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st ISSUE

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TOUCH

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MANY MORE

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MISTRY



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THE
TECH
TEAM

Tech Ahoy is a start-up where we provide services for the public like:

- >Web Development
- >Software Development
- >Graphic Designing
- >Search Engine Optimization
- >Consultancy
- >Product Marketing
- >Advertising

Apart from providing these services, we also believe in spreading knowledge throughout the world so that everyone are aware of what is happening in and around the technically driven world for which our magazine acts as a good base.

We believe is knowledge is something to be attained free of cost and so, we have our own communities in Facebook, Twitter and other social networking sites where we have an interactive discussion with all the people.

Our service is trusted by many people around and if you want our help in any way, send us a mail to team@techahoy.in or visit our website www.techahoy.in to know more.



Dear Readers,

We are pleased to know that you have been selective towards our Magazine. This is our first issue and we have strived enough to make this much interesting for all of you.

We will be releasing one issue per month and you can definitely expect variety of interesting content in all of them. Our magazine gets circulated in many regions all over the world. We are constantly working to make it internationally available and reach a huge mass of people.

To start with, I would like to give you an insight into the magazine.

OUR AIM

Our aim in starting this magazine was to contribute to the betterment of this technologically advanced world by helping people get updated with all the activities happening around by giving you a gist of almost all of them in the form of articles, reviews, etc.

DIVERSITY

It's not a single person who is involved in contributing to this magazine. So, you can expect diversity in all the articles, the views presented and the approach towards something.

SUBSCRIPTION

You can subscribe to this magazine at a very reasonable cost and receive it at your doorstep for FREE by filling the form online in our website www.techahoy.in and you will be receiving a notification as soon as you are subscribed to the magazine. Free software CDs will be given on subscription. The magazine is open for pre-orders.

Even you can contribute!

Everyone is welcome to write for this magazine and we will try our level best to get it published in the magazine in subsequent issues. All you need to do is send your articles to editor@techahoy.in and we will soon look into it. We cannot guarantee regarding publishing your articles in the magazine as we receive a lot of articles but we will try our best.

We, as a team are always looking towards your valuable suggestions and comments which will contribute to the betterment of the Magazine. Constructive criticism is always welcome.

We may be unable to respond to your suggestions, comments or queries (if any) immediately but will get back to you as soon as possible most probably within 48 hours.

We promise that expectations may rise but will never fall due to our magazine.

- T.V.VIGNESH,
Founder, CEO, Web Dev. & SEO Head,
Tech Ahoy

Google it up! The most common internet one liner used since 1998 when the internet giant Google went public. Since then they have never looked back. We at Tech Ahoy are very proud to cover Google and its products, one of the biggest phenomenon of our generation.

In our maiden issue we try to enlighten you about the various technologies constantly evolving around us changing our world for the better. The 6th sense technology and Pranav Mistry both have been covered simply because the 6th sense technology is the most innovative technologies in a very long time.

Wikipedia (English), the free encyclopedia on 16th November, 2011 for the first time in the history, took an initiative against the suffocating policies (SOPA and PIPA) which the US government tried to impose on the cyber world, his notable event has also found its way in this issue.

With a plethora of other interesting articles we hope you enjoy the first edition of Tech Ahoy magazine.

Rahul Kumar Sawhney
Sourabh Prakash
(Chief Editor)

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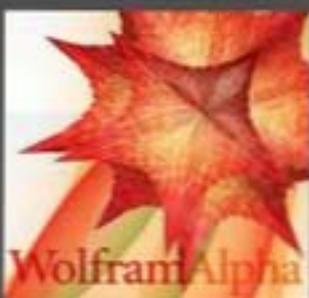


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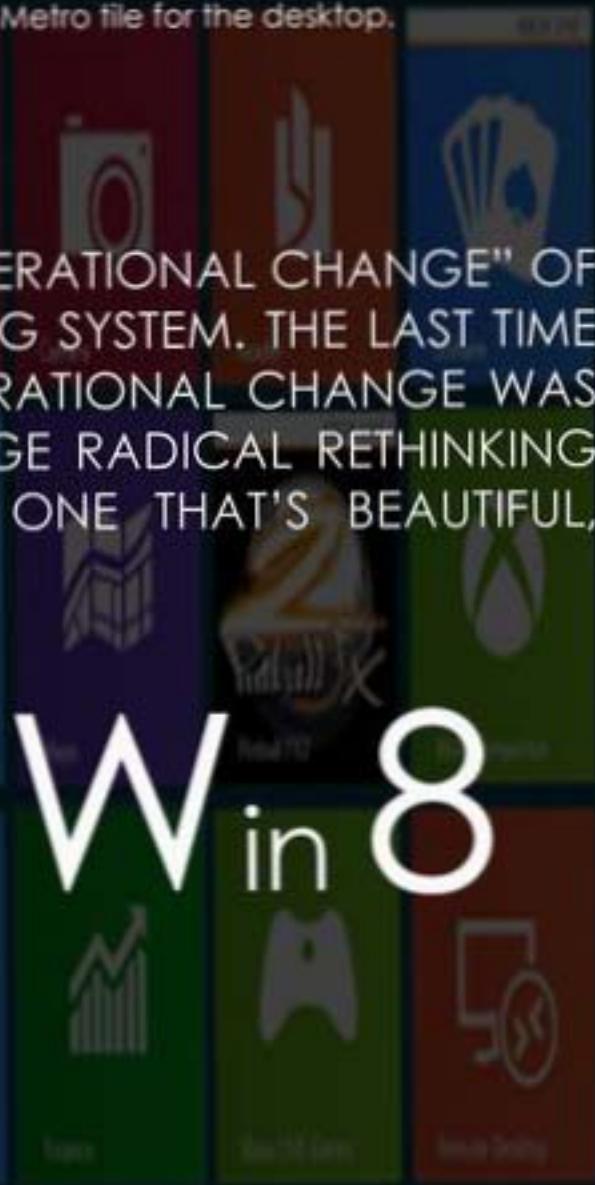
PC

Microsoft has finally released the Windows 8 Consumer Preview. Though still in its beta stage, we can draw a picture of what the final product is going to be. According to Steven Sinofsky, President of Microsoft's Windows Business division Windows 8 is a "generational change" of the Windows operating system. The last time windows had a generational change was Windows 95. It's a huge radical rethinking of Windows — and one that's beautiful, logical and simple.

" WINDOWS 8 IS A "GENERATIONAL CHANGE" OF THE WINDOWS OPERATING SYSTEM. THE LAST TIME WINDOWS HAD A GENERATIONAL CHANGE WAS WINDOWS 95. IT'S A HUGE RADICAL RETHINKING OF WINDOWS — AND ONE THAT'S BEAUTIFUL, LOGICAL AND SIMPLE."

So what's new in windows 8? Microsoft has incorporated a new Metro-style interface on to the already popular and polished windows 7 interface .The metro interface has been designed mainly for touchscreen input and doesn't look that different from the interface on windows mobile. In essence, it brings the attractive, useful concept of Start-screen tiles, currently available on Windows Phone 7 phones, to laptops, desktop PC's and tablets.

This has been done in order to decrease the gap between the mobile and computer environment. It has your email, photos, appointments and friends pinned to it livens it up considerably - as does the new Metro tile for the desktop.





The good old start button has also replaced with the new start screen. Charm bar is also included which shows up when mouse is brought to the right edge of the screen. Search, Share, Start, Devices and Settings shortcuts are shown on the charm bar. Moving the mouse to the left edge reveals the Start, which is highlighted in the accent color of the color theme you choose, swaps between the Start screen and whatever you were doing last. There is an onscreen touch keyboard available which offers four layouts for convenience. Windows also come with an app store pre-loaded making it easier for users to search and download apps and also has the latest version of internet explorer running on it.



The world has gone app-berserk. Everyone these days is counting on apps for doing their work. So, it was about time Microsoft came out with a proper way of browsing for applications with the release of the Microsoft Store in the Consumer Preview of Windows 8. Just like any other place where applications are offered free or not, the Microsoft Store shares the same basic features with them.

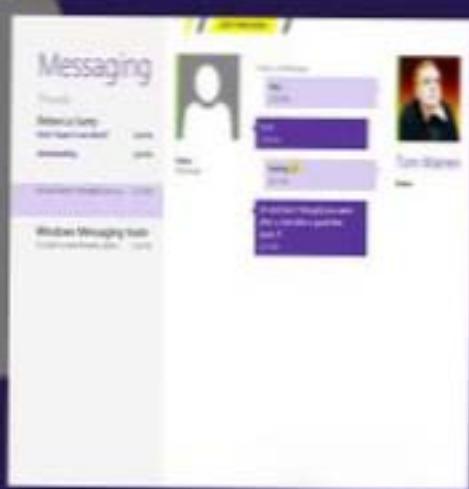
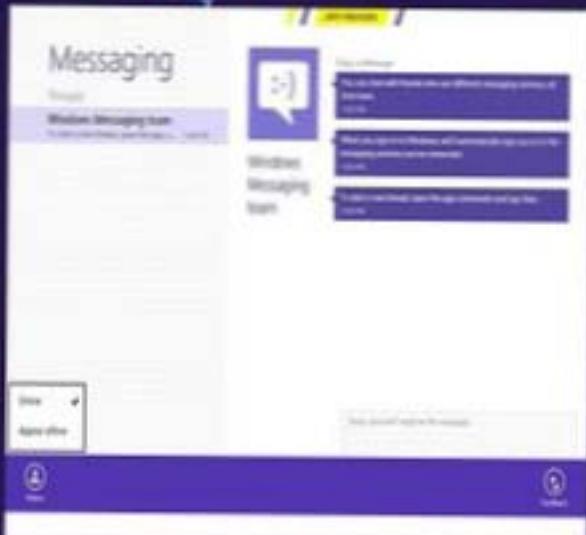
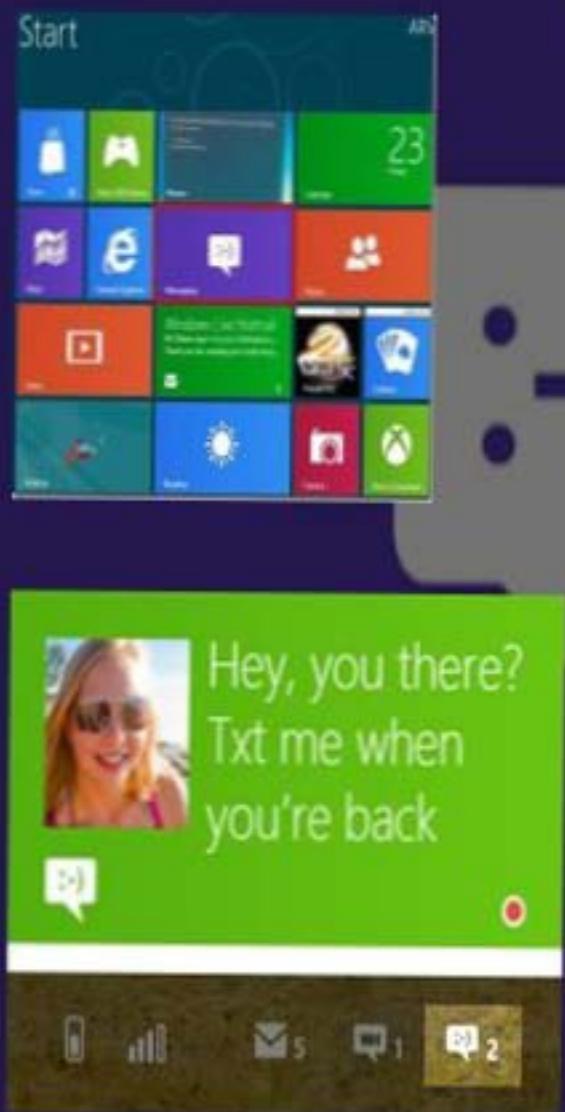


You can browse for apps which are sorted by categories for better organization, or just type an app and search for it. The home page of the MS Store acts like a spotlight where you can see the latest and trending applications. The apps downloaded from the store are displayed on the start page.

The Mail app is better, although you can only use it with Hotmail, Gmail and Exchange accounts, and while it's easy to jump between accounts and folders, there's no conversation view and you can't flag email or even mark it as spam.

The screenshot shows the Windows 8 Mail application. On the left, a sidebar lists accounts: Hotmail (selected), Gmail, Exchange, and POP3/IMAP. Below this are sections for Recent Items, Groups, and History. The main area displays an inbox with several messages from contacts like Mike Torri, Roger Salgotra, and Alan Tew. One message from Mike Torri is selected, showing the recipient (Omar) and subject (2012 Schedule). The message body asks Omar to review a schedule attached as a PDF. At the bottom right of the inbox, there are links for "Wait, Who Did What?", "now", and "What's New". The compose screen on the right shows fields for To (omar@homeemailaddress.com), Add a subject, and a preview of the message body.

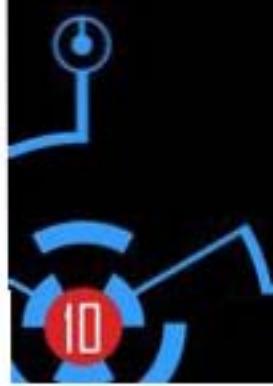
Messaging app makes good use of the size of a PC screen to show you multiple conversations on Facebook and Windows Live, with details about your contacts so you can see what they're talking about on other services. One can also send group messages, but it's just text chat; no voice or video yet.





The People app is similar to the Windows Phone tool; in that it combines the address books for all the services you link Windows to, through your live account or by adding specific accounts for email and calendar.

-Article by,
Vivek Kurmi &
Soumyadeep Ghosh,
Trainee,
Tech Ahoy





Android

Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky



Google
Reader BETA



Google talk BETA



[more »](#)



Google™



Google Analytics



BUILDING A BRAND: Google's ruling trio— Sergey Brin, Eric Schmidt and Larry Page— looks to Legos for some inspiration

An insight into Google and its products

Google is one of the biggest & developing internet giants known to almost all of us.

What comes into our mind after hearing the word Google is its search feature. But Google is not only a specialist in searching the web but also in providing many other services about which we will discuss in this issue. We will highlight the most popular products Google has made and we will take an insight into the Google world to get a complete idea about each of them. Google's name is derived from the term Googol (10^{100}) and was founded by

Sergey Brin & Larry Page as a research project at Stanford University. It was initially codenamed Backrub. Google's first product was Google Search after which it

many other products. Let us have a look at each



Google

This marks Google's main success all over the years being used by many people worldwide.

This remains the homepage of most of the people and the service it provides is amazing.

Simplicity and accuracy remains Google's main key thus driving a lot of traffic to its website. Google remains the most visited website in the world due to this Google Search feature.



Web Search: Type in the search terms /keywords and you get the search results having the website you are looking for. The search terms can include any phrase or words provided it's sensible and Google will find the best match for you. The main problem which people face is regarding filtering out the search results. If an user wants to narrow down the search results with some specifications, he/she can do the same by adding some search filters. This can be either done using Advanced Search option available in the top right position of the page or using few predefined keywords.

allinanchor:
Narrows down your search only to page url having the



Eg. If the query is "allinanchor:ahoy" Google narrows down the results to display all websites having links where the text displayed in the link is "ahoy".

allintext: Narrows down the search result to show only the pages having the keyword as a word in the webpage.

Eg. If the query is "allintext:tech ahoy" Google narrows down the result to show only the pages having the words "tech" and "ahoy"

allintitle: Narrows down the search result to display only the pages having the keyword as the title of the webpage.

Eg. If the query is "allintitle:tech ahoy" Google narrows down the result to display only the pages having the words "tech" and "ahoy" in the title bar of the browser.

allinurl: Narrows down the search result to display all the websites having the keyword in the website address.

Eg. If the query is "allinurl:tech ahoy" Google narrows down the result to display only the pages having words "tech" and "ahoy" in the url.





author: "data
author:vignesh
author:tv" or
"data author : name
@ example.com"
articles that contain the word
"data" written by vignesh tv or
name@example.com.

C a s h e :
"cache:www.example.com"
will show the cached version of
the website www.example.com
filetype:"tech ahoy filetype:pdf"
will display all the pdf files which
match the terms "tech" and
"ahoy". There are many other
filters available in Google which
can be used. For more information,
you can refer
http://www.googleguide.com/advanced_operators.html

Google images

Recently Google has achieved a new dimension in image search where people can put in text to search for images related to the text or they can put in their own images in order to identify their source, know their description or look for copies. This tool has been very helpful to all the people as image to image search is a new concept introduced by Google. The filters applicable in normal web search are also applicable in image search.



A legendary, developer friendly browser rattling the whole browser market, with almost full support of HTML-5 features and lots more to talk about in this context.

It made its first debut beta version on 2nd of September 2008 impressing almost all the people with its simple and elegant looks. The market for other browsers like Internet Explorer and Firefox started falling down soon after its release. It was the only browser left without hacking at the annual HACKFEST.

All these were the main things which made a common layman switch to a browser like chrome. Does it have anything beyond this? If yes, what is it? That is what we would like to share here.



It is very much user friendly as people don't have to do anything except for enjoying browsing. It has very commonly used plugins like Adobe Flash pre-installed leaving the user with no work. It updates all the pre-installed plugins automatically which leaves the user with no work. Even the whole browser updates automatically and you don't have the pain of downloading every new version and installing it onto your computer.



Its speed is undoubtedly high due to its heavy caching facilities which makes the most commonly visited pages to be loaded very fast. A sample video made by GOOGLE itself can be seen at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nCgQDjiotG0> where they compare the loading speed of the browser with potatoes, lightning etc.

It has its own personalised task manager where you can view the processes running in the browser and the memory its consuming and even allows you to stop services if you don't want them. It has its own web store where you can get extensions, apps and themes which customizes the look, feel and usability of your browser. It even allows you to develop extensions, apps and themes very easily that, the developer need not run behind the SDK, and other software. All you need is the browser.

The web store can be found at <http://www.chrome.google.com/webstore> and you have a lot of free as well as paid apps, extensions and themes you can use. We will be seeing more about this in the apps & extensions section of this magazine.

For developers

Supports webkit, which is an excellent implementation of CSS for the new generation.

Supports almost all the features of HTML-5

part of the website is made, trace the way the website loads, images used in the website and even shows you the CSS, JAVASCRIPT AND HTML pages which were loaded in the website. It helps you a lot when you want to try re-implementing a feature of an already made website.

Supports both latest as well as deprecated HTML tags

There is an extension named Web Developer for chrome which can be very much helpful to you in developing a website, hacking it, understanding how it is made.

Problems with Chrome

The problem with chrome is that, all the versions are not so stable and most of the versions get released as alpha or beta. But the thing is, even its beta version is more than commendable.

View of Web Developers

Please use Chromel! This is how they will start!

Reasons:

Chrome supports all the exciting features needed for a perfect website like HTML-5, CSS-3, Webkit, Inbuilt Flash player, smooth JavaScript support. All these make Chrome exciting. The other browsers only support handful amount of these features while chrome keeps updating these.



COVER STORY

The Chromium Projects

So, what is the problem here?

When a web developer develops a website, he might use Chrome for developing and testing it. After he is done, it looks nice in Chrome. But later, if he opens the same website in Internet Explorer or similar browsers, the whole website appears distorted spoiling the look as most of the above mentioned features are not supported. So, the developer has to take pains in ensuring cross-browser compatibility and that will be a very difficult task. But there is a fact here. If the developer makes his website with the help of browsers like Internet Explorer, then it will be compatible with almost all the browsers as Internet Explorer follows all the W3C standards only without much of CSS-3 and HTML-5 support and the same thing is supported by other browsers too.

OUR CONCLUSION

The war of browsers still goes on! If we look back, we have a lot of browsers, some known and others unknown. But the best browser is one which you feel you are comfortable with no matter what features it provides. Browsers are meant for enhancing the browsing experience for the better. This article was written in my view towards Chrome. Any comments or suggestions are welcome.





BLOGGER:

www.blogspot.com



It is a well-known useful feature meant for all the writers, bloggers and poets and this acts as a great platform to showcase literary work without much effort. All you need is a Google Account to start with and some theme for your blog. Everything else is provided by Google itself using good user interface. All you need to do is type in the content with proper formatting. This also acts as one of the good ways to get in touch with people of similar interests.

There are lot of widgets provided to the user which can be added to your blog and this will improve the functionality of the blog. People are allowed to follow your blog, tweet posts, and share them in various websites, rate & comment on the posts and doing all these will add to the publicity of the blog.

And if you are a web developer, you also have the option of inserting and editing HTML codes which makes blogger flexible to the user.

The screenshot shows the Blogger dashboard with the following elements:

- Welcome to the new Blogger**: A video player and a "Learn more" link.
- Blogger has a new look!**: A message introducing the new interface.
- Connect to Google+**: Options to connect to Google+ and engage with audiences.
- Reading list**: Shows 1 item.
- All blogs**: Shows 1 item.
- Dashboard**: A summary of important stats.
- Post editor**: A visual representation of the post creation process.
- Comments**: A section for managing comments.
- Analytics**: A section for tracking blog performance.
- Settings**: A gear icon for account settings.
- Help**: A question mark icon for support.
- Logout**: A log out button.



Google+



Google Plus:

Google Plus was a revolutionary new introduction by Google this year, with excellent design and overwhelming features meant to improve social networking experience amongst people. All you need is a Google account to sign up and you are done.

With Google+, you can share the right things with the right people.



Google Plus is currently in Beta stage and constant improvisations are being made to its layout.

Users are allowed to post, comment, share, +1, upload stuffs like what is available in Facebook but why should G+ be a revolutionary change?

It is because of its new concept of Circles & hangouts.



Circles



Hangouts



Mobile

A simple way to share your high school college buddies, office coworkers, parents, and closest family with just one click.

Hangouts let you talk with your friends on Google+ Hangouts, a video chat service that lets you video chat with multiple people at once.

Mobile allows you to access Google+ from your mobile device with just one click.

Circles:



Your friends can be categorized into various domains called circles and this makes your communication private, easy and fun. It helps you in filtering messages and assigning visibility of stories. All you have to do is drag and drop.

CREATE CIRCLE

Name this circle

tech ahoy team

Save



Google Plus also allows users to play selected games online, thus enabling a social experience amongst all the people and also provides entertainment along with social networking. Even though the

games at G+ are not as addictive as Farmville, they are still good for a person who just wants to while away some time.





Stream:
Facebook has its own newsfeed and in this case, G+ has its own stream where all the updates are available for the user to have a look. Filtering of updates is possible in G+ and you can also limit the number of updates to be displayed in a page so that the page does not look cramped with a lot of text. You can share your thoughts, upload pictures, video, documents and share links in the stream and all these shares will be visible to the people having you in their circles.

Sharing a Post:

Sharing of posts is very simple and user friendly. You can even select the circles with whom you would like to share the post. So, this becomes very easy for the user.

Share this post:

Very busy with my car

Very happy to announce our partnership with BASICA for a new racing game based on our self driving car! This is a big deal and we even have it listed on our home page!

Video of Google Drive in the car

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=poWfB0mzgpg
http://www.google.com/+/search%3Fq%3Ddriving%2Bself%2Bdriving%2Bcars%2Bspecial%2Bdrive

Information Timeline Family Timeline

+ Add these people

Start

Cancel

Also email 100 people who are not yet using Google+

Hangouts:

This is one of the main features of G+ enabling people to do good quality real-time video conferencing with many people at once. This service has caught the interest of many people and has been even used for conducting few meetings online. The video transmission speed and quality is very good and Google even identifies people's gestures from this service.

You can also have chats with all the people in your circles through this service.

Photos:

With Google+ you can also share your photos with others and it is even possible to share the photos from your mobile by downloading the Google+ App available for free download from the Android Market or iPhone App Store. The lightbox like effect also looks good when viewing a photo. It is even possible to share your picasa albums onto your G+ stream thus making the work a lot

Never lose a memory with the Google+ app

Download today and try an instant update



Instantly uploaded



View online



Choose what to share

Entertainment:

Apart from playing Games at G+, you can also watch videos from youtube at the same time you are browsing and this makes the user stay in G+ without navigating to other websites. The video is not dynamically displayed but it is a popup which opens up when you would like to watch the videos.



Settings - Help



What would you like to play?

**Hangouts**

Have fun with all your circles using your live webcam.



Start a hangout

Drawbacks of Google+:

G+ is currently in beta version and faces few common problems which may be repulsive to the users.

Few features like Pages have not been properly implemented since the communication is a bit more difficult than what it is in Facebook.

Since G+ has just started, the games in it are not of much standard. Moreover it lacks the features like Apps in Facebook thus making G+ not so friendly for developers.

It is very difficult to divert traffic from Facebook to G+ due to the already established communities at Facebook which won't prefer navigating to Google Plus.





COVER STORY

TECHAHOY | APRIL 2012



Google Talk is a chat client like an IM which helps the user in establishing communication with all their contacts. Various modes of chatting is available in Google talk like video chat, text chat, etc. and Google maintains a log of each conversation sent/received so that it is easy to refer back by the user. It has many predefined profile pictures which can be set, variety of smileys which makes the chat very much interesting. All you need to do is visit www.talk.google.com, download the client and install it onto your system.

Apart from this, Google also offers a video chat plugin which when installed allows you to do video chatting from Gmail, Orkut, iGoogle,



Select a language Help

Check out the following ways to chat on the web and on your desktop:

Video and voice plug-in



- Chat within Gmail, iGoogle, and orkut
- All on the web
- PC and Mac

[Learn more ↗](#)

[Install video chat plug-in](#)

Requires Windows XP + or
Mac OS X 10.4 +
Linux

Google Talk software



- Chat from your desktop
- Send and receive files
- PC only

[Learn more ↗](#)

[Download Google Talk](#)

Requires Windows XP or later

By downloading, you agree to our
[Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).

It is often difficult to find out what you are interested in! It's true. But what if you have someone who could help you find it? Won't the job become simpler? This is where the role of Stumble Upon comes into play. It's a place where you can experiment your interests, enjoy it and even share it with your friends. Everything is simple.

These are the steps:

- Create an account at www.stumbleupon.com filling their signup form. You can sign in with Facebook or Google too!

- Select your interests if you are a new user when it asks you. In my case, it would be Computers & Internet, Hacking, C++, etc. It depends on you.

- After you are done with the above steps, you can either invite your friends to stumble upon or Skip that step.

- Then click on Start Stumbling and it automatically shows you a list of links based on your interests. Just click them to go inside.



- The website is loaded into a frame and you will be able to find Stumble Upon pane at the top of the window having buttons namely LIKE, SHARE, Stumble, etc. You can click any of those depending on what you want to do.

- If you click on Stumble icon, you are taken to the next website according to your interest.

- Just keep browsing all your favourite websites like this.

NOTE: Like a page if you find it good in stumble upon pane available. This will improve stumble upon filters and would make it display the website which you really like the next time you stumble.

-by T.V.VIGNESH,
Founder & CEO,
Tech Ahoy

The first thing that comes to our mind when we hear the word piracy is "Copying". Piracy is the manufacturing, selling or distribution of motion pictures or television programs without the consent of the copyright owner. The growth of piracy over the years has affected consumers, industry personal and economies alike.

Piracy is definitely older than I or anybody can think of. Piracy has seen a fall in India from a few last months (as seen by the reports). Maybe without piracy, we would not be able to watch as many movies and use as much high-end software as we do now but think for once, is piracy really the need? Getting out of piracy would be difficult for the ones who are already a "prey" of piracy but it's never too late to stop being a pirate a.k.a. copycat.

Talking about tech piracy, you can now get Windows 7 Ultimate pirated copy in a roadside shop for around 100 bucks as opposed to 8,650 bucks for a legal copy of Windows 7 Ultimate. Everyone will choose the cheaper one but by doing that you are letting your PC or laptop open to viruses and threats. After these viruses enter your PC and take all your data to make your PC corrupt, you might end up paying double as of the price of the original copy of Windows 7 Ultimate. Pirated software is so easily available that many are reluctant to buy original despite knowing the legal implications. Piracy is committed in many ways, including Internet piracy, copying and distribution of discs, broadcasts, and even public performances. One of the most common and fast spreading form of piracy is Software Piracy.

Software piracy refers to the unauthorized duplication and use of computer software.

For example, if we purchase new software we become the licensed user of that particular software. However sharing the same with our friends and colleagues makes us a software pirate!!!

Here are some characteristics of a software pirate:

- illegal use of a single-licensed version on multiple computers.
- illegal preloading of software on computers without providing the appropriate licenses.
- illegal use of a key generator to generate a registration key that turns an evaluation version into a licensed version.
- illegal use of a stolen credit card to fraudulently purchase a software license.

• illegal posting of a licensed version of a software product on the Internet and make it available for downloading. The need of the hour is to STOP SOFTWARE PIRACY.

Stringent laws and actions are being taken by software companies against those who are eating up their incomes. Even after many failed attempts like copy-protecting and online registrations, the companies are trying to keep up and bring an end to it. A new strategy they came up with is shareware, which basically tries to stop people from copying software and instead relies on their honesty. Shareware publishers encourage users to give copies of programs to friends and colleagues but ask everyone who uses a program regularly to pay a registration fee to the program's author directly.



Software developers work days and nights to develop their software and these are the people who are hard hit by piracy. They often face difficulties in supporting their software.

On a concluding note, the least we can do as users is to respect their work and give them the deserved credit by stopping this fast spreading "EPIDEMIC" called PIRACY!!!

So to all the fellow PIRATES out there, take as much time you want but PIRACY needs to be stopped.

- by Sanika & Siddhi,
Trainee,
Tech Ahoy

SOPA AND PIPA

On November 16th, 2011, many websites like Tumblr, Mozilla and Techdirt participated in American Censorship Day by protesting against two bills "SOPA", and "PIPA", which they deemed "draconian", and claimed that it "violated freedom of speech on the internet".



A few months later, on January 18th 2012, popular social news site Reddit organized a 12 hour blackout of the site, as its cofounder, Alexis Ohanian, announced that he was going to testify to the US Congress. On the same day, the English Wikipedia replaced all its articles with a page asking visitors to "Imagine a world without free knowledge" and displayed a message protesting SOPA and PIPA.

This page was reportedly viewed by around 160 million people. The announcement of the blackout was reported worldwide. Newspapers and television channels the world over covered this story, when a majority of the public heard about these bills for the first time. The US version of the Google homepage placed a censor bar above their logo, which on clicking, led to a page about SOPA and PIPA.

SOPA and PIPA damage Wikipedia. today we fight back.

Dear reddit,

Today, for 12 hours, reddit.com goes dark to raise awareness of two bills in congress: H.R.3261 "Stop Online Piracy Act" and S.968 "PROTECT IP", which could radically change the landscape of the Internet. These bills provide overly broad mechanisms for enforcement of copyright which would restrict innovation and threaten the existence of websites with user-submitted content, such as reddit.

Please take today as a day of focus and action to learn about these destructive bills and do what you can to prevent them from becoming reality.

[make a call](#)[sign the petition](#)[learn more](#)

action of the hour: don't panic!

Drink a cup of coffee. Grab your towel. reddit will be back to normal service in 12 hours.

Important Upcoming Dates

- January 24, 2012 – Senate votes on PIPA
- February – House Judiciary Committee considers its markup of SOPA

PROTECT IP / SOPA Breaks The Internet



Live Updates

- 8:40am Well played @Pank has gone WHITE in SUPPORT of SOPA#PIPA! Find out why. <http://ift.tt/cdUWmz> #Blackout - who wins? #SOPA #PIPA - issue? #internet
- 8:04am On CNN #BartangFaint w/ @Sokedad_08nm in just a minute! Talking about the #Blackout. #SOPA #PIPA - issue? #internet
- 8:43am "First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you..." What's next? #SOPA #PIPA #Blackout - who wins? #internet



These protests became a major internet phenomenon as more than 115,000 sites changed their homepages to protest against the bills.

The purpose of this article is to examine exactly what these bills stated, and to explain their implications, in order to understand exactly why so many people oppose the bills, when they seem to have fairly reasonable intentions.

Understanding SOPA and PIPA

SOPA stands for "Stop Online Piracy Act", and PIPA stands for "Protect IP Act". Both the bills are similar in intent. SOPA is the version of the bill that came from the House of Representatives. PIPA, a very similar bill, was drafted by the Senate.

Both were made in order to combat online piracy. While both the bills support a seemingly benign cause, had they been passed, they would have many other ramifications as well. Let us attempt to explain this.

Suppose you(a resident of the United States) are the owner of a piece of music or any other copyrighted work. You find that a foreign website (website whose servers are not in the United States) is infringing upon your copyright, according to US law. Even if you file a lawsuit against that site, there is nothing the government can do to stop that website, because it is a foreign website, and does not fall under US jurisdiction. So the purpose of these bills is to give tools to such actors(the government, you) to stop

stop this. However, as we shall later see, the bills do much more than just stop online piracy. These bills, rather than targeting the offending website itself, target sites within the United States (since they do fall under US jurisdiction) that in some way benefit the website in question. These include:

- **Search engines**

With these bills in effect, the government can target search engines within the United States, like Google, Bing and Yahoo! and ask them to remove all results linking to the website in question.

- **Payment Processors**

Payment Processors such as PayPal may be asked to stop doing business with the offending website.

- **Advertising Networks**

The government may stop Ad Networks from displaying ads on the site in question, which would thus prevent the site from getting any revenue from them.

- **DNS Servers**

These servers associate the domain name of a website with the actual servers. The bill gives the government the power to make the DNS Servers completely cut off ties with the website. In other words, if the website in question is facebook.com, typing facebook.com in your address bar would no longer link to Facebook.

So, all of the above are things within the United States that, to some degree, this site is dependent on. Thus, SOPA and PIPA give powers to the government to issue court orders and notices to compel the above intermediary actors to cut off all ties with the infringing website. If they fail to comply, they are liable to face legal action.

One might think that this is all very well. After all, this is what the bill is supposed to do. However, these bills may affect perfectly innocent sites as well.

To understand this, we shall quote Section 103 of the Stop Online Piracy Act.

- (a) Definitions- In this section:
- (1) DEDICATED TO THEFT OF U.S. PROPERTY- An 'Internet site is dedicated to theft of U.S. property' if-
- (A) it is an Internet site, or a portion thereof, that is a U.S.-directed site and is used by users within the United States; and
- (B) either-
- (i) the U.S.-directed site is primarily designed or operated for the purpose of, has only limited purpose or use other than, or is marketed by its operator or another acting in concert with that operator for use in, offering goods or services in a manner that engages in, enables, or facilitates--
- (I) a violation of section 501 of title 17, United States Code;

(II) a violation of section 1201 of title 17, United States Code; or
(III) the sale, distribution, or promotion of goods, services, or materials bearing a counterfeit mark, as that term is defined in section 34(d) of the Lanham Act or section 2320 of title 18, United States Code;

Firstly, let us examine 1.8(i). According to the bill, a site is deemed to be "dedicated to theft of U.S. property" if it "enables, or facilitates" the above-mentioned violations. What does that mean? Suppose now, that you run a blog. People are allowed to comment on your blog. Someone posts a link to a video, or picture, which is protected by copyright, and which you do not have the rights to.

Then, under this definition, technically, your site is "enabling", or "facilitating" this copyright violation. So, the bill gives the government the power to issue court orders to DNS Servers, Payment Processors, etc to cut all ties with your website! Also, this is a very "shoot-first-then-think" sort of approach. Normally, if a site is suspected to be dedicated to copyright infringement, the site is initially given a notice to remove the infringing content within a certain period of time. If it is not removed by then, only then would the government attempt to block the site.

However, with these bills, the US government can, without warning, cut access to your website by the above mentioned methods. Even if they were wrong about their claims, and you were not really infringing on anyone's copyright, or you had already acquired the rights to use the material, your site would have already lost a lot of revenue by then, because people (from the US) would not be able to access your site until it is back up, and you would no longer get revenue from ads for that period of time. The same is true for perfectly legal sites with user-generated content, such as YouTube, Vimeo, Facebook, etc. To top it all, for small businesses, suing back is a very expensive affair, and

even more so when the site in question isn't generating any revenue for that period of time.

You might think that there must be a way to legally sue them back for the damages incurred in such a case. There indeed is.

We again quote the Stop Online Piracy Act:

(6) MISREPRESENTATIONS-

Any provider of a notification or counter notification who knowingly materially misrepresents under this section--

- (A) that a site is an Internet site dedicated to the theft of U.S. property, or
- (B) that such site does not meet the criteria of an Internet site dedicated to the theft of U.S. property, shall be liable for damages, including costs and attorneys' fees, incurred by the person injured by such misrepresentation as a result

of the misrepresentation.

Here, the phrase "knowingly materially misrepresents" is very significant. In almost all cases, the government wouldn't have knowingly misrepresented your site's intentions. In other words, even if you sue the company which misrepresented the intentions of your site, they could always claim that they did not knowingly do so, and get away with it.

Implications

If these bills are passed, a lot that we take for granted about the internet, would change. For example, let us consider Facebook. Facebook completely comprises of user-generated content. If anyone makes an infringing post, the entire website

is liable to be blocked. It is now Facebook's responsibility to ensure that such material does not enter the website. So, in order to prevent this from happening, Facebook would have to physically monitor each and every post made on the website. People would have to think twice before they post a video of the song they wanted to share with their friends. The internet is no longer free and open; communication would be monitored closely. The same would be true for every other site on the internet which includes user-generated content, including YouTube, Reddit, Tumblr, etc.

Effectiveness

It should be clear by now that these bills cause more harm than any good. In fact, many people have argued, that the bills wouldn't actually do much to actually combat piracy. Even if a website dedicated to copyright infringement were to be blocked, it could just reappear under a different name within hours. Also, they could also make their IP addresses public. So, a person looking for the website could simply type in the address directly to access it.

Alternatives

A viable alternative to SOPA and PIPA could be the OPEN Act. In short, the OPEN Act would be way more effective in combating piracy, while not affecting freedom of speech on the Internet.

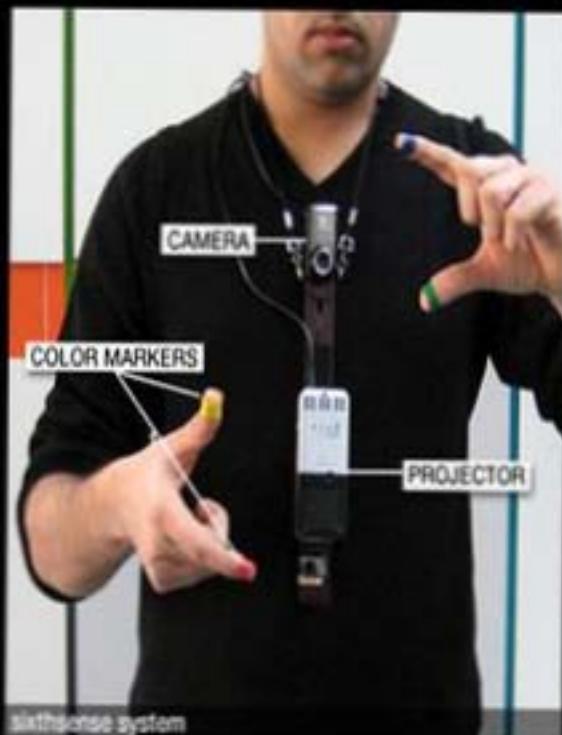
Thus, these bills simply wreak too much havoc, while not achieving much. There are way smarter, and more effective ways to fight the cause of combating online piracy without effectively censoring the entire internet. Due to the huge protest against these bills, they have now been shelved, but they could well have been passed. It is important to not remain ignorant and not let such laws be passed under our very nose. This may have been a US law, but it would have affected us directly, even in India. It was because of the campaigns undertaken by many companies like Google, Mozilla and the Wikimedia Foundation, that people became aware of the existence of these bills and signed petitions to stop it from being passed.

Those of you living in India, who did sign, did make a difference. The internet does not belong to any one country, and we are all equally a part of it. We, as netizens, should stand up for the democracy the internet has become and should definitely not let anyone take that away from us.

- Arun Mahadevan,
Trainee,
Tech Ahoy



Since the first time I saw the article on the web, I had wanted to do my review on the same. Pranav Mistry, the man who made it all, is one of the inventors of The Sixth Sense, turned his vision into a working prototype. He is a research assistant and a PhD candidate at MIT. Among some of his previous work, Pranav has invented MOUSELESS - an invisible computer mouse; intelligent sticky notes that can be searched, located and can send reminders and messages; a pen that can draw in 3D; and a public map that can act as Google of the physical world.

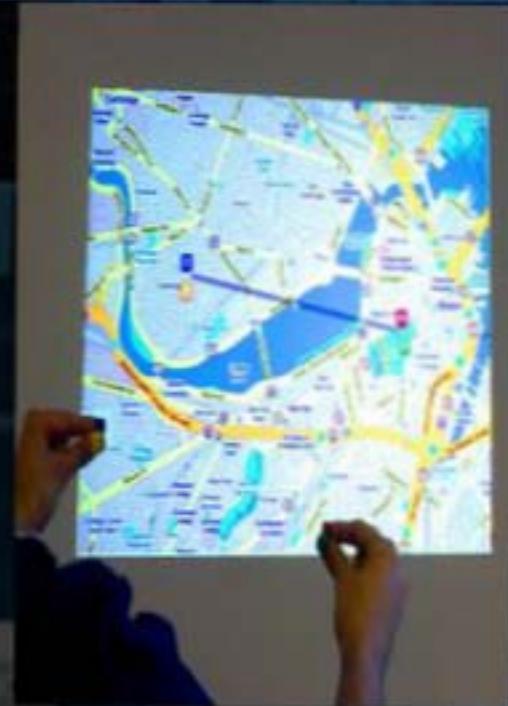


"The movements and arrangements of the fiducials are interpreted into gestures that act as interaction instructions for the projected application interfaces. SixthSense supports multi-touch and multi-user interaction."

The SixthSense prototype comprises a pocket projector, a mirror and a camera contained in a pendant like, wearable device. Both the projector and the camera are connected to a mobile computing device in the user's pocket. The projector projects visual information enabling surfaces, walls and physical objects around us to be used as interfaces; while the camera recognizes and tracks users' hand gestures and physical objects using computer-vision based techniques. The software program processes the video stream data captured by the camera and tracks the locations of the colored markers (visual tracking fiducials) at the tips of the user's fingers.

The application in wide field activity varies as such. The prototype has a lot of demonstration applications:

- The map application lets the user navigate a map displayed on a nearby surface using hand gestures to zoom and pan
- The drawing application lets the user draw on any surface by tracking the fingertip movements of the user's index finger.
- SixthSense also implements Augmented Reality: projecting information onto objects the user interacts with.



- The system recognizes a user's free hand gestures as well as icons/symbols drawn in the air with the index finger, for example:
- A 'framing' gesture takes a picture of the scene. The user can stop by any surface or wall and flick through the photos he/she has taken.
- Drawing a magnifying glass symbol takes the user to the map application while an '@' symbol lets the user check his mail.
- The gesture of drawing a circle on the user's wrist projects an analog watch



-by Rajeev,
Trainee,
Tech Ahoy

Through history there have always been those few tech companies to have achieved sure shot success and have emerged from the ashes of a thousand failures including those Silicon Valley.com ventures which despite of great ideas and perhaps ahead of time services couldn't survive and prosper like those lucky few. If we try and go beyond the tech facts to the consumer facts, beyond the successful organization to the people behind the organization and more importantly beyond the 'visible success' to the 'market context' there is one trend that strongly emerges, that is, they all knew how to market their products and in this way earned unwavering customers leading to their inevitable domination.

Some of the recent companies who have shown their marketing brilliance and technical sophistication way better than their present competitors are:

GOOGLE



What started off as a research project by Larry Page and Sergey Brin when they were both PhD students at Stanford University in California has now become in the words of its founder itself 'the perfect search engine' and as a company something that "understands exactly what you mean and gives you back exactly what you want."

Funnily to write about Google, its history and its strategy I was compelled to use Google. Can you imagine a world without Google?

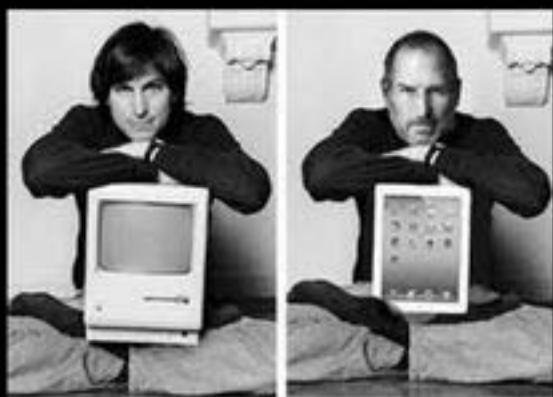
But what exactly made this company stand out? What gave it an edge over its competitors like yahoo who were equally creative and equipped?

Well Google's mantra has always been the Power of less. A simple example of this would be their website. It has way lesser buttons than yahoo, which at first might seem to be that they are less prepared but the fact is they chose to focus only on the search part. They leveraged their power—"the search algorithm" they had, and eventually became the top player.

Besides this they used a compelling allurement—"gmail.com" which was slightly better than Yahoo as it provided 1GB of space for free when MSN was charging for that service and Yahoo was not even offering it.

They wanted to create a database of prospective customers by providing a free Google account as they knew people associate with their account like an address. In this way they insured ardent and dependable costumers.

APPLE



Well as the story goes Apple was on the verge of bankruptcy when Steve Jobs was brought back to the company. He made sure they focused on key products and eliminated departments that were not contributing to the development. But how come curbing resources did not hinder their progress?

As a company they always focused on their latest product. Apple always gives their customers fewer choices reducing their confusion consequently becoming easier to purchase. (Re-emphasizing the 'power of less')

Similar to Google they also allured loyalists by a gripping offer of infusing iTunes and offering a song for a dollar. Although they were in losses by doing that they became the leader of music online purchase. Besides this, iTunes helped the sales of iPod (the highest grossing mp3 player ever in history) and vice versa.

Moreover for them marketing was always about values. As Steve jobs once said, "We have to be very clear on what we want them (customers) to know about us; our customers want to know who is apple and what we stand for."

For this reason one never relates to apple as a computer selling company or an Mp3 company or even a mobile company but always looks upto it as a par excellence technical company whose products you can always trust. As famously quoted by him,

"Innovation has nothing to do with how many R&D dollars you have. When Apple came up with the Mac, IBM was spending at least 100 times more on R&D. It's not about money. It's about the people you have, how you're led, and how much you get it."

— Fortune, Nov. 9, 1998

There have been many other incredible companies like:

1. "Wikipedia" which used its target audience itself to generate and market its site. It has no editors, no fact checkers and anyone can contribute an entry - or delete one. It should have been a recipe for disaster, but instead Wikipedia became one of the internet's most inspiring success stories.

2. "Microsoft" which succeeded with its power of vision. Bill gates had a vision to see a pc on every desk. They marketed something that no one had by making them believe it was something they essentially needed. The companies' vision was so strong that it was unavoidable for them and their products to succeed.

3. "Facebook" and "Twitter" marketed by creating "hysteria" or excitement while bit torrent became an overnight success by marketing its consumer relevance.

Another startup "Craigslist" dominates the market in facilitating face-to-face transactions. With more than nearly a fifth of the Americas adult population—it is the most important community site going despite being the most underdeveloped. Their only strategy was making life easier and online sales more convenient and reliable.

So whether it be a bold vision which is ahead of the curve, consumer centricity, single minded hunger to make it happen against prevailing norms, mid-course correction in early stage innovation, being ahead of competition through inclusion of high risk "BLUE OCEAN", integrating innovative startups in their fold or even remaining relevant through stream of innovations these companies' core marketing approach was to add value to the society and irrevocably change the way people live and work which is why they are still dominating today's market and will always remain ahead of their game.

-by Medha Shrivastava,
Trainee,
Tech Ahoy

The name which comes into picture as soon as people hear Mozilla is Mozilla Firefox. But Firefox is one of the ways chosen by Mozilla foundation to convey their principles of making the ideal web environment. Mozilla Firefox is a free and open source web browser from the Mozilla foundation. Free and open-source software (FOSS) is software which is liberally licensed to grant users the right to use, copy, study, change, and improve its design through the availability of its source code. This approach has gained both momentum and acceptance as the potential benefits have been increasingly recognized by both individuals and corporations. Mozilla Firefox is updated every 6 weeks. As of January 2012, Firefox has approximately 25% of worldwide usage share of web browsers, making it the second or the third most widely used browser.



mozilla
FOUNDATION

The Mozilla Foundation is a non-profit organization that exists to support and lead the open source Mozilla project. The Mozilla Foundation was founded by the Netscape-affiliated Mozilla Organization, and was officially launched on July 15, 2003.

The Mozilla Foundation describes itself as "a non-profit organization that promotes openness, innovation and participation on the Internet". The Mozilla Foundation is guided by the Mozilla Manifesto, which lists 10 principles which Mozilla believes are critical for the Internet to continue to benefit the public good as well as commercial aspects of life. The Manifesto has been translated into over 30 languages. Mozilla is dedicated to preserving and promoting a healthy online space. As the community develops new versions of Firefox and Thunderbird, park names are chosen as the code names for each product release.

Apart from Mozilla Firefox other products from Mozilla foundation which follow the same principles are:

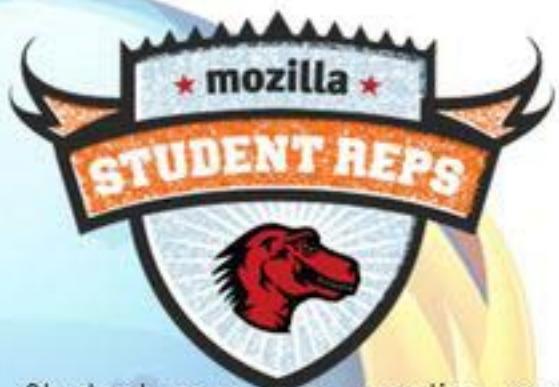
- ☒ SeaMonkey (formerly Mozilla Application Suite) – An Internet suite.
- ☒ Mozilla Mail & Newsgroups – The email and news component.
- ☒ Mozilla Composer – The HTML editor component.
- ☒ ChatZilla – The IRC component, also available as a Firefox extension.
- ☒ Mozilla Calendar – Originally planned to be a calendar component for the suite, it became the base of Mozilla Sunbird.
- ☒ Camino – a web browser intended for Mac OS X.
- ☒ Mozilla Firefox – A web browser.
- ☒ Firefox for mobile – A web browser for mobile phones and smaller non-PC devices.
- ☒ Mozilla Thunderbird – An email and news client.
- ☒ Mozilla Sunbird – A calendar client.
- ☒ Minimo – A web browser for handheld devices.
- ☒ Drumbeat - a global community of Mozillians who *use* web technology in new ways to understand, participate and take control of their online lives.

mozilla
Thunderbird

People around the world are the builders of Mozilla products. You don't have to be C++ guru (or even know what that means) to get involved in Mozilla products. Anyone can contribute to Mozilla you just need to be a web lover. You can join army of awesome to help users on twitter. Developers can help Mozilla by adding new features, making their technology smaller and faster and making development easier for others. You can find many developers on IRC (A protocol for real time internet text messaging) so stop by and ask questions to learn more. Mozilla's websites are open to web ninjas to hack on too. Mozilla developer network (MDN) is an open community of developers building resources for better web, regardless of brand, browser or platform. You can help Mozilla by spreading the word about how Mozilla and other Mozilla projects are helping to build a better and open internet. Share Firefox with the world by becoming an Mozilla affiliate.



Mozilla students' reps are the college students who are passionate about Mozilla and raise awareness for the benefits of Firefox and other Mozilla products.



Student reps are creative and resourceful, leading campaigns and projects in their colleges and in their communities. Mozilla student reps program exists to empower with the tools and resources needed to promote Firefox and educate others about Mozilla's mission. Student reps are given opportunity to learn new skills, earn recognition and advance their leadership in Mozilla community.

Mozilla is not just a commercial web browser. It's like an institution making the people learn or serve themselves. It's the people who are building the products, it's the people who are representing Mozilla and spreading the awareness and it's the people who are making use of products.

-by Balaji Prasad, Trainee
Tech Ahoy



Picasa

Picasa & Picasa Web:

Picasa has become one of the best image viewers due to its ease of editing, stylish look and also due to the ease of uploading the albums directly to Picasa web.

For a layman who has not much knowledge about photo editing, Picasa is one of the best choices he/she has due to its user friendly interface. All the basic functions like Zooming, Printing, etc. are also possible.

Picasa Web is a good online platform to upload and share albums with whoever you want. Everything is simple and all you need is a Google account to start with. Then all you have to do is upload the pictures after categorizing into albums and then share the link given with your friends so that they can have a look at your albums.



Gmail is one of the best e-mail services available in the world with excellent features and facilities. Once Gmail came to the market, it completely destroyed Yahoo's market

which was one of the best e-mail service providers of that time. Gmail is very fast, easy to use and looks neat and clean. It operates extensively using AJAX (Asynchronous Javascript And XML) framework and this makes all the contents to get dynamically loaded. It provides lot of free space for the user to store their emails (approx. 7 GB) after which the user can pay and store their mails.

Gmail services are also available for companies with their custom email ids like `yourname@yourcompany.com` and this feature is provided by Google APPS service. The amount of advertisements displayed in Gmail is less when compared to any other email service provider and this also makes the user stay in touch with Gmail. The users can also set themes if needed and modify the

appearance of Gmail, chat with all their contacts using an embedded chat client, add apps like Google Calendar to their account and this makes Gmail very much user friendly.



Moreover, Gmail has an excellent Spam filter which detects the mails which are not important to the user or mails which has more advertising content and adds it to the Spam area. It also checks for viruses like other mail clients before downloading any attachment thus providing security to the user.

Recently, Gmail brought a feature by which it automatically marks important & unnecessary for the user by taking the help of the user's history, activities and interests so that the user needs to read only the important mails rather than going through the entire inbox. The drawback of this feature is that even important mails can be marked as not important and vice versa. So, the user has to refer to the other mails also.



All these add up to the credits of YouTube which has been entertaining its fans from a long period of time. Google bought YouTube for \$1.65 billion in stock and YouTube has been a great success since then. The most viewed videos in YouTube included those of Justin Bieber "Baby", few songs of Eminem and few songs of Lady Gaga.

To encourage the users who upload, YouTube also gives Tags like "Most watched video of the month" and lots more tags which add to the credibility of the videos.

When a video is uploaded into YouTube, it is automatically divided into frames so that people can have a look at the frames before deciding whether to watch the video or not. It provides usual features like sharing and embedding videos onto websites and the user can even decide the quality, size and resolution of the video to be displayed in their website while embedding.

It operates with the help of Adobe Flash Player which is being used to play the videos for the user.

YouTube also allows the user to categorize the videos on the basis of albums and even rate them so that it will be available for the user at ease.

YouTube

This video sharing service has been popular among most of the people in the world and is experiencing an exponential growth all over the days. It has a simple interface, vast storage facility, excellent filters, great community, fast streaming and great quality videos.

Google Earth:

Google Earth was a product which Google acquired from a start-up (Keyhole Inc.) in 2004.

It has been put to use for rendering a 3 Dimensional view of the Earth where people can browse through various places, zoom in, zoom out, rotate and do similar operations to get a clear view of places. When zoomed in to the maximum possible level, even highways, buildings and other places are clearly visible and this marks Google's success towards covering the entire globe.

In this service, even tagging places is possible so that we can search for the respective place once tagged. This also acts as a very good information source for people to locate places they need. Zooming in is possible only till an extent after which the entire view becomes blurred.



ANDROID

Android is a Linux-based OS for mobile devices like smartphones and tablet computers. Its idea was conceptualized by ANDY RUBIN, RICK MINER and NICK SEARS in 23rd October 2003. Later it was purchased by Google. With the AOSP being led by Google the sole motto has become "To define an android compatible device that can run any app developed by third-party organization". Google publishes most of the code under the Apache Licence Version 2.0.

Android 1.0 was launched on 23rd September 2008. Among the several features which were missing from the conventional phones are:- Android Market, web-browser, gmail synchronization with the gmail app, Google Maps, GTalk etc. However the most remarkable among them was the ability to drag down the notification bar. From then, it has never looked back and has launched several versions each better than its predecessor.

The latest version is 4.0.4 (Ice Cream Sandwich) having features like facial recognition unlock, network data usage monitoring and control, unified social networking contacts, photography enhancements, offline email searching and information sharing using NFC.

ANDROID

developers

Android apps run in a sandbox which is an isolated area of the OS that doesn't have access to the rest of the system's resources unless granted by the user. It is criticized for providing an inefficient and coarse grained permission system. Felt, Chin, Hamma observed that an install-time permission system is inefficient if developers routinely request more permission than they require. Over privileged apps expose users to unnecessary permission warning and increase the impact of a bug. As a result, several firms have released antivirus software.

Despite the above flaws Android has soared great heights. Canalys estimated in Q2 2009 that Android had a 2.8% share of worldwide smartphone shipments which dramatically became 52.5% of smartphones.

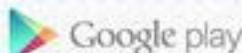
Android apps don't generate as much revenue for the developers as their Apple counterparts. They are also said to be of substandard quality. Due to these criticizes Google recently launched a new Android Design site aimed to help developers learn the principles. Moreover now developers plan to develop android platform apart from smart-phones, for automobiles, PC's, even household gadgets.

Now the internet giant (Google) is unifying the Android Market along with its books and movie services under the moniker Google Play. It's beneficial as running a single service is better than running four separate fragments. The likes and dislikes of consumers can be easily watched and based on that information advertisements can be promoted. Many claim that Android will lose its dominance in the smartphone industry. But it's a question only time can answer.



-by Chaitanya Chauhan & Ruthvik Thiriveedhi, Trainee,
Tech Ahoy





PLAY WITH... ABOUT GOOGLE PLAY

Introducing Google Play

Now your favorite music, books, movies, apps, and games are all in one place that's accessible from the Web and any Android device. Discover, buy and share like never before.

EXPLORE WHAT'S NEW

movies

music

apps and games

books

Visit Google Play now

Google Play is a cloud based service by Google where integration of content is done over a wide range of devices and users are allowed to access content either from handhelds or through a PC. It is like a hub for entertainment. Sharing of movies, music, apps, games, books & documents are possible with this service.

It has around 4, 50,000 apps at its store. If you buy an e-book using your Android device, it is possible to read the same using your desktop. The same applies for music and other media. You can also customize your reading experience the way you want. It is currently in beta version. To know more about the features of Google Play, you can visit <https://play.google.com/about/features/> and have a look.

Gsoc or Google Summer of Code is an annual program in which students from all around the world are awarded stipends, provided they successfully complete a given open source project in the prescribed time.

The program is open for students above the age of 18, enrolled in a university anywhere around the globe. The projects are not given out by Google but involve projects from different interested organizations from the open-source world like Mozilla and Apache. It is an opportunity for students to contribute to the open-source world under a big brand name which certainly enhances their job opportunities. Not only this, it also gives exposure to students, an opportunity to work with people around the globe from the same field, in the form of their mentors.

While Gsoc derives its name from the 1967's Summer of Love, the idea for Soc came from Google's founders Sergey Brin and Larry Page. Leslie Hawthorn was the program's manager until 2009 when Carol Smith took over the management.

The program consists of two kinds of work-students and mentors.

In order to participate as a student, you must be 18 years or older and a student. Google defines a student as "an individual enrolled in or accepted into an accredited institution including (but not necessarily limited to) colleges, universities, masters programs, PhD programs and undergraduate programs". You must provide all transcripts from their institution as a proof of you being a student, if requested by Google. Those who are not allowed to participate in the program includes Google employees, interns, contractors, family members, or residents and/or nationals of Iran, Syria, Cuba, Sudan, North Korea and Myanmar (Burma), with whom Google is prohibited by U.S. law from engaging in commerce.





Mentor organizations include individuals or companies approved by 'Google's Open Source Programs Office' who run an active free source software project. Again organizations from Iran, Syria, Cuba, Sudan, North Korea and Myanmar (Burma) are not allowed to participate due to legal issues. The criteria for mentors are decided by the mentoring organizations and not by Google.

The program started back in 2005 when Google received about 8740 project proposals for 200 available seats. The tremendous response forced Google to increase the number of seats to 419. Students who successfully completed their projects were awarded stipends of \$4500 along with a Google T-shirt. The mentoring organizations were awarded stipends of \$500. Since then the program has grown with 1115 students accepted in 2011. Even the number of participating organizations in 2011 counted to 175, of which 50 were new to the program. Google says the quality of applications has constantly risen which is satisfying as it fulfils the main motto behind the program.



The program has brought together about 4500 students working in over 300 different open source projects. For this year Gsoc, 2012 was announced on February 4, this year and would end by August 24.

According to Google, the program mainly aims at creating a huge open source code to be used by everyone, inspire young minds to contribute to open source, help talented developers to get identified and give exposure to students. Google also clearly states that this program not a recruiting program and most of the work done during the program is not directly related to Google's line of business. They also state that most of the students who have participated in the program for the past several years are not employed in Google, though the program did make them more potential employees.



THE GSOC PROCESS

Google publishes the evaluation questions beforehand, both for students and mentors.

Interested organizations first have to provide their administrators to represent them at the program. Their application should contain some basic description about them, the URL to their ideas page, their past involvement with the program, their plans etc. for disappearing students etc. Google then selects the organizations and informs them of their acceptance.

As for students, they can submit their applications through the Google Summer of Code site. It was open for application by students from March 27 to April 6 this year. Google advises students to first interact with the organization they want to work for as past experience says that the best applications are from students who interacted with the organizations. About a week and a half is provided for this interaction before student applications starts. In the application, student must mention their project proposals, the organizations they intend to work with etc. A student can submit as many as 20 applications but generally quality is preferred over quantity during the selection process. Ideally a student should submit 2-3 applications and not more than that.

The mentoring organizations then rank the student applications and select the best few from the list. Some other diligence activities may be conducted by the organizations which they feel is necessary.

Once you are selected, you will be notified and the coding period would start somewhere around May. You will also receive a starting stipend. Mid-term evaluations are carried out. If you satisfy the criteria demanded by the organization, you will be given half the stipend. If not, you are disqualified then and there. There is then a final evaluation at the end of the program. This determines if you get the remaining stipend amount, the t-shirt and the certificate or not.

THE PREPARATION TRICK...

For Gsoc, getting selected is considered tougher than completing it once you are in. So what is it which would make the mentoring organizations look at you differently? Being the topper of your college won't be of any use. College projects do not help either as they are not related to the organization's field of work.



The only way you can prove that you can complete the project is by contributing code before the program with just one motive: to do something good for the world. Join mailing lists of previous year's accepted organisations; study their code. Be active in the mailing list and the IRC.

The more active you are in contributing to the open source world, the more are your chances of getting selected.

Never get disheartened on your proposal getting rejected. Try to find out what went wrong; and make it better next time. So go out there and code your heart out. You will not only be doing service to others by providing code for free but at the same time, will also earn some money and reputation for yourself. It's an opportunity not only to prove to the world but also to you.

-by Sumedh Shekhar,
Trainee,
Tech Ahoy

Cover Story written by
T.V.Vignesh,
CEO & Founder,
Tech Ahoy

The other day I was (as usual,) facebooking, when I encountered this image, with the tagline god shiv in himalyas. Share it u will be lucky for whole year.



Blistering Barnacles! Ten thousand thundering typhoons! Isn't this insanity? I agree that the whole country is very religious, but I wonder who is the person playing with the sentiments of the 1.5 lakh people who 'liked' the post and the 2.5 lakh who shared it! Had I encountered this image 5 years ago, I'd have been shocked to see it (Hell, for a second, I thought it was real, in spite of the fact that I could actually do it!), but I decided to come up with something of my own to prove the people who were bewildered by this image!



This was the resulting image that I came up with. This was a 5 minute job for me and a good answer to the guy who had come up with that image! However, I was still not happy. I wanted to do something more. So, I decided to tell you how to do it yourself and put yourself, a friend or anyone (or anything else) up there in the sky!

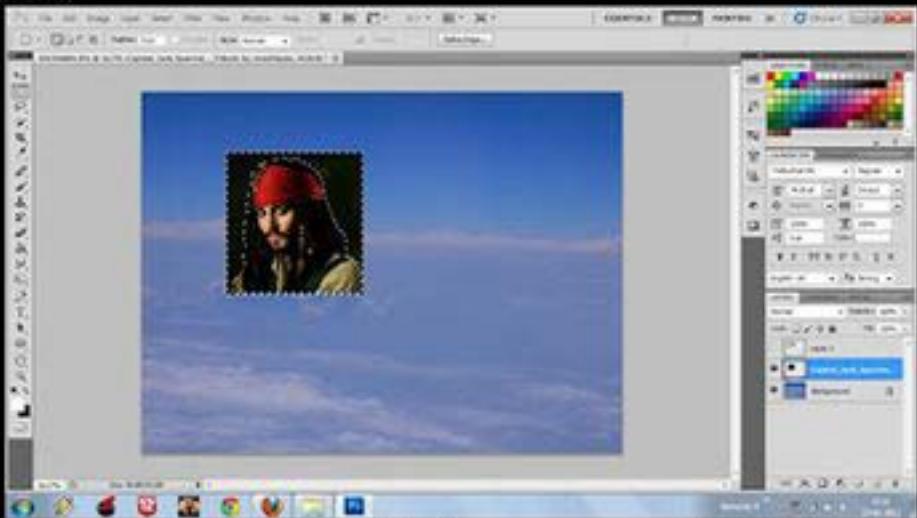


A SIMPLE PHOTOSHOP TUTORIAL - TECHAHOY | APRIL 2012

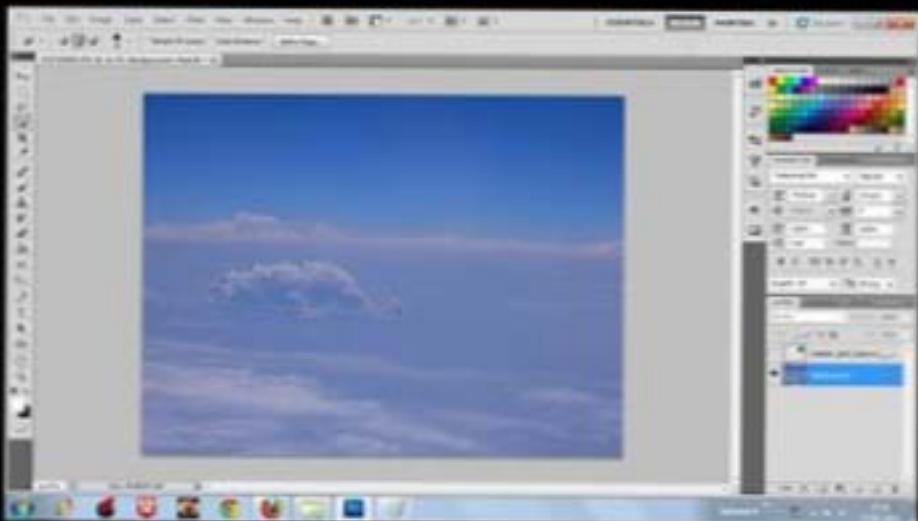
Here is a simple way in Photoshop on how you can do it on your own!
(The stock images I used in this demonstration can be found here :
<http://www.mediafire.com/download.php?9unszj82pc876jl>)



1. The first step is to load the original image and then, the second one on top of it (best way is to drag and drop.) I chose Jack Sparrow for obvious reasons. Err... Captain Jack Sparrow. I chose the cloud on the left of the background to put him. So, I resized the image to a size which would look just suitable.



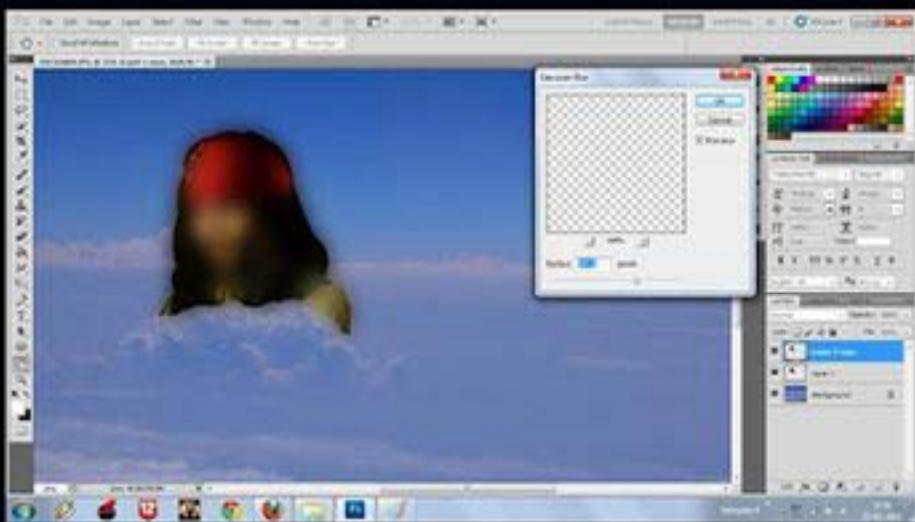
2. Use a suitable tool to cut out the figure you want to put. Here I have used the pen tool. You might also use the quick selection tool, or the magic lasso tool. Remove the rest of the background of the second



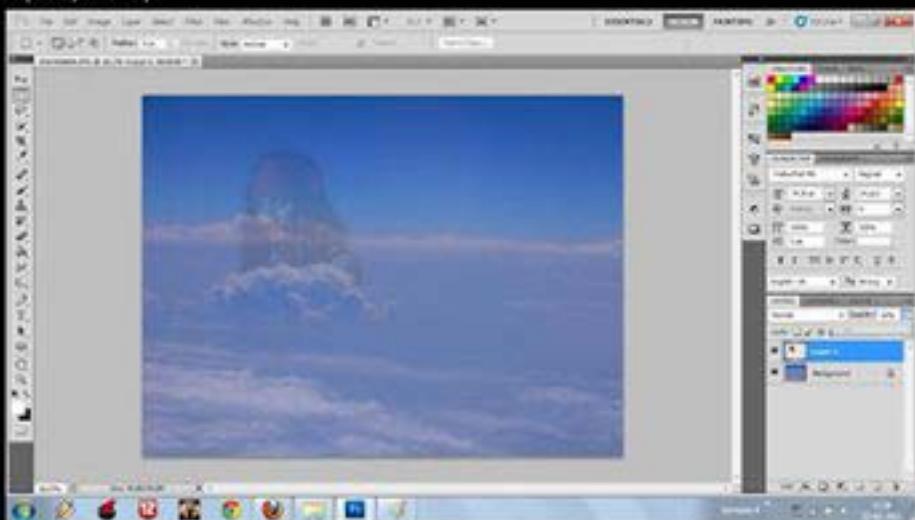
3. Select the cloud through a suitable tool (here, I used the quick selection tool). Then press **Ctrl+Shift+I** to select the inverse. The purpose of this will be explained in the next step.



4. Move the second image to a place away from your target area, and select the clone stamp tool (with hardness '0'). Alt click on the original man to select the area from which to clone and then start painting over the cloud (in a new layer, let's call that Layer 1). The selection in the previous step ensures that the figure appears to come from behind the cloud.

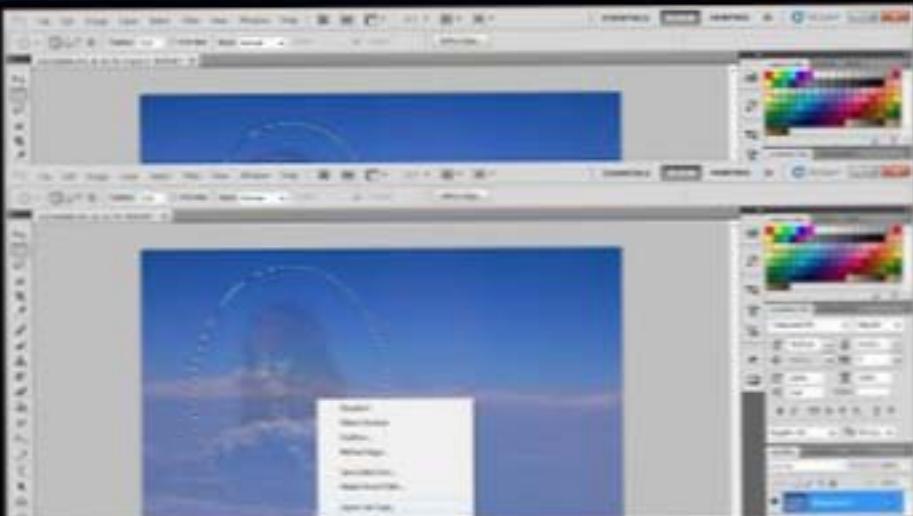


5. Delete the layer that contains the original Jack Sparrow. Then, duplicate the layer which contains the new Jack Sparrow (let's call that Layer 1 copy). Apply a Gaussian Blur (Filter-Blur-Gaussian Blur) of about 60 px to Layer 1 copy, and put it below Layer 1. Then, merge the two layers into the same (Layer 1).

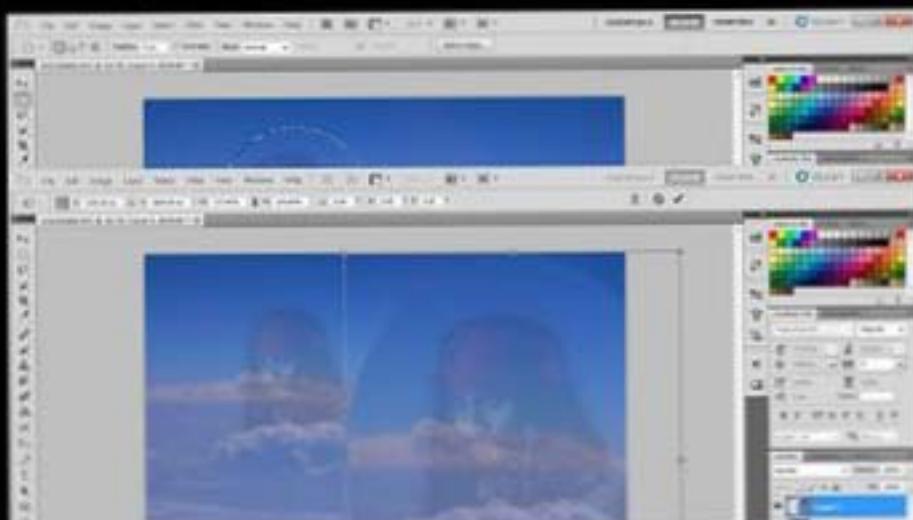


6. Reduce the Opacity of Layer 1 to about 20%. You might change the value to anything that suits your image. Now, merge all the layers into the background.

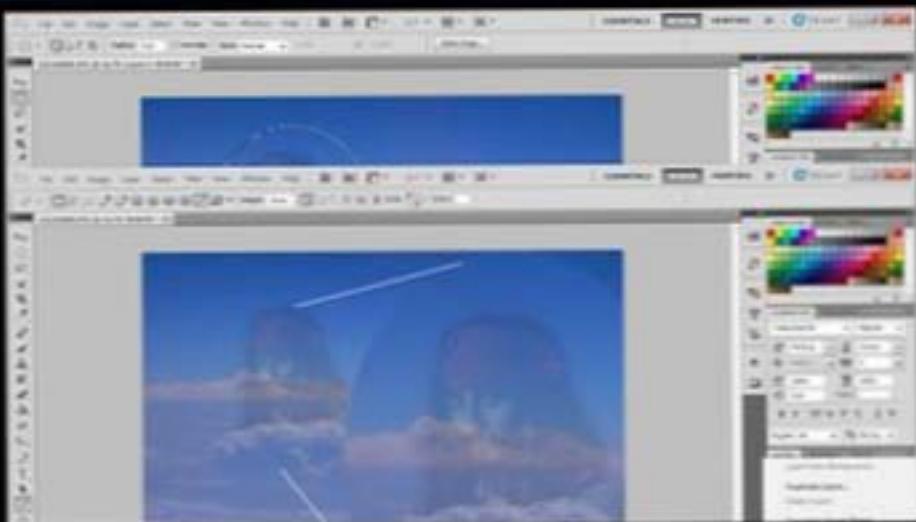




7. Select the elliptical area as shown, and create a layer via copy.



8. Once the new Layer is selected, press **Ctrl + T** to transform it, and then increase the size so as to highlight the figure coming out of the blue. Position it appropriately.



9. Create two lines to emphasize the part you have zoomed.

Viola! You have just created Captain (now Lord.) Jack Sparrow! Oh, Johnny Depp would be so proud!

- by Shaumik Daitiyari,
Web Dev & SEO Head,
Tech Ahoy

So what is an algorithm? How do you go about writing algorithms? And if given more than one algorithm how do you find which one is the best? Several books have been written on algorithms, which tell you about lots and lots of algorithms, and how you'd implement them, then why would you want to refer to this section?

An algorithm is a step-by-step procedure for calculations. In this section we'd be regularly analysing typical problems, and the ways we generally approach them. Following that would be one of the best algorithms suited for that problem. We hope this section inculcates in you the ability to think over about the best algorithm given a problem.

Today's problem :

Generate all prime numbers between 1 to n.

Our usual algorithm:

1. take $x=2$
2. do
3. take $p = 2$
4. do
5. check whether x is divisible by p .
6. If yes then break out of the loop.
7. Else increase p .
8. Check if $p=x/2$.
9. If yes break out of the loop.
10. Else go to 4
11. check if $p=x/2+1$
12. if yes then number is prime
13. increase x
14. check if $x=n$
15. if yes, break out of the loop.

Although there is no problem with this algorithm, this loop checks each number with all numbers less than half of it, and goes on for each and every number from 1 to n. This is obviously not what we need. It would be best if we follow an elimination method to remove all numbers which are not prime within a given range.
 $\{\text{Set of prime nos.}\} = \{\text{all numbers}\} - \{\text{set of numbers which are not prime}\}$

Sieve of Eratosthenes

The sieve of Eratosthenes, one of a number of prime number sieves, is a simple, ancient algorithm for finding all prime numbers up to any given limit. It does so by iteratively marking as composite the multiples of each prime, starting with the multiples of 2. Let us see the algorithm for doing the same task. To find all the prime numbers less than or equal to a given integer n by Eratosthenes' method:

1. Create a list of consecutive integers from 2 to n: (2, 3, 4, ..., n).
2. Initially, let p equal 2, the first prime number.
3. Starting from p, count up in increments of p and mark each of these numbers greater than p itself in the list. These numbers will be $2p$, $3p$, $4p$, etc.; note that some of them may have already been marked.
4. Find the first number greater than p in the list that is not marked. If there was no such number, stop. Otherwise, let p now equal this number (which is the next prime), and repeat from step 3. When the algorithm terminates, the numbers not marked are prime.

Take out a sheet and implement this algorithm for numbers 2 to 50. Does this work faster? Yes? Well good. This algorithm has a complexity of $O(n \log \log n)$ which is very small when compared to the earlier algorithm which we implemented. (Try calculating its complexity).

Now let us go through this algorithm, and see one of its shortcomings. If you notice, the number 12 will be marked for 2,3,4 and 6. Since it is sufficient if we mark it once, we are obviously wasting time here. As a refinement, it is sufficient to mark the numbers in step 3 starting from p_2 , as all the smaller multiples of p will have already been marked at that point. This means that the algorithm is allowed to terminate in step 4 when p_2 is greater than n . We are through, and now most of us know about a new algorithm, which will run at a faster speed. But this is not where you stop. What you must do next is google it up, find what more modifications other scientists have done, try developing a code for this, and send it to us. The most efficient ones get their name featured in this column next month! So hurry!

Where you mail: team@techahoy.in
What you mail: Your code in any language, along with your name, branch, year and college/ name, class and school.
See you soon!
Anindya Dutta,
Head of Software Development,
Tech Ahoy

Mango is the name of the Operating System developed by Microsoft for Windows Mobiles. In this article, I shall discuss developing applications for this platform.

One of the milestones of Microsoft is developing Windows Mobile apps. Windows Mobile is one of the most powerful platforms for running many applications on mobile devices. Windows mobile runs on Windows CE 5.0, which provides many unique features.



Windows Mobiles are made by many companies. Some models are Touch Screen phones, and some aren't. If you are interested in developing applications for this platform, you will need the following:

1. VISUAL STUDIO

It plays main role in developing windows mobile apps.

2. .NET Framework

Here are some tips that should be kept in mind while developing mobile apps using Visual Studio-

- Use native code (Visual C++) for high performance, if you need direct hardware access, or if you require a small footprint.
- Use managed code (Visual C# or Visual Basic .NET with the .NET Compact Framework) for user interface-centric applications that require fast time-to-market or rapid application development. Also, use managed code if you want easy access to Web services and data using Microsoft SQL Server 2005 Compact Edition.
- Use server-side code (ASP.NET Mobile Controls) to target a wide variety of devices with a single code set, or when you need guaranteed data bandwidth to the device.

Lately, Microsoft has been encouraging development of applications in this platform by organizing app development contests, and awarding free Windows Phones

in return. The software required to develop these applications is provided for free by Microsoft in order to encourage development of apps for the platform. If they feel that a certain app has potential, they promise to include it on Windows Mobile 7.5 which is slated for release in August 2012.

channel9.msdn.com is a useful reference provided by Microsoft to provide free technical training to developers, with the help of videos, hands-on labs, and source code samples.

So now, all we can do is to sit back and see how Mango fares against its main rivals, iOS and Android.

-by Ruthvik Thiriveedhi,
Trainee,
Tech Ahoy



WolframAlpha

computational
knowledge engine



On May 16, 2009, Stephen Wolfram launched one of the most ambitious and long term projects undertaken by him – Wolfram | Alpha (<http://www.wolframalpha.com>). The answer engine is based on natural language processing, which consists of a large library of algorithms to help it understand what the user wants to know and give the answer accordingly. It is increasingly becoming the world's most reliable source for instant expert knowledge and computation.

Enter Stephen Wolfram.

A British Scientist and mathematician, he is the Chief Designer of Wolfram | Alpha, or the "Computational Knowledge Engine", as he calls it. He published his first physics paper at 15, received a Ph.D. in particle physics from Caltech at 20 and won one of the first MacArthur Awards at 21.

The main aim of this engine is to make all the systematic knowledge immediately computable by anyone. Just enter a question or calculation, and Wolfram | Alpha uses the built-in algorithms and huge collection of growing data to give the answer.

It's used to power some searches in the Microsoft Bing. Also 25% of the queries of Wolfram | Alpha come from the Apple iPhone 4S exclusive, Siri. On Wolfram | Alpha's 2nd anniversary in 2011, Stephen Wolfram declared that it could understand 95% of all the queries, which is excellent knowing the fact that it is bound by algorithms and facts.

The thing that you should know about Wolfram | Alpha is that it is neither a Wikipedia/Google killer nor does it aim to be. So typing in "Apple" or "Microsoft" would not give a page about their history as expected with Wikipedia but a plethora of statistics and graphs, stock values, performance comparisons and more. Also, typing in "How to change my desktop wallpaper?" and similar questions will fetch you no results for obvious reasons.

Its knowledge bank is impressive, from complex mathematical calculations that would freeze any software to GDPs of country, mortality rates to famous personalities, geographical locations and weather history, DNA sequences and particle physics, it seems to really know it all.

Enough said, the examples will show you the power of the strong algorithms and 30 years of research put in by Stephen Wolfram

1) Let's start by something simple such as Multiplication:



1234*23



≡ Examples

Random

Input:

1234×23

Exact result:

28 382

Show steps

Number name:

28 thousand and 382

Number line:



Computed by [Wolfram Mathematica](#)

[Download page](#)

Apart from the result, it gives some extra information too. There's a lot more to come.

2) Let's try something more mathematical, say Integration

Apart from Calculating an Indefinite Integral, it also gives me alternate forms of the answer as well as series expansion at different values. The highlight of this calculation is the ability of showing steps that a person might have followed while doing such integral.

It can also solve limits. If my output was "lim(x->2) (x-2)/x" , it would give the correct output of 0.

It also supports an extended keyboard that aids in giving various types of input.



integrate $x^3 \sin(x) \cos(x)$



[Examples](#) [Random](#)

Indefinite integral:

$$\int x^3 \sin(x) \cos(x) dx = \frac{3}{8} (2x^2 - 1) \sin(x) \cos(x) - \frac{1}{8} x (2x^2 - 3) \cos(2x) + \text{constant}$$

Possible intermediate steps:

$$\int x^3 \cos(x) \sin(x) dx$$

For the integrand $x^3 \sin(x) \cos(x)$, use the trigonometric identity $\sin(x) \cos(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sin(2x)$.

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int x^3 \sin(2x) dx$$

For the integrand $x^3 \sin(2x)$, integrate by parts, $\int f dg = fg - \int g df$, where

$$f = x^3, \quad dg = \sin(2x)dx,$$

$$df = 3x^2 dx, \quad g = -\frac{1}{2} \cos(2x)$$

$$= \frac{3}{4} \int x^2 \cos(2x) dx - \frac{1}{4} x^3 \cos(2x)$$

For the integrand $x^2 \cos(2x)$, integrate by parts, $\int f dg = fg - \int g df$, where

$$f = x^2, \quad dg = \cos(2x)dx,$$

$$df = 2x dx, \quad g = \frac{1}{2} \sin(2x)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{4} x^2 \cos(2x) + \frac{3}{4} x^2 \sin(2x) - \frac{3}{4} \int x \sin(2x) dx$$

$$= -\frac{1}{4} x^2 \cos(2x) + \frac{3}{4} x^2 \sin(2x) + \frac{3}{8} x \cos(2x) - \frac{3}{8} \int \cos(2x) dx$$

For the integrand $\cos(2x)$, substitute $u = 2x$ and $du = 2dx$:

$$= -\frac{3}{16} \int \cos(u) du - \frac{1}{4} x^2 \cos(2x) + \frac{3}{8} x^2 \sin(2x) + \frac{3}{8} x \cos(2x)$$

The integral of $\cos(u)$ is $\sin(u)$:

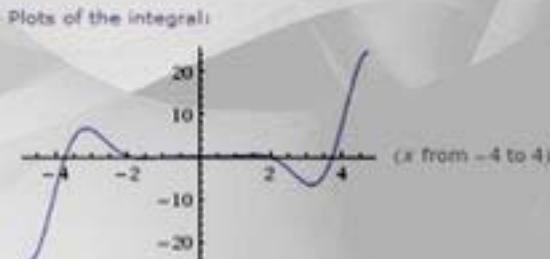
$$= -\frac{3 \sin(u)}{16} - \frac{1}{4} x^2 \cos(2x) + \frac{3}{8} x^2 \sin(2x) + \frac{3}{8} x \cos(2x) + \text{constant}$$

Substitute back for $u = 2x$:

$$= -\frac{1}{4} x^2 \cos(2x) + \frac{3}{8} x^2 \sin(2x) + \frac{3}{8} x \cos(2x) - \frac{3}{8} \sin(x) \cos(x) + \text{constant}$$

Which is equal to:

$$= \frac{3}{8} (2x^2 - 1) \sin(x) \cos(x) - \frac{1}{8} x (2x^2 - 3) \cos(2x) + \text{constant}$$



Plots of the integral:

Series expansion of the integral at 0+0i:

$$\frac{x^5}{5} - \frac{2x^7}{21} + \frac{2x^9}{135} - \frac{4x^{11}}{3465} + \frac{2x^{13}}{36855} - \frac{4x^{15}}{233875} + O(x^{17})$$

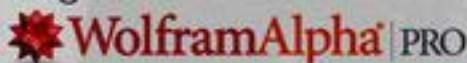
Series expansion of the integral at 0-0i:

$$\left(\frac{3x}{8} - \frac{x^3}{4}\right) \cos(2x) + \left(\frac{3x^2}{4} - \frac{3}{8}\right) \sin(0) \cos(0)$$

Definite integral:

$$\int_0^{\pi} x^3 \cos(x) \sin(x) dx = \frac{1}{32} \pi (r^2 - 6) \approx 0.379898$$

3) Let's input something close to the real world, say GDP of India



Search

Examples
Random

Input interpretation:

India GDP

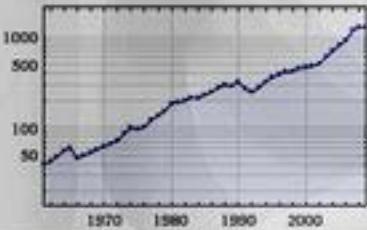
Result:

\$1.29 trillion per year (US dollars per year) (world rank: 11th) (2009 estimate)

Local currency conversion:

₹65.71 trillion per year (Indian rupees per year) (at current quoted rate)

GDP history:

Linear scale


(from 1961 to 2009)
(in billions of US dollars per year)
(log scale)

Economic properties:

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| GDP in local currency | ₹62.31 trillion per year (2009 estimate) |
| GDP per capita | \$1080 per person per year (world rank: 186 th) (2009 estimate) |
| GDP real growth | +7.44% per year (world rank: 32 nd) (2009 estimate) |
| consumer price inflation | +11.99% per year (world rank: 13 th , (2010 estimate)) |
| unemployment rate | 4.4% (world rank: 142 nd highest) (2005 estimate) |

More
Units

Computed by Wolfram Mathematica

[Source information](#)

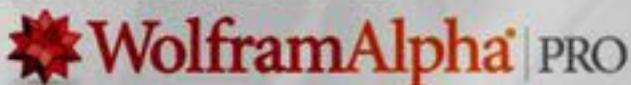
[Download page](#)

This is where Wolfram Alpha stands out. Any other search engine would have probably given the accurate GDP of India. But the brilliance of this engine lies in the interpretation of related queries and providing a deluge of data for complete analysis. For example here its giving GDP, world rank, unemployment rate, graph of year vs GDP which would certainly not hurt someone looking up for GDP of India.

68

WOLFRAM ALPHA

4) Comparison becomes really interesting with Wolfram | Alpha; Let's compare Microsoft with Apple for example. Instead of getting pages where people have written reviews about the company's or blogs about the same, it uses the data it contains to give the user a complete picture itself.



Apple Microsoft



[Examples](#) [Random](#)

Input interpretation:

Apple (AAPL) | Microsoft (MSFT)

Latest trades:

AAPL

\$633.70 (₹32 270)

(AAPL | NASDAQ | Friday 2:29:22 am IST | 36 hrs ago)

MSFT

\$31.41 (₹1599.46)

(MSFT | NASDAQ | Friday 1:55:50 am IST | 36 hrs ago)

Fundamentals and financials:

| | Apple | Microsoft |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| market cap | \$590.8 billion | \$264.5 billion |
| revenue | \$127.8 billion | \$72.05 billion |
| employees | 63 300 | 90 000 |
| annual earnings / share | \$35.54 | \$2.79 |
| P/E ratio | 17.83 | 11.31 |
| annual dividends / share | | \$0.92 |
| dividend yield | 0% | 2.28% |

(based on trailing 12-month totals, last close price and annual employees)

Company logos:



Microsoft

It's evident that this amount of data will take a larger amount of time to be collected and organized but done brilliantly by Wolfram | Alpha in a matter of seconds.

Also, the answer does not change if input is "Apple vs Microsoft" Or "Compare Apple Microsoft".

5) Wolfram | Alpha has weather history of a lot of places. Well, this will convince you of the magnitude of its information Database.

weather mumbai when sachin tendulkar was born



Input interpretation:

weather

Mumbai

Sachin Tendulkar date of birth

Recorded weather for Mumbai:

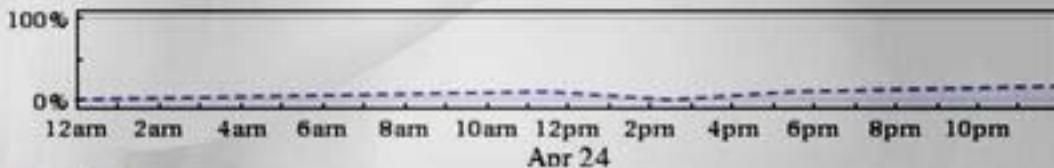
Show non-metric

More

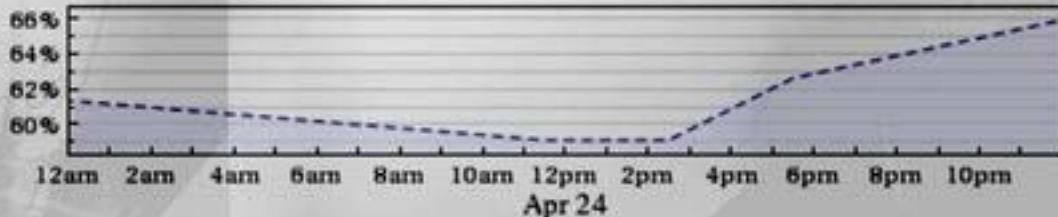
| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| time range | day of Tuesday, April 24, 1973 |
| temperature | (30 to 32) °C (average: 31 °C) |
| conditions | few clouds, clear |
| relative humidity | (59 to 66)% (average: 61%) |
| wind speed | (1 to 5) m/s (average: 3 m/s) |

Units >

Cloud cover:



Humidity:



This left me completely enchanted as it not only interpreted that I was searching for the birthdate of a person "Sachin Tendulkar", but also generated ample amount of data and graphs that would satisfy any curious personality.

6) Wolfram | Alpha doesn't disappoint on any kind of scientific data as well:

water 10 bar 300C

Assuming standard bars for "bar" | Use cgs bars Instead

Input Interpretation:

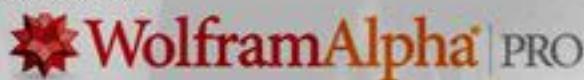
| | | |
|-------|-------------|--------------------------|
| water | pressure | 10 bars |
| | temperature | 300 °C (degrees Celsius) |

Thermodynamic properties:

| phase | gas |
|-----------------------------|---|
| density | 3.876 kg/m ³ 0.003876 g/cm ³ |
| boiling point | 179.8 °C |
| molar volume | 4648 cm ³ /mol |
| sound speed | 2083 km/h 578.5 m/s |
| specific acoustic impedance | 2242 s Pa/m |

Phase diagram:

7) Let's try something totally different: Life expectancy of an average male in India



Life expectancy male india



Examples Random

Input interpretation:

India male life expectancy

Results:

67.46 years (world rank: 145th) (2009 estimate)

Unit conversions:

More

24 623 days

590 950 hours

3.546×10^7 minutes

67 years 5 months 15.82 days

67 years 5 months 15 days 19 hours 36 minutes

Comparison as time:

$\approx 0.86 \times$ average life expectancy in the US (≈ 78 yr.)

Corresponding quantity:

Working time:

140 702 hours

5863 days

16 years

(assuming a 40-hour work week)

Computed by Wolfram Mathematica

Source information »

Download page

It gives a number along with a few conversions. An interesting data accompanying is that an average Indian male works for 16 years of his life with the assumption taken. Also a comparison with the male expectancy of USA is given.

8) Let's give an awful amount of data regarding an exercise:

running 6kmph male 18 5'8" 10 minutes 65kg



Input information:

| running | |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| time | 10 minutes |
| speed | 6 km/h (kilometers per hour) |
| gender | male |
| age | 18 years |
| height | 5' 8" |
| body weight | 65 kg (kilograms) |

Equivalent activities:

≈ 1 hour 10 minutes meditating

≈ 15 minutes weeding a garden

≈ 30 minutes gambling at a casino

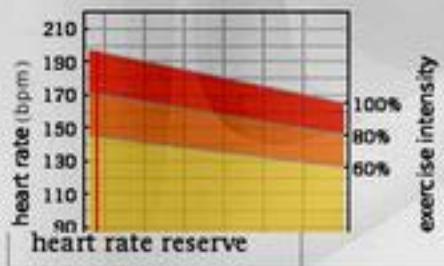
Speed:

6 km/h (kilometers per hour)

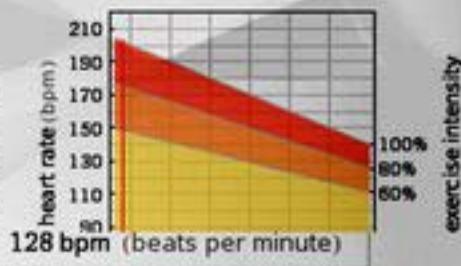
0.1 km/min (kilometers per minute)

1.667 m/s (meters per second)

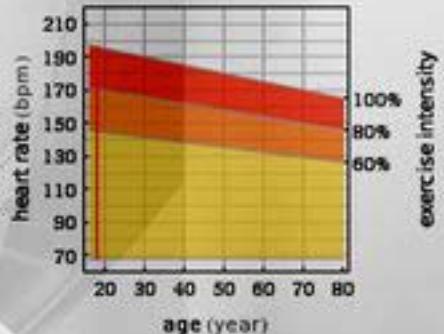
male



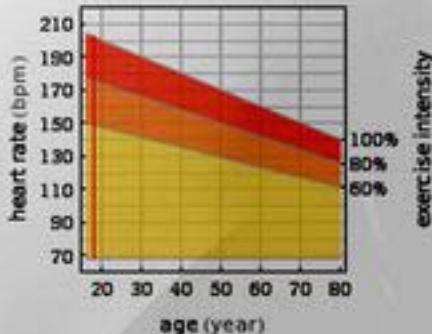
female



male



female



I have just included a portion of the total answer given. By now, you must have realized that the algorithms are robust and the data is enormous. It also predicted the performance in various races according to the data given.

8) Wolfram | Alpha is good with dictionary too:



The screenshot shows the WolframAlpha search interface. In the search bar at the top, the query "a_t_" is entered. Below the search bar are several small icons: a magnifying glass, a document, a gear, and a refresh symbol. To the right of the search bar are links for "Examples" and "Random". The main area is titled "Input:" and contains the query "a_t_". Below this, under the heading "English words:", a vertical list of words is displayed in a grid format. The words are: ACTH, acts, Alta, alto, alts, ante, anti, ants, arts, arty, and auto. At the bottom of this list, it says "(11 words)".

It returned all the 4 letter words having 'a' as 1st alphabet and 't' as 3rd alphabet.

10) Here's what it returned when I wanted to know the largest country in Asia

what is the largest country in asia?

Input interpretation:

largest country in Asia

Results:

By total area:

Russia

$(1.708 \times 10^7 \text{ km}^2 \text{ (square kilometers)})$

By GDP:

China

$(\$5.308 \text{ trillion per year (US dollars per year)})$

By population:

China

$(1.35 \text{ billion people})$

By GDP:

| | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | China | $\$5.308 \text{ trillion per year}$ | |
| 2 | Japan | $\$5.179 \text{ trillion per year}$ | |
| 3 | India | $\$1.29 \text{ trillion per year}$ | |
| 4 | Russia | $\$1.25 \text{ trillion per year}$ | |
| 5 | South Korea | $\$904.4 \text{ billion per year}$ | |

By population:

| | | | |
|---|------------|---------------------|--|
| 1 | China | 1.35 billion people | |
| 2 | India | 1.21 billion people | |
| 3 | Indonesia | 233 million people | |
| 4 | Pakistan | 185 million people | |
| 5 | Bangladesh | 164 million people | |

11) Let's try finding out the Prime minister of India in 2005:

Prime Minister of India in 2005



Input interpretation:

India Prime Minister 07/04/2005

Results:

Manmohan Singh

Basic information:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| official position | Prime Minister |
| country | India |
| start date | 22/05/2004 (7 years 10 months 16 days ago) |

Sequence:

More

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| May 2004 to present | Manmohan Singh |
| March 1998 to May 2004 (6 years 2 months) | Atal Bihari Vajpayee |
| April 1997 to March 1998 (10 months 28 days) | Inder Kumar Gujral |
| June 1996 to April 1997 (10 months 20 days) | H.D. Deve Gowda |
| March 1998 to May 2004 (6 years 2 months) | Atal Bihari Vajpayee |
| April 1997 to March 1998 (10 months 28 days) | Inder Kumar Gujral |
| June 1996 to April 1997 (10 months 20 days) | H.D. Deve Gowda |
| May 1996 to June 1996 (16 days) | Atal Bihari Vajpayee |

Personal information:



| | |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| full name | Manmohan Singh |
| date of birth | 26/09/1932 (age: 79 years) |
| place of birth | Chakwal, Punjab, Pakistan |

WOLFRAM ALPHA

12) It can predict mathematical sequences too, so I entered 4 terms which were of general type ($n^n - 1$) i.e. $2^2 - 1$, $3^3 - 1$, $4^4 - 1$ as you can see in the screenshot below:

WolframAlpha PRO

3,26,255,3124

Input: {3, 26, 255, 3124}

Number line:

0 500 1000 1500 2000 2500 3000
 ● 3 ● 26 ● 255 ● 3124

Total:
 $3 + 26 + 255 + 3124 = 3408$

Statistics:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| mean | 852 |
| median | 140.5 |
| sample standard deviation | 1519 |

Vector length:
 $\sqrt{9825086} \approx 3134.5$ More digits

Possible sequence identification:

OEIS A048861

Continuation:

0, 3, 26, 255, 3124, 46655, 823542, 16777215, 387420488, 9999999999,
 285311670610, 8916100448255, 302875106592252,
 11112006825558015, ...

More information >

0, 3, 26, 255, 3124, 46655, 823542, 16777215, 387420488, 9999999999,
 285311670610, 8916100448255, 302875106592252,
 11112006825558015, ...

More information >

Computed by Wolfram Mathematica

Download page

This would choke most calculators of the world and is a total homework killer!

Some other inputs to try:

- 1) If a random name is entered, example "Michael", it returns all possible information about the name including its rank, graph of age group of people having that name and estimated number of people alive.
- 2) If a date is entered, it will show with different calculations as to how much time has passed from that date and any significant happening too.
- 3) If you type ISS – It will surprisingly give you the current position and velocity of the International Space Station.
- 4) Input of "Mumbai vs New York" would give a complete analysis and comparison of the two cities.
- 5) Input of "www.facebook.com" would give Site Rank, daily visitors, its location and all sorts of information related to it neatly.
- 6) "How much did Titanic make?" would give a complete dissection of the earnings of the movie Titanic.

Disadvantages :

No doubt, the computations are brilliant; however, sometimes the queries are not understood if it is slightly changed.

For example if the input is "1st largest website", it gives a list of websites which have ranks on different criterion but if the input is changed to "1st ranked website", it gives me nothing.

This happens in a few cases. It also cannot (yet) handle queries like "How old was Bill Gates when India got independence?" although it knows date of birth of Bill Gates as well as Date of India's Independence.

CONCLUSION:

In the 21st century, when students are expected to use information fluently, this serves as a perfect means to search specific answers. A Wolfram|Alpha pro version has been released (on February 8, 2012) which incorporates additional features like automatic analysis of common file types which you can upload.

Its initial price of a whopping \$50 for the iOS has been slashed to \$2.99, making this app a must buy. It showed minimal sloppiness with parenthesis and typos, even in mathematical inputs, and guessed what I was looking for very accurately. For example, when I typed "Apple vs Oranges", it compared the fruits while, typing "Apple vs Microsoft" gave me a comparison of the two corporates.

It makes mathematics look so easy that it seems to be a total homework annihilator. It can breeze through the toughest polynomial and handle the most bizarre calculus and sequences with ease.

Whether you are a mathematics teacher looking for a graph calculator, a scientist/engineer wanting to get hold of formulae, a student desperate to complete homework or someone just looking up facts and figures, Wolfram|Alpha covers it all.

The updates are put up on the blog - <http://blog.wolframalpha.com/> so the users can keep a track of what new kind of queries it can handle.

If it keeps growing as steadily as it has, in accuracy and the amount of data, it will only be a matter of time till we have our Home page set to www.wolframalpha.com!

- by Anas Siddiqui,
Trainee, Tech Ahoy

Well, its true, that Google can be used to hack a lot of webcams across the world through the web. Even I was surprised by the nature of these hacks and how easy it was to watch the footage of these cams. Here I have provided u with the basic knowledge of webcam hacks.

For starters, well, what is a web cam?? Web cam (web camera) is a live and real-time camera whose images can be accessed using the World Wide Web, instant messaging, or a PC video calling or video conferencing application. Webcam is increasingly used as web surveillance cams to monitor security, traffic beach, office, and other sensitive areas. Some of these webcams or networked cameras have Web interfaces that allow owners to view the image or video captured via Internet, and even direct the cameras' motorized pan-and-tilt or zoom mechanisms. However, by using simple Google Search queries, any user that has Internet can logon, access and watch thousands of unprotected surveillance cameras and webcams around the world.

So the trick to find and search for open unprotected Internet webcams that broadcast to the web, is by using the following query:

`inurl:view.shtml
or
intitle:"Live View / - AXIS" |
inurl:view/view.shtml^`

And Google will sniff out network cameras that have Web interfaces and the URL or link location to the viewers that have been indexed by Google. With this hack and trick, video surfers can peek into videos or intermittently capture images showing places and scenes such as office, restaurant interiors, a Japanese barnyard, women doing laundry, the interior of an Internet collocation facility, government project sites, animals, parks, streets, Internet cafes, casinos, private rooms, and a cage full of rodents, among other things, in locales and locations scattered around the world. The above query will reveal IP network web cameras that able to transmit live footage or individual images across the Internet from Axis Communications. If you know the unique pattern of URL or link, or title pattern that other manufacturers' webcams' or IP network cameras' software used, you can also easily locate and crack those unprotected that are released or leaked to the public Internet insecure cameras or webcams by using Google. Some of the example as below.



However, contrary to popular belief, most of these webcams found by this trick is naturally meant for public viewing, and normally linked from a public website. Those private webcams attached to PC or used at the living room or bedroom or bathroom are normally won't be able to find unless the owners purposely let Google crawl the link.

inurl:ViewerFrame?Mode=
inurl:ViewerFrame?Mode=Refresh
inurl:axis-cgi/jpg
inurl:axis-cgi/mjpg (motion-JPEG)
inurl:view/IndexFrame.shtml
inurl:view/index.shtml
inurl:view/view.shtml
liveapplet
intitle:"live view" intitle:axis
intitle:liveapplet
allintitle:" Network Camera NetworkCamera"
intitle:axis intitle:"video server"
intitle:liveapplet inurl:LvAppl
intitle:"EvoCam" inurl:"webcam.html"
intitle:"Live NetSnap Cam-Server feed"
intitle:"Live View / - AXIS"
intitle:"Live View / - AXIS 206M"
intitle:"Live View / - AXIS 206W"
intitle:"Live View / - AXIS 210"
inurl:indexFrame.shtml Axis
inurl:MultiCameraFrame?Mode=Motion"
intitle:start inurl:cgistart
intitle:"WJ-NT104 Main Page"
intext:"MOBOTIX M1" intext:"Open Menu"
intext:"MOBOTIX M10" intext:"Open Menu"
intext:"MOBOTIX D10" intext:"Open Menu"
intitle:snc-z20 inurl:home/
intitle:snc-cs3 inurl:home/

ntitle:snc-rz30 inurl:home/
intitle:"sony network camera snc-p1"
intitle:"sony network camera snc-m1"
Hence given are some links Which will bypass many webcams , so readers, enjoy watching what these cams have to offer!!

(P.S. my personal opinion.. Panasonic is really easy to break through!!)

-by Rajeev Mukherjee,
Trainee,
Tech Ahoy





"The best moments in life are captured with a photo or remembered by a song, so it was key for the HTC One series to improve these emotional experiences with an amazing camera and authentic sound experience. We are very focused on creating a camera and audio experience customers will love and use often and we believe the HTC One series delivers this in a way never seen on a phone before."

HTC, a smartphones giant, unveiled its new HTC One series of smartphones that represent its most premium mobile experience.

HTC One™ accentuated by an Authentic Sound Experience and Amazing Camera Unprecedented momentum for HTC One series – available beginning in April with broad global availability through more than 140 mobile operators and distributors.

With HTC's most premium experience, the HTC One series integrated with the Android 4.0 (ICS) with HTC Sense™ 4, the new version of HTC's branded user experience that is introducing HTC ImageSense™, a new league of camera and imaging features that set HTC One apart. HTC Sense 4 also includes broad enhancements to audio quality and simplifies how people listen to music on their phone.

Amazing Camera

With ImageSense HTC One rivals traditional digital cameras with improvements to every part of the camera, including the lens, the sensor, the software, and even integrating a new custom HTC ImageChip. These enhancements together deliver the fastest image capture, best image quality under adverse conditions and easiest interface

Peter Chou, CEO of HTC Corporation

which enables quick access to capturing stills and videos with side-by-side photo and video capture buttons.

- Superfast Capture -

HTC One dramatically reduces the time it takes to capture those key moments. In just 0.7 seconds you're able to take a shot, and with a new super-fast 0.2-seconds autofocus, continue to take nearly unlimited continuous shots simply by holding the shutter button



- Good photos in adverse conditions - HTC One includes HDR, a market-leading technology, for taking great photos even when there are varying levels of brightness. HTC One delivers dramatic enhancements in image capture quality even in adverse conditions such as low light, no light or with bright backlighting. The f/2.0 lens on the HTC One X and HTC One S offers best-in-class performance, capturing 40 percent more light than the f/2.4 lenses available on other high-end phones.

Dropbox integrated with HTC Sense:

HTC One gives you an easy way to save and share your photos and videos. HTC has integrated Dropbox into HTC Sense 4 enabling HTC One customers to get 25 gigabytes of free Dropbox space for two years. Dropbox is also integrated throughout HTC Sense 4, so it's easy to edit, save and share your documents and other kinds of files.



Video Pic (Concurrent Video/Still Capture) :

With Video Pic you capture a photo and shoot video at the same time, all you have to do is tap the shutter button and it snaps a high-resolution still photo while the video continues to shoot. You are also able to capture a photo frame from a previ-

Sharing your photos and more:

HTC One gives you a new way to share your photos and videos. When you plug in HTC's wireless Media Link HD accessory into your TV's HDMI port, you can easily share your photos, videos, or anything else on your phone with your friends, family or colleagues regardless of the television's brand as long as it has HDMI.



Authentic Sound

With HTC One, Beats By Dr. Dre Audio™(Beats By Dr. Dre is a brand of headphones and loudspeakers marketed by hip-hop/rap artist Dr. Dre and Interscope-Geffen-A&M Records chairman Jimmy Iovine under Beats Electronics, LLC.) integration is enabled for the first time across the entire experience for richer, more authentic sound whether you're listening to your favorite music, watching a YouTube™ video or playing a game.

HTC One also makes it easy to get and listen to your music on your phone with the built-in HTC Sync Manager software that automatically installs to your computer when connected. Once connected, it is easy to transfer songs, artists and playlists from your music library.

Of course, people today no longer just listen to the songs stored on their phones; they use streaming services and tune into Internet radio. So HTC One lets you customize the new Music Hub with your favorite services and music applications, like the latest Soundhound technology, giving you one place to go for all of your music.



HTC One X



The HTC One X portrays a beautifully crafted polycarbonate unibody that has the strength and rigidity of metal but is super lightweight. With seamless construction, the unibody combines a unique high gloss 'piano' finish and a matte back. HTC One is blazing fast with the new NVIDIA® Tegra 3 Mobile Processor for clear graphics, faster applications and longer battery life. It includes a 1.5GHz Super 4-PLUS-1™ quad-core with an integrated fifth Battery Saver Core and a high-performance 12-Core NVIDIA® GPU. The HTC One also savors a startling 4.7-inch, 720p HD screen crafted from contoured Corning™ Gorilla Glass.

Your quad - core powered entertainer

Out of the world quad-core power gives you lightning-fast web browsing, remarkable picture quality and extraordinary gaming effects --all on a giant, 4.7-inch HD screen.



A camera so good, you might need a reminder that it's also a

This is a true digital camera on your phone. It easily handles low light settings and turns action shots into crisp photos, thanks to the HTC ImageChip.



Music, the way it was originally recorded



With Beats Audio, listening is different. It's a deep, finely-detailed sound; the actual sound the artist hears in the recording studio--and what they want you to hear.

HTC One S



The HTC One S is for people who want a high-end smartphone in compact size of a regular mobile. It is powered by a Qualcomm Snapdragon S4 processor with up to 1.5GHz dual-core CPU's. It also includes a 4.3-inch screen thrown together from contoured Corning™ Gorilla Glass. HTC One S brings HTC's innovative metal unibody styling to a new thin 7.9-mm design, making it HTC's thinnest phone yet.

The HTC One S sports two new finishes that break new ground in mobile phone innovation. The first is an ultra-matte black Ceramic Metal surface that is the result of a microarc oxidation (MAO) process originally developed for use in satellites. It transforms the surface of the aluminum unibody into a ceramic, super-dense crystalline structure that is four times harder than anodized aluminum, enabling the HTC One S to look great over time. The second finish for the One S takes anodizing to a new level with a new patented process that creates a light-to-dark gradient fade that looks gorgeous and sophisticated.

Beauty and brains

Capture stunning photos with a stunning phone. This true digital camera gives you realistic colors and dependable performance with features such as auto smile detection, face focus and continuous shooting. With this phone in your hands you can capture every special moment, wherever you go, in pictures as stunning as its own great looks.



HTC One V



Forged from the classic, award-winning design of the HTC Legend, the HTC One V brings top-end design to a smartphone with broad appeal and a premium experience that delivers an amazing camera and authentic sound. It features a simple, iconic aluminum unibody design that exudes craftsmanship and quality.

The essential smartphone

It's the first thing you pick up in the morning, and the last thing you put away at night. You work on it, you connect to the digital world with it, and you interact with those that matter most on it. You reach for it every time you want to remember a moment, and you easily share that moment with just a couple taps. This isn't just another smartphone; it stays with you and keeps up with you. HTC One V, the essential smartphone for those on the go.



The HTC One V is designed with a metal-unibody architecture that's cool to the touch and durable. The One V also holds a slightly curved chin for an iconic look, but also makes it easier for messaging. Even the screen, premium looking and a delight to the eyes, is made out of reinforced glass and is scratch resistant. Designed to look great while working for you, from the inside out.

Bringing you right into the recording studio, Beats Audio through your HTC One V will optimize any type of music played. You will experience music as the artist intended. Playing a video, or gaming? Beats Audio extends to any kind of media played, feel immersed through the rich, premium sounds that enhance any type of entertainment.



| | HTC One X | HTC One S | HTC One V |
|---------------------|---|---|--|
| Phones |  |  |  |
| Size | 134.36 x 69.9 x 8.9 mm | 130.9 x 65 x 7.8 mm | 120.3mm x 59.7mm x 9.24mm |
| Weight | 130 grams with battery | 119.5 grams with battery | 115 grams with battery |
| Display | HD 720p touch | 4.3-inch touch screen | 3.7-inch touch |
| Screen | 4.7-inch (1280 x 720 resolution) | 4.3-inch (540 x 960 resolution) | 480 x 800 resolution |
| CPU | 1.5 GHz, quad core | 1.5 GHz, dual core | 1 GHz |
| Platform | Android™ 4.0 with HTC Sense™ 4 | Android™ 4.0 with HTC Sense™ 4 | Android™ 4.0 with HTC Sense™ 4 |
| Memory | Total storage : 32 GB RAM:1 GB | Total storage:16GB RAM:1 GB | Total storage: 4 GB RAM: 512 MB Expansion slot: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• microSD™ memory card (SD 2.0 compatible) |
| Connectivity | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3.5 mm stereo audio jack• NFC• Bluetooth with aptX™ enabled (Bluetooth® 4.0)• Wi-Fi®: IEEE 802.11a/b/g/n• DLNA® for wirelessly streaming media from the phone to a compatible TV or computer• micro-USB 2.0 (5-pin) port with mobile high-definition video link (MHL) for USB or HDMI connection (Special connection [Special cable required for HDMI connection.] | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3.5 mm stereo audio jack• Bluetooth with aptX® enabled (Bluetooth® 4.0)• Wi-Fi®: IEEE 802.11b/g/n• DLNA® for wirelessly streaming media from the phone to a compatible TV or computer• micro-USB 2.0 (5-pin) port with mobile high-definition video link (MHL) for USB or HDMI connection (Special connection [Special cable required for HDMI connection.] | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3.5 mm stereo audio jack• Bluetooth with aptX® enabled (Bluetooth® 4.0)• Wi-Fi®: IEEE 802.11b/g/n• Standard micro-USB (5-pin micro-USB 2.0) |

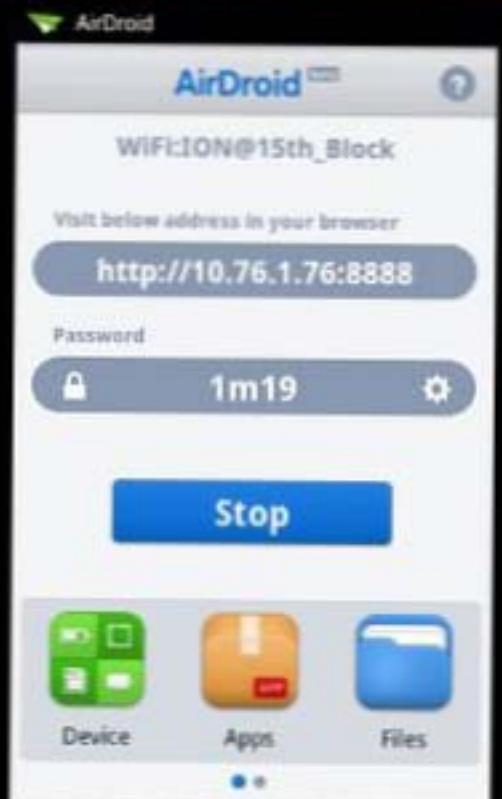
| | | | |
|----------------|--|--|---|
| Camera | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 megapixel camera with auto-focus, smart LED flash, and BSI sensor (for better low-light captures) F2.0 aperture and 28mm lens 1080p HD video recording 1.3 megapixel front camera (720p for video chat) Dedicated imaging chip Capture a photo in the midst of recording HD video Continuous shooting mode captures multiple snapshots Auto flash smartly determined by distance from your subject Video stabilization feature removes annoying, shaky motion High quality slow motion video capture and playback | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 megapixel camera with auto-focus, smart LED flash, and BSI sensor (for better low-light captures) F2.0 aperture and 28mm lens 1080p HD video recording VGA front camera Dedicated Imaging chip Capture a photo in the midst of recording HD video Continuous shooting mode captures multiple snapshots Auto flash smartly determined by distance from your subject Video stabilization feature removes annoying, shaky motion High quality slow motion video capture and playback | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 megapixel camera with auto-focus, smart LED flash, and BSI sensor (for better low-light captures) F2.0 aperture and 28mm lens 720p HD video recording Dedicated Imaging chip Capture a photo in the midst of recording HD video Continuous shooting mode captures multiple snapshots |
| Sound | Beats Audio™ | Beats Audio™ | Beats Audio™ |
| Battery | Capacity :1800 mAh | Capacity: 1650 mAh | Capacity: 1500 mAh |

-by Aayush Sahni,
Trainee,
Tech Ahoy



AirDroid

Let's say you want to connect your droid to a PC, but you're unable (or too lazy) to find your USB cable. AirDroid lets your PC access the contents of your phone using nothing but a web browser. Here's how it works: When opened, the app provides an IP address and a password. Your phone and PC should be on the same wi-fi connection. Feed the address into any web browser (though IE isn't recommended). Login by giving the password and now you have access to your gallery, contacts, apps, call logs and messages. Further, you can install and uninstall apps, send and receive texts and kill active processes in real time, all this over-the-air.



Quick wireless connectivity, simple operation and slick UI make this app a must have amongst all droid owners.





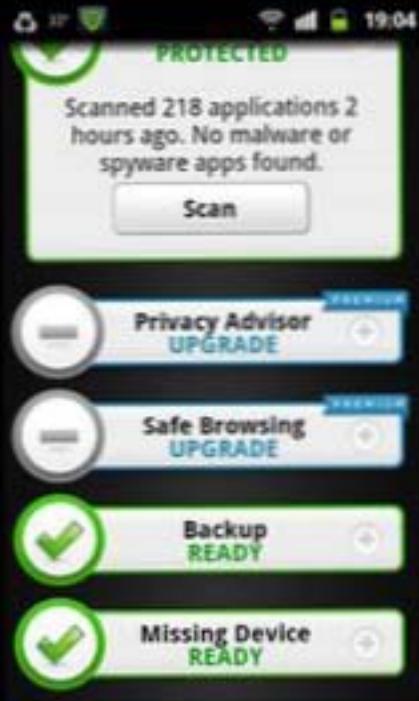
APP Lock enables you to lock applications of your choice with a password or pattern. This way you can protect personal accounts such as e-mail and facebook, along with any other apps you please without having to lock up apps (like games) which you wish to share with your friends. The interface is great – keeping things neat and simple. However, it sometimes shows a glimpse of the locked app before asking for the password. This is a small flaw in an otherwise impressive app.



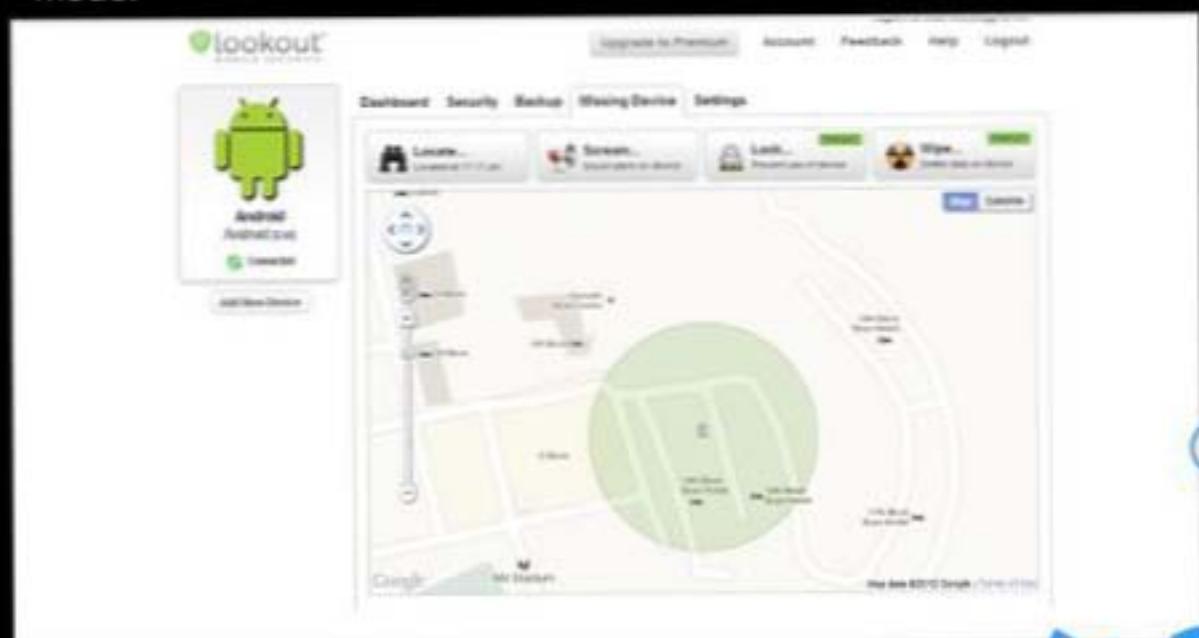


Get peace of mind with
the #1 Security App.

Lookout single-handily takes care of the anti-virus needs of your smartphone. It blocks malware, spyware and trojans. Lookout scans new apps as soon as they are installed on the system. Regular scans can be scheduled as per your convenience. Lookout also provides tracking services in case your phone gets lost. By logging into www.mylookout.com you can track your phone on a google map even if GPS is turned off. You can also sound an alarm on the device even if it's on silent mode.



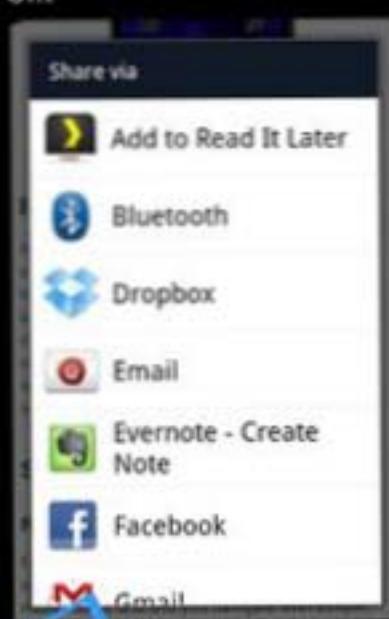
Lookout automatically backs up your contacts which can then be restored at any time. Lookout is another must have app as mobile security doesn't get better than this.





Read It Later lets you save web pages, articles and videos for viewing offline. RIL downloads articles in a webpage or the entire webpage itself exactly the way they are, except for flash content. The result is beautifully formatted text and images. It supports text reflow for convenient reading. You can adjust the text size, font, alignment and darkness for night-time reading.

It gives you the option of tagging your articles so that they can be sorted and searched for later on. It even remembers your scroll position so you can start reading exactly where you left off.



Introducing Android 4.0

Android 4.0 (Ice Cream Sandwich) is the latest version of the Android platform for phones, tablets, and more. It builds on the things people love most about Android – easy multitasking, rich notifications, customizable home screens, resizable widgets, and deep interactivity – and adds powerful new ways of communicating and sharing.

Simple, Beautiful, Useful

Refined, evolved UI

Focused on bringing the power of Android to the surface, Android 4.0 makes common actions more visible and lets you navigate with simple,



-by Akshay Karanjkar,
Trainee, Tech Ahoy

BROWSER REVIEWS

Most of the internet users want their web browsing to be faster and safer. Different browsers can render webpages differently, and there can be a large disparity in performance between the top competitors.

But what according to them is secure browsing? Which Browser provides you the most fast browsing? Which Browser has good ease of use?

And atlast. Which gives you Happy Browsing Experience?

Want to know Answers for all these questions. This review provides u all this Stuff — u wanted to know.

There are Many browsers like Internet explorer , Chrome, Safari, firefox, Opera, Maxthon .etc. but among all these only some of them are really good .

Browsers are generally rated According to Security, Speed and compatibility, Ease of use.

Lets take a Close at them.

MOZILLA FIREFOX

Firefox is known for its Good Interface, Addons and security features. It handles tasks well, and its found to be stable. 40% Of the Internet users prefer this browser. If you need an extension for something, the Firefox extension capabilities are powerful and easy to use. It also offers many themes.

I have been using Firefox since day one and, compared to the others, it is in a class by itself although Opera, Chrome does come extremely close. Firefox, as well as all other browsers, can be downloaded,

installed and run in conjunction with any existing browsers you have.



OVERALL RATING



ADDON :- 09/10

SPEED :- 09 /10

SECURITY :- 8.5/10

EASE OF USE :- 9.5/10

CHROME

GOOGLE CHROME

Light weighted ultrafast,
good Security features.

That is Google Chrome! It is
the One of the most
Powerful and preferred
browsers in the World .

Till Date (2012) Almost 36%
of the internet users Use
Chrome.

The Main Reason for such a
huge Craze of this Browser
is light weight And Easy to
use. But there are bugs
too!. Google Chrome had
many Crash reports since
2010. it is unable to load
many webpages Due to its
URL Extension issues .As
many as 5% of chrome
users Reported About this
Crashes to the Google.
Since then, Google has
been working to overcome
these problems in the
Coming releases of
Chrome. But, now the
Chrome is packed with
Good Interface.

Chrome Also offer a web
store for its add-ons. Check
it out for Add-ons and
extensions you need.



OVERALL RATING



ADDON : - 08/10

SPEED : - 08/10

SECURITY : - 08/10

EASE OF USE:- 0 8/10

EXPLORER

INTERNET EXPLORER

TECHAHOY | APRIL 2012

One of the oldest and most used browsers in the internet. It competes with chrome and Firefox in terms of security. But in speed, it is not upto the mark. 50 % of the people uses it.



OVERALL RATING



ADDON : -07 / 10

SPEED : -06 / 10

SECURITY : -09 / 10

EASE OF USE : -06 / 10

Such a browser is losing its popularity every day due to a lot of crashes, distortion in web pages due to lack of support of latest standards. It has a new navigation bar and a better design . Its help and customer Support is appreciable.

APPLE SAFARI



OVERALL RATING



ADDON :- 06/10

SPEED :- 07/10

SECURITY :- 07/10

EASE OF USE :- 08/10

One of the most innovative Browser from Apple.inc. It Has been used in all apple devices.

It has a rich font and a classy interface.

One can Browse webpages full screen, save articles to Reading List, and interact with the web as never done before.

It has a Special reading tab designed for the people who read articles a lot. It takes Advantage of Apple Os .However it is also released in PC, it doesn't Have much Users in PC.

When Coming to Speed,its good. And security features takes some improvement. Very few addons in safari when compared to chrome,firefox. Ease of access is Pretty decent.



OPERA

It is most stylish and is a multimodal browser, meaning it contains features that enable multiple modes of interfacing with the browser. more than 200 million users worldwide use opera.

Opera's multimodal interaction is just one of its many cutting-edge features, and the browser also boasts competitive launch and page-load times and comprehensive user support. The latest version of Opera delivers a refined user interface, one that boasts a clean, featherweight design that emphasizes the content and not the browser.

Opera's compatibility issues are likely to be the deciding factor for many prospective users, but more and more websites become compatible with the browser each day.



OVERALL RATING



ADDON : 07/ 10

SPEED : 06/ 10

SECURITY : 09/ 10

EASE OF USE : 06/ 10

-by Vamshi Reddy,
Trainee,
Tech Ahoy



Can we forget how unforgiving Counter-Strike can be. Valve's outwardly competitive online shooter truly rewards the skilled and stomps all over the newcomers. There are no COD-style kill streaks, no artillery barrages to call in or packs of dogs to let loose. It's you, your guns, a few grenade types and your ability to show some cojones. Map knowledge, teamwork and planning are the only things that matter.

With Global Offensive (or GO), the next version of Counter-Strike, Valve isn't trying to completely reinvent the franchise. This isn't Counter-Strike 2, it's more like a step-up to the franchise. Terrorists still fight Counter-Terrorists in round-based combat. You still plant bombs on Dust and rescue hostages on Office. Some maps, like Dust and Aztec, received updates while others, like Dust 2, are largely unchanged. Though the changes aren't wild, franchise fans will find a few new interesting additions to the formula that may very well turn out to be series staples moving forward.

Valve built an ELO-based ranking system into GO to determine your skill level, so ideally you're set up with players around your level of skill. Bots of appropriate difficulty settings will also be added in if a full game of live players can't be put together. If the idea of a five on five match sounds too limiting, PC players will be able to set up custom matches that Valve assures will provide the same degree of flexibility as is available in Counter-Strike: Source. Console players will not have the option to set up servers, however.



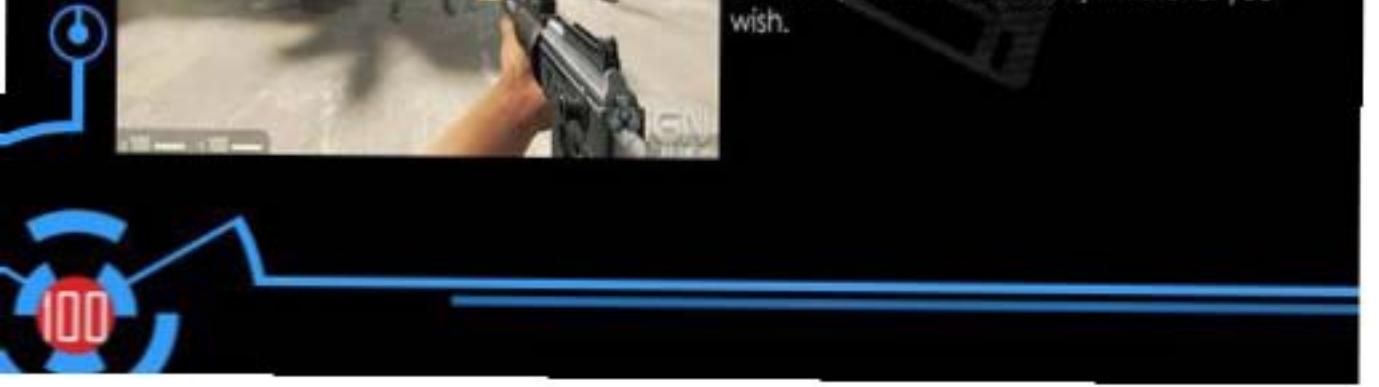
GAME REVIEW

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Once you do get a match up and running, the gameplay may be seem simple at first, but there's quite a bit of depth. Depending on the map the Terrorists either need to plant bombs or hold hostages, and the Counter-Terrorists need to stop them from planting and detonating bombs or rescue hostages. Before any of the fighting starts, you need to buy weapons by drawing on a personal pool of accumulated funds. Weapons include pistols, rifles, SMG and sniper rifles, as well as specialty items like flashbangs, high explosive grenades and smoke grenades. In the in-development build I played body armor is automatically purchased at a round's beginning, though Valve says when GO's done in 2012 the armor will be a separate purchase. In an interesting twist, defusal kits that let Counter-Terrorists quickly disarm bombs are no longer purchaseable. Instead they're randomly assigned to two teammates at a round's beginning.



Armor and defusal kit changes are important because you don't have infinite money in Counter-Strike. Kills and victories in each round earn you more funds, but you start off poor in GO's Competitive mode. The first round is typically only pistols, and if your team keeps losing don't expect to be running around with a one-shot kill AWP sniper rifle any time soon. Weapons need to be earned through skilled play, which makes acquiring them all the more rewarding. Alternatively, you can scoop weapons up off the ground from dead teammates and opponents, and in either case, if you die you'll have to purchase everything all over again. If you're new to Counter-Strike or don't want to have to deal with amassing a small fortune to buy your favorite gear, the Casual mode will be a good thing to try out where you'll get plenty of money each round to buy whatever you wish.





Games of Counter-Strike have no respawns, so if you die, you have to spectate the rest of the match. It can generate big drama when one team is down to a single player and the other has three or more (as well as barbed comments when the full team is revived at the next round's start). Considering how fragile every player is, it's entirely possible for one to defeat three. It comes down to accuracy, smart positioning and maybe a little bit of luck. If you want to pull off a comeback victory, you have to learn how to shoot properly. Another addition, the Zeus stun gun, is meant to be a tool of humiliation rather than something reliable. Valve considers it to be a joke weapon at this point. It's more expensive to buy than even the Molotov, carries only one charge, and needs to be fired at ultra-close range to hit. Though it seemed somewhat impractical given most are using deadly long-range weapons, I'm very interested to see if pro players may be able to come up with a more effective application for it. Many Counter-Strike favorites return like the AK-47, AWP, Desert Eagle and FAMASb, and other new weapons have been included as well that fill out the assault rifle and SMG categories. There's definitely a lot here to pick from, but the question of whether it'll all be useful remains, something Valve is looking to find out for sure in the beta.

If you've never played Counter-Strike obviously none of this means much, but it does result in a more balanced feel to the map even after only a few play sessions. Even small changes can have big effects, and the added staircase, as insignificant as it may sound to a newcomer, should ensure many a round is played on Dust once GO is ready for launch this year. Whether you're stricken with terror as a Molotov soars out of nowhere and explodes at your feet match or the last surviving Terrorist camping over a live bomb with four CTs on the way, Counter-Strike: Global Offensive is very familiar and still a lot of fun. Techahoy recommends it to all CS lovers, it's a collectors item for sure!!



- by Rajeev Mukherjee,
Trainee,
Tech Ahoy



MASS EFFECT 3

"Not everyone will survive. **MASS EFFECT 3** plunges you into an all-out galactic war to take Earth back from a nearly unstoppable foe – and how you fight that war is entirely up to you."

Few games come with the amount of baggage Mass Effect 3 has swirling around it. As the culmination of BioWare's epic sci-fi RPG trilogy, Mass Effect 3 hasn't garnered this groundswell in an artificial way. Rather, anticipation steadily sits at a fever pitch because the previous installments – Mass Effect, and especially Mass Effect 2 – rate amongst the best games ever made. And in many ways, Mass Effect 3 has set the bar even higher as the worthy conclusion to one of the finest stories ever told in gaming history, even if it's still admittedly imperfect. Mass Effect 3 is a game that cannot be done justice through merely writing about the emotional impact and gut wrenchingly intense choices that have gamers raving. This ethical journey defined through powerful storytelling is an experience every gamer must embark upon for themselves.

The poignant moments of soul-searching and emotional turmoil that overwhelm fans lead toward an opportunity to reminiscence and reflect upon the series as a whole, though not necessarily due to the most satisfying of video game conclusions.

An ancient alien race, known only as "Reapers", has launched an all-out invasion leaving nothing but a trail of destruction in their wake. Earth has been taken, the galaxy is on the verge of total annihilation, and you are the only one who can stop them. Mass Effect 3 is yet another sci-fi epic launched by EA succeeding the uncanny Mass Effect 2. It has been tagged as "Mass Effect 3: Take Earth Back"





Load your arsenal because in this game the price of failure is extinction. You are Commander Shepard (N7 Elite Force), a character that you can forge in your own image. You determine how events will play out, which planets to explore, and whom to form alliances with as you rally a force to eliminate the Reaper threat once and for all. How you wage this war is completely up to you: go into combat with guns blazing or use cover to plan a more tactical assault. Utilize your squad to full effect or take a lone wolf approach. Rain death from a distance or go toe to toe with enemies using devastating melee attacks. Mass Effect 3 will react to each decision you make as you play through a truly unique experience of your own creation.

**MASS
EFFECT**

KEY FEATURES

- **Play Your Way** : Choose a fast-paced cinematic experience or delve into a deeper, more choice-driven narrative. Either way, intense combat propels the action as you fight to unite a war-torn galaxy against a common enemy.
- **A Rich, Branching Story** : Interactive storytelling delivers an experience unlike any other, with multiple outcomes determined by your choices. Mass Effect 3 will redefine what you know about emotionally engaging story.
- **Unleash a Customizable Arsenal** — Build your character and squad with dozens of unique weapons and abilities, each with powerful upgrades and modifications.
- **Class-Based Co-operative Multiplayer Missions** : Fight the war alongside your friends in four-player co-op missions. Choose from a variety of races and classes and combine your skills to overcome impossible odds. Your success can have an impact on the outcome of your single-player experience.
- **Adrenaline-Pumping Gameplay** : Feel every bullet impact, roll into cover, and unleash devastating heavy weapons in an intense and pulse-pounding action-shooter game.
- **Ruthless and Intelligent Enemies** : Battle merciless enemies that will consistently challenge your best combat tactics and put you on the edge of your seat.

All Platforms



This title is rated Mature for:

- Blood
- Partial Nudity
- Sexual Content
- Strong Language
- Violence
- Online Interactions Not Rated by the ESRB
- May contain content inappropriate for children

STUDIO

Bioware

GENRE

RPG, Action

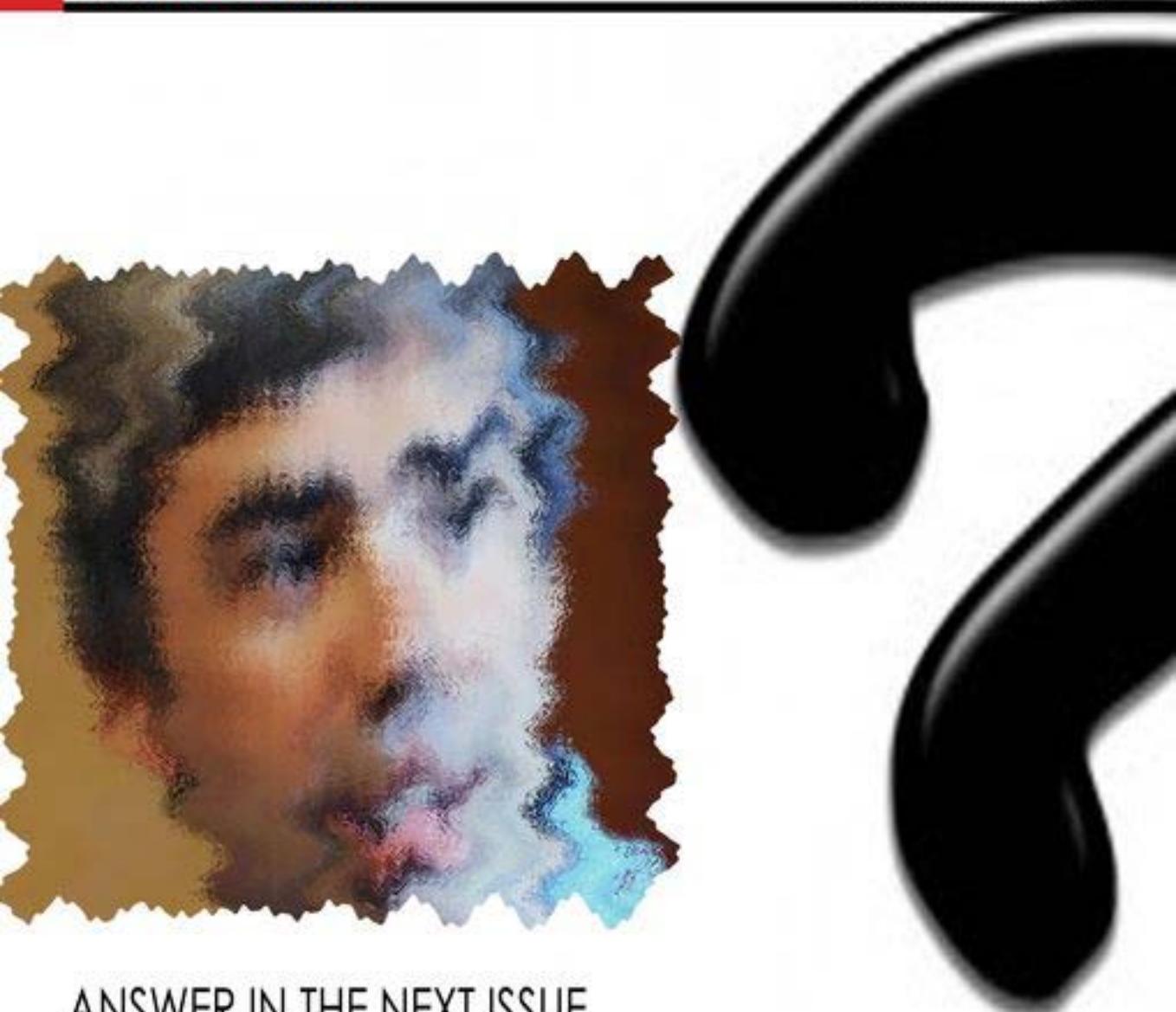
FRANCHISE

Mass Effect

PLATFORM

PlayStation 3, Xbox 360,
PC, PC Download

- by Aayush Sahni,
Trainee,
Tech Ahoy



ANSWER IN THE NEXT ISSUE

W H O

- by Sunny Goswami, Trainee, Tech Ahoy



LETS SEE HOW MANY OF THESE LOGOS YOUR MIND RECOLLECTS

1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



LOGO QUIZ

TECHAHOY | APRIL 2012

10



11



12



13



14



15



16



17



18



- by Rishab Gupta,
Trainee,
Tech Ahoy

ANSWERS IN THE NEXT ISSUE.

Brainwave entertainment is the practice of altering one's brainwaves to a desired frequency, by means of a periodic stimulus with corresponding frequency. The stimulus used can be aural, visual or the combination of the two.

How does it work?

In order to know how Brainwaves work we need to know how the human brain respond to different situations. Electroencephalography technology is used to measure brain's electrical vibrations from the surface of the scalp. These electrical vibrations' frequencies were studied and were categorized into four states as follows:

| State | Frequency | State of mind |
|-------|-------------|---------------|
| Delta | 0.5Hz – 4Hz | Deep sleep |
| Theta | 4Hz – 8Hz | Drowsiness |
| Alpha | 8Hz – 14Hz | Relaxed |
| Beta | 14Hz – 30Hz | Highly alert |

This information is used to re-create the electrical state of mind and hence the mood. For example, if a person is in beta stage (highly alert) and a stimulus of 8Hz is applied to his/her brain for some time, the brain frequency is likely to change towards the applied stimulus. The effect will be relaxing to the person. This phenomenon is also called frequency following response.

In order to achieve this, aural stimulus such as iso-chronic tones, Monaural beats and Binaural beats are being used, the most popular being the binaural beats in which if 300 Hz is played in one ear and 310 in the other, then the brain generates a binaural beat with a frequency of 10 Hz that is the frequency of alpha waves.

which if 300 Hz is played in one ear and 310 in the other, then the brain generates a binaural beat with a frequency of 10 Hz that is the frequency of alpha waves.

The Next Level

Brainwave entertainment is not only limited to the basic alpha, beta, gamma and delta waves but it has roots which can penetrate deep inside our minds. The human mind was studied during various states which include creative state, focused state, anesthetized states and what not? Most of the experiences what we feel whether you want to get happy or want to sleep immediately can be artificially generated using this technique.

There are many soundtracks available which claim to recreate the sensation of having alcohol, heroine and other drugs without any side effect.

The Experience

Most of the brainwave entertainment binaural beats when you follow the EXPERIENCE method to achieve the best effects possible

Equipments

- A Brainwave Entertainment Software
- Stereo head phones
- A comfortable location (a comfortable chair, couch or bed)
- Eye mask(if needed)

E-Expel

Look out for distractions like phone, people, noise etc and try to remove all interruptions from the environment.

X- X-Factor

Think of X-Factors which may hamper your experience. Are you hungry? Eat. Will you need the rest room during the course? Go now.

P- Prepare

Lay down in a comfortable place and make sure to have dim lights which won't disturb you.

E- Eyes

It's not mandatory to close your eyes, but we highly recommend it!

R- Relax

Take out the questions like "What will happen to me?", "What will the effects be?" If your mind is going a mile a minute thinking about effects and process it'll hamper your experience. Take some time to meditate.

I-Insight

Spare half a minute to think about what state of mind you will to achieve and try to feel the joy.

E- Eggify

Play the sound and don't move. Be inanimate. Relax and listen to the sound.

N-No!

During the course you'll have the urge to give up, to move, to pause or stop.... for all these natural urges say NO! And force your mind to be still.

C-Calm

So you're done? Stay calm and enjoy your brain tuning, you can ruin the effect by forcing your brain to another state.

E- Extend

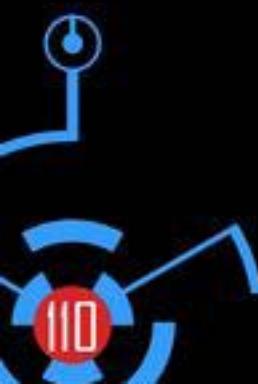
Don't try multiple tracks back to back, take your time to explore the field of Brainwave Entertainment and extend your potential.

Softwares:

- > Gnaural (Windows, Mac, Linux)
- > BrainIgniter (Windows)
- > Neuro-Programmer 3 (Windows)
- > Mind WorkStation (Windows)
- > Sbagen (Windows, Linux, Mac)
- > Idoser (Windows, Mac, Android)

Well, a last word of concern Binaural wave programming of your brain to achieve enhanced concentration may appear exciting. But remember, you are actually altering the natural work flow of brain and if you have some psychological disorders you must consult your doctor before using brain wave entertainment .

-by Amit Sengupta,
Chief Graphic Designer & Software Development Head,
Tech Ahoy



In today's world every individual is aware of the annoying VIRUSES that affect our computing gadgets. Virus creators can play with interesting ideas and what gives them an upper hand over their victims is that many viruses are not very easy to control and save the gadgets. There are many viruses which don't work as their creator intends. And so once this virus sets out on its mission, it can't be stopped, making it everlasting.

Even if they work exactly as their creator intends, and do some task which might be generally regarded as desirable, they are still not beneficial as they make unauthorized changes to a computer.

THE ABC's about computer viruses (introduction)-

In this article, we'll look at several things about computer viruses and how deadly they can prove to be to our beloved computers and I will also give you some information about their brothers which specialize in different tasks. Yes, you got that right; I am talking about worms and Trojans.

Topics covered-

1. Information on computer viruses-what it is, how it propagates, it's life cycle
2. Worms and Trojans

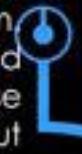
The general term **computer virus** usually covers programs that modify how a computer works (including damaging the computer) and can self-replicate. A true computer virus requires a host program to run properly like "Melissa" used a Microsoft Word document as its host.

A **worm**, on the other hand, doesn't require a host program. It's an application that can replicate itself and send itself through computer networks.

Trojan horses are programs that claim to do something they really are not designed for and end up fooling the user. They can even damage the victim's hard drive. They are also capable of creating a backdoor which allows a remote user to access the victim's computer system.

GOTCHA!

As if viruses, worms and Trojan horses weren't enough, we also have to worry about virus hoaxes. These are fake viruses -- they don't actually cause any harm or replicate themselves. Instead, the creators of these viruses hope that people and media companies treat the hoax as if it were the real deal. Even though these hoaxes aren't immediately dangerous, they still pose a problem. Like in the story of the shepherd and the wolf, hoax viruses can cause people to ignore warnings about real threats.



Every month, critical vulnerabilities are reported on a wide variety of operating systems and applications. Computer virus attacks are rapidly becoming the number one security problem which ranges between large scale social engineering attacks and exploiting critical vulnerabilities. Sophisticated attacks use polymorphism and even metamorphism mixed with cryptographically strong algorithms and self-updating which makes analysis and defense increasingly difficult.

Are our elections secured?

Can we trust our insurance companies' websites to secure our medical information? Can I get a free download from an online music store? These questions always hit me hard as more of our fundamental activities and commerce are turning to digital technologies. Computer security experts, both professional and amateur, recognize that the best way to make our vital systems secure, and keep them that way, is through an ongoing, scientific cycle of widespread testing, review, attacks, publication and continued system development. Yet the law has increasingly created barriers to this process. The Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, trade secret law and copyright law, for instance, have all created barriers to independent computer

security research into some of the most important systems used by the public today.

I will discuss basic principles of how a virus works. I know that cyber war fighting forces will eventually be large, well-trained, and operate with military discipline. Traditional strategic ideas such as concentration of force, deception, fog of war will be unchanged in the cyber arena. Ironically, the use of very open networking technologies for critical purposes, in a world where wars are still fought, is likely to lead to strong pressure to militarize civilian infrastructures.

I would now go deeper into the topic to give the readers a good information about the nightmares our computers face and how an interesting piece of code can make their operating system a piece of junk code!!



Viruses

A computer virus is a small piece of software that, like a human virus, is capable of replicating itself and spreading. In order to do this, a virus must be permitted to execute code and write to memory. For this reason, many viruses attach themselves to executable files (real programs), such as your favorite game. If you launch the game, the virus' code may be executed simultaneously, allowing it to replicate itself, and attach to other programs.

An e-mail virus travels as an attachment to e-mail messages, and usually replicates itself by automatically mailing itself to dozens of people in your e-mail address book. Some e-mail viruses don't even require a double-click -- they launch when you view the infected message in the preview pane of your e-mail software.

THE FIRST COMPUTER VIRUS EVER-

The Creeper Virus is generally accepted as the first computer virus. It was first detected on ARPANET, the forerunner of the Internet, in the early 1970's, infecting DEC PDP-10 computers running the TENEX operating system. Creeper gained access via the ARPANET and copied itself to the remote system where the message, "I'm the creeper, catch me if you can!" was displayed.

But the first virus that proved to be very deadly was an e-mail virus appeared in March, 1999 and was known as Melissa Virus. Anti-virus software vendors refer to this virus as the *Melissa macro* or *W97M_Melissa* virus. It propagated itself in the form of an e-mail message containing an infected Microsoft Word 97 or Word 2000 document as an attachment. It was so powerful that it forced a number of large companies, including Microsoft, to completely turn off their e-mail systems until the virus could be contained.

Now let's see how the virus propagates after its been uploaded to the internet by its creator:

VIRUS LIFE CYCLE

The life cycle of viruses in general, through 4 stages:

Dormant phase

(Phase Rest / Sleep)

In this phase the virus is not active. The virus will be activated by a particular condition, such as: the date specified the presence of another program / execution of other programs, etc. Not all of the viruses go through this phase.

Propagation phase

(Phase Distribution)

In this phase the virus copies itself to a program or to a place of storage media (both hard drives, ram, etc.).

Triggering phase (Phase Active)

In this phase the virus will be active.

Execution phase (Execution Phase)

In this phase the virus that have been active earlier will perform its function. Such as deleting files, display messages, etc.

Worms



A computer worm is a small piece of software that uses computer networks and security holes to replicate itself. Unlike computer viruses, worms do not need to attach themselves to programs, and don't require user intervention to spread. Worms are capable of replicating in great volumes, taking control of features on your computer that transport files or information. For instance, a worm called Code Red replicated itself

more than 250,000 times in approximately nine hours on July 19, 2001, slowing down Internet traffic dramatically.

Trojan Horses

A Trojan horse is a destructive computer program that masquerades as a valuable or entertaining tool. It claims to perform a desirable function, but in fact damages your computer system when it is run. A Trojan horse can be a virus or a remote control program. They are usually installed on a computer through an e-mail attachment.

Unlike viruses, Trojan horses do not replicate themselves but they can be just as destructive. One of the craftiest types of Trojan horse is a program that claims to rid a computer of viruses but instead introduces viruses onto the computer.

Back Orifice is a famous example of a Trojan horse, written to demonstrate the lack of security in Microsoft Windows 98. It was the brainchild of Sir Dystic, a member of the U.S. hacker organization CULT OF THE DEAD COW. It was designed for remote system administration, based on client-server architecture, allowing a user to control a computer running Microsoft Windows from a remote location (much like Microsoft's Remote Desktop Connection software). This required two components to work -- a client application running on the attacker's computer and a server application running on the victim's computer.

Trojan horses are becoming more and more common. According to a survey conducted by Bit Defender from January to June 2009, "Trojan-type malware is on the rise, accounting for 83-percent of the global malware detected in the world". This virus has a relationship with worms as it spreads with the help given by worms and travel across the Internet with them.

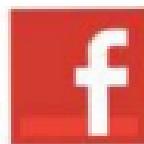
I would conclude by saying that much of the damage caused by contemporary viruses and worms is preventable. Administrators can minimize the effects of malicious code if they apply available software patches. There are a lot of quality anti-virus computer software makers to choose from. Hunt for products which have won awards or received quite a few recommendations. As soon as you may have crafted your invest in, merely install it, update the virus definitions and carry out a full scan of your personal pc and keep your pc healthy!!!

- by Shivansh Wadhwani,
Trainee,
Tech Ahoy

Contact
Us



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