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Introducing Graph Search Beta

January 15, 2013

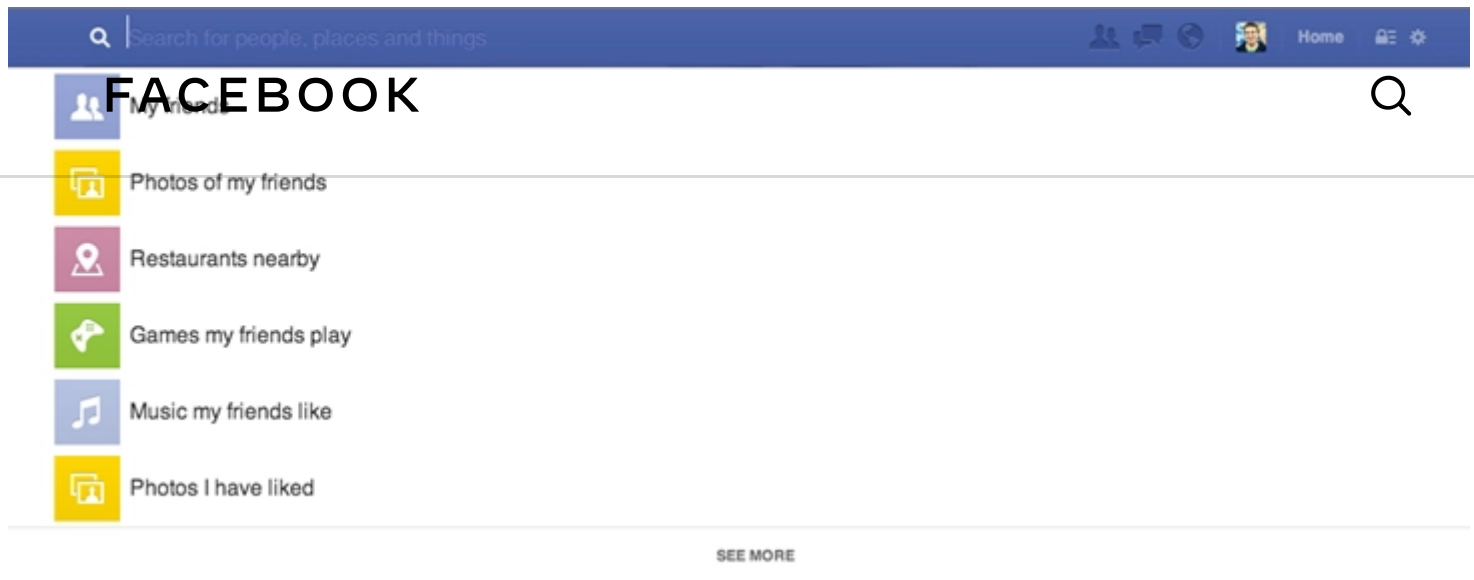
By [Tom Stocky](#) and [Lars Rasmussen](#)

Facebook's mission is to make the world more open and connected. The main way we do this is by giving people the tools to map out their relationships with the people and things they care about. We call this map the graph. It's big and constantly expanding with new people, content and connections. There are already more than a billion people, more than 240 billion photos and more than a trillion connections.



Today we're announcing a new way to navigate these connections and make them more useful. We're calling it Graph Search, and it starts today with a limited preview, or beta.

When Facebook first launched, the main way most people used the site was to browse around, learn about people and make new connections. Graph Search takes us back to our roots and allows people to use the graph to make *new* connections.



Graph Search will appear as a bigger search bar at the top of each page. When you search for something, that search not only determines the set of results you get, but also serves as a title for the page. You can edit the title – and in doing so create your own custom view of the content you and your friends have shared on Facebook.



Graph Search and web search are very different. Web search is designed to take a set of keywords (for example: “hip hop”) and provide the best possible results that match those keywords. With Graph Search you combine phrases (for example: “my friends in New York who like Jay-Z”) to get that set of people, places, photos or other content that’s been shared on Facebook. We believe they have very different uses.

Another big difference from web search is that every piece of content on Facebook has its own audience, and most content isn’t public. We’ve built Graph Search from the start with privacy in mind, and it respects the privacy and audience of each piece of content on Facebook. It makes finding new things much easier, but you can only see what you could already view elsewhere on Facebook.

We’re very early in the development of Graph Search. It’s only available in English today and you can search for only a subset of content on Facebook. Posts and Open Graph actions (for example, song listens) are not yet available. We’ll be working on these things over the coming months.

The first version of Graph Search focuses on four main areas — people, photos, places, and interests.

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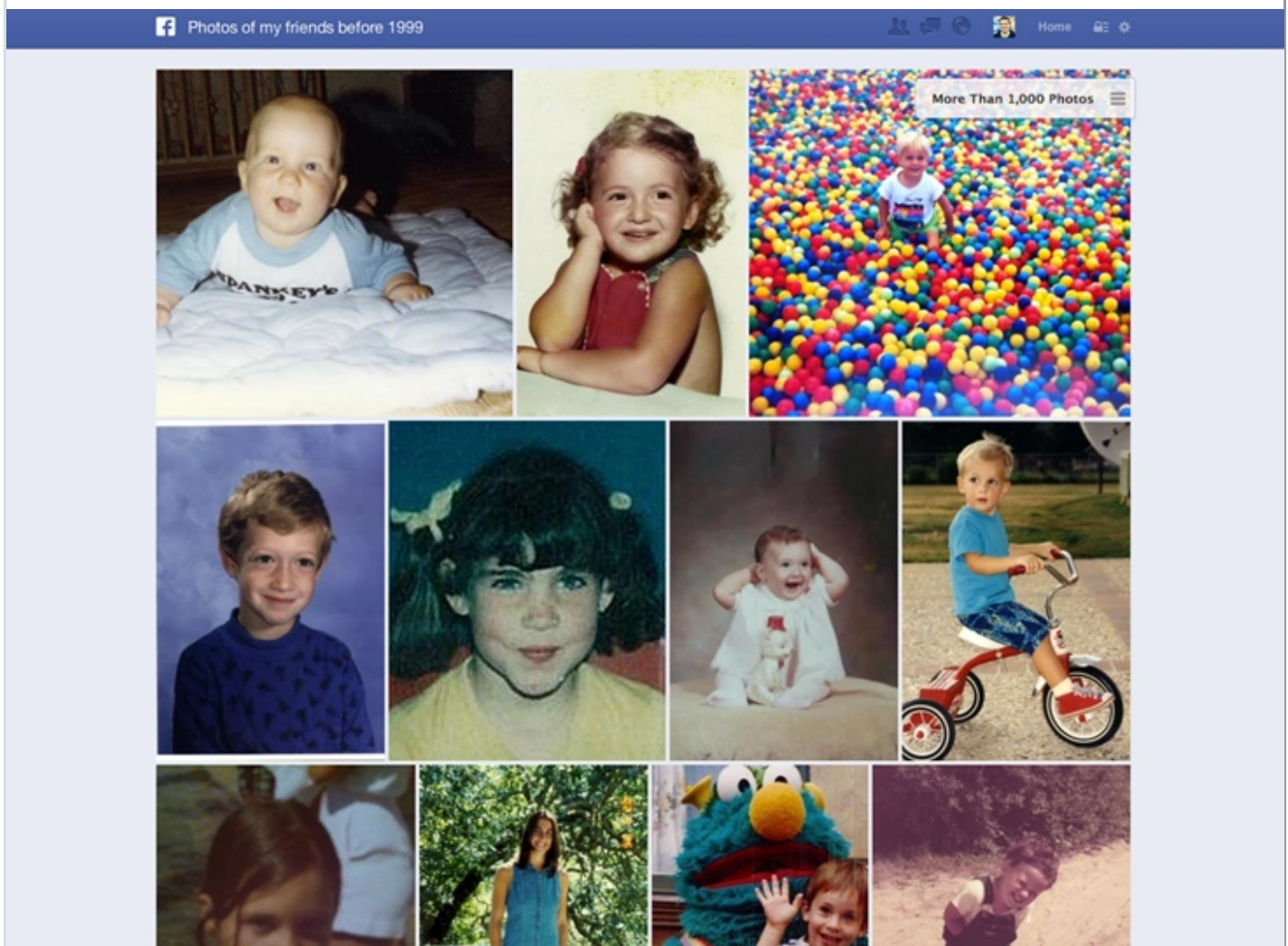


People: “friends who live in my city,” “people from my hometown who like hiking,” “Friends of friends who have been to Yosemite National Park,” “software engineers who live in San Francisco and like skiing,” “people who like things I like,” “people who like tennis and live nearby”

Photos: “photos I like,” “photos of my family,” “photos of my friends before 1999,” “photos of my friends taken in New York,” “photos of the Eiffel Tower”

Places: “restaurants in San Francisco,” “cities visited by my family,” “Indian restaurants liked by my friends from India,” “tourist attractions in Italy visited by my friends,” “restaurants in New York liked by chefs,” “countries my friends have visited”

Interests: “music my friends like,” “movies liked by people who like movies I like,” “languages my friends speak,” “strategy games played by friends of my friends,” “movies liked by people who are film directors,” “books read by CEOs”



The Graph Search beta starts today. Go to www.facebook.com/graphsearch to get on the waitlist. Facebook is going to be slow so we can see how people use Graph Search and make improvements.

Update as of 7/8/13: In the next few weeks, Graph Search will roll out more broadly to everyone who uses Facebook in U.S. English. Learn more [here](#).

Update as of 8/7/13: [Graph Search](#) has now been launched to everyone using Facebook in US English.

We look forward to your feedback. Enjoy and explore the graph.

A replay of the Graph Search media event is available [here](#).

Additional Media Resources:

To learn more about Graph Search, go to www.facebook.com/graphsearch

To learn about Graph Search and privacy, go to www.facebook.com/about/graphsearch/privacy

To learn more on how Graph Search was built, [click here](#).

For how Graph Search can help people discover your business, visit [Facebook Studio](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Graph Search?

Graph Search is a new way for you to find people, photos, places and interests that are most relevant to you on Facebook.

What is Graph Search useful for?

Graph Search will help you instantly find others, learn more about them and make connections, explore photos, quickly find places like local attractions and restaurants, and learn about common interests like music, movies, books and more. All results are unique based on the strength of relationships and connections.

What can I search for?

With Graph Search, you can search for people, photos, places and interests.



How do I search?

Type your search into the blue bar at the top of the page. As you start to type, suggestions appear in a drop down. You can refine your search using the tools on the right-hand side of the page.

Some example searches include:

- People who like tennis and live nearby
- Photos before 1990
- Photos of my friends in New York
- Sushi restaurants in Palo Alto my friends have liked
- Tourist attractions in Italy visited by my friends

How are you rolling this out?

Graph Search is in a limited preview, or beta. That means Graph Search will only be available to a very small number of people who use Facebook in US English. **Update as of July 8, 2013:** In the next few weeks, Graph Search will roll out more broadly to everyone who uses Facebook in U.S. English. Learn more [here](#).

How can I get Facebook Graph Search?

You can sign up for the waitlist at www.facebook.com/graphsearch

Does Graph Search change any of my current privacy settings?

No. Graph Search follows your current privacy settings. You can only search for content that has been shared with you. To learn about Graph Search and privacy, go to www.facebook.com/about/graphsearch/privacy.

How do I control what tags, locations and photos can show up about me?

To control tags, photos or posts with locations about you that appear in search, go to your Activity Log.

Categories: Facebook app, Product News

Tags: Search

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