**Evolution of the Internet.**

The internet is a global network connecting billions of devices. But it didn’t become what it is now overnight. A predecessor of the internet called ARPANET was created by (ARPA)   Advanced Research Projects Agency in 1969 in the US as a response to the Soviet Union launching **Sputnik,** the first man-made satellite. Since the cold war was at its peak ARPA was aimed to give the US a technological upper hand on other countries. The ARPANET started small and it first connected four computers but soon in 1973 global networking became a reality as the University College of London (England) and Royal Radar Establishment (Norway) connect to ARPANET. The greatest invention of the ARPANET was called packet switching which laid a path to the internet we use today. During and after the construction of the ARPANET, other significant developments in networking technology were underway, one of them was TCP/IP. The great advantage of this approach was that implicit in it was the possibility of organic growth meaning that as long as the protocol used was TCP/IP it was free to join the Internet. And because the system was not owned or controlled by anybody (unlike the ARPANET), there were no gatekeepers to control admission to it and it still remains the standard protocol for the Internet. In 1983 the [Domain Name System](http://www.businessnewsdaily.com/1108-icann-new-domain-names-top-level-domains.html) (DNS) system was implemented allowing the use of the familiar .edu, .gov, .com, .mil, .org, .net, and .int system for naming websites instead of IP addresses like 232.112.53.2 .

In the 1980s ARPANET administrators were looking to hand over the responsibility for maintaining the internet since ARPANET had long since accomplished its goals. The national science foundation’s huge network (**NSFNET**)  officially replaced ARPANET as the backbone of the internet and it’s more than half a million users. But NSFNET was still government-funded it had a policy about banning commercial traffic also navigating the internet was frustrating since there was no Web. But in 1989 a scientist named Tim Berners Lee invented the web by making the Hypertext concept the primary way for navigating what he called the World Wide Web by using the Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) and the Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) and we still use it to this day.

 In 1991 the NSF allowed commercial enterprises to use the Internet for the first time which laid way for many startups like amazon and a whole new world of e-commerce.

Soon after the world’s first World Wide Web search engine named W3Catalog was created enabling users to find web pages by searching them. More ISP’s were opened in the years to come and in 1995 NSFNET shutdown leaving the internet as a completely self-sustaining industry. And soon after the Internet Protocol version 6 was introduced, to allow for the future growth of Internet Addresses. Since then the Internet has rapidly evolved from this simple, military-only communications system to a planet-wide and universally accessible informational universe that we know today.