

Custom domain setup

DNS for every major registrar, walked through. 10 minutes from start to live.

This guide walks through pointing a custom domain at Linkos using the 5 most common registrars. If you've never edited DNS records before, follow your registrar's section. If you have, skip to the records cheat-sheet.

Before you start

You need three things:

1. A domain you already own (subdomains like `bio.yoursite.com` count if you own `yoursite.com`).
 2. Access to your registrar's dashboard - Namecheap, GoDaddy, Cloudflare, Porkbun, Hover, or another.
 3. About 10 minutes. Most registrars propagate within 60 seconds; worst case is 24 hours.
- That's it. No code, no file uploads.

The records cheat-sheet

You will add ONE of these two combinations to your DNS, depending on whether you are pointing a subdomain or the apex (root) domain.

For a subdomain (recommended) - example: `bio.yoursite.com`

Type	Name	Value	TTL
CNAME	bio	proxy.linkos.bio	3600

For an apex domain - example: `yoursite.com`

Type	Name	Value	TTL
A	@	76.76.21.21	3600
A	@	76.76.21.93	3600

If your registrar supports ALIAS or ANAME records (Cloudflare, Namecheap, Hover), use one of those instead of the two A records - it is strictly better:

Type	Name	Value	TTL
ALIAS or ANAME	@	proxy.linkos.bio	3600

Namecheap

1. Sign in at namecheap.com.
2. **Domain List** in the left sidebar -> click **Manage** next to your domain.
3. Top tab: **Advanced DNS**.
4. Find the **Host Records** section. Click **Add New Record**.
5. Choose record type:
6. Click the green checkmark to save.
7. Done. Move to "Wire it up in Linkos" below.

GoDaddy

1. Sign in at godaddy.com.
2. **My Products** in the top-right menu.
3. Find your domain. Click the three-dot menu (or "DNS") next to it.
4. You'll land on the DNS Management page. Click **Add** (lower right area, varies by GoDaddy redesign cycle).
5. Choose record type:
6. Click **Save**.
7. Done. Move to "Wire it up in Linkos" below.

GoDaddy does not support ALIAS or ANAME records for the apex - you need the two A records.

Cloudflare

1. Sign in at cloudflare.com.
2. Click your domain from the dashboard.
3. **DNS** in the left sidebar -> **Records** tab.
4. Click **Add record** (top right).
5. Choose record type:
6. Click **Save**.
7. Done. Move to "Wire it up in Linkos" below.

Important Cloudflare note: the proxy status MUST be set to "DNS only" (the gray cloud icon). If you leave it on "Proxied" (orange cloud), Cloudflare intercepts traffic before it reaches Linkos and SSL provisioning fails.

Porkbun

1. Sign in at porkbun.com.
2. **Domain Management** in the top nav.
3. Find your domain -> click **Details** -> **DNS Records** tab.
4. Click **Add A, MX, CNAME or other** at the top of the records list.
5. Choose type:

6. Click **Add**.
7. Done. Move to "Wire it up in Linkos" below.

Hover

1. Sign in at hover.com.
2. Click your domain from the home page.
3. **DNS** tab.
4. Click **Add a Record** (button at the top of the records list).
5. Choose type:
6. Click **Save**.
7. Done. Move to "Wire it up in Linkos" below.

Wire it up in Linkos

Once your DNS record is saved at your registrar:

1. Open your Linkos workspace at linkos.bio.
2. **Settings** -> **Custom domain**.
3. Type in your full domain (the subdomain or apex you just pointed at us).
4. Click **Verify**.
5. Wait. Most registrars propagate within 60 seconds. Worst case is 24 hours.

When propagation completes, you will see a green checkmark. **SSL is provisioned automatically** - you do not need to upload a certificate, configure HTTPS, or do anything else. Let's Encrypt certificates are issued and auto-renewed every 90 days.

The 3 errors that trip up most people

When Verify fails, it is almost always one of these.

1. Cloudflare proxy is on (orange cloud)

If your domain is at Cloudflare and the proxy status is "Proxied" (orange cloud icon), Cloudflare intercepts traffic before it reaches Linkos. Linkos cannot provision SSL, and Verify fails.

Fix: Edit the DNS record. Toggle the proxy status to **DNS only** (gray cloud). Save. Try Verify again.

2. Wrong record at the apex

A standard CNAME pointing @ at `proxy.linkos.bio` is technically against the DNS spec on apex domains. Some registrars silently reject it. Symptoms: the record looks saved, but DNS lookups return nothing.

Fix: At the apex, use the two A records OR an ALIAS/ANAME record. Never a plain CNAME at the apex unless your registrar has built-in CNAME flattening (Cloudflare, Porkbun).

3. DNS has not propagated yet

You just added the record and immediately clicked Verify. DNS caches at every level of the internet (your ISP, your DNS resolver, root servers). Changes take time to propagate.

Fix: Wait 5-10 minutes. Then try Verify again. If you want to confirm propagation, run from a terminal:

- macOS or Linux: `dig bio.yoursite.com`
- Windows: `nslookup bio.yoursite.com`

If the answer matches what you set (a CNAME pointing at `proxy.linkos.bio`, or A records pointing at the IPs), propagation is done. If the answer is the old record or nothing, wait longer.

What about email and other subdomains?

Pointing your custom domain at Linkos affects **only the specific subdomain or apex you set up**. Email, your main website, and other subdomains all keep working untouched.

- If `yoursite.com` is on Squarespace and you point `bio.yoursite.com` at Linkos: the CNAME at `bio` is independent of whatever's at `@`. Squarespace does not care.
- If you point the apex (`yoursite.com`) at Linkos: your MX records (which control email) live at a different record type - they are not touched. Email keeps flowing.

This is one of the most-asked questions. The answer is always: only the records you change are affected.

If you do not have a domain yet

Two registrars we recommend if you are buying a fresh domain:

- **Cloudflare Registrar** (cloudflare.com/products/registrar). At-cost pricing, no markup, usually 9-12 USD per year for a `.com`. Best UI for DNS management. Some restrictions on transferring out within 60 days.
- **Porkbun** (porkbun.com). Slightly more expensive than Cloudflare, but friendly UI and good support for indie creators.

Avoid GoDaddy if you can. Privacy protection is an upsell rather than included. Renewal pricing jumps after year one. The DNS UI feels stuck in 2009.

Common questions

Will my site go down during the switch? No. Until DNS propagates to a given visitor, they hit the old destination (or nothing if it was never set). After propagation, they hit Linkos. There is no "in between" broken state if you do it correctly.

Can I use a subdomain like `links.yoursite.com` instead of `bio.yoursite.com`? Yes. The subdomain name is up to you. `bio`, `links`, `me`, `social`, or anything else works. Just make sure the

CNAME's Name field matches whatever you choose.

Can I move my custom domain back later? Yes. Delete or change the DNS record at your registrar. Linkos releases the domain immediately. You can repoint it at your old destination or somewhere new.

Does Linkos cost extra for custom domains? No. Custom domains are included on every plan, including free. You only pay your registrar for the domain itself.

Stuck on a step or your registrar is not listed here? Email contact@linkos.bio (<mailto:contact@linkos.bio>) with your domain, registrar, and a screenshot of your DNS records page. We will respond within a day, usually the same morning.

Built by the Linkos team.