

BUILDING A WEBSITE

It is not easy to give some definitive pointers regarding websites without more background on what you are trying to achieve with your website, the available skills in your group, and amount of money you have to spend on a website.

But one of these approaches may help. These are not recommendations or endorsements, but examples of what existing Men's Sheds have used.

1) A free approach, using only generally available IT skills is FACEBOOK

See these examples of Men's Sheds using Facebook

- Nailsea Social Shedders <https://www.facebook.com/nailseasocialshedders>
- Portglenone Men's Shed <https://www.facebook.com/PortglenoneCommunityMensShed>

2) A free approach, to build a simple site would be to use ONLINE WEBSITE BUILDERS

Eg: www.webs.com or www.moonfruit.com

See these examples of Men's Sheds using these sites

- Bedford Men's Shed <http://meninshedsbedford.webs.com/>
- Dartford Men's Shed <http://www.dartfordshed.moonfruit.com/>

3) Utilising a SUB-DOMAIN of an existing organisation

(Depending on who may be backing or supporting the shed)

You can often use the expertise of the "parent" organisation

See these examples of Men's Sheds using sub-domains

- The Shed Tameside www.ageuk.org.uk/tameside/our-services/men-in-sheds/
 - (Sub-domain of www.ageuk.org.uk)
- Halton Men's Shed <http://www.haltonhavenhospice.co.uk/mens-shed-project-halton-haven-hospice/>
 - (Sub-domain of www.haltonhavenhospice.co.uk)

4) Utilising WORDPRESS (A free, but more complex website can be built, but needs Wordpress skills)

See these examples of Men's Sheds using Wordpress

- All Hallows Shed <http://allhallowshed.wordpress.com/author/allhallowspswich/>
- Norwich Mens Shed <http://meninshedsnorwich.wordpress.com/>

Items 1-4 will usually be low cost/no cost – But often will not have unique web addresses.

5) The final choice is a STANDALONE WEBSITE

This will cost anything from £100 per year upwards, and requires a certain level of IT skills (and software) to build.

See these examples of Men's Sheds using stand-alone sites

- Frome Men's Shed www.fromeshed.org.uk
- Men in Sheds Milton Keynes <http://meninshedsmk.org.uk>