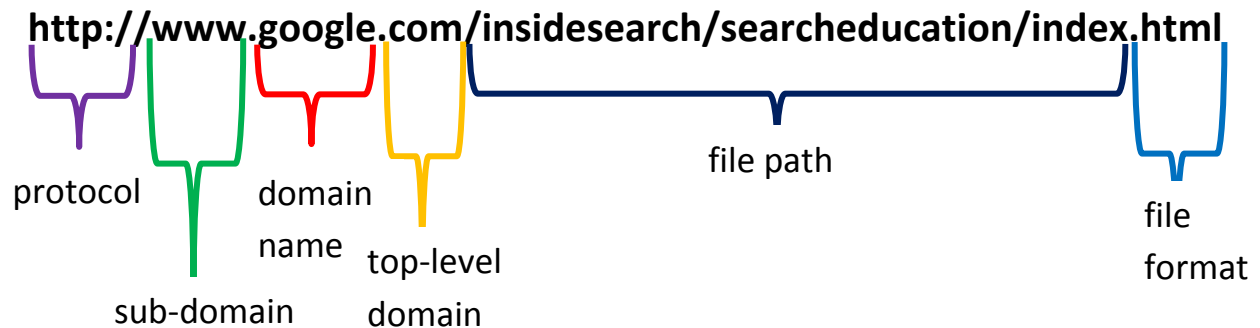


## Anatomy of a Web Address



The address of a website is made up of several different parts. The first part is not technically part of the address, but is an indication of the **protocol**. Each subsequent part is separated from those that follow it by a single, forward slash (/).

The first part of the address--everything up to the first single slash-- is the internet address of the Web Server. Everything following that first slash is a directory path and/or the filename of a particular page on the Web Server.

### Dynamic Webpages

Some Web pages include information contained in databases. Essentially the Webpage containing the answer is created when the user queries the page. So, for instance, when a user queries the grants recipients database on the Nebraska Library Commission Website at <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/grants/database/>, the results of that query will return on a page with an address such as:

`http://nlc.nebraska.gov/scripts/grants/Database/grantsdb.asp?grantnamedropdown=Children%27s+Grants+for+Excellence&YearDropdown=2003&libraryDropdown=blank&cityDropdown=blank&B1=Submit`

The **dynamic URL** contains the search parameters for a search of a **dynamic Web site**. This URL includes a **query string**, which typically contains ? and % characters.

### Terms:

**http:** Hypertext transfer protocol. You don't have to type this into the URL, because http is default for webpages.

**https:** Hypertext transfer secure protocol

**domain:** The unique name for your Website. Domain names are used to identify one or more IP addresses. You must register and pay for a domain name.

**file format:** How the web server provides the content. Common formats include:

- .asp Active server page
- cgi Common Gateway Interface
- .html Hypertext markup language
- .jpg/jpeg jpg (pronounced 'jpeg') image file format, perhaps the most common on the internet today.
- .php PHP hypertext processor. the webpage is being served by a php 'engine' - a scripting language which facilitates 'dynamic' webpages

Protocol: The language in which the server and browser communicate.

Sub-domain: Points to divisions within the Website. Often, but not always “www.”

Top-level domain: Includes:

- .com commercial
- .net network
- .org organization
- .edu educational
- .gov government
- .ac United Kingdom academic institutions
- .uk United Kingdom
- .ca Canada
- .se Sweden

URL: Uniform Resource Locator. A “global address that can be used to locate anything on the Web, including HTML pages, audio, video, and many other forms of Web content.”

### Sources and further information:

[http://www.googleguide.com/web\\_address.html](http://www.googleguide.com/web_address.html)

<http://www.algosome.com/articles/anatomy-of-website-url.html>

<http://www.waukeganpl.org/technology-tips/anatomy-web-address>

[http://www.daveylee.com/articles/domain\\_names/Anatomy\\_of\\_a\\_Web\\_Address.htm](http://www.daveylee.com/articles/domain_names/Anatomy_of_a_Web_Address.htm)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uniform\\_resource\\_locator](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uniform_resource_locator)

<http://www.wikihow.com/Register-a-Domain-Name>



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