

Web Hosting Checklist

In order to use this Web hosting checklist, you'll need to decide what you want. To make it easier on beginners, some of the things you'll need to decide on are listed at the top. When you print out the .pdf version, you can fill these in. Then go down the checklist and check off any hosting package you're considering that meets your requirements in those areas.

Disk Space: _____ (How much do you need?)

Bandwidth: _____ (How much will you use each month?)

Uptime: _____ (What required uptime do you expect?)

Control Panel: _____ (Do you want a specific control panel?)

Operating System: _____ (Do you want Linux or Windows hosting?)

Price Limit: _____ (What monthly price are you willing to pay?)

CHECKLIST

(Fill out a checklist for every Web hosting company you're considering.)

General

- ___ Meets disk space requirements
- ___ Adequate servers and RAM
- ___ Meets bandwidth requirements
- ___ Meets uptime requirements
- ___ Desired control panel?
- ___ Desired operating system?

Billing

- ___ Meets price requirements
- ___ Allows monthly billing
- ___ Discounts offered for longer term contracts
- ___ Money-back guarantee

Support

- ___ 24/7 support
- ___ Telephone support
- ___ Adequate uptime guarantee

Domains

- ___ Free domain included
- ___ Allows subdomains
- ___ Allows add-on domains
- ___ You own and control the domain (if registered through the host)

Features

- MySQL
- PHP
- CGI bin
- Perl
- SSI
- FTP access
- Anonymous FTP access
- Free Web statistics programs included
- Shared SSL
- Dedicated SSL
- Email hosting included
- One-click installs of popular scripts (like Wordpress)
- Password-protected directories (for password protecting areas of your site)

Other

This is not an exhaustive list, but it covers the most common features a new website owner might want in a hosting package. If you need other programming languages supported, additional features, or anything else not included here, add them to your checklist in the blank sections above.

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