**The importance of domain name renewal**

Do you have a domain name or are thinking of getting one? Then an important aspect you should consider is that of renewal.

All domain names are registered for a term and at the end of that term if they are not renewed they will expire. If you have a website and/or email that use a domain name then the last thing you want to happen is for your domain name to expire unexpectedly.

**Top reasons to keep your domain name renewed:**

* Your website stays up and running
* Your email keeps functioning
* Your name/brand/trademark stay protected.
* Access to the shorter version of your domain name. From 30 September 2014 many existing .nz domain name holders may be able to register the shorter version of their domain name e.g. mybusinesshere.nz, however this can only be accessed if your currently longer name is active at the time you wish to register or reserve the shorter version. To find out more visit the [Anyname](http://www.anyname.nz) website

**Key things to do to be prepared**

* Note the expiry date of the domain name. If you use an electronic calendar pop an appointment in there a month out from the renewal date as a reminder.
* Ensure your details in the Whois are correct. The named individual in the Whois is the person that has the rights to the domain name while it is active.
* Ensure the email address in the Whois Registrant Contact details is correct. The key thing here is to ensure that the email address you are using in the Whois is current and actually used by somebody. A good idea is to setup an alias (e.g. [domainregistration@mybusinesshere.nz](mailto:domainregistration@mybusinesshere.nz)) and then redirect that to an active email account.

Note sure what your details are? Then do a search on the Domain Name Commission [website](http://www.dnc.org.nz) to check out what your details are. If they are not quite right, contact your registrar or organisation you used to register the name to get the details changed.

**Questions and Answers about .nz Domain Names**

What terms can .nz domain names be registered for?

* from a one month term through to ten years.

Where can I register a domain name

* through one these organisations

My name has expired and moved into Pending Release. What does this mean?

* Your domain name has entered a 90 day period where it is cancelled but not yet released back to the public for registration. If you wish to renew the name you can still do so during this 90 day period.