

EPP Status Codes: What do they mean, and why should I know?

Extensible Provisioning Protocol (EPP) domain status codes, also called domain name status codes, indicate the status of a domain name registration. Every domain has at least one status code, but they can also have more than one.

Is your domain name registration about to be dropped? Is it safely locked to prevent unauthorized transfers, updates or deletions? Does it have any restrictions or pending actions that you need to address? Finding and understanding your domain's EPP status codes will answer all of these questions and more.

It is important for registrants (that means you!) to understand EPP status codes because they can explain why your domain may have stopped working, if it is protected from domain name hijacking, and when and if your domain name registration will expire and become available to the public for registration.

You can find out your domain's status codes by running a Whois lookup, which you can do by visiting <http://www.internic.net/whois.html> or your registrar's website. Your domain's EPP status codes will be included in the search results.

There are two different types of EPP status codes: **client** and **server** codes. Client status codes are set by registrars. Some registrars automatically enact certain status codes when you register a domain name, while others do so when you request it. Server status codes are set by registries, and they take precedence over client codes. Both kinds of status codes appear when you run a Whois lookup for your domain.

The following are two tables containing the 17 official EPP domain status codes. The first table lists the server status codes; the second table lists the client status codes. These tables will explain what each status means, why you should care what it means, and what kind of action you might want to take to respond to a status.

Server Status Codes are Set by Your Domain's Registry

Status Code	What does it mean?	Should you do something?
OK	This is the standard status for a domain, meaning it has no holds or restrictions.	Asking your registrar to enact status restrictions, like <code>clientTransferProhibited</code> , <code>clientDeleteProhibited</code> , and <code>clientUpdateProhibited</code> , can help to prevent unauthorized transfers, deletions, or updates to your domain.
<code>serverTransferProhibited</code>	This status code prevents your domain from being transferred from your current registrar to another. It is an uncommon status that is usually enacted during legal or other disputes, at your request, or when a <code>redemptionPeriod</code> status is in place.	This status may indicate an issue with your domain that needs to be addressed promptly. You should contact your registrar to request more information and resolve the issue. If your domain does not have any issues, and you simply want to transfer it to another registrar, you must first contact your registrar and request that they work with the Registry Operator to remove this status code. Alternatively, some Registry Operators offer a Registry Lock Service that allows registrants, through their registrars, to set this status as an extra protection against unauthorized transfers. Removing this status can take longer than it does for <code>clientTransferProhibited</code> because your registrar has to forward your request to your domain's registry and wait for them to lift the restriction.
<code>serverRenewProhibited</code>	This status code indicates your domain's Registry Operator will not allow your registrar to renew your domain. It is an uncommon status that is usually enacted during legal disputes or when your domain is subject to deletion.	Often, this status indicates an issue with your domain that needs to be addressed promptly. You should contact your registrar to request more information and resolve the issue. If your domain does not have any issues, and you simply want to renew it, you must first contact your registrar and request that they work with the Registry Operator to remove this status code. This process can take longer than

		it does for clientRenewProhibited because your registrar has to forward your request to your domain's registry and wait for them to lift the restriction.
pendingTransfer	This status code indicates that a request to transfer your domain to a new registrar has been received and is being processed.	If you did not request to transfer your domain, you should contact your registrar immediately to request that they deny the transfer request on your behalf.
pendingUpdate	This status code indicates that a request to update your domain has been received and is being processed.	If you did not request to update your domain, you should contact your registrar immediately to resolve the issue.
pendingRenew	This status code indicates that a request to renew your domain has been received and is being processed.	If you did not request to renew your domain and do not want to keep it (i.e., pay the renewal fee) anymore, you should contact your registrar immediately to discuss what options are available.
pendingCreate	This status code indicates that a request to create your domain has been received and is being processed.	If you are NOT the listed Registrant, you should contact your registrar immediately to resolve the issue. If your domain has remained in this status for several days, you may want to contact your registrar to request information about the delay in processing.
inactive	This status code indicates that delegation information (DNS or name servers) has not been associated with your domain. Your domain is not included in the zone file and will not resolve.	This status may indicate an issue with your domain that needs resolution. If so, you should contact your registrar to request more information. If your domain does not have any issues, but you need it to resolve, you must first contact your registrar and request that they work with the Registry Operator to include the missing information and remove this status code.
serverHold	This status code is set by your domain's Registry Operator. Your domain is not included in the zone	Often, this status indicates an issue with your domain that needs resolution. If so, you should contact your registrar to request more

	<p>file and will not resolve. It is an uncommon status that is usually enacted during legal disputes or when your domain is subject to deletion.</p>	<p>information. If your domain does not have any issues, but you need it to resolve, you must first contact your registrar and request that they work with the Registry Operator to remove this status code. This process can take longer than it does for clientHold because your registrar has to forward your request to your domain's registry and wait for them to lift the restriction.</p>
<p>serverDeleteProhibited</p>	<p>This status code prevents your domain from being deleted. It is an uncommon status that is usually enacted during legal disputes, at your request, or when a redemptionPeriod status is in place.</p>	<p>This status may indicate an issue with your domain that needs resolution. If so, you should contact your registrar to request more information and to resolve the issue. If your domain does not have any issues, and you simply want to delete it, you must first contact your registrar and request that they work with the Registry Operator to remove this status code. Alternatively, some Registry Operators offer a Registry Lock Service that allows registrants, thought their registrars to set this status as an extra protection against unauthorized deletions. Removing this status can take longer than it does for clientDeleteProhibited because your registrar has to forward your request to your domain's registry and wait for them to lift the restriction.</p>
<p>serverUpdateProhibited</p>	<p>This status code locks your domain preventing it from being updated. It is an uncommon status that is usually enacted during legal disputes, at your request, or when a redemptionPeriod status is in place.</p>	<p>This status may indicate an issue with your domain that needs resolution. If so, you should contact your registrar for more information or to resolve the issue. If your domain does not have any issues, and you simply want to update it, you must first contact your registrar and request that they work with the Registry Operator to remove this status code. Alternatively, some Registry Operators offer a Registry Lock Service that allows registrants,</p>

		thought their registrars to set this status as an extra protection against unauthorized updates. Removing this status can take longer than it does for clientUpdateProhibited because your registrar has to forward your request to your domain's registry and wait for them to lift the restriction.
addPeriod	This grace period is provided after the initial registration of a domain name. If the registrar deletes the domain name during this period, the registry provides a credit to the registrar for the cost of the registration.	This is an informative status set for the first 5 days or your domain's registration. There is no issue with your domain name.
autoRenewPeriod	This grace period is provided after a domain name registration period expires and is extended (renewed) automatically by the registry. If the registrar deletes the domain name during this period, the registry provides a credit to the registrar for the cost of the renewal.	This is an informative status set for the first 5 days or your domain's auto-renewal by the registry. If you did not request to renew your domain and do not want to keep it (i.e., pay the renewal fee) anymore, you should contact your registrar immediately to discuss what options are available.
renewPeriod	This grace period is provided after a domain name registration period is explicitly extended (renewed) by the registrar. If the registrar deletes the domain name during this period, the registry provides a credit to the registrar for the cost of the renewal.	This is an informative status set for the first 5 days or your domain's renewal by your registrar. If you did not request to renew your domain and do not want to keep it (i.e., pay the renewal fee) anymore, you should contact your registrar immediately to discuss what options are available.
transferPeriod	This grace period is provided after the successful transfer of a	This is an informative status set for the first 5 days or your domain's transfer to a new registrar. If you did not

	<p>domain name from one registrar to another. If the new registrar deletes the domain name during this period, the registry provides a credit to the registrar for the cost of the transfer.</p>	<p>request to transfer your domain, you should contact your original registrar.</p>
redemptionPeriod	<p>This status code indicates that your registrar has asked the registry to delete your domain. Your domain will be held in this status for a maximum of 30 days. After then, it will be updated with the pendingDelete status for five calendar days after which time, your domain is purged from the registry database and becomes available for anyone to register on a first come, first served basis.</p>	<p>If you want to keep your domain, you must immediately contact your registrar to resolve whatever issues resulted in your registrar requesting that your domain be deleted, which resulted in the redemptionPeriod status for your domain. Once any outstanding issues are resolved and for the appropriate fee has been paid, your registrar should restore the domain on your behalf.</p>
pendingRestore	<p>This status code indicates that your registrar has asked the registry to restore your domain that was in redemptionPeriod status. Your registry will hold the domain in this status while waiting for your registrar to provide required restoration documentation. If your registrar fails to provide documentation to the Registry Operator within seven calendar days to confirm the restoration request, the domain will revert to</p>	<p>Watch your domain's status codes within this seven-day period to ensure that your registrar has submitted the correct restoration documentation within the seven-day time window. If seven days pass and your domain has reverted back to a redemptionPeriod status, contact your registrar to resolve whatever issues that may have halted the delivery of your domain's required restoration documentation.</p>

	redemptionPeriod status.	
pendingDelete	<p>This status code is automatically set after your domain has been in redemptionPeriod status AND if you have not restored it within that maximum 30-day period. Your domain will remain in the pendingDelete status for five calendar days, after which time your domain will be purged and dropped from the registry database. Once deletion occurs, the domain is available for anyone to register on a first come, first served basis.</p>	<p>If you want to keep your domain name, you must immediately contact your registrar to discuss what options are available.</p>

Client Status Codes are Set by Your Domain's Registrar

Status Code	What does it mean?	Should you do something?
clientTransferProhibited	This status code tells your domain's registry to reject requests to transfer the domain from your current registrar to another.	This status indicates that it is not possible to transfer the domain name registration, which will help prevent unauthorized transfers resulting from hijacking and/or fraud. If you do want to transfer your domain, you must first contact your registrar and request that they remove this status code.
clientRenewProhibited	This status code tells your domain's registry to reject requests to renew your domain. It is an uncommon status that is usually enacted during legal disputes or when your domain is subject to deletion.	Often, this status indicates an issue with your domain that needs resolution. If so, you should contact your registrar to resolve the issue. If your domain does not have any issues, and you simply want to renew it, you must first contact your registrar and request that they remove this status code.
clientHold	This status code tells your domain's registry to not include your domain in the zone file and as a consequence, it will not resolve. It is an uncommon status that is usually enacted during legal disputes, non-payment, or when your domain is subject to deletion.	Often, this status indicates an issue with your domain that needs resolution. If so, you should contact your registrar to resolve the issue. If your domain does not have any issues, but you need it to resolve, you must first contact your registrar and request that they remove this status code.
clientDeleteProhibited	This status code tells your domain's registry to reject requests to delete the domain.	This status indicates that it is not possible to delete the domain name registration, which can prevent unauthorized deletions

		resulting from hijacking and/or fraud. If you do want to delete your domain, you must first contact your registrar and request that they remove this status code.
clientUpdateProhibited	This status code tells your domain's registry to reject requests to update the domain.	This domain name status indicates that it is not possible to update the domain, which can help prevent unauthorized updates resulting from fraud. If you do want to update your domain, you must first contact your registrar and request that they remove this status code.