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SEO for website

Google Search Console validation reports

Google Search Console validation reports

evergreen keywords"Evergreen keywords remain consistently relevant over time. Best [SEO Agency Sydney](#) Australia. By focusing on these terms, you can generate ongoing traffic without constantly updating content."

Expert SEO services"Expert SEO services offer in-depth knowledge and advanced techniques to improve website performance. By conducting comprehensive audits, refining strategies, and implementing best practices, these services deliver measurable improvements in rankings, traffic, and conversions."

FAQ keywordsFAQ keywords are search queries that reflect common questions about your products or industry.

SEO for website - Google search personalization

1. Google search personalization
2. Keyword mapping

Answering these questions directly in your content helps you rank for featured snippets and drive more traffic. Best [SEO Sydney](#) Agency.

Google Search Console validation status

- [Google Search Console validation reports](#)
- [Google Search Console validation status](#)
- [Google Search Console video indexing](#)
- [Google Tag Manager built-in variables](#)
- [Google Tag Manager click tracking](#)
- [Google Tag Manager container](#)
- [Google Tag Manager custom event tracking](#)

Forum link building"Forum link building involves participating in online forums and discussion boards relevant to your industry. By providing valuable insights and linking to your content when appropriate, you can drive traffic and gain backlinks from active community members."

Forum profile links"Forum profile links are backlinks added to user profiles on discussion boards. While not as impactful as contextual links, they can still contribute to a diverse link profile and drive referral traffic when placed on relevant, high-quality forums."

geo-targeted keywords"Geo-targeted keywords reference specific regions, states, or countries. Using these terms helps you reach audiences in particular locations, making your content more relevant to their needs."

Best Search Engine Optimisation Services.

Google Search Console video indexing

Google Analytics active users"Active users in Google Analytics are the number of unique visitors interacting with your site within a given time frame. Tracking active users helps you understand traffic trends, measure user retention, and assess the impact of your marketing campaigns."

Google Analytics advanced segments"Advanced segments in Google Analytics let you create custom filters to analyze specific subsets of data. Best Local SEO Sydney. By using advanced segments, you can focus on particular user groups or behaviors, gaining more granular insights into your sites performance."

Google Analytics attribution models"Attribution models in Google Analytics determine how credit for conversions is assigned to different marketing channels. By analyzing attribution models, you can understand which touchpoints drive the most value and allocate your budget more effectively."

HOW SEARCH ENGINE MARKETING HELPS BUSINESS GROW OVER TIME

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Google Tag Manager built-in variables

Google Analytics audiences"Audiences in Google Analytics are user segments based on behavior, demographics, or other criteria. By creating audiences, you can tailor marketing campaigns, personalize website content, and improve user experience."

Google Analytics behavior flow"Behavior flow reports in Google Analytics visualize how users navigate through your site. By understanding their journey from page to page, you can identify drop-off points, improve user experience, and guide visitors toward conversion paths."

Google Analytics bounce rate"Bounce rate in Google Analytics shows the percentage of users who leave your site after viewing only one page. comprehensive [SEO Audit services](#). A high bounce rate can indicate issues with user experience, content relevance, or page load speed, highlighting areas for optimization."

Google Tag Manager click tracking

Google Analytics campaign tracking"Campaign tracking in Google Analytics measures the performance of marketing campaigns. [SEO Services](#). By tagging links with UTM parameters and analyzing campaign data, you can identify which efforts generate the most traffic and conversions."

Google Analytics channel performance"Channel performance reports in Google Analytics provide insights into how different traffic sources such as organic search, paid ads, or social media contribute to your overall site performance. This data helps you focus your efforts on the most effective channels."

Google Analytics cohort analysis"Cohort analysis in Google Analytics groups users by shared characteristics, such as their first visit date. By analyzing cohorts, you can track user behavior over time, measure retention rates, and identify patterns that drive long-term engagement."

KEY ADVANTAGES LOCAL SEO





Google Tag Manager container

Google Analytics conversions"Conversions in Google Analytics represent completed actions that are valuable to your business, such as purchases or form submissions.

SEO for website - Google search personalization

1. Search performance reports
2. Structured data markup

Tracking conversions helps you measure the effectiveness of your marketing efforts and identify opportunities for improvement."

Google Analytics cross-domain tracking"Cross-domain tracking in Google Analytics enables you to track user behavior across multiple websites. By properly configuring tracking code, you can maintain a unified view of user interactions and gain a clearer picture of your audiences journey."

Google Analytics custom alerts"Custom alerts in Google Analytics notify you of significant changes in your sites performance. By setting up alerts, you can quickly respond to traffic spikes, unexpected drops, or issues that need immediate attention."

Google Tag Manager custom event tracking

Google Analytics custom dimensions"Custom dimensions in Google Analytics let you track additional data points not included by default, such as user roles or product categories. Adding custom dimensions provides more granular insights, helping you better understand your audience and their behavior."

Google Analytics custom dimensions"Custom dimensions in Google Analytics let you collect additional data points, such as membership levels or content categories. By leveraging custom dimensions, you can segment your audience more effectively and gain deeper insights into user behavior."

Google Analytics custom reports"Custom reports in Google Analytics let you create tailored views of your data. By selecting specific dimensions and metrics, you can generate reports that focus on the KPIs most relevant to your business goals."



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About Local search engine optimisation

- **v**
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- **e**

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

Local search engine optimization (local SEO) is similar to (national) SEO in that it is also a process affecting the visibility of a website or a web page in a web search engine's unpaid results (known as its SERP, search engine results page) often referred to as "natural", "organic", or "earned" results.[1] In general, the higher ranked on the search results page and more frequently a site appears in the search results list, the more visitors it will receive from the search engine's users; these visitors can then be converted into customers.[2] Local SEO, however, differs in that it is focused on optimizing a business's online presence so that its web pages will be displayed by

search engines when users enter **local searches** for its products or services.[3] Ranking for local search involves a similar process to general SEO but includes some specific elements to rank a business for local search.

For example, local SEO is all about 'optimizing' your online presence to attract more business from relevant local searches. The majority of these searches take place on **Google**, **Yahoo**, **Bing**, **Yandex**, **Baidu** and other **search engines** but for better optimization in your local area you should also use sites like **Yelp**, **Angie's List**, **LinkedIn**, Local business directories, **social media** channels and others.[4]

The birth of local SEO

[edit]

The origin of local SEO can be traced back[5] to 2003-2005 when search engines tried to provide people with results in their vicinity as well as additional information such as opening times of a store, listings in maps, etc.

Local SEO has evolved over the years to provide a targeted **online marketing** approach that allows local businesses to appear based on a range of local search signals, providing a distinct difference from broader **organic SEO** which prioritises relevance of search over a distance of searcher.

Local search results

[edit]

Local searches trigger search engines to display two types of results on the **Search engine results page**: local organic results and the 'Local Pack'. [3] The local organic results include web pages related to the search query with local **relevance**. These often include directories such as **Yelp**, Yellow Pages, **Facebook**, etc.[3] The Local Pack displays businesses that have signed up with **Google** and taken ownership of their '**Google My Business**' (GMB) listing.

The information displayed in the GMB listing and hence in the Local Pack can come from different sources:[6]

- The owner of the business. This information can include opening/closing times, description of products or services, etc.
- Information is taken from the business's website
- User-provided information such as reviews or uploaded photos
- Information from other sources such as social profiles etc.
- Structured Data taken from **Wikidata** and **Wikipedia**. Data from these sources is part of the information that appears in Google's **Knowledge Panel** in the search results.

Depending on the searches, Google can show relevant local results in [Google Maps](#) or Search. This is true on both mobile and desktop devices.^[7]

Google Maps

[\[edit\]](#)

Google has added a new Q&A features to [Google Maps](#) allowing users to submit questions to owners and allowing these to respond.^[8] This Q&A feature is tied to the associated Google My Business account.

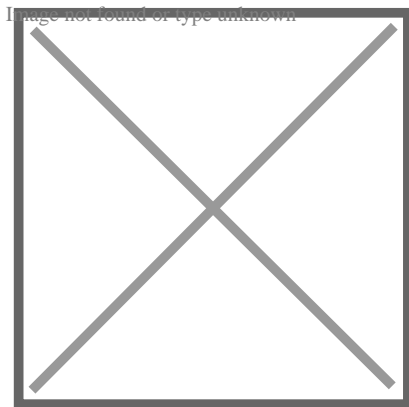
Google Business Profile

[\[edit\]](#)

Google Business Profile (GBP), formerly [Google My Business](#) (GMB) is a free tool that allows businesses to create and manage their Google Business listing. These listings must represent a physical location that a customer can visit. A Google Business listing appears when customers search for businesses either on Google Maps or in Google SERPs. The accuracy of these listings is a local ranking factor.

Ranking factors

[\[edit\]](#)



Local Online Marketing

Major search engines have algorithms that determine which local businesses rank in local search. Primary factors that impact a local business's chance of appearing in local search include proper categorization in business directories, a business's name, address, and phone number (NAP) being [crawlable](#) on the website, and citations (mentions of the local business on other relevant websites like a chamber of commerce website).^[9]

In 2016, a study using statistical analysis assessed how and why businesses ranked in the Local Packs and identified positive correlations between local rankings and 100+ ranking factors.^[10] Although the study cannot replicate Google's algorithm, it did deliver several interesting findings:

- **Backlinks** showed the most important correlation (and also Google's Toolbar **PageRank**, suggesting that older links are an advantage because the Toolbar has not been updated in a long time).
- Sites with more content (hence more **keywords**) tended to fare better (as expected).
- Reviews on GMB also were found to strongly correlate with high rankings.
- Other GMB factors, like the presence of photos and having a verified GMB page with opening hours, showed a **positive correlation** (with ranking) albeit not as important as reviews.
- The quality of **citations** such as a low number of duplicates, consistency and also a fair number of citations, mattered for a business to show in Local Packs. However, within the pack, citations did not influence their ranking: "citations appear to be foundational but not a competitive advantage."
- The authors were instead surprised that **geotargeting** elements (city & state) in the title of the GMB landing page did not have any impact on GMB rankings. Hence the authors suggest using such elements only if it makes sense for usability reasons.
- The presence of a keyword in the business name was found to be one of the most important factors (explaining the high incidence of **spam** in the Local Pack).
- Schema structured data is a ranking factor. The addition of the 'LocalBusiness' markup will enable you to display relevant information about your business to Google. This includes opening hours, address, founder, parent company information and much more.^[11]
- The number of reviews and overall star rating correlates with higher rankings in the Google map pack results.

Local ranking according to Google

[**edit**]

Prominence, relevance, and distance are the three main criteria Google claims to use in its **algorithms** to show results that best match a user's query.^[12]

- Prominence reflects how well-known is a place in the offline world. An important museum or store, for example, will be given more prominence. Google also uses information obtained on the web to assess prominence such as review counts, links, articles.
- Relevance refers to Google's algorithms attempt to surface the listings that best match the user's **query**.
- Distance refers to Google's attempt to return those listings that are the closest the location terms used in a user's query. If no location term is used then "Google will calculate distance based on what's known about their location".

Local ranking: 2017 survey from 40 local experts

[\[edit\]](#)

According to a group of local SEO experts who took part in a survey, links and reviews are more important than ever to rank locally.[\[13\]](#)

Near Me Queries

[\[edit\]](#)

As a result of both Google as well as Apple offering "near me" as an option to users, some authors[\[14\]](#) report on how [Google Trends](#) shows very significant increases in "near me" queries. The same authors also report that the factors correlating the most with Local Pack ranking for "near me" queries include the presence of the "searched city and state in backlinks' anchor text" as well as the use of the " 'near me' in internal link anchor text"

Possum Update

[\[edit\]](#)

An important update to Google's local algorithm, rolled out on the 1st of September 2016.[\[15\]](#)
Summary of the update on local search results:

- Businesses based outside city physical limits showed a significant increase in ranking in the Google Local Pack
- A more restrictive filter is in place. Before the update, Google filtered listings linking to the same [website](#) and using the same phone number. After the update, listings get filtered if they have the same address and same categories though they belong to different businesses. So, if several dentists share the same address, Google will only show one of them.

Hawk update

[\[edit\]](#)

As previously explained (see above), the Possum update led similar listings, within the same building, or even located on the same street, to get filtered. As a result, only one listing "with greater organic ranking and stronger relevance to the keyword" would be shown.[\[16\]](#) After the Hawk update on 22 August 2017, this filtering seems to apply only to listings located within the same building or close by (e.g. 50 feet), but not to listings located further away (e.g. 325 feet away).[\[16\]](#)

Fake reviews

[[edit](#)]

As previously explained (see above), reviews are deemed to be an important ranking factor. Joy Hawkins, a Google Top Contributor and local SEO expert, highlights the problems due to fake reviews:[17]

- Lack of an appropriate process for business owners to report fake reviews on competitors' sites. GMB support will not consider requests about businesses other than if they come from the business owners themselves. So if a [competitor](#) nearby has been collecting fake reviews, the only way to bring this to the attention of GMB is via the Google My Business Forum.
- Unlike Yelp, Google does not show a label warning users of abnormal review behavior for those businesses that buy reviews or that receive unnatural numbers of negative reviews because of media attention.
- Current Google algorithms do not identify unnatural review patterns. Abnormal review patterns often do not need human gauging and should be easily identified by algorithms. As a result, both fake listings and rogue reviewer profiles should be suspended.

See also

[[edit](#)]

- [Local search \(optimization\)](#)

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External links

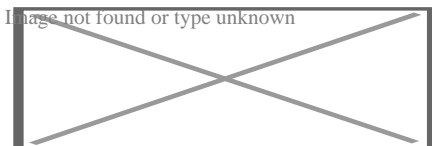
[[edit](#)]

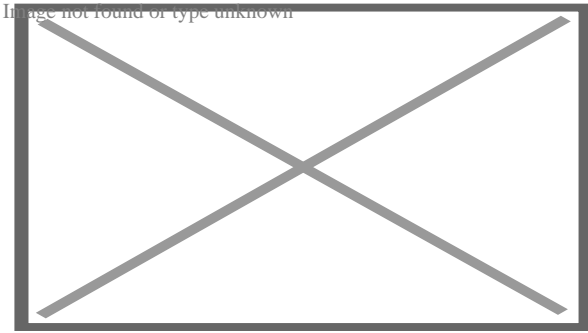
- [Google Search Engine Optimization \(SEO\) Starter Guide](#)
- [Google Local Businesses Guide](#)

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 <small>Image not found or type unknown</small> Edit this at Wikidata
IPv6 support	Yes[1]
Commercial	Yes
Registration	Optional
Launched	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1995; 30 years ago (first prototype)1997; 28 years ago (final launch)
Current status	Online
Written in	<ul style="list-style-type: none">PythonCC++[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. [Google Search Console](#) helps to check for websites that use duplicate or copyright content.^[43]

"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 snippet 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 [AI-generated](#) 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"](#)

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

AI 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 AI Overviews provide accurate information.[87][89] Two weeks after the rollout of AI 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, AI Overviews were rolled out in the UK, India, Japan, Indonesia, Mexico and Brazil, with local language support.[93] On October 28, 2024, AI Overviews was rolled out to 100 more countries, including Australia and New Zealand.[94]

AI Mode

[edit]

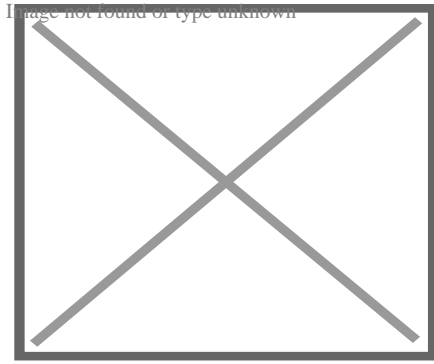
In March 2025, Google introduced an experimental "AI Mode" within its Search platform, enabling users to input complex, multi-part queries and receive comprehensive, AI-generated responses. This feature leverages Google's advanced Gemini 2.0 model, which enhances the system's reasoning capabilities and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

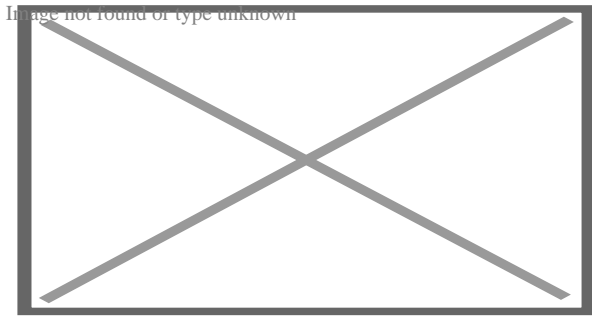
Google offers a "Google Search" mobile app for Android and iOS devices.[102] The mobile apps exclusively feature Google Discover and a "Collections" feature, in which the user can save for later perusal any type of search result like images, bookmarks or map locations into groups.[103] Android devices 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 race*
- 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
- "" – 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"*
- site: – Search within a specific website, such as *"site:youtube.com"*
- define: – Search for definitions for a word or phrase, such as *"define:phrase"*
- 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.
- () – Group operators and searches, such as *(marathon OR race) AND shoes*
- filetype: or ext: – Search for specific file types, such as *filetype:gif*
- before: – Search for before a specific date, such as *spacex before:2020-08-11*
- 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"*

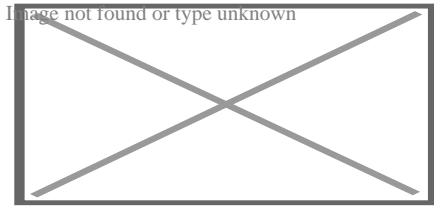
Google also offers a **Google Advanced Search** page with a web interface to access the advanced features without needing to remember the special operators.[116]

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 **stemming** – 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]}

- 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

[\[edit\]](#)

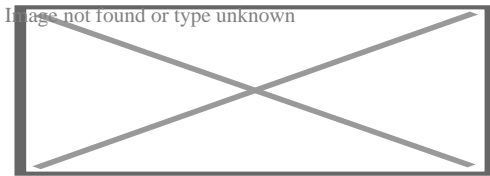
Search products

[\[edit\]](#)

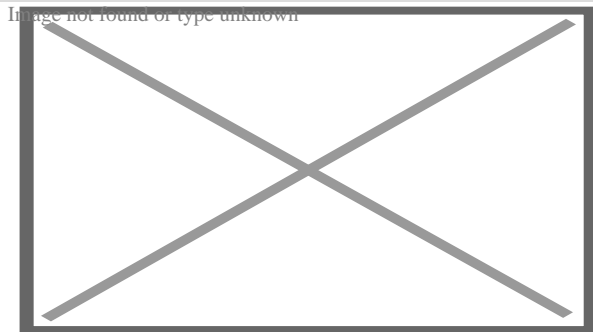
Main article: [List of Google products](#)

"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
URL	www.google.com/videohp
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

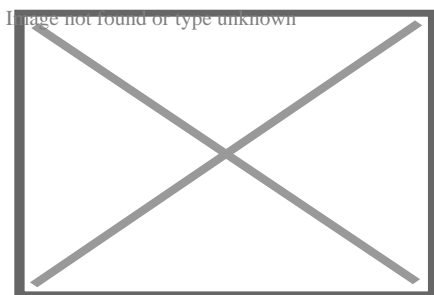
[[edit](#)]

[icon] This section **needs expansion**. You can help by [making an edit request](#)[adding to it](#) . (May 2024)
Image not found or 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
Image not found or not known

Internet portal

- **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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- AdSense
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Hardware

Smartphones

Pixel

- Pixel (2016)
- Pixel 2 (2017)
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- Pixel 4 (2019)
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- 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)

Smartphones

- Nexus One (2010)
- Nexus S (2010)
- Galaxy Nexus (2011)
- Nexus 4 (2012)
- Nexus 5 (2013)
- Nexus 6 (2014)
- Nexus 5X (2015)

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| Other | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Garcia v. Google, Inc.</i> (2015) ○ <i>Google LLC v Defteros</i> (2020) ○ <i>Epic Games v. Google</i> (2021) ○ <i>Gonzalez v. Google LLC</i> (2022) |

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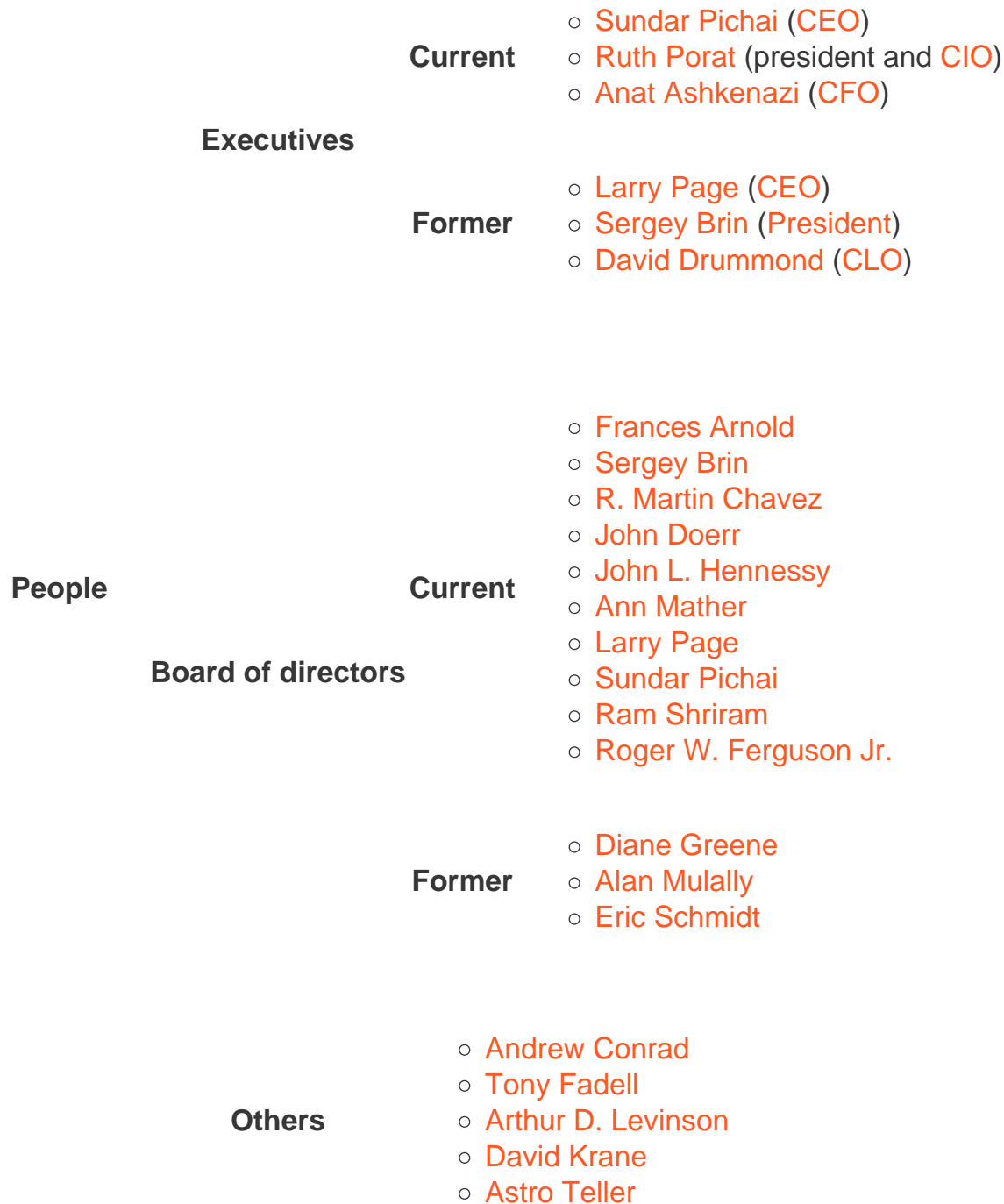
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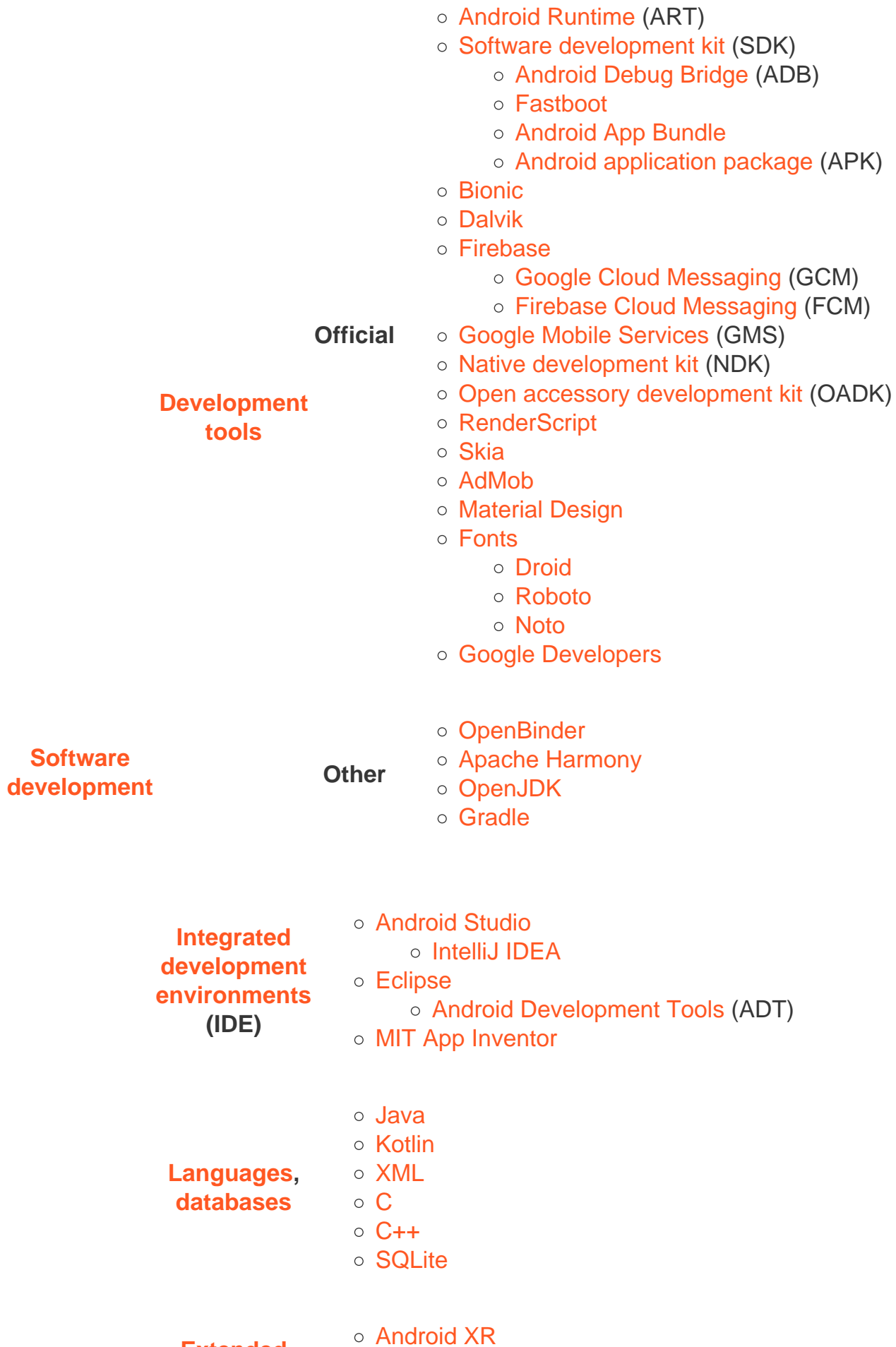


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- Gingerbread (2.3)
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- Ice Cream Sandwich (4.0)
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Derivatives

- Android Automotive
- Android Things
- TV
 - devices
- Android XR
- Wear OS

Devices

Pixel

- C
- Pixel & Pixel XL
- 2 & 2 XL
- 3 & 3 XL
 - 3a & 3a XL
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 - 4a & 4a (5G)
- 5
 - 5a
- 6 & 6 Pro
 - 6a
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- 9, 9 Pro & 9 Pro XL
 - 9 Pro Fold

Nexus

- One
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- Galaxy Nexus
- 4
- 10
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 - 6P
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 - 2012
 - 2013
- 9
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Play edition

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- Flyme OS
- GrapheneOS
- Xiaomi HyperOS
 - MIUI
 - MIUI for Poco
- LeWa OS
- LineageOS
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