

## How to Guide - Using Tiny URLs

### What is a URL?

URL stands for **Uniform Resource Locator**, the global address of documents and other resources on the World Wide Web.

The first part of the address is called a *protocol identifier* and it indicates what protocol to use, and the second part is called a *resource name* and it specifies the IP address or the domain name where the resource is located. The protocol identifier and the resource name are separated by a colon and two forward slashes.

For example, the two URLs below point to two different files at the domain *pcwebopedia.com*. The first specifies an executable file that should be fetched using the FTP protocol; the second specifies a Web page that should be fetched using the HTTP protocol:

- ✚ <ftp://www.weblibraryinternational.com/stuff.exe>
- ✚ <http://www.weblibraryinternational.com/index.html>

### Why use tiny URLs?

Long URLs in emails can break when sent causing the recipient to have to cut and paste it back together.

You may be posting something on a web page that you don't want people to know what the URL is.

#### Example

This is a long URL:

<http://rover.ebay.com/rover/1/711-53200-19255-0/1?type=3&campid=5336224516&toolid=10001&customid=tiny-hp&ext=unicycle&satitle=unicycle>

that can be changed into this tinyURL:

<http://tinyurl.com/unicycles>

### How to Create and Use Tiny URLs.

There are a number of web sites that you can use to create tiny URLs.

We recommend TinyURL.com . Go to <http://tinyurl.com/> and simply enter the long URL that you wish to shorten in the box. A new tinyurl will be created that can be entered on a web page, email or document.



The screenshot shows a web form with a blue border. At the top, it says "Enter a long URL to make tiny:". Below this is a text input field and a button labeled "Make TinyURL!". Underneath the input field is a section for "Custom alias (optional):" with a text input field containing "http://tinyurl.com/" and a smaller text input field. Below the alias field, it says "May contain letters, numbers, and dashes."

Also consider using a custom alias such as 'your company name + number'  
eg. coolcatscomputing21

That's all there is to it.

Resources at [www.coolcatscomputing.com](http://www.coolcatscomputing.com)