Perplexity

Study Mode, Spaces, Research Mode, & Labs

OVERVIEW

Perplexity is designed to be an AI answer engine with access to the most accurate and up-to-date information across the web and marketed as being able to provide cited, factual information. General purpose multi-modal chatbots (even those with web access) are more conversational in nature and handle content generation, coding, writing/formatting, and "reasoning" with complex tasks. Perplexity is focused on accuracy and generating answers to search-like questions with the most current sources for fact-checking, factual inquiries, and research.

STUDY MODE

Study mode is a feature that offers interactive, step-by-step learning and study tools to guide students towards a deeper understanding of their questions and study materials rather than providing direct answers. Study mode also gauges familiarity with the topic and adjusts its teaching style by drawing on previous conversations and asking questions to match your skill level. It also tracks your progress by including quizzes and asking questions to see if you are making improvements in your understanding, while providing feedback to ensure that your learning progress can be applied to real situations.

Study mode is available to students and educators who can verify their status. Once verified, a Study icon will appear on the toggle panel in your search bar. To access student verification, click "upgrade" in the bottom left corner and verify student status via the "Student" toggle on the paywall. You may use any email for Perplexity, not just a student email. (Note: Education Pro offers a free 12 month trial)

To use this feature: New thread → Select the "Study" icon

SPACES

Spaces are personalized, collaborative work spaces for individual projects that act as

dedicated "knowledge hubs" where users can upload files, set custom AI instructions, and manage threads of conversations. This allows users to create centralized locations for specific project-related data with better organization and option for collaboration on complex or long-term tasks. Spaces can be accessed on the left sidebar menu.

RESEARCH

Perplexity's deep research feature that searches and summarizes the web to generate a comprehensive report. Perplexity's research feature takes less time than other deep research features because it is not as extensive, but will provide verifiable citations linked directly to sources more reliably than other models.

To use this feature: New thread → Select the "Research" icon in the prompt window

LABS

Perplexity Labs is an advanced creation engine dedicated to creating and building complete projects from user prompts. Labs combine web browsing, deep research, and an entire suite of tools to handle complex tasks that require building multiple related outputs and can generate charts, spreadsheets, reports, presentations, dashboards, and even simple web applications. This feature is only available to subscribers. Students and educators can get a free 12 month trial of the Education Pro tier, which gives access to Labs.