

Note: We are not sponsoring namecheap.com. We are just providing some information on how to obtain a web presence. This document has been created by Reed Trevelyan for CMSC389J/CMSC389P (Winter 2016). Remember that you do not need to acquire a domain for our courses; feel free to ignore this information.

Namecheap.com Quick Start

Obtaining a Web Presence

1. Go to <https://www.namecheap.com/hosting/shared.aspx> and select the Value option, which is a low price package (\$10) for personal use. This provides 1 year of 100% uptime hosting, along with 24-hour tech support.
2. After adding the package to your cart, you will be shown options for purchasing or migrating a domain name. If you do not already own one, you can choose and purchase a domain name here; a 1-year license costs around \$10 for most .com addresses, while other types of domains cost much less.
3. After purchasing the domain and hosting package, you will receive an email with your CPanel login information. CPanel provides access to the files and services running on your server.

Editing your Website

To add files to your server, you can either use CPanel's online file manager, or connect using FTP. The online file manager can be found under the "Frequently Accessed Areas" section on the main page, or under the "Files" subsection. FTP settings can be found under the "FTP Accounts" option in the "Files" subsection.

Some notes:

1. The root directory for webpages is the "public_html" directory. This is where you will place your index.html/php file.
2. You can use the online code and HTML editors to make small changes to your files, without having to upload new versions.
3. PHP is already set up to run on the server, and its settings and version can be modified in the "Software and Services" section of CPanel.
4. If you choose to use FTP to upload files to your site, look for a master FTP login in your email. This allows you full access to the filesystem, without making a new account.
5. Many other features and settings in CPanel come standard with your Namecheap server. These allow configuring of mail servers, SQL databases, and other add-ons. Cloudflare, Wordpress, and other popular web services and frameworks are also configured to work with your server, and can be managed through CPanel.