

The following Internationalized Domain Names (IDN) are supported in .shop. This document describes policy and technical requirements for IDN registrations.

Syntax Requirements for IDN Domain Names

- The "A-label" must be valid according to the IDNA2008 rules. This is tested by decoding the A-label to a UTF-8 string, and then re-encoding. If the re-encoded string matches the original string, this test is passed.
- The A-label must be a valid domain name in its own right (ie length and composition rules for ASCII domain names must also successfully be passed).

Compliance with Standards

GMO Registry operates .shop in compliance with the following standards:

RFCs 5890 - 5893 (IDNA2008).

These are the proposed technical standards for

Internationalized Domain Names for Applications, released in 2010. The RFCs establish IDN-related definitions, protocols, and rules for using specific code points in IDNs.

Mixed Scripts

With the exception of Arabic, IDN strings may contain mixed scripts. (ie. may be composed of both ASCII and IDN characters or IDN characters from multiple scripts, provided the string meets conditions regarding special characters. Every registered domain name must be associated with a specific language or script.

Variant Policy

It is GMO Registry policy to block Variant IDNs (as defined in the Registry Operator's IDN tables) from registration.

Special Rules

Arabic Language

The Arabic language IDN is operated in compliance with RFC 5564.

The following additional rules apply to Arabic language domain names.

Mixed Scripts

Arabic language IDN labels may not contain ASCII or other IDN characters.

Numerals

Arabic-Indic numerals (u+0660 to u+0669) and ASCII numerals (u+0030 to u+0039) can both be supported in an Arabic IDN label, however Arabic-Indic numerals and ASCII numerals must not be mixed in the same domain name label, as described in RFC 5564.

Neither Arabic-Indic numerals or ASCII numerals may be used as the first character in a domain name label.

Japanese Language

The following characters are special characters to which additional rules apply.

30FB # KATAKANA MIDDLE DOT

3006 # IDEOGRAPHIC CLOSING MARK

30FC # KATAKANA-HIRAGANA PROLONGED SOUND MARK

Any IDN string containing one of the above characters, must include at least one other katakana (or hiragana or han) character. This is called a CONTEXTUAL rule, defined in RFC5892.

IDN Tables

The following IDNs are supported in .shop. Character tables for every language/script supported are also published in the IANA repository.

[Arabic \(ar\)](#)

[Chinese \(zh\)](#)

[Dutch \(nl\)](#)

[French \(fr\)](#)

[German \(de\)](#)

[Japanese \(ja\)](#)

[Korean \(ko\)](#)

[Polish \(pl\)](#)

[Portugese \(po\)](#)

[Spanish \(es\)](#)

[Russian \(ru\)](#)

[Turkish \(tr\)](#)

Compliance with these standards and policies is achieved through use of internal testing of software prior to deployment, and mechanisms for fault reporting which allow registrars and other stakeholders to report issues with implementation.

Widely-deployed and tested third-party libraries such as GNU libidn are used where possible, as these offer increased assurance of compliance.