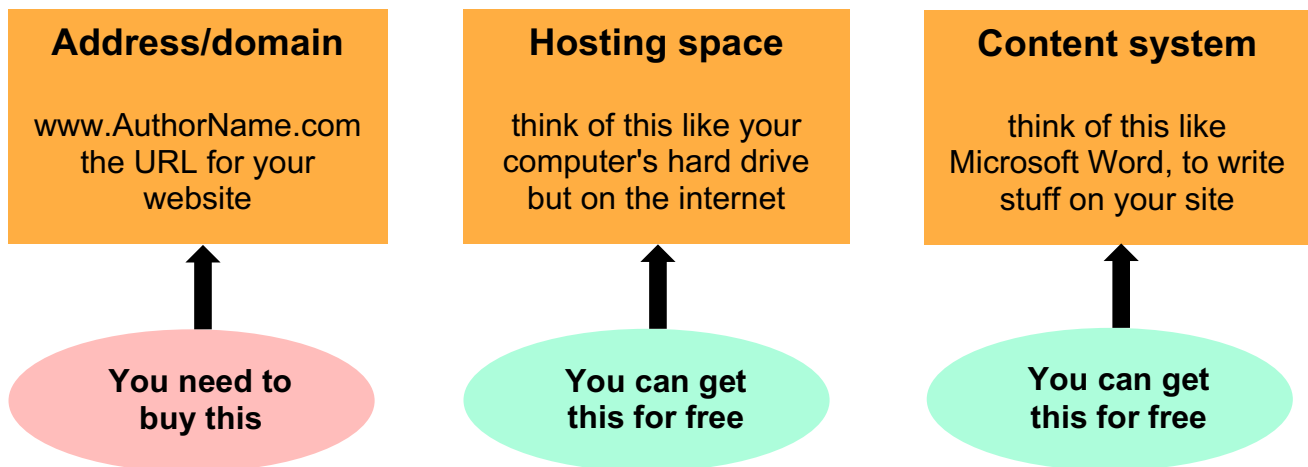


## How to get an author website

A website basically has three parts:



## There are lots of services that provide "free websites"

| WordPress.com  | Wix.com   | IMcreator.com  |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free site with 3GB space</li> <li>add a custom domain for Au\$5/month</li> <li>special templates for author/book sites</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free site with 500MB space</li> <li>add a custom domain for US\$10/month</li> <li>special templates for author/book sites</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unlimited space</li> <li>BYO domain</li> <li>Free for students, artists &amp; non-profits</li> <li>US\$8/month</li> </ul> |

Generally they'll give you some free space, a system to create webpages, and a subdomain, which you can partly choose - <http://AuthorName.wixsite.com> - in return for putting ads on your website.

It's a great way to get started. Later on you can buy premium services, such as removing ads.

Some services make it easy to buy a custom domain through them: <http://www.AuthorName.com>

## What do I do if my author name URL is already taken?

You still have some options if there's another ErnestHemingway.com out there.

- Many authors append "author" to their name: <http://www.MaryJonesAuthor.com>
- They may choose a different domain ending: <http://www.MaryJones.tv>
- Or they may consider changing their author name, perhaps adding an initial <http://www.MaryKJones.com>

### Why buy your own URL?

- You'll have more choice
- It looks more professional
- You can take it with you if you change website providers - it's yours forever