The Living Experiment

Figuring out life one educated guess at a time

Suporn is 18 months out, but not for you!

I'm in IT. That means I spend a lot of time around systems and figuring out how to automate or otherwise make my life easier, as well as monitoring to know about issues before people come to complain at my desk. So once I made the decision to get SRS with Suporn I started to look to see if I could move my date up a bit as I didn't want to wait the 15 months it was going to be. So I started to refresh the Suporn scheduling page on my phone and at home twice a day roughly. But I realized that due to the time differences as well as infrequency of my refreshes, it would be likely I'd miss an opening. So I found a way to automate this task and got my date moved up a year (to the day funny enough). Here's how.

Knowing I'd need to monitor the page for changes I checked the source code to see how easy it would be to create a script to go and poll it to watch for changes. The code is easy enough, and I could've written a script to do exactly that. But knowing there are services that watch external website pages for companies, I did some quick googling and experimented with a few of the results. Most sucked, didn't monitor it right, or required pay for services to monitor more frequently than a day. But one, Follow That Page, wasn't like that.

So, I needed to setup an alert. With a free account you get one check per hour. This was good enough for me. So I setup an account using a unique Gmail address for it. As an aside, Gmail ignores anything after a "+" symbol which means your gmail address "transgirl@gmail.com" will get email for "transgirl+suporn@gmail.com" and "transgirl+reddit@gmail.com" for example. You can replace "suporn" or "reddit" with other text and thus create a unique email address per site (better security since you don't reuse credentials, along with the ability to see who sold/gave up your email address). Coupled with a password manager that has 2

factor authentication and you're in a pretty good spot for online accounts. But I digress.

Once the account was created, under the tab "Your pages" I setup an alert:

After clicking "Next" you're brought to a page that has a few options, but we only care about changing the polling frequency to every hour (in yellow):

| Home | Logout | Your pages | Your account | FAQ | Terms of use | Contact |

New page details

Page address: http://www.supornclinic.com/clients/calendar.htm

☐ Ignore numbers
☑ Report additions
☑ Report removals

Lines of context: 0

Select here how many lines of context you want to see in the reports around the lines of text that have changed. Allowed values: 0 to 30000. If you specify 1 or more, all added and removed text is shown.

Description: [   ]

You can enter a description of the page, to be used in the subject headers of the emails we send you. If empty, we use the page address (URL).

Report errors:
○ Report all errors, including server connection failures
◉ Report HTTP errors (like "page not found)"
○ Don't report errors

Frequency:
○ Check weekly (max 20 pages)
○ Check daily (max 20 pages)
◉ Check hourly (max 1 page)
   With a Pro account, you can check pages every 10 minutes!

☐ Follow Google pagerank
☐ Request The Internet Archive to make snapshot if page changed
Available to Pro accounts only.

Check from:
◉ default location (currently Europe, Netherlands)
○ Netherlands, Europe
○ United States

Some websites serve different content based on the location of the visitor. Here you can select from which country our robot should check this page. Available to Pro accounts only.

Line filter

Keywords: [   ]

One keyword or phrase per line. Example: for a blog, "comment" would be a good keyword to ignore. Case insensitive. You can use wildcards like * (any number of characters) and ? (one character).
◉ Skip lines with these keywords
○ Scan only lines with these keywords

Block filter

From: [   ]
To: [   ]

Enter the texts that mark the beginning and end of the block. Case insensitive. Have a look at the preview below to find suitable keywords/phrases. You can use wildcards. The block filter is still beta; it may produce inpredictable results, especially if the "from" and "to" markers change in the page.
◉ Skip this block, scan rest of the page
○ Scan only this block, skip rest of the page

[Save]

Below is a preview (max 10000 characters) of http://www.supornclinic.com/clients/calendar.htm :
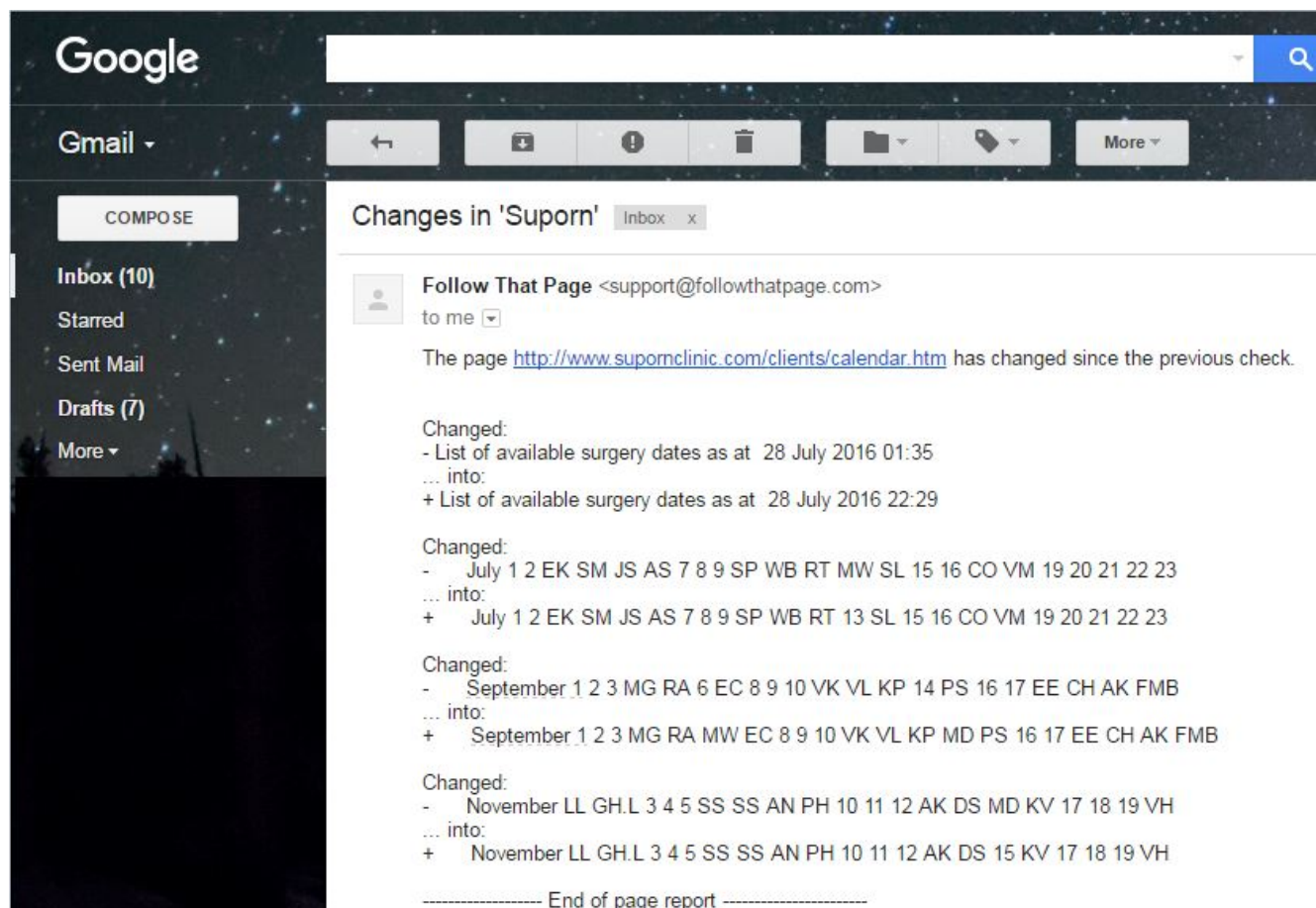
The side provides a preview of how it reads through the page you're monitoring. This is similar to what you'll see in the email alerts. It removes some of the pretty colors, but you don't care about that. You care about when a date with initials changes to a number. That's what's important for moving your date up. Here's the preview though:

Below is a preview (max 10000 characters) of http://www.suporndinic.com/dients/calendar.htm :

```
List of available surgery dates as at  29 July 2016 03:55
Thailand Time


 M T W Th F S Su M T W Th F S Su M T W Th F S Su M T W Th F S Su M T W
Th F S Su M T
 2016
 January 1 2 3 4 JK AS DC AD 9 10 AT KT BJ LV 15 16 17 JH AS EK SS 22
23 24 LC HA MM AV 29 30 31
 February EK MS JB JL 5 6 7 SD LJ SL CB 12 13 14 ST KL LR SH 19 20 21
22 SB DL TL AW 27 28 CE
 March MS TT NM 4 5 6 CA YL RO DM 11 12 13 MY KA VW PJM 18 19 20 SW SB
YCH GM 25 26 27 DP LS EL SS
 April 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30
 May 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 CL KCY PM 13 14 15 CC EF JM ML 20 21 22 MF BC
CK JR 27 28 29 MM AF
 June KG LH 3 4 5 YH CMR MJ SS 10 11 12 VB LM MR CD 17 18 19 SB SK FA
CD 24 25 26 FS CS FK AR
 July 1 2 3 KJ ME AN GH 8 9 10 LKB VL OF JG EO 16 17 ES 19 20 RI AP 23
24 ER CB KC AT VB 30 31
 August JP CL KE HG 5 6 7 SL LG AM EL 12 13 14 AF AK LW DL 19 20 21 ET
SS MB ZG 26 27 28 KS JA BC
 September EM 2 3 4 SC CL SH BW 9 10 11 OB AC GR SF 16 17 18 NM AR SS
MP 23 24 25 BD BH LM SW 30
 October 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23
24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
```

Once you've clicked save you're done. Now just sit back and watch as the emails come in. I usually get 1-2 a day Mon-Fri (US Eastern), usually in the morning although sometimes afternoon and evenings as well. The emails can certainly be used to track changes directly, however the problem is it doesn't include what year the changes are in. This means when you see "September" it could be for September 2016 or 2017. For me I found it's easier to just refresh the page on my phone when I get an alert, but you can do more work to get this customized if you want. I didn't. So when the site gets updated, I get an email that looks like this:

In this example you can see that Jul 13th opened up, September 6th/14th were reserved, and November 15th opened up. It also tells you when it was updated (the surgery date line) if you're interested. When you see something open, email them ASAP and it's likely you'll get moved up. If not, keep watching it. Stuff opens up usually 60 days out (mine was 63 days out when it opened up) due to how Suporn does the deposit and losing part of it <60 days in most cases.

Good luck!

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[SRS +2 years](#)

August 26, 2018
In "Post-Transition"

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3 thoughts on "Suporn is 18 months out, but not for you!"

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lily

February 22, 2017 at 3:43 am

Was there a general frequency with which you noticed cancellations happening? Like how long did it take you before you caught one? Asking because I just booked a date but it's 19 months away!

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August 16, 2017 at 10:21 pm

I'm sorry I missed this, I was in Europe at the time based on the time stamp and must've read it but not replied. I don't really watch the calendar anymore, but when I was they were happening usually in the 2-4 month out range and would happen once or twice a month. For stuff that was 4-12 months out that was a little more frequent openings would happen. I'd advise setting up a script to check updates automatically. Or check once a day as usually it's updated daily.

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