

SmallSite Web Designs

Website Design Checklist:

What we will need from you to create your website;

1. **Your chosen domain name:**
2. **Hosting type:**
dedicated-hosting or shared-hosting with forwarding or masking
3. **Amount and name of the pages/sections for your website:**
4. **Words and pictures for each page of your site**
owing to the type and amount of this content it will need to be obtained in addition to this form
5. **Email-setup** (*email-addresses and optional 'email package' add-on*)

Each of the above is explained in further detail on the following pages

We are here to do the hard work for you!

We are here to help and advise where necessary to minimise the work required on your part. Other than your "domain name", most options can be modified or changed anytime in the future.

Domain name

You will need your own domain name which will give you your own URL (uniform resource locator) this will be YOUR website address.

This is probably the most important part and will enable anyone anywhere in the world to get to your website. Owing to the colossal size of the internet, it could be that the domain name you want has already been taken so you may have to think a little harder about something suitable that *is* available.

Tips when choosing:

Ideally pick a website name that says something about who or what you are and that is easy to spell and memorable. Using numbers can be ambiguous as it is not clear if they are digits or letters (ie the word "three" or the number "3" The use of hyphens "-" is permitted but, again can make the website name open to misinterpretation. Don't worry about the "www." bit, that comes as standard so if you own "www.mysite.co.uk" you also get "mysite.co.uk"

Examples: www.smallsite.co.uk yourwebsite.uk mywebsite.com

Having your own domain-name is an easy and relatively-cheap investment. It disappoints us why so many people and businesses do not obtain one, though understandable given a little bit of technical knowledge is required.

You could even purchase multiple domain names for your website, eg "mysite.co.uk" "mysite.com" "mysite.org.uk" "mysite.tv" etc.

Please be aware that the extension-types vary in prices, eg a ".com" website address will be slightly more expensive than a ".co.uk" or ".uk" name.

HTTPS certificate *(require annual renewal)*

Many people and systems prefer the security of knowing a website is secure. *You know- the little padlock  icon.* This is only of *real* concern if you are handling personal/confidential information (bank-details, logins, personal-info, etc.)

By default, without this, most modern browsers warn "this site is not secure" which can alarm some users into thinking they are about to get hacked or they are on some *dodgy* website.

The truth is if your site is simply for "viewing only" (ie, just words and pictures) then there is no real benefit to the expense of adding a security certificate. If the viewer is not sharing any information then there is nothing to "steal".

A good analogy is to imagine going into a shop to "browse". Unless you open your wallet and expose your card or details you are less likely to be scammed. Even then, the bad-guy needs to be in the right place at the right time to stand a chance of stealing your particulars! But, stop and ask yourself- how do you actually know you are in a trustworthy/reputable shop anyhow...?

Adding the HTTPS certificate can add credibility to a website and may also allow it to be more widely accepted by search-engines and other places where the site is linked to or listed.

Domain hosting

Choice of: Hosting, Masking or Forwarding.

There are THREE main options to consider when using your domain name; Dedicated-hosting, domain-name-forwarding or domain-name-masking. These must be considered and are explained here;

Dedicated Domain Hosting

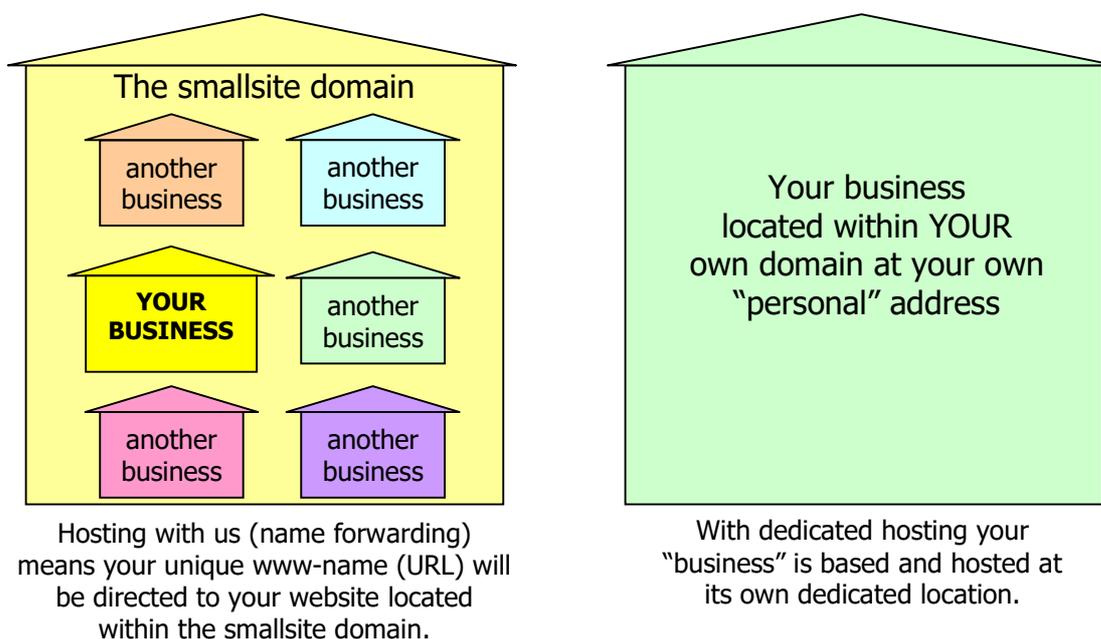
With dedicated website hosting everything will appear as expected on your website. The layout will adapt to suit the size and type of screen that is viewing the device, from desktop through mobile, landscape or portrait orientation. This does require the addition of purchasing dedicated web-hosting option though this will include many other benefits and serve you well for a variety other needs. See our pricing.
Domain name Forwarding

Name forwarding

With domain name forwarding you can expect your website to adapt to the size and type of screen that is viewing the device, from desktop through mobile, landscape or portrait orientation. The caveat here is that even though you access the website using YOUR website address the browser URL address will show as something longer than your actual domain name as your URL (website name) is "forwarded" to the location where it resides.
Domain name Masking

Name masking

With domain name masking you some devices may not all the website layout to adapt to the size and type of screen that is viewing the device, from desktop through mobile, landscape or portrait orientation. Another side-effect, good or bad depending how you look at it, is that YOUR website is permanently seen as the website using YOUR website address. This means YOUR website address will be the one and only address for all of your site. There is usually no cost for this option



Email setup

Once you have your domain you can have "anything@yourdomain.co.uk" (eg if you owned "www.smallsite.co.uk" you could have "info@smallsite.co.uk" or "fred@smallsite.co.uk", "noreply@smallsite.co.uk" etc.)

All domains come with mail forwarding whereby you will get to choose multiple email names (ie whatever@yourwebsite.co.uk) that can be forwarded to any existing email-address that you already own.

The Standard Email package

Adding the standard email package will give you some "POP" mailboxes where you login to gain access to your emails. This also has the advantage that when you reply it will appear as whatever@yourwebsite.co.uk rather than your own personal email address, as forwarded to if you didnt have the standard email package. We can assist in setting these up with you.

If you have dedicated-hosting it will come with the standard mail package included.

Email-form addition

As standard, there can be create a "clickable" link, eg: "anything@yourwebsite.co.uk" where upon *clicking* it should open up the user's email application in preparation to create a message to send to that address.

Adding an email form

The addition of an email form will present the user with a form where they enter their message within your website. This makes if much more convenient for the user to send you a message. This does require some "back-end" coding reflected in the cost.

Either method will send to your chosen email address, whether its using email-forwarding or to your chosen address or to your dedicated mailbox as part of your domain-hosting.

Without dedicated-hosting or the email-package

If you have chosen not to have an email-package, which comes included if you choose to have dedicated-hosting, you will need to tell us where you want your emails *forwarded* to.

Eg: whatever@yourwebsite.co.uk 