



## dotkoeln registry

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# Domain Name Composition Policy for the TLD .koeln

## I. Purpose of this document

The purpose of this document is to describe NetCologne's policy on domain name composition, to make users of the service aware of how domain names in the TLD .koeln are composed.

We have developed this policy with reference to applicable industry standards, ICANN mandated requirements, and to meet our operational requirements for the TLD.

## II. Concepts about domain names

### a. What a domain name looks like

We use the word 'label' to describe a sequence of characters. A domain name is made up of one or more labels, separated by a period ('.'), for example "netcologne.koeln", or "service.netcologne.koeln"

Labels that may be used to make a domain name are subject to composition requirements described in this document.

### b. Levels of domain names

A domain name is often described in relation to its 'level': A 'second level' domain name consists of one label before the TLD (for example "netcologne.koeln"); a 'third level' domain name consists of two labels before the TLD (for example "service.netcologne.koeln"), and so on.

All domain names in the TLD .koeln will be composed of Latin characters

## III. Composition requirements

For the TLD .koeln NetCologne will validate all attempts to create domain names against these technical composition requirements prior to allowing a domain name to be created.

### a. Permitted characters

All domain names must consist solely of the following characters:



U+002D # HYPEN-MINUS  
U+0030 # DIGIT ZERO  
U+0031 # DIGIT ONE  
U+0032 # DIGIT TWO  
U+0033 # DIGIT THREE  
U+0034 # DIGIT FOUR  
U+0035 # DIGIT FIVE  
U+0036 # DIGIT SIX  
U+0037 # DIGIT SEVEN  
U+0038 # DIGIT EIGHT  
U+0039 # DIGIT NINE  
U+0061 # LATIN SMALL LETTER A  
U+0062 # LATIN SMALL LETTER B  
U+0063 # LATIN SMALL LETTER C  
U+0064 # LATIN SMALL LETTER D  
U+0065 # LATIN SMALL LETTER E  
U+0066 # LATIN SMALL LETTER F  
U+0067 # LATIN SMALL LETTER G  
U+0068 # LATIN SMALL LETTER H  
U+0069 # LATIN SMALL LETTER I  
U+006A # LATIN SMALL LETTER J  
U+006B # LATIN SMALL LETTER K  
U+006C # LATIN SMALL LETTER L  
U+006D # LATIN SMALL LETTER M  
U+006E # LATIN SMALL LETTER N  
U+006F # LATIN SMALL LETTER O  
U+0070 # LATIN SMALL LETTER P  
U+0071 # LATIN SMALL LETTER Q  
U+0072 # LATIN SMALL LETTER R  
U+0073 # LATIN SMALL LETTER S  
U+0074 # LATIN SMALL LETTER T  
U+0075 # LATIN SMALL LETTER U  
U+0076 # LATIN SMALL LETTER V  
U+0077 # LATIN SMALL LETTER W  
U+0078 # LATIN SMALL LETTER X  
U+0079 # LATIN SMALL LETTER Y  
U+007A # LATIN SMALL LETTER Z  
U+00DF # LATIN SMALL LETTER SHARP S (ß)  
U+00E4 # LATIN SMALL LETTER A WITH DIAERESIS (A-UMLAUT) (ä)  
U+00F6 # LATIN SMALL LETTER O WITH DIAERESIS (O-UMLAUT) (ö)  
U+00FC # LATIN SMALL LETTER U WITH DIAERESIS (U-UMLAUT) (ü)



Characters other than the aforementioned cannot be displayed and therefore must not be used.

Upper case letters are treated as lower case letters.

A domain name may not begin or end with a hyphen, nor contain hyphens in the third and fourth position.

The minimum length of a domain name is two (2) characters; the maximum length is sixty three (63) characters.

If the domain name contains one or more of the characters "ß", "ä", "ö" or "ü", the maximum length is determined in accordance with the Request for Comments 5890 in the so-called ACE encoded form of the domain ("A-Label").

The characters "ß", "ä", "ö" or "ü" will not be considered equivalent to "ss", "ae", "oe" or "ue".

#### **IV. Definition and review**

This document has been prepared and published to represent NetCologne's policy regarding the administrative and technical management of the TLD.

NetCologne may discontinue or amend any part or the whole of this policy from time to time at our absolute discretion.