

The Necessities

1. **Domain Name** – The common place the user will find your site on the World Wide Web. For example, www.yournamehere.com is a domain name. You can purchase your own domain or get a free one offered by many different online companies. Domains have come down in price drastically over recent years, and can now be found for under \$15 USD.
2. **Webhost** - this is a company that will "host" your domain and web pages. By "uploading" your "data"—transferring the files that make up your website—to their server, you give the consumer access to your page on the Internet.
3. **Design & Layout** – How do you want your website to appear to the world? How your site is laid out, its color scheme, and almost every factor is determined by you and your designer.
4. **Information**- Your site needs to have information or “content”. If someone visits your site they are generally looking for information. You will need to have an idea of what information you are going to have on your site.
5. **Type**- Are you selling products? Are you just showing information? Is your site an online membership? You will need to know what kind of site you’re wanting.
6. **Contact Info**- Do you have an e-mail setup to handle online inquiries? You will need to have this as well.
7. **(optional) PayPal**- If you’re planning on accepting funds online, the safest and most recommended way is via PayPal. You can usually pay your webhosting fees, and your websites cost via PayPal as well.