INDEPENDENT REVIEW PROCESS

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION ICDR CASE NO. 01-20-0000-6787

NAMECHEAP, INC.

v.

INTERNET CORPORATION FOR ASSIGNED NAMES AND NUMBERS

INDEX TO DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED WITH ICANN'S SUR-REBUTTAL BRIEF ON THE MERITS

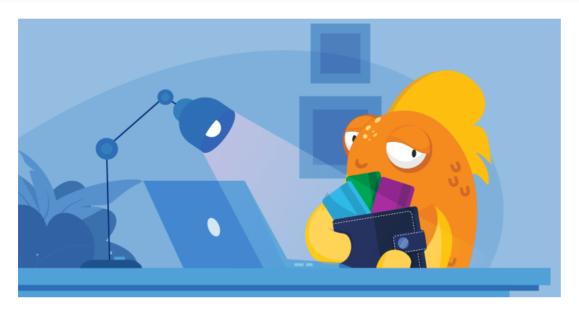
Exhibit	Description
R-56	"Price Increase News for Donuts Domains," Namecheap Blog (25 September 2019).
R-57	"Why Domain Extensions Arent't All created Equal" Namecheap Blog (22 July 2019).
R-58	"Renew Your Domains in Advance to Save Money," Namecheap Blog (20 July 2017).
R-59	"Price Increase on Certain Domains," Namecheap Blog (7 January 2019).

Ex. R-56









Domains, News

Price Increase News for Donuts Domains

Namecheap Staff | September 25, 2019

3 min read

Here at Namecheap, we have great partnerships with many different registries. This means that we can provide our customers with a wide selection of top-level domains at low prices.

On October 1st, 2019, domain registry Donuts will be increasing the standard prices of the majority of their top-level domains.

Unfortunately, in response to the news from Donuts, we must raise our prices on these domains as well.

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h Donuts Domain Prices Are Changing?

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TLD	Registration	Renewal	Transfer
.live	\$20.88	\$22.88	\$20.88
.world	\$26.88	\$28.88	\$26.88
life	\$26.88	\$28.88	\$26.88
.network	\$18.88	\$20.88	\$17.88
.services	\$26.88	\$28.88	\$26.88
.email	\$18.88	\$20.88	\$17.88
.today	\$18.88	\$20.88	\$17.88
.rocks	\$10.88	\$12.88	\$10.88
agency	\$18.88	\$20.88	\$17.88
.solutions	\$18.88	\$20.88	\$17.88
.ltd	\$18.88	\$20.88	\$17.88
.ninja	\$16.88	\$18.88	\$16.88
.media	\$27.88	\$29.88	\$27.88
digital	\$27.88	\$29.88	\$27.88
.news	\$20.88	\$22.88	\$20.88
.studio	\$20.88	\$22.88	\$20.88
.wtf	\$27.88	\$29.88	\$27.88
.zone	\$27.88	\$29.88	\$27.88
.run	\$18.88	\$20.88	\$17.88
nhotography	\$18.88	\$20.88	\$17.88

Skip to main content

Despite the fact that the standard prices on these domains are increasing, some of our TLDs have promotional prices, which means there is still an opportunity to grab some of them before prices go up. You can always









Why Is Namecheap Raising the Prices of Donuts Domains?

To answer this question, it's helpful to understand a little about how the registrar-registry relationship works.

Top-level domains are managed by registries such as Donuts. To find out if your dream domain name is available, you must check its availability with a registrar, such as us—Namecheap.

After your query, we then check with the registry to see if your domain is available.

As a registrar, Namecheap's job is to tell the registry to reserve your dream domain, meaning that no one else can have it. We also provide customer support, account management and other helpful features that make your life as a domain owner easier

Because of this, if a registry increases its domain prices, we have to as well. Our price increase reflects theirs and considers other costs, such as operational expenses.

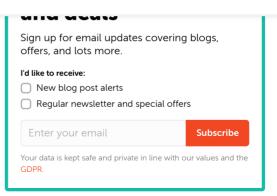
With all of our top-level domains, you will still benefit from 24-hour customer support, a free domain privacy subscription, and our other awesome products.



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Ex. R-57









Domains

Why Domain Extensions Aren't All Created Equal

Richard Adams | July 22, 2019

4 min read

So the dust has settled on the .INC domain launch, and a whole bunch of 'Incorporated' businesses across the U.S. now have pretty impressive new .INC web addresses. And they certainly should be impressive too, because .INC's certainly don't come cheap.

That's why this felt like the perfect time to examine why the price of .INC might be considered high. What made it so expensive in comparison to most other top-level domains (TLDs)? Why are some special? Why aren't all domain extensions created equal?

Who Sets The Price?

First, let's back up and take a look at who actually sets the prices for domain names in general...

You purchase domain names through a 'registrar' like Namecheap, but registrars get their TLDs supplied by 'registries'. These are the ones who actually control each TLD. So just like a standard store or shop, the registry sets the price and the registrar (like Namecheap) adds its markup.

So far so standard. And while it's important to understand the background context, it doesn't explain why registries set the wholesale prices of some TLDs so high.

What Are The Other Factors?

It's certainly not down to historical value. For example, we all know that .COM is still the king of TLDs. It's been around so long it now seems to go hand-in-hand with the internet itself. In fact, the most expensive domain names out there are all .COMs:

- LasVegas.com \$90 million
- PrivateJet.com \$30.18 million
- Voice.com \$30 million
- Internet.com \$18 million

R-57

• 360.com - \$17 million

But we're not talking about full domain names, we're only talking about top-level domain extensions. So unless you're trying to buy a popular .COM domain name that someone else already owns, the price of the .COM TLD itself can be comparatively cheap. If you go to the right place.

Is It Because It's New?

It may seem like the price is high because JNC is the freshest thing on the menu. While that is almost certainly a factor to consider, many new TLDs are released every year, and their prices still don't come close to .INC—like .DEV, which was also released this year, for example.

Mind you, the .INC domain certainly had two things in common with .DEV:

- 1. It was a brand new release
- 2. It had a relatively niche customer base

And it's the customer base that makes the difference here. While .DEV's core customer base is developers, .INC's customer base is corporate America. It doesn't take a genius to figure out that's quite a difference in business and budget size. The registrars know these type of organizations have deeper pockets. They know they can and will pay more. But, there's still more to it than that. It's not just about what people can afford to pay.

Paying For Brand Equity

The Inc. abbreviation is recognized and renowned around the world. It's niche, and yet globally respected all at the same time. It shows potential customers and clients that you are incorporated in the U.S. and so your business is the real deal. It's a sign of quality and stability. It conjures up images of skyscrapers and sharp suits. It screams "I'M IN BUSINESS, AND I MEAN BUSINESS!" And that's all before anyone's even set eyes on your actual website. Not bad for three letters and a dot.

Pay More, Get More

Just like shares in an oil company will probably be worth more than shares in a toy company, a similar principle applies with TLDs like .INC. You're buying more than a new domain extension. You're buying extra recognition and brand equity, and ultimately more high-value customers, which means more overall business. It's not a purchase, it's an investment. It's about both instant gain and long term value.

This TLD that can either reflect your status or help propel you towards the big leagues. That's the key difference. It's not about what .INC is. It's about what it represents and offers.

So, next time you feel like gasping "How much!?!" when you see the price of a TLD, ask yourself what it represents in terms of strategic and business value. If you have the right sort of business, would you really sacrifice massive brand equity and potential future business just to save in the short term? Take a look at .INC for yourselves and find out.







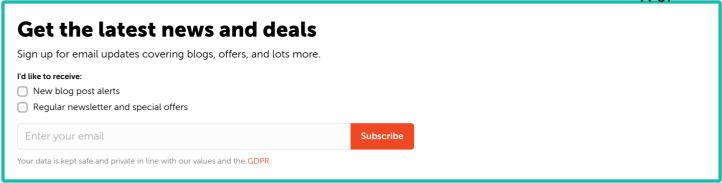






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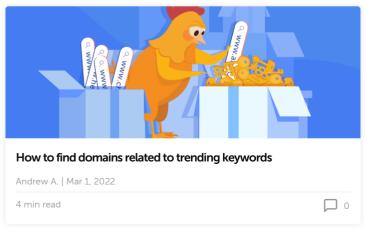


Richard Adams

Richard has over 10 years' experience working at major organizations and agencies, writing for brands such as BT Global Services, Oracle, Google, and eBay. This experience includes campaigns and projects across digital, social media, video, print, and branding... In short, he's ok with words.

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Domains

Renew Your Domains in Advance to Save Money

Andrew Allemann | July 20, 2017

 \square 2

3 min read

Most people renew domain names annually, signing up for another year right before it's about to expire.

And that seems like a good strategy to keep money in our pocket as long as we can.

However, there are good reasons to take a long-term approach with domain names. Domains can typically be registered for up to ten years in advance. Let's look at how renewing them for a longer period than a year might save you money and prevent a big headache down the road.

Save Money

As a domain name registrar, Namecheap is a retailer. When you register a domain, Namecheap has to pay a wholesaler known as a registry for each top level domain or TLD (check out this article for more details on how this works).

Registries set a price on each TLD they offer, and the prices may change over time. They usually adjust prices upward, forcing domain registrars to increase their own prices for their customers.

But if you register for another six years right now, you only pay the current price per year, not the higher price you'll be paying in later years. That's can result in huge savings, especially if you have multiple domains.

And while 10%-per-year increases are steep, some domains can increase in price even more dramatically. Country-code domain names (those with two characters like .CA and .DE) have very few restrictions on future prices. Furthermore, new top level domain names that registries introduced over the past few years may have no price increase limits. With these domains, there's no way to predict what they may cost in the future.

Yet all of these domains can be renewed up to ten years in advance—at today's prices.

Don't Lose Your Domain

The other big reason to renew your domains many years in advance is to avoid an accidental lapse in your registration.

Every day thousands of domain registrations are deleted because people forgot to renew them or the credit card they had on file with their reg was no longer active. These domains are usually snapped up by people who will charge a lot of money if you want to buy the domain back from the credit card.

Give yourself peace of mind by renewing your domains far in advance so you don't accidentally lose them.

Take a Look at Your Domains

You might not want to renew a domain name for ten years if you're not sure you'll be using it for long. But most people who have active websites plan to keep running them for a long time. I personally renew domains for my family names and my websites for 8-10 years in advance. Take a look at your domains and figure out which ones you'll definitely continue renewing.

Renew them today with Namecheap to save money and avoid risk losing the domains in the future.

Andrew Allemann is editor of Domain Name Wire, the longest-running blog covering the business of domain names. Domain Name Wire has covered the business of domain name investing for over ten years.













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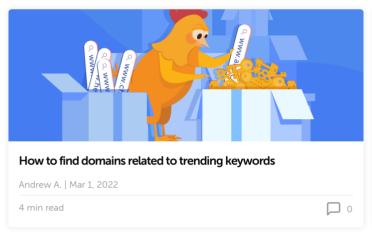


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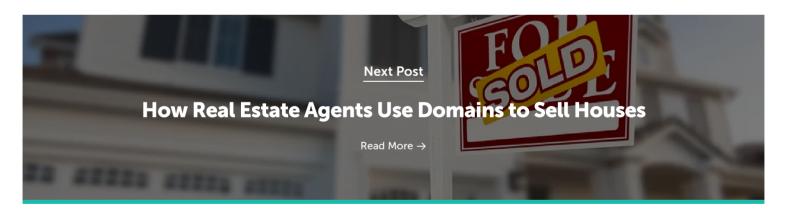
Andrew is the founder and editor of Domain Name Wire, a publication that has been covering domain names since 2005. He has personally written over 10,000 posts covering domain name sales, policy, and strategies for domain name owners. Andrew has been quoted in stories about domain names in The Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, New York Times and Fortune.

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Ex. R-59









Domains

Price Increase on Certain Domains

Namecheap Staff | January 7, 2019

5

2 min read

As a domain registrar, we work with many partners to bring you the widest selection of Top Level Domains (TLDs) possible at the lowest prices. Occasionally, this can mean that if their prices increase, we have to adjust our prices too.

What is Changing?

One of our larger partner registrars has increased the price of some of the TLDs they supply to us. This means we will be increasing the price of several of our TLDs from January 10, 2019. In most cases, this extra cost will only be for renewals and reactivations, but the registrations of some TLDs will increase as well.

Of the TLDs increasing in price, the most well-known are: .fr, .pe, .paris, and .shop.

Full List of Price Updates

January 2019 Prices			
TLD	Registrations	Renewals/Reactivations	
fr	\$9.98	\$10.98	
bio	\$74.88	\$74.88	
ski	\$45.88	\$45.88	
how	\$28.98	\$28.98	
soy	\$25.98	\$26.98	
hamburg	\$52.88	\$52.88	
voting	\$64.88	\$64.88	Privacy - Terms

Price Increase on Certain Domains - Namecheap Blog

14/22, 10:02 AM	Price Increase on Certain L	Jomains - Namecheap Blog	R-59
berlin	\$49.98	\$52.88	
kiwi	\$32.88	\$34.88	
nu	\$30.88	\$32.98	
cn	_	\$32.88	
com.cn	_	\$32.88	
org.cn	-	\$32.88	
net.cn	_	\$32.88	
ре	\$58.98	\$59.98	
com.pe	\$58.98	\$59.98	
org.pe	\$58.98	\$59.98	
net.pe	\$58.98	\$59.98	
ltda	\$44.98	\$44.98	
paris	\$62.88	\$63.88	
desi	\$18.88	\$18.88	
christmas	_	\$52.88	
luxury	-	\$500.88	
nagoya	\$11.88	\$13.88	
okinawa	\$11.88	\$14.98	
pics	\$23.88	\$26.88	
red	\$13.88	\$17.88	
sexy	\$29.88	\$43.88	
shiksha	\$13.88	\$17.88	
shop	\$30.88	\$36.88	
study	\$25.88	\$29.88	
tattoo	_	\$52.88	
uno	\$12.88	\$16.88	
cm	\$120.88	\$122.88	

New prices shown in **bold**.

What is staying the same?

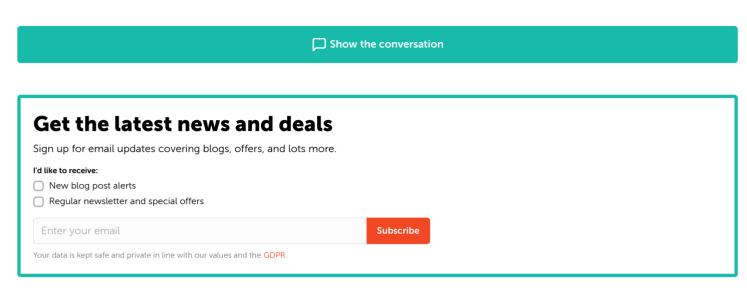
The vast majority of our TLDs are staying at exactly the same price for both purchases and renewals. All TLDs will still benefit from our top-notch 24-hour customer support, free domain privacy subscription forever, and our easy-to-use products.







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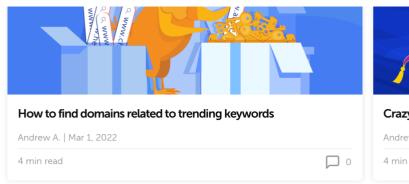




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