

10 STEPS TO PUBLISHING ON THE INTERNET by TONY CAI

Many of my friends have asked me how to **blog and publish** on the internet. Well, I've taken the time to compile a easy step by step tutorial if you will, of how to start from nothing to having a fully running, visitor visiting blog. First you need some core things to start off and about **\$15** to start off and about **\$5** to maintain every month. While you do this, grab a **Snickers**, I'll be eating **ramen** as I write this. **LOL!** *[[RIP to Mr Momofuku Ando, inventor of the ramen - Jan 5 2007]]*. Now, I'm really writing this for the super newbie so don't comment and say things like, duh or no shit!

1 - You'll Need a Domain or a Website

You can get a domain from **ICANN** accredited registrar such as **Yahoo Small Business** or **GoDaddy.com**. You can get one from as little as **\$1.99 [on sale]** to **\$8.00 [normal price]** for a year. Discounts may apply if you register for more than one year. You will need a **credit** or **debit card** or **PayPal** to pay for this service. PayPal is a popular web payment service.

2 - You'll Need Web Hosting

You can get web hosting from me or thousands of other websites who offer it for anywhere from **\$3 - \$10 a month**. There are some for more and others for less, you get what you pay for but somewhere in the **\$5 range** is adequate. Here are the server specifications to look for while you shop for your hosting plan.

- Linux servers, I go with Linux because they are easier and safer to use.
- PHP, MySQL, CGI enabled, you will need these services to run your blog. Most hosts should already have them.
- FTP access, again, most hosts has them.

Sign up for a web host and they will give you **2 very important IP addresses** you have to jot down. These are your **DNS name servers**, they are required so your domain can point to your web hosting server and display your website properly. They usually look like this: **ns1.hostsite.com** and **ns2.hostsite.com**, hostsite being your hosting company.

3 - Log In To Your Domain Control Panel

There are two main features of a domain control panel you should know about, the **domain locking feature** and the **name servers feature**. The domain locking feature enables or disables your domain from being transfered to another registrar, default, you should have this **On or Locked** or someone can steal your domain. The other feature, name servers, you need to change them according to what your web hosting company gives you, this is that **ns1.hostsite.com** business you have to worry about. When you logout of the domain control panel, **make sure the name servers are set correctly and you have domain locking on or enabled**.

4 - Log In To Your Hosting Control Panel

The popular web hosting control panels are easy to use, for example, **cPanel** which I've been using for years allow to you to control almost every aspect of your website. From **adding email accounts** to created **MySQL databases**. To create a blog, you first need to create a **MySQL database** with a **username and password** for the database. You have to note down all these things as you will need them later. So go ahead and create your MySQL database with a username and password.

5 - Download a Blogging Engine or Script

This is fairly easy to do, I like to use the **WordPress** blogging engine, it's simple and easy to use. There are other engines out there such as **TypePad** but you do your research and find out what fits you best. But for this tutorial, I will use **WordPress** as an example. **Go and download the WordPress engine script [here](#)**. After you download it, extract it onto a folder on your desktop for easy access.

6 - Log In To Your Website via FTP

FTP stands for **file transfer protocol**, with a **FTP program** you can easily access your website and transfer files on and off the website. These files will be the extracted content of the blogging script you downloaded on the previous step. I recommend you to download the **FileZilla FTP Client**, you can get it [here](#). When you install and run the program, there will be a few things you should know from your web host. Your username and password. On the top of the program, you should type your domain name for the **Address** field. So mine would be **Address: tonyc.ai.com**, you can fill in the username and password field on your own. For the **port number**, put **21** as it's the port number for FTP. **Then click quick connect**. Get use to the program and how it works before you continue to the next step. The left side are files from your local computer, and the right panel are files on your website.

7 - Upload Your Content On The FTP

Navigate with your FTP client to the folder **public_html**, any files in that folder can be accessed on your website. For example, if you have a file in the folder like this, **/public_html/test.html** then you can access it though your website like this, **www.yourwebsite.com/test.html**. Now go ahead and upload all the extracted files from the WordPress download into your right side panel in the **public_html** folder. The FTP program will handle this automatically for you and upload all the files onto the server.

8 - Now Run and Install The WordPress Blog Engine

After all the files are uploaded correctly, you should rename the file **wp-config-sample.php** to **wp-config.php**, then right click it and click **View/Edit**.

Make sure you change these settings according to the MySQL info you jotted down:

```
define('DB_NAME', 'wordpress'); // The name of the database
define('DB_USER', 'username'); // Your MySQL username
define('DB_PASSWORD', 'password'); // ...and password
define('DB_HOST', 'localhost'); // 99% chance you won't need to change this value
```

The **BOLD** is what you need to change. You should already have this info jotted down from before. If you don't have this information, you probably did not create your **MySQL database** yet. **Please see STEP 4**. After you changed this file, save and press **X** and it will re-upload and you have to click **YES** to overwrite the older file already on the server.

9 - Finish Installtion

Now you can finish your installation by by running the install script, just simply go to your website, **www.yourwebsite.com**, and follow the directions to complete the installation!

10 - Log In To Your WordPress Blog Administration Panel

Now your installation is complete, you need to log into your WordPress admin panel by going to **www.yourwebsite.com/wp-admin**, you should bookmark this site as you will use it every time you blog. Familiarize yourself with this control panel. Head over to **Write** to write your first blog post!

Congratulations, you installed WordPress! Your a **BLOGGER!** 😊

I would like comments and suggestions to this tutorial. Thanks!