

DNS - Domain & Hosting Setups

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How to Point a Microsoft Domain to Hostinger Hosting

Objective

Point a domain purchased and managed through Microsoft 365 to a Hostinger hosting plan using an A record, then install WordPress on Hostinger.

Scope and Impact

- Approach uses A/CNAME records only to keep Microsoft 365 email intact.
- Nameservers remain on Microsoft 365. Do not change them.

Prerequisites

- Microsoft 365 Admin Center access with permission to manage Domains.
- Hostinger account access to the target hosting plan (owner or account-sharing).
- The domain name and desired website location/region.
- WordPress admin email, username, and a strong password.

High-Level Flow

- Prepare hosting in Hostinger.
- Get the server IPv4 address from Hostinger.
- Add DNS A record (and www CNAME) in Microsoft 365 Domains.
- Wait for DNS propagation and verify.
- Install WordPress on Hostinger and enable SSL.

Prepare Hostinger

- Log in to Hostinger and switch to the client profile if using Account Sharing.

- Create or select the target website under Websites or Hosting.
- Choose the closest server location to the target audience.

Get Hostinger IP

- In Hostinger, open the hosting control for the target site.
- Locate the server IPv4 address (commonly shown as Server IP or IPv4).
- Copy the IPv4 address for DNS.

Configure DNS in Microsoft 365

- Sign in to Microsoft 365 and open Admin Center.
- Go to Settings > Domains.
- Select the target domain.
- Open DNS records management for the domain.
- Add or update the following records:

Record	Host/Name	Value (Points to)	TTL	Purpose
A	@	Hostinger IPv4 (e.g., 192.0.2.123)	300-3600	Root domain to Hostinger
CNAME	www	@	300-3600	www → root redirect

- Ensure existing MX, SPF, DKIM, and CNAME records for Microsoft 365 email stay unchanged.
- Save changes.

Verify Propagation

- Allow 5-60 minutes for DNS to begin propagating (up to 24 hours globally).
- Check by visiting the domain and by DNS lookup for the A record pointing to the Hostinger IP.

Install WordPress on Hostinger

- In Hostinger, open the Auto Installer or WordPress setup.
- Select the target domain from the dropdown.
- Enter site title, admin email, username, and password.

- Complete installation and note the wp-admin URL and credentials.
- After DNS resolves, request or enable SSL (Let's Encrypt) from Hostinger and force HTTPS in WordPress settings.

Post-Setup Tasks

- Log in to WordPress and set Site Address and WordPress Address to HTTPS.
- Install a security plugin and caching plugin if required.
- Confirm email DNS: MX records must still point to Microsoft 365; send and receive a test email.
- Add an A record for any needed subdomains or verify that www works via CNAME.

Troubleshooting

- Domain still not resolving: Confirm the A record value matches the Hostinger IPv4 and there is no conflicting A record for @.
- www not working: Ensure the CNAME for www points to @ and there is no A record for www.
- Email delivery issues: Verify MX records still point to Microsoft 365 and SPF includes Microsoft's include directive; do not change nameservers.
- SSL not issuing: Wait until A record fully propagates to the Hostinger IP, then reissue SSL.

Handoff Notes Template

- Domain: <yourdomain.com>
- DNS change: A record for @ set to <Hostinger IPv4>, CNAME for www set to @.
- Nameservers: Unchanged (Microsoft 365).
- WordPress: Installed on Hostinger. Admin: <email>, URL: <domain>/wp-admin.
- SSL: Requested/enabled after propagation.
- Email: Microsoft 365 remains active and tested.

How to Manage Client Domains, Hosting, and WordPress Logins Without Headaches

Client said: Complete website design, will connect domain later.

First login message from client was incorrect.

Client sent GoDaddy logins but no hosting was found there.

Asked client for hosting details.

Client sent WordPress.com logins instead of hosting access.

Asked for wp-admin URL; WordPress not installed on domain yet.

Asked client for invite; client still has no hosting.

Explained to client what hosting is, repeatedly.

Received GoDaddy logins again, still no hosting.

Recommended our hosting; client still unclear on hosting concept.

Meeting held; client bought hosting but domain connection not confirmed.

Hosting login for Hostinger not confirmed in meeting.

Sent domain account confirmation messages; client refuses to share logins, asks what to do.

Asked client to install WordPress on Hostinger, since we have access there.

Asked client to update IP address to point domain to Hostinger hosting.