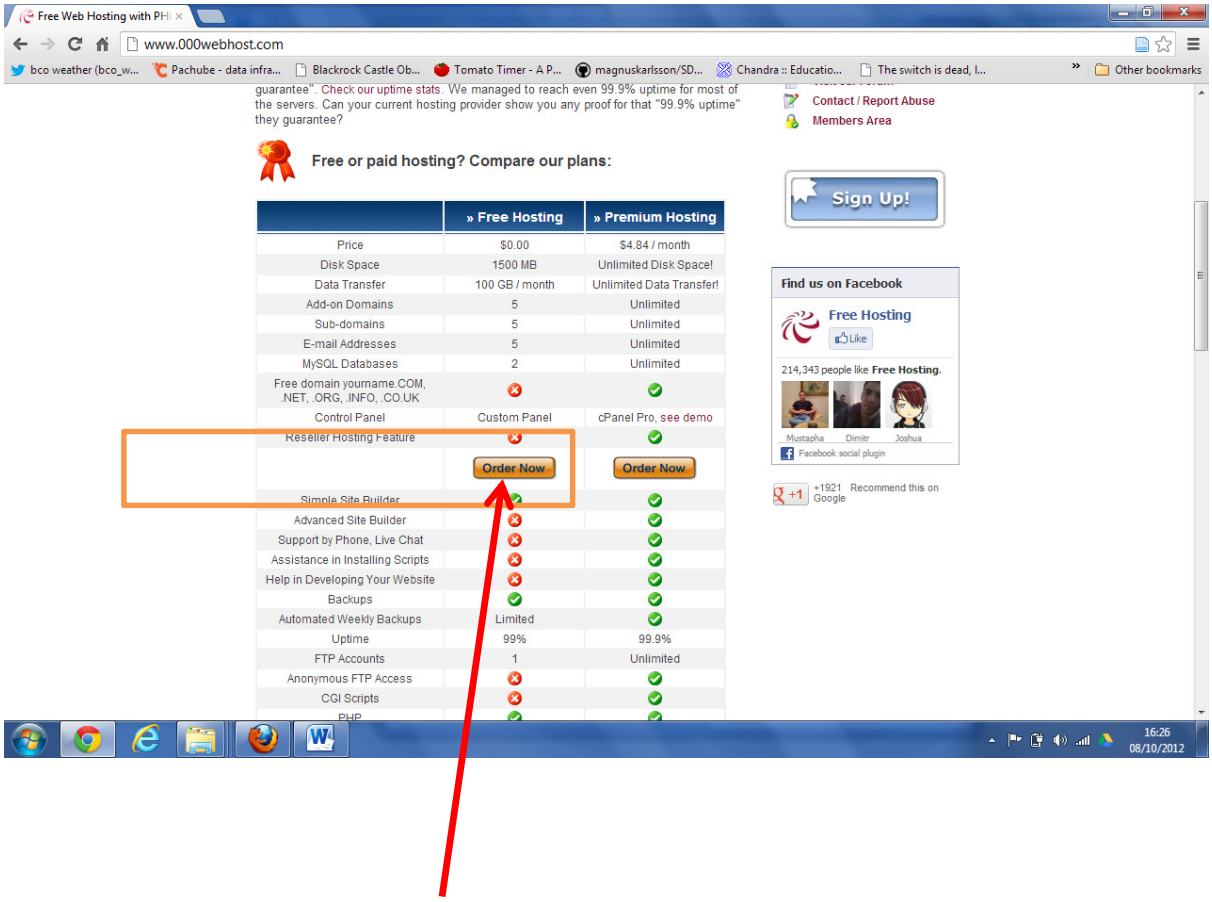
http://www.000webhost.com/ provide a free webhosting service which includes a free domain name.

Step 1.

Go to http://www.000webhost.com/

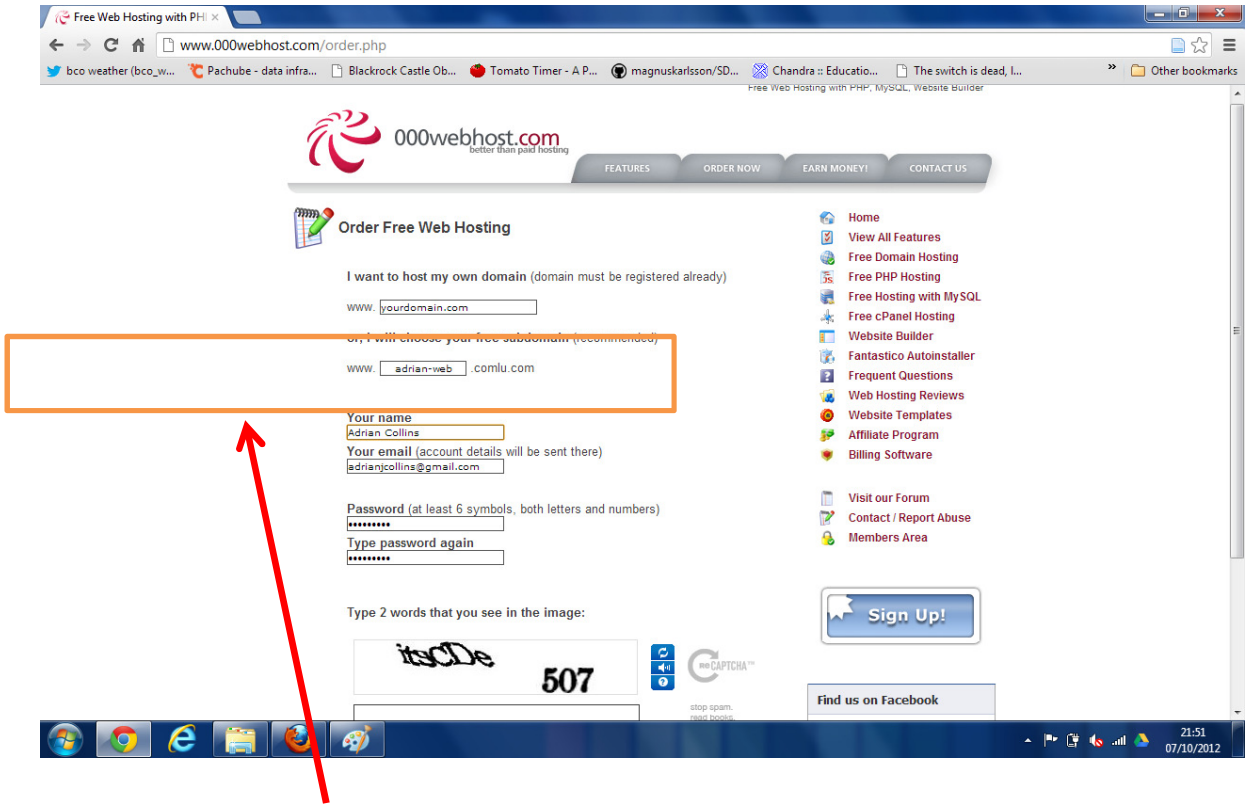
Step 2.

Click on “*Order Now*” under “*Free Hosting*”



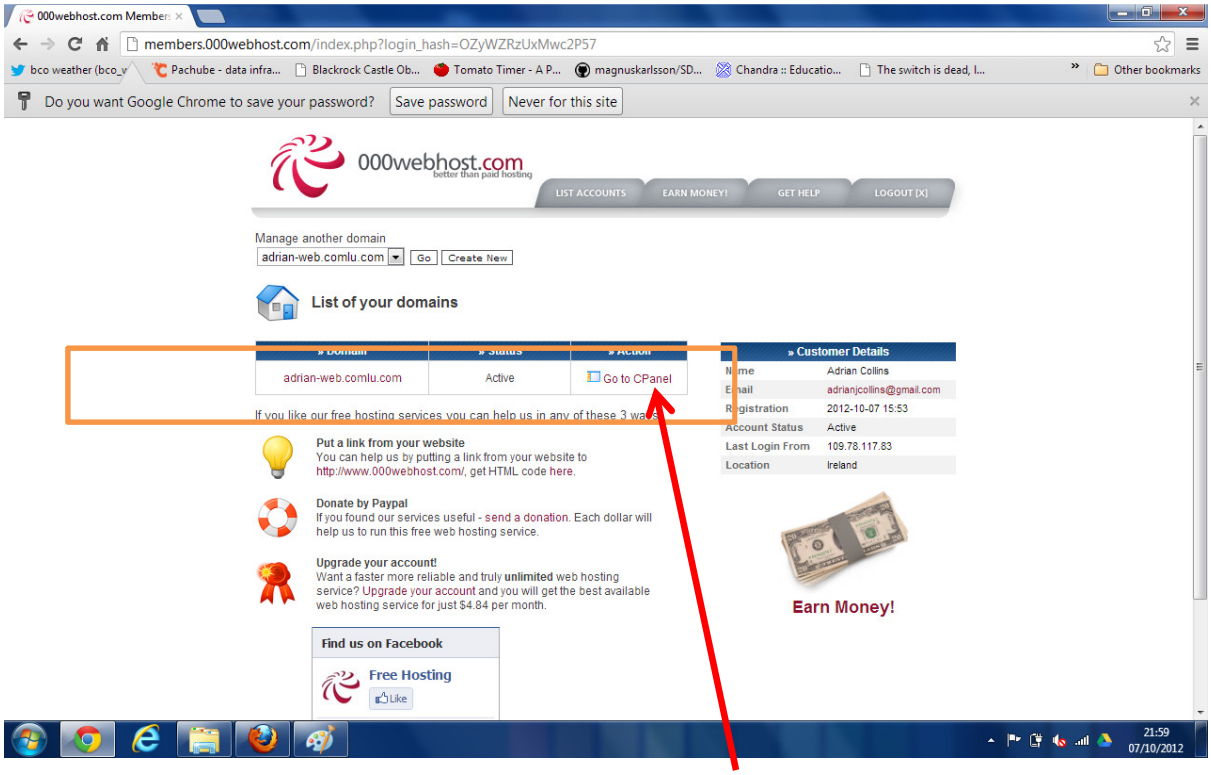
Step 3.

Choose your “free subdomain” and sign up a for new account. Try to make the domain name something you’ll remember easily.



Step 4.

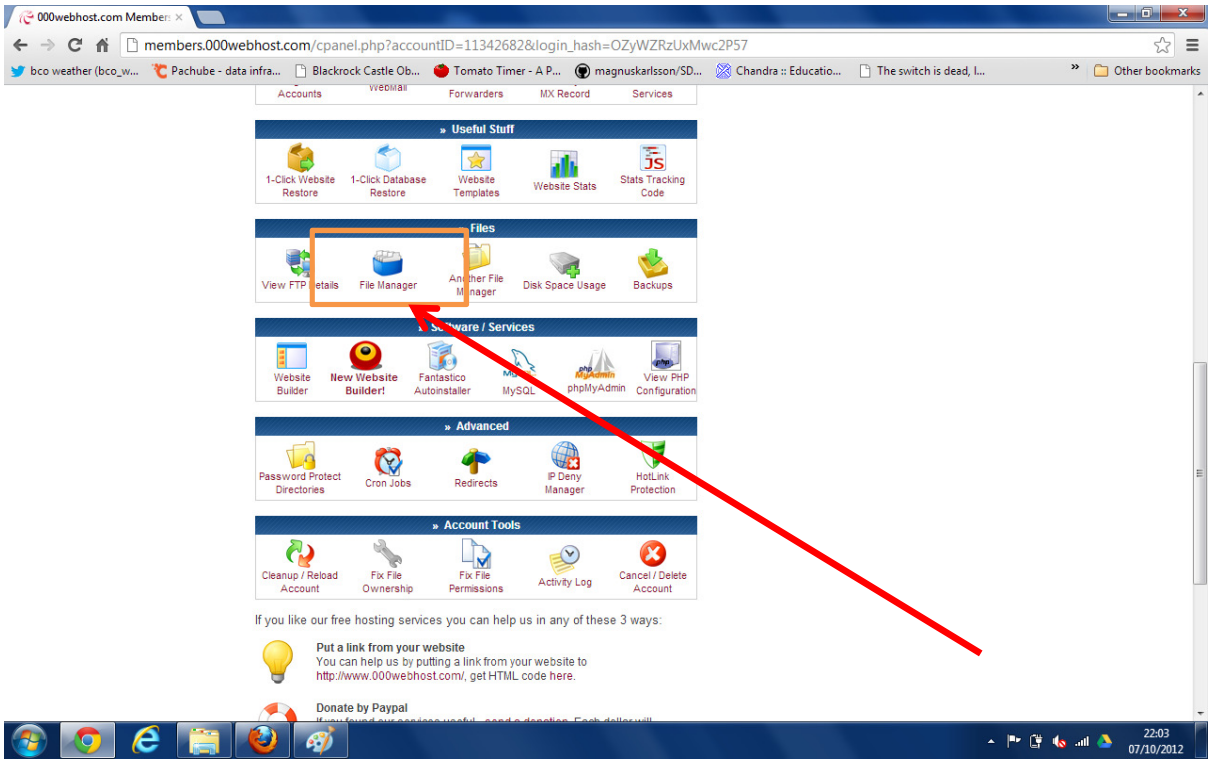
You will be sent a confirmation email (be sure to check your spam folder). Once you've confirmed your account (and logged back in) you should see something like this:



Click on "*Go to CPanel*" to begin putting your website online.

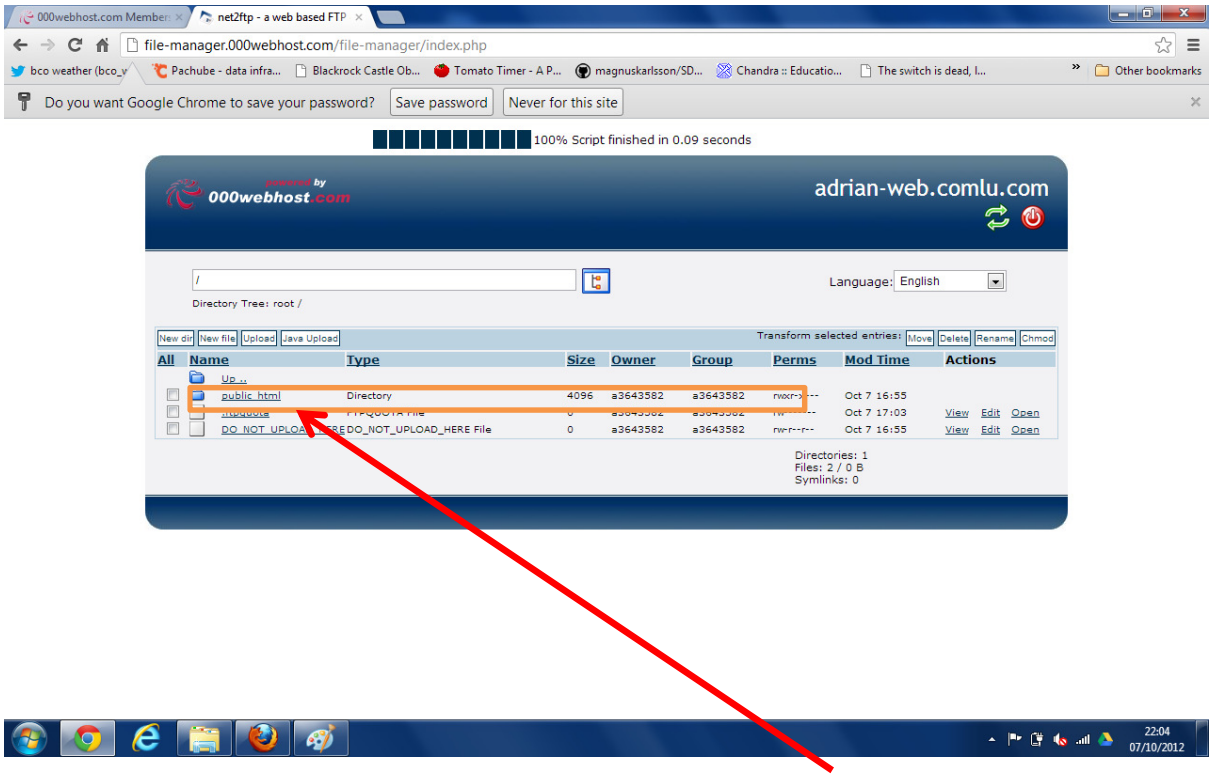
Step 5.

Scroll down and Click on “File Manager”



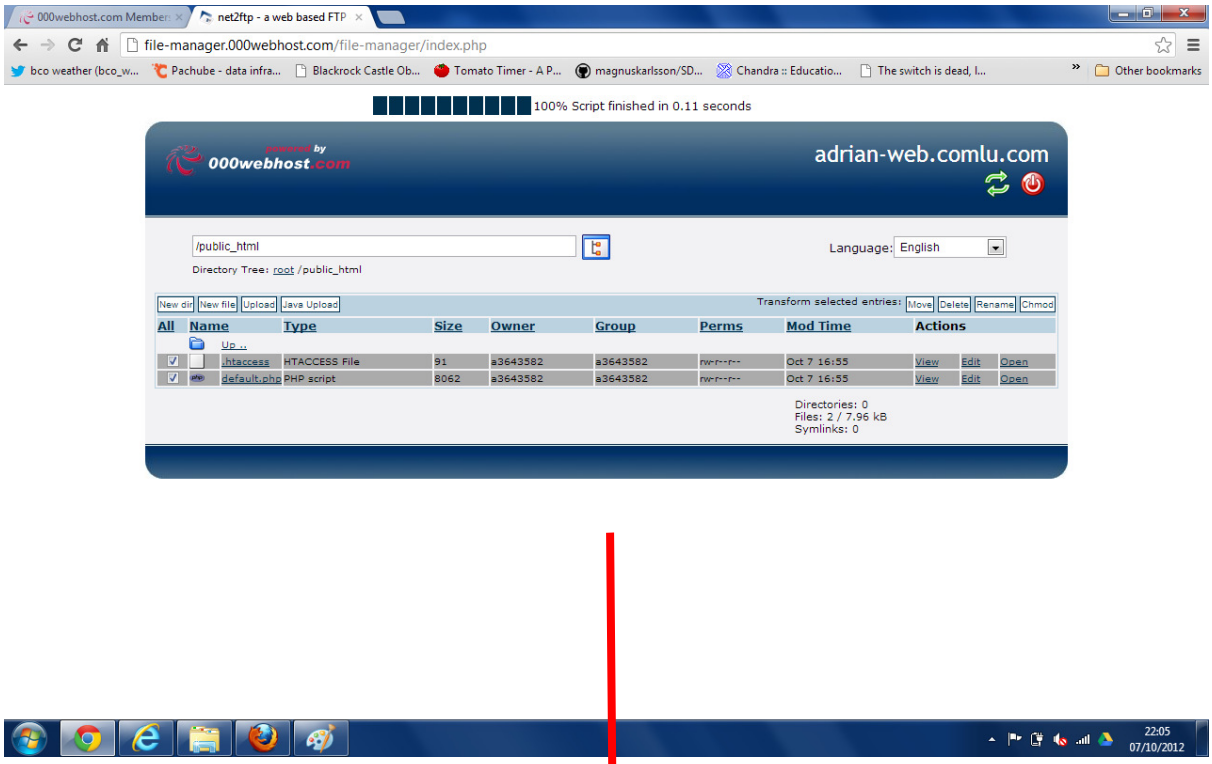
Step 6.

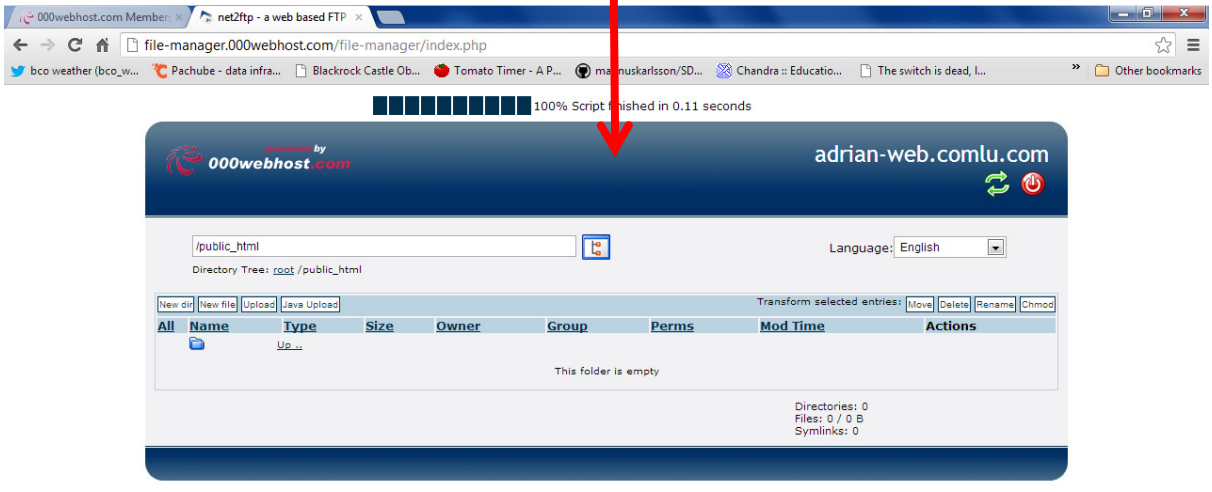
Click on “*public html*”



Step 7.

You can delete the existing files in this directory. They are only default files.

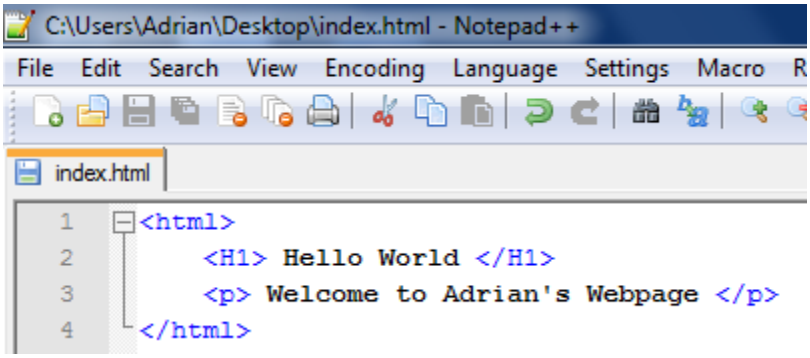




Step 8.

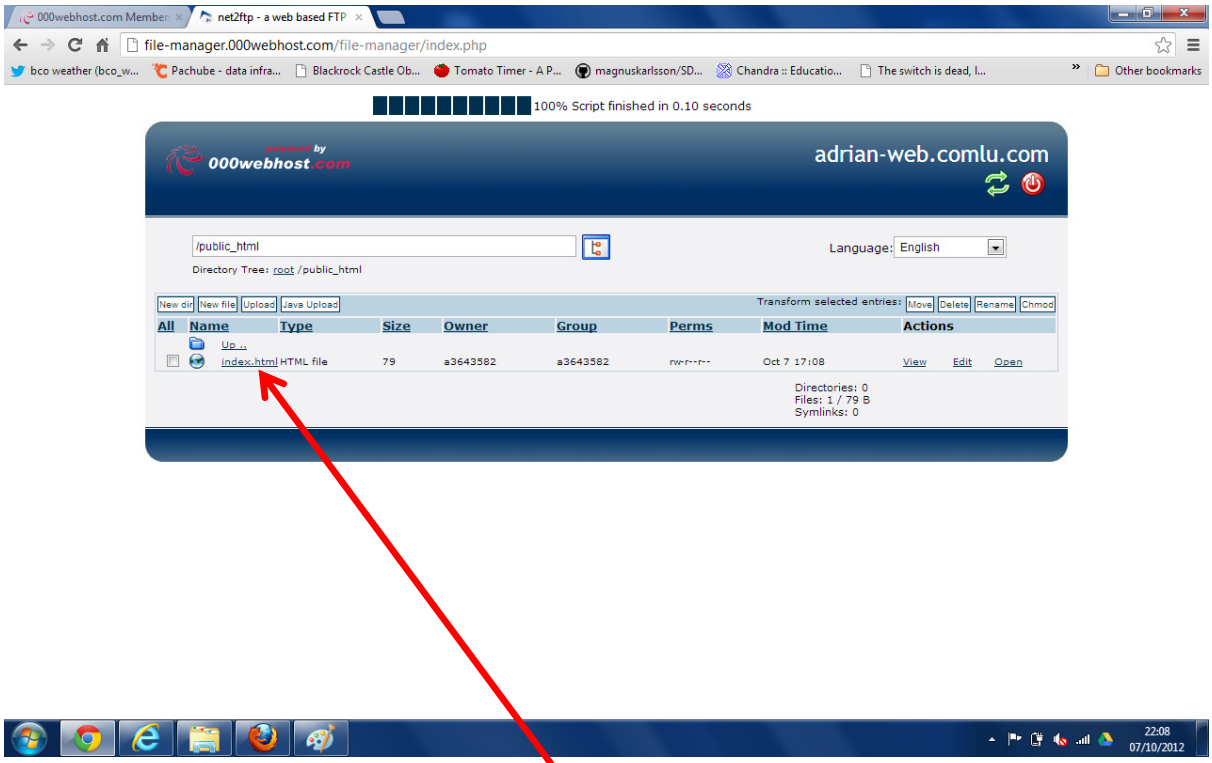
Create your webpage (if you haven't created it already).

IMPORTANT NOTE: For your home page to automatically load it must be called "index.html"



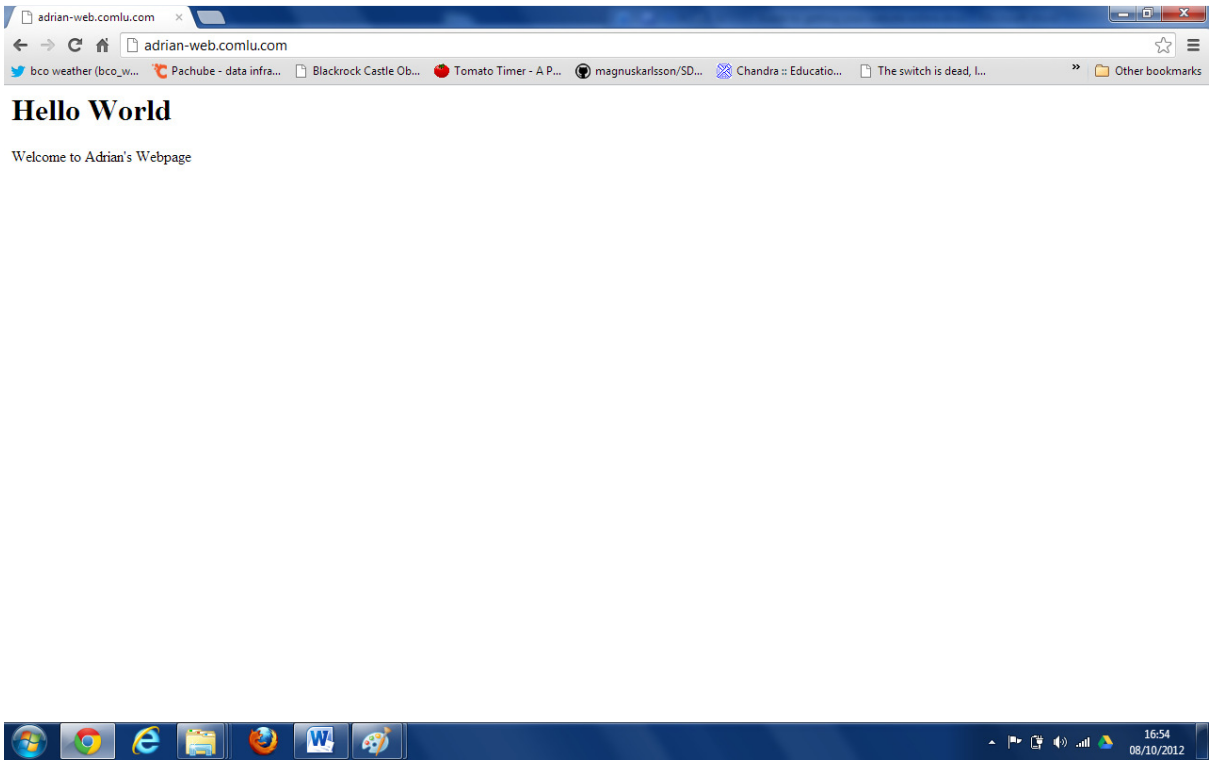
Step 9.

Upload your files.



Step 10.

Finished.

Try it out. Type your domain name into a browser to see your home page.

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