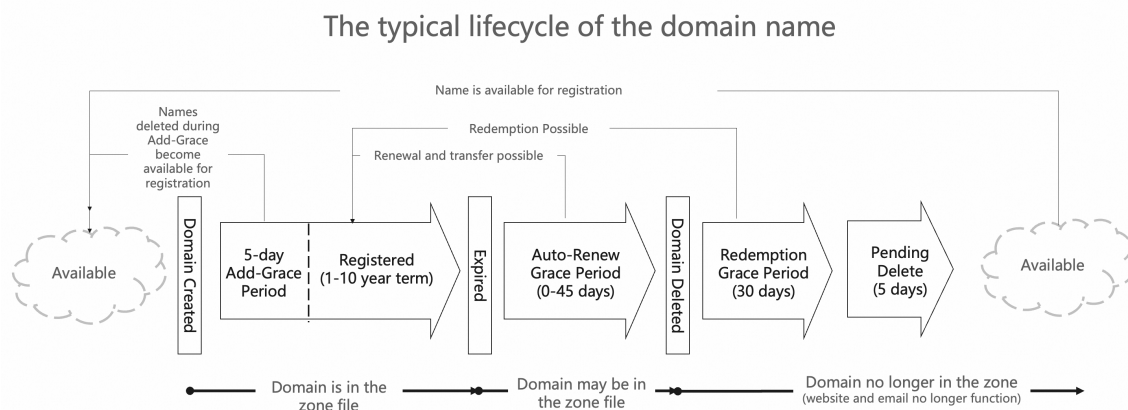


REGISTRATION LIFE CYCLE

1. Overview of Registration Lifecycle

The TLD .alibaba with its proposed RSP will follow the ICANN standard domain lifecycle, including available, add grace period, registered/renewal period, auto-renew grace period, redemption grace period (RGP), pending delete period. These lifecycle states are implemented in accordance with the ICANN gTLD Registry Agreement and EPP standards, ensuring consistent domain behavior and policy compliance across supported TLDs.



The registry full support the EPP domain status code plus the Registry Grace Period (RGP) status codes (see RFC3915)[1]. The following describe the domain status values recognized in WHOIS during the registration period (registered).

- **OK / Active** – The domain is in normal operational status, with no pending operations; it is delegated to the DNS and resolving normally.
- **Inactive** – The domain has been registered but has no assigned nameservers; it will not resolve until nameservers are set.
- **Locked** – The domain is locked, preventing specific operations. Locking can be applied at the client or server level:
 - *ClientDeleteProhibited* / *ServerDeleteProhibited* – Prevents the domain from being deleted.
 - *ClientUpdateProhibited* / *ServerUpdateProhibited* – Prevents any updates to domain data.
 - *ClientTransferProhibited* / *ServerTransferProhibited* – Prevents the domain from being transferred to another registrar.
 - *ClientRenewProhibited* / *ServerRenewProhibited* – Prevents the domain from being renewed.
- **Hold** – The domain is placed on hold, preventing it from resolving in the DNS:
 - *ClientHold* / *ServerHold*.
- **Transfer Prohibited** – The domain cannot be transferred; covered under *ClientTransferProhibited* and *ServerTransferProhibited*.

Note : Client-level statuses are set by the registrar at the request of the registrant. Server-level statuses are set by the registry operator, typically for policy enforcement, abuse mitigation, or legal requirements.

2. Domain Lifecycle Status

Regarding the domain lifecycle, there are the following stages:

- **Add Grace Period (AGP)-5 days**

After a domain is successfully registered, it enters a 5-day Add Grace Period. The Add Grace Period displays as **ADDPERIOD** in WHOIS. During this period, if a delete request is received, the domain will be immediately deleted and released for registration. It will not enter the Redemption Grace Period, and the registrar will receive a refund.

- **Delete:** Returns success; the domain is deleted and can be re-registered, and the registrar receives a refund for the registration.
- **Renew:** Renewal is supported during the Add Grace Period, with a renewal term of 1–10 years.
- **Transfer:** Domain transfer is prohibited during the Add Grace Period.

- **Registered Period – 1 to 10 years**

After the Add Grace Period ends, the domain enters the Registered Period, which represents the normal active state of a registered domain. The length of this period depends on the initial registration term (1–10 years) or any subsequent renewals. WHOIS status will typically show as **OK or ACTIVE**. During this period, the following operations are supported:

- **Delete:** A delete request will cause the domain to immediately enter the Redemption Grace Period.
- **Renew:** The domain can be renewed at any time, provided that the total registration term does not exceed 10 years.
- **Transfer:** The domain can be transferred to another registrar at any time, subject to ICANN transfer policies (except during the first 60 days after initial registration or a previous transfer).

- **Renew Grace Period (RGP) – 5 days**

After the registrar initiates a domain renewal, if the renewal is successful, the domain enters a 5-day Renew Grace Period. The Renew Grace Period displays as **RENEWPERIOD** in WHOIS. Requests received during this period are handled according to the rules below:

- **Delete:** The domain enters the Redemption Grace Period; the registrar receives a refund for the renewed portion.
- **Renew:** Further renewals are allowed during the Renew Grace Period, but the total renewal term cannot exceed 10 years.

- **Transfer:** If the domain is transferred during the Renew Grace Period, the original registrant receives a refund for the renewal. The expiration date before the transfer will revert to the pre-renewal expiration date. For the new registrant, a maximum of 10 years of renewal can be included with the transfer. If no renewal term is specified during the transfer, the registry will automatically renew the domain for one year.
- **Auto-Renew Grace Period (ARGP) – 45 days**

If no renewal or delete request is received before expiration, the domain enters the Auto-Renew Grace Period (default 45 days) after expiration. The registry automatically renews the domain at the first opportunity after expiration. The WHOIS status of the domain will show **AUTORENEWPERIOD**. Requests received during the Auto-Renew Grace Period are handled the same way as during the Renew Grace Period:

- **Delete:** The domain enters the Redemption Grace Period; the registrar receives a refund for the renewed portion.
- **Renew:** Further renewals are allowed, but the total renewal term cannot exceed 10 years.
- **Transfer:** If the domain is transferred, the original registrant receives a refund for the renewal. The expiration date reverts to the pre-renewal date, and the new registrant may include up to 10 years of renewal. If no renewal is specified, the registry automatically renews for one year.
- **Transfer Grace Period (TGP) – 5 days**

After a domain transfer, it enters a 5-day Transfer Grace Period. Domains in this period cannot be transferred again. WHOIS status will show **TRANSFERPERIOD**. Requests received during this period are handled as follows:

- **Delete:** The domain enters the Redemption Grace Period; the new registrant receives a refund.
- **Renew:** Renewal is supported during the Transfer Grace Period, but cannot exceed 10 years.
- **Redemption Grace Period (RGP) – 30 days**

If a delete request is received after the Add Grace Period expires, the domain enters the Redemption Grace Period. Domains in this period can be restored within 30 days using the **restore** command. During this period, only **restore** commands are accepted; other registrar requests are rejected.

- Before a restore request is received, the domain status is **PENDING DELETE RESTORABLE**.
- After a restore request is received during the RGP, the status becomes **PENDING RESTORE**.
- Successfully restored domains have status **OK**.
- If the domain is not successfully restored during the RGP, it will enter the **PENDING DELETE** period after expiration. And the domain status is **PENDING DELETE SCHEDULED FOR RELEASE**.
- **Pending Delete (PD) – 5 days**

During this period, a domain name is placed in **PENDING DELETE SCHEDULED FOR RELEASE** status for five days. Domains in the Pending Delete period are automatically deleted after 5 days. Domains in Pending Delete cannot be restored. Once deleted, the domain becomes available for registration again.

3. Impact of Domain Actions on Domain Lifecycle Status

The following domain actions affect the domain lifecycle status. The distinction between **domain status** and **lifecycle status** is defined in subsequent sections.

- **Domain Registration:** The registry determines whether a domain can be registered based on the registrar's legitimacy and domain availability. Successfully registered domains will have a status of OK or Inactive and enter the **Add Grace Period**.
- **Domain Modification:** Domains can be modified in terms of name servers (NS), contacts, or added/removed statuses. Domain modification requests **do not affect** the domain lifecycle status.
- **Domain Deletion:** If a delete command is received during the **Add Grace Period**, the domain is deleted immediately; otherwise, it enters the **Redemption Grace Period**.
- **Domain Renewal:** Upon renewal, the domain enters the **Renewal Grace Period**.
- **Domain Transfer:** After a successful transfer, the domain enters the **Transfer Grace Period**.

Reference :

[1]EPP Status Codes : <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/epp-status-codes-2014-06-16-en>