



**Techie Teddie**

TECH HELP AND REPAIR

A MIGRATION GUIDE FOR SOLO OPERATORS

# Stop renting your **website.**

If you're paying every month for a website that's really just a few pages telling people who you are and how to reach you, you're paying for something that should cost about ten dollars a year.

**\$10** Per year, all-in.

One domain at wholesale, free hosting, no monthly bill.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Techie Teddie · Keizer, Oregon

FRIENDLY AND FAIR · DONE FAST WITH CARE

GUIDE

v1 · 2026

## THE COST REALITY

# What you're actually paying for.

The economics of a small-business website have changed. **AI can build a polished page in fifteen minutes.** Free hosting from Cloudflare can serve it forever. The monthly subscription you're paying is buying you a website you could have for the same price yearly. You're still buying a builder toolkit you no longer need in 2026.

WHERE YOUR WEBSITE LIVES NOW	YEARLY COST
<b>Wix</b> Light \$17/mo · Core \$29/mo · Business \$39/mo, billed annually	<b>\$204 – \$468</b> per year
<b>Squarespace</b> Basic \$16/mo · Core \$23/mo · Plus \$39/mo, billed annually	<b>\$192 – \$468</b> per year
<b>Webflow</b> Basic \$14/mo · CMS \$23/mo · Business \$39/mo, billed annually	<b>\$168 – \$468</b> per year
<b>Hosted WordPress</b> WordPress.com or third-party WP hosts (Bluehost, SiteGround, Namecheap WP, etc.)	<b>\$48 – \$360</b> per year
<b>An AI-built site on Cloudflare</b> Wholesale .com domain · free static hosting · free secure padlock (https)	<b>\$10.46</b> per year

**The math:** Moving a Squarespace site at the Core plan (\$276/year) to this setup saves about **\$265 every year**, every year, indefinitely. The savings are the gap between what you pay now and ~\$10.46/yr.

### THIS WORKS WELL IF

- ✓ Your site is mostly an online business card: services, hours, contact info, maybe an "about" page.
- ✓ You update it a few times a year, not every week.
- ✓ You take bookings or payments through a separate tool (Cal, Calendly, Stripe, Square).

### DON'T DO THIS YET IF

- You're actively running a blog, podcast feed, or content engine through your platform's editor.
- You sell products through a built-in store with inventory, shipping, and tax automation.
- Your site is the engine, not the brochure. Different setup, different guide.

## BEFORE YOU TOUCH ANYTHING

# Four rules that will save you headaches.

A migration that goes wrong almost always goes wrong for one of four reasons. Read these once before you start, and almost every common pitfall disappears.

1

**The 60-day rule.**

Your domain (the URL people type to reach your site) can't be moved between providers if it was bought, transferred, or had its ownership info edited in the last 60 days. This is an international rule set by ICANN. It applies no matter where your domain is now. Wait it out, then move.

2

**Don't edit your domain's contact info before moving it.**

Changing your name, address, email, or phone number on the domain itself triggers a fresh 60-day lock. If anything in there is wrong or out of date, leave it alone for now and fix it after the move is complete.

3

**If your domain expires within 15 days, renew it first.**

Cloudflare won't accept an inbound domain transfer when the domain is within 15 days of expiring. Renew it for one more year at your current provider, then start the move. The renewal year carries over, so you don't lose it.

4

**Build the new site first. Cancel nothing yet.**

Until your new site is live and your domain is pointing at it, your old website is still working for you. Don't cancel the Wix, Squarespace, Webflow, or WordPress plan until the new site is up and you've confirmed it loads on your phone. Order matters.

## THE FEW WORDS YOU'LL SEE IN THE NEXT PAGES

**Domain**

The URL people type into a browser to reach your site (yourbusiness.com).

**Hosting**

Where the website's actual files live so the internet can show them to visitors.

**Registrar**

The company that holds your domain registration. You can move it without losing the domain.

**Transfer code**

A one-time code proving you own the domain. Providers may also call it an auth code or EPP code.



## THE MIGRATION

# Five steps, in order.

This is the same path used to move real customer sites off paid platforms. Do them in this order. Skipping ahead, especially to step five, is the most common way this goes sideways.

**1**

~30 MINUTES · YOUR COMPUTER

**Build the new site first.**

Write a one-page plain-English description of your website: what pages you need, what each one says, who it's for, your tone, your colors, must-have content, and your contact info. Paste it into **ChatGPT, Claude, or your AI tool of choice** with the prompt: *"Build a single-file responsive website (HTML and CSS in one file) based on this spec."* Save the result as **index.html**. Double-click the file and your browser opens it as a real webpage. Tweak your description, ask the AI again, re-save until it looks right.

**2**

~5 MINUTES · FREE

**Put your website online with Cloudflare Pages.**

Sign up at **cloudflare.com**. In the dashboard, go to **Workers & Pages**, create a new application, and choose the option to upload your file directly (drag and drop). Name your project, drop in your **index.html** file, and click deploy. Cloudflare gives you a temporary web address ending in **.pages.dev**. Open it on your phone and your laptop to confirm everything looks right. This step costs nothing; the free hosting tier covers brochure-style sites with room to spare.

**3**

~10 MINUTES + ~5 DAYS

**Move your domain to Cloudflare.**

At your current provider, wherever your domain lives now (Wix, Squarespace, Webflow, GoDaddy, Namecheap): **unlock the domain** and **request the transfer code**. In Cloudflare: go to **Registrar** → **Transfer Domains**, paste in your domain and the code, and confirm. You'll get a confirmation email from your old provider. Approve it and the transfer finishes in minutes; ignore it and it goes through automatically in about five days. Renewals stay at wholesale (~\$10.46/yr for .com), and privacy on your contact info is included free.

**4**

~5 MINUTES

**Connect your domain to your new website.**

Once the transfer is done, Cloudflare manages your domain automatically. Open your **Pages project** → **Custom domains** → **Set up a custom domain** and type in your domain. Cloudflare handles every technical setting behind the scenes. Your website is live on your real domain in minutes, with the secure padlock (**https://**) included for free.

**5**

~10 MINUTES · LAST

**Cancel your old plan.**

**Only after your new website is live on your domain.** If your old site has content you want to save (blog posts, photos, copy you wrote), export it first. Every major platform has an export option somewhere in its admin tools. WordPress: **Tools** → **Export**. Other platforms: copy your content out manually, exports are usually limited. Save what you want, then cancel the subscription. Your domain stays with you. It's now at Cloudflare, and so is your site.



IF YOU'D RATHER NOT DO THIS ALONE

# Five steps, or one phone call. Your call.

The guide above is enough for someone comfortable poking around a few admin panels and willing to spend an hour on it. If that's not your favorite kind of afternoon, you don't have to do it alone.

## WHAT I DO

Move your domain. Build the AI-generated site. Get it live on your URL with the secure padlock. Cancel your old plan once we're sure the new one is solid.

One project, plain English, no jargon, no upsells. You end up paying about \$10 a year going forward. That's it.

## WHO THIS IS FOR

Solo operators in Salem and Keizer (or anywhere else, by phone or video) running a small service business. Bookkeepers, agents, consultants, contractors, therapists, salon owners. Anyone whose website is a brochure, not a storefront.



## YOU'RE READING THE RECIPE

techieteddie.com was built this way in under 30 minutes and costs about \$10 a year to keep online.

## Free 15-minute call.

Tell me what you're paying and what your site looks like. I'll tell you whether this move is right for your situation, and whether you can do it yourself or you'd be better off with help. No pitch, no pressure.

**Book it**  
[techieteddie.com](https://techieteddie.com)

