

# Domain Rules for DotBazaar: A User Guide

## Characters and Keyboards

1. The [DotBazaar Character Table](#) contains 100 characters: 68 letters, three sets of digits, the hyphen and the half-space (known also as zero-width-non-joiner, ZWNJ).
2. A typical keyboard used for languages that use the Arabic script does not contain all these characters, most users will just need the characters available on their native keyboards. You can, however, go to [DotBazaar Keyboard](#) to access and use all the characters.
3. The three sets of digits are the ASCII (Western Arabic), Eastern Arabic (usually used with Arabic language) and Extended Arabic (usually used with Persian and Urdu).
4. Arabic-script writing is from right to left except that all three families of numbers are written left to right.
5. Arabic letters are classified as R (right-joining) or D (dual joining). R letters are not be joined to the letter immediately after (to the left), while D letters may be joined both on the left and the right.

## Restrictions

1. The length of a domain is limited so as its conversion into ASCII code does not exceed 63 characters. A rule-of-thumb is that a domain of up to about 30 Arabic characters is normally allowed. You can check the ASCII length by typing your desired domain either on the [DotBazaar Keyboard](#) or on any punycode converter such as can be found in <http://www.knipp.de/domains/idn/convert.do>
2. At this time, a DotBazaar domain is required to be at least three characters long. In the future, two-character, and possibly one-character domains may be allowed.
3. A domain name must begin with a *letter*, i.e., it cannot begin with a digit, a hyphen or with ZWNJ.
4. A domain name cannot end in a hyphen or in ZWNJ.
5. Consecutive hyphens or consecutive ZWNJs are not allowed.

6. All digits used in a domain name must be from ONE and the same family of digits, i.e., either all from Western Arabic, all from Eastern Arabic or all from Extended Arabic.
7. The character before (immediately to the right) of ZWNJ must be a D *letter*, and the character after (immediately to the left) a D or R *letter*.
8. The letter preceding (immediately to the right) of ZWNJ cannot be one of the three letters Tah < ط >, Zah < ظ > or Urdu Heh Doachashmee < ه > (respectively, Unicode U+0637, U+0638 and U+06BE).

## Variants

1. Arabic letters can occur in four cases depending on whether they are initial, middle or terminal letters in a word, or if they occur in isolation. Some distinct letters possess identical forms in one or more of their cases, causing the possibility of confusion or abuse. Visually identical domain labels that contain such confusable characters are called *variants* of one another.
2. Corresponding digits of the three digit sets are also classified as confusable even when they are not visually identical. Therefore domain labels differing only in digit type are considered variants.
3. The document [DotBazaar Variants](#) describes all character variants of dotBazaar < بازار > domain.
4. Upon the registration of a DotBazaar domain by a registrant, all variants of that domain are automatically blocked for registration by other registrants. Variants can only be registered by the original registrant.
5. A variant thus registered (to the original registrant) will be usually treated as a separate and independent domain except in aspects such as:
  - (A) At any time, variants of a domain can only be held by one and the same registrant. In particular, in domain transfers, registered variants that are not desired by the new holder must be deleted.
  - (B) For the purpose of dispute resolution, all variants are treated as one and the same domain.