

FAQs

Network Solutions® Web Forwarding with Optional Free Masking

What is Web Forwarding?

Web Forwarding is an application that forwards Web site traffic with specific domain names to another page on the Web. Web Forwarding may be used to forward domain names to a page on the same Web site, or to a page on another Web site.

How does Web Forwarding work?

The underlying computer language used by the World Wide Web is HyperText Transfer Protocol, or HTTP. HTTP defines how Web documents are formatted and transmitted, and provides direction on other actions Web sites should take. When Web Forwarding is activated for a specific domain name, an HTTP command called “meta refresh tags” are activated in the Web site’s domain name server. Meta refresh tags are programmed to redirect Web site traffic with specific domain names to another page on the Web. Meta refresh tags are often used by Web sites that have changed their Web address, and want their visitors to access their new Web site by going through the old one.

How many domain names can I forward to my Web site?

You can forward as many domain names as you like as long as the domains are hosted by Network Solutions (Wholesale division only).

When I activate Web Forwarding, will users be able to see the destination Web address?

Yes. When you activate Web Forwarding, the destination Web address (also referred to as the “destination URL”) will be visible in the visitor’s browser address bar. For those of you who have purchased a domain name for the purpose of changing the Web address of your existing Web site, you may wish to conceal the destination URL. If this applies to you, you will need to activate the optional masking feature.

What is Masking?

Masking is an optional feature of Web Forwarding and refers to whether the destination URL is concealed in the visitor’s Web browser. For example, when masking is activated, the original Web address entered into the Web browser will remain visible, even if you redirect the visitor to another page on the Web. This application ensures that visitors only see the Web address they entered in their browser, and not the destination URL.

If your customer’s Web site is hosted at <http://www.networksolutions.com/12345/YourSite/index.html>, your customer can choose to forward <http://www.newdomain.com> to this Web site. If you activate the masking feature, your customer’s visitors will never see <http://www.networksolutions.com/12345/YourSite/index.html> as a URL in their browser address bar. They will continue to see <http://www.newdomain.com> throughout their navigation.

How does Masking work?

Masking is a Web site application that responds to a browser’s request to view a Web page by transmitting a special “frames” page. A frames page is a Web document format that shows content from different Web pages in one browser display area. This is achieved by dividing the browser display area into two or more sections (each section referred to as a “frame”). In the case of Masking, the destination URL is masked by one frame, while another frame allows the contents of the destination Web page to be displayed. This technique ensures that the original Web address entered by the visitor does not change throughout their navigation.

When I register a new domain, can I also add Web Forwarding with Masking?

Yes. You will be able add Web Forwarding with Masking when you register new domain names.

1. Log into “Register Domains” and follow the instructions to select the domains you wish to register.
2. Upon confirmation of your domain selections, you will begin the registration process for each domain. The registration process includes the option to choose Web Forwarding and other domain-related features.
3. If you intend to add Web Forwarding to any one of your new domain names, you will need to select “Advance DNS” as the registration type of those domains. This means the new domains will be hosted on Network Solutions name servers free of charge.
4. When Web Forwarding is added to a domain name, a “Set Up Web Forwarding” hyperlink will appear in the registration details displayed below that domain.
5. The “Set Up Web Forwarding” hyperlink will take you to a new page that provides fields for the destination Web address and an on/off button for the masking feature.
6. If you are unable to provide a destination Web address at the time of registration, Network Solutions will automatically display a standard “Under Construction” page until it has been established.

Is it possible to add Web Forwarding with Masking to existing domain accounts?

Yes. There is an “Add Web Forwarding” menu tab and hyperlink on the “Manage Domains” main page. Both the menu tab and hyperlink will take you to a new page that enables you to quickly find the domains in which you would like to add the service. For example, search results on this page will only display domains that currently do not have the service.

Also, before you add Web Forwarding with Masking to existing domain names, please make sure the domains are registered as an “Advance DNS” account. If you need to convert the registration type of existing domains, click on the “View/Update Domains” link on the “Manage Domains” main page, and follow the instructions to select the domains you wish modify.

NOTE: If you add Web Forwarding with Masking to an existing domain name account, please note that the expiration dates for the domain name and the new Web Forwarding with Masking service may be different. If you would like the expiration dates to be the same, consider adding Web Forwarding with Masking when you renew the domain name account.

Can I change the status of the Web Forwarding with Masking service at any time?

Yes. You can change the status of Web Forwarding with Masking at any time. There are hyperlinks on the “Manage Domains” main page that give you the option to renew or cancel the service. If you need to modify details of the Web Forwarding with Masking service, click on the “View/Update Domains” hyperlink and continue as follows:

1. On the “View/Update Domains” main page, use the “Advanced Search” link and follow the instructions to select the domains you wish to modify.
2. Click on the “Edit Selected Items” drop-down menu at the bottom of the “Advanced Search” results page.
3. Select the “Edit Web Forwarding” link. You will be taken to a page that will give you the option to change the destination URL or turn on/off the masking feature for each domain selected.

How much does the Web Forwarding/Masking service cost?

There is a nominal \$3.00 annual charge per domain for our Web Forwarding with Masking service. If you intend to add this service to 100 or more domain name accounts, please contact premiersupport@networksolutions.com and ask about our volume discounts.

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