

# *Tech Tips for Seniors*

## **Creating Websites**

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Individuals who have messages they think others might find interesting or helpful now can create websites to deliver their content to anybody who has a computer or mobile phone.

The content could be a collection of photos, your family history, or a collection of articles (that's what this website is doing). Your imagination is the limit of website content you may want to create.

Preparing and distributing a web page involves two things: page design software and a website hosting service.

Free web page design programs and very inexpensive website hosting services have put this powerful Internet technology in the hands of anybody who can type.

All websites must have a unique name, called a domain name. Your choice of a domain name must be approved and then officially registered with the help of a website hosting service. The most common domain names have suffixes such as .com, .org, .edu and .gov. Many other suffixes, such as .site and .biz, are available.

To start the process, page-design software must be downloaded to your computer. That software allows you to place text, photos and other images on a blank screen.

The process is the same as typing text and importing a photo to a word processing document.

When a page is completed, it can be saved and later transmitted to a website hosting service so anyone who has an Internet connection can view it.

A website can contain as few as one or as many as hundreds of web pages.

The first page of a website, often called the home page, must be named and saved as “index.html”. The “html” characters after the dot are an acronym for “hypertext markup language”.

All other pages can carry any name, but they must have the .html suffix.

The final task is transmitting web pages to a website hosting service. The hosting service then posts web pages to the Internet.

Two of the most popular ways of transmitting web pages and other content to a hosting service are with Fetch or FileZilla software. Both are free and must be downloaded to your computer.

The names of web-design software and hosting services can be found with an Internet search.

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If you have questions about any of this, feel free to make a “Technology Tips” appointment on Tuesday mornings at Generations, when the center opens. Just call the main number: 215-723-5841.

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