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How many visitors can a hosting plan handle? Why the monthly total does not answer it

Resources & Limits

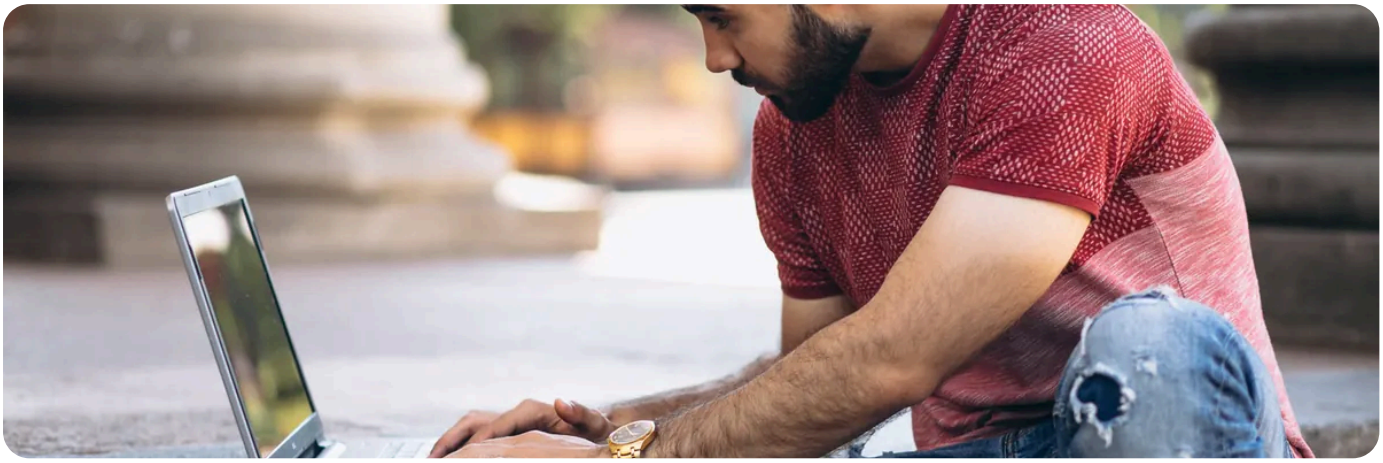
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How many visitors can a hosting plan handle? Why the monthly total does not answer it

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There is no monthly visit count that suits everyone, and anyone who gives you one is guessing. **What decides it is how many people ask for pages at the same time, and how long the server takes to answer each one.** A light site with caching carries far more people than a heavy one on the same plan. That is why plans are described by limits you can measure in the panel and not by visits per month.

The sum that matters

Take, as an example, a site that gets ten requests a second and answers each in half a second: at any instant about five requests are being handled together. If the same site takes two seconds per request, it becomes about twenty. **The number of visits is the same, the load is four times higher.** That is why making a site faster is the cheapest way to give it capacity.

What raises capacity	What lowers it
Page caching, which serves pages already built	Pages built from scratch on every visit
Small, well-handled images	Multi-megabyte images
Few, well-chosen plugins	Plugins that call outside services on every request
Visits spread across the day	A crowd in the same minute, from a campaign or a share
Real visitors	*Bots* and automatic readers crawling the whole site

Finding out where you are, step by step

1. **Open Resource Usage in cPanel** (Metrics section) and look at usage against the limit on your busiest days. See **how to monitor your site performance in cPanel**.

2 **Look for the moments you hit the ceiling.** The Errors section records failures caused by limits, with date and time. Cross the two.

3 **See how long a page takes.** Measuring tools give you a concrete figure. See **what to measure before you change plan**.

4 **Only then decide.** If usage lives near the limit every week, the plan has become small. If it touched the limit once, you have a peak to deal with and not a plan to change.

Not everything counted as a visit is a person

Part of what the statistics count as visits are robots: search engines, checkers, crawlers and login attempts. They count as requests and take the same capacity as a person. If usage is high and real visits are few, look there first.

"Unlimited" traffic does not mean unlimited capacity.
What can have a limit is what the server must do to answer: processor, memory and simultaneous requests. See **"Unlimited": what really is unlimited, and what has a limit**.

Before changing plan, make the site lighter.
It usually costs less and gains more. If usage still does not fit, you change plan yourself in the panel: **changing plan and how the amount is settled**.

NEED A HAND?

Want to know whether your site fits the plan? Give us the address and we will go through the usage with you.

Open a support ticket →

Where to see it in your account

The ceilings that decide how many visitors fit (entry processes, CPU, memory and I/O) are shown against your real usage in cPanel under **Resource Usage**, so you read the figures of your own account and not an average.

An example of reading it. After a week with a campaign, you open the screen and see CPU and entry processes touching the line twice, for ten minutes each, at the hour the newsletter went out: that is a peak, and a page cache is the answer. If instead the line is touched on most days at ordinary hours, the plan has become small and it is time to move up. What each step gives: Pro 1 site and 10 GB, Plus 6 sites and 20 GB, Ultra unlimited sites and 30 GB, and the Business plans unlimited sites with 50, 100 or 200 GB. Moving up does not cost you the site.

SEE ALSO

- **The limits nobody advertises: inodes, processes and memory**
- **"Unlimited": what really is unlimited, and what has a limit**
- **Preparing for a traffic spike: a campaign, a launch or a live event**
- **Hosting plans**

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