Web architecture

Internet service providers

An ISP (Internet Service Provider) is a company that provides their customers access to the internet. Without having an ISP you will not be able to access the internet, therefore customers are to buy and subscribe to ISPs in order to guarantee internet usage. Once choosing the right Internet service provider, you would have to determine the type of connection to the internet you wish to have, for example some service providers offer up to 16GB worth of speed whilst on the internet, or even 10GB of using the internet monthly. These are factors one has to decide before buying from the correct internet service provider. They usually provide internet access along with a package, for example a username and password to an email account where the customer can manage their internet preferences and even a modem, to set up and get direct internet access from their servers.

Domains

Instead of having internet users’ type in IP addresses to access websites, what are used are domain names to identify websites. Domains are linked to IP addresses. They are easier to remember (unlike IP addresses which can contain long numbers and are easy to mistype), and more convenient. Examples of popular domains are [www.Google.co.uk](http://www.Google.co.uk) or [www.Twitter.com](http://www.Twitter.com). Domains are to be unique in order to link to IP addresses; they cannot be purchased if someone else has the same name. Domain names are to be in between the prefix and the suffix like so: [www.*Facebook*.com](http://www.Facebook.com).

Protocols

A protocol is a way that two systems are able to transmit data to each other. By having protocols, these are a set of rules that computers need to follow in order to be able to communicate with other computers, therefore it needs a protocol. An example of a protocol is HTTP, commonly used whilst surfing the web. If protocols aren’t used, then it won’t be possible to communicate with others on the internet.

Web hosting services

To be able to publish websites online, you would need a web hosting service which would be a service provided over the internet which allows websites to be hosted on the internet. It allows internet access, therefore making websites be accessible to others trying to access the site, for example, a web host allows people using a website to view text and images on the website, so without one, you wouldn’t be able to get any content up from a website without a host.