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### Introduction

At Freethought we are extremely proud of our reputation for providing excellent customer service along with great value for money. Keeping our customers happy means that they not only stick with us, but also they regularly recommend us to their friends and family.

In fact, word of mouth is the largest single source of new business for Freethought, and with our affiliate scheme you can now earn money from everyone you refer to us.

As a Freethought affiliate you can earn a commission for every customer you refer who goes on to purchase a product or service. You can then withdraw that commission into your bank or use it to pay for your own Freethought services.

Freethought affiliates are free to refer as many customers as they wish and earn as much commission as they are able, no limits.



## Getting started

Becoming an affiliate is easy peasy, just follow these three steps.

- 1. Create an account in the customer portal or login to an existing account
- 2. Activate your account as an affiliate
- 3. Share your unique referral link and start earning!

You can share your link on your website, via email, social media, or shout it from the roof tops if you like! (Although URLs don't lend themselves to roof top proclamations). The more times you share it, the more money you can potentially earn from those who use your link.

Using the customer portal affiliate tools you can track how many times your link has been used, the number of times someone has signed up from your link, and most importantly; how much you have earned. Once you've earned at least £50 you can also request withdrawal of your earnings to your Freethought account to spend on Freethought services, or as cold hard cash straight into your bank or PayPal account, the choice is yours.







### Commission rates

The following tables show the commission rates for all the products and services that currently are eligible for commission under the affiliate scheme.

The nature of some products and services we sell means that commission is not paid on website builder, domain names, SSL certificates, software licenses, dedicated servers, colocation, rack space, IP transit, or leased lines.

Product and service add-ons such as software licensing, IP addresses are also excluded from the affiliate scheme.

	Shared hosting	ULTRA hosting	Reseller hosting
Copper	£2.50	-	-
Bronze	£6.00	£40.00	£30.00
Silver	£12.00	£80.00	£60.00
Gold	£18.00	£120.00	£120.00
Platinum	£24.00	£160.00	£180.00

	Virtual servers	Managed virtual servers
V1G	£20.00	
V2G	£40.00	
V4G	£80.00	
V6G	£120.00	
V8G	£160.00	Add £120 to the virtual server
V12G	£240.00	commission for the tier of virtual server purchased.
V16G	£160.00	
V32G	£320.00	
V48G	£480.00	
V64G	£640.00	

Other Product	Commission
Managed WordPress	£150.00

## Payments

As soon as someone purchases a service that you referred with your affiliate link then the purchase will show in your affiliate account as a pending commission.

We delay payments by 90 days to ensure that the service they purchased remains active and to prevent fraud. As soon as 90 days have passed the commission will be confirmed and eligible for withdrawal via the various withdrawal methods available once the minimum withdrawal threshold of £50 is met.



### Withdrawal

Once you have a balance of at least £50 you can withdraw that money in a number of ways.

#### Credit Balance

If you are a Freethought customer you can have your affiliate earnings transferred to your Freethought account as a credit balance to pay for your Freethought services.

#### Bank Transfer

If you have a UK bank account then you can request we transfer your affiliate earnings electronically via BACS (3 working days) or Faster Payments (Up to 4 hours).

We can also transfer via international bank transfer or SEPA transfer for a charge of £25.

#### PayPal

We can also send your earnings via PayPal if you prefer which may be cheaper for those located outside the UK as there are no international bank transfer fees. Although you will likely still be charged PayPal fees remember.

## Freethought branding

As a Freethought affiliate you are free to use Freethought branding alongside your referral links, a variety of logos are provided for all affiliates on our website.















In order to use our logos we would ask that you abide by the following usage rules for our logo.

- You are permitted to use the Freethought logos and face on any medium on which you promote your affiliate link, including but not limited to: websites, social media, printed material, tattoos, and email.
- The logo cannot be used for any other purpose other than promoting your affiliate link and should be placed in reasonable close proximity to the link itself.
- You must not recolour or modify the logos in any way.
- Where possible the logo should be placed on plain single colour backgrounds and not complex patterns or photos.
- When sizing, the height of the logo must not be smaller than 50 pixels, or approximately the width of a thumb. The ratio of height to width must not be modified, nor should the image be cropped.
- Our logo should be spaced away from other logos, as a rule there should be white space of at least half the width of the face emblem between the Freethought logo and any other logo, including your own.
- When using the face emblem alone, the word "Freethought" or "Freethought Internet" must be used alongside the affiliate link itself.

These rules are there to protect our brand identity, if you have an idea for promoting your affiliate link that you think might fall foul of these rules then get in touch and we'll discuss it with you.

## Frequently asked questions

Here are the most commonly asked questions about the affiliate scheme. If you have a question that isn't answered though then get in touch.

#### Do I have to be a Freethought customer?

No you don't, anyone can become a Freethought affiliate.

#### How long does it take to confirm payments?

Earnings are delayed by 90 days to ensure a service remains active and to prevent fraud.

#### How long will withdrawing my earnings take?

Once requested we will send you your money by the end of the next working day, often much quicker. The payment method you choose will determine how long it takes for the money to arrive, the quickest is PayPal or account credit (instant), the slowest method is international bank transfer.

#### Can I track performance of my links?

Absolutely, in the portal you can view how many clicks and signups your link has generated and the calculated conversion rate.

#### Can I withdraw in any currency?

When we transfer your earnings we will send them in Pounds Sterling (£), it will be up to your financial institution to convert that to your local currency if you are outside the UK and you will be responsible for any fees.

#### Is there a limit to how much I can earn?

No! You can earn as much as you like, the sky is the limit, if you go crazy and earn £1,000,000 in commission, then we'll pay you £1,000,000 commission. Please do your best!

#### What is the minimum amount I can withdraw?

The smallest amount you can withdraw is £50.

#### Do my earnings expire?

No, the earnings stay valid forever so if you are a smaller affiliate don't worry, those earnings will slowly accumulate over time until you can withdraw them.

#### Do I pay tax on my earnings?

We aren't selling you anything so no VAT is charged. That said any earnings may count as income depending on your local tax laws, you should consult a tax expert or your local tax office for further advice. We aren't tax experts so don't take our word for it!

#### Do you supply any banners or buttons?

Afraid not, but you're welcome to make a banner or button of your own to promote your affiliate link using the supplied logos.

### Terms and conditions

The following terms apply to all customers who participate in the Freethought affiliate scheme *in addition* to the standard terms and conditions available on our website.

- Where Freethought provides assets such as logos, banners, buttons and other promotional materials these must not be edited by the affiliate in any way other than those specifically approved of as detailed in this document
- Affiliates are not permitted to use paid for advertising to promote their coupon code, i.e. pay per click, paid for social media advertising, print advertising etc.
- Affiliates are not permitted to trick or covertly direct customers to the Freethought website without adequately informing them that the link is a paying affiliate link.
- Under no circumstance will an affiliate use unsolicited email communications (spam) or other similar forms of communication to mass market their affiliate link.
   Complaints of spam relating to Freethought affiliate links will result in the immediate termination of the affiliate and any earnings will be forfeited.
- Commission payments will not be paid for services purchased for the affiliates own use or where an affiliate is pretending to order in the name of a friend or family member when in fact it is for their own use. This is solely at the discretion of Freethought.

- Commission payments will not be paid for services that are used in breach of the standard Freethought terms and conditions of service as found on the Freethought website.
- Commission rates will be amended from time to time and published in a new revision of this booklet made available online.
- Freethought reserves the right to terminate an affiliate account or refuse an individual or all commission payments to an affiliate should Freethought feel the scheme is being abused, fraud is occurring, or the affiliate is damaging the Freethought brand in some way.
- Freethought reserves the right to terminate an affiliate account, refuse payout, or cancel accrued commission payments should an affiliate be subject to or become subject to a court order, international embargo, international sanction, or similar legislation or order that would make paying out commission or otherwise doing business with the affiliate unlawful in the United Kingdom.
- Affiliates must not be an employee or shareholder of Freethought Internet or the immediate family of employees or shareholders of Freethought Internet.

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