

Creating a Website

Steps –

Register a Domain name

Find a Web Host (they can often handle the domain name registration)

Create the site

Things to consider –

1. What should go on the site?

Whatever you want but in order to be linked live to the State OHC site you will need the disclaimer on the first page.

2. Who should create the site?

Anyone – basic computer skills are a help but you don't need to be super skilled. It will take time but if you can use a word processing program you can do this.

3. Free site or pay for hosting?

With a free site you have no control over the ads that appear on the page.

4. Which program to create the site?

Some web hosts offer site building programs. They can be very good. Downside is you are tied to the web host. With an independent program you upload the site and a copy stays on your computer. This lets you change web hosts easily if desired. We use Microsoft FrontPage for the state site. If you go with an independent program make sure you select a web host that supports the program.

5. How much space do I need?

Not as much as you think. Start with the smallest plan and move up.

It's all on the web –

Type “creating a website” into the search engine of your choice, here a few of the sites that come up. All very helpful. Also type “web hosting” into the search engine, there are sites that will compare web hosting programs.

<http://www.4creatingawebsite.com/>

<http://www.2createawebsite.com/>

<http://www.quackit.com/create-a-website/>

<http://www.thesitewizard.com/gettingstarted/startwebsite.shtml>

<http://webhostinggeeks.com/>

Advice -

Keep it simple. Consider that some of your members are still using dial up connections. It takes a long time to load pictures etc so be considerate. Make a list of what information you want on the site and then organize it by page. Consider what info you don't want everyone to see – either don't include that info or protect it with a password. Then start creating the site.