interweb

Generated on 29/10/2026 12:16

KNOWLEDGE BASE · PUBLIC DOCUMENT

The domain you want is already taken: what you can do, and what to avoid

Domains & DNS

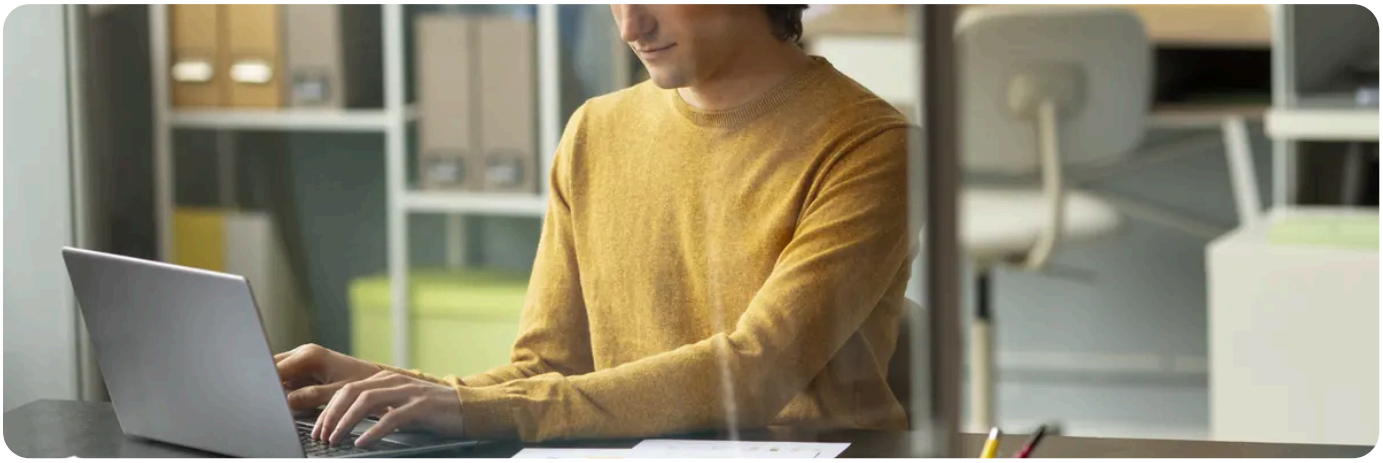
CODE	VERSION	COUNTRY · LANGUAGE
RLX-MZ-KB-1778	v2026.10.15	Mozambique · English

Interweb Mozambique
RLX Holdings, S.A. · Group RLX Holdings
Tax ID (NUIT) 401 191 607 · Legal entity no. (NUEL) 105 045 974 · Economic activity code (CAE) 62022

https://www.meu.interweb.co.mz/knowledgebase/1778

The domain you want is already taken: what you can do, and what to avoid

Domains & DNS Created on **October 15, 2026** 2 min read



The short answer: a name that is already registered cannot be registered again. But "taken" means different things: the name may be **in use**, **parked and unused**, or **about to expire**. What you can do depends on which, and nearly always there is a good alternative sooner than pushing for that name.

First, understand the case

1. **Open the address in a browser.** If a site is running, the name is in use: look for another.

2. **Check WHOIS** at **WHOIS lookup**: it shows, among other things, the registration date and the expiry date (sometimes with the holder's details hidden). See **What WHOIS shows**.

3. **If the name is parked,** it does not mean it is for sale. It may belong to someone who is keeping it, who will still use it or who is waiting for a buyer.

The alternatives, from simplest to most work

Option	When it fits
Another extension of the same name (for example, your country's instead of .com)	When the name is mainly for customers in your country. See **How to choose the right domain**.
Add a word that says what you do or where you are	"companyname" becomes "companyname-services" or "companyname-maputo". Prefer words to numbers and avoid many hyphens.
A different name, short and easy to say on the phone	Almost always the best choice: a new brand with a free name is worth more than an old one with a crooked name.

Option	When it fits
Contact the holder	If the name really matters. Be polite, say who you are and what you want the name for. Expect a high price, and there may be no reply.
Wait for it to expire	A domain that is not renewed goes through stages before becoming free again. See **Expired domain**. There is no guarantee the holder will not renew it.

Beware of names almost identical to another company's.
Registering a name similar to a well-known brand, to win its customers, can be treated as abuse and lead to losing the domain. Choose a name that is yours.

Before paying for a name, check that the social media handle is free too and say the name aloud to someone: if it has to be spelled out, it is bad. When the right name is free, register it at once and add e-mail on your domain: **Free e-mail or e-mail on your own domain**.

NEED A HAND?

Want help choosing between a few names you thought of? Open a ticket with the list and what the business does.

Open a support ticket →

SEE ALSO

- How to choose the right domain for your business →
- WHOIS: what it shows about your domain and how to check it →
- Expired domain: what happens and how long you have to recover it →
- Registry, registrar and registrant: who owns the domain? →

interweb

Interweb Mozambique

RLX Holdings, S.A. · Group RLX Holdings

TAX ID (NUIT)	401 191 607
LEGAL ENTITY NO. (NUEL)	105 045 974
ECONOMIC ACTIVITY CODE (CAE)	62022
REGISTERED OFFICE	Bairro 7 de Setembro Vilankulo 1304 · CEP 0411-02, Inhambane, Mozambique
CONTACT	info@interweb.co.mz · +258 84 635 1111 · +258 86 635 1111 · www.interweb.co.mz
OPENING HOURS	Monday to Friday - 08 AM to 04 PM Saturday & Sunday - Closed

Online version of this document

RLX-MZ-KB-1778 · v2026.10.15 · Generated on 29/10/2026 12:16