PRIVACY SOFTWARE RECOMMENDATIONS

## WHAT SOFTWARE TO USE IF YOU CARE ABOUT YOUR PRIVACY

BROWSERS

Mozilla Firefox

For the uninitiated. Works just like any other browser you know. Make sure you use add-ons like: Unlock Origin, HTTPS Only, Duck Duck Go Privacy Essentials.

Tor

The onion router, best thing you can use if you want to remain anonymous. The more people use it, the harder it is for companies and governments to track users. It is not that difficult to use, give it a try!
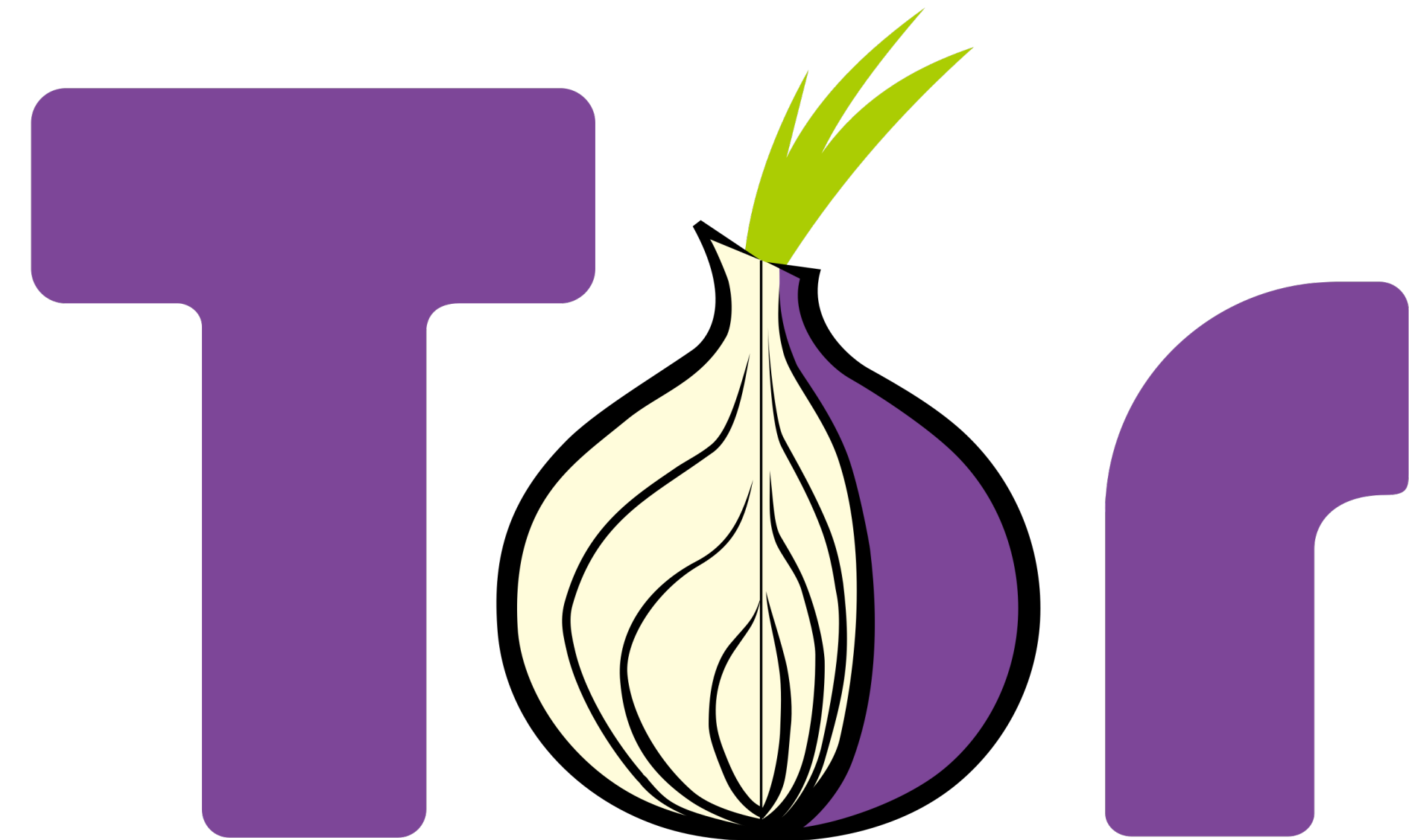
SEARCH ENGINES

Duck Duck Go

Custom made for privacy. It is the number one alternative to Google. Can be activated by default in Firefox and it is easy to use. Bonus: cute logo.

Ecosia

Do you also want to improve the environment while searching? Ecosia plants a tree for every 45 searches you make.

Best way to find if a search browser works for you is to try it. Give each of them a chance and in return your searches will remain private and untracked.

VPN

Proton VPN

You chose Mozilla Firefox as your default browser? Then you need a VPN. ProtonVPN has open source clients and has a really good free option.

Mullvad

If you can spend the money and Proton is not for you, Mullvad has an excellent alternative that is seriously focused on transparency and security.

Centralizing services like VPNs are not ideal, but they certainly help keeping your ISP out of your browser requests.

EMAIL & CLIENT

ProtonMail

From the same Swiss company that made ProtonVPN, ProtonMail is an excellent email provider to use that encrypts as much as it can. As its VPN cousin, it also has an excellent free option.

Mozilla Thunderbird

If you like using a desktop email client like Outlook, you should change to Thunderbird. This alternative by the Mozilla foundation is privacy minded and also has a built in calendar and other tools you might like. You can plug in your ProtonMail account in this email client. Psst, you can even use its onion service…

MESSAGING

Signal

The best app out there. Just install it, use it. It is free, open source and private conscious. No metadata gathered, no more spying on you. Encryption by default, everywhere, all the time. Stop using WhatsApp, Telegram or whatever other closed source messaging app you are currently using.

Signal can be installed on your computer as well, by linking with your smartphone (non-smartphone login coming soon). Did I mention it also has video calls?

I know what you are thinking: "there is no way of making the people I know change from the other app they are using to Signal". Yep, that is the challenge. You should weigh pros and cons and maybe talk to your friends and family about the importance of privacy.

CLOUD STORAGE

Nextcloud

The only real way to have a secure cloud file storing service these days is to administer it yourself and host it on your own server or paying a host of your choosing. Nextcloud is a tool made for that. Bear in mind, this might be a bit too complicated for the uninitiated, less experienced users.

Cryptomator

If hosting your own cloud service seems too scary, worry not! You can encrypt your files and still use the services like Google Drive, iCloud, Microsoft Onedrive and Dropbox. That way not even those companies can read your files. Try Cryptomator, a free tool that creates vaults where your files are fully encrypted.

PASSWORDS

Bitwarden

Got too many passwords? Are you using the same password for different accounts? Have them written somewhere? Instead of living in that inconvenient and insecure nightmare, try using a password manager. You will only need to know one password for the rest of your life. Bitwarden can be installed as an add on in Firefox and will insert the account and password in the text box for you. Try using the password generator! Download it on your phone!

Bitwarden is an open source option that decrypts your passwords only on your device. Has a free option that is excellent.

YOU HAVE THE POWER TO MAKE YOUR LIFE ONLINE PRIVATE

There are alternatives to all the recommendations in this document.

Choose **open source** software any time you can.

Sometimes is better to pay for products and services. Otherwise, **you and your data become the product.**

These recommendations were made in the past. Software changes, so make sure the one you choose remains private enough for you.

This document just scratches the surface of how to remain private online and is intended as a kickstarter. **Investigate more!** Search the Internet for suggestions and help, the online community can be of great help.

HTTPS://WWW.PRIVACYTOOLS.IO/