

# **Comet Crawler Web Search Engine User Manual**

Software Manual, July 2023

Authors:

Areebah Fatima,

Ilhaam Syed,

Mathew Bedford,

Nathan Heindl,

Tyler Hargreaves,

Darrien Kramer

# CONTENTS

## **1 ACCESSING THE SEARCH ENGINE SYSTEM**

How to Access the Website Through a Hyperlink .....	1-1
How to Access the Website Through a Hyperlink Window .....	1-2

## **2 STEP BY STEP USER FUNCTIONS**

How to Carry Out a Search .....	2-1
How to View Information About a URL Entry.....	2-2

## **3 STEP BY STEP ADMINISTRATOR FUNCTIONS**

How to Create an Administrator Account.....	3-1
How to Log In .....	3-2
How to View Information About a URL Entry .....	3-3
How to Edit / Delete a URL Entry .....	3-4
How to Create a URL Entry .....	3-5
How to Modify the Filtered Character's List .....	3-6
How to Purge All Out-of-Date URLs.....	3-7

# 1

## ACCESSING THE SEARCH ENGINE SYSTEM

### *How to Access the Website Through a Hyperlink*

Step 1: Hover your mouse over the following link, which is underlined and highlighted in blue.

Search Engine Web Page URL: <https://cs-4376-cyberminer.herokuapp.com/>



Figure 1.1 When you have successfully hovered your mouse point over the hyperlink, it should look like this.

Step 2: Once your mouse point is hovering over the link, press your mouse to click the link.

Step 3: Viola, you have found your way to the Comet Crawler Search Engine Web Page

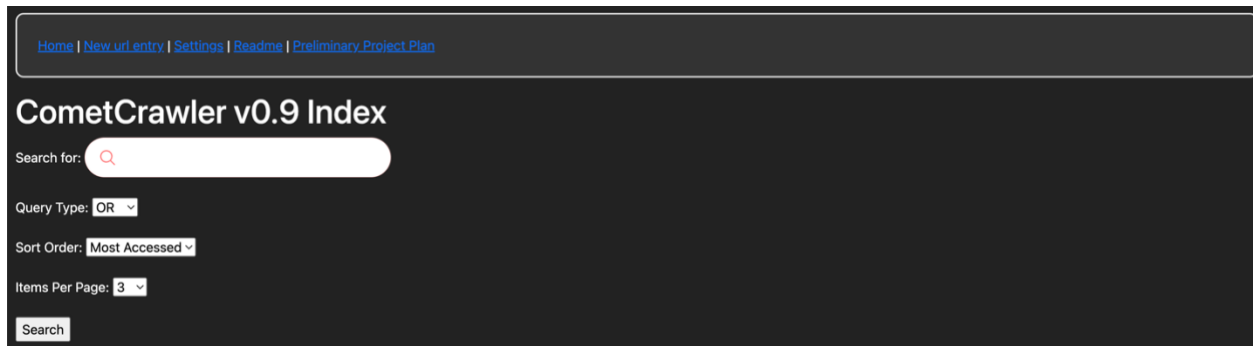


Figure 1.2 The following image illustrates the Comet Crawler Web Search Engine homepage.

## *How to Access the Website Through a Web Browser Window*

Step 1: Open a browser window of your choice.

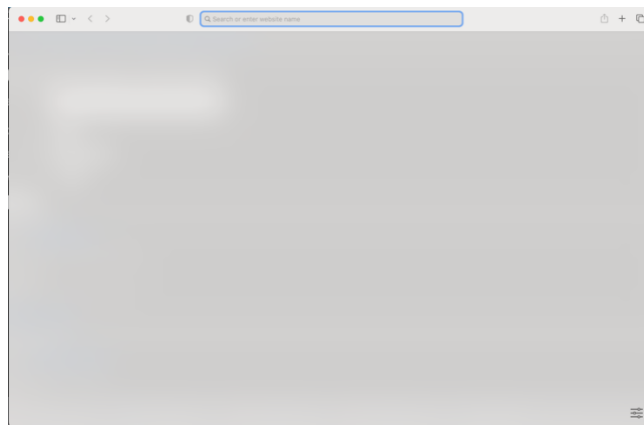


Figure 1.3 The following image illustrates a Safari web browser window.

Step 2: Click the textbox located at the top of your preferred browser window. It might be labeled with a command such as “Search or enter a website name.”

Step 3: Type the following into your search box: <https://cs-4376-cyberminer.herokuapp.com/>.

Step 4: Once you hit enter or click the search icon, you should be redirected to the Comet Crawler web search homepage.

# 2

## STEP BY STEP USER FUNCTIONS

### *How to Carry Out a Search*

Note: If you have not yet opened the Comet Crawler Homepage, please follow the instructions in Section 1 of this user manual.

Step 1: Hover your mouse point over the search bar. Click the search bar and type in your search query. Note: while typing, you may notice some autofill options. If one matches what you're looking for, click on it. Otherwise, finish typing in your search query and click to close the box.

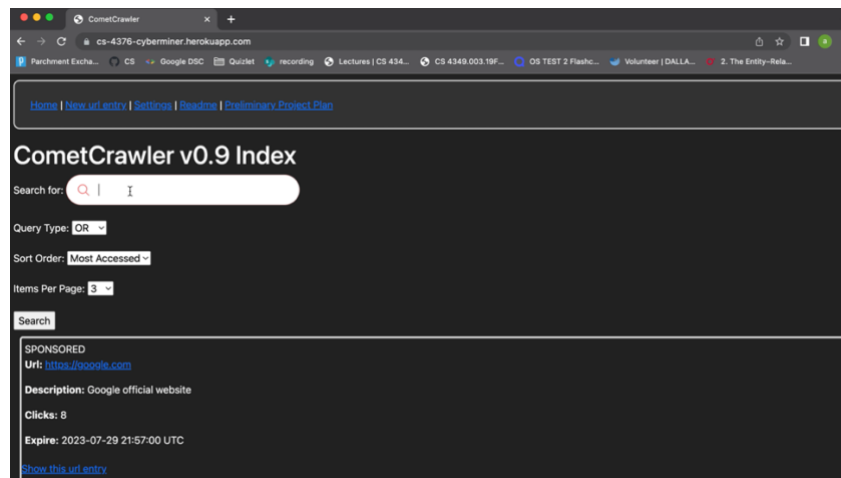


Figure 2.1 The following highlights how to hover your mouse point over the search bar.



Figure 2.2 The following image illustrates the autofill feature.

Step 2: Click each drop-down box and specify your search parameters.

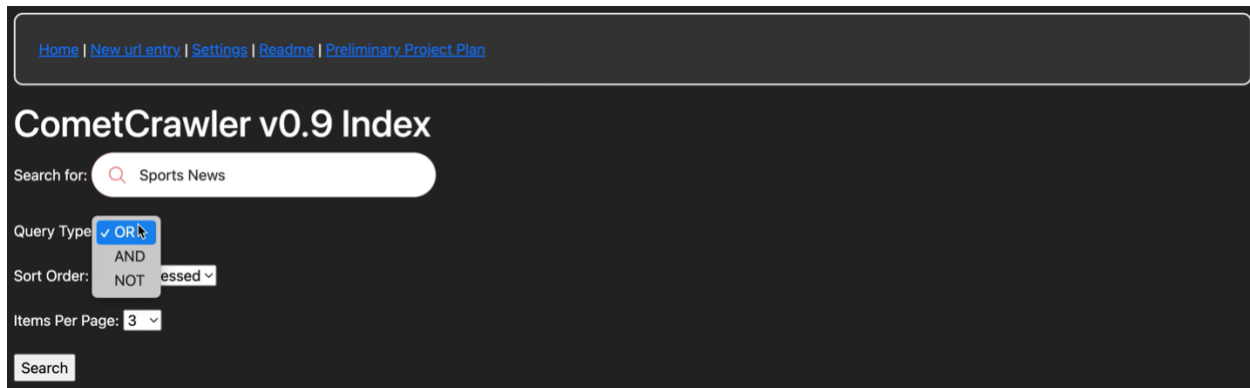


Figure 2.3 The following image illustrates the drop-down boxes for the search parameters.

Step 3: Click the grey box labeled search once you have specified all your search parameters. This should redirect you to the search result page, which will be filled with all the relevant search URLs found in our index.

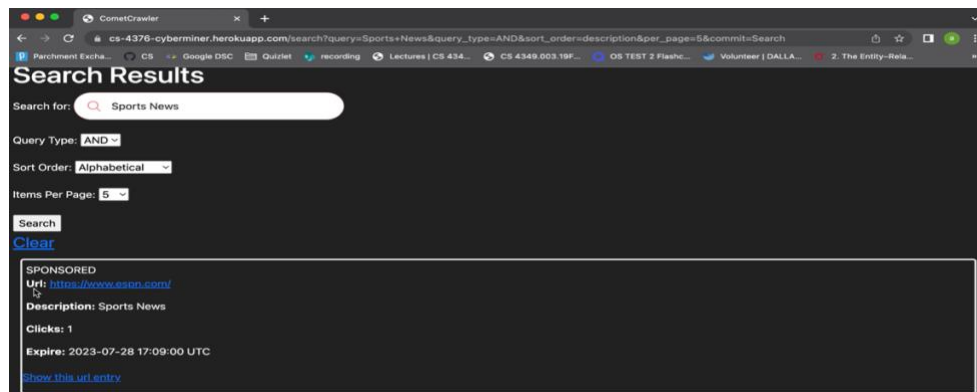


Figure 2.4 The following image illustrates the search result page.

### ***How to View Information About a URL Entry***

Note: If you have yet to log in, the following functions will not be fully available. Please follow the instructions in Section 3 of this user manual.

Step 1: Once you have located your desired URL entry, click the blue underlined link named “Show this URL entry.” This should redirect you to the URL information Page.

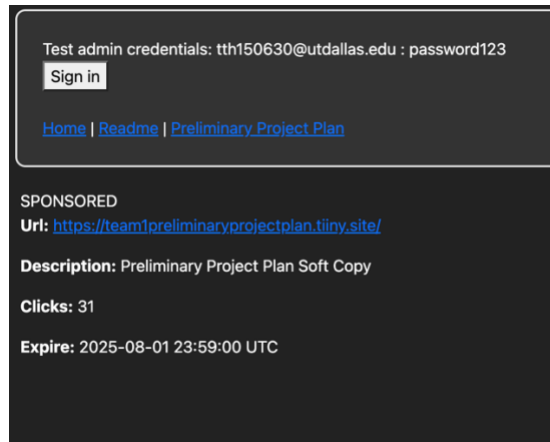


Figure 3.7 The following image illustrates how the URL information page will look like for regular search users.

Step 2: To return to the website’s homepage, click the blue underlined link labeled “Home” in the page header.

# 3

## STEP BY STEP ADMINISTRATOR FUNCTIONS

### *How to Create an Administrator Account*

Note: If you have not yet opened the Comet Crawler Homepage, please follow the instructions in Section 1 of this user manual.

Step 1: On the Comet Crawler Homepage, you will see a grey “Sign in” button at the top of the webpage, located in the header. Click this button to be redirected to the sign in page.

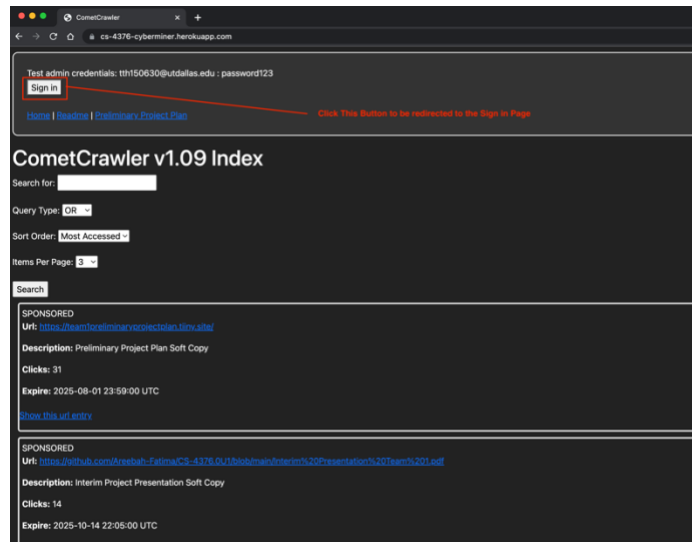


Figure 3.1 The following image illustrates how to get to the sign in page.

Step 2: Click the blue underlined “Sign up” hyperlink underneath the log-in button to be redirected to the create account page.

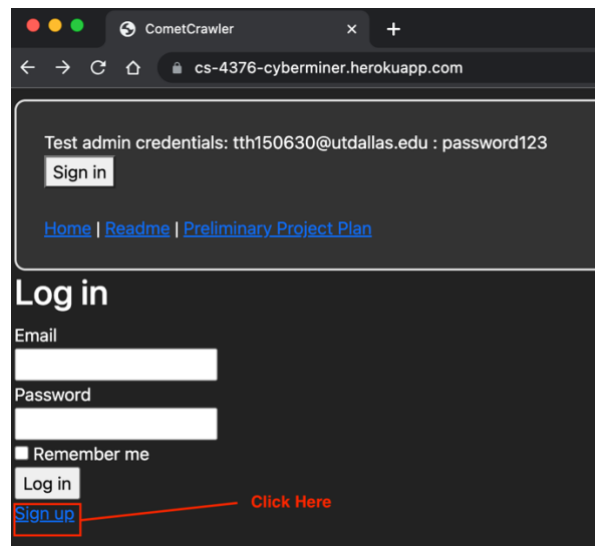
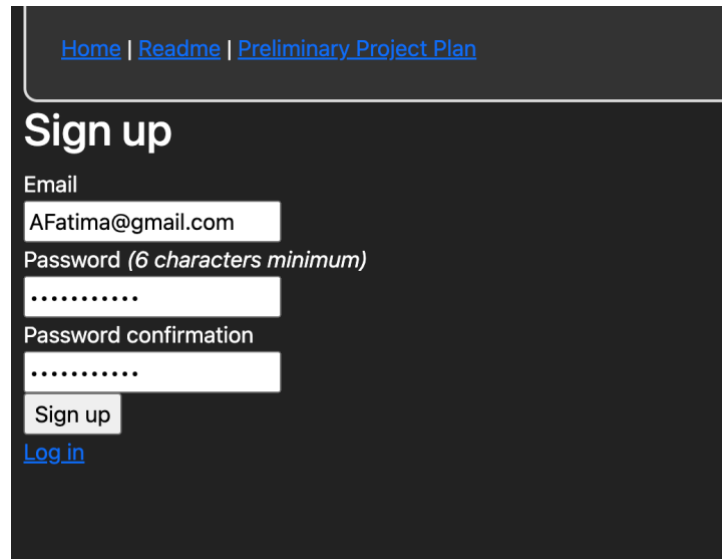


Figure 3.2 The following image illustrates how to get to the sign-up page.

Step 3: Hover your mouse point over the text box (located under the “Email” label) and type in your account-associated email. Repeat the same steps for entering the password and password confirmation (Make Sure They Match!).

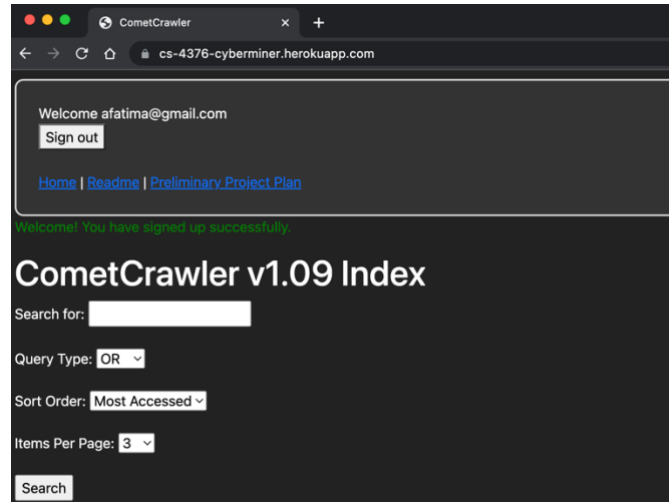




The image shows a dark-themed web page with a navigation bar at the top containing links for [Home](#), [Readme](#), and [Preliminary Project Plan](#). Below the navigation bar is a 'Sign up' section. It includes an 'Email' field with the text 'AFatima@gmail.com', a 'Password (6 characters minimum)' field with masked characters '.....', and a 'Password confirmation' field also with masked characters '.....'. At the bottom of the form is a grey 'Sign up' button and a blue [Log in](#) link.

Figure 3.3 The following image illustrates what the page should look like before you sign up.

Step 4: Click the grey button labeled “Sign Up,” and Viola, you have created an administrator account and been granted access to privileged functionalities.



The image shows a web browser window with the title 'CometCrawler' and the address bar displaying 'cs-4376-cyberminer.herokuapp.com'. The page content includes a 'Welcome afatima@gmail.com' message with a 'Sign out' button, and the same navigation links as Figure 3.3. A green confirmation message reads 'Welcome! You have signed up successfully.' Below this is the 'CometCrawler v1.09 Index' section, which features a search bar, a 'Query Type' dropdown set to 'OR', a 'Sort Order' dropdown set to 'Most Accessed', and an 'Items Per Page' dropdown set to '3'. A 'Search' button is located at the bottom of this section.

Figure 3.4 The following image illustrates the confirmation message you should see if you successfully created your account.

## ***How to Log In***

Note: If you have not yet opened the Comet Crawler Homepage, please follow the instructions in Section 1 of this user manual. If you have not yet created an administrator account, please follow the steps in section 3.

Step 1: On the Comet Crawler Homepage, you will see a grey “Sign in” button at the top of the webpage, located in the header. Click this button to be redirected to the sign-in page.

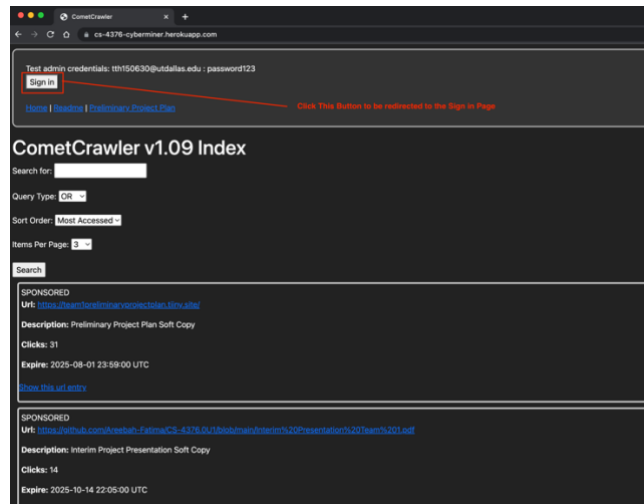


Figure 3.5 The following image illustrates how to get to the sign in page.

Step 2: Hover your mouse point over the text box (located under the “Email” label) and type in your account-associated email. Repeat the same steps for entering the password. Note: if you want your credentials to be saved, click the “Remember me” box.

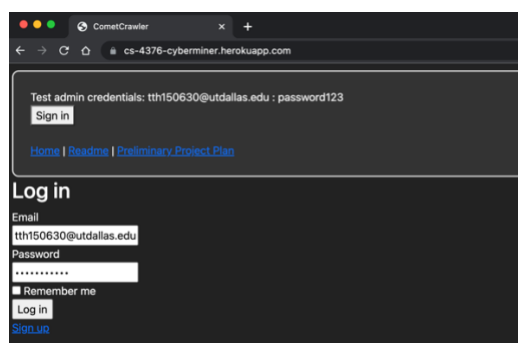


Figure 3.6 The following image illustrates what the log in page should look like before you sign in.

Step 3: Click the grey button labeled “Log in,” and Viola, you have logged in to your administrator account and been granted access to privileged functionalities.

## ***How to View Information About a URL Entry***

Note: If you have yet to log in, the following functions will not be fully available. Please follow the instructions in Section 3 of this user manual.

Step 1: Once you have located your desired URL entry, click the blue underlined link named “Show this URL entry.” This should redirect you to the URL information Page.

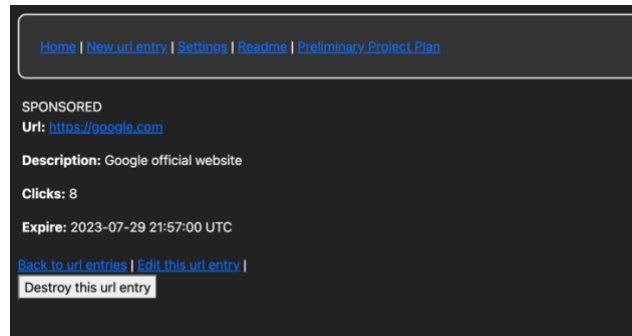


Figure 3.7 The following image illustrates how the URL information page will look like for administrators.

Step 2: To return to the website’s homepage, click the blue underlined link labeled “Back to URL entries.”

### ***How to Edit / Delete a URL Entry***

Note: If you have yet to log in, the following functions will not be available. Please follow the instructions in Section 3 of this user manual. Also, if you have not yet opened the URL’s entries information page, please follow the instructions in Section 3 of this user manual to do so.

Steps to delete a URL entry:

1. Open the URL entry information page. Steps to do this have been highlighted in section 3 of this manual.
2. Click the grey button labeled “Destroy this url entry.”
3. If a message appears at the top of your browser window, click ok to continue the deletion process. When done correctly, you should see a confirmation message.

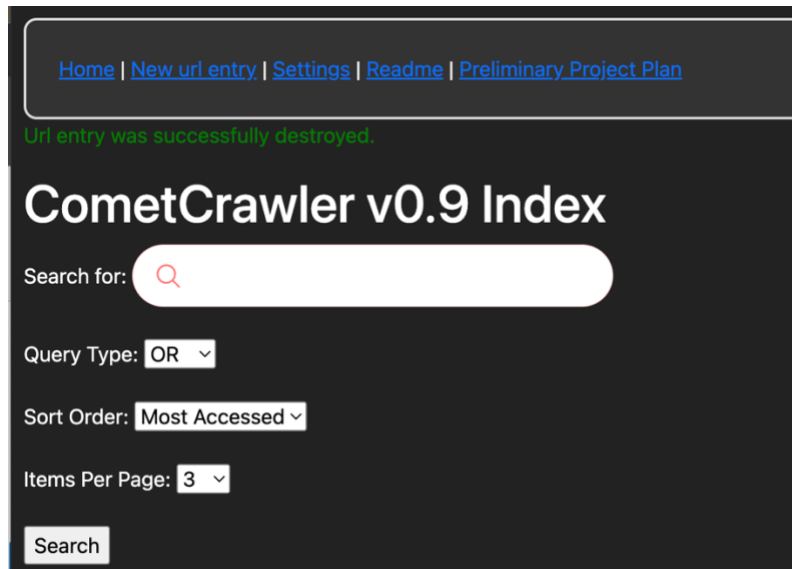


Figure 3.8 The following image illustrates the confirmation page.

Steps to modify a URL entry:

1. Open the URL entry information page. Steps to do this have been highlighted in section 3 of this manual.
2. Click on the blue-underlined link labeled “Edit this url entry.”
3. You should see the following page:

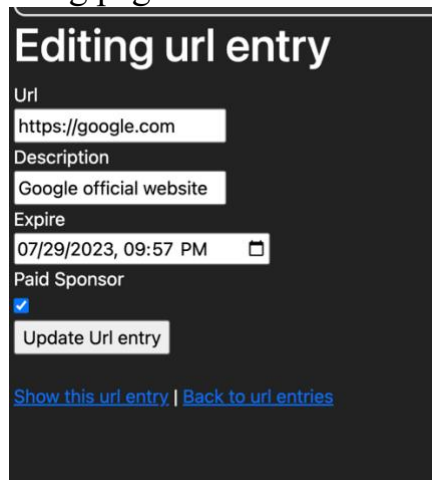


Figure 3.9 The following image illustrates the modifying URL entry parameters.

Please modify all the necessary parameters and click the grey “Update URL entry” button when finished.

4. When done correctly, you should receive the following confirmation message.

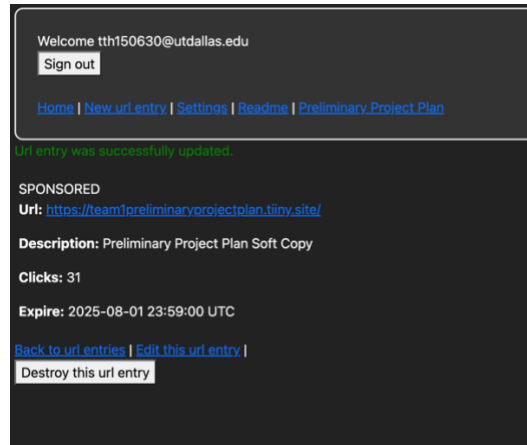


Figure 3.10 The following image illustrates the confirmation page.

### *How to Create a URL Entry*

Note: If you have yet to log in, the following functions will not be available. Please follow the instructions in Section 3 of this user manual.

Steps to Create a URL Entry:

1. Click the blue-underlined link labeled “New url entry” located in the Comet Crawler Homepage Header. This should redirect you to a page that looks like Figure 2.8.

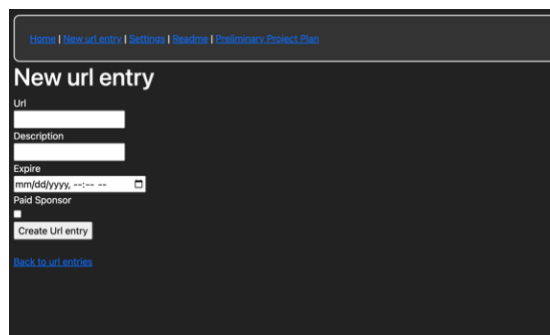


Figure 3.11 The following image illustrates the New URL entry Page.

2. Fill out all the parameters listed on the web page. For unsponsored URLs, keep the “Paid Sponsor” box unchecked.
3. When done correctly, you should see a confirmation message telling you your URL entry has been created.

### ***How to Modify the Filtered Character’s List***

Note: If you have yet to log in, the following functions will not be available. Please follow the instructions in Section 3 of this user manual.

Steps to Modify the Filtered Character’s List:

1. Click the blue-underlined "Settings" link in the Comet Crawler Homepage Header. This should redirect you to a page that looks like Figure 3.12.

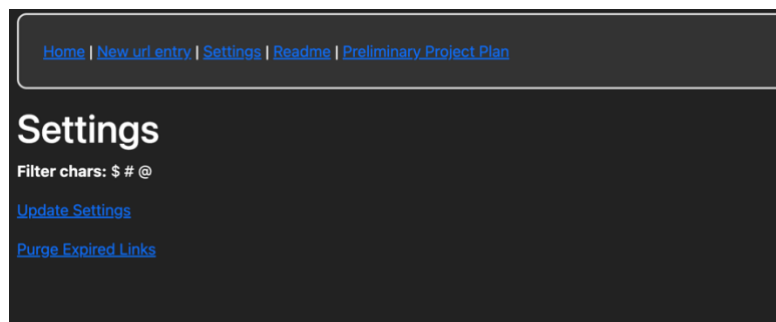


Figure 3.12 The following image illustrates the Settings Page.

2. the blue-underlined “Update Settings” link to modify the filtered characters list.
3. You should be led to a page like the one shown in Figure 3.13. Click the blue-underlined link labeled “edit this setting” and type in the new filtered characters list.

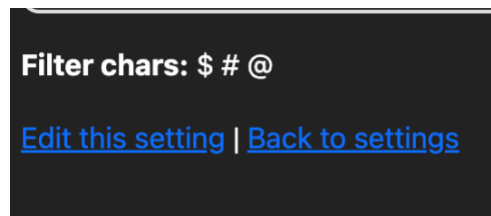


Figure 3.13 The following image illustrates the edit settings Page.

4. After editing the filtered characters list, click the grey “Update Setting” button. You should see a confirmation message that the list has been modified when done correctly.

### ***How to Purge All Out-of-Date URLs***

Note: If you have yet to log in, the following functions will not be available. Please follow the instructions in Section 3 of this user manual.

Steps to Purge all out-of-date URLs:

1. Click the blue-underlined "Settings" link in the Comet Crawler Homepage Header. This should redirect you to a page that looks like Figure 3.12.
1. Click the blue-underlined link labeled “Purge Expired Links” to delete out-of-date URL entries.
2. If a message pops up at the top of your browser window, click ok to continue the deletion process. When done correctly, you should see a confirmation message.