SOFTWARE & TECH

How To Make A Hotmail Account

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How To Make A Hotmail Account: A Step-by-Step Guide for 2025

Despite the rise of countless email providers, Hotmail remains one of the most recognizable and trusted names in digital communication. Even though Microsoft migrated Hotmail to Outlook.com years ago, the classic Hotmail address is still available for new users. Whether you need a fresh email for work, social media sign-ups, or personal correspondence, learning how to make a Hotmail account is a valuable skill. This guide will walk you through every step, ensuring you can create your new account quickly and securely. We will cover the entire process, from visiting the sign-up page to verifying your identity, and offer tips for managing your mailbox effectively.

Why Choose Hotmail in 2025?

Before we dive into the instructions, it is helpful to understand what you gain by creating a Hotmail account. Hotmail is now part of Microsoft's Outlook ecosystem, which means you get access to a modern, clutter-free interface, robust spam filtering, and seamless integration with services like OneDrive, Microsoft Office Online, and Skype. You can also choose between a @hotmail.com or @outlook.com domain, or keep both aliases linked. The account is free, and you can use it on any device through the web browser or the Outlook mobile app. By knowing how to make a Hotmail account, you open the door to a unified Microsoft experience.

Prerequisites for Creating a Hotmail Account

Before you begin, make sure you have the following ready:

- A stable internet connection
- A computer, tablet, or smartphone
- A valid phone number (for verification and recovery)
- An alternative email address (optional but recommended for security)
- A unique password you can remember

Having these at hand will streamline the process and help you avoid any hiccups when you follow the steps on how to make a Hotmail account.

Step 1: Navigate to the Official Outlook Sign-Up Page

To start, open your preferred web browser. In the address bar, type **outlook.live.com** or simply go to the Microsoft account creation page at **signup.live.com**. You will be presented with a clean sign-up form. Microsoft no longer offers a separate Hotmail registration page; instead, all new accounts are created through the Microsoft account system, and you can select the Hotmail domain during the process. This is the first critical step in how to make a Hotmail account.

Step 2: Choose Your Email Address

On the sign-up form, you will see a field labeled "Email address" or "Create new email." Click the radio button

6. Click the link that says **“Create a new email address”** if it isn't already selected. Then, type the desired username (the part before the @ symbol). Below that, you can choose between **@outlook.com** or **@hotmail.com** from the dropdown menu. Select **@hotmail.com** if you want the classic Hotmail address. If your preferred username is taken, Microsoft will suggest available variations, or you can try a different combination. Keep it simple and professional if you plan to use it for work. Remember, this is a core part of how to make a Hotmail account – picking an available and memorable address.

Step 3: Create a Strong Password

After selecting your email address, you will need to create a password. Microsoft requires at least 8 characters and recommends a mix of uppercase letters, lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols. Do not use common words or easily guessable information like your birthday. A strong password protects your account from hackers. You can also opt to use a passkey (fingerprint or face recognition) if your device supports it. For the traditional way of how to make a Hotmail account, a typed password is still the standard.

Step 4: Fill in Your Personal Details

Next, you will be asked to provide some basic personal information. This includes your first name, last name, and date of birth. Microsoft uses this information for account recovery and to tailor your experience. Make sure to enter accurate details, especially your date of birth, because you will need to remember them if you ever need to reset your password. This step is straightforward but essential in the process of how to make a Hotmail account.

Step 5: Complete the Verification Process

To prove you are a real person and not a bot, Microsoft will ask for phone verification. Enter your mobile phone number, choose whether you want to receive a text message or a phone call, and click **Send code**. Within moments, you will receive a six-digit code. Enter that code in the provided field and click **Verify**. If you prefer not to use your phone, you can choose the option to use an alternative email address instead. This verification step is a critical security measure and a mandatory part of how to make a Hotmail account.

Step 6: Solve the CAPTCHA (If Prompted)

Sometimes, after verification, you may see a CAPTCHA challenge (“I’m not a robot”). This is another security layer. Simply check the box or follow the on-screen instructions (like selecting all images with traffic lights). Completing the CAPTCHA confirms you are human and finalizes the sign-up process. Once done, you will be redirected to your new Outlook/Hotmail inbox. Congratulations – you have just learned how to make a Hotmail account!

What to Do After Creating Your Hotmail Account

Now that your account is live, you can customize it to suit your needs. Here are a few actions you should take immediately to enhance your experience and security:

1. Add a Recovery Email and Phone Number

Go to your account settings (click the gear icon, then “View all Outlook settings,” and navigate to “Mail” > “Accounts” > “Connected accounts”). Add a secondary email address and verify your phone number. This makes it easy to recover your account if you ever lose access. It’s a best practice often overlooked by people who rush through how to make a Hotmail account.

2. Set Up Two-Factor Authentication

For maximum security, enable two-factor authentication (2FA). In your Microsoft account security settings, turn on two-step verification. Every time you sign in from a new device, you’ll need to enter a second code sent to your phone. This prevents unauthorized access even if your password is compromised.

3. Personalize Your Inbox

Outlook offers a variety of themes and layout options. You can choose a dark mode, change your inbox style (focused vs. classic), and organize your emails into folders. Spend a few minutes exploring the settings so your new mailbox feels like home. Understanding these features makes the entire experience of how to make a Hotmail account even more rewarding.

4. Import Contacts and Emails from Old Accounts

If you are leaving another provider, you can import your contacts and even old emails into your new Hotmail account. In Outlook settings, look for “Mail” > “Sync email” > “Other email accounts.” You can connect Gmail, Yahoo, or other accounts to manage everything from one place.

Troubleshooting Common Issues When Creating a Hotmail Account

Even with a straightforward guide, you might encounter some problems. Here are common issues and solutions related to how to make a Hotmail account:

- Username already taken: Try adding numbers or a middle initial. Avoid using only numbers, as they may look like spam.
- Phone number already in use: One phone number can only verify a limited number of accounts per day. Use a different number or wait 24 hours.
- Password too weak: Make sure it meets the complexity requirements. Avoid common patterns like "Password1."
- CAPTCHA not loading: Try disabling ad blockers or using a different browser (Edge or Chrome work best).
- Error “Something went wrong” during sign-up: Clear your browser cache and cookies, or try in an incognito window. This usually resolves temporary glitches in how to make a Hotmail account.

Frequently Asked Questions About Hotmail Accounts

Can I still get a @hotmail.com email address?

Yes, absolutely. When you create a new account through Microsoft's sign-up page, you can select @hotmail.com from the domain dropdown. The availability depends on the username you choose. This is one of the most common questions people have when researching how to make a Hotmail account.

Is Hotmail the same as Outlook?

Hotmail now lives inside Outlook.com. The interface you use is Outlook, but your email address can still end with @hotmail.com. All features are identical. From a user perspective, the process of how to make a Hotmail account is identical to making an Outlook account – the only difference is the domain you pick.

Is it free to create a Hotmail account?

Yes, it is completely free. You get 15 GB of free storage across email and OneDrive. For more space, you can subscribe to Microsoft 365, but the basic account costs nothing.

Can I create a Hotmail account without a phone number?

Technically, you can use an alternative email address for verification. However, Microsoft strongly recommends providing a phone number for account security and recovery. If you must use only an email, choose the “Use an email address instead” option during verification.

How many Hotmail accounts can I have?

There is no official limit, but Microsoft may restrict accounts created from the same IP or phone number to prevent spam. You can have multiple accounts for different purposes, as long as each has a unique phone number or recovery email.

Tips for Maintaining Your Hotmail Account

Once you know how to make a Hotmail account, keeping it secure and organized should be your priority. Here are some actionable tips:

- Update your password every 6-12 months and never reuse it across other sites.
- Turn on inbox rules to automatically sort important emails into folders.
- Use the Sweep feature to quickly delete or archive old newsletters and promotions.
- Review your connected apps regularly and revoke access to any you no longer use.
- Enable email forwarding if you want to manage multiple accounts from one inbox.

Conclusion: Your New Digital Identity Awaits

Learning how to make a Hotmail account is a simple process that opens up a world of productivity and connectivity. Whether you need a professional email for job applications, a dedicated account for online shopping, or simply a fresh start, Hotmail (now part of Outlook) provides a reliable, secure, and feature-rich platform. By following the steps outlined in this guide – from choosing your desired @hotmail.com address to verifying your identity and personalizing your inbox – you can create an account in less than ten minutes. Remember to enable two-factor authentication and regularly update your recovery information to keep your account safe. Now that you understand how to make a Hotmail account, go ahead and establish your new digital presence today.

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