

# spiderable

[Source code of released version](#) | [Source code of development version](#)

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`spiderable` is part of [Webapp](#). It's one possible way to allow web search engines to index a Meteor application. It uses the [AJAX Crawling specification](#) published by Google to serve HTML to compatible spiders (Google, Bing, Yandex, and more).

## How it works

When a spider requests an HTML snapshot of a page the Meteor server runs the client half of the application inside [phantomjs](#), a headless browser, and returns the full HTML generated by the client code.

In order to have links between multiple pages on a site visible to spiders, apps must use real links (eg `<a href="/about">` ) rather than simply re-rendering portions of the page when an element is clicked. Apps should render their content based on the URL of the page and can use [HTML5.pushState](#) to alter the URL on the client without triggering a page reload. See the [Todos example](#) for a demonstration.

When running your page, `spiderable` will wait for all publications to be ready. Make sure that all of your [publish functions](#) either return a cursor (or an array of cursors), or eventually call [this.ready\(\)](#) . Otherwise, the `phantomjs` executions will fail.

## Notes

If you deploy your application with `meteor bundle` , you must install `phantomjs` (<http://phantomjs.org>) somewhere in your `$PATH` . If you use `meteor deploy` this is already taken care of.