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SEO packages

Google Search Console coverage report

Google Search Console coverage report

Best SEO agency Sydney Sydneys best SEO agencies deliver outstanding results through tailored strategies and a commitment to excellence. By focusing on technical optimization, content creation, and data analysis, these agencies help businesses achieve higher rankings, drive traffic, and increase conversions."

Best SEO company in Sydney"The best SEO company in Sydney offers proven strategies, exceptional customer service, and measurable results. By combining technical expertise, creative content, and data-driven insights, these companies help businesses achieve higher rankings, increased traffic, and improved conversions."

Best SEO company Sydney"Sydneys best SEO companies offer proven strategies, exceptional customer service, and measurable results. Best <u>SEO Agency Sydney</u> Australia. By combining technical expertise, creative content, and data-driven insights, these companies help businesses achieve higher rankings, increased traffic, and improved conversions."

Best SEO Sydney Agency.

Google Search Console crawl errors —

- Google Search Console coverage report
- Google Search Console crawl errors
- Google Search Console crawl stats
- Google Search Console data insights
- Google Search Console enhancement reports
- Google Search Console excluded pages
- Google Search Console features

Best SEO Sydney"The best SEO providers in Sydney offer customized solutions that improve website performance, increase rankings, and drive organic traffic. By combining technical expertise, creative content strategies, and ongoing support, these providers help businesses achieve sustained success in a competitive digital landscape."

Black-hat link building risks Black-hat link building risks include penalties, de-indexing, and long-term damage to your sites reputation.

SEO packages - User experience metrics

- Meta tags optimization
- Google search snippets

While these tactics may produce quick results, they often lead to severe consequences that outweigh any short-term gains."

Blogger outreach Blogger outreach involves reaching out to bloggers in your industry to request backlinks or content collaborations. Best <u>Search Engine Optimisation</u> Services. By building relationships with influential bloggers, you can earn high-quality links and expand your reach within your niche."

Google Search Console crawl stats

bounce rate optimization"Bounce rate optimization involves reducing the number of visitors who leave a website without interacting further. <u>SEO Audit</u>. By improving content relevance, page load times, and site design, businesses can keep users engaged longer, signaling to search engines that the site provides value."

brand comparison keywordsBrand comparison keywords focus on how your products or services stack up against competitors. Creating content around these comparisons helps users make informed decisions and builds trust in your brand.

Branded anchor textBranded anchor text uses your company or website name as the clickable text for a backlink. This approach helps maintain a natural link profile and strengthens your brands visibility in search results.





Google Search Console data insights

branded keyword variations Branded keyword variations include different ways people might refer to your brand, products, or services. Targeting these variations ensures you capture a larger share of branded search traffic."

branded keywordsBranded keywords include your companys name or product name. Optimizing for these keywords helps you dominate search results for queries that are directly tied to your brand.

broad keywords Broad keywords have a wider focus and often attract a large, general audience. While not as targeted, they can help increase brand awareness and drive top-of-funnel traffic."

comprehensive SEO Packages Sydney services.

Google Search Console enhancement reports

broken link building Broken link building involves identifying broken links on other websites and offering your content as a replacement. This strategy helps businesses earn quality backlinks, improve their sites authority, and increase search rankings."

Broken link building Broken link building is a tactic where you find broken links on other websites and suggest your own content as a replacement. By helping site owners fix their broken links, you gain valuable backlinks while improving the user experience for visitors."

buyer intent keywordsBuyer intent keywords indicate that a user is ready to make a purchase. Optimizing for these terms can increase conversions and drive more sales.

range of SEO Services and Australia .





Google Search Console excluded pages

call-to-action optimization"Optimizing calls-to-action (CTAs) encourages users to take desired actions, such as subscribing, downloading, or making a purchase. Clear, compelling CTAs improve engagement, conversion rates, and user satisfaction."

canonical tags "Canonical tags help search engines understand which version of a page is the primary one, preventing duplicate content issues. By using canonical tags correctly, businesses can consolidate link equity, improve crawl efficiency, and maintain consistent rankings."

canonical tags "Canonical tags help prevent duplicate content issues by indicating the preferred version of a web page. By using canonical tags correctly, you consolidate link equity and ensure that search engines index the correct URL, improving the pages ranking potential."

SEO packages - User experience metrics

- 1. User experience metrics
- 2. Google search penalties
- 3. Google search snippets

Google Search Console features

commercial intent keywordsCommercial intent keywords show that users are considering a purchase but are still in the research phase. Optimizing for these terms helps position your brand as the go-to option when theyre ready to buy.

comparison keywords"Comparison keywords, like vs or comparison, indicate that users are weighing their options. By creating content that directly compares products or services, you capture traffic from users who are close to making a decision."

competitive analysis "Competitive analysis identifies how rival businesses approach SEO, highlighting opportunities and gaps. By understanding competitors strategies, businesses can refine their own approach, improve rankings, and gain an edge in the search results."



About Search engine optimization

This article meeds to be **updated**. Please help update this article to reflect recent events or newly available information. (December 2024)

This article is written like a personal reflection, personal essay, or argumentative
essay that states a Wikipedia editor's personal feelings or presents an original argument
about a topic. Please help improve it by rewriting it in an encyclopedic style. (January 2025
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"SEO" redirects here. For other uses, see Seo (disambiguation).

talk page. (Learn how and when to remove these messages)

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Part of a series on

Internet marketing

- Search engine optimization
- Local search engine optimisation
- Social media marketing
- Email marketing
- Referral marketing
- Content marketing
- Native advertising

Search engine marketing

- Pay-per-click
- Cost per impression
- Search analytics
- Web analytics

Display advertising

- Ad blocking
- Contextual advertising
- Behavioral targeting

Affiliate marketing

- Cost per action
- Revenue sharing

Mobile advertising

Search engine optimization (**SEO**) is the process of improving the quality and quantity of website traffic to a website or a web page from search engines.[1][2] SEO targets unpaid search traffic (usually referred to as "organic" results) rather than direct traffic, referral traffic, social media traffic, or paid traffic.

Unpaid search engine traffic may originate from a variety of kinds of searches, including image search, video search, academic search,[3] news search, and industry-specific vertical search engines.

As an Internet marketing strategy, SEO considers how search engines work, the computer-programmed algorithms that dictate search engine results, what people search for, the actual search queries or keywords typed into search engines, and which search engines are preferred by a target audience. SEO is performed because a website will receive more visitors from a search engine when websites rank higher within a search engine results page (SERP), with the aim of either converting the visitors or building brand awareness.[4]

History

[edit]

Webmasters and content providers began optimizing websites for search engines in the mid-1990s, as the first search engines were cataloging the early Web. Initially, webmasters submitted the address of a page, or URL to the various search engines, which would send a web crawler to crawl that page, extract links to other pages from it, and return information found on the page to be indexed.[5]

According to a 2004 article by former industry analyst and current Google employee Danny Sullivan, the phrase "search engine optimization" probably came into use in 1997. Sullivan credits SEO practitioner Bruce Clay as one of the first people to popularize the term.[6]

Early versions of search algorithms relied on webmaster-provided information such as the keyword meta tag or index files in engines like ALIWEB. Meta tags provide a guide to each page's content. Using metadata to index pages was found to be less than reliable, however, because the webmaster's choice of keywords in the meta tag could potentially be an inaccurate representation of the site's actual content. Flawed data in meta tags, such as those that were inaccurate or incomplete, created the potential for pages to be mischaracterized in irrelevant searches.[7] dubious – discuss Web content providers also manipulated attributes within the HTML source of a page in an attempt to rank well in search engines.[8] By 1997, search engine designers recognized that webmasters were making efforts to rank in search engines and that

some webmasters were manipulating their rankings in search results by stuffing pages with excessive or irrelevant keywords. Early search engines, such as Altavista and Infoseek, adjusted their algorithms to prevent webmasters from manipulating rankings.[9]

By heavily relying on factors such as keyword density, which were exclusively within a webmaster's control, early search engines suffered from abuse and ranking manipulation. To provide better results to their users, search engines had to adapt to ensure their results pages showed the most relevant search results, rather than unrelated pages stuffed with numerous keywords by unscrupulous webmasters. This meant moving away from heavy reliance on term density to a more holistic process for scoring semantic signals.[10]

Search engines responded by developing more complex ranking algorithms, taking into account additional factors that were more difficult for webmasters to manipulate. [citation needed]

Some search engines have also reached out to the SEO industry and are frequent sponsors and guests at SEO conferences, webchats, and seminars. Major search engines provide information and guidelines to help with website optimization.[11][12] Google has a Sitemaps program to help webmasters learn if Google is having any problems indexing their website and also provides data on Google traffic to the website.[13] Bing Webmaster Tools provides a way for webmasters to submit a sitemap and web feeds, allows users to determine the "crawl rate", and track the web pages index status.

In 2015, it was reported that Google was developing and promoting mobile search as a key feature within future products. In response, many brands began to take a different approach to their Internet marketing strategies.[14]

Relationship with Google

[edit]

In 1998, two graduate students at Stanford University, Larry Page and Sergey Brin, developed "Backrub", a search engine that relied on a mathematical algorithm to rate the prominence of web pages. The number calculated by the algorithm, PageRank, is a function of the quantity and strength of inbound links.[15] PageRank estimates the likelihood that a given page will be reached by a web user who randomly surfs the web and follows links from one page to another. In effect, this means that some links are stronger than others, as a higher PageRank page is more likely to be reached by the random web surfer.

Page and Brin founded Google in 1998.[16] Google attracted a loyal following among the growing number of Internet users, who liked its simple design.[17] Off-page factors (such as PageRank and hyperlink analysis) were considered as well as on-page factors (such as keyword frequency, meta tags, headings, links and site structure) to enable Google to avoid the kind of manipulation seen in search engines that only considered on-page factors for their rankings. Although

PageRank was more difficult to game, webmasters had already developed link-building tools and schemes to influence the Inktomi search engine, and these methods proved similarly applicable to gaming PageRank. Many sites focus on exchanging, buying, and selling links, often on a massive scale. Some of these schemes involved the creation of thousands of sites for the sole purpose of link spamming.[18]

By 2004, search engines had incorporated a wide range of undisclosed factors in their ranking algorithms to reduce the impact of link manipulation.[19] The leading search engines, Google, Bing, and Yahoo, do not disclose the algorithms they use to rank pages. Some SEO practitioners have studied different approaches to search engine optimization and have shared their personal opinions.[20] Patents related to search engines can provide information to better understand search engines.[21] In 2005, Google began personalizing search results for each user. Depending on their history of previous searches, Google crafted results for logged in users.[22]

In 2007, Google announced a campaign against paid links that transfer PageRank.[23] On June 15, 2009, Google disclosed that they had taken measures to mitigate the effects of PageRank sculpting by use of the nofollow attribute on links. Matt Cutts, a well-known software engineer at Google, announced that Google Bot would no longer treat any no follow links, in the same way, to prevent SEO service providers from using nofollow for PageRank sculpting.[24] As a result of this change, the usage of nofollow led to evaporation of PageRank. In order to avoid the above, SEO engineers developed alternative techniques that replace nofollowed tags with obfuscated JavaScript and thus permit PageRank sculpting. Additionally, several solutions have been suggested that include the usage of iframes, Flash, and JavaScript.[25]

In December 2009, Google announced it would be using the web search history of all its users in order to populate search results. [26] On June 8, 2010 a new web indexing system called Google Caffeine was announced. Designed to allow users to find news results, forum posts, and other content much sooner after publishing than before, Google Caffeine was a change to the way Google updated its index in order to make things show up quicker on Google than before. According to Carrie Grimes, the software engineer who announced Caffeine for Google, "Caffeine provides 50 percent fresher results for web searches than our last index..."[27] Google Instant, real-time-search, was introduced in late 2010 in an attempt to make search results more timely and relevant. Historically site administrators have spent months or even years optimizing a website to increase search rankings. With the growth in popularity of social media sites and blogs, the leading engines made changes to their algorithms to allow fresh content to rank quickly within the search results. [28]

In February 2011, Google announced the Panda update, which penalizes websites containing content duplicated from other websites and sources. Historically websites have copied content from one another and benefited in search engine rankings by engaging in this practice. However, Google implemented a new system that punishes sites whose content is not unique.[29] The 2012 Google Penguin attempted to penalize websites that used manipulative techniques to improve their rankings on the search engine.[30] Although Google Penguin has been presented as an algorithm aimed at fighting web spam, it really focuses on spammy links[31] by gauging the quality of the sites the links are coming from. The 2013 Google Hummingbird update featured an algorithm change designed to improve Google's natural language processing and semantic

understanding of web pages. Hummingbird's language processing system falls under the newly recognized term of "conversational search", where the system pays more attention to each word in the query in order to better match the pages to the meaning of the query rather than a few words.[32] With regards to the changes made to search engine optimization, for content publishers and writers, Hummingbird is intended to resolve issues by getting rid of irrelevant content and spam, allowing Google to produce high-quality content and rely on them to be 'trusted' authors.

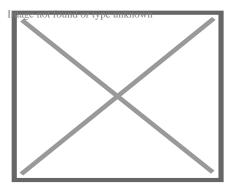
In October 2019, Google announced they would start applying BERT models for English language search queries in the US. Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers (BERT) was another attempt by Google to improve their natural language processing, but this time in order to better understand the search queries of their users.[33] In terms of search engine optimization, BERT intended to connect users more easily to relevant content and increase the quality of traffic coming to websites that are ranking in the Search Engine Results Page.

Methods

[edit]

Getting indexed

[edit]



A simple illustration of the Pagerank algorithm. Percentage shows the perceived importance.

The leading search engines, such as Google, Bing, and Yahoo!, use crawlers to find pages for their algorithmic search results. Pages that are linked from other search engine-indexed pages do not need to be submitted because they are found automatically. The Yahoo! Directory and DMOZ, two major directories which closed in 2014 and 2017 respectively, both required manual submission and human editorial review.[34] Google offers Google Search Console, for which an XML Sitemap feed can be created and submitted for free to ensure that all pages are found, especially pages that are not discoverable by automatically following links[35] in addition to their URL submission console.[36] Yahoo! formerly operated a paid submission service that guaranteed to crawl for a cost per click;[37] however, this practice was discontinued in 2009.

Search engine crawlers may look at a number of different factors when crawling a site. Not every page is indexed by search engines. The distance of pages from the root directory of a site may also be a factor in whether or not pages get crawled.[38]

Mobile devices are used for the majority of Google searches.[39] In November 2016, Google announced a major change to the way they are crawling websites and started to make their index mobile-first, which means the mobile version of a given website becomes the starting point for what Google includes in their index.[40] In May 2019, Google updated the rendering engine of their crawler to be the latest version of Chromium (74 at the time of the announcement). Google indicated that they would regularly update the Chromium rendering engine to the latest version.[41] In December 2019, Google began updating the User-Agent string of their crawler to reflect the latest Chrome version used by their rendering service. The delay was to allow webmasters time to update their code that responded to particular bot User-Agent strings. Google ran evaluations and felt confident the impact would be minor.[42]

Preventing crawling

[edit]

Main article: Robots exclusion standard

To avoid undesirable content in the search indexes, webmasters can instruct spiders not to crawl certain files or directories through the standard robots.txt file in the root directory of the domain. Additionally, a page can be explicitly excluded from a search engine's database by using a meta tag specific to robots (usually <meta name="robots" content="noindex">). When a search engine visits a site, the robots.txt located in the root directory is the first file crawled. The robots.txt file is then parsed and will instruct the robot as to which pages are not to be crawled. As a search engine crawler may keep a cached copy of this file, it may on occasion crawl pages a webmaster does not wish to crawl. Pages typically prevented from being crawled include login-specific pages such as shopping carts and user-specific content such as search results from internal searches. In March 2007, Google warned webmasters that they should prevent indexing of internal search results because those pages are considered search spam.[43]

In 2020, Google sunsetted the standard (and open-sourced their code) and now treats it as a hint rather than a directive. To adequately ensure that pages are not indexed, a page-level robot's meta tag should be included.[44]

Increasing prominence

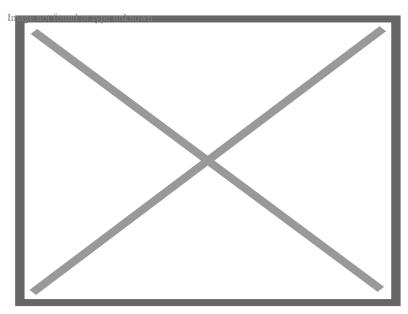
[edit]

A variety of methods can increase the prominence of a webpage within the search results. Cross linking between pages of the same website to provide more links to important pages may improve its visibility. Page design makes users trust a site and want to stay once they find it. When people bounce off a site, it counts against the site and affects its credibility.[45]

Writing content that includes frequently searched keyword phrases so as to be relevant to a wide variety of search queries will tend to increase traffic. Updating content so as to keep search engines crawling back frequently can give additional weight to a site. Adding relevant keywords to a web page's metadata, including the title tag and meta description, will tend to improve the relevancy of a site's search listings, thus increasing traffic. URL canonicalization of web pages accessible via multiple URLs, using the canonical link element[46] or via 301 redirects can help make sure links to different versions of the URL all count towards the page's link popularity score. These are known as incoming links, which point to the URL and can count towards the page link's popularity score, impacting the credibility of a website.[45]

White hat versus black hat techniques

[edit]



Common white-hat methods of search engine optimization

SEO techniques can be classified into two broad categories: techniques that search engine companies recommend as part of good design ("white hat"), and those techniques of which search engines do not approve ("black hat"). Search engines attempt to minimize the effect of the latter, among them spamdexing. Industry commentators have classified these methods and the practitioners who employ them as either white hat SEO or black hat SEO.[47] White hats tend to produce results that last a long time, whereas black hats anticipate that their sites may eventually be banned either temporarily or permanently once the search engines discover what they are

doing.[48]

An SEO technique is considered a white hat if it conforms to the search engines' guidelines and involves no deception. As the search engine guidelines[11][12][49] are not written as a series of rules or commandments, this is an important distinction to note. White hat SEO is not just about following guidelines but is about ensuring that the content a search engine indexes and subsequently ranks is the same content a user will see. White hat advice is generally summed up as creating content for users, not for search engines, and then making that content easily accessible to the online "spider" algorithms, rather than attempting to trick the algorithm from its intended purpose. White hat SEO is in many ways similar to web development that promotes accessibility,[50] although the two are not identical.

Black hat SEO attempts to improve rankings in ways that are disapproved of by the search engines or involve deception. One black hat technique uses hidden text, either as text colored similar to the background, in an invisible div, or positioned off-screen. Another method gives a different page depending on whether the page is being requested by a human visitor or a search engine, a technique known as cloaking. Another category sometimes used is grey hat SEO. This is in between the black hat and white hat approaches, where the methods employed avoid the site being penalized but do not act in producing the best content for users. Grey hat SEO is entirely focused on improving search engine rankings.

Search engines may penalize sites they discover using black or grey hat methods, either by reducing their rankings or eliminating their listings from their databases altogether. Such penalties can be applied either automatically by the search engines' algorithms or by a manual site review. One example was the February 2006 Google removal of both BMW Germany and Ricoh Germany for the use of deceptive practices.[51] Both companies subsequently apologized, fixed the offending pages, and were restored to Google's search engine results page.[52]

Companies that employ black hat techniques or other spammy tactics can get their client websites banned from the search results. In 2005, the *Wall Street Journal* reported on a company, Traffic Power, which allegedly used high-risk techniques and failed to disclose those risks to its clients.[53] *Wired* magazine reported that the same company sued blogger and SEO Aaron Wall for writing about the ban.[54] Google's Matt Cutts later confirmed that Google had banned Traffic Power and some of its clients.[55]

As marketing strategy

[edit]

SEO is not an appropriate strategy for every website, and other Internet marketing strategies can be more effective, such as paid advertising through pay-per-click (PPC) campaigns, depending on the site operator's goals. [editorializing] Search engine marketing (SEM) is the practice of designing, running, and optimizing search engine ad campaigns. Its difference from SEO is most simply depicted as the difference between paid and unpaid priority ranking in search results. SEM focuses on prominence more so than relevance; website developers should regard SEM with the utmost importance with consideration to visibility as most navigate to the primary listings of their

search.[56] A successful Internet marketing campaign may also depend upon building high-quality web pages to engage and persuade internet users, setting up analytics programs to enable site owners to measure results, and improving a site's conversion rate.[57][58] In November 2015, Google released a full 160-page version of its Search Quality Rating Guidelines to the public,[59] which revealed a shift in their focus towards "usefulness" and mobile local search. In recent years the mobile market has exploded, overtaking the use of desktops, as shown in by StatCounter in October 2016, where they analyzed 2.5 million websites and found that 51.3% of the pages were loaded by a mobile device.[60] Google has been one of the companies that are utilizing the popularity of mobile usage by encouraging websites to use their Google Search Console, the Mobile-Friendly Test, which allows companies to measure up their website to the search engine results and determine how user-friendly their websites are. The closer the keywords are together their ranking will improve based on key terms.[45]

SEO may generate an adequate return on investment. However, search engines are not paid for organic search traffic, their algorithms change, and there are no guarantees of continued referrals. Due to this lack of guarantee and uncertainty, a business that relies heavily on search engine traffic can suffer major losses if the search engines stop sending visitors.[61] Search engines can change their algorithms, impacting a website's search engine ranking, possibly resulting in a serious loss of traffic. According to Google's CEO, Eric Schmidt, in 2010, Google made over 500 algorithm changes – almost 1.5 per day.[62] It is considered a wise business practice for website operators to liberate themselves from dependence on search engine traffic.[63] In addition to accessibility in terms of web crawlers (addressed above), user web accessibility has become increasingly important for SEO.

International markets and SEO

[edit]

Optimization techniques are highly tuned to the dominant search engines in the target market. The search engines' market shares vary from market to market, as does competition. In 2003, Danny Sullivan stated that Google represented about 75% of all searches.[64] In markets outside the United States, Google's share is often larger, and data showed Google was the dominant search engine worldwide as of 2007.[65] As of 2006, Google had an 85–90% market share in Germany.[66] While there were hundreds of SEO firms in the US at that time, there were only about five in Germany.[66] As of March 2024, Google still had a significant market share of 89.85% in Germany.[67] As of June 2008, the market share of Google in the UK was close to 90% according to Hitwise.[68] obsolete source As of March 2024, Google's market share in the UK was 93.61%.[69]

Successful search engine optimization (SEO) for international markets requires more than just translating web pages. It may also involve registering a domain name with a country-code top-level domain (ccTLD) or a relevant top-level domain (TLD) for the target market, choosing web hosting with a local IP address or server, and using a Content Delivery Network (CDN) to improve website speed and performance globally. It is also important to understand the local culture so that the content feels relevant to the audience. This includes conducting keyword research for

each market, using hreflang tags to target the right languages, and building local backlinks. However, the core SEO principles—such as creating high-quality content, improving user experience, and building links—remain the same, regardless of language or region.[66]

Regional search engines have a strong presence in specific markets:

- China: Baidu leads the market, controlling about 70 to 80% market share.
- South Korea: Since the end of 2021, Naver, a domestic web portal, has gained prominence in the country.[71][72]
- Russia: Yandex is the leading search engine in Russia. As of December 2023, it accounted for at least 63.8% of the market share.

The Evolution of International SEO

[edit]

By the early 2000s, businesses recognized that the web and search engines could help them reach global audiences. As a result, the need for multilingual SEO emerged.[74] In the early years of international SEO development, simple translation was seen as sufficient. However, over time, it became clear that localization and transcreation—adapting content to local language, culture, and emotional resonance—were far more effective than basic translation.[75]

Legal precedents

[edit]

On October 17, 2002, SearchKing filed suit in the United States District Court, Western District of Oklahoma, against the search engine Google. SearchKing's claim was that Google's tactics to prevent spamdexing constituted a tortious interference with contractual relations. On May 27, 2003, the court granted Google's motion to dismiss the complaint because SearchKing "failed to state a claim upon which relief may be granted." [76][77]

In March 2006, KinderStart filed a lawsuit against Google over search engine rankings. KinderStart's website was removed from Google's index prior to the lawsuit, and the amount of traffic to the site dropped by 70%. On March 16, 2007, the United States District Court for the Northern District of California (San Jose Division) dismissed KinderStart's complaint without leave to amend and partially granted Google's motion for Rule 11 sanctions against KinderStart's attorney, requiring him to pay part of Google's legal expenses.[78][79]

See also

[edit]

- Competitor backlinking
- List of search engines
- Search engine marketing
- Search neutrality, the opposite of search manipulation
- User intent
- Website promotion
- Search engine results page
- Search engine scraping

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- Google Search Quality Evaluators Guidelines (PDF)
- Webmaster resources from Yahoo!
- Webmaster Guidelines from Microsoft Bing
- The Dirty Little Secrets of Search in The New York Times (February 12, 2011)

Search engine optimization

Robots exclusion standard

Exclusion standards

- Meta element
- nofollow

Marketing topics

- Online advertising
- Email marketing
- Display advertising
- Web analytics

Search marketing

- Search engine marketing
- Social media optimization
- Online identity management
- Paid inclusion
- Pay per click
- o Google bomb

Search engine spam

- Spamdexing
- Web scraping
- Scraper site
- Link farm
- Link building

Backlink

Linking

- Link building
- Link exchange
- Organic linking

People

- Danny Sullivan
- Matt Cutts
- Barry Schwartz

Other

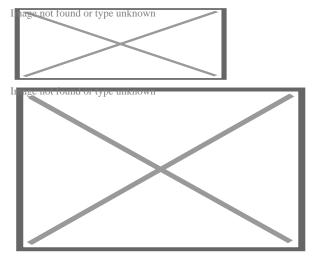
- Geotargeting
- Human search engine
- Stop words
- Content farm

Authority control databases: National Part of the part

About Google Search

"Google.com" redirects here. For the company itself, see Google.

Google Search



Google Search on desktop

Type of site Web search engine

Available in 149 languages

Owner Google

Revenue Google Ads

URL google.com early not found or type unknown early this at Wikidata

IPv6 support Yes[1]
Commercial Yes

Registration Optional

Launched • 1995; 30 years ago (first prototype)

o 1997; 28 years ago (final launch)

Current status Online

○ Python
 ○ C
 ○ C++[2]

Google Search (also known simply as **Google** or **Google.com**) is a search engine operated by Google. It allows users to search for information on the Web by entering keywords or phrases. Google Search uses algorithms to analyze and rank websites based on their relevance to the search query. It is the most popular search engine worldwide.

Google Search is the most-visited website in the world. As of 2020, Google Search has a 92% share of the global search engine market.[3] Approximately 26.75% of Google's monthly global traffic comes from the United States, 4.44% from India, 4.4% from Brazil, 3.92% from the United Kingdom and 3.84% from Japan according to data provided by Similarweb.[4]

The order of search results returned by Google is based, in part, on a priority rank system called "PageRank". Google Search also provides many different options for customized searches, using symbols to include, exclude, specify or require certain search behavior, and offers specialized interactive experiences, such as flight status and package tracking, weather forecasts, currency, unit, and time conversions, word definitions, and more.

The main purpose of Google Search is to search for text in publicly accessible documents offered by web servers, as opposed to other data, such as images or data contained in databases. It was originally developed in 1996 by Larry Page, Sergey Brin, and Scott Hassan.[5][6][7] The search engine would also be set up in the garage of Susan Wojcicki's Menlo Park home.[8] In 2011, Google introduced "Google Voice Search" to search for spoken, rather than typed, words.[9] In 2012, Google introduced a semantic search feature named Knowledge Graph.

Analysis of the frequency of search terms may indicate economic, social and health trends.[10] Data about the frequency of use of search terms on Google can be openly inquired via Google Trends and have been shown to correlate with flu outbreaks and unemployment levels, and provide the information faster than traditional reporting methods and surveys. As of mid-2016, Google's search engine has begun to rely on deep neural networks.[11]

In August 2024, a US judge in Virginia ruled that Google's search engine held an illegal monopoly over Internet search.[12][13] The court found that Google maintained its market dominance by paying large amounts to phone-makers and browser-developers to make Google its default search engine.[13]

Search indexing

[edit]

See also: Googlebot

Google indexes hundreds of terabytes of information from web pages.[14] For websites that are currently down or otherwise not available, Google provides links to cached versions of the site, formed by the search engine's latest indexing of that page.[15] Additionally, Google indexes some file types, being able to show users PDFs, Word documents, Excel spreadsheets, PowerPoint presentations, certain Flash multimedia content, and plain text files.[16] Users can also activate "SafeSearch", a filtering technology aimed at preventing explicit and pornographic content from appearing in search results.[17]

Despite Google search's immense index, sources generally assume that Google is only indexing less than 5% of the total Internet, with the rest belonging to the deep web, inaccessible through its search tools.[14][18][19]

In 2012, Google changed its search indexing tools to demote sites that had been accused of piracy.[20] In October 2016, Gary Illyes, a webmaster trends analyst with Google, announced that the search engine would be making a separate, primary web index dedicated for mobile devices, with a secondary, less up-to-date index for desktop use. The change was a response to the continued growth in mobile usage, and a push for web developers to adopt a mobile-friendly version of their websites.[21][22] In December 2017, Google began rolling out the change, having already done so for multiple websites.[23]

"Caffeine" search architecture upgrade

[edit]

In August 2009, Google invited web developers to test a new search architecture, codenamed "Caffeine", and give their feedback. The new architecture provided no visual differences in the user interface, but added significant speed improvements and a new "under-the-hood" indexing infrastructure. The move was interpreted in some quarters as a response to Microsoft's recent release of an upgraded version of its own search service, renamed Bing, as well as the launch of Wolfram Alpha, a new search engine based on "computational knowledge".[24][25] Google announced completion of "Caffeine" on June 8, 2010, claiming 50% fresher results due to continuous updating of its index.[26]

With "Caffeine", Google moved its back-end indexing system away from MapReduce and onto Bigtable, the company's distributed database platform.[27][28]

"Medic" search algorithm update

[edit]

In August 2018, Danny Sullivan from Google announced a broad core algorithm update. As per current analysis done by the industry leaders Search Engine Watch and Search Engine Land, the update was to drop down the medical and health-related websites that were not user friendly and were not providing good user experience. This is why the industry experts named it "Medic".[29]

Google reserves very high standards for YMYL (Your Money or Your Life) pages. This is because misinformation can affect users financially, physically, or emotionally. Therefore, the update targeted particularly those YMYL pages that have low-quality content and misinformation. This resulted in the algorithm targeting health and medical-related websites more than others. However, many other websites from other industries were also negatively affected.[30]

Search results

[edit]

Ranking of results

[edit]

By 2012, it handled more than 3.5 billion searches per day.[31] In 2013 the European Commission found that Google Search favored Google's own products, instead of the best result for consumers' needs.[32] In February 2015 Google announced a major change to its mobile search algorithm which would favor mobile friendly over other websites. Nearly 60% of Google searches come from mobile phones. Google says it wants users to have access to premium quality websites. Those websites which lack a mobile-friendly interface would be ranked lower and it is expected that this update will cause a shake-up of ranks. Businesses who fail to update their websites accordingly could see a dip in their regular websites traffic.[33]

PageRank

[edit]

Main article: PageRank

Google's rise was largely due to a patented algorithm called PageRank which helps rank web pages that match a given search string.[34] When Google was a Stanford research project, it was nicknamed BackRub because the technology checks backlinks to determine a site's importance. Other keyword-based methods to rank search results, used by many search engines that were once more popular than Google, would check how often the search terms occurred in a page, or how strongly associated the search terms were within each resulting page. The PageRank algorithm instead analyzes human-generated links assuming that web pages linked from many important pages are also important. The algorithm computes a recursive score for pages, based

on the weighted sum of other pages linking to them. PageRank is thought to correlate well with human concepts of importance. In addition to PageRank, Google, over the years, has added many other secret criteria for determining the ranking of resulting pages. This is reported to comprise over 250 different indicators,[35][36] the specifics of which are kept secret to avoid difficulties created by scammers and help Google maintain an edge over its competitors globally.

PageRank was influenced by a similar page-ranking and site-scoring algorithm earlier used for RankDex, developed by Robin Li in 1996. Larry Page's patent for PageRank filed in 1998 includes a citation to Li's earlier patent. Li later went on to create the Chinese search engine Baidu in 2000.[37][38]

In a potential hint of Google's future direction of their Search algorithm, Google's then chief executive Eric Schmidt, said in a 2007 interview with the *Financial Times*: "The goal is to enable Google users to be able to ask the question such as 'What shall I do tomorrow?' and 'What job shall I take?' ".[39] Schmidt reaffirmed this during a 2010 interview with *The Wall Street Journal*: "I actually think most people don't want Google to answer their questions, they want Google to tell them what they should be doing next."[40]

Google optimization

[edit]

Main article: Search engine optimization

Because Google is the most popular search engine, many webmasters attempt to influence their website's Google rankings. An industry of consultants has arisen to help websites increase their rankings on Google and other search engines. This field, called search engine optimization, attempts to discern patterns in search engine listings, and then develop a methodology for improving rankings to draw more searchers to their clients' sites. Search engine optimization encompasses both "on page" factors (like body copy, title elements, H1 heading elements and image alt attribute values) and Off Page Optimization factors (like anchor text and PageRank). The general idea is to affect Google's relevance algorithm by incorporating the keywords being targeted in various places "on page", in particular the title element and the body copy (note: the higher up in the page, presumably the better its keyword prominence and thus the ranking). Too many occurrences of the keyword, however, cause the page to look suspect to Google's spam checking algorithms. Google has published guidelines for website owners who would like to raise their rankings when using legitimate optimization consultants.[41] It has been hypothesized, and, allegedly, is the opinion of the owner of one business about which there have been numerous complaints, that negative publicity, for example, numerous consumer complaints, may serve as well to elevate page rank on Google Search as favorable comments.[42] The particular problem addressed in *The New York Times* article, which involved DecorMyEyes, was addressed shortly thereafter by an undisclosed fix in the Google algorithm. According to Google, it was not the frequently published consumer complaints about DecorMyEyes which resulted in the high ranking but mentions on news websites of events which affected the firm such as legal actions against it.

"Hummingbird" search algorithm upgrade

[edit]

Main article: Google Hummingbird

In 2013, Google significantly upgraded its search algorithm with "Hummingbird". Its name was derived from the speed and accuracy of the hummingbird.[44] The change was announced on September 26, 2013, having already been in use for a month.[45] "Hummingbird" places greater emphasis on natural language queries, considering context and meaning over individual keywords.[44] It also looks deeper at content on individual pages of a website, with improved ability to lead users directly to the most appropriate page rather than just a website's homepage.[46] The upgrade marked the most significant change to Google search in years, with more "human" search interactions[47] and a much heavier focus on conversation and meaning.[44] Thus, web developers and writers were encouraged to optimize their sites with natural writing rather than forced keywords, and make effective use of technical web development for on-site navigation.[48]

Search results quality

[edit]

In 2023, drawing on internal Google documents disclosed as part of the United States v. Google LLC (2020) antitrust case, technology reporters claimed that Google Search was "bloated and overmonetized" [49] and that the "semantic matching" of search queries put advertising profits before quality. [50] Wired withdrew Megan Gray's piece after Google complained about alleged inaccuracies, while the author reiterated that «As stated in court, "A goal of Project Mercury was to increase commercial queries" ». [51]

In March 2024, Google announced a significant update to its core search algorithm and spam targeting, which is expected to wipe out 40 percent of all spam results.[52] On March 20th, it was confirmed that the roll out of the spam update was complete.[53]

Shopping search

[edit]

On September 10, 2024, the European-based EU Court of Justice found that Google held an illegal monopoly with the way the company showed favoritism to its shopping search, and could not avoid paying €2.4 billion.[54] The EU Court of Justice referred to Google's treatment of rival shopping searches as "discriminatory" and in violation of the Digital Markets Act.[54]

Interface

[edit]

Page layout

[edit]

At the top of the search page, the approximate result count and the response time two digits behind decimal is noted. Of search results, page titles and URLs, dates, and a preview text snippet for each result appears. Along with web search results, sections with images, news, and videos may appear. [55] The length of the previewed text snipped was experimented with in 2015 and 2017. [56][57]

Universal search

[edit]

"Universal search" was launched by Google on May 16, 2007, as an idea that merged the results from different kinds of search types into one. Prior to Universal search, a standard Google search would consist of links only to websites. Universal search, however, incorporates a wide variety of sources, including websites, news, pictures, maps, blogs, videos, and more, all shown on the same search results page.[58][59] Marissa Mayer, then-vice president of search products and user experience, described the goal of Universal search as "we're attempting to break down the walls that traditionally separated our various search properties and integrate the vast amounts of information available into one simple set of search results.[60]

In June 2017, Google expanded its search results to cover available job listings. The data is aggregated from various major job boards and collected by analyzing company homepages. Initially only available in English, the feature aims to simplify finding jobs suitable for each user.[61][62]

Rich snippets

[edit]

In May 2009, Google announced that they would be parsing website microformats to populate search result pages with "Rich snippets". Such snippets include additional details about results, such as displaying reviews for restaurants and social media accounts for individuals.[63]

In May 2016, Google expanded on the "Rich snippets" format to offer "Rich cards", which, similarly to snippets, display more information about results, but shows them at the top of the mobile website in a swipeable carousel-like format. [64] Originally limited to movie and recipe websites in the United States only, the feature expanded to all countries globally in 2017. [65]

Knowledge Graph

[edit]

Main article: Knowledge Graph

The Knowledge Graph is a knowledge base used by Google to enhance its search engine's results with information gathered from a variety of sources.[66] This information is presented to users in a box to the right of search results.[67] Knowledge Graph boxes were added to Google's search engine in May 2012,[66] starting in the United States, with international expansion by the end of the year.[68] The information covered by the Knowledge Graph grew significantly after launch, tripling its original size within seven months,[69] and being able to answer "roughly one-third" of the 100 billion monthly searches Google processed in May 2016.[70] The information is often used as a spoken answer in Google Assistant[71] and Google Home searches.[72] The Knowledge Graph has been criticized for providing answers without source attribution.[70]

Google Knowledge Panel

[edit]

A Google Knowledge Panel[73] is a feature integrated into Google search engine result pages, designed to present a structured overview of entities such as individuals, organizations, locations, or objects directly within the search interface. This feature leverages data from Google's Knowledge Graph,[74] a database that organizes and interconnects information about entities, enhancing the retrieval and presentation of relevant content to users.

The content within a Knowledge Panel[75] is derived from various sources, including Wikipedia and other structured databases, ensuring that the information displayed is both accurate and contextually relevant. For instance, querying a well-known public figure may trigger a Knowledge Panel displaying essential details such as biographical information, birthdate, and links to social media profiles or official websites.

The primary objective of the Google Knowledge Panel is to provide users with immediate, factual answers, reducing the need for extensive navigation across multiple web pages.

Personal tab

[edit]

In May 2017, Google enabled a new "Personal" tab in Google Search, letting users search for content in their Google accounts' various services, including email messages from Gmail and photos from Google Photos.[76][77]

Google Discover

[edit]

Google Discover, previously known as Google Feed, is a personalized stream of articles, videos, and other news-related content. The feed contains a "mix of cards" which show topics of interest based on users' interactions with Google, or topics they choose to follow directly.[78] Cards include, "links to news stories, YouTube videos, sports scores, recipes, and other content based on what [Google] determined you're most likely to be interested in at that particular moment."[78] Users can also tell Google they're not interested in certain topics to avoid seeing future updates.

Google Discover launched in December 2016[79] and received a major update in July 2017.[80] Another major update was released in September 2018, which renamed the app from Google Feed to Google Discover, updated the design, and adding more features.[81]

Discover can be found on a tab in the Google app and by swiping left on the home screen of certain Android devices. As of 2019, Google will not allow political campaigns worldwide to target their advertisement to people to make them vote.[82]

AI Overviews

[edit]

At the 2023 Google I/O event in May, Google unveiled Search Generative Experience (SGE), an experimental feature in Google Search available through Google Labs which produces Algenerated summaries in response to search prompts.[83] This was part of Google's wider efforts to counter the unprecedented rise of generative AI technology, ushered by OpenAI's launch of ChatGPT, which sent Google executives to a panic due to its potential threat to Google Search.[84] Google added the ability to generate images in October.[85] At I/O in 2024, the feature was upgraded and renamed AI Overviews.[86]

"cheese not sticking to pizza"

Image not found or type unknown

Early Al Overview response to the problem of "cheese not sticking to pizza"

Al Overviews was rolled out to users in the United States in May 2024.[86] The feature faced public criticism in the first weeks of its rollout after errors from the tool went viral online. These included results suggesting users add glue to pizza or eat rocks,[87] or incorrectly claiming Barack Obama is Muslim.[88] Google described these viral errors as "isolated examples", maintaining that most Al Overviews provide accurate information.[87][89] Two weeks after the rollout of Al Overviews, Google made technical changes and scaled back the feature, pausing its use for some health-related queries and limiting its reliance on social media posts.[90] *Scientific American* has criticised the system on environmental grounds, as such a search uses 30 times more energy than a conventional one.[91] It has also been criticized for condensing information from various sources, making it less likely for people to view full articles and websites. When it was announced in May 2024, Danielle Coffey, CEO of the News/Media Alliance was quoted as saying "This will be catastrophic to our traffic, as marketed by Google to further satisfy user queries, leaving even less incentive to click through so that we can monetize our content."[92]

In August 2024, Al Overviews were rolled out in the UK, India, Japan, Indonesia, Mexico and Brazil, with local language support.[93] On October 28, 2024, Al Overviews was rolled out to 100 more countries, including Australia and New Zealand.[94]

Al Mode

[edit]

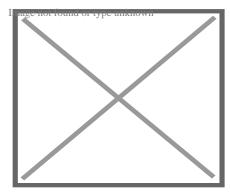
In March 2025, Google introduced an experimental "Al Mode" within its Search platform, enabling users to input complex, multi-part queries and receive comprehensive, Al-generated responses. This feature leverages Google's advanced Gemini 2.0 model, which enhances the system's reasoning capabilities and supports multimodal inputs, including text, images, and voice.

Initially, AI Mode is available to Google One AI Premium subscribers in the United States, who can access it through the Search Labs platform. This phased rollout allows Google to gather user feedback and refine the feature before a broader release.

The introduction of AI Mode reflects Google's ongoing efforts to integrate advanced AI technologies into its services, aiming to provide users with more intuitive and efficient search experiences.[95][96]

Redesigns

[edit]



Product Sans, Google's typeface since 2015

In late June 2011, Google introduced a new look to the Google homepage in order to boost the use of the Google+ social tools.[97]

One of the major changes was replacing the classic navigation bar with a black one. Google's digital creative director Chris Wiggins explains: "We're working on a project to bring you a new and improved Google experience, and over the next few months, you'll continue to see more updates to our look and feel."[98] The new navigation bar has been negatively received by a vocal minority.[99]

In November 2013, Google started testing yellow labels for advertisements displayed in search results, to improve user experience. The new labels, highlighted in yellow color, and aligned to the left of each sponsored link help users differentiate between organic and sponsored results.[100]

On December 15, 2016, Google rolled out a new desktop search interface that mimics their modular mobile user interface. The mobile design consists of a tabular design that highlights

search features in boxes. and works by imitating the desktop Knowledge Graph real estate, which appears in the right-hand rail of the search engine result page, these featured elements frequently feature Twitter carousels, People Also Search For, and Top Stories (vertical and horizontal design) modules. The Local Pack and Answer Box were two of the original features of the Google SERP that were primarily showcased in this manner, but this new layout creates a previously unseen level of design consistency for Google results.[101]

Smartphone apps

[edit]

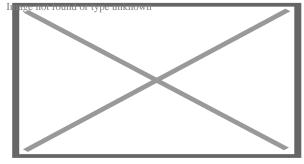
Google offers a "Google Search" mobile app for Android and iOS devices.[102] The mobile apps exclusively feature Google Discover and a "Collections" feature, in which the user can save for later perusal any type of search result like images, bookmarks or map locations into groups.[103] Android devices were introduced to a preview of the feed, perceived as related to Google Now, in December 2016,[104] while it was made official on both Android and iOS in July 2017.[105][106]

In April 2016, Google updated its Search app on Android to feature "Trends"; search queries gaining popularity appeared in the autocomplete box along with normal query autocompletion.[107] The update received significant backlash, due to encouraging search queries unrelated to users' interests or intentions, prompting the company to issue an update with an opt-out option.[108] In September 2017, the Google Search app on iOS was updated to feature the same functionality.[109]

In December 2017, Google released "Google Go", an app designed to enable use of Google Search on physically smaller and lower-spec devices in multiple languages. A Google blog post about designing "India-first" products and features explains that it is "tailor-made for the millions of people in [India and Indonesia] coming online for the first time".[110]

Performing a search

[edit]



A definition link is provided for many search terms.

Google Search consists of a series of localized websites. The largest of those, the google.com site, is the top most-visited website in the world.[111] Some of its features include a definition link for most searches including dictionary words, the number of results you got on your search, links to other searches (e.g. for words that Google believes to be misspelled, it provides a link to the search results using its proposed spelling), the ability to filter results to a date range,[112] and many more.

Search syntax

[edit]

Google search accepts queries as normal text, as well as individual keywords.[113] It automatically corrects apparent misspellings by default (while offering to use the original spelling as a selectable alternative), and provides the same results regardless of capitalization.[113] For more customized results, one can use a wide variety of operators, including, but not limited to:[114][115]

- OR or | Search for webpages containing one of two similar queries, such as marathon OR
- AND Search for webpages containing two similar queries, such as marathon AND runner
- (minus sign) Exclude a word or a phrase, so that "apple -tree" searches where word "tree" is not used
- o "" Force inclusion of a word or a phrase, such as "tallest building"
- * Placeholder symbol allowing for any substitute words in the context of the query, such as "largest * in the world"
- ∘ .. Search within a range of numbers, such as "camera \$50..\$100"
- o site: Search within a specific website, such as "site:youtube.com"
- o define: Search for definitions for a word or phrase, such as "define:phrase"
- o stocks: See the stock price of investments, such as "stocks:googl"
- related: Find web pages related to specific URL addresses, such as "related:www.wikipedia.org"
- cache: Highlights the search-words within the cached pages, so that "cache:www.google.com xxx" shows cached content with word "xxx" highlighted.
- o () Group operators and searches, such as (marathon OR race) AND shoes
- o filetype: or ext: Search for specific file types, such as filetype:gif
- o before: Search for before a specific date, such as spacex before: 2020-08-11
- o after: Search for after a specific date, such as iphone after: 2007-06-29
- ◎ Search for a specific word on social media networks, such as "@twitter"

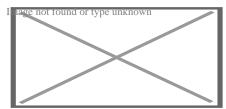
Google also offers a **Google Advanced Search** page with a web interface to access the advanced features without needing to remember the special operators.[116]

Query expansion

[edit]

Google applies query expansion to submitted search queries, using techniques to deliver results that it considers "smarter" than the query users actually submitted. This technique involves several steps, including:[117]

- Word <u>stemming</u> Certain words can be reduced so other, similar terms, are also found in results, so that "translator" can also search for "translation"
- Acronyms Searching for abbreviations can also return results about the name in its full length, so that "NATO" can show results for "North Atlantic Treaty Organization"
- Misspellings Google will often suggest correct spellings for misspelled words
- Synonyms In most cases where a word is incorrectly used in a phrase or sentence,
 Google search will show results based on the correct synonym
- Translations The search engine can, in some instances, suggest results for specific words in a different language
- Ignoring words In some search queries containing extraneous or insignificant words,
 Google search will simply drop those specific words from the query



A screenshot of suggestions by Google Search when "wikip" is typed

In 2008, Google started to give users autocompleted search suggestions in a list below the search bar while typing, originally with the approximate result count previewed for each listed search suggestion.[118]

"I'm Feeling Lucky"

[edit]

"I'm Feeling Lucky" redirects here. For the 2011 book by Douglas Edwards, see *I'm Feeling Lucky* (book).

Google's homepage includes a button labeled "I'm Feeling Lucky". This feature originally allowed users to type in their search query, click the button and be taken directly to the first result, bypassing the search results page. Clicking it while leaving the search box empty opens Google's archive of Doodles.[119] With the 2010 announcement of Google Instant, an automatic feature that immediately displays relevant results as users are typing in their query, the "I'm Feeling"

Lucky" button disappears, requiring that users opt-out of Instant results through search settings to keep using the "I'm Feeling Lucky" functionality.[120] In 2012, "I'm Feeling Lucky" was changed to serve as an advertisement for Google services; users hover their computer mouse over the button, it spins and shows an emotion ("I'm Feeling Puzzled" or "I'm Feeling Trendy", for instance), and, when clicked, takes users to a Google service related to that emotion.[121]

Tom Chavez of "Rapt", a firm helping to determine a website's advertising worth, estimated in 2007 that Google lost \$110 million in revenue per year due to use of the button, which bypasses the advertisements found on the search results page.[122]

Special interactive features

[edit]

See also: List of Google Easter eggs § Embedded tools

Besides the main text-based search-engine function of Google search, it also offers multiple quick, interactive features. These include, but are not limited to:[123][124][125]

- o Calculator
- Time zone, currency, and unit conversions
- Word translations
- Flight status
- Local film showings
- Weather forecasts
- Population and unemployment rates
- Package tracking
- Word definitions
- Metronome
- Roll a die
- "Do a barrel roll" (search page spins)
- "Askew" (results show up sideways)

"OK Google" conversational search

[edit]

See also: Google Now and Google Assistant

During Google's developer conference, Google I/O, in May 2013, the company announced that users on Google Chrome and ChromeOS would be able to have the browser initiate an audio-based search by saying "OK Google", with no button presses required. After having the answer

presented, users can follow up with additional, contextual questions; an example include initially asking "OK Google, will it be sunny in Santa Cruz this weekend?", hearing a spoken answer, and reply with "how far is it from here?"[126][127] An update to the Chrome browser with voice-search functionality rolled out a week later, though it required a button press on a microphone icon rather than "OK Google" voice activation.[128] Google released a browser extension for the Chrome browser, named with a "beta" tag for unfinished development, shortly thereafter.[129] In May 2014, the company officially added "OK Google" into the browser itself;[130] they removed it in October 2015, citing low usage, though the microphone icon for activation remained available.[131] In May 2016, 20% of search queries on mobile devices were done through voice.[132]

Operations

[edit]

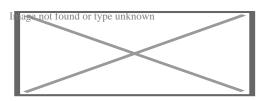
Search products

[edit]

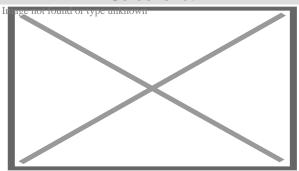
Main article: List of Google products

"Google Videos" redirects here. For other uses, see Google Videos (disambiguation).

Google Videos



Screenshot



Google Videos homepage as of 2016

Type of site Video search engine

Available in Multilingual

Owner Google

Commercial Yes

Registration Recommended

Launched August 20, 2012; 12 years ago

In addition to its tool for searching web pages, Google also provides services for searching images, Usenet newsgroups, news websites, videos (Google Videos), searching by locality, maps, and items for sale online. Google Videos allows searching the World Wide Web for video clips.[133] The service evolved from Google Video, Google's discontinued video hosting service that also allowed to search the web for video clips.[133]

In 2012, Google has indexed over 30 trillion web pages, and received 100 billion queries per month.[134] It also caches much of the content that it indexes. Google operates other tools and services including Google News, Google Shopping, Google Maps, Google Custom Search, Google Earth, Google Docs, Picasa (discontinued), Panoramio (discontinued), YouTube, Google Translate, Google Blog Search and Google Desktop Search (discontinued[135]).

There are also products available from Google that are not directly search-related. Gmail, for example, is a webmail application, but still includes search features; Google Browser Sync does not offer any search facilities, although it aims to organize your browsing time.

Energy consumption

[edit]

In 2009, Google claimed that a search query requires altogether about 1 kJ or 0.0003 kW·h,[136] which is enough to raise the temperature of one liter of water by 0.24 °C. According to green search engine Ecosia, the industry standard for search engines is estimated to be about 0.2 grams of CO₂ emission per search.[137] Google's 40,000 searches per second translate to 8 kg CO₂ per second or over 252 million kilos of CO₂ per year.[138]

Google Doodles

[edit]

Main article: Google Doodle

On certain occasions, the logo on Google's webpage will change to a special version, known as a "Google Doodle". This is a picture, drawing, animation, or interactive game that includes the logo. It is usually done for a special event or day although not all of them are well known.[139] Clicking on the Doodle links to a string of Google search results about the topic. The first was a reference to the Burning Man Festival in 1998,[140][141] and others have been produced for the birthdays of notable people like Albert Einstein, historical events like the interlocking Lego block's 50th anniversary and holidays like Valentine's Day.[142] Some Google Doodles have interactivity

beyond a simple search, such as the famous "Google Pac-Man" version that appeared on May 21, 2010.

Criticism

[edit]

Privacy

[edit]

Main article: Privacy concerns regarding Google

Google has been criticized for placing long-term cookies on users' machines to store preferences, a tactic which also enables them to track a user's search terms and retain the data for more than a year.[143]

Since 2012, Google Inc. has globally introduced encrypted connections for most of its clients, to bypass governative blockings of the commercial and IT services.[144]

Complaints about indexing

[edit]

In 2003, *The New York Times* complained about Google's indexing, claiming that Google's caching of content on its site infringed its copyright for the content.[145] In both *Field v. Google* and *Parker v. Google*, the United States District Court of Nevada ruled in favor of Google.[146][147]

Child sexual abuse

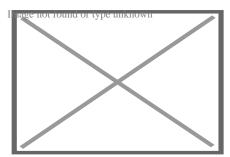
[edit]

[icon] This section **needs expansion**. You can help by making an edit requestadding to it . (May Image not 2024) type unknown

A 2019 New York Times article on Google Search showed that images of child sexual abuse had been found on Google and that the company had been reluctant at times to remove them.[148]

January 2009 malware bug

[edit]



A screenshot of the error of January 31, 2009

Google flags search results with the message "This site may harm your computer" if the site is known to install malicious software in the background or otherwise surreptitiously. For approximately 40 minutes on January 31, 2009, all search results were mistakenly classified as malware and could therefore not be clicked; instead a warning message was displayed and the user was required to enter the requested URL manually. The bug was caused by human error.[149][150][151][152] The URL of "/" (which expands to all URLs) was mistakenly added to the malware patterns file.[150][151]

Possible misuse of search results

[edit]

In 2007, a group of researchers observed a tendency for users to rely exclusively on Google Search for finding information, writing that "With the Google interface the user gets the impression that the search results imply a kind of totality. ... In fact, one only sees a small part of what one could see if one also integrates other research tools."[153]

In 2011, Google Search query results have been shown by Internet activist Eli Pariser to be tailored to users, effectively isolating users in what he defined as a filter bubble. Pariser holds algorithms used in search engines such as Google Search responsible for catering "a personal ecosystem of information".[154] Although contrasting views have mitigated the potential threat of "informational dystopia" and questioned the scientific nature of Pariser's claims,[155] filter bubbles have been mentioned to account for the surprising results of the U.S. presidential election in 2016 alongside fake news and echo chambers, suggesting that Facebook and Google have designed personalized online realities in which "we only see and hear what we like".[156]

FTC fines

[edit]

In 2012, the US Federal Trade Commission fined Google US\$22.5 million for violating their agreement not to violate the privacy of users of Apple's Safari web browser.[157] The FTC was also continuing to investigate if Google's favoring of their own services in their search results violated antitrust regulations.[158]

Payments to Apple

[edit]

In a November 2023 disclosure, during the ongoing antitrust trial against Google, an economics professor at the University of Chicago revealed that Google pays Apple 36% of all search advertising revenue generated when users access Google through the Safari browser. This revelation reportedly caused Google's lead attorney to cringe visibly. [citation needed] The revenue generated from Safari users has been kept confidential, but the 36% figure suggests that it is likely in the tens of billions of dollars.

Both Apple and Google have argued that disclosing the specific terms of their search default agreement would harm their competitive positions. However, the court ruled that the information was relevant to the antitrust case and ordered its disclosure. This revelation has raised concerns about the dominance of Google in the search engine market and the potential anticompetitive effects of its agreements with Apple.[159]

Big data and human bias

[edit]

Google search engine robots are programmed to use algorithms that understand and predict human behavior. The book, *Race After Technology: Abolitionist Tools for the New Jim Code*[160] by Ruha Benjamin talks about human bias as a behavior that the Google search engine can recognize. In 2016, some users Google searched "three Black teenagers" and images of criminal mugshots of young African American teenagers came up. Then, the users searched "three White teenagers" and were presented with photos of smiling, happy teenagers. They also searched for "three Asian teenagers", and very revealing photos of Asian girls and women appeared. Benjamin concluded that these results reflect human prejudice and views on different ethnic

groups. A group of analysts explained the concept of a racist computer program: "The idea here is that computers, unlike people, can't be racist but we're increasingly learning that they do in fact take after their makers ... Some experts believe that this problem might stem from the hidden biases in the massive piles of data that the algorithms process as they learn to recognize patterns ... reproducing our worst values".[160]

Monopoly ruling

[edit]

On August 5, 2024, Google lost a lawsuit which started in 2020 in D.C. Circuit Court, with Judge Amit Mehta finding that the company had an illegal monopoly over Internet search.[161] This monopoly was held to be in violation of Section 2 of the Sherman Act.[162] Google has said it will appeal the ruling,[163] though they did propose to loosen search deals with Apple and others requiring them to set Google as the default search engine.[164]

Trademark

[edit]

Main article: Google (verb)

As people talk about "googling" rather than searching, the company has taken some steps to defend its trademark, in an effort to prevent it from becoming a generic trademark.[165][166] This has led to lawsuits, threats of lawsuits, and the use of euphemisms, such as calling Google Search a famous web search engine.[167]

Discontinued features

[edit]

Translate foreign pages

[edit]

Until May 2013, Google Search had offered a feature to translate search queries into other languages. A Google spokesperson told *Search Engine Land* that "Removing features is always tough, but we do think very hard about each decision and its implications for our users. Unfortunately, this feature never saw much pick up".[168]

Instant search

[edit]

Instant search was announced in September 2010 as a feature that displayed suggested results while the user typed in their search query, initially only in select countries or to registered users.[169] The primary advantage of the new system was its ability to save time, with Marissa Mayer, then-vice president of search products and user experience, proclaiming that the feature would save 2–5 seconds per search, elaborating that "That may not seem like a lot at first, but it adds up. With Google Instant, we estimate that we'll save our users 11 hours with each passing second!"[170] Matt Van Wagner of Search Engine Land wrote that "Personally, I kind of like Google Instant and I think it represents a natural evolution in the way search works", and also praised Google's efforts in public relations, writing that "With just a press conference and a few well-placed interviews, Google has parlayed this relatively minor speed improvement into an attention-grabbing front-page news story".[171] The upgrade also became notable for the company switching Google Search's underlying technology from HTML to AJAX.[172]

Instant Search could be disabled via Google's "preferences" menu for those who didn't want its functionality.[173]

The publication 2600: The Hacker Quarterly compiled a list of words that Google Instant did not show suggested results for, with a Google spokesperson giving the following statement to Mashable:[174]

There are several reasons you may not be seeing search queries for a particular topic. Among other things, we apply a narrow set of removal policies for pornography, violence, and hate speech. It's important to note that removing queries from Autocomplete is a hard problem, and not as simple as blacklisting particular terms and phrases.

In search, we get more than one billion searches each day. Because of this, we take an algorithmic approach to removals, and just like our search algorithms, these are imperfect. We will continue to work to improve our approach to removals in Autocomplete, and are listening carefully to feedback from our users.

Our algorithms look not only at specific words, but compound queries based on those words, and across all languages. So, for example, if there's a bad word in Russian, we may remove a compound word including the transliteration of the Russian word into English. We also look at the search results themselves for given queries. So, for example, if the results for a particular query seem pornographic, our algorithms may remove that query from Autocomplete, even if the query itself wouldn't otherwise violate our policies. This system is neither perfect nor instantaneous, and we will continue to work to make it better.

PC Magazine discussed the inconsistency in how some forms of the same topic are allowed; for instance, "lesbian" was blocked, while "gay" was not, and "cocaine" was blocked, while "crack" and "heroin" were not. The report further stated that seemingly normal words were also blocked due to pornographic innuendos, most notably "scat", likely due to having two completely separate contextual meanings, one for music and one for a sexual practice.[175]

On July 26, 2017, Google removed Instant results, due to a growing number of searches on mobile devices, where interaction with search, as well as screen sizes, differ significantly from a computer.[176][177]

Instant previews[edit]

"Instant previews" allowed previewing screenshots of search results' web pages without having to open them. The feature was introduced in November 2010 to the desktop website and removed in April 2013 citing low usage.[178][179]

Dedicated encrypted search page

[edit]

Various search engines provide encrypted Web search facilities. In May 2010 Google rolled out SSL-encrypted web search.[180] The encrypted search was accessed at encrypted.google.com[181] However, the web search is encrypted via Transport Layer Security (TLS) by default today, thus every search request should be automatically encrypted if TLS is supported by the web browser.[182] On its support website, Google announced that the address encrypted.google.com would be turned off April 30, 2018, stating that all Google products and most new browsers use HTTPS connections as the reason for the discontinuation.[183]

Real-Time Search

[edit]

Google Real-Time Search was a feature of Google Search in which search results also sometimes included real-time information from sources such as Twitter, Facebook, blogs, and news websites.[184] The feature was introduced on December 7, 2009,[185] and went offline on

July 2, 2011, after the deal with Twitter expired.[186] Real-Time Search included Facebook status updates beginning on February 24, 2010.[187] A feature similar to Real-Time Search was already available on Microsoft's Bing search engine, which showed results from Twitter and Facebook.[188] The interface for the engine showed a live, descending "river" of posts in the main region (which could be paused or resumed), while a bar chart metric of the frequency of posts containing a certain search term or hashtag was located on the right hand corner of the page above a list of most frequently reposted posts and outgoing links. Hashtag search links were also supported, as were "promoted" tweets hosted by Twitter (located persistently on top of the river) and thumbnails of retweeted image or video links.

In January 2011, geolocation links of posts were made available alongside results in Real-Time Search. In addition, posts containing syndicated or attached shortened links were made searchable by the *link:* query option. In July 2011, Real-Time Search became inaccessible, with the Real-Time link in the Google sidebar disappearing and a custom 404 error page generated by Google returned at its former URL. Google originally suggested that the interruption was temporary and related to the launch of Google+;[189] they subsequently announced that it was due to the expiry of a commercial arrangement with Twitter to provide access to tweets.[190]

See also

[edit]

- iCON
 o Image|mtermetrportaknown
- List of search engines by popularity Software system for finding relevant information on the Web
- Timeline of Google Search
- Censorship by Google § Google Search
- Google (verb) Transitive verb, to search using Google
- Dragonfly (search engine) Prototype Internet search engine to comply with Chinese censorship requirements
- Google bombing Practice that causes a webpage to have a high rank in Google
- Google Panda Change to Google's search results ranking algorithm
- Google Penguin Google search engine algorithm update
- Googlewhack Contest to find a Google Search query that returns a single result
- Halalgoogling Islamic search engine blocking haram content
- Prabhakar Raghavan American computer scientist
- Reunion (advertisement) Google India advertisement for Google Search
- List of search engines
- Comparison of web search engines
- History of Google
- List of Google products

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- ALTS
- American Fuzzy Lop
- Android Cloud to Device Messaging
- Android Debug Bridge
- Android NDK
- Android Runtime
- Android SDK
- Android Studio
- Angular
- AngularJS
- Apache Beam
- o APIs
- App Engine
- App Inventor
- App Maker
- App Runtime for Chrome
- AppJet
- Apps Script
- AppSheet
- ARCore

A-C

- o Base
- o Bazel
- BeyondCorp
- o Bigtable
- BigQuery
- Bionic
- o Blockly
- Borg
- o Caja
- Cameyo
- Chart API
- Charts
- Chrome Frame
- Chromium
 - Blink
- Closure Tools
- Cloud Connect
- Cloud Dataflow
- Cloud Datastore
- Cloud Messaging
- Cloud Shell
 - Cloud Sile

Software

- Aardvark
- Account
 - Dashboard
 - Takeout
- Ad Manager
- AdMob
- o Ads
- AdSense
- Affiliate Network
- Alerts
- o Allo

Α

- Analytics
- Android Auto
- Android Beam
- o Answers
- o Apture
- Arts & Culture
- Assistant
- Attribution
- Authenticator
- BebaPay
- BeatThatQuote.com
- o Blog Search
- Blogger
- Body
- o Bookmarks
- B o Books
 - Ngram Viewer
 - o Browser Sync
 - Building Maker
 - Bump
 - BumpTop
 - o Buzz
 - o Calendar
 - Cast
 - o Catalogs
 - Chat
 - Checkout
 - Chrome
 - Chrome Apps
 - Chrome Experiments
 - Chrome Remote Desktop

Hardware

Smartphones	 Pixel (2016) Pixel 2 (2017) Pixel 3 (2018) Pixel 3a (2019) Pixel 4 (2019) Pixel 4a (2020) Pixel 5 (2020) Pixel 5a (2021) Pixel 6 (2021) Pixel 6a (2022) Pixel 7 (2022) Pixel 7a (2023) Pixel Fold (2023) Pixel 8 (2023) Pixel 8a (2024) Pixel 9 (2024) Pixel 9 Pro Fold (2024)
Smartwatches	Pixel Watch (2022)Pixel Watch 2 (2023)Pixel Watch 3 (2024)
Tablets	Pixel C (2015)Pixel Slate (2018)Pixel Tablet (2023)
Laptops	 Chromebook Pixel (2013–2015) Pixelbook (2017) Pixelbook Go (2019)
Other	 Pixel Buds (2017–present)

Nexus One (2010)Nexus S (2010)

o Nexus 4 (2012)

Nexus 5 (2013)Nexus 6 (2014)Nexus 5X (2015)

Galaxy Nexus (2011)

Smartphones

Pixel

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Litigation

- o Feldman v. Google, Inc. (2007)
- o Rescuecom Corp. v. Google Inc. (2009)
- Advertising
- o Goddard v. Google, Inc. (2009)
- o Rosetta Stone Ltd. v. Google, Inc. (2012)
- o Google, Inc. v. American Blind & Wallpaper Factory, Inc. (2017)
- Jedi Blue
- European Union (2010–present)
- United States v. Adobe Systems, Inc., Apple Inc., Google Inc., Intel Corporation, Intuit, Inc., and Pixar (2011)

Antitrust

- Umar Javeed, Sukarma Thapar, Aaqib Javeed vs. Google LLC and Ors. (2019)
- United States v. Google LLC (2020)
- United States v. Google LLC (2023)

Intellectual property

Privacy

Other

- o Perfect 10, Inc. v. Amazon.com, Inc. (2007)
- Viacom International Inc. v. YouTube, Inc. (2010)
- o Lenz v. Universal Music Corp.(2015)
- o Authors Guild, Inc. v. Google, Inc. (2015)
- o Field v. Google, Inc. (2016)
- o Google LLC v. Oracle America, Inc. (2021)
- Smartphone patent wars
- o Rocky Mountain Bank v. Google, Inc. (2009)
- o Hibnick v. Google, Inc. (2010)
- United States v. Google Inc. (2012)
- Judgement of the German Federal Court of Justice on Google's autocomplete function (2013)
- o Joffe v. Google, Inc. (2013)
- Mosley v SARL Google (2013)
- Google Spain v AEPD and Mario Costeja González (2014)
- Frank v. Gaos (2019)

o Garcia v. Google, Inc. (2015)

- o Google LLC v Defteros (2020)
- o Epic Games v. Google (2021)
- o Gonzalez v. Google LLC (2022)

Related

- Beauty YouTuber
- BookTube
- BreadTube
- o "Don't be evil"
- Gayglers
- Google as a verb
- Google bombing
 - 2004 U.S. presidential election
- Google effect
- Googlefight
- Google hacking
- Googleshare
- Google tax
- Google taxGooglewhack
- Googlization
- Illegal flower tribute
- Objectives and key results
- Rooting
- Search engine manipulation effect
- Side project time
- Sitelink
- Site reliability engineering
- StudyTube
- VTuber
- YouTube Poop
- YouTuber
 - o list

Android

Booting process

- Custom distributions
- Features
 - Recovery mode
 - Software development
 - Africa
 - Antarctica
 - o Asia
 - Israel
 - Europe
 - North America

Street View coverage

- Canada
- United States
- Oceania

Concepts

Italics denote discontinued products.

- o Category pe unknown
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Alphabet Inc.

Access o Google Fiber Calico CapitalG Google DeepMind AlphaFold AlphaGo o vs. Fan Hui o vs. Ke Jie o vs. Lee Sedol o film Future of Go Summit AlphaGo Zero AlphaStar AlphaZero Current Master MuZero WaveNet DoubleClick Firebase Fitbit **Subsidiaries** Tenor Waze YouTube o GV Isomorphic Labs Verily Baseline Study X Development Waymo Wing

Boston Dynamics

- Chronicle Security
- Jigsaw
- Loon
- **Former**
- Makani
- Meka Robotics
- Nest Labs
- Sidewalk Labs
 - Toronto
- Vicarious

Sundar Pichai (CEO)

Current • Ruth Porat (president and CIO)

Anat Ashkenazi (CFO)

Executives

Larry Page (CEO)

Former • Sergey Brin (President)

David Drummond (CLO)

Frances Arnold

Sergey Brin

• R. Martin Chavez

John Doerr

John L. Hennessy

Ann Mather

Larry Page

Sundar Pichai

Ram Shriram

• Roger W. Ferguson Jr.

Diane Greene

Alan Mulally

Eric Schmidt

Andrew Conrad

Tony Fadell

o Arthur D. Levinson

David Krane

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Companies portal

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People

Current

Former

Others

Board of directors

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Android

- o Android Go
 - Comparison of products

- Android Runtime (ART)
- Software development kit (SDK)
 - Android Debug Bridge (ADB)
 - Fastboot
 - Android App Bundle
 - Android application package (APK)
- Bionic
- Dalvik
- Firebase
 - Google Cloud Messaging (GCM)
 - Firebase Cloud Messaging (FCM)

Official

- Google Mobile Services (GMS)
- Native development kit (NDK)
- Open accessory development kit (OADK)
- RenderScript
- Skia
- AdMob
- Material Design
- Fonts
 - Droid
 - Roboto
 - Noto
- Google Developers

Software development

Other

- OpenBinder
- Apache Harmony
- OpenJDK
- Gradle

Integrated development environments (IDE)

Development

tools

- Android Studio
 - IntelliJ IDEA
- Eclipse
 - Android Development Tools (ADT)
- MIT App Inventor
- Java
- Kotlin
- Languages, databases
- o XML
- o C
- o C++
- SQLite

Android XR

- Cupcake (1.5)
- o Donut (1.6)
- o Eclair (2.0–2.1)
- Froyo (2.2)
- o Gingerbread (2.3)
- Honeycomb (3.x)
- o Ice Cream Sandwich (4.0)
- Jelly Bean (4.1–4.3)
- KitKat (4.4)
- Lollipop (5.x)
- Releases Marshmallow (6.0)
 - Nougat (7.x)
 - o Oreo (8.x)
 - o Pie (9)
 - o 10
 - 0 11
 - o 12
 - o 13
 - 0 14
 - 0 15
 - 0 16
 - Android Automotive
 - Android Things
- **Derivatives**
- o TV
 - o devices
 - Android XR
 - Wear OS

Pixel	 C Pixel & Pixel XL 2 & 2 XL 3 & 3 XL 3a & 3a XL 4 & 4 XL 4a & 4a (5G) 5 5a 6a 7 & 7 Pro 6a 7 & 7 Pro 7a Fold Tablet 8 & 8 Pro 8a 9, 9 Pro & 9 Pro XL 9 Pro Fold
Nexus	 One S Galaxy Nexus 4 10 Q 5 5X 6 6P 7 2012 2013 9 Player
Play edition	 HTC One (M7) HTC One (M8) LG G Pad 8.3 Moto G Samsung Galaxy S4 Sony Xperia Z Ultra

Devices

- Android One
- o other smartphones

- AliOS
- o Android-x86
 - Remix OS
- o AOKP
- o Baidu Yi
- Barnes & Noble Nook
- o CalyxOS
- o ColorOS
 - o realme UI
- CopperheadOS
- o EMUI
 - Magic UI
- o Fire OS
- Flyme OS
- GrapheneOS
- Xiaomi HyperOS
 - o MIUI
 - MIUI for Poco
- LeWa OS

Custom

distributions

- LineageOS
 - o /e/
 - o CrDroid
 - CyanogenMod
 - DivestOS
 - o iodéOS
 - Kali NetHunter
- LiteOS
- Meta Horizon OS
- MicroG
- Nokia X software platform
- o OmniROM
- o OPhone
- OxygenOS
- PixelExperience
- o Pixel UI
- Replicant
- Resurrection Remix OS
- SlimRoms
- o TCL UI
- Ubuntu for Android
- XobotOS
- o ZUI

Booting and recovery

- Booting process
- Recovery mode
 - TWRP
 - ClockworkMod
- Fastboot

APIs

- Google Maps
- Google Play Services
 - SafetyNet
- Google Search
- Asus ZenFone
- Cherry OS
- ColorOS
- EMUI
- Funtouch OS
- Flyme OS
- HiOS
- Hive UI (XOLO Hive)
- HTC Sense

Alternative UIs

- LG UX
 - o Optimus UI
- Motoblur
- o One UI
- Origin OS
 - Experience
 - TouchWiz
- OxygenOS
- Pixel UI
- o XOS
- o Xperia UI

Rooting

- SuperSU
- Magisk
- Kingo Root
- Custom distributions
- Features

Lists

- Free and open-source applications
- Google apps
- Launchers

- Index of articles
- Androidland
- Chromecast
- Google

Related topics

- o Java vs. Android API
- Lawn statues
- BlueStacks
- Legal issues
 - o Google v. Oracle
 - o smartphone patent wars
- o Category: Aridroid development
- Category: Mobile telecommunications
- o Software portal wn
- o Perecommunication portal
- 0 **V**
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- 0 0

Web search engines

- o Ahmia
 - o Ask.com
 - o Baidu
 - o Bing

o AOL

- o Blackle
- Brave
- DuckDuckGo
- o Ecosia
- o Fireball
- o Google
- Kiddle
- KidRex
- **Dedicated**

Metasearch engines

- KidzSearch
- Lycos
- Mojeek
- Naver
- Parsijoo
- Perplexity AI
- Petal
- o Seznam.cz
- Sogou
- Swisscows
- WebCrawler
- o Yahoo!
- Yandex
- Youdao
- o Dogpile
- Excite
- o Info.com
- Kagi
- MetaCrawler
- MetaGer
- Mullvad Leta
- SearXNG
- Startpage
- Qwant

Active

- o 123people
- o A9.com
- Aliweb
- AlltheWeb
- o AltaVista
- o Blekko
- Boogami
- Cuil
- Empas
- o Forestle
- GenieKnows
- Gigablast
- o Go.com
- HotBot
- Infoseek
- o Inktomi
- JumpStation
- LeapFish
- Neeva

Defunct

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Inactive

- Northern Light
- o Pipilika
- Powerset
- Scroogle
- SearchMe
- Searx
- Soso
- Sputnik
- o Teoma
- Viewzi
- Vivisimo
- Volunia
- W3Catalog
- Wikiseek
- Yebol
- Yippy
- o Yooz
- Comparison
- Complete list

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United States

France

BnF data

Czech Republic

Norway

Israel

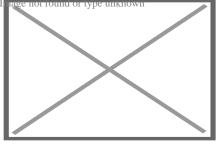
About Web design

Web design encompasses many different skills and disciplines in the production and maintenance of websites. The different areas of web design include web graphic design; user interface design (UI design); authoring, including standardised code and proprietary software; user experience design (UX design); and search engine optimization. Often many individuals will work in teams covering different aspects of the design process, although some designers will cover them all.[1] The term "web design" is normally used to describe the design process relating to the front-end (client side) design of a website including writing markup. Web design partially overlaps web engineering in the broader scope of web development. Web designers are expected to have an awareness of usability and be up to date with web accessibility guidelines.

History

[edit]

See also: History of the World Wide Web



Web design books in a store

1988-2001

[edit]

Although web design has a fairly recent history, it can be linked to other areas such as graphic design, user experience, and multimedia arts, but is more aptly seen from a technological standpoint. It has become a large part of people's everyday lives. It is hard to imagine the Internet without animated graphics, different styles of typography, backgrounds, videos and music. The web was announced on August 6, 1991; in November 1992, CERN was the first website to go live on the World Wide Web. During this period, websites were structured by using the tag which created numbers on the website. Eventually, web designers were able to find their way around it to create more structures and formats. In early history, the structure of the websites was fragile and hard to contain, so it became very difficult to use them. In November 1993, ALIWEB was the first ever search engine to be created (Archie Like Indexing for the WEB).[2]

The start of the web and web design

[edit]

In 1989, whilst working at CERN in Switzerland, British scientist Tim Berners-Lee proposed to create a global hypertext project, which later became known as the World Wide Web. From 1991 to 1993 the World Wide Web was born. Text-only HTML pages could be viewed using a simple line-mode web browser.[3] In 1993 Marc Andreessen and Eric Bina, created the Mosaic browser. At the time there were multiple browsers, however the majority of them were Unix-based and naturally text-heavy. There had been no integrated approach to graphic design elements such as images or sounds. The Mosaic browser broke this mould.[4] The W3C was created in October 1994 to "lead the World Wide Web to its full potential by developing common protocols that promote its evolution and ensure its interoperability."[5] This discouraged any one company from monopolizing a proprietary browser and programming language, which could have altered the effect of the World Wide Web as a whole. The W3C continues to set standards, which can today be seen with JavaScript and other languages. In 1994 Andreessen formed Mosaic Communications Corp. that later became known as Netscape Communications, the Netscape 0.9 browser. Netscape created its HTML tags without regard to the traditional standards process. For example, Netscape 1.1 included tags for changing background colours and formatting text with tables on web pages. From 1996 to 1999 the browser wars began, as Microsoft and Netscape fought for ultimate browser dominance. During this time there were many new technologies in the field, notably Cascading Style Sheets, JavaScript, and Dynamic HTML. On the whole, the browser competition did lead to many positive creations and helped web design evolve at a rapid pace.[6]

Evolution of web design

[edit]

In 1996, Microsoft released its first competitive browser, which was complete with its features and HTML tags. It was also the first browser to support style sheets, which at the time was seen as an obscure authoring technique and is today an important aspect of web design.[6] The HTML markup for tables was originally intended for displaying tabular data. However, designers quickly realized the potential of using HTML tables for creating complex, multi-column layouts that were otherwise not possible. At this time, as design and good aesthetics seemed to take precedence over good markup structure, little attention was paid to semantics and web accessibility. HTML sites were limited in their design options, even more so with earlier versions of HTML. To create complex designs, many web designers had to use complicated table structures or even use blank spacer .GIF images to stop empty table cells from collapsing.[7] CSS was introduced in December 1996 by the W3C to support presentation and layout. This allowed HTML code to be semantic rather than both semantic and presentational and improved web accessibility, see tableless web design.

In 1996, Flash (originally known as FutureSplash) was developed. At the time, the Flash content development tool was relatively simple compared to now, using basic layout and drawing tools, a limited precursor to ActionScript, and a timeline, but it enabled web designers to go beyond the point of HTML, animated GIFs and JavaScript. However, because Flash required a plug-in, many web developers avoided using it for fear of limiting their market share due to lack of compatibility. Instead, designers reverted to GIF animations (if they did not forego using motion graphics altogether) and JavaScript for widgets. But the benefits of Flash made it popular enough among specific target markets to eventually work its way to the vast majority of browsers, and powerful enough to be used to develop entire sites.[7]

End of the first browser wars

[edit]

Further information: Browser wars § First Browser War (1995–2001)

In 1998, Netscape released Netscape Communicator code under an open-source licence, enabling thousands of developers to participate in improving the software. However, these developers decided to start a standard for the web from scratch, which guided the development of the open-source browser and soon expanded to a complete application platform.[6] The Web Standards Project was formed and promoted browser compliance with HTML and CSS standards. Programs like Acid1, Acid2, and Acid3 were created in order to test browsers for compliance with web standards. In 2000, Internet Explorer was released for Mac, which was the first browser that fully supported HTML 4.01 and CSS 1. It was also the first browser to fully support the PNG image format.[6] By 2001, after a campaign by Microsoft to popularize Internet Explorer, Internet Explorer had reached 96% of web browser usage share, which signified the

2001-2012

[edit]

Since the start of the 21st century, the web has become more and more integrated into people's lives. As this has happened the technology of the web has also moved on. There have also been significant changes in the way people use and access the web, and this has changed how sites are designed.

Since the end of the browsers wars [when?] new browsers have been released. Many of these are open source, meaning that they tend to have faster development and are more supportive of new standards. The new options are considered by many [weasel words] to be better than Microsoft's Internet Explorer.

The W3C has released new standards for HTML (HTML5) and CSS (CSS3), as well as new JavaScript APIs, each as a new but individual standard. [when?] While the term HTML5 is only used to refer to the new version of HTML and some of the JavaScript APIs, it has become common to use it to refer to the entire suite of new standards (HTML5, CSS3 and JavaScript).

2012 and later

[edit]

With the advancements in 3G and LTE internet coverage, a significant portion of website traffic shifted to mobile devices. This shift influenced the web design industry, steering it towards a minimalist, lighter, and more simplistic style. The "mobile first" approach emerged as a result, emphasizing the creation of website designs that prioritize mobile-oriented layouts first, before adapting them to larger screen dimensions.

Tools and technologies

[edit]

Web designers use a variety of different tools depending on what part of the production process they are involved in. These tools are updated over time by newer standards and software but the principles behind them remain the same. Web designers use both vector and raster graphics editors to create web-formatted imagery or design prototypes. A website can be created using WYSIWYG website builder software or a content management system, or the individual web

pages can be hand-coded in just the same manner as the first web pages were created. Other tools web designers might use include markup validators[9] and other testing tools for usability and accessibility to ensure their websites meet web accessibility guidelines.[10]

UX Design

[edit]

One popular tool in web design is UX Design, a type of art that designs products to perform an accurate user background. UX design is very deep. UX is more than the web, it is very independent, and its fundamentals can be applied to many other browsers or apps. Web design is mostly based on web-based things. UX can overlap both web design and design. UX design mostly focuses on products that are less web-based.[11]

Skills and techniques

[edit]

Marketing and communication design

[edit]

Marketing and communication design on a website may identify what works for its target market. This can be an age group or particular strand of culture; thus the designer may understand the trends of its audience. Designers may also understand the type of website they are designing, meaning, for example, that (B2B) business-to-business website design considerations might differ greatly from a consumer-targeted website such as a retail or entertainment website. Careful consideration might be made to ensure that the aesthetics or overall design of a site do not clash with the clarity and accuracy of the content or the ease of web navigation,[12] especially on a B2B website. Designers may also consider the reputation of the owner or business the site is representing to make sure they are portrayed favorably. Web designers normally oversee all the websites that are made on how they work or operate on things. They constantly are updating and changing everything on websites behind the scenes. All the elements they do are text, photos, graphics, and layout of the web. Before beginning work on a website, web designers normally set an appointment with their clients to discuss layout, colour, graphics, and design. Web designers spend the majority of their time designing websites and making sure the speed is right. Web designers typically engage in testing and working, marketing, and communicating with other designers about laying out the websites and finding the right elements for the websites.[13]

User experience design and interactive design

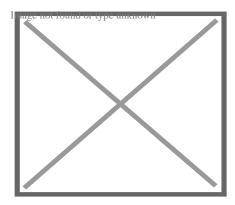
[edit]

User understanding of the content of a website often depends on user understanding of how the website works. This is part of the user experience design. User experience is related to layout, clear instructions, and labeling on a website. How well a user understands how they can interact on a site may also depend on the interactive design of the site. If a user perceives the usefulness of the website, they are more likely to continue using it. Users who are skilled and well versed in website use may find a more distinctive, yet less intuitive or less user-friendly website interface useful nonetheless. However, users with less experience are less likely to see the advantages or usefulness of a less intuitive website interface. This drives the trend for a more universal user experience and ease of access to accommodate as many users as possible regardless of user skill.[14] Much of the user experience design and interactive design are considered in the user interface design.

Advanced interactive functions may require plug-ins if not advanced coding language skills. Choosing whether or not to use interactivity that requires plug-ins is a critical decision in user experience design. If the plug-in doesn't come pre-installed with most browsers, there's a risk that the user will have neither the know-how nor the patience to install a plug-in just to access the content. If the function requires advanced coding language skills, it may be too costly in either time or money to code compared to the amount of enhancement the function will add to the user experience. There's also a risk that advanced interactivity may be incompatible with older browsers or hardware configurations. Publishing a function that doesn't work reliably is potentially worse for the user experience than making no attempt. It depends on the target audience if it's likely to be needed or worth any risks.

Progressive enhancement

[edit]



The order of progressive enhancement

Main article: Progressive enhancement

Progressive enhancement is a strategy in web design that puts emphasis on web content first, allowing everyone to access the basic content and functionality of a web page, whilst users with additional browser features or faster Internet access receive the enhanced version instead.

In practice, this means serving content through HTML and applying styling and animation through CSS to the technically possible extent, then applying further enhancements through JavaScript. Pages' text is loaded immediately through the HTML source code rather than having to wait for JavaScript to initiate and load the content subsequently, which allows content to be readable with minimum loading time and bandwidth, and through text-based browsers, and maximizes backwards compatibility.[15]

As an example, MediaWiki-based sites including Wikipedia use progressive enhancement, as they remain usable while JavaScript and even CSS is deactivated, as pages' content is included in the page's HTML source code, whereas counter-example Everipedia relies on JavaScript to load pages' content subsequently; a blank page appears with JavaScript deactivated.

Page layout

[edit]

Part of the user interface design is affected by the quality of the page layout. For example, a designer may consider whether the site's page layout should remain consistent on different pages when designing the layout. Page pixel width may also be considered vital for aligning objects in the layout design. The most popular fixed-width websites generally have the same set width to match the current most popular browser window, at the current most popular screen resolution, on the current most popular monitor size. Most pages are also center-aligned for concerns of aesthetics on larger screens.

Fluid layouts increased in popularity around 2000 to allow the browser to make user-specific layout adjustments to fluid layouts based on the details of the reader's screen (window size, font size relative to window, etc.). They grew as an alternative to HTML-table-based layouts and grid-based design in both page layout design principles and in coding technique but were very slow to be adopted.[note 1] This was due to considerations of screen reading devices and varying windows sizes which designers have no control over. Accordingly, a design may be broken down into units (sidebars, content blocks, embedded advertising areas, navigation areas) that are sent to the browser and which will be fitted into the display window by the browser, as best it can. Although such a display may often change the relative position of major content units, sidebars may be displaced below body text rather than to the side of it. This is a more flexible display than a hard-coded grid-based layout that doesn't fit the device window. In particular, the relative

position of content blocks may change while leaving the content within the block unaffected. This also minimizes the user's need to horizontally scroll the page.

Responsive web design is a newer approach, based on CSS3, and a deeper level of per-device specification within the page's style sheet through an enhanced use of the CSS @media rule. In March 2018 Google announced they would be rolling out mobile-first indexing.[16] Sites using responsive design are well placed to ensure they meet this new approach.

Typography

[edit]

Main article: typography

Web designers may choose to limit the variety of website typefaces to only a few which are of a similar style, instead of using a wide range of typefaces or type styles. Most browsers recognize a specific number of safe fonts, which designers mainly use in order to avoid complications.

Font downloading was later included in the CSS3 fonts module and has since been implemented in Safari 3.1, Opera 10, and Mozilla Firefox 3.5. This has subsequently increased interest in web typography, as well as the usage of font downloading.

Most site layouts incorporate negative space to break the text up into paragraphs and also avoid center-aligned text.[17]

Motion graphics

[edit]

The page layout and user interface may also be affected by the use of motion graphics. The choice of whether or not to use motion graphics may depend on the target market for the website. Motion graphics may be expected or at least better received with an entertainment-oriented website. However, a website target audience with a more serious or formal interest (such as business, community, or government) might find animations unnecessary and distracting if only for entertainment or decoration purposes. This doesn't mean that more serious content couldn't be enhanced with animated or video presentations that is relevant to the content. In either case, motion graphic design may make the difference between more effective visuals or distracting visuals.

Motion graphics that are not initiated by the site visitor can produce accessibility issues. The World Wide Web consortium accessibility standards require that site visitors be able to disable the animations.[18]

Quality of code

[edit]

Website designers may consider it to be good practice to conform to standards. This is usually done via a description specifying what the element is doing. Failure to conform to standards may not make a website unusable or error-prone, but standards can relate to the correct layout of pages for readability as well as making sure coded elements are closed appropriately. This includes errors in code, a more organized layout for code, and making sure IDs and classes are identified properly. Poorly coded pages are sometimes colloquially called tag soup. Validating via W3C[9] can only be done when a correct DOCTYPE declaration is made, which is used to highlight errors in code. The system identifies the errors and areas that do not conform to web design standards. This information can then be corrected by the user.[19]

Generated content

[edit]

There are two ways websites are generated: statically or dynamically.

Static websites

[edit]

Main article: Static web page

A static website stores a unique file for every page of a static website. Each time that page is requested, the same content is returned. This content is created once, during the design of the website. It is usually manually authored, although some sites use an automated creation process, similar to a dynamic website, whose results are stored long-term as completed pages. These automatically created static sites became more popular around 2015, with generators such as Jekyll and Adobe Muse.[20]

The benefits of a static website are that they were simpler to host, as their server only needed to serve static content, not execute server-side scripts. This required less server administration and had less chance of exposing security holes. They could also serve pages more quickly, on low-cost server hardware. This advantage became less important as cheap web hosting expanded to also offer dynamic features, and virtual servers offered high performance for short intervals at low cost.

Almost all websites have some static content, as supporting assets such as images and style sheets are usually static, even on a website with highly dynamic pages.

Dynamic websites

[edit]

Main article: Dynamic web page

Dynamic websites are generated on the fly and use server-side technology to generate web pages. They typically extract their content from one or more back-end databases: some are database queries across a relational database to query a catalog or to summarise numeric information, and others may use a document database such as MongoDB or NoSQL to store larger units of content, such as blog posts or wiki articles.

In the design process, dynamic pages are often mocked-up or wireframed using static pages. The skillset needed to develop dynamic web pages is much broader than for a static page, involving server-side and database coding as well as client-side interface design. Even medium-sized dynamic projects are thus almost always a team effort.

When dynamic web pages first developed, they were typically coded directly in languages such as Perl, PHP or ASP. Some of these, notably PHP and ASP, used a 'template' approach where a server-side page resembled the structure of the completed client-side page, and data was inserted into places defined by 'tags'. This was a quicker means of development than coding in a purely procedural coding language such as Perl.

Both of these approaches have now been supplanted for many websites by higher-level application-focused tools such as content management systems. These build on top of general-purpose coding platforms and assume that a website exists to offer content according to one of several well-recognised models, such as a time-sequenced blog, a thematic magazine or news site, a wiki, or a user forum. These tools make the implementation of such a site very easy, and a purely organizational and design-based task, without requiring any coding.

Editing the content itself (as well as the template page) can be done both by means of the site itself and with the use of third-party software. The ability to edit all pages is provided only to a specific category of users (for example, administrators, or registered users). In some cases, anonymous users are allowed to edit certain web content, which is less frequent (for example, on forums - adding messages). An example of a site with an anonymous change is Wikipedia.

Homepage design

[edit]

Usability experts, including Jakob Nielsen and Kyle Soucy, have often emphasised homepage design for website success and asserted that the homepage is the most important page on a website.[21] Nielsen, Jakob; Tahir, Marie (October 2001), Homepage Usability: 50 Websites

Deconstructed, New Riders Publishing, ISBN 978-0-7357-1102-0[22][23] However practitioners into the 2000s were starting to find that a growing number of website traffic was bypassing the homepage, going directly to internal content pages through search engines, e-newsletters and RSS feeds.[24] This led many practitioners to argue that homepages are less important than most people think.[25][26][27][28] Jared Spool argued in 2007 that a site's homepage was actually the least important page on a website.[29]

In 2012 and 2013, carousels (also called 'sliders' and 'rotating banners') have become an extremely popular design element on homepages, often used to showcase featured or recent content in a confined space.[30] Many practitioners argue that carousels are an ineffective design element and hurt a website's search engine optimisation and usability.[30][31][32]

Occupations

[edit]

There are two primary jobs involved in creating a website: the web designer and web developer, who often work closely together on a website.[33] The web designers are responsible for the visual aspect, which includes the layout, colouring, and typography of a web page. Web designers will also have a working knowledge of markup languages such as HTML and CSS, although the extent of their knowledge will differ from one web designer to another. Particularly in smaller organizations, one person will need the necessary skills for designing and programming the full web page, while larger organizations may have a web designer responsible for the visual aspect alone.

Further jobs which may become involved in the creation of a website include:

- o Graphic designers to create visuals for the site such as logos, layouts, and buttons
- Internet marketing specialists to help maintain web presence through strategic solutions on targeting viewers to the site, by using marketing and promotional techniques on the internet
- SEO writers to research and recommend the correct words to be incorporated into a particular website and make the website more accessible and found on numerous search engines
- Internet copywriter to create the written content of the page to appeal to the targeted viewers of the site[1]
- User experience (UX) designer incorporates aspects of user-focused design considerations which include information architecture, user-centred design, user testing, interaction design, and occasionally visual design.

Artificial intelligence and web design

[edit]

Chat GPT and other AI models are being used to write and code websites making it faster and easier to create websites. There are still discussions about the ethical implications on using

artificial intelligence for design as the world becomes more familiar with using AI for time-consuming tasks used in design processes.[34]

See also

[edit]

icon o image**intérmét**rportaknown

- Aesthetics
- Color theory
- Composition (visual arts)
- Cross-browser
- Design education
- Drawing
- Dark pattern
- European Design Awards
- First Things First 2000 manifesto

- Graphic art software
- Graphic design occupations
- Graphics
- Information graphics
- List of graphic design institutions
- List of notable graphic designers
- Logotype
- Outline of web design and web development
- Progressive Enhancement

- Style guide
 - o Web 2.0
 - Web colors
 - Web safe fonts
 - Web usability
 - Web application framework
 - Website builder
 - Website wireframe

Related disciplines

[edit]

- Communication design
- Copywriting
- Desktop publishing
- Digital illustration
- o Graphic design
- Interaction design

- Information design
- Light-on-dark color scheme
- Marketing communications
- Motion graphic design
- New media
- Search engine optimization (SEO)

- Technical Writer
- Typography
- User experience
- User interface design
- Web development
- Web animations

Notes

[edit]

1. ^ -based markup and spacer .GIF images

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External links

[edit]

W3C consortium for web standards

Web design at Wikipedia's sister projects:

- Media from Commons
- Resources from Wikiversity

- United States
- France
- Authority control databases: National Edit unisable Wikidata
 - Czech Republic
 - Israel

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Design

- Outline
- Designer

Disciplines

- Advertising
- Book design
- Brand design
- Exhibit design
- o Film title design
- Graphic design
 - Motion
 - Postage stamp design
 - Print design
- Illustration
- o Information design
- Instructional design
- News design
- Photography
- Retail design
- Signage / Traffic sign design
- Typography / Type design
- Video design
- Visual merchandising
- Architecture
- Architectural lighting design
- Building design
 - Passive solar
- Ecological design
- Environmental impact design
- Garden design
 - Computer-aided
- Healthy community design
- Hotel design
- Interior architecture
- o Interior design
 - o EID
- Keyline design
- Landscape architecture
 - Sustainable
- Landscape design
- Spatial design
- Urban design

Automotive design

- o Automotive suspension design
- CMF design
- Corrugated box design

Environmental design

Communication

design

Approaches

- Active
- Activity-centered
- Adaptive web
- Affective
- Brainstorming
- By committee
- By contract
- C-K theory
- Closure
- Co-design
- Concept-oriented
- Configuration
- Contextual
- Continuous
- Cradle-to-cradle
- Creative problem-solving
- Creativity techniques
- Critical
 - Design fiction
- Defensive
- Design-bid-build
- Design-build
 - o architect-led
- Diffuse
- o Domain-driven
- Ecological design
- Energy neutral
- Engineering design process
 - Probabilistic design
- Ergonomic
- Error-tolerant
- Evidence-based
- Fault-tolerant
- Framework-oriented
- For assembly
- For behaviour change
- For manufacturability
- For Six Sigma
- For testing
- For the environment
- For X
- Functional
- Generative
- Geodesign
- o HCD
- High-level

∘ Tools

- Intellectual property
 - Organizations
 - Awards
- o AAD
- Architectural model
- Blueprint
- Comprehensive layout
- o CAD
 - CAID
 - Virtual home design software
- CAutoD
- Design quality indicator

Electronic design automation

- Flowchart
- Mockup
- Design specification
- Prototype
- Sketch
- Storyboard
- Technical drawing
- HTML editor
- Website wireframe

Intellectual property

Organizations

Tools

- Clean-room design
- Community design
- Design around
- Design infringement
- Design patent
- Fashion design copyright
- Geschmacksmuster
- Industrial design rights
 - European Union
- American Institute of Graphic Arts
- Chartered Society of Designers
- Design and Industries Association
- Design Council
- International Forum Design
- Design Research Society
- German Design Award
- European Design Award

Related topics

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- o Enterprise architecture
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- Innovation management
- Intelligent design
- Lean startup
- New product development
- OODA loop
- Philosophy of design
- Process simulation
- Reference design
- Slow design
- STEAM fields
- Unintelligent design
- Visualization
- Wicked problem
- Design attributes
- o brief
- change
- classic
- competition
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Frequently Asked Questions

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To find the best SEO company in Sydney, look for a provider with a proven track record of success, transparent reporting, and a clear understanding of your business•s goals. Check reviews, case studies, and client testimonials to ensure you are choosing a reputable partner.

What is the difference between local SEO and general SEO?

General SEO focuses on improving a website's visibility on a broader scale, often targeting national or international audiences. Local SEO, on the other hand, zeroes in on geographic areas, helping businesses attract nearby customers through local keywords, directory listings, and Google My Business optimization.

What should I expect from SEO agencies in Sydney?

SEO agencies in Sydney typically offer comprehensive services such as keyword research, technical audits, on-page and off-page optimization, content creation, and performance tracking. Their goal is to increase your site's search engine rankings and drive more targeted traffic to your website.

Why is keyword research important for SEO?

Keyword research helps identify the terms and phrases that potential customers are using to search for products or services. By targeting these keywords in your content, you can improve your visibility in search engine results, attract more qualified leads, and drive higher conversion rates.

What sets SEO specialists in Sydney apart?

SEO specialists in Sydney often have deep expertise in the local market. They understand the competitive landscape, know which keywords resonate with Sydney-based audiences, and are skilled at optimizing websites to rank well in local search results.

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