

# Domain Name Registration: What is a valid domain name?

A. A domain name can be up to 63 characters (letters, numbers or combination) long plus the 4 characters used to identify the domain extension (.com, .net, .org). The only symbol character domain names can include is a hyphen (-) although the domain name cannot start or end with a hyphen. Common symbols such as asterisks (\*), under scores ( \_ ), and exclamation points (!) are not allowed.

Domain names are not case sensitive, so domainname.com is the same as DOMAINNAME.com. They are the same name, and can never point to two different sites. When you are looking for a domain name, you can type the name in lower, upper, or mixed case - it makes no difference.

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