

Lycos Search Engine - Tool Overview

Tool Name

Lycos Search Engine

History

Launched in 1994 as a university project at Carnegie Mellon University.

One of the earliest search engines on the web, preceding Google.

Expanded to offer email, hosting, and news.

Now operates as a lightweight search and content portal.

Description

Lycos is a legacy web search engine providing simple search services, news, weather, email, and domain hosting with minimal interface.

What Is This Tool About?

It enables users to perform general-purpose internet searches.

Ideal for lightweight use and legacy demonstrations.

Key Characteristics / Features

- Web search with simple UI
- News, email, weather services
- Lightweight and fast
- Lower tracking than modern engines
- Compatible across browsers

Types / Modules Available

- Web Search
- News Feed
- Weather Updates
- Email
- Domains Hosting

How Will This Tool Help?

- Useful for simple browsing and historical search research
- Alternative in restricted or low-bandwidth environments

15-Liner Summary

1. Launched in 1994
2. Developed at Carnegie Mellon

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3. Offers web search
4. Includes email, hosting, news
5. Lightweight UI
6. Works on older devices
7. No smart ranking
8. Limited tracking
9. Supports basic search
10. Email still live
11. Legacy interface
12. Rarely used now
13. Historical relevance
14. Still online
15. Good for niche uses

Time to Use / Best Case Scenarios

- When needing a lightweight, basic search engine
- For legacy system demonstrations
- In restricted access environments
- For simple news/weather browsing

When to Use During Investigation

- For comparison in search engine behavior
- For legacy analysis
- Sandbox testing

Best Person to Use That Tool and What Skills Required

- Researchers, students, historians
- Skills: basic internet usage
- No forensic knowledge needed

Flaws / Suggestions to Improve

Flaws:

- Outdated search ranking
 - No AI integration- Limited multimedia search
- Suggestions:
- Update engine
 - Improve UI and mobile use
 - Boost privacy features

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Good About Tools

- Fast and simple
- No login required
- Great for older systems
- Useful for educational demos

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Lycos, a once-prominent search engine, was known for its **large initial index, automated abstract generation, and its ability to rank search results by relevance and proximity of keywords.**



It also pioneered the use of automated abstracts, which provided users with concise summaries of search results, making it easier to assess their relevance.

Furthermore, Lycos offered a range of features beyond basic search, including email services and web hosting, positioning it as a broader online portal. [🔗](#)

Here's a more detailed breakdown:

Large Initial Index:

Lycos quickly amassed a vast index of web pages, exceeding other search



Home



Search



Saved



Notifications

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Lycos, once a prominent search engine, helped users navigate the early internet by



providing a way to find information through its web crawler and search index. It also offered a

portal experience with services like email, web hosting, and social networking. Although it no longer maintains its own search index, it continues to be a portal with results sourced from other providers. [Link](#)

Here's how Lycos helped:

Early Web Navigation:

Lycos was one of the first search engines to crawl the web and build an index of websites, making it easier for users to find information online. [Link](#)

Portal Experience:

Lycos evolved into a portal offering a



Home



Search



Saved



Notifications

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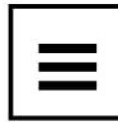
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LYCOS



Lycos is a search engine which originally started as a research project at Carnegie Mellon University and officially launched in 1995. This is before most people even knew what a "search engine" was. The company quickly grew and started providing search results both in the US and in many other countries which it continues to do to this day, effectively establishing a global search brand.

Over time, Lycos was able to grow into other areas such as web publishing via acquisition of Tripod.com and Angelfire.com. Lycos also launched other user focussed products such as Lycos Mail and Lycos Domains, effectively creating a network of products and services that include **Tripod.com**, **Angelfire.com**, and of course, **Lycos.com**.

This has been Lycos' key to survival.


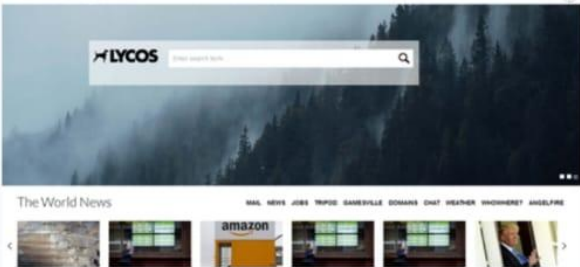
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This article is about the search engine. For the former corporation Terra Lycos, see [Terra Networks](#). For the defunct European venture, see [Lycos Europe](#).

Lycos, Inc. (stylized as **LYCOS**), is a [web search engine](#) and [web portal](#) established in 1994, spun out of [Carnegie Mellon University](#). Lycos also encompasses a network of email, web hosting, social networking, and entertainment websites. The company is based in [Waltham, Massachusetts](#), and is a subsidiary of Ybrant Digital.

<div><div>Lycos, Inc.</div><div></div></div> <div><div><div>London 52° F</div><div></div><div>A screenshot of Lycos.com as of 2015</div></div></div>	
Type of business	Subsidiary
Type of site	Search engine and web portal
Available in	Multilingual
Founded	May 1994; 31 years

Lycos Search Engine - Tool Overview

✂ Tool Name: Mojeek

- **History: 2004:** Mojeek launched on 2 donated servers, on broadband, from Marc's bedroom!
- **2005:** One of the first search engines to provide custom search: [Have it your way with the Mojeek search engine](#)
- **2006:** First search engine to have a no tracking privacy policy: [Web Archive 2006/03/18](#)
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- **2024:** [Mojeek adds Semantic Search](#)
- **2024:** [Mojeek Search Summaries](#)
- **2024:** Mojeek passes 8 billion pages


Description: Mojeek is a crawler-based search engine that provides independent search results using its own web index, rather than relying on results from other search engines. It emphasizes privacy, claiming not to track user data, and aims to offer a truly unbiased and alternative search experience. Mojeek was founded in 2004 by Marc Smith and is based in the UK

What Is This Tool About?: Mojeek is a crawler-based search engine that prioritizes user privacy and offers independent search results. It's an alternative to major search engines like Google and Bing, focusing on providing unbiased results without tracking users' online activity. Mojeek was the first search engine to implement a non-tracking privacy policy.

Key Characteristics / Features: Mojeek's key characteristics include its commitment to user privacy, its independent crawler-based search engine, and its focus on providing a neutral and diverse search experience. Unlike many search engines, Mojeek does not track user data, store personal information, or use personalized results based on user profiles. Yes, Mojeek supports Windows, macOS, and Linux. Mojeek is a web-based search engine that can be accessed through any browser on these operating systems. Additionally, Mojeek has its own crawler, MojeekBot, which builds its independent search index. Mojeek, as a search engine, does not directly support SQLite, JSON, or proprietary formats in the way a database or document storage system would. Instead, Mojeek utilizes its own web crawler and index to store and retrieve information from the web. It focuses on providing search results based on web content, not on directly managing or storing data in these specific formats.

Types / Modules Available: Mojeek is a crawler-based search engine, meaning it builds its own index of web pages rather than relying on other search engines. It is unique among privacy-focused search engines because it is not a metasearch engine that relies on third-party indexes. Mojeek offers various features, including independent search results, a focus on privacy, and experimental features like "search by emotion"

How Will This Tool Help? : Mojeek can help users find information in a few key ways. Firstly, it provides its own independent search results, powered by its own web crawler, offering a different perspective than results from search engines that rely on others. Secondly, Mojeek focuses on privacy, not tracking user data or personalizing results based on individual profiles. This means that everyone searching for the same term will receive the same results, regardless of their past searches or location, which promotes information neutrality

15-Liner Summary:  **Mojeek** is a privacy-focused search engine that offers advanced forensic capabilities.

It **parses local browser databases**, extracting history, cookies, cache, and more.

Supports **multiple browsers** like Chrome, Firefox, Edge, and Safari across **various operating systems**.

Automatically **creates an activity timeline** based on browser usage.

Enables **keyword-based search and filtering** to isolate relevant data quickly.

Can recover and analyze **deleted browser artifacts**, useful in investigations.

Offers **portable execution**, making it easy to run from external drives without installation.

Designed for **Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA)** and **corporate Incident Response (IR)** teams.

Provides both a **simple Graphical User Interface (GUI)** and a **Command-Line Interface (CLI)**.

Includes **session-level metadata** such as tab usage, timestamps, and navigation sequences.

Supports **data correlation across browsers** to form unified activity views.

Extracts and organizes **user session data** to reconstruct behavior accurately.

Offers **visualization tools** like graphs and timelines to simplify reporting.

Facilitates easy **export of evidence** in standard formats for legal or internal use.

Ideal for **digital forensics, auditing, and compliance reviews**, ensuring thorough browser-based analysis

Time to Use / Best Case Scenarios: Incident Response (IR):

Quickly investigate suspected data breaches, malware activity, or phishing attempts by reviewing user browser activity. Investigations:

Extract browsing history and deleted artifacts as digital evidence in cybercrime, fraud, or child exploitation cases.

Employee Misconduct or Policy Violations:

Audit browser usage to detect inappropriate browsing or data exfiltration in corporate environments.

Data Leak Investigations:

Trace back leaked confidential data to user sessions and visited URLs.

Compliance Audits:

Ensure browsing activity aligns with legal and regulatory standards (e.g., GDPR, HIPAA).

Digital Forensics & E-Discovery:

Reconstruct timelines and browsing patterns for legal or internal review

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3. Independent Search Index:


- Mojeek builds its own search index, giving it a unique perspective on the web and offering a wider range of results compared to search engines that rely on other's indexes.
- This independent approach can lead to the discovery of different websites and information that might be missed by other search engines. [🔗](#)

4. Customizable Search Experience:

- Mojeek allows users to customize their search experience through settings for location, language, and safe search.
- Users can also choose to open results in new tabs and adjust various display options like the number of results per page. [🔗](#)




1. Unbiased Search Results:

- Mojeek ranks results based on objective factors related to the page's content and incoming links, rather than relying on user data or inferred information.
- This means that two users with the same search settings (e.g., country and language) will get the same results, promoting information neutrality.
- Mojeek's approach contrasts with search engines like Google and Bing, which may personalize results based on user tracking and data collection. 

2. Privacy Protection:

- Mojeek does not track user searches or browsing activity, providing a more private search experience.
- This is a key differentiator for users



Mojeek offers a unique approach to searching the web by **providing unbiased, independent search results without tracking user data**. It's a crawler-based search engine that builds its own index of web pages, unlike search engines that rely on results from other sources. This can be beneficial for users seeking diverse perspectives and a more private search experience. 

Here's how Mojeek can help:

1. Unbiased Search Results:

- Mojeek ranks results based on objective factors related to the page's content and incoming links, rather than relying on user data or inferred information.
- This means that two users with the same search settings (e.g., country and language) will get the same

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Mojeek offers both a **standard web search and specialized search types, including site-specific search and a customizable "Focus" feature.**

Mojeek also provides options for safe search and searching by language or region. [🔗](#)

Mojeek's Search Features:

Web Search:

Mojeek provides a traditional web search experience, indexing and ranking web pages based on their content and relevance. [🔗](#)

Site Search:

Users can perform site-specific searches using the "site:" operator, allowing them to search within a particular website. [🔗](#)

Focus:

Mojeek's Focus feature allows users to



Home



Search



Saved



Notifications

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Mojeek is a privacy-focused search engine that builds and maintains its own independent web index, unlike many other search engines that rely on third-party indexes. For cybersecurity Proof of Concept (PoC) development, Mojeek can be a useful tool for finding information on specific technologies, vulnerabilities, or attack methods without being tracked or profiled. [🔗](#)

Here's why Mojeek is relevant for cybersecurity PoC development:

Independent Index:

Mojeek's unique index means it can provide results that might not be readily available on other search engines, especially if those engines are prioritizing trending or popular content. [🔗](#)



Home



Search



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Mojeek - ...
wikipedia.org

Current status	Online
Written in	C programming language

Unlike many mainstream search engines, Mojeek does not track, profile, or personalize search results, ensuring an unbiased and transparent search experience for its users. Founded by Marc Smith, Mojeek has grown steadily as a private and independent alternative to mainstream search engines.^{[6][7][8]}

History

Key features



Mojeek is a crawler-based search engine that provides independent^[29] search results using its own index of web pages, rather than using results from other search engines. Mojeek also displays significantly more individual entries in its search results than Google or Bing.^[30]

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Search



outset one that didn't track its users nor simply retrieve its results from another engine (i.e. to provide real alternative results).

Mojeek's technology has been developed entirely from scratch by Marc Smith, mostly using the C programming language, and uses no pre-existing search or web crawler technology. All technology and IP is fully owned by Mojeek Limited.

Mojeek runs on servers that are part of our own built and managed infrastructure, all housed in a green data centre in our own dedicated and secure room.

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Law Enforcement

When to Use During Investigation: Initial Triage Stage:

Use to quickly assess user web activity for indicators of compromise or policy violations.

Post-Breach Analysis:

After confirming a breach, identify if users accessed malicious URLs or downloaded harmful content.

Timeline Reconstruction:

When you need to build a sequence of events based on browser sessions and user behavior.

User Attribution:

Correlate browsing data with login sessions and timestamps to attribute actions to specific users.

Data Exfiltration Check:

Detect if sensitive information was uploaded or shared via websites or cloud storage.

Malware Investigation:

Investigate if a user was lured to a malicious site or triggered a drive-by download.

Deleted Evidence Recovery:

When users have cleared browsing history—use to retrieve deleted artifacts

Best person to use that tool: Digital Forensic Investigators

Cybersecurity Analysts / IR Teams

Law Enforcement Officers (Cybercrime units)

Corporate IT Security Teams

Internal Auditors & Compliance Officers

eDiscovery / Legal Investigators

what skills required flaws suggestion to improve in that tool

good about tools: Basic Digital Forensics Knowledge

Understanding browser artifacts, timelines, and evidence integrity.

Familiarity with OS File Structures

Especially for locating local browser databases (Windows, macOS, Linux).

Keyword Search & Filtering Logic

Ability to identify useful evidence using search terms or patterns.

CLI / GUI Handling Skills

If used in command-line mode or for scripting bulk extractions.

Understanding of User Behavior Analysis

To make sense of session activity and user intent.

Report Writing Skills

To clearly document findings for legal or internal use.