

# Words That Might Be Useful

by Laurel Schwulst



website

a file or a bundle of files that work in web browser. often a website is living on a server somewhere



server

a computer that's always connected to the internet, so when someone types your URL or domain in, the server will offer up your website. usually you have to pay for a server, also called "hosting" or a "host."



IP

"internet protocol" address, which is a unique string of numbers that's an address for any device connected to the internet which other machines use to find that device—whether it's your home router, your computer, your cellphone, or a server

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domain

an understandable piece of language that points to an IP address

nytimes.com, allmyfriendsatonce.com, special.fish



URL

"universal resource location" which is the specific address to access any resource. if you type in a domain name, most servers will present you **index.html** by default

https://special.fish/anna, http://allmyfriendsatonce.com/style/style.css



hosting  
provider

a business that handles providing servers / web hosting

There are many to choose from. I often choose either nearlyfreespeech.net or dreamhost.com (\$ but flexible) and GitHub Pages (free but limited ... and static websites only), but there are many others!



domain name registrar

a business that handles the reservation of domain names as well as the assignment of IP addresses for those domain names. contracts for domains are typically on a yearly basis.

I often use name.com, but there are many others, like iwantmyname.com, namecheap.com, and gandi.net. Note some hosting companies are also domain name registrars.



DNS

“domain name system” which is like all the phonebooks of the entire internet



humans use domain names ~, while on the other hand, web browsers use IP addresses 📌, so DNS translates domain names to IP addresses so browsers can load internet resources



nameserver

a single phonebook that is owned by the hosting provider that lists all the domain names associated with its customers



DNS record



a line in the metaphorical phonebook



TLD

a “top-level domain” is the rightmost part of a domain name such as .com. certain TLDs are reserved for specific geographic areas or societal services

Other examples include .org, .net, .school, etc. New TLDs are added every year, see this list on Wikipedia. Google around for the latest.