GRIM EMPIRE / STUDIO

7 questions before your website

Ask any web designer. Ask Julian, too. Get the details in writing.

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01 **Who owns the domain, and whose name is it in?**

Good answer: It is registered in your name, in an account you can access; any transfer arrangement is in writing.

Dodge: “We keep it in our account. You don’t need access.” No written way to get it back.

02 **Can I cancel, and what happens to the site if I do?**

Good answer: The minimum term, cancellation steps and what stays online afterward are spelled out before you sign.

Dodge: “We’ll sort that out later.” No clear cancellation terms or explanation of what happens to the site.

03 **Do I get a copy of my website?**

Good answer: They name the files and content you can take elsewhere, and explain any platform limits before you commit.

Dodge: “You own it.” But they cannot say what you can download or move to another host.

04 **What's included every month?**

Good answer: A written list covers hosting, update limits, breakage support and whether domain renewal costs extra.

Dodge: “Everything is included.” No list, update limits or explanation of separate charges.

05 **Who writes the words and supplies the photos?**

Good answer: Each person’s writing and photo responsibilities are clear, with a list of what they need from you.

Dodge: “We’ll figure out content as we go.” Nobody is responsible for supplying the words or photos.

06 **How do changes work after launch?**

Good answer: They explain how to request changes, the usual response time and which changes cost extra.

Dodge: “Just get in touch.” No process, timing or clarity on what costs extra.

07 **Can I see real work, and is it labeled honestly?**

Good answer: You can try the sites on your phone; client work, demos and the sources of any reviews are clearly identified.

Dodge: Only screenshots, demos passed off as client work, or reviews with no traceable source.

Examples, not promises about a vendor. Ask for the actual terms.

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