

North Country Web Solutions – New Website FAQ

Why do I need a website?

This is probably one of the most common questions I get asked. The answer is fairly simple - so people can find you! Back in the day, it was the yellow pages right? Well those days have gone by, now if someone is looking for a local restaurant, plumber, fitness center or any other type of local business they Google. Without a website, they may not find you. And, it gives your business a professional look, often times it's your customers first impression.

Can I afford a website?

These days, you really can't afford *not* to have a website. And compared to print or media ads, it's actually very affordable. A website *can* cost a ton of money, if you hire a large web design company. That's not me, I have a full time job and just do this, well, mostly because I enjoy it and partly to pay for my hobbies (camping and Jeeping). The first few sites I did were for local non-profits and from there I was hooked! I love the creative aspect of web design and I love to launch new websites for small businesses who never thought it was within their reach to have a website.

There are 2 main costs involved with a website, a onetime design and development cost and then the ongoing cost for your domain registration and hosting your website. For the design and development, I charge between \$500 and \$1,000 depending on how large your site is. For the domain and hosting, you would pay between \$10 and \$15 per month, again, depending on how large your site is.

How is my website actually built?

Most of my original websites were designed using a site building application and html coding. The build was very custom and labor intensive. But recently I had a client who built a website using an online site builder called Wix. This client had done a good job at getting the main content set up, but they wanted someone to spruce up the design a bit. I had heard of Wix but I never really liked it because you had to use their canned templates and many websites ended up looking very "cookie cutter". Well, let me tell you, things have changed a lot in the 10 years since they launched! And now I love the platform! The real beauty of Wix is that I can build and design your site and then teach you how to maintain and do updates if you're interested. Click here to see some of my work: <http://www.nocoweb.com/portfolio.html>

What are the steps to get me up and running?

Here's where I do things a bit differently than most. Most web design companies will charge you for the design and development and then charge you a monthly fee to maintain it on their servers. I like the client to have the control over their account. There are two reasons for this; 1) You own everything and if you no longer want my services for any reason, there are no transfer complications or costs and 2) I don't want to be in the business of monthly billing for domain and hosting, I want to focus on building websites. So I have you set up the Wix account, then you give me the username and password and I build and launch the site. Through the process I work closely with you every step of the way to assure the site meets your expectations before actually launching it.

Basically, you pay me the one time site builder fee (\$500-\$1,000) and you pay Wix for the domain and hosting (\$10-\$15/month). Both of those costs are much higher with a large web design company – the monthly fees alone are usually well over \$100.

I'm ready to get started. What now?

You call or email me, we meet, I'll ask you all kinds of questions about your business and we'll jump right in!