

Published based on [Choosing Your Own Web Hosting](#)

Choosing Your Own Web Hosting

Finding hosting, especially if you have no experience in web development or site building, can be very intimidating. You will be glad to learn that choosing hosting does not have to be hard. You just need to figure out how to weed out the bad choices from the good ones and find a provider that will suit you and your project. Just do your research and before too long you could have your site up and operational! Use the following hints to get going.

How extensive are your FTP needs? If you have no idea what FTP means you will probably be fine with one of the free, web based host companies out there. If your FTP needs are extensive, you should make sure that any hosting program you purchase will have a way of meeting those needs. There are some hosting plans that have web based FTP apps built into their systems. Still other hosting companies ask that you use your own downloaded FTP application.

You should choose a hosting company that allows you access to its FTP application if you don't want to have to worry about doing your own file transfers. If, on the other hand, you require 100% control over your files and transfers, you will want to choose a hosting package that allows you to use outside software and applications for your FTP needs.

A company that is legitimate will have live customer service agents that you can talk to when you need help. Call the number and evaluate your customer service experience. These agents need to know their stuff and be able to help you with whatever your problems might be. Choose a company with good service, not one that simply transfers you all over the place until you give up and solve the problem on your own. If the call goes badly, call back in a day or two to double check the level of customer service because it is possible that your agent was simply having a terrible day. Many companies are also offering live chatting. If talking on the phone is not something you enjoy doing, look for hosting companies that offer this live chatting as a customer service option. Do not trust a company that does not use live agents in some form for their customer service department.

What kind of control panel do you feel most comfortable using? The less hassle the better when it comes to choosing a control panel for new developers-find something that you can figure out quickly and that does not require a lot of background knowledge to operate. If you're an experienced web developer you'll be free to find hosting with control panels that aren't quite as "user proof." The type of control panel you will need will help you choose the web host that best serves your needs. If you are new to web development, choose hosting that offers you programs like Fantastico-a one click installer for a variety of content management systems, guest books, etc. Sometimes the more services you need, the more money you need to pay. Some of the most important criteria for choosing a hosting provider are the amount of space you need and what all you need to have happen with that space-these things can change depending on the person doing the building. Take some time to explore all of the choices that are out there. What we mean is that you shouldn't rush your decision-instead take all the time you need to figure out what you actually need before you start searching for a hosting provider. Instead of starting with hosting providers, start with what you need for your project and then search for a hosting provider that gives you what you need.

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