



Finding lawyers who are happy with the services provided by FindLaw is fairly rare. A lot of FindLaw clients tend to complain about either their prices, their poor lead generation, putting their logo on clients' websites, trying to lock clients into a contract for longer and longer, selling to competitors, or constantly asking for more money, sometimes for minuscule changes to clients' websites.

It's no wonder then that a lot of their clients are looking for easy, pain-free ways to leave FindLaw and preferably not lose their websites or the content on their websites. FindLaw can make this process difficult, making clients as much dependent on them as possible. We're going to look at some steps you can take to make sure that when you do break free of FindLaw, your website and content are intact, and the damage, if any, is minimal. First off, you're going to need to check a few things:

#### **1. Do You Have Google Analytics Installed?**

FindLaw's reports might not be completely accurate and unbiased, which is why you need Google Analytics on your website. To check if you already have Analytics installed, look at your site's code (usually by right clicking and selecting something along the lines of "View Source") and search for "UA-". Record your analytics number, which will be in the form of "UA-XXXXXXXX-X".

If you can't find an Analytics number on your site, then you don't have Google Analytics installed and the next step is to request this from FindLaw, mentioning that you want administrative access to the account (this is very important, as it will allow you to delete the FindLaw users from the account once you leave FindLaw).

It's worth mentioning that if you do find an Analytics number on your website, there should only be one – yours. Multiple numbers are one way third parties retain access to your data after you have left them.

If you've found a number, it's time to see who has administrative access to your Google Analytics account. Go to [analytics.google.com](https://analytics.google.com), log into your account, and look for a "User Management" tab in the admin settings. If you can't access the list or find that you can't make changes to it, then you don't have administrative rights and you need to request it.

Another account you'll want administrative access to is your Google Search Console account, which, among other things, delivers penalty notifications for your website.

## **2. Are You the Owner of Your Domain?**

Unless your domain is registered under your name, it may be owned by FindLaw, in which case you may have to pay certain fees to get ownership from them. If you don't know whether you own your domain, submit your website to [Whois.net](https://www.whois.net) and look for the registrant's name.

If you are the owner, make sure you have the log in credentials for your registrar. Otherwise, you may have to pay a fee to transfer ownership upon leaving FindLaw. In a worst-case scenario, you'll have to purchase a new domain.

## **3. Are You the Owner of Your Website's Content?**

All the content you've paid for during your contract with FindLaw may not actually belong to you. You need to check your contract to see if you can take it with you after you leave them, otherwise, you may have to buy it back from FindLaw. In a worst-case scenario, you'll lose all the content they've supplied you with and you'll have to start writing new content.

## **4. Will You Have to Pay a Cancellation Fee?**

While your contract may have you locked in for a certain amount of time, you may be able to get out of it by paying a cancellation fee.

Now that we've got that out of the way, let's look at the preparations you'll need to make before leaving FindLaw. You should ideally give yourself between 2 to 12 weeks to prepare before your contract's end date and then start preparing for the following tasks:

### **1. Deal with the Hard Problems**

Once you've decided to leave FindLaw, get them working for you as hard as possible until you do. Don't tell them you are cancelling; just tell them you are thinking about it. Complain about everything that ails you, because while you are eager to leave them, they are eager to keep you. Ideally you should begin this process at least 4 and up to 10 weeks before you give your notice.

### **2. Be Ready**

If you're not able to keep your current website and content, you need to have another one ready to go as soon as you leave FindLaw to avoid any downtime. Fortunately, you can start preparing everything without FindLaw having any clue.

Consider launching your new site about a week before your FindLaw contract ends, just in case any technical problems arise. Once you're ready, log into your registrar's website and push your new website live and remember to include your Google Analytics number into your site's code.

The most time-consuming project is usually writing content, but good content is important, which is why you should consider writing it yourself, or at least someone you have complete confidence in to do the job right.

If the technical details make you feel like you're in over your head, consider hiring someone who also has SEO experience to help you manage your website, at least at the beginning, to make the transition smoother.

Finally, after all that hard work, it's time to enjoy your newfound freedom from FindLaw. To get the most out of your website, remember to keep an eye on your analytics and follow the advice in the other articles above.