

LIS-4708

Digital Autonomy

or

Why you should pay for free stuff.

PS: This topic really tests my limits of:

I don't want to force you

but

I really really really want to force you

A few questions to get us started:

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What is the Internet?

Who owns it?

What is the Cloud?

How can you control the Internet?

To help others.
Freedombox

<https://freedombox.org/>

To help yourself:

Beginner:

Get you a professional email account.

Gmail isn't terrible for this...but...

Get yourself a DOMAIN and HOSTING

Get yourself a DOMAIN and HOSTING

Domain: e.g. Joejob.com or Susie.rocks, etc.

Lots of tlds, you have more choice here than ever before. “Random” TLD’s are okay.

Why hosting?

Email.

Still King, and you can gain a great deal of control.

Instead of the 3 or 4 addresses you have now, you can have INFINITY.

(anything@jrm4.com) comes to me.

Why hosting?

Obviously, your own website.

- A permanent place for your IR.
- Storage for your projects
- A centralized place for when/if the internet goes crazy(er)

Can't I use my own server/raspberry pi/ freedombox?

Technically, you could but:

- It's great for learning, but a pain for real life work.
- It (almost certainly and unfairly) violates your TOS for Comcast or Centurylink or EvilCorp
- Most hosting makes some of this easier for you.

Paid Hosting

One way would be to get a “blank” server, like on DigitalOcean. Pros are that you have full control and you learn a lot...

...but naah, even I don't do that.

Paid hosting comes with lots of bells and whistles that are easy to use.

Paid Hosting

So, help me recommend something to yall?
We will look for:

- Price (watch for 2 year price jumps)
- Cpanel or similar support?
- “VPS” services? (you may not need them)
- Email Policies?
- Multiple Domains?

Paid Hosting

You probably don't need:

- Full “VPS”
- Ridiculous Bandwidth
- Lots of space (UNLESS email)
- To pay more than \$7-\$10 a month.
- SSL (is a big maybe. Depends on your needs, see if they allow “Let's Encrypt”)

Paid Hosting

How well do you know Linux?

To build your skills, you might want to consider a simple VPS like DigitalOcean.

Paid Hosting

Finally, you might “know a guy.”
Or company, or something to piggyback on.

Finally.

So, I haven't convinced you. You're just all
"I don't care about learning about web hosting
or servers or anything cool I just gotta get the
assignment in."

meh, fine. :)