

What is hosting?

From: <https://www.namecheap.com/hosting/what-is-web-hosting-definition/>

Web hosting definition:

- When a hosting provider allocates space on a web server for a website to store its files, they are hosting a website. Web hosting makes the files that comprise a website available for viewing online. Every website you've ever visited is hosted on a server. The amount of space allocated on a server to a website depends on the type of hosting. The main types of hosting are shared, dedicated, VPS, and reseller. They are differentiated by the kind of technology used for the server, the level of management provided and the additional services on offer.
- In a nutshell, web hosting is the process of renting or buying space to house a website on the World Wide Web.
- Website content such as HTML, CSS, and images has to be housed on a server to be viewable online.
- A server is a computer that connects other web users to your site from anywhere in the world. As the name implies, web hosting service providers have the servers, connectivity, and associated services to host websites. By offering a variety of hosting plans, they cover the spectrum of hosting needs, from small blogs and large organizations
- Web hosting happens when the files that make up a website are uploaded from a local computer on to a web server. The server's resources (RAM, hard drive space, and bandwidth) are allocated to the websites using it
- Different types of web hosting:
 - Shared hosting: similar to renting a workstation in a busy, noisy, open plan office or co-working space. You have all the modern conveniences, but you can't do any makeovers. This is a popular option for launching small websites and not appropriate for large-scale commercial projects
 - Virtual private server: a step up from shared hosting. With a VPS, users are isolated from each other. You have neighbours, but you are less dependant on them, and you carry out any makeovers (customizations) as you like and organize your workstation on your own

- Dedicated server: The more expensive option and best for websites who value reliability and high performance.
- Once you've purchased a domain name, the files that hold your website's content need to be stored together in a location connected to the internet - a web server. Once the website's files are uploaded to a hosting company's web server, the host is then responsible for delivering the files to users.
- Hosting makes websites available for people to visit through their web browser, how? The domain name system (DNS) makes sure that website browser connects to the right computer (server) that stores your website files
- When someone types in your web address into their browsers, their computer connects through the internet to the web server holding your website files. It locates your domain's IP address (where it's stored on the domain name system) and directs the users to the right website. Their browser will then show your website information (all the data that makes your pages) so that they can browse your web pages anytime

Resources:

<https://www.website.com/beginnerguides/webhosting/6/1/what-is-web-hosting?.ws>

<https://www.hostinger.com/tutorials/what-is-web-hosting/>