

Published based on [Top Ten Tips for Finding a Web Host](#)

# Top Ten Tips for Finding a Web Host

Web hosting is an integral part of an online business, which plays a vital role in its success. The web hosts provide connectivity, storage, and other necessary services for a website. It enables business organization to sell the products and services, share information, publish a discussion forum, create an information resource as well as interact with other people through the web site. As a whole, it helps an organization to put the company name on the web. However, selecting a proper web host can often be very perplexing as there are a huge number of web hosts functioning in the market. A thorough research is essential before opting for the most appropriate web hosting company in order to generate more income from the website.

In choosing a hosting service it is a good idea to consider any limitations each one has. Some companies have advantages and disadvantages and weighing them wisely will help you make the best choice for your businesses success online. There are several essential factors you should take into consideration when deciding on which web host to use. Some include pop up ads, disk space limits, among others. Some of the considerations are listed below:

1. How much space: The absolutely first thing you should sit down and consider is how much disk space you will need to operate effectively. If you only need a site with a few pages that have a couple of pictures and some description on them you will need much less space than a twenty pages site loaded with other features. Additional features that take up valuable disk space are multi-media items such as music, and movies, shopping cart programs, and chat rooms and forums. Once you decide how much space you need make sure the program you choose offers enough for your desires. A small site can usually be hosted by any of the companies where a large site may to search for a big plan. Almost all host companies offer upgrades to more space so start small.

2. The availability of domain names: If you have a large organization and you need many domain names inside one site such as a separate domain for your shopping cart, or email accounts for various divisions like customer support you need to find a company that can provide multiple domain names. It is necessary to be aware of the fact that not all hosting companies can provide this service.

3. How much data transfer do you need: Bandwidth allows you to transfer materials to and from your website. Bandwidth also can control your traffic's ability to see your site. Every time a visitor clicks on your website you use bandwidth. Once it has been exceeded no one will be able to access the information until a certain time has passed. If you find you are using too much very often you can usually upgrade to more bandwidth.

4. Do you need SSL, MySQL, and shopping cart: many businesses that have multiple products for sale, or the need to accept credit cards or access private customer information require the use of SSL (a security certificate) and MySQL. These items require a large amount of space. Shopping carts also require a lot of space and can be difficult to create and upload.

5. Windows/ Linux server: Earlier it was considered to be a very important factor when there were several major dissimilarities between Linux and Widow based servers. However the recent software developments have reduced those differences to the point that a business organization can select a web host based on the features provided by them rather than the operating system.

6. Dedicated or shared server: It is very important for the organization to decide in advance whether it wants a shared server or a dedicated server. The major problem of a shared server is that, it allows a small amount of data transfer and disk space. Moreover, since it will also host several other websites, there is a huge chance of reducing the loading speed. On the other hand, a dedicated server is a much better and safer option as it is meant for only one website and thus provides more data transfer and disk space.

7. Live support: Many companies today do not have the technical staff to provide the necessary skills to keep a site running, or even get it online in the first place. This was one of the biggest stops to small businesses and people wanting personal websites in the past. Now many companies offer technical support in various methods at various availabilities. It is important to make sure the contact is good and their hours are when you will need them to be available.

8. Does the service provide one or more email accounts: An email account that is specific to your business looks

professional. Look for a web host that has at least one email account for each client. Some have the ability to have multiple email accounts and if that is something that would be helpful to you for extra employees, or even a different email address for different functions such as customer service, etc, then make sure your host has that option available.

9. Up to date scripting programs: Make sure the host you choose has the latest updates of programs such as Perl, PHP, CGI, and JavaScript. These programs allow you to create directories, host blogs and forums, and many other additional features for your site. Make sure your host has them, and they are the latest versions for ease of installing desired items.

10. Support for FrontPage as well as DreamWeaver: There are certain web hosting companies that offer support either for DreamWeaver or for FrontPage. However, a business organization who is currently using FontPage may decide to swap with the other and vice versa. Therefore, it is beneficial to select one that offers compatibility with both the systems.

**About The Author** : Matt Ewing is a professional [web hosting](#) admin and writer. Visit [WebHostingMadness.com](#) to read his reviews on the [best hosting companies](#) each month.

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