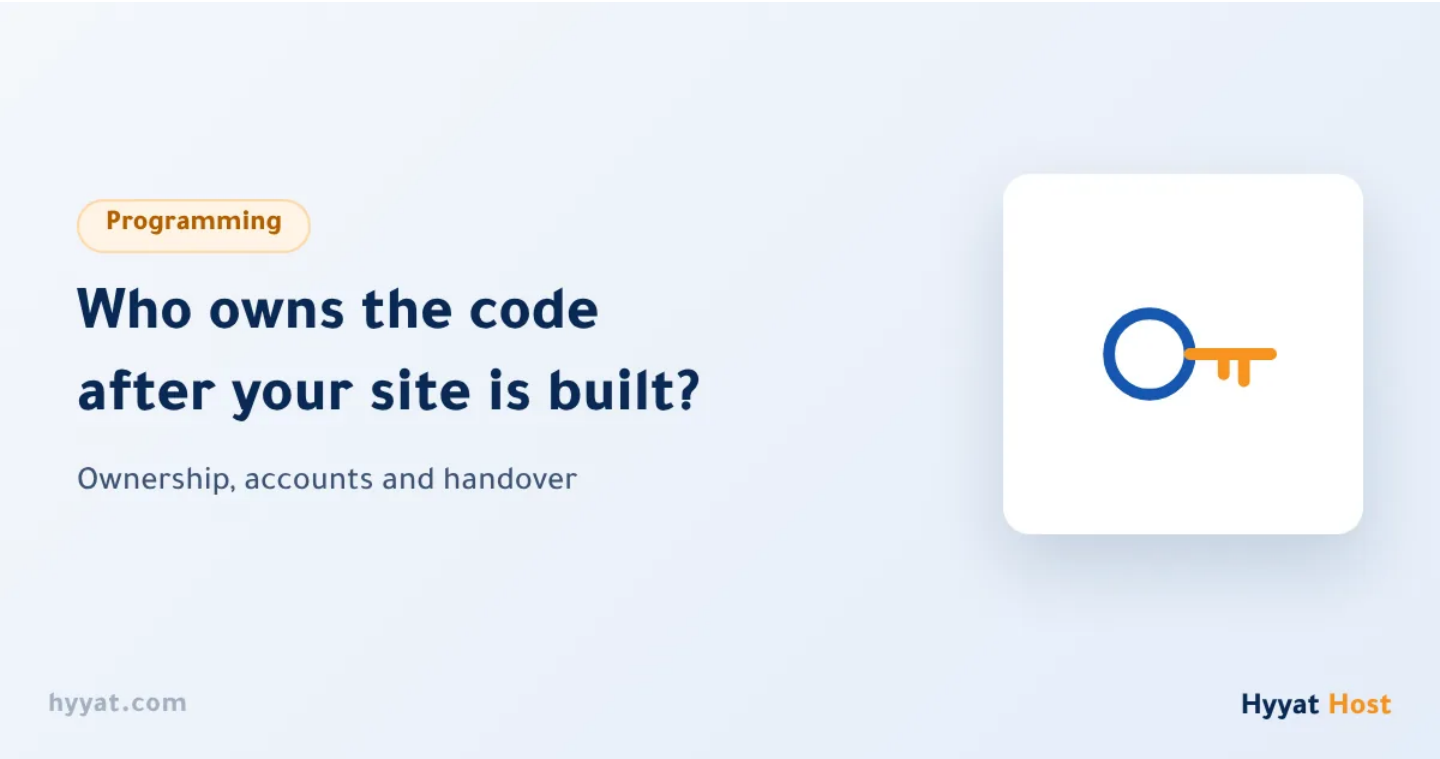
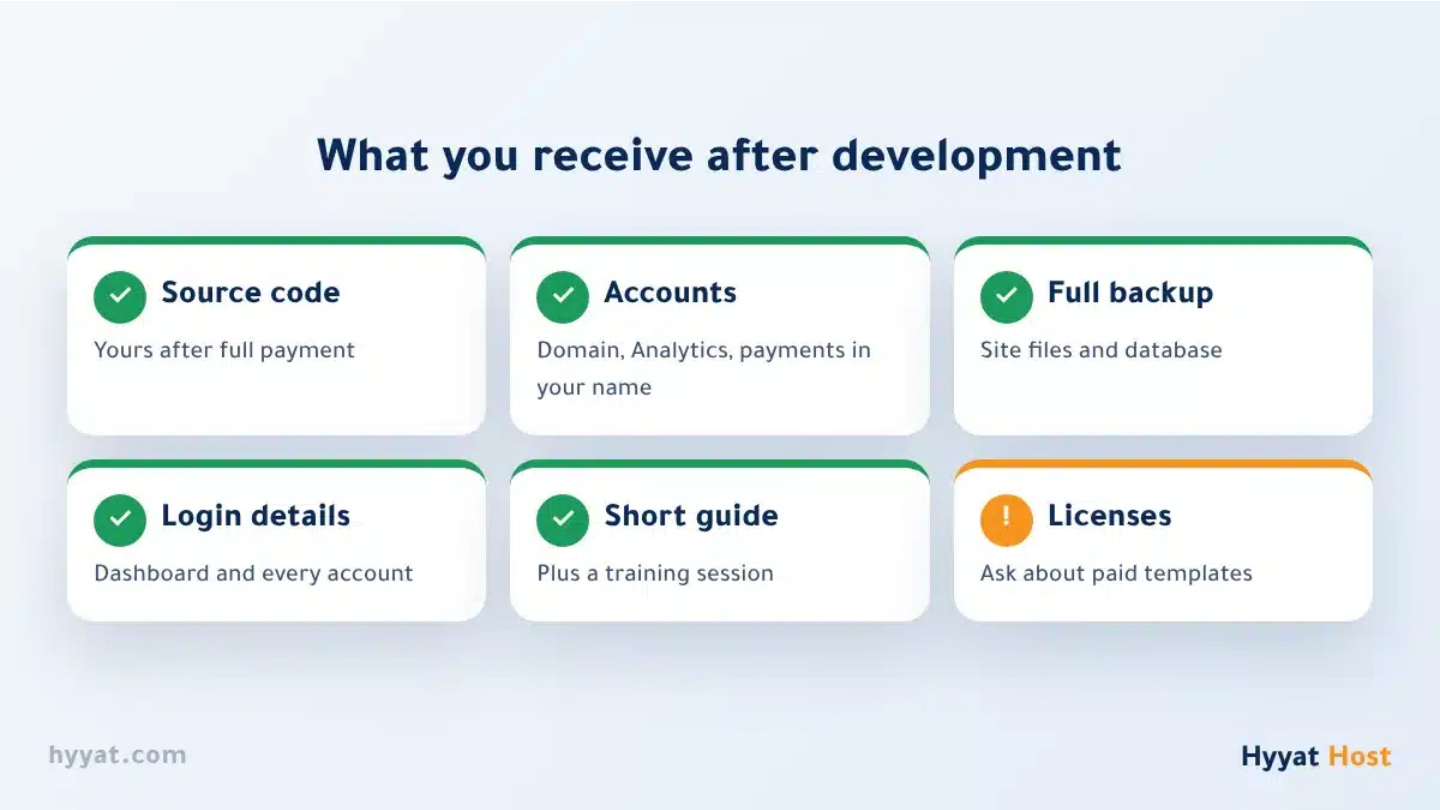
Who Owns the Source Code After Your Website Is Built? Ownership, Accounts and Handover

Programming and design · https://www.hyyat.com/en/knowledgebase/who-owns-website-source-code/

In short After your website is built you should know **who owns the source code**, **whose name the accounts are in**, **which template and plugin licenses** are used, and **what you receive at handover**. At Hyyat Host, custom software becomes yours after full payment, the source code is delivered on request, and accounts are registered in your name.



It often happens that a site owner falls out with a developer, or the developer stops working, and the owner discovers the accounts are not in their name or that they do not own the code. These questions must be settled before you start, not after a problem.



Source code: is it yours?

The source code is the set of files your website or system is written in. Its ownership is set by the agreement between you and the developer, so read it before you start. Commonly:

- **Software written specifically for you** becomes yours after full payment.
- **General tools and libraries** the developer uses across all projects remain theirs, and you may use them within your system.
- **Paid templates and plugins** are licensed by their makers, and their ownership does not transfer to you.

Accounts must be in your name

Account	Why it must be in your name
Domain	If it is in someone else's name, you may lose your website address.
Google Analytics and Search Console	Your visitor data and your presence in Google.
Payment gateways	The money is paid out to your own account.

Account	Why it must be in your name
App store accounts	So you can publish updates and own the app.

The developer is added as an admin only on these accounts, not as the owner.

What do you receive at handover?

1. **Login details** for the control panel and every account linked to the site.
2. **A full backup** of the site and its database.
3. **The source code** for a custom software project, on request after payment.
4. **A short guide** to running the site, plus a training session where possible.

Questions to ask any developer before you start

- Who owns the code after payment, and will it be handed over to me?
- Whose name will the domain and accounts be registered in?
- Does the site use paid templates or plugins, and what happens to their licenses if I move it?
- What do I receive at handover, and how long is the bug-fix warranty?

How we handle ownership at Hyyat Host

- **Custom software becomes yours** after full payment, and we do not resell it.
- **The source code is delivered on request** after full payment.
- **Accounts linked to the site** are registered in your name and email, and we are admins only.
- **Paid templates and plugins** installed under our license work while the site is hosted with us. If the site moves, the client buys their own licenses.
- **At handover** you receive login details, all accounts, a full backup, a short guide and one remote training session.
- **Software we build** is warranted for 3 months from delivery, to fix what was agreed in the requirements document.

Details in our design and programming terms.

Example: A store owner had his site built years ago by a freelancer who registered the domain in his own personal name. When the freelancer stopped replying, the owner needed weeks to recover his domain. Had it been in his name from the start, this would not have happened.

Summary

- Agree on code ownership before you start.
- Register the domain and all accounts in your own name.
- Ask about template licenses and what you receive at handover.

Planning a project? See our custom programming and website design services.

Frequently asked questions

Am I entitled to receive my website source code?
It depends on the agreement. At Hyyat Host, custom software becomes yours after full payment, and the code is delivered on request.

Whose name should the domain be registered in?
Your own name or your company name, so you do not lose your website address if you stop working with any provider.

What happens to the template license if I move my site?
Paid templates and plugins installed under our license work while the site is hosted with us. If it moves, the client needs to buy their own licenses.

How long is the bug-fix warranty after delivery?
Software we build is warranted for 3 months from delivery, to fix what was agreed in the requirements document.

Can I sell the software you built for me?
The software is yours after payment, but selling it as a product to others needs the company's approval.

Related guides

- How to Write a Requirements Document for Your Software Project: A Practical Guide with a Template
- How to Protect Your Project Idea Before Development: NDAs and Your Rights
- Ready-Made Template or Custom Design? How to Choose for Your Company Website
- What to Prepare Before Designing Your Company Website: Content, Images and Domain

All design and development guides →

Need this service from Hyyat Host?Our team handles it for you, with support replying to tickets within 24 hours at most.

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