(get)*

https://get-star.org

Get Star: The Problem of Finding Information across Multiple Web Sites

(get)* for Parallel Search in the Browser—the Star of HTTP Get

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Table of Contents

TL;DR

I often find myself searching for information but do not find it with search engine A, B, or C. Often I have to search other non-search engine sites to find a link, or information. For that end I created (get)* "Get Star" [Gilre 2024] does search in tandem across multiple sites.

The idea is to search from one place, and then search all the sites in parallel–a mega-search, but in the browser locally on my computer. The search is of different kinds, thus a heterogenous search.

Introduction

Finding information online often is a tedious, repetitive task, as one site or search engine may not necessarily have the information required in a search. Thus the cycle of entering the site URL, letting it load, and then enter the search query, wait for the search, and the results to be loaded.

When researching a topic, often finding the information desired can require multiple repeated searches across different sites and search engines. This is very inefficient, and a tedious repetitive, task, hence a web application for a web browser that accomplishes this in one fell swoop with the (get)* search tool.

History and Motivation

The (get)* web app was created as a personal tool for more efficient searches of information, bypassing the juggernauts of search, and focusing on other less utilized sites some of which are a non-search engine site.

The main goal was fun, a weekend project to create, deploy, and then another weekend to get it up and running. Like a medieval knight paying scutage, one must practice swordplay to keep skills sharp, and the armor shining.

The inspiration is that my skill set was not visible, there were no "demos" on my home site or a portfolio. Thus a web app and search tool for my own personal use, and to showcase by demonstration my skills, knowledge, and so on.

The Problem or Problem Statement

The problem with searching online is doing more with less. It is much easier to close a web browser window than to open one, enter the link or URL, let the site load, and then enter a search query.

Consider the steps in each search for information. The steps for each search are:

Browser Action	Time Range in Seconds
Open New Tab Window in Browser	3 seconds
Type the Link or URL	6 seconds
Wait for Web Site to Load/Process	3 to 5 seconds
Type Search Keywords	6 seconds
Wait for Web Site Query Response	3 to 5 seconds
Close the Tab Window in Browser	3 seconds
Total Time for Actions on Site	**24 to 28 seconds**

These steps can improve timing with practice, and familiarity. Yet the timing range (excluding the time to browse the web site) is from 24-to-28 seconds per site.

The (get)* search app tool works with forty-two sites (42 an homage to Douglas Adams and the ultimate question) overall. Doing this manually would be 1008-seconds to 1176-seconds, or 16.8 to 19.6-minutes, all to do the search across the forty-two sites.

Parallel Search in Tandem

Using the (get)* search tool the 24 to 28 seconds is used to search the 42-sites, and then while browsing one site, the other sites can load. All of this is done in parallel, in tandem at the same time in the browser, locally on the user's computer.

If any site has no results, or no information related to the search, simply close the browser window in 3-seconds. The time to search 1-site is multiplied to search 42-sites for information.

Thus the (get)* search tool is not to replace various sites or search engines, but to utilize them more efficiently, locally on the user's computer and web browser.

Technology Requirements

Only requirement is a web browser, with JavaScript enabled (seems so universal but it is necessary to use (get)*) and pop-up windows enabled.

Thus using (get)* for a more efficient search only requires:

1. Web browser (a given as accessing sites, but formally required).

2. JavaScript enabled (many websites use JavaScript that it is a given...but formally required).

3. Pop-up windows enabled in the web browser.

The (get)* site, search page checks for JavaScript, and pop-up windows enabled. Without both available on the web browser, the user is informed to enable them, and reload the (get)* site.

JavaScript is the software technology locally on the web browser that is the engine of search, and pop-ups are required as each site is opened in a tabbed window, in the browser.

Exemplar of Using (get)*

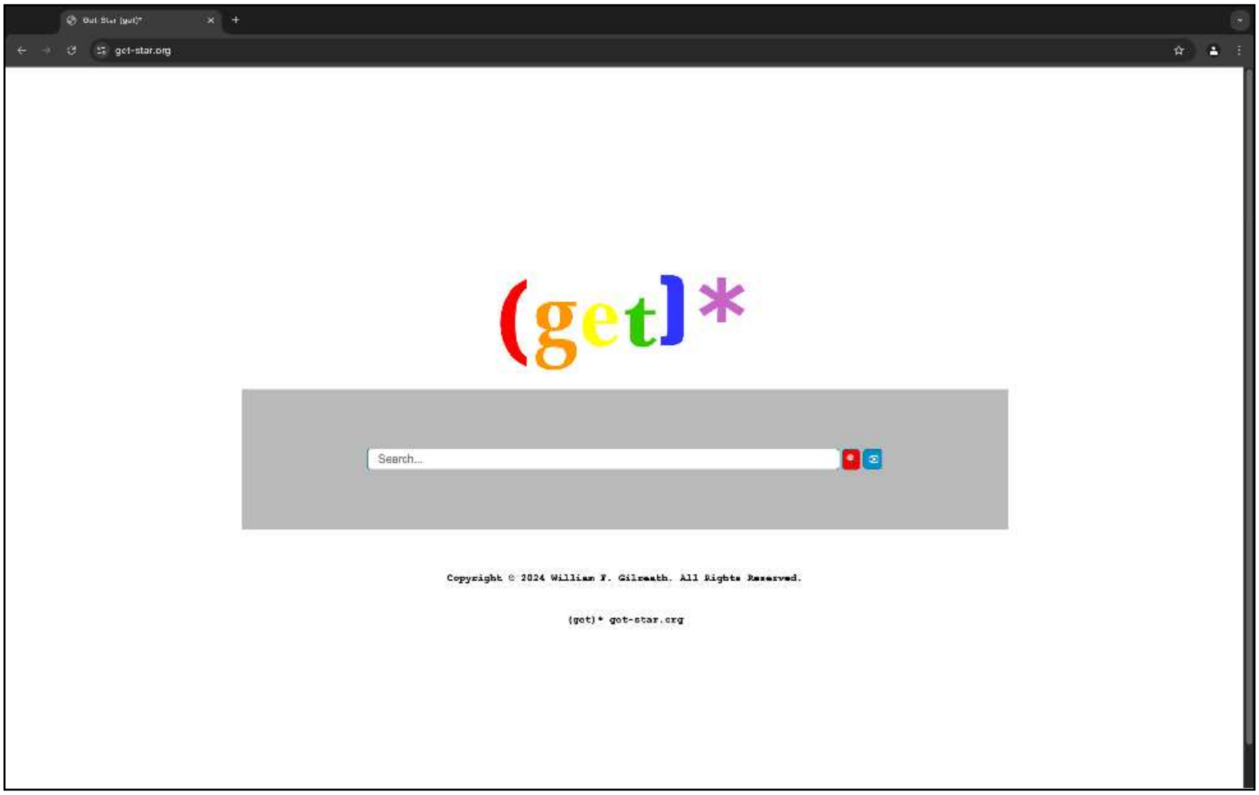
An exemplar or example of running the search on the (get)* web site is:

1. Access Get Star (get)* site, load web page
2. Run the site search
3. Popup alert confirmation dialog
4. Browse the results
5. Close all windows still open, clear search
6. Return to the (get)* site, for next search

Voilà! Presto, Walla, and viola! A parallel search on the web browser done locally.

Access Get Star (get)* site

The user will access or load the Get-Star (get)* web page from the link or URL: https://get-star.org with a favorite web browser. All the screenshots are using the Chrome web browser on MacOS.



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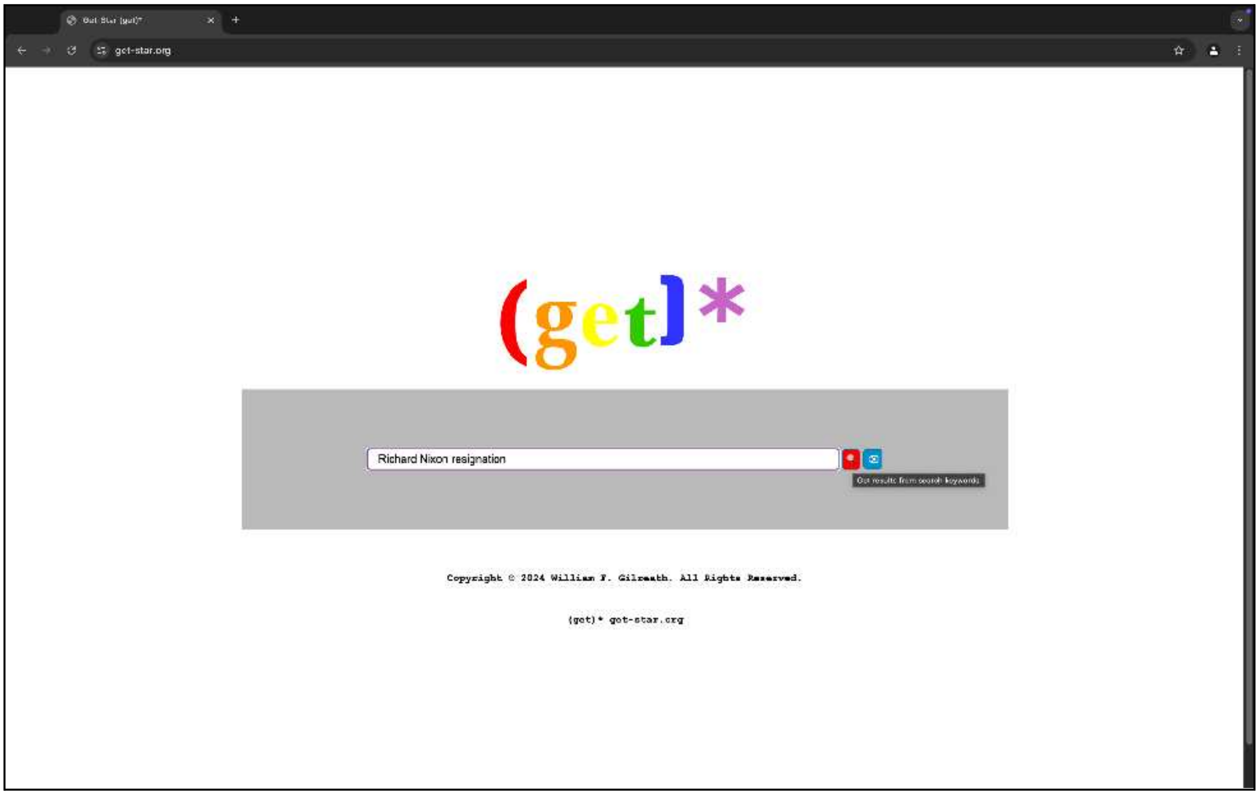
(get)* get-star.org

The web site page loads, and checks for both JavaScript to be enabled, and for pop-up windows to be enabled. If neither is enabled, then the (get)* web site will not function, and will indicate this status.

The web site has the (get)* title, a search box, and two buttons all in a field of gray. The web site footer contains the copyright notice and title with domain name.

Run the (get)* Site Search

Once the (get)* web site has loaded, simply type the keywords of the search query into the textbox. The textbox, the red search button, and the blue clear button all have tooltips to indicate usage.



Richard Nixon resignation

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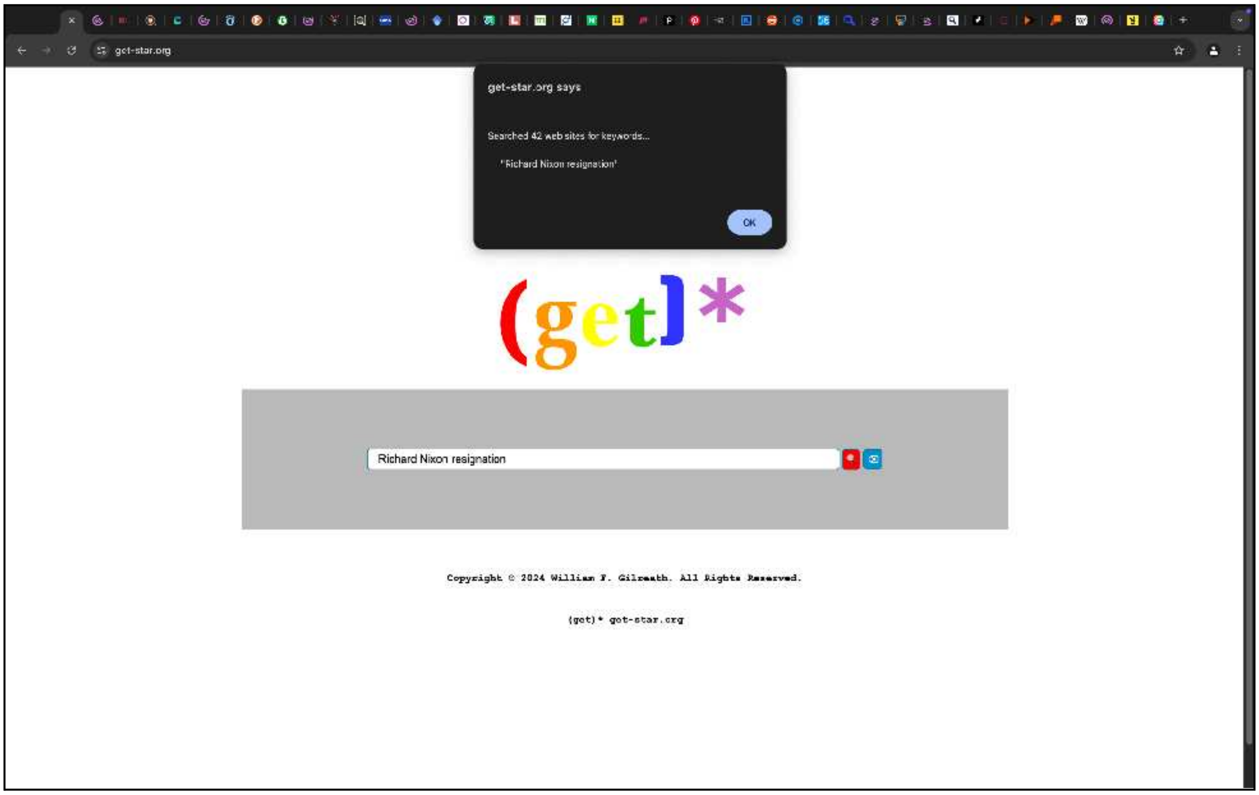
(get)* get-star.org

In this step, the red button tooltip is "Get results from search keywords" that describes the red button function.

The search is historical from United States history of the early 1970s. The search keywords are "Richard Nixon resignation" and after typing the red button is used to search. The ENTER or RETURN key will not start the search, the red button requires a mouse click.

Search Confirmation Dialog

Once the (get)* web search starts, forty-two other tabbed windows will popup along the upper top browser window as the search proceeds.



get-star.org says

Searched 42 web sites for keywords...

'Richard Nixon resignation'

Richard Nixon resignation

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(get)* get-star.org

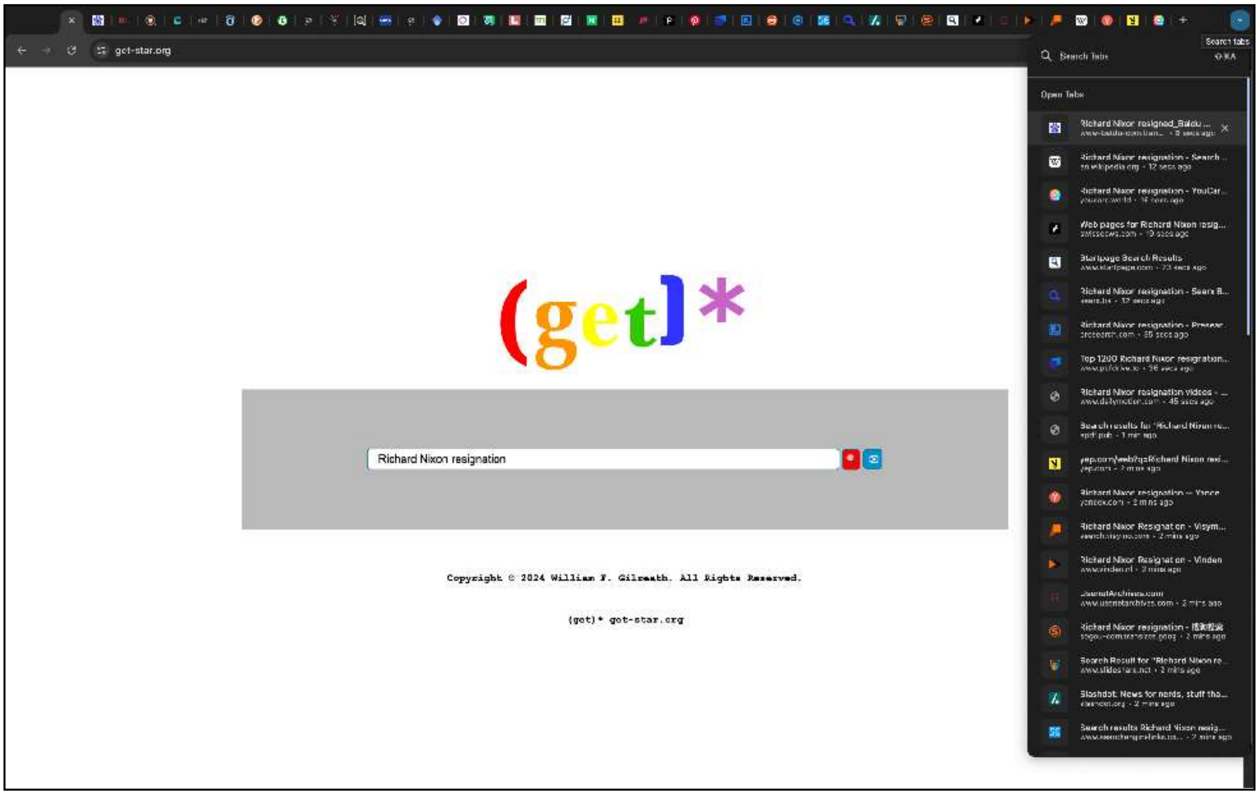
After the windows are opened and the search runs, the (get)* will display a popup dialog confirming the search query and the search keywords used.

Click the "OK" button to acknowledge and close the popup dialog.

Note: A search performed without any query keywords will cause a dialog box rebuking the user that there are no search keywords with "Empty search text!"

Browse the Results

Now the results of the search query are browsed. A dropdown window (on the Chrome web browser) shows the forty-two sites searched, and the home (get)* web site.



Richard Nixon resigned_Baidu ...
www-baidu-com.translate... · 8 secs ago

Richard Nixon resignation - Search ...
en.wikipedia.org · 12 secs ago

Richard Nixon resignation - YouCar...
youcar.world · 16 secs ago

Web pages for Richard Nixon resig...
swisscows.com · 19 secs ago

Startpage Search Results
www.startpage.com · 23 secs ago

Richard Nixon resignation - Search B...
search.be · 32 secs ago

Richard Nixon resignation - Presear...
presearch.com · 35 secs ago

Top 1200 Richard Nixon resignation...
www.picuki.wa.to · 36 secs ago

Richard Nixon resignation videos - ...
www.dailymotion.com · 45 secs ago

Search results for "Richard Nixon re...
spdf.pub · 1 min ago

yep.com/web?q=Richard Nixon resi...
yep.com · 2 mins ago

Richard Nixon resignation — Yandex
yandex.com · 2 mins ago

Richard Nixon Resignation - Visym...
search.visymo.com · 2 mins ago

Richard Nixon Resignation - Vinden
www.vinden.nl · 2 mins ago

UsenetArchives.com
www.usenetarchives.com · 2 mins ago

Richard Nixon resignation - 搜索搜索
sogou-com.translate.goog · 2 mins ago

Search Result for "Richard Nixon re...
www.slideshare.net · 2 mins ago

Slashdot: News for nerds, stuff tha...
slashdot.org · 2 mins ago

Search results Richard Nixon resig...
www.searchenginelinks.co... · 2 mins ago

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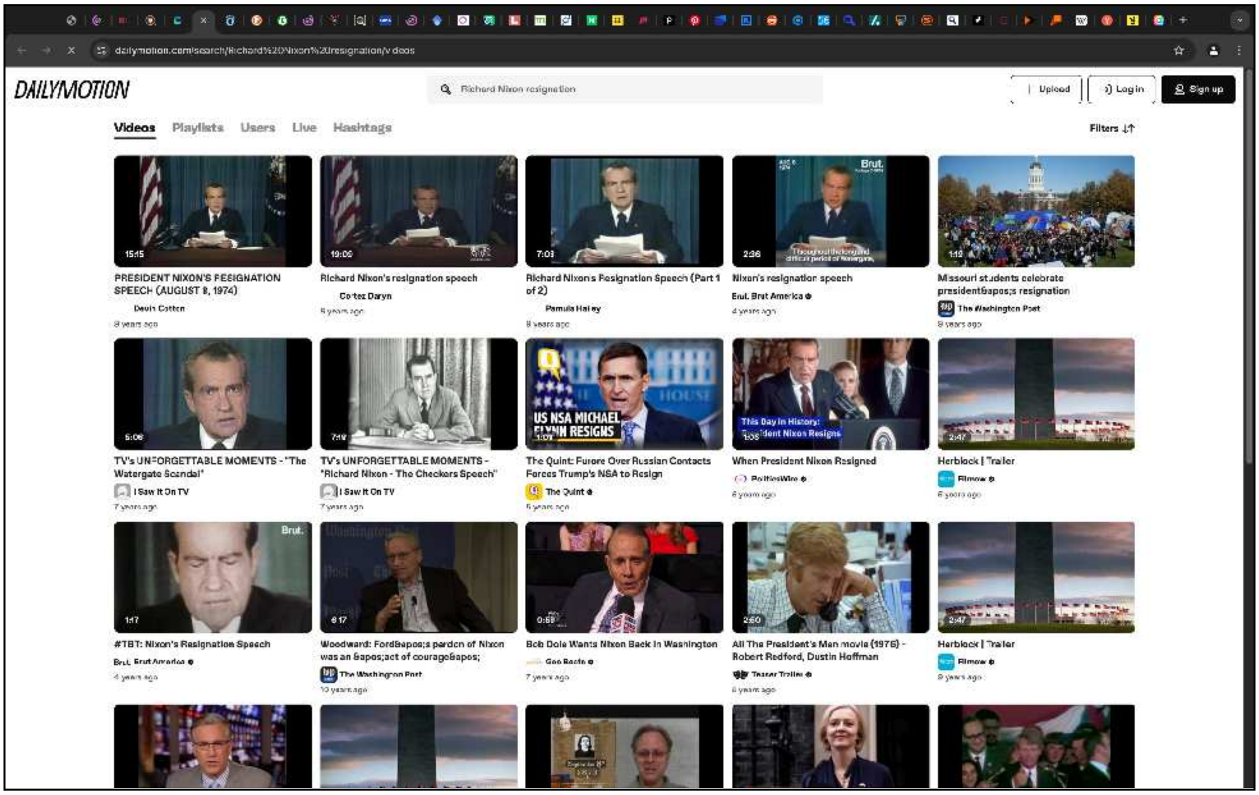
The user can browse, and click on other results in the forty-two tabbed windows, as if they had manually searched on the particular web site. The tabbed windows that contain no, or superfluous search results can be closed without any problem.

Result from DailyMotion

An example search result is from the Dailymotion site. The results are videos relating to the Richard Nixon resignation.


dailymotion.com/search/Richard%20Nixon%20resignation/videos
DAILYMOTION
Richard Nixon resignation
Upload
Log in
Sign up
Videos
Playlists
Users
Live
Hashtags
Filters
15:15
19:06
7:03
2:36
1:12
5:06
7:19
1:07
1:08
2:47
1:17
8:17
0:58
2:50
2:47
Brut.
US NSA MICHAEL FLYNN RESIGNS
This Day in History: President Nixon Resigns

PRESIDENT NIXON'S RESIGNATION SPEECH (AUGUST 8, 1974)
Devin Cotton
8 years ago

Richard Nixon's resignation speech
Cortez Daryn
8 years ago

Richard Nixon's Resignation Speech (Part 1 of 2)
Pamula Hailey
8 years ago

Nixon's resignation speech
Brut. Brut America
4 years ago

Missouri students celebrate president&apos;s resignation
The Washington Post
9 years ago

TV's UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS - "The Watergate Scandal"
I Saw It On TV
7 years ago

TV's UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS - "Richard Nixon - The Checkers Speech"
I Saw It On TV
7 years ago

The Quint: Furore Over Russian Contacts Forces Trump's NSA to Resign
The Quint
5 years ago

When President Nixon Resigned
PoliticsWire
6 years ago

Herblock | Trailer
Filmow
6 years ago

#TBT: Nixon's Resignation Speech
Brut. Brut America
4 years ago

Woodward: Ford&apos;s pardon of Nixon was an &apos;act of courage&apos;
The Washington Post
10 years ago

Bob Dole Wants Nixon Back In Washington
Geo Beats
7 years ago

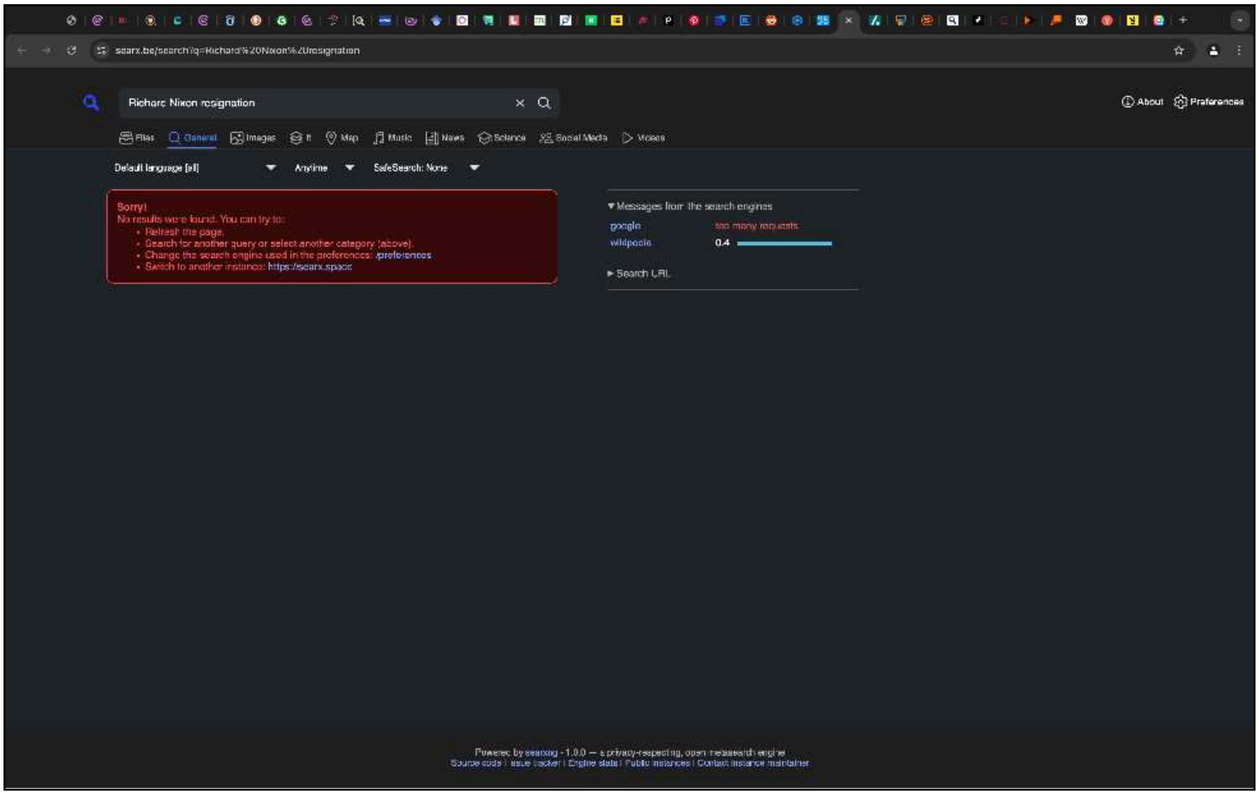
All The President's Men movie (1976) - Robert Redford, Dustin Hoffman
Teaser Trailer
6 years ago

Herblock | Trailer
Filmow
9 years ago

One intriguing result is that some videos are related to the Richard Nixon resignation.

Result from Searx

One example search result, from *Searx*, a free internet metasearch engine or "search me" yet search engine result is empty; no results for the search with "Richard Nixon resignation."



searx.be/search?q=Richard%20Nixon%20resignation

Richard Nixon resignation

Default language [all]
Anytime
SafeSearch: None

Sorry!
No results were found. You can try to:
- Refresh the page.
- Search for another query or select another category (above).
- Change the search engine used in the preferences: /preferences
- Switch to another instance: https://searx.space

▾ Messages from the search engines

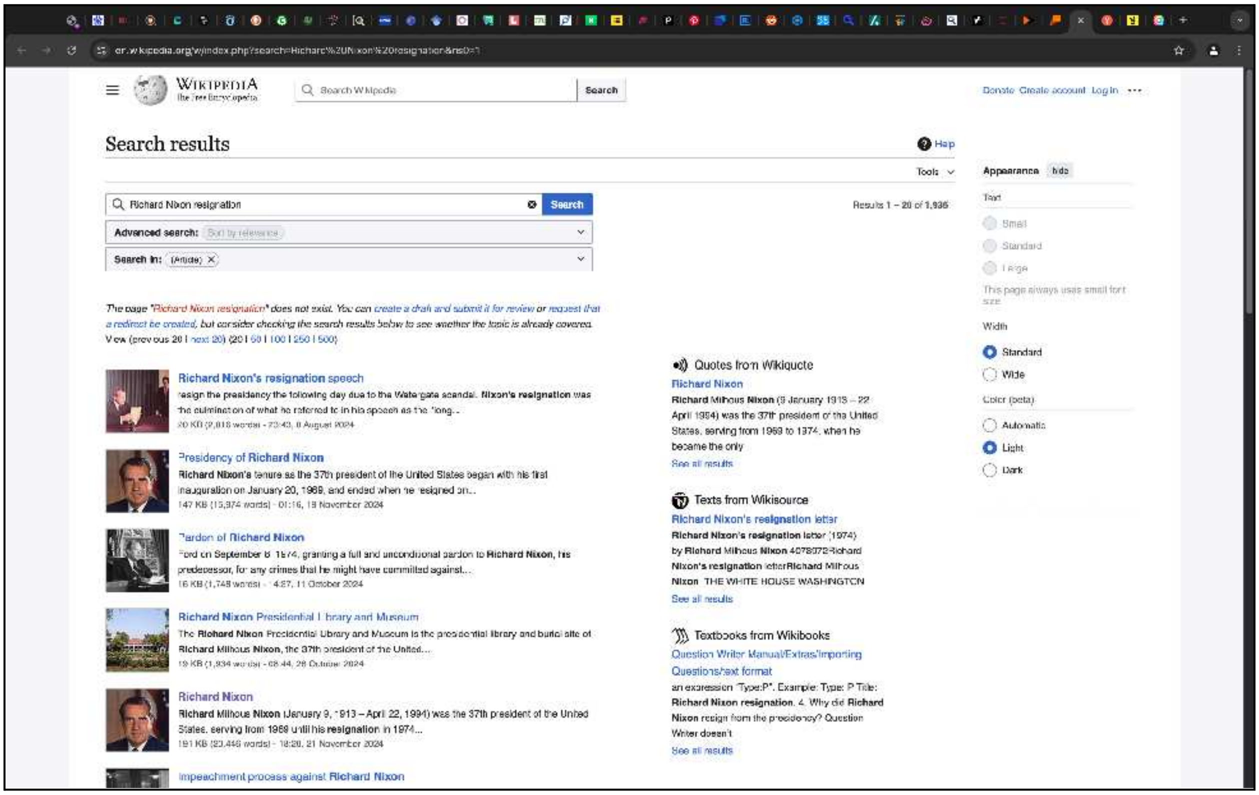
google	too many requests
wikipedia	0.4

▸ Search URL

Powered by searxng - 1.0.0 — a privacy-respecting, open metasearch engine
Source code | Issue tracker | Engine stats | Public instances | Contact instance maintainer

Result from Wikipedia

An example search result is from Wikipedia. The results are Wikipedia entries relating to Richard Nixon, Richard Nixon's resignation.



Search results

Richard Nixon resignation

Results 1 – 20 of 1,936

The page "Richard Nixon resignation" does not exist. You can create a draft and submit it for review or request that a redirect be created, but consider checking the search results below to see whether the topic is already covered.

View (previous 20 | next 20) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500)

Richard Nixon's resignation speech
resign the presidency the following day due to the Watergate scandal. **Nixon's resignation** was the culmination of what he referred to in his speech as the "long...
20 KB (2,818 words) - 23:43, 8 August 2024

Presidency of **Richard Nixon**
Richard Nixon's tenure as the 37th president of the United States began with his first inauguration on January 20, 1969, and ended when he resigned on...
147 KB (15,974 words) - 01:16, 19 November 2024

Pardon of **Richard Nixon**
Ford on September 8, 1974, granting a full and unconditional pardon to **Richard Nixon**, his predecessor, for any crimes that he might have committed against...
16 KB (1,748 words) - 14:27, 11 October 2024

Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum
The **Richard Nixon** Presidential Library and Museum is the presidential library and burial site of **Richard** Milhous **Nixon**, the 37th president of the United...
19 KB (1,934 words) - 08:44, 28 October 2024

Richard Nixon
Richard Milhous **Nixon** (January 9, 1913 – April 22, 1994) was the 37th president of the United States, serving from 1969 until his **resignation** in 1974...
191 KB (23,446 words) - 18:28, 21 November 2024

Impeachment process against **Richard Nixon**

Quotes from Wikiquote
Richard Nixon
Richard Milhous **Nixon** (9 January 1913 – 22 April 1994) was the 37th president of the United States, serving from 1969 to 1974, when he became the only
See all results

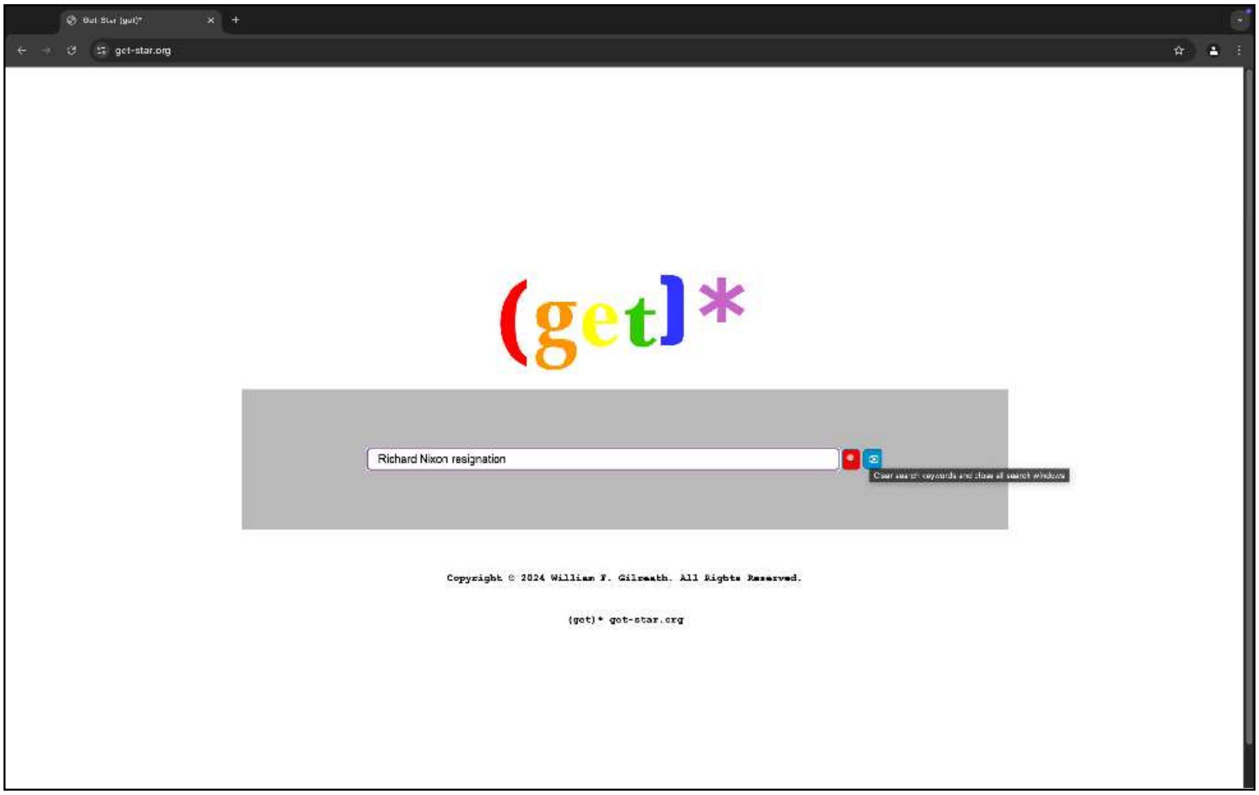
Texts from Wikisource
Richard Nixon's resignation letter
Richard Nixon's resignation letter (1974) by **Richard** Milhous **Nixon** 4078072Richard **Nixon's resignation** letterRichard Milhous **Nixon** THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON
See all results

Textbooks from Wikibooks
Question Writer Manual/Extras/Importing Questions/text format
an expression "Type:P". Example: Type: P Title: **Richard Nixon resignation**. 4. Why did **Richard Nixon** resign from the presidency? Question Writer doesn't
See all results

All things relating to Richard Nixon, the speech text, the pardon, and even the biography are retrieved in the search query for "Richard Nixon resignation" by (get)*.

Clear Search and Close All Windows

The user can clear the search keywords from the (get)* web site, and close the open tabbed windows.



Richard Nixon resignation

Clear search keywords and close all search windows

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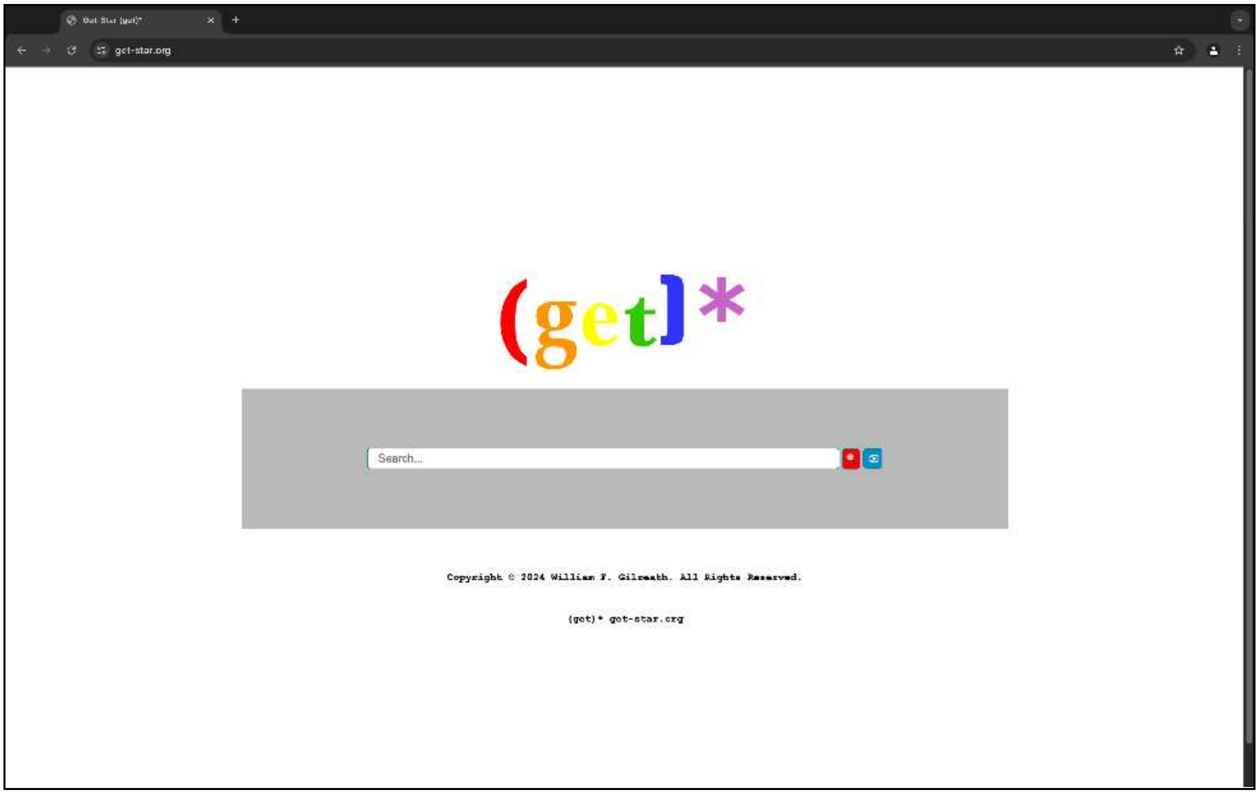
The blue button has the tooltip "Clear search keywords and close all search windows" at least the windows that are open. Depending upon the web browser, the tabbed windows opened by the user might close.

Return to the (get)* site, for Next Search

The user can repeat the search ad infinitum or ad nauseam after clearing the previous search keywords and closing the tabbed windows.



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The user is back to the first step of the (get)* web site search, ending at the beginning.

Conclusion

Run a search on different sites and not the main juggernauts of search for more efficient search–not to replace actual sites. More effective utilization of Internet resources for increased productivity–to use the scientific efficacy bafflegab.

The Name (get)*

As an afterword, the word, name of "get star" or (get)* is...

HTTP Get (which gets a web page, accesses and loads it) and then regex (expression)* which is a regular expression for zero or many. Thus (get)* is an HTTP Get–a search query with zero or many results.

The name is homage to a favorite movie, "Dark Star" [Carpe 1973] a early 1970s science fiction thriller and a first for the later movie moguls (no names...) but a great movie with a touch of comedy.

The Search

The (get)* web app does not bypass or "scrape" data from each site, each search is performed in a browser window, as if each site was loaded, and the user entered the search keywords.

There is no data mining or harvesting information, as the tool is not on a server...yet each site can put all the cookies, malware, spyware, and other toxic stuff. Yet like Mr. Green said in the movie "Clue" [Lynn 1985] ..."I didn't do it!" Thus, *caveat emptor!*

References

- [Carpe 1973] Carpenter, John. (Director). (1973). Dark Star [Film]. Jack H. Harris Enterprises; University of Southern California.

- [Gilre 2024] Gilreath, William F. "(get)*" Get-Star *(get)**, November 17, 2024, https://get-star.org. Accessed November 24, 2024.

- [Lynn 1985] Lynn, Jonathon. (Director). (1985). Clue [Film]. Guber-Peters Company; PolyGram Pictures; Debra Hill Productions.

- [Wikip 2024] Wikipedia. "JavaScript" November 22, 2024. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JavaScript, Accessed November 24, 2024.

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