

# Scottish Government becomes a dot Scot



The Scottish Government has moved to [www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot) as its primary web address to take advantage of the new .scot top level domains on the internet.

More than 8,000 domains have been sold to individuals and groups since they went on sale last September. The new .scot domain aims to promote Scottish identity, culture and economic opportunity on the internet across the world.

The previous address – [www.scotland.gov.uk](http://www.scotland.gov.uk) – will continue to take users to the site and other established links will operate as normal.

Deputy First Minister John Swinney said:

“Using the .scot domain as our primary web address will be a visible symbol of the Scottish Government’s online presence and our involvement with the worldwide family of Scots who choose to express their identity or affinity online.

“The expansion of the number of top-level internet domains in recent times gives users many more options to brand themselves in new ways online – and we’re delighted to lead by example.

“Users will see the new web address on our site straight away but other changes to the infrastructure, including new email addresses for Scottish Government staff, will be introduced in a phased and structured way to ensure no one is inconvenienced.”

The .scot domain is one of hundreds to go live on the internet in the last year, adding diversity as alternatives to the most common domains such as .com, .net, and .org. At least 1,300

will be added over the next few years.