# WORDPRESS WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT

## DOMAIN, HOSTING & WORDPRESS INSTALL

**Zero** to **Personal Website**

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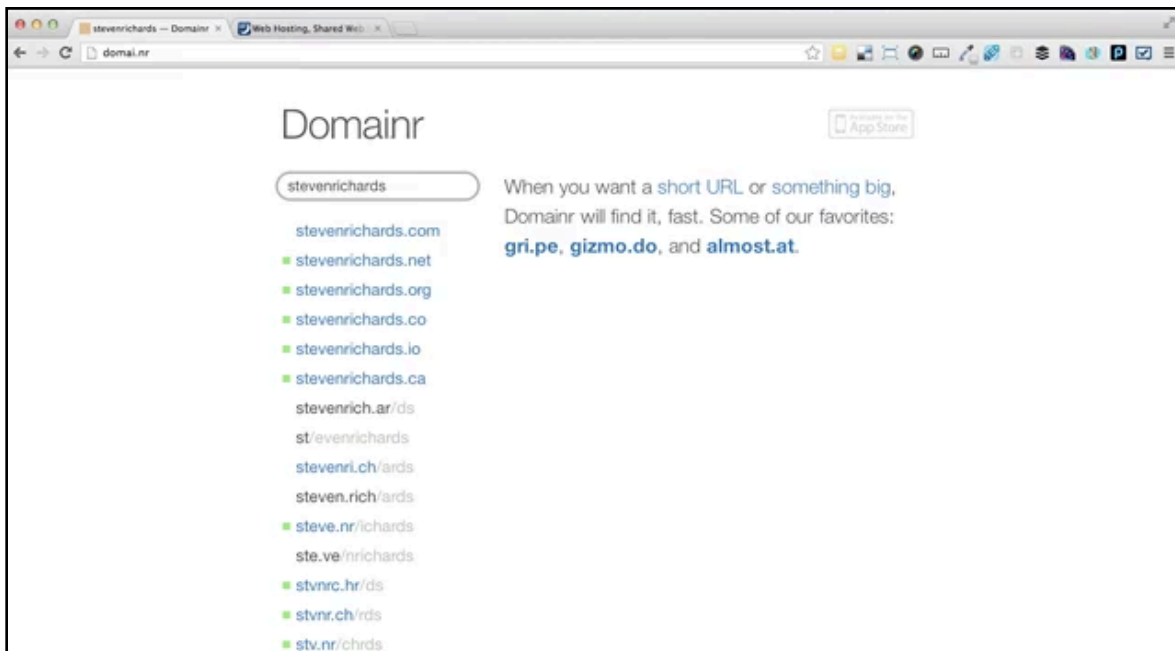
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# Introduction



In this video we're going to review choosing and registering a domain name, setting up a hosting account and installing WordPress.

For the purposes of this video Im going to be using the name Steve Richards

# WordPress Website Development

## FINDING A DOMAIN WITH DOMAI.NR



The place that we want to start at is a Web site called domai.nr. What this is is a URL searcher. We would type in "steverichards" into here and you can see that it will spit out all the results of .com, .net, .org, .co, etc and it will tell us whether or not its available. If it is available it will have a green box beside it. You can see here that the top three choices; .com, .net and .org; are all taken.

We can confirm this by just going to steverichards.com and taking a look. You can see here that steverichards.com is in fact registered because we can see a Drupal

installation on it that hasn't yet been configured. There's no Web site up but the domain itself is actually registered.

This isn't the end of the world, of course. Ideally you're going to try and get your first name and your last name ".com." Thats just the most common URL extension that you can get; .net would be the next best extension for you to get if you can't get the .com. If neither of these are available, like in the case of Steve, there are a few variations that you can use.

Number one would be to use a middle initial. Steve's middle initial, for example, is "T." So we could choose "stevetrichards" and you can see .com is actually available there. Or, in Steve's case, we can actually go "stevenrichards" and you can see that .com isn't available but stevenrichards.net is actually available.

Now its really up to you as to what you want to do. This becomes a part of your personal brand right? You want to choose a domain name that you'll ultimately end up putting on a business card, on a resume and one that you'll be telling people about when you're out networking. So choose whatevers appropriate for you and run with it.
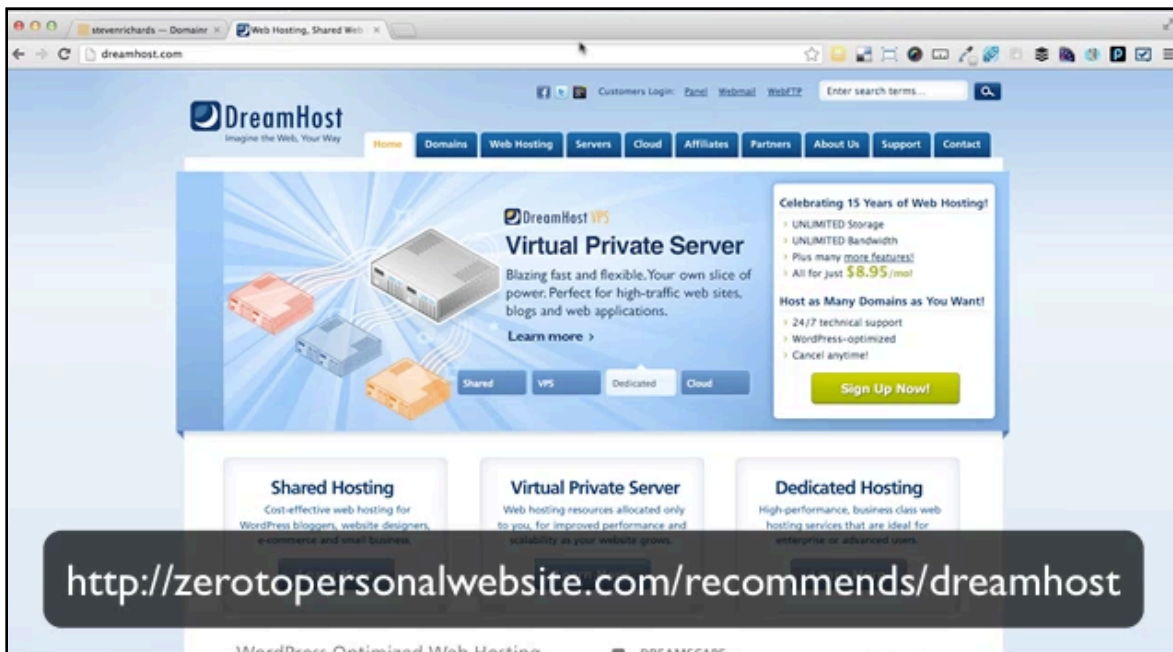
The only reason Im using this domai.nr service is just to search and see if that one is available. We're actually going to register that domain in a different place.

Just to clarify, before we get to that point, a domain is actually the name that you're going to choose for your Web site. You also need a hosting package in order to install a content management system like WordPress. We're going to show you how to install WordPress.

So you do need both of these things; domains typically cost anywhere from $6-15 per year depending on the extension. And a hosting account, on the low end, can cost you about $7 per month up to unlimited really, $50-100 per month. Typically

it's in that $9-10 per month range and you can get discounts for buying full year packages in advance.

# GETTING A HOSTING ACCOUNT



**Use This Link To Get Your DreamHost Hosting Account:**

**>>> http://zerotopersonalwebsite.com/recommends/dreamhost <<<**

Now we're onto the hosting side of things but we haven't registered our domain yet. The reason for that is that when you set up a hosting account with DreamHost, which is the hosting account we actually recommend you use, you're going to get that domain name for FREE for the first year. It will be an annual subscription; you'll have to renew your domain every single year; but it will be FREE for the first year. Your hosting account will actually end up costing you $8.95 per month, you can see here. But again there's all sorts of discounts you can get for extending the term of your hosting account. And I'll show you how that works here when we go through the process.
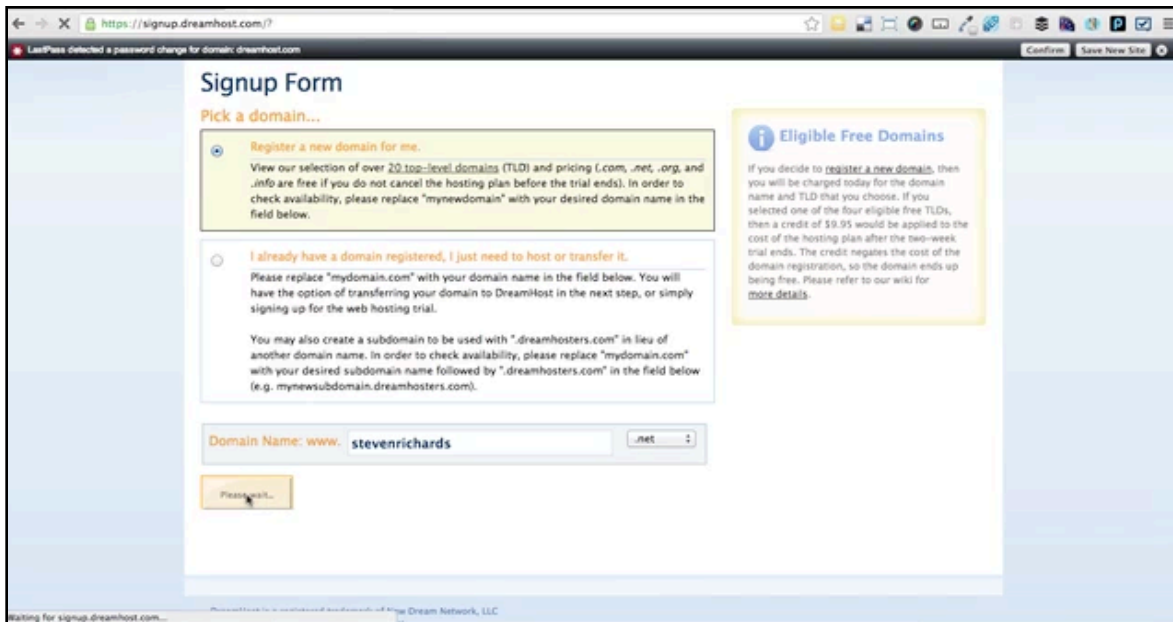
Now onto the hosting then. Once you're on DreamHost, you're going to use a link that we provide you actually that will take you right to this page. You're just going to click on "sign up now."

That's going to take you to a page where they're going to ask you to enter your information. They don't ask for much to get started here. You're just going to grab your email address and you're going to confirm your email and you're going to choose a password and you're going to confirm that password. Make sure that you type in the same one for both and click continue.

Thats going to get you started in setting up your hosting account. You can see here that the first step in this process is letting them know whether or not you want them to register a new domain for me. You can see that they have over 20 top-level domains available, .com, .net, .org, for free if you don't cancel the hosting account before the trial ends. So you actually get a certain amount of time where you decide if you want to cancel your hosting account, but if you do move forward you're going to get your domain name for free.

We're going to choose this register a new domain for me. If you already have your domain registered you're just going to click this button and it will instruct you on how you can actually point that domain at the host so that you can install WordPress and actually get your Web site live.

# HOSTING YOUR DOMAIN



Again we're going to choose register a domain for me. I'm going to type in that domain name, so "stevenrichards" and .com is the one we wanted to choose. Actually .com is not available; we're going to use .net in this case. I've got to choose .net here and then I'm going to choose continue.

The next step in the process is to choose the length of the term you want to sign up for. Now they give you a few different options here. The first one that's pre-selected is the 1 Year prepaid at $119.40. It works out to $9.95 per month. Again this is pretty average as it relates to different hosting providers. You're typically going to find anything from $8-10, 12 for a hosting account. Its very reasonably priced, we've reviewed numerous hosts; DreamHost is one that we actually use for our own Web sites so this is one that I would recommend you use as well.

You can choose a 2 Year prepaid option; again you're going to save a little bit of money there, about $1 per month so not a whole lot. Then the final option is "I don't need full Web hosting. Just register a domain for me." Of course you can do that but again you cannot launch a Web site without a hosting account. I would suggest that you, at a minimum, choose this 1 Year prepaid option and click continue.
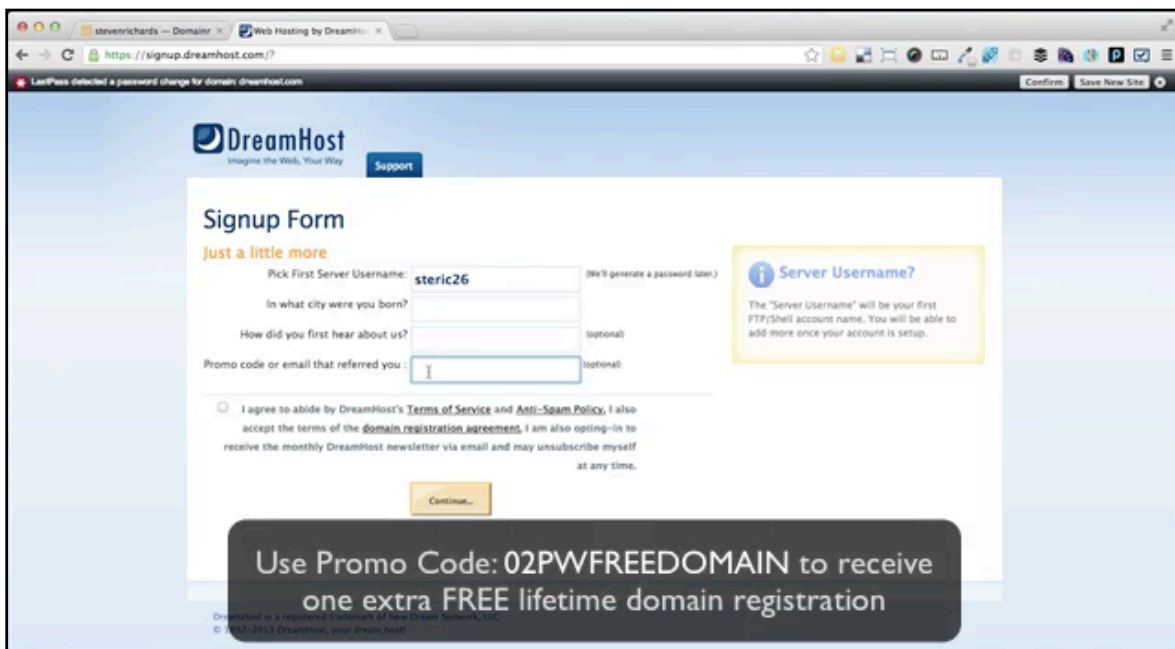
Now you're just going to enter your billing information. We're just going to fill out all of this credit card billing info and move on to the next step.

The next step in the process is to pick a server name. You actually don't even need to do anything on this page. You can put in the city that you were born in if you'd like. How you heard about us; that's definitely an option as well. You can also use a promo code or email that referred you. Or you can just move ahead and check this box off here and click continue.

I would suggest that if you did want to credit us for referring you to DreamHost that you can go ahead and use the referral code that we provide you.

## Use This Promo Code For A FREE Lifetime Domain:
## >>> 02PWFREEDOMAIN <<<



You'll find that code under this video so you can enter it in the promo code box.

You can see that it actually does require the city. I'm just going to take a guess that Steve was born in Philadelphia, I'm not sure if he was or not but its just a security question. We'll continue on here.

Now its asking for my payment info. Im going to go ahead and pause the video while I fill this out and we'll move on to the next step. Once I fill out this info Im going to hit continue and then we'll end up on the next screen and I'll see you there.

Alright. All my credit card info has now been entered and you can see here that we just have one more step in the process and that is to continue again.
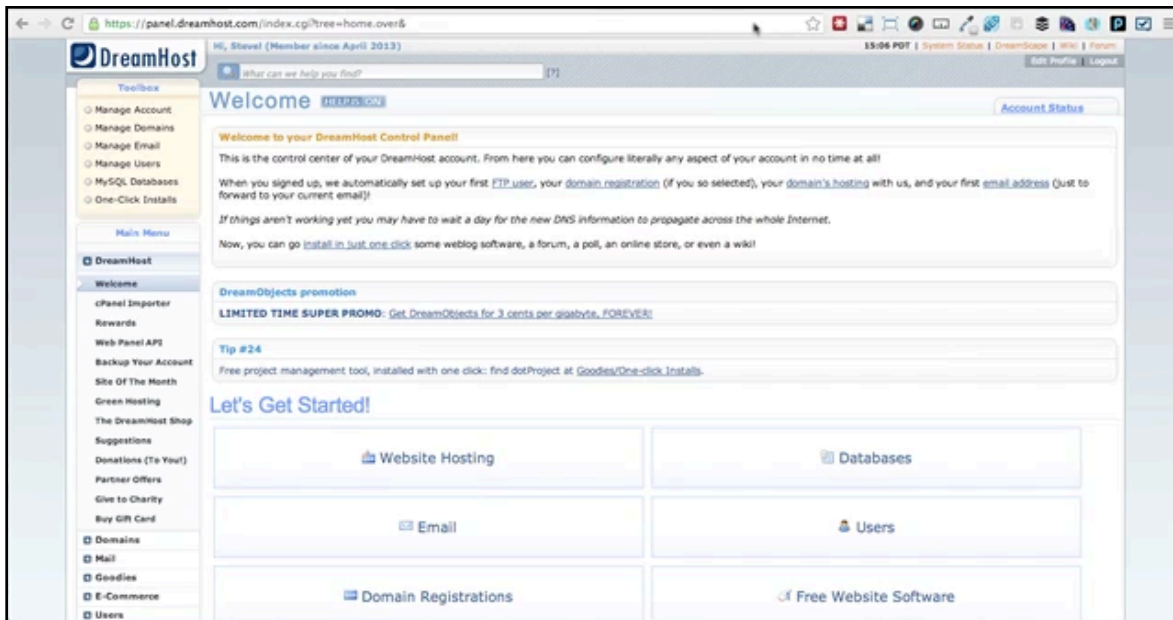
You can see that it redirects me to a page with a couple of upsells. You don't need either of these so you're just going to click continue once more. And continue one more time. Of course you can look further into those options if you'd like but they're not necessary.

Now you're going to continue on to your Web panel. Its going to ask you to log in. You can see this is auto-filling my information from my own personal DreamHost account but I'm going to log into Steve's new account here.

## Finishing Your Hosting Account Setup

You'll see that this account is currently pending. It says please have us call you now for immediate approval. So you're going to want to go ahead and do that and its actually going to call the phone number that you gave when you set up the whole account. So of course you're going to have to wait a little bit until you get that phone call and then we can move on once you've confirmed everything and you have an active account.
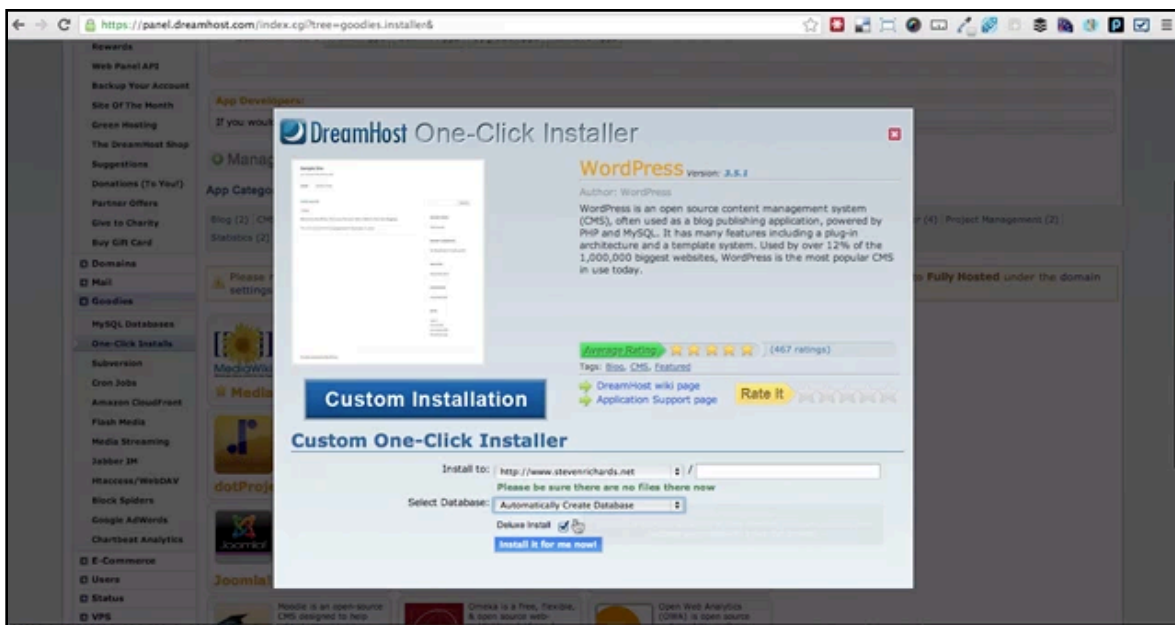
# GETTING FAMILIAR WITH DREAMHOST



Alright. So everything is all confirmed with DreamHost and now we have full access to our new hosting account. Just a couple of things - don't get overwhelmed by everything you're seeing in there. The main areas you're going to want to be concerned with is up here in the top left hand corner under the Toolbox. You can go into Manage Account if you want to see the credit card you have on file as well as your users, mailboxes and everything else. If you need to change the credit card you have on file with the account you can go ahead and modify right from here.

You're also going to check out Manage Domains. You're going to see that this is where the domain that you had set up when you set up this hosting account. You can see that this is actually fully hosted. When I registered this domain with the hosting account it actually applied the hosting to it right away. Now if you have other domains that are registered elsewhere, like say a GoDaddy or wherever else, you can actually add them to your hosting account here by just going add domain and this won't actually register a domain for you its just going to add it to your hosting account. You can do that if you have other domains.

Now if you go to registrations on the side here this is where you can actually register new domains. You're just going to go and type a name; we'll say "steventrichards" for example and check for availability. This is going to tell you whether or not its available, its going to have all of your information in there so you can just go ahead and purchase it right now. DreamHost is a domain registrar as well as a host, so its really everything that you need in order to get started.

## INSTALLING WORDPRESS - PART 1



The last part of this video is going to be installing WordPress. Its a really simple process, I'm going to walk you through it right now. Up in the top left-hand corner is "One-Click Installs." You're just going to click on that.
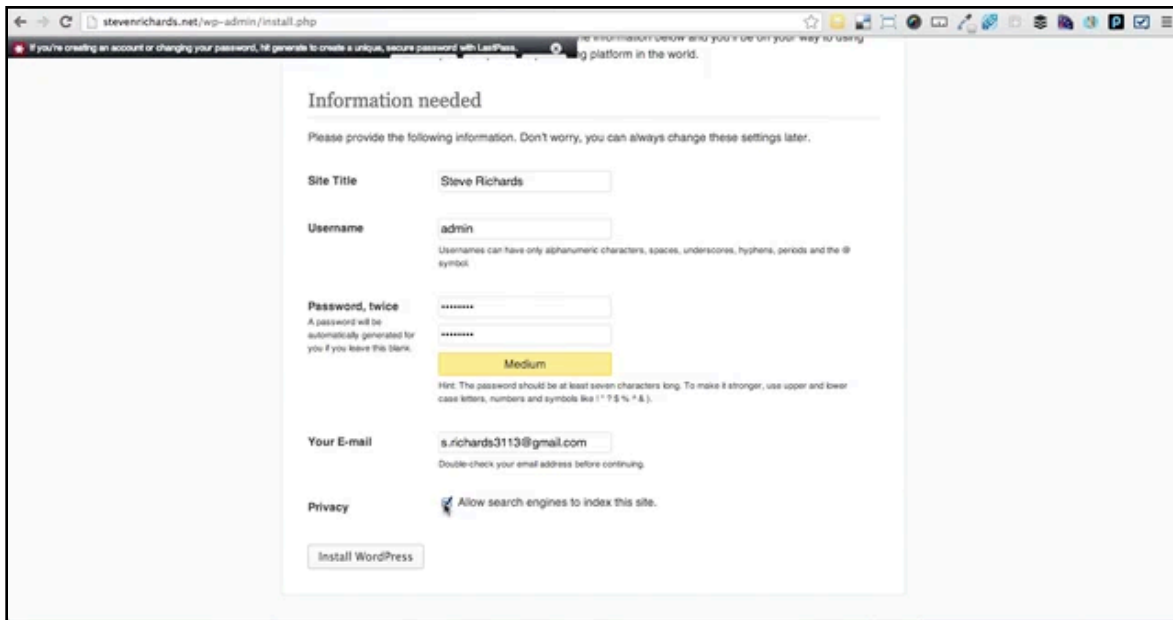
Once your in this page you're going to scroll down until you see WordPress here. You're going to click on WordPress, its going to pop up this little screen. You can go ahead and read this if you want but all we're worried about is custom installation. You're going to select the domain that you want to install WordPress on, which in this case we only have the one. Just go ahead and leave this blank for now.

You're going to leave Select Database as Automatically Create Database. Its gonna create a database for you.

Then Im going to suggest that you uncheck this Deluxe Install box. What this is; you can see if you hover over the question; "Great for beginners. Includes a glorious selection of free themes, standard plugins and security enhancement." Its up to you; if you want to install those in your WordPress Web site you definitely can. I like to keep things as clean as possible and only install what I need. Its going to probably give me a whole bunch of stuff that I don't need and I really don't want any of it installed. I'm just going to uncheck that. Theres a ton of themes and plugins that were going to show you how to install so you don't need to worry about that.

That last step in the process - install it for me now. Once I click that you'll get a success notification here saying that WordPress will be installed to stevenrichards.net within 10 minutes and you can just right click on this now and go "Open in a new tab" just so you can keep your DreamHost panel open; You can see that it says oops doesn't exist yet. Thats just because it hasn't completed installing WordPress. We're going to come back to this in about 10 minutes and I'm going to show you the final steps on actually completing your WordPress install.

# INSTALLING WORDPRESS - PART 2



Alright its been about 10 minutes or so now so I'm just going to right click and open this in a new tab and you can see that its showing that its still not installed. But if I just go to stevenrichards.net you can see that the WordPress installation is ready to go.

You might have to play around with this; its a little bit quirky sometimes. You might click on this and think why is this not working. Just go straight to an open tab and type in your domain name, without any http or www or anything like that, and you should see this screen. This is the last step in setting up WordPress.

So you're just going to choose a site title. All of this you can actually change so don't worry about it too much. The site title is just going to show up at the top of your new Web site when its all launched. The username is defaulted to admin. You can of course change this to anything that you want; it can be your full name all lowercase, whatever you want. Im going to leave it as admin in this case.
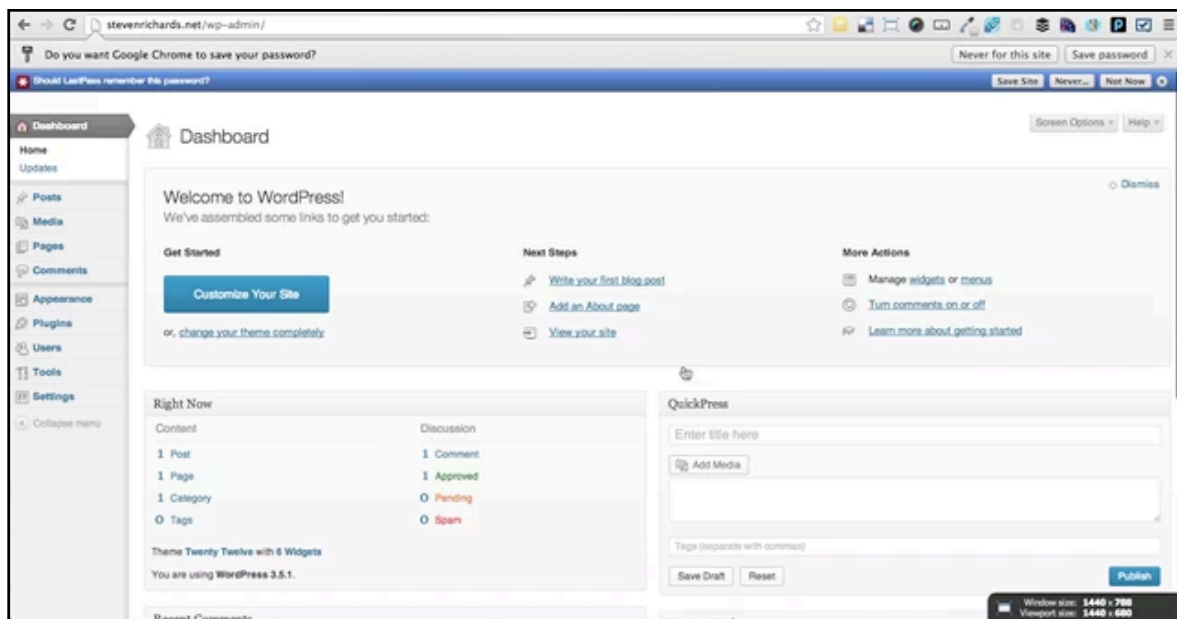
Then Im actually going to come back and grab this password that I was using again and Im just going to paste it into here. Try and choose a fairly solid

password, you can see that this one is only a medium security type password. We might want to solidify this up a bit and add some symbols, some capital letters, some numbers, that type of thing.

Then the last step is to enter your email address. Then we want to leave this Privacy box checked on to allow search engines to index our site because this is going to make our site searchable. So were actually going to start showing up in the search engines when somebody types our name into Google.

Then were just going to click Install WordPress.

## LOG INTO YOUR NEW WORDPRESS SITE



You can see that it says success, WordPress has been installed. So were going to click on login now and were going to use that same username and password. You can choose to remember me on this browser. Then were going to go ahead and log in.

Thats it. We're now logged in to the back end of our Web site. If I go ahead and come up to the top of the screen here you can see that if I hover over top of Steve Richards I can actually open up in a new tab the front end.

This is what we call the back end, or the management area of your content management system that is WordPress.

Here is the front end. You can see that its a very simple design right now. Theres our site title there. We've got a post thats automatically created. We have just installed and launched our own Web site.

# Conclusion



Thats it for this video. Make sure to check out all of the other videos to learn how to go about configuring your new WordPress Web site, how to set up themes, how to install plugins, how to set up your widgets and then ultimately how to start creating posts and all of the content you're going to create to drive traffic to your new personal Web site.

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