

In this document we will try to explain you what wildcards are and how to enable it by yourself.

## What is wildcards subdomains?

Wildcard (or catch-all) subdomains makes it so whatever subdomain a visitor puts in (i.e. blabla.domain.com) it resolves back to the main domain name domain.com.

Basically, " \*. domain.com " redirects to -> " domain.com "

Wildcards subdomains may be required by various scripts or plugins (such as Multipress, Blogsolution, etc), in order to be able to create subdomains on the fly and display different content on different subdomains.

## How to activate wildcards

The below examples are based on Hostgator account. However, it should be same on most hosts that are using cPanel (like Hostmonster, slhost, etc).

If you are having issues to enable wildcards subdomains yourself, talk with your host support. Chances are that it may be done in a different way on your host, possible only by a server admin and not a normal user.

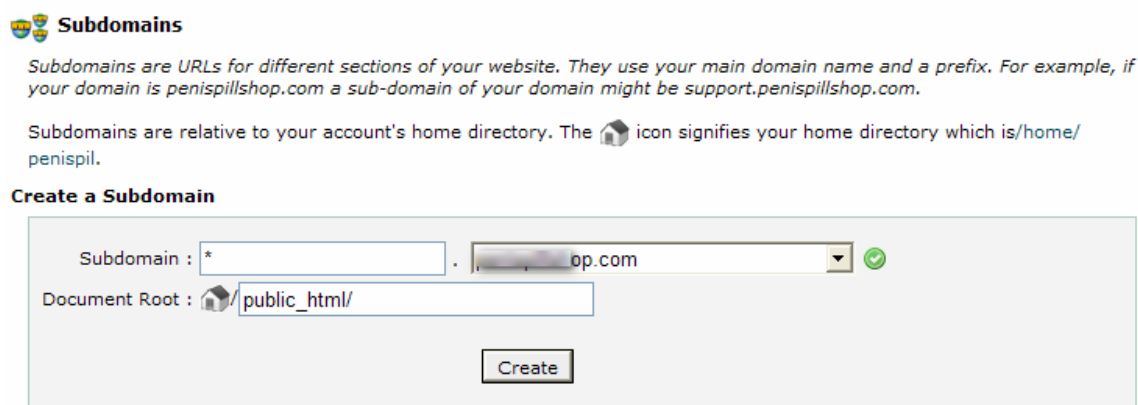
## Add wildcards for master domain (main domain of an account)

If you enable wildcards on master domain of a hosting plan, and you are using add-on domains as well, you may cause add-on domains to malfunction. **Only do this if you do not use add-on domains.** Otherwise check below. If you enabled wildcards on master domain and you notice any issue with other domains, just remove it.

Go to cPanel and click on Subdomains icon



On next screen put \* in a subdomains field, select your main domain. The document root will be automatically filled. Leave it as /public\_html/ then click Create button. That's all!



## How to activate wildcards for an Add-on domain.

Usually you can have more domains in your host account. Those domains are known as “Add-on domains”. That means they do not have their own cPanel/ftp account but it share same cPanel/ftp with the master domain of the account. When you login to FTP addon domains shows as folders in /public\_html/ of your main domain. You can still enable wildcards and is better to use the addon domains to install scripts that use wildcards.

In your CPANEL, look for this section and click on ADDON Domains;



You will get redirected to a page that looks like below:



Scroll down to the bottom of the screen where you will see your list of addon domains.

Modify Add-on Domain

**This is the section we want**

Search  Go

ADDON DOMAINS	DOCUMENT ROOT	USERNAME	REDIRECTS TO	ACTIONS
domain1.com	public_html/domain1.com	name1	not redirected	Remove Manage Redirection
domain2.com	public_html/domain2.com	johndoe	not redirected	Remove Manage Redirection

you will need to copy this down in this format:  
public\_html/domain-name-folder

Copy the path of the DOCUMENT ROOT for the domain name you want to activate wildcards. It will be something like “public\_html/domain2.com/” or just “public\_html/domain2/”

Click HOME icon on left side of top page header to go back to CPANEL main screen



On main cPanel screen look for DOMAINS section and click SubDomains.



On next screen enter \* in SubDomain field;

Choose the domain you want to activate wilcards for;

Then enter the Document Root path (the one that you eariler copied, eg. public\_html/domain2.com/)



Click Create button.

You are done, Congratulations!