



## Rules and Guidelines

These Rules and Guidelines are incorporated by reference into the DotDM Corporation's ("DOT DM") Registration Agreement.

### How many and what types of character can a domain name contain?

.DM Domain names can contain a minimum of **1** to a maximum of **63** characters. However, only letters and hyphens ("-") can be registered and the name cannot begin or end with a hyphen. Names are not case sensitive nor should they include spaces.

### Who may register and what types of .dm domain names are there available for registration?

Requests for registration of **.dm and .co.dm** Domain Names are open to all entities and individuals within or outside of the Commonwealth of Dominica with no domicile nor documentation requirements.

**Registrations of a .dm domain name also include the .com.dm/.net.dm/.org.dm third level domains.** The .DM Database is configured to only display in the zone the second level name registered. Contact details and server information used for the second level will also be used for the third level names.

The **.edu.dm** suffix is restricted for Educational or Training Institutions registered, accredited and operating in the Commonwealth of Dominica.

The **.gov.dm** suffix is restricted for the use of the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica.

**Premium Domain Names** - .DM Domain Names which contain 1, 2 and 3 **alpha** characters are viewed as holding an attraction and higher value over other **.dm** names. They are considered Premium Domain Names and are subject to a request for Registration and Special Processing by contacting [premium@dotdm.dm](mailto:premium@dotdm.dm). . DM Registry does not publish a list of these names.

**Reserved and Restricted Domain Names** - In consideration of the need to preserve the .DM Registry's stability and security and further, in consideration of the need to protect certain Government or State's operations, particular domain names have been Reserved or are Restricted from registration. DM Registry does not publish a list of these names.

Requests for Registration of Domain Names containing the name "**Dominica**" require special processing in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, Immigration and National Security.

**Domain names considered offensive or in contravention of the Culture and/or Laws of the Commonwealth of Dominica may not be accepted for registration.**

### **Where can I register .dm domains?**

.DM domain names are available only through a select list of Registrars and their Resellers that are committed to supporting the goals and mission of the DotDM Corporation's Registry. If you do not have a Domain Name Provider, you may contact a .DM Accredited Registrar listed at: [www.nic.dm/registrars.php](http://www.nic.dm/registrars.php)

### **What is the period of registration for a .dm domain name?**

When initially registering a **.dm** domain, you may select a term of registration from 1-10 years. Once the name is registered, you may renew the domain for up to 10 years from the current expiration date.

### **How much does a .dm registration cost?**

The retail price of a **.dm** domain name registration is determined by each Registrar and their Resellers. Please consult your domain name provider for specific pricing details.

## **How can I find out if a domain name is available or is already registered?**

Through your Registrar, a search is made automatically to determine whether a domain name is available. If the name is available, you will be offered the option to submit a request to register the domain. Alternatively, you may check on availability or of a particular name or inquire on the Whois details of a specific name through the DM Registry's Network Information Center (NIC) at: <http://www.nic.dm/whois.php>

## **What should I do if my desired domain has already been registered?**

We suggest that you search for another name. You could do this by simply using an abbreviation or by using a (-) hyphen.

## **Is a domain name registered in real time?**

All domain name applications for registration are reviewed during pre-determined intervals and are immediately submitted to the zone, once approved. The maximum period to receive a response is typically no more than 48 hours. DM Registry does not offer full administrative service over a weekend.

## **Are there any legal issues that I should consider when registering?**

So as not to infringe on any trademark or intellectual property rights, caution should be taken when registering domain names. Always review the Registration Agreement and Acceptable Use Policies at <http://nic.dm/policies.php> prior to registering a domain to ensure compliance with current DotDM Policies.

## **What are my privacy rights?**

We invite you to review the DotDM Privacy Policy at: <http://www.nic.dm/policies/pdf/DMPPrivacy2014.pdf>. DotDM shall not release a Registrant's phone numbers, addresses or email contact details without the consent of the Registrant, unless under the circumstances detailed in "Use and Disclosure" section of the Privacy Policy.

## **How do I transfer my domain name to another Registrar?**

In order to transfer your domain name to the management of another Registrar please contact your Registrar to begin the process and to ensure compliance with all Transfer Policies.

A password or authentication code is required for security reasons.

.DM Registry does not permit Transfers within the first 60 days of registration of a domain name; the domain name is locked for that period. Domain names which are successfully transferred will be automatically renewed for one additional year.

## **How do I transfer the domain name to another entity/user?**

You may transfer your domain name to another Management Account.

Simply:

- Download the form at: <http://nic.dm/policies/pdf/DMRegChangeForm2014.pdf>
- Complete the form and attach the required documentation.
- Email to: [support@dotdm.dm](mailto:support@dotdm.dm)

## **When does my domain expire?**

To check when a domain expires (falls due for renewal) you should undertake a 'Whois' check to view the 'expiry' date at: <http://www.nic.dm/whois.php>

## **What happens when my domain is due for renewal?**

The .DM registry system follows the principle of an “AUTO-RENEW” Registry.

**This requires that a .DM International Registrar who desires to delete a domain name on behalf of a client must submit a “DELETE” request prior to the expiration date of the domain name.**

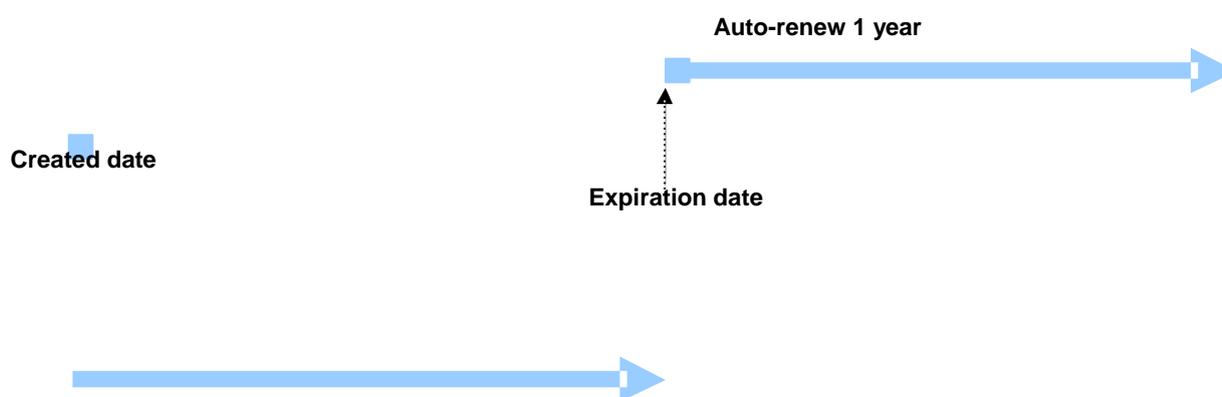
For Domains managed by .DM Registrar Services, Renewal Notifications are sent to the email address on record at regular intervals commencing 60 days prior to the due date of renewal of the Domain Name. Registrants are urged to comply with the .DM Registration Policy and maintain current Registrant details, including email address in order to receive renewal notifications. Once payment is received and acknowledged the Domain Registration Term is extended accordingly.

**Failure to respond to renewal notifications for renewal of a domain name managed by .DM Registrar Services will cause the domain to be deleted.**

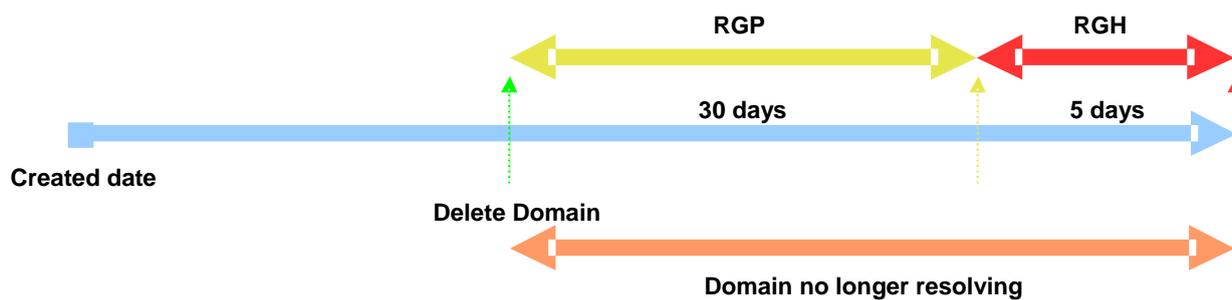
A Restore Fee will apply to a domain deleted and subsequently restored within the Redemption Grace Period (RGP), refer to chart below, in addition to the standard Renewal Fee.

# Domain Lifecycle

## Interaction “auto-renew”



## Interaction “delete” domain



RGP      Redemption Grace Period (Status: Pending Delete)

RGH      Redemption Grace Hold (Status: Pending Hold)