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Registro.br: pointing a .br domain to us

Domains & DNS

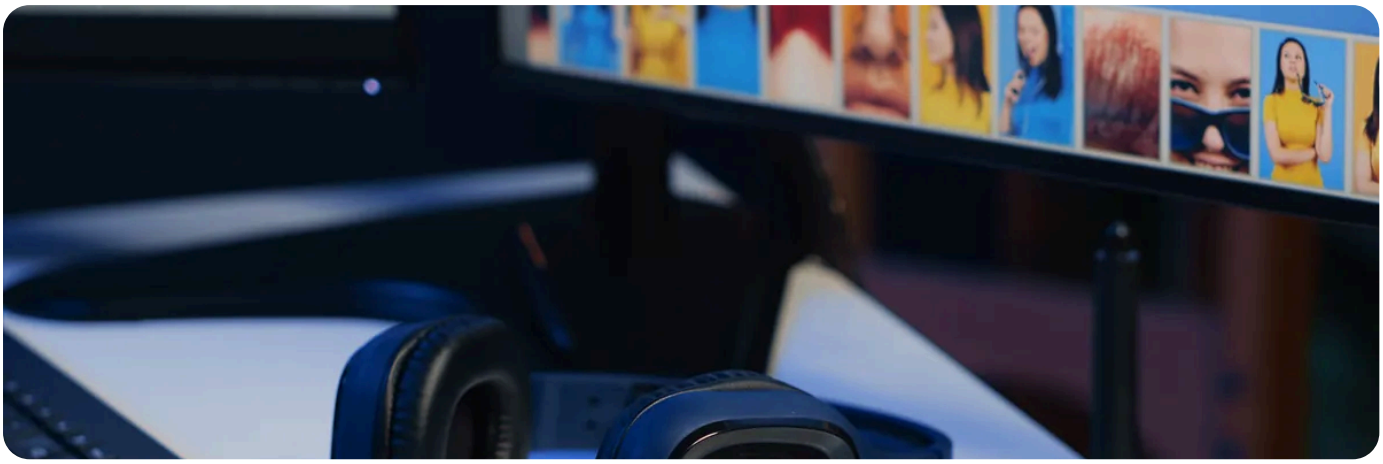
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Registro.br: pointing a .br domain to us

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A `.br` domain does not work like the others, which is why this article is not like the others. The Brazilian national registry is in charge of `.br`, and that is where the nameservers live, no matter where the domain was bought.

> **We do not register or transfer `.br` domains.**
> No Brazilian extension is on our list. Your `.br` **stays where it is**, you pay whoever holds it today, and what this article teaches you is how to change **where it points**. That is the difference between this case and the others: there will never be an option to bring the domain here and settle everything in one place. The hosting can be ours; the domain cannot.

> **Before you touch anything: your e-mail moves too.**
> Changing nameservers does not just change where the site points. It moves the **whole zone**, and mail is part of the zone. If your mailboxes live where the domain lives, or with any other service, they stop receiving a minute later. **If the e-mail is to stay where it is, do not touch the nameservers: edit the zone instead** and change only the record for the website. The difference between the two is right below.

What is particular to `.br`

Particular	What it means for you
There is no registrar in the middle	We measured it: `dig NS registro.br` and `dig NS nic.br` both return the same servers, `a.dns.br` through `e.dns.br`. The registry owns the delegation outright. A provider may act on your behalf, but the change always ends up there.
The account belongs to a CPF or a CNPJ	Not to an e-mail address and not to a hosting company. Whoever can log in is the holder, or someone the holder named as a contact. If the domain ended up under a former partner's CPF, that is who you talk to, and there is no way around it.
There is their DNS and there is external DNS	The registry offers to hold the zone for you. To point the domain here, the option you want is **external DNS servers**, with our four names.

Particular	What it means for you
The configuration is verified before it is accepted	This is the difference that catches everybody, and it is explained right below.
You pay them	A `.br` renews at the registry. We do not renew a `.br` that is not with us, and no DNS change rescues an expired domain.

THE ORDER IS THE REVERSE OF THE USUAL ONE.
The `.br` registry checks whether the nameservers you declare *already answer* for the domain before it publishes the delegation. If the zone does not yet exist on our side, the change is refused, or flagged with an error and never takes effect. So: **first the hosting account is created with that domain inside it, and only then are the nameservers declared at the registry.** That is the opposite of most registrars, where you can declare first and configure later.

The right order, start to finish

1. **Order the hosting and tell us the domain.** We create the zone on this side, with the A record for the bare domain, the `www` and whatever else is needed. From that moment our servers already know how to answer for your domain, before anyone asks them.

2. **Confirm that we already answer.** Without waiting for anyone: `dig @dns1.interweb.co.mz A asuaempresa.co.mz`. If that returns your hosting address, you are ready for the next step. If it returns nothing or an error, **stop** and talk to us: declaring the nameservers now will be refused.

3. **Log in to the registry with the holder's CPF or CNPJ** and open the domain. The word to look for is **DNS**.

4. **Choose the external DNS servers option** (the wording is usually *external DNS* or *use other servers*) and type ours in: `dns1.interweb.co.mz` `dns2.interweb.co.mz` `dns3.interweb.co.mz` `dns4.interweb.co.mz`

5. **Save, then check again, this time from outside:** `dig NS asuaempresa.co.mz`. Until the answer is ours, the delegation has not changed.

Asking the registry directly

Any resolver may still be answering with the old delegation. To see what the registry is publishing right now, ask the registry: `dig @a.dns.br NS asuaempresa.co.mz`. That answer is the one that counts, and it passes through no cache on the way.

If the registry's answer is already ours and your own computer still sees the old one, the problem has stopped being `.br` and become cache. How to get through each layer is in **how long DNS changes take to propagate**.

If the e-mail stays where it is

Then do not touch the nameservers. Leave the zone wherever it is being read today and change only the A record for the site inside it. You find out where that is with `dig NS asuaempresa.co.mz`. The full reasoning is in **e-mail in one place and site in another**.

If you do bring the nameservers here, bring the MX records with them.
Before you save anything, save the current list: `dig MX asuaempresa.co.mz` and `dig TXT asuaempresa.co.mz`. Once the delegation changes, that list can no longer be read anywhere, and rebuilding it from memory costs days of lost mail.

What we do not do for you

We do not log in to your registry account, and we will not ask you for its password. What we do is: prepare the zone on this side, give you the exact values to type, and check them with you afterwards. The registry password is yours and should stay that way.

And no, there is no way to merge the two houses into one: since we do not register `.br`, the domain goes on being managed there and the hosting here, and that split is permanent. If you ever add a domain on another extension to the same site, that one can live with us: see **how to transfer a domain to us**.

NEED A HAND?

Tell us the domain. We prepare the zone on this side and only then give you the names to type at the registry, in the right order.

Open a support ticket →

SEE ALSO

- **Domain transfer** →
- **Hosting migration** →
- **Hosting plans and what each one includes** →

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