

Domain Deletion Policy and Restoration Process

At Domain Name API (Atakonline Domain Hosting Internet and Information Technologies LTD), we manage domain registration, renewal, and deletion processes in accordance with international rules set by ICANN and the policies of the relevant registry operators.

The following descriptions provide a general framework for gTLDs (.com, .net, .org, .biz, .info, .xyz, .ist, etc.) registered through Domain Name API, as well as for domains primarily under ICANN's jurisdiction. Different procedures may apply to certain country-code top-level domains (ccTLDs).

1. ICANN Rules and Binding Nature

Domain name operations are conducted in accordance with the procedures set by ICANN (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers), which is internationally organized.

These procedures are:

- Published by the relevant authority,
- Globally applicable,
- Binding for registry operators and registrars,
- Unilaterally non-modifiable.

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As Domain Name API, we act in compliance with ICANN agreements, policies, and the rules of relevant TLD/ccTLD registry authorities.

2. Domain Expiry and Loss of Rights

When a domain name's registration period expires, the domain loses its active status, resulting in the following consequences:

- Administrative actions cannot be performed on the domain (WHOIS/contact information updates, nameserver changes, etc. may be restricted),
- The website, email, and other services associated with the domain may be interrupted,
- The domain may be deleted, enter a "redemption" period, or be released for general registration according to the policies set by the registry operator.

Complete loss of rights occurs once the domain is deleted and after the redemption and pending delete processes, as defined by the registry operator. After this process, the domain becomes available for re-registration by any user.



3. Domain Deletion and Restoration Phases (General Flow)

This section outlines the typical process, particularly for common gTLD extensions like .com, .net, .org, .biz, .info, .xyz, .ist. Some extensions may have different durations and naming conventions.

3.1. Active Status

- The domain is registered, and its registration period has not yet expired.
- The domain owner can extend the registration by paying the normal renewal fee.
- Nameserver, WHOIS, and other administrative actions can be performed.

3.2. On-Hold / Expired Status

- When the registration period expires, the domain may become inactive or be redirected to a park page.
- The website, email, and other services linked to the domain may no longer function.
- Many extensions offer a short “grace period” during which:
 - The domain can be renewed without additional fees or with a minimal fee (depending on the extension),
 - Some ccTLDs (such as .de, .at, .ru) may have a much shorter grace period or may move directly to “redemption” status.

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3.3. Redemption Period (Final Chance to Recover)

- The domain is marked for deletion by the registry operator because it was not renewed, but it has not yet been permanently deleted.
- This period typically lasts about 30 days (may vary depending on the extension).
- During this period:
 - The domain cannot be renewed at the regular renewal fee,
 - It can only be restored by paying a “restore/redemption” fee plus the renewal fee.
- For example, during the redemption period for extensions like .com and .net:
 - A restore fee (e.g., approximately 100 USD, as specified in our current pricing)
 - Plus the regular renewal fee for the year is charged.
- The applicable restore fee for each extension is listed in your Domain Name API panel or pricing table.



3.4. Pending Delete

- After the redemption period, the domain enters the “pending delete” status.
- This stage usually lasts up to 5 days.
- During this period:
 - The domain cannot be restored or re-registered by the domain owner.
 - After this period, the domain will be permanently deleted and become available for re-registration by any user (on a first-come, first-served basis, via manual registration or backordering).

4. Example Timeline (for gTLDs)

The following example outlines an approximate timeline for common gTLDs such as .com, .net, .org. This may vary for different TLDs or ccTLDs:

- **Day 0:** The domain expires – the domain may become inactive or redirect to a park page.
- **Day 1–~20:**
 - "Expired / On-Hold" status;
 - Renewal may be possible with a normal or minimal additional fee (depending on the extension).
- **Day ~20–~50:**
 - The domain enters the “Redemption Period”;
 - It can be restored with the restore fee + renewal fee.
- **Day ~50–~55:**
 - “Pending Delete” phase;
 - The domain cannot be restored, it is only awaiting deletion.
- **Day ~55+:**
 - The domain is permanently deleted;
 - It becomes available for re-registration by any user (manual registration or backorder).

Note: For some ccTLDs (such as .de, .at, .ru), the domain may move directly into redemption or deleted status shortly after expiration. Therefore, the registry operator rules for ccTLD extensions should be reviewed separately.



5. User Responsibility and Reminders

Domain Name API provides email notifications and visual reminders regarding domain expiration in compliance with ICANN's ERRP (Expired Registration Recovery Policy). However:

- It is your responsibility to track your domain expiration dates by logging into your panel,
- To keep your account's email address up to date,
- To register critical domain names with long-term registrations, especially for company names, brands, and intellectual property.

Regardless of the circumstances, Domain Name API is not responsible for any loss of rights, brand value, email or website interruptions, or any other issues caused by expired domains if we have provided the required technical infrastructure and fulfilled our notification obligations under ICANN ERRP rules.

6. Customer Recommendations

The following recommendations are for informational purposes and are independent of our mandatory notification obligations under ICANN ERRP:

At Domain Name API, we recommend that our customers:

- Register domains containing company names, brands, product names, and corporate identities for at least 3–5 years,
- Renew domains well in advance of their expiration date,
- Regularly check domains that are nearing expiration via the panel or API, especially if multiple domains are in the account,
- Use reminder systems or additional calendar alerts (e.g., Outlook, Google Calendar) for critical business processes linked to these domains.

7. Further Information on ICANN Policies

For detailed information on ICANN's policies regarding domain deletion and restoration processes, you can visit the following link:

- ICANN Expired Registration Recovery Policy (ERRP) and related documents: <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/errp-2013-02-28-en>
Some TLD/ccTLD extensions may have additional rules set by their respective registry operators. If you need specific details for your domain's extension, you can contact the Domain Name API support team.

