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## How To Host A Private Blog Network For Free

Neil September 3, 2014 Tutorials No Comments

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I am sure you are aware of the latest craze of the private blog networks. Why are they so big now days and why is everyone talking about them. They work. Period! It is simply the best way to take control of your tier 1 links and dominate the SERPs. If you have been thinking about building your own PBN then this is a great place to start.

You are aware of everyone's advice about how to build one. Grab some expired domains (or pay for non dropped domains is probably your best bet), set each one up at a budget host, write unique content... and so on. If you want to run a small to medium size network, the costs can quickly add up for the hosting costs and it is nothing but a pain to control so many hosting accounts. If this is what is keeping you from building your private blog network, you are in luck. No one else is going to tell you how to do this. Why? They want you to go out and buy hosting from their affiliate links to make THEM money. I am going to show you how to do it for FREE.

### INTRODUCING CLOUDFLARE

At the very basic level, [CloudFlare](#) is a reverse proxy hosting service which just so happens to be free for our purposes. If you are thinking that using a free service for your PBN, just keep in mind that CloudFlare has raised over 50 million dollars in investment and are one of the biggest content delivery networks out there. They even directly compete against Amazon AWS.



The primary reason for this service has absolutely nothing to do with building a network. The service is actually designed to speed up websites and protect them from DDOS attacks. The way that they do this is that they put a proxy in front of your actual IP so that if someone wants to DDOS you, they will have no idea which server you are actually on, thus making the attack ineffective. Think of them as a firewall between you and the attacker. It just so happens they make an excellent firewall between you and Google! Did I mention that the type of account we need to do this is FREE? I do not need your hosting commissions, I just want to give you info that works.

You may be wondering to yourself how big their IP range is. They have over a million IPs which include hundreds of Class C IP addresses so if you are doing just a small or medium size network, this should certainly be enough to get started. The best part? You can pack all your domains on a single server and let CloudFlare do the rest. Even from your budget host you pay less than 5 dollars a month on. How is that for money savings?

*Sidenote: I am only focusing on Cloudflare in this article but there are other services that can be used as well. These include Incapsula (free) Rocket IPs (cheap) and Amazon CloudFront.*

*Second Sidenote: I am aware that all Cloudflare IPs linking to one site may leave a footprint. This is why I recommend that you diversify your link profile like you should be doing anyways. There are millions of sites that*

use CloudFlare, so I believe this to be safe.

## HOW TO SET UP YOUR CLOUDFLARE PRIVATE BLOG NETWORK

Step 1: [Go sign up at Cloudflare](#)

When you sign up, you will see a box that says "Add a website". Simply put in the website you want to run through this service.

### My websites

 [+ Add website](#)

It will then scan all your DNS records for the site you have put in the box. The results should look a little something like the picture below

DNS Records for passive.marketing:

[Upload a zone file](#)

Type	Name	Value	TTL	Active
A	passive.marketing	points to [redacted]	Automatic	
A	localhost	points to [redacted]	Automatic	
A	webdisk	points to [redacted]	Automatic	
CNAME	ftp	is an alias of passive.marketing	Automatic	
We added a FTP subdomain for you that does not pass through the CloudFlare network. If in the past you FTPed directly to [redacted]				
CNAME	mail	is an alias of passive.marketing	Automatic	
CNAME	www	is an alias of passive.marketing	Automatic	
MX	passive.marketing	mail handled by passive.marketing with priority 0	Automatic	
TXT	passive.marketing	[redacted]	Automatic	

A [dropdown] e.g. www points to e.g. 127.0.0.1 [dropdown] [Help](#) [Add](#)

Step 2: You want to keep this simple? Good, me too. Delete them ALL. You will not hurt anything as you will add a few things back, just get rid of every record on that list.

DNS Records for passive.marketing:

[Upload a zone file](#)

Type	Name	Value	TTL	Active
A [dropdown]	e.g. www	points to e.g. 127.0.0.1	Automatic [dropdown]	<a href="#">Help</a> <a href="#">Add</a>

That is better, all gone. Now is where you are going to add back a few things.

## STEPS FOR FIRST RECORD:

- Select A for the first record.
- Enter your domain without the www.
- Enter the IP of the server the domain is on
- Click Add

## STEPS FOR SECOND RECORD:

- Pick CNAME
- enter www and nothing else in the second box
- Enter your domain without the www
- Click Add

When you are all done it should look something like this:

DNS Records for `passive.marketing`:

[Upload a zone file](#)

Type	Name	Value	TTL	Active
A	<code>passive.marketing</code>	points to <input type="text"/>	Automatic	
CNAME	<code>www</code>	is an alias of <code>passive.marketing</code>	Automatic	
CNAME	<input type="text" value="e.g. www"/>	is an alias of <input type="text" value="e.g. mydomain.com"/>	Automatic	<a href="#">Help</a> <a href="#">Add</a>

Go ahead and continue at this point and pick the free plan and set security to high.

### Step 3:

Next it will give you nameservers to switch at your domain registrar. They will look something like this

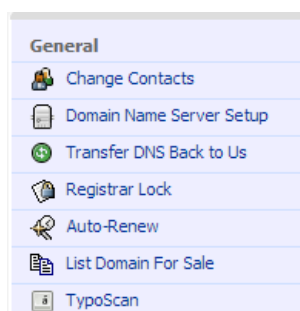
- `frank.ns.cloudflare.com`
- `becky.ns.cloudflare.com`

There are over 50 different name servers. Make sure you write this one down somewhere and you are officially done with the Cloudflare process. The only thing left is to go over to your domain name registrar and switch these out.

## FORWARD DNS TO CLOUDFLARE

I use Namecheap for the majority of my domains so follow these steps to get your DNS to route through CF.

**Step 1:** Login to Namecheap and find the domain you want to change the name servers for. Once you have the domain selected, you should see "Domain Name Server Setup" in the left corner.



**Step 2:** Once you have that selected, you will see this. Click on Specify Custom DNS Servers and enter in the ones that you wrote down earlier from CloudFlare. Save these and you are done!

- Use Namecheap Hosting DNS Servers
- Specify Custom DNS Servers ( Your own DNS Servers )

Congratulations. You are done with the first domain in your Private Blog Network. For each domain you have, sign up to CF with a new email. You will have to be REALLY unlucky to get the same name servers in a row which has never happened to me.

I have had nothing but amazing results in some of the small niche relevant blog networks I am running like this and they have remained safe and under the radar even though all the domains are packed on a single host. This might not be the very best way to set up a private blog network, but I can tell you from first hand experience: it works!

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## About The Author



**Neil**

has been in the internet marketing game for 3 years now. I am here to help you make money online based on my own experiences and experiments. There will be no fluff or BS, just what is working now.

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