

# 1.15 What is...

## What are IDN domains?

### IDN Domains

A few years ago, it was only possible to register domains that contained **ASCII characters**. This caused difficulties, because often domains could not exactly represent the desired string for registration, and the domain registrants had to find an alternative name.

To solve this issue with **local language scripts**, the so called **IDN (Internationalized Domain Names)** registrations have been introduced.

**IDN allows you to reserve domain names of all known languages** (scripts).

The technical process for enabling it could be briefly summarized as a conversion of all entered characters to ASCII characters, thus allowing the existing infrastructure to operate with IDN. The result of such conversion is called *PUNYCODE*. We show the *PUNYCODE* presentation in our registration procedure for your convenience.

Web sites where you can verify PUNYCODES are (IDN specific knowledge is required):

- [Wikipedia](#)
- <http://josefsson.org/idn.php>

**Please note:** Not all top level domains do provide IDN registrations. Please check our [price list](#), where we show which types of domains do support IDN.

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