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2001 PC operating system by Microsoft Windows XPA version of the Windows XP running the Luna visual style, showing the start menu, taskbar, and My Computer windowDeveloperMicrosoftSource modelClosed-source-available (through Shared Source Initiative)[1]Released to
manufacturing August 24, 2001; 21 years ago (2001-08-24)[2] Generalavailability October 25, 2001; 20 years ago (2001-10-25)[2] Final release Service Pack 3 (5.1.2600.5512) / April 21, 2008; 14 years ago (2001-08-24)[3] Marketing target Consumer and Business Update method Windows Update Windows Server Update Services (WSUS) System Center
Configuration Manager (SCCM) PlatformsIA-32, x86-64, and ItaniumKernel typeHybrid (NT)Userland Windows API NTVDM (IA-32 only) SFU LicenseProprietary commercial softwarePreceded byWindows Vista (2007)Official websiteWindows XP (archived at Wayback Machine)Support status All
editions except Windows XP Embedded, Windows XP 64-bit Edition, Windows Embedded for Point of Service, Windows Embedded Standard 2009 and Windows XP 64-bit Edition: Unsupported as of June 30, 2005[5]
Windows XP Embedded: Mainstream support ended on January 11, 2011[4] Extended support ended on April 12, 2016[6] Windows Embedded Standard 2009: Mainstream support ended on January 14, 2014[7]
Extended support ended on January 8, 2019[7] Windows Embedded POSReady 2009: Mainstream support ended on April 8, 2014[8] Extended support ended on April 9, 2019[8] Part of a series of articles on Windows XP New features Releases and editions (Pro x64 · Media Center · Fundamentals) Pocket PC 2002 Windows Server 2003 Windows Mobile
2003 Windows Mobile 5.0 Development history Criticism Removed features XP vs. Vista vte Windows XP is a major release of Microsoft's Windows NT operating system. It was released to manufacturing on August 24, 2001, and later to retail on October 25, 2001. It is a direct upgrade to its predecessors, Windows 2000 for high-end and business users
and Windows Me for home users, available for any devices running Windows XP system requirements. Development of Windows XP system requirements. Development of Windows XP system requirements.
use. An updated version of Windows 2000 was also initially planned for the business market. However, in January 2000, both projects were scrapped in favor of a single OS codenamed "Whistler", which would serve as a single platform for both consumer and business markets. As a result, Windows XP is the first consumer edition of Windows not
based on the Windows 95 kernel and MS-DOS. Windows XP removed support for PC-98, i486 and SGI Visual Workstation 320 and 540 and will only run on 32-bit x86 CPUs and devices which use BIOS firmware. Upon its release, Windows XP received critical acclaim, noting increased performance and stability (especially compared to Windows Me), a
more intuitive user interface, improved hardware support, and expanded multimedia capabilities. Windows XP and Windows XP and Windows XP ended multimedia capabilities. Windows XP and Windows XP and Windows XP and Windows XP ended multimedia capabilities.
on April 14, 2009, and extended support ended on April 8, 2014. After that, the operating system ceased receiving further support. Windows Embedded POSReady 2009, based on Windows XP Professional, received security updates until April 2019. After that, unofficial methods were made available to apply the updates to other editions of Windows
XP. Still, Microsoft discouraged this practice, citing incompatibility issues.[10] As of September 2022[update], 0.39% of Windows XP (on all continents, the share is below 1%), and 0.1% of all devices across all platforms run Windows XP. Windows XP is still in widespread use in certain countries, such as Armenia, where over 50% of windows XP. Windows XP is still in widespread use in certain countries, such as Armenia, where over 50% of windows XP. Windows XP is still in widespread use in certain countries, such as Armenia, where over 50% of windows XP. Windows XP is still in widespread use in certain countries, such as Armenia, where over 50% of windows XP is still in widespread use in certain countries, such as Armenia, where over 50% of windows XP is still in widespread use in certain countries, such as Armenia, where over 50% of windows XP is still in widespread use in certain countries, such as Armenia, where over 50% of windows XP is still in widespread use in certain countries, such as Armenia, where over 50% of windows XP is still in widespread use in certain countries, such as Armenia, where over 50% of windows XP is still in widespread use in certain countries, such as Armenia, where over 50% of windows XP is still in widespread use in certain countries.
of computers use it.[11][12][13][14] Development of Windows XP was focused on two individual products: "Odyssey", which was reportedly intended to succeed the future Windows 2000 and "Neptune", which was reportedly a consumer-oriented
operating system using the Windows NT architecture, succeeding the MS-DOS-based Windows 98.[15] However, the projects proved to be too ambitious. In January 2000, shortly prior to the official release of Windows 98.[15] However, the projects proved to be too ambitious. In January 2000, shortly prior to the official release of Windows 98.[15] However, the projects proved to be too ambitious.
codenamed "Whistler", named after Whistler, British Columbia, as many Microsoft employees skied at the Whistler was to unify both the consumer and business-oriented Windows lines under a single, Windows NT platform. Thurrott stated that Neptune had become "a black hole when all the features that
were cut from Windows Me were simply re-tagged as Neptune features. And since Neptune and Odyssey would be based on the same code-base anyway, it made sense to combine them into a single project".[17] At PDC on July 13, 2000, Microsoft announced that Whistler would be released during the second half of 2001, and also unveiled the first
preview build, 2250, which featured an early implementation of Windows XP's visual styles system and interface changes to Windows Explorer and the Control Panel. [18] Microsoft released the first public beta build of Whistler, build 2296, on October 31, 2000. Subsequent builds gradually introduced features that users of the release version of
 Windows XP would recognize, such as Internet Explorer 6.0, the Microsoft Product Activation system and the Bliss desktop background.[19] Whistler was officially unveiled during a media event on February 5, 2001, under the name Windows XP, where XP stands for "eXPerience".[20] Release In June 2001, Microsoft indicated that it was planning to,
in conjunction with Intel and other PC makers, spend at least 1 billion US dollars on marketing and promoting Windows XP.[21] The theme of the campaign, "Yes You Can", was designed to emphasize the platform's overall capabilities. Microsoft had originally planned to use the slogan "Prepare to Fly", but it was replaced because of sensitivity issues
in the wake of the September 11 attacks.[22] On August 24, 2001, Windows XP build 2600 was released to manufacturing (RTM). During a ceremonial media event at Microsoft Redmond Campus, copies of the RTM build were given to representatives of several major PC manufacturers in briefcases, who then flew off on decorated helicopters. While
PC manufacturers would be able to release devices running XP beginning on September 24, 2001, XP was expected to reach general, retail availability on October 25, 2001. On the same day, Microsoft also announced the final retail pricing of XP's two main editions, "Home" (as a replacement for Windows Me for home computing) and "Professional"
(as a replacement for Windows 2000 for high-end users).[23] New and updated features Main article: Features new to Windows XP User interface Updated start menu in the Royale theme, now featuring two columns While retaining some similarities to previous versions, Windows XP's interface was overhauled with a new visual appearance, with an
increased use of alpha compositing effects, drop shadows, and "visual styles", which completely changed the appearance of the operating system based on the computer's processing power, and can be enabled or disabled on a case-by-case basis. XP also added ClearType, a new
subpixel rendering system designed to improve the appearance of fonts on liquid-crystal displays. [24] A new set of system icons was also introduced. [25] The default wallpaper, Bliss, is a photo of a landscape in the Napa Valley outside Napa, California, with rolling green hills and a blue sky with stratocumulus and cirrus clouds. [26] The Start menu
received its first major overhaul in XP, switching to a two-column layout with the ability to list, pin, and display frequently used applications, recently opened by a single application into one taskbar button, with a popup menu listing the
individual windows. The notification area also hides "inactive" icons by default. A "common tasks" list was added, and Windows Explorer's sidebar was updated to use a new task-based design with lists of common actions; the tasks displayed are contextually relevant to the type of content in a folder (e.g. a folder with music displays offers to play all
the files in the folder, or burn them to a CD).[27] The "task grouping" feature introduced in Windows XP showing both grouped and individual items Fast user switching allows additional users to log into a Windows XP showing both grouped and individual items Fast user switching allows additional users to log into a Windows XP showing both grouped and individual items Fast user switching allows additional users to log into a Windows XP showing both grouped and individual items Fast user switching allows additional users to log into a Windows XP showing both grouped and individual items Fast user switching allows additional users to log into a Windows XP showing both grouped and individual items Fast user switching allows additional users to log into a Windows XP showing both grouped and individual items Fast user switching allows additional users to log into a Windows XP showing both grouped and individual items Fast user switching allows additional users to log into a Windows XP showing both grouped and individual items Fast user switching allows additional users to log into a Windows XP showing both grouped and individual items Fast user switching allows additional users to log into a Windows XP showing both grouped and individual items fast user switching allows additional users and the window of the window of
monitor, keyboard, and mouse), previous users can resume their session once they regain control of the console.[28] Service Pack 2 and Service Pack 2 and Service Pack 3 also introduced new features to Windows Firewall, and support for SDHC cards,
which are larger than 4 GB and smaller than 32 GB.[29][30][31][32] Infrastructure Windows XP uses prefetching to improve startup and application of an updated device driver, should the updated driver produce undesirable results.[34] A copy protection system known as Windows
Product Activation was introduced with Windows Server 2003. All Windows Server 2003. All Windows is not activated within 30 days of installation, the OS will cease to
function until it is activated. Windows also periodically verifies the hardware to check for changes are detected, the activated. [35] Networking and internet functionality Windows XP was originally bundled with Internet Explorer 6, Outlook Express 6, Windows Messenger,
and MSN Explorer. New networking features were also added, including Internet Connection Firewall, Internet Connection Sharing integration with UPnP, NAT traversal APIs, Quality of Service features, IPv6 and Teredo tunneling, Background Intelligent Transfer Service, extended fax features, network bridging, peer to peer networking, support for
most DSL modems, IEEE 802.11 (Wi-Fi) connections with auto configuration and roaming, TAPI 3.1, and networking over FireWire.[36] Remote Assistance and Remote Desktop were also added, which allow users to connect to a computer running Windows XP from across a network or the Internet and access their applications, files, printers, and
devices or request help.[37] Improvements were also made to IntelliMirror features such as Offline Files, Roaming user profiles and Folder redirection.[38] Backwards compatibility mode" has been added. The feature allows pretending a selected earlier
version of Windows to software, starting at Windows 95.[39] While this ability was first introduced in Windows 2000 Service Pack 2, it had to be activated out of the box and also grants it to regular users.[40] Other features Improved
application compatibility and shims compared to Windows 2000.[41] DirectX 8.1, upgradeable to DirectX 9.0c.[42] A number of new features in Windows Explorer including task panes, thumbnails, and the option to view photos as a slideshow.[43] Improved imaging features such as Windows Picture and Fax Viewer.[44] Faster start-up, (because of
improved Prefetch functions) logon, logoff, hibernation, and application launch sequences.[33] Numerous improvements to increase the system Recovery,[46] and driver reliability improvements through Device Driver Rollback.[47] Hardware support improvements such as FireWire
800,[48] and improvements to multi-monitor support under the name "DualView".[49] Fast user switching.[50] The ClearType font rendering mechanism, which is designed to improve text readability on liquid-crystal display (LCD) and similar monitors, especially laptops.[24] Side-by-side assemblies[51] and registration-free COM.[52] General
improvements to international support such as more locales, languages and scripts, MUI support in Terminal Services, improved Input Method Editors, and National Language Support. [53] Removed features Main article: List of features removed in Windows XP Some of the programs and features that were part of the previous versions of Windows XP Some of the programs and features that were part of the previous versions of Windows XP Some of the programs and features that were part of the previous versions of Windows XP Some of the programs and features that were part of the previous versions of Windows XP Some of the programs and features that were part of the provious versions of Windows XP Some of the programs and features that were part of the previous versions of Windows XP Some of the programs and features that were part of the previous versions of Windows XP Some of the programs and features that were part of the previous versions of Windows XP Some of the programs and features that were part of the previous versions and the program of the programs and the program of the previous versions and the program of the pro
did not make it to Windows XP. Various MS-DOS commands available in its Windows 9x predecessor were removed, [54] as were the POSIX and OS/2 subsystems. [55] In networking, NetBEUI, NWLink and NetDDE were deprecated and not installed by default. [56] Plug-and-play-incompatible communication devices (like modems and network interface
cards) were no longer supported. [57] Service Pack 2 and Service Pack 3 also removed features from Windows XP, including support for TCP half-open connections [58] and the address bar on the taskbar. [59] Editions Main article: Windows XP, including support for TCP half-open connections [58] and the address bar on the taskbar. [59] Editions Main article: Windows XP, including support for TCP half-open connections [58] and the address bar on the taskbar. [59] Editions Main article: Windows XP, including support for TCP half-open connections [58] and the address bar on the taskbar. [59] Editions Main article: Windows XP, including support for TCP half-open connections [58] and the address bar on the taskbar. [59] Editions Main article: Windows XP, including support for TCP half-open connections [58] and the address bar on the taskbar. [59] Editions Main article: Windows XP, including support for TCP half-open connections [58] and the address bar on the taskbar.
(grey) and codebase (black arrow). Windows XP was released in two major editions on launch: Home Edition and Professional Edition. Both editions were made available at retail as pre-loaded software on new computers and as boxed copies. Boxed copies were sold as "Upgrade" or "Full" licenses; the "Upgrade" versions were slightly cheaper, but
require an existing version of Windows to install. The "Full" version can be installed on systems without an operating system or existing version of Windows.[21] The two editions of XP were aimed at different markets: Home Edition is explicitly intended for consumer use and disables or removes certain advanced and enterprise-oriented features
present on Professional, such as the ability to join a Windows domain, Internet Information Services, and Multilingual User Interface. Windows 98 or Me can be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but Windows 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but with the upgraded to either edition editions 100 can only be upgraded to either edition, but with the upgraded to either edition editions 100 can only be upgraded to either editions 100 can only be upgraded 100 can only 
to be "returned" to the OEM for a refund if the user does not wish to use it.[61] Despite the refusal of some manufacturers to honor the entitlement, it has been enforced by courts in some countries.[62] Two specialized variants of XP were introduced in 2002 for certain types of hardware, exclusively through OEM channels as pre-loaded software.
Windows XP Media Center Edition was initially designed for high-end home theater PCs with TV tuners (marketed under the term "Media Center PC"), offering expanded multimedia functionality, an electronic program guide, and digital video recorder (DVR) support through the Windows Media Center application.[63] Microsoft also unveiled
Windows XP Tablet PC Edition, which contains additional pen input features, and is optimized for mobile devices meeting its Tablet PC specifications. [64] Two different 64-bit editions of XP were made available. The first, Windows XP 64-Bit Edition, was intended for IA-64 (Itanium) systems; as IA-64 usage declined on workstations in favor of AMD's
x86-64 architecture, the Itanium edition was discontinued in January 2005.[65] A new 64-bit edition, was released in April of the same year.[66] Microsoft also targeted emerging markets with the 2004 introduction of Windows XP Starter Edition, a special variant of
Home Edition intended for low-cost PCs. The OS is primarily aimed at first-time computer owners, containing heavy localization (including wallpapers and screen savers incorporating images of local landmarks), and a "My Support" area which contains video tutorials on basic computing tasks. It also removes certain "complex" features, and does not
allow users to run more than three applications at a time. After a pilot program in India and Thailand, Starter was released in other emerging markets throughout 2005.[67] In 2006, Microsoft also unveiled the FlexGo initiative, which would also target emerging markets throughout 2005.[67] In 2006, Microsoft also unveiled the FlexGo initiative, which would also target emerging markets throughout 2005.[67] In 2006, Microsoft also unveiled the FlexGo initiative, which would also target emerging markets throughout 2005.[67] In 2006, Microsoft also unveiled the FlexGo initiative, which would also target emerging markets throughout 2005.[67] In 2006, Microsoft also unveiled the FlexGo initiative, which would also target emerging markets throughout 2005.[68] In 2006, Microsoft also unveiled the FlexGo initiative, which would also target emerging markets throughout 2005.[68] In 2006, Microsoft also unveiled the FlexGo initiative, which would also target emerging markets throughout 2005.[68] In 2006, Microsoft also unveiled the FlexGo initiative, which would also target emerging markets throughout 2005.[68] In 2006, Microsoft also unveiled the FlexGo initiative, which would also target emerging markets throughout 2005.[68] In 2006, Microsoft also unveiled the FlexGo initiative, which would also target emerging markets throughout 2005.[68] In 2006, Microsoft also unveiled the FlexGo initiative, which would also target emerging markets throughout 2005.[68] In 2006, Microsoft also unveiled the FlexGo initiative, which would also target emerging markets throughout 2005.[68] In 2006, Microsoft also unveiled the FlexGo initiative, which was a supplication of the FlexGo initiative, which was a supplicative and the FlexGo initi
competition lawsuits in Europe and South Korea, which both alleged that Microsoft was ordered to release special editions of XP in these markets that excluded certain applications. In March 2004, after the European Commission fined Microsoft
$\pmathcal{e}497$ million (US$603 million), Microsoft was ordered to release "N" editions of XP that excluded Windows Media Player included, certain OEMs (such as Dell, who offered it for a short period, along
with Hewlett-Packard, Lenovo and Fujitsu Siemens) chose not to offer it. Consumer interest was minuscule, with roughly 1,500 units shipped to OEMs, and no reported sales to consumers.[70] In December 2003 that do not
contain Windows Media Player or Windows Messenger. [71] The "K" and "KN" editions of Windows XP were released in August 2006, and are only available in English and Korean, and also contain links to third-party instant messenger and media player software. [72] Service pack is a cumulative update package that is a superset of all
updates, and even service packs, that have been released for Windows XP. Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different, in that it needs at least Service Pack 3 is slightly different.
reported as a prerequisite for doing so.[75] The unique boot screens from the RTM to Service Pack 1 versions of Windows XP that identified the edition of Windows XP that identified the edition of Windows XP that identified the edition of Windows XP currently running, including a green progress bar for Home Edition of Windows XP that identified the edition of Windows XP that identified the edition of Windows XP that identified the edition of Windows XP currently running, including a green progress bar for Home Edition of Windows XP that identified the edition of Windows 
Service Pack 2 of Windows XP and was replaced with a generic "Windows XP" boot screen with a blue progress bar. Service Pack 1 Service Pack 1
2.0 support, the Microsoft Java Virtual Machine, .NET Framework support, and support for technologies used by the then-upcoming Media Center and Tablet PC editions of XP.[76] The most significant change on SP1 was the addition of Set Program Access and Defaults, a settings page which allows programs to be set as default for certain types of
activities (such as media players or web browsers) and for access to bundled, Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the settlement of United States v. Microsoft comply with the sett
software it bundles with Windows (such as Internet Explorer and Windows Media Player), and give them the same level of prominence as those normally bundled with the OS.[77] On February 3, 2003, Microsoft released Service Pack 1a (SP1a). It was the same as SP1, except, the Microsoft Java Virtual Machine was excluded.[78] Service Pack 2
Windows Security Center window running Windows XP Service Pack 2, showing no virus protection installed Service Pack 2 (SP2) for Windows XP Home edition and Professional edition was released on August 25, 2004.[79] Headline features included WPA encryption compatibility for Wi-Fi and usability improvements to the Wi-Fi networking user
interface,[80] partial Bluetooth support,[81] and various improvements to security systems. The security improvements (codenamed "Springboard",[82] as these features were intended to underpin additional changes in Longhorn) included a major revision to the included firewall (renamed Windows Firewall, and now enabled by default), and an
update to Data Execution Prevention, which gained hardware support in the NX bit that can stop some forms of buffer overflow attacks. Raw socket support is removed (which supposedly limits the damage done by zombie machines) and the Windows Messenger service (which had been abused to cause pop-up advertisements to be displayed as
system messages without a web browser or any additional software) became disabled by default. Additionally, security-related improvements were made to e-mail and web browsing. Service Pack 2 also added Security center, an interface that provides a general overview of the system's security status, including the state of the firewall and automatic
updates. Third-party firewall and antivirus software can also be monitored from Security Center.[83] In August 2006, Microsoft released updated installation media for Windows XP and Windows Server 2003 SP2 (SP2b), in order to incorporate a patch requiring ActiveX controls in Internet Explorer to be manually activated before a user may interact
with them. This was done so that the browser would not violate a patent owned by Eolas.[84] Microsoft has since licensed the patent, and released a patch reverting the change in April 2008.[85] In September 2007, another minor revision known as SP2c was released for XP Professional, extending the number of available product keys for the
operating system to "support the continued availability of Windows XP Professional through the scheduled system builder channel end-of-life (EOL) date of January 31, 2009. [86] Windows XP Service Pack 3 The third and final
Service Pack, SP3, was released through different channels between April[3] and June 2008,[87] about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and about a year after the release of Windows Vista, and a year after the release of Windows Vista, and a year after the release of Windows Vista, and a year after the release of Windows Vista, and a year after the release of Windows Vista, and a year after the release of Windows Vista, and a year after the release of Windows Vista, and a year after the release of Windows Vista, and a year after the release of Windows Vista, and a year after the release of Windows Vista, and a year after the release of Windows Vista, and a year after the year after t
packs[88] rather than the ones for the other editions.[89] It began being automatically pushed out to Automatic Updates users on July 10, 2008.[90] A feature set overview which detailed new features et overview which detailed new features available separately as stand-alone updates to Windows XP, as well as backported features from Windows Vista, was posted by Microsoft.[91] A total of
 1,174 fixes are included in SP3.[92] Service Pack 3 could be installed on systems with Internet Explorer up to and included in Windows 7, which was released one year after XP SP3. Service Pack 3 included security
enhancements over and above those of SP2, including APIs allowing developers to enable Data Execution Prevention for their code, independent of system-wide compatibility enforcement settings, [94] the Security Support Provider Interface, [95] improvements to WPA2 security, [96] and an updated version of the Microsoft Enhanced Cryptographic
Provider Module that is FIPS 140-2 certified. [97] In incorporating all previously released updates not included many other key features. Windows Imaging Component allowed camera vendors to integrate their own proprietary image codecs with the operating system's features. Windows Imaging Component allowed camera vendors to integrate their own proprietary image codecs with the operating system's features.
In enterprise features, Remote Desktop Protocol 6.1 included support for ClearType and 32-bit color depth over RDP,[99] while improvements made to Windows Vista to reduce the possibility of corruption of the WMI repository were backported to XP SP3.[100] In addition, SP3 contains updates to the
 updates for Windows Media Player 10, although the player is included in Windows XP MCE 2005.[101] The Address Bar DeskBand on the Taskbar is no longer included because of antitrust violation concerns.[102] Unofficial SP3 ZIP download packages were released on a now-defunct website called The Hotfix from 2005 to 2007.[103][104] The owner
determine which fixes were planned for the official SP3 release to come. Microsoft publicly stated at the time that the SP3 pack was unofficial and advised users to not install it.[105][106] Allen also released a Vista SP1 package in 2007, for which Allen received a cease-and-desist email from Microsoft.[107] Windows XP Service Pack 3 was later
included in Windows Embedded Standard 2009 and Windows Embedded POSReady 2009. System requirements for Windows XP are as follows: System requirements for Windo
device(s) Keyboard, mouse Professional x64 Edition[J] CPU x86-64 or compatibleBIOS or compatible firmware[D]Memory 256 MBFree space 1.5 GBMaster boot record used[D]Media CD-ROM drive or compatible firmware[D]Memory 256 MBFree space 1.5 GBMaster boot record used[D]Media CD-ROM drive or compatible firmware[D]Memory 256 MBFree space 1.5 GBMaster boot record used[D]Media CD-ROM drive or compatible firmware[D]Memory 256 MBFree space 1.5 GBMaster boot record used[D]Media CD-ROM drive or compatible firmware[D]Memory 256 MBFree space 1.5 GBMaster boot record used[D]Media CD-ROM drive or compatible firmware[D]Memory 256 MBFree space 1.5 GBMaster boot record used[D]Media CD-ROM drive or compatible firmware[D]Memory 256 MBFree space 1.5 GBMaster boot record used[D]Memory 256 MBFree space 1.5 GBMaster boot record used 1.5 
Edition[K] CPU Itanium 733 MHzItanium 800 MHzMemory 1 GBFree space 6 GBMedia CD-ROM drive or compatible Display Super VGA (800 × 600)Input device(s) Keyboard, mouse Notes ^ "System requirements for Windows XP operating systems". April 28, 2005. Archived from the original on August 6, 2011. Retrieved March 12, 2007. ^ Even
though this is Microsoft's stated minimum processor speed for Windows XP, it is possible to install and run the operating system on early IA-32 processors such as a P5 Pentium without MMX instructions. Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows XP is not compatible with processor speed for Windows 
F00F bug) instructions. ^ "Windows XP Minimal Requirement Test". Winhistory.de. September 9, 2011. Archived from the original on December 21, 2011. Retrieved January 1, 2012. ^ a b c d e "Windows XP: Required firmware and partition mapping scheme of hard disk drive". Support.microsoft.com. June 26, 2013. Archived from the original on December 21, 2011. Archived from the original or
April 27, 2017. Retrieved June 16, 2014. ^ A Microsoft TechNet paper from Summer 2001 (before Windows XP and a few applications with moderate memory requirements." (Emphasis added.) These were said to be office productivity
applications, e-mail programs, and web browsers (of the time). With such a configuration, user interface enhancements and fast user switching are turned off by default. For comparable workloads, 64 MB of RAM was then regarded as providing an equal or better user experience on Windows XP with similar settings than it would with Windows Me on
the same hardware. In a later section of the paper, superior performance over Windows Me was noted with 128 MB of RAM or more, and with computers that exceed the minimum hardware requirements. ^ Sechrest, Stuart; Fortin, Michael (June 1, 2001). "Windows XP Performance". Microsoft TechNet. Archived from the original on July 27, 2010.
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 "Microsoft Windows XP 64-Bit Edition". Microsoft TechNet. Microsoft TechNet. Microsoft. August 15, 2001. Archived from the original on April 19, 2012. Retrieved May 2, 2012. Physical memory limits The maximum amount of RAM that Windows XP can support up
to 4 GB, except the Windows XP Starter edition, which supports up to 512 MB of RAM.[108] 64-bit editions supports up to 128 GB.[109] Processors; [110] Windows XP Home Edition supports only one.[111] However, XP supports a greater number of logical processors: 32-bit editions
support up to 32 logical processors,[112] and 64-bit editions support up to 64 logical processors,[113] Upgradeability Several Windows XP components are upgradable to latest versions for Windows XP
include: ActiveSync 4.5 DirectX 9.0c (5 February 2010 Redistributable) Internet Explorer 8 on Windows XP Service Packs 2 and 3 (Internet Explorer 6 SP1 and Outlook Express 6 
Windows XP original release.) Microsoft Virtual PC 2004 and 2007 .NET Framework up to and including versions are not supported.) Visual Studio 2008 on Windows XP SP2 and Visual Studio 2010 on Windows XP SP3 Windows Sp. Visual Studio 2008 on Windows Installer 4.5
Office 2010 was the last version of Microsoft Office to be compatible with Windows XP. Microsoft NetMeeting 3.02 Support lifecycle Support Status summary Expiration dateMainstream supportApril 14, 2009 (2009-04-14)[4] The official exceptions ended in April 2019. Applicable XP editions: Home Edition
Professional Edition, Professional x64 Edition, Professional for Embedded Systems, Media Center Editions (all), Starter Edition and Tablet PC Edition and 
2005[5]Windows XP Embedded Mainstream support ended on January 12, 2016[4]Windows Embedded for Point of ServiceMainstream support ended on April 12, 2016[6]Windows Embedded Standard 2009Mainstream support ended on January 14,
2014Extended support ended on January 8, 2019[7]Windows Embedded POSReady 2009Mainstream support ended on April 9, 2014Extended support ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the original release of Windows XP (without a service pack) ended on April 9, 2019[8] Support for the origin
2006,[4] and both Windows 2000 and Windows XP SP2 reached their end of support on July 13, 2010, about 24 months after the launch of Windows XP Service Pack 3.[4] The company stopped general licensing of Windows Vista
[115] However, an exception was announced on April 3, 2008, for OEMs producing what it defined as "ultra low-cost personal computers", particularly netbooks, until one year after the availability of Windows 7 on October 22, 2009. Analysts felt that the move was primarily intended to compete against Linux-based netbooks, until one year after the availability of Windows 7 on October 22, 2009. Analysts felt that the move was primarily intended to compete against Linux-based netbooks, until one year after the availability of Windows 7 on October 22, 2009.
 Kevin Hutz stated that the decision was due to apparent market demand for low-end computers with Windows XP Embedded SP3 and Windows XP for embedded for Point of Service SP3 were supported until January and April 2016, respectively. Windows XP for embedded for Point of Service SP3 were supported until January and April 2016, respectively. Windows XP for embedded for Point of Service SP3 were supported until January and April 2016, respectively. Windows XP for embedded for Point of Service SP3 were supported until January and April 2016, respectively.
 Embedded Standard 2009, which was succeeded by Windows Embedded POSReady 7, were supported until January and April 2019, respectively.[117] These updates, while intended for the embedded editions, could also be downloaded on standard roughly.
Windows XP with a registry hack, which enabled unofficial patches until April 2019. However, Microsoft advised Windows XP users against installing these fixes, citing incompatibility issues. [10][118] End of support On April 14, 2009, Windows XP exited mainstream support and entered the extended support phase; Microsoft continued to provide
security updates every month for Windows XP, however, free technical support, warranty claims, and design changes were no longer being offered. Extended support life cycle of only 10 years.[119] Beyond the final security updates
released on April 8, no more security patches or support information are provided for XP free-of-charge; "critical patches" will still be created, and made available only to customers subscribing to a paid "Custom Support" plan.[121] In
January 2014, it was estimated that more than 95% of the 3 million automated teller machines in the world were still running Windows XP (which largely replaced IBM's OS/2 as the predominant operating system on ATMs); ATMs have an average lifecycle of between seven and ten years, but some have had lifecycles as long as 15. Plans were being
made by several ATM vendors and their customers to migrate to Windows 7-based systems over the course of 2014, while vendors have also considered the possibility for support lifecycles, and the ATM Industry Association (ATMIA) has since endorsed Windows 10 as a further
replacement.[122] However, ATMs typically run the embedded variant of Windows XP, which was supported through January 2016.[123] As of May 2017, around 60% of the 220,000 ATMs in India still run Windows XP, which was supported through January 2016.[123] As of May 2017, around 60% of the 220,000 ATMs in India still run Windows XP. [124] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [124] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [124] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [124] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [124] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [124] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [125] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [125] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [126] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [126] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [126] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [127] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [128] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [128] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [128] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [128] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [128] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [128] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [128] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [128] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [128] Furthermore, at least 49% of all computers in China still run Windows XP. [128] Furthermore, at least 49% of
several factors; prices of genuine copies of later versions of Windows 8 could allegedly expose users to surveillance by the United States government, [125] and the Chinese government would ban the purchase of Windows 8 products for government
use in May 2014 in protest of Microsoft's inability to provide "guaranteed" support could affect their anti-piracy initiatives with Microsoft, as users would simply pirate newer versions rather than purchasing them legally. As such, government officials formally requested that
Microsoft extend the support period for XP for these reasons. While Microsoft did not comply with their requests, a number of major Chinese users migrating from XP.[127] Several governments, in particular those of the Netherlands and
the United Kingdom, elected to negotiate "Custom Support" plans with Microsoft for their continued, internal use of Windows XP; the British government's deal lasted for a year, and also covered support for Office 2003 (which reached end-of-life the same day) and cost £5.5 million.[128] On March 8, 2014, Microsoft deployed an update for XP that, on
the 8th of each month, displays a pop-up notification to remind users about the end of support; however, these notifications may be disabled by the user. [129] Microsoft also partnered with Laplink to provide a special "express" version of its PCmover software to help users migrate files and settings from XP to a computer with a newer version of
 Windows.[130] An electroencephalograph running on Windows XP. The medical industry's continued use of Windows XP is partly due to medical applications being incompatible with later versions of Windows XP; many users elected to remain on XP
because of the poor reception of Windows Vista, and deployments of new versions of Windows in enterprise environments require a large amount of planning, which includes testing applications for compatibility (especially those that
are dependent on Internet Explorer 6, which is not compatible with newer versions of Windows XP past the end of support to varying extents, along with the developers of Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, and Opera web
browsers;[121] despite these measures, critics similarly argued that users should eventually migrate from XP to a supported platform.[132] The United States' Computer Emergency Readiness Team released an alert in March 2014 advising users of the impending end of support, and informing them that using XP after April 8 may prevent them from
meeting US government information security requirements.[133] Microsoft continued to provide Security Essentials virus definitions and updates for its Malicious Software Removal Tool (MSRT) for XP until July 14, 2015.[134] As the end of extended support approached, Microsoft began to increasingly urge XP customers to migrate to newer versions
such as Windows 7 or 8 in the interest of security, suggesting that attackers could reverse engineer security patches for newer versions of Windows XP is remotely exploitable by numerous security holes that were discovered after Microsoft stopped supporting it.[136][137]
Similarly, specialized devices that run XP, particularly medical devices, must have any revisions to their software—even security updates for the underlying operating system—approved by relevant regulators before they can be released. For this reason, manufacturers often did not allow any updates to devices operating systems, leaving them open to
security exploits and malware.[138] Despite the end of support for Windows XP, Microsoft has released in May 2014 to address recently discovered vulnerabilities in Internet Explorer 6 through 11 on all versions of Windows.[139] A
 patch released in May 2017 to address a vulnerability that was being leveraged by the WannaCry ransomware attack.[140] A patch released in May 2019 to address a critical code execution vulnerability.[141][142] Researchers reported in August 2019
 that Windows 10 users may be at risk for "critical" system compromise because of design flaws of hardware device drivers from multiple providers. [143] In the same month, computer experts reported that the BlueKeep security vulnerability, CVE-2019-0708, that potentially affects older unpatched Microsoft Windows versions via the program's
Remote Desktop Protocol, allowing for the possibility of remote code execution, may now include related flaws, collectively named DejaBlue, affecting newer Windows versions (i.e., Windows 7 and all recent versions) as well.[144] In addition, experts reported a Microsoft security vulnerability, CVE-2019-1162, based on legacy code involving Microsoft
CTF and ctfmon (ctfmon.exe), that affects all Windows XP versions from the older Windows XP versions from the older Windows XP versions from the older Windows XP and Windows Me would end on July 31, 2019 (and for
 Windows 7 on January 22, 2020).[146] Others, such as Steam, had done the same, ending support for Windows Update Services are no longer
available on the OS as of late July 2020.[148] However, as of October 2021, the old updates for Windows XP are still available on the Microsoft Update Catalog.[149] Reception On release, Windows XP are still available on the Microsoft Update Catalog.[149] Reception On release, Windows XP are still available on the Microsoft Update Catalog.[149] Reception On release, Windows XP are still available on the Microsoft Update Catalog.[149] Reception On release, Windows XP are still available on the Microsoft Update Catalog.[149] Reception On release, Windows XP are still available on the Microsoft Update Catalog.[149] Reception On release, Windows XP are still available on the Microsoft Update Catalog.[149] Reception On release, Windows XP are still available on the Microsoft Update Catalog.[149] Reception On release, Windows XP are still available on the Microsoft Update Catalog.[149] Reception On release, Windows XP are still available on the Microsoft Update Catalog.[149] Reception On release, Windows XP are still available on the Microsoft Update Catalog.[149] Reception On release, Windows XP are still available on the Microsoft Update Catalog.[149] Reception On release, Windows XP are still available on the Microsoft Update Catalog.[149] Reception On release, Windows XP are still available on the Microsoft Update Catalog.[149] Reception On release, Windows XP are still available on the Microsoft Update Catalog.[149] Reception On Reception
intuitive than previous versions, but feeling that it may "annoy" experienced users with its "hand-holding". XP's expanded multimedia support and CD burning functionality were also praised, along with its increased
number of built-in device drivers in comparison to 2000. The software compatibility tools were also praised, although it was noted that some programs, particularly older MS-DOS software, may not work correctly on XP because of its differing architecture. They panned Windows XP's new licensing model and product activation system, considering in the comparison to 2000. The software compatibility tools were also praised, although it was noted that some programs, particularly older MS-DOS software, may not work correctly on XP because of its differing architecture.
to be a "slightly annoying roadblock", but acknowledged Microsoft's intent for the changes.[150] PC Magazine provided similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise, although noting that a number of its online features were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise were designed to promote Microsoft similar praise were designed to promote Microsoft similar pr
[151] Windows XP's default theme, Luna, was criticized by some users for its childish look.[152][153] Despite extended support for Windows XP ending in 2014, many users – including some enterprises – were reluctant to move away from an operating system they viewed as a stable known quantity despite the many security and functionality
 improvements in subsequent releases of Windows. Windows XP's longevity was viewed as testament to its stability and Microsoft's successful attempts to keep it up to date, but also as an indictment of its direct successor's perceived failings. [154] Market share See also: Usage share of operating systems According to web analytics data generated by
Net Applications, Windows XP was the most widely used operating system until August 2012, when Windows 7 overtook it (later overtaken by Windows XP was the most widely used operating systems" for XP (when
XP was introduced there was not a separate mobile category to track), while W3Schools reported a share of 11.0%.[158] As of December 2021[update], in most regions or continents, Windows XP market share on PCs, as a fraction of the total Windows share, has gone below 1% (1.72% in Africa, where it was previously at 0.8%[159]). XP still has a
double-digit market share in a few countries, such as Armenia at over 50%,[11][12][13][14] at 57%, where Windows 7 was highest ranked, and with it being replaced by Windows 10, Windows XP got highest ranked for the longest time, and had over 60% share on some weekends in the summer of 2019.[160][161] Source code leak On September 23
2020, source code for Windows XP with Service Pack 1 and Windows Server 2003 was leaked onto the imageboard 4chan by an unknown user. Anonymous users managed to compile the code was genuine.[162] The videos were later removed on copyright
grounds by Microsoft. The leak was incomplete as it was missing the Winlogon source code and some other components. [163][164] The original leak itself was spread using magnet links and torrent files whose payload originally included Server 2003 and XP source code and which was later updated with additional files, among which were previous
 leaks of Microsoft products, its patents, media about conspiracy theories on Bill Gates by anti-vaccination movements and an assortment of PDF files on different topics. [164] [166] Microsoft issued a statement stating that it was investigating the leaks. [164] [166] [167] See also BlueKeep (security vulnerability) Comparison of operating systems History of
operating systems List of operating systems List of operating systems References ^ "Windows XP Ready for Release to Manufacturing | Stories". Microsoft Stories. Microsoft Stories. Microsoft August 24, 2001.
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SP3 (KB4012598) Retrieved from "2Anonymous imageboard website 4chanHomepage on July 6, 2022Type of siteImageboardAvailable inEnglishOwnerHiroyuki NishimuraCreated byChristopher PooleURL www.4chan.org (NSFW) www.4channel.org (SFW) CommercialYesRegistrationNone available (except for staff)LaunchedOctober 1, 2003; 18 years
 ago (2003-10-01)[1] 4chan is an anonymous English-language imageboard website. Launched by Christopher "moot" Poole in October 2003, the site hosts boards dedicated to a wide variety of topics, from anime and manga to video games, cooking, weapons, television, music, literature, history, fitness, politics, and sports, among others. Registration
is not available and users typically post anonymously.[2] As of 2022[update], 4chan receives more than 22 million unique monthly visitors, of which approximately half are from the United States.[3][4] 4chan was created as an unofficial English-language counterpart to the Japanese imageboard Futaba Channel, also known as 2chan, and its first
boards were created for posting images and discussion related to anime. The site has been described as a hub of Internet subculture, its community being influential in the formation and popularization of prominent Internet memes, such as
Anonymous and the alt-right. 4chan has often been the subject of media attention as a source of controversies, including the coordination of pranks and harassment against websites and Internet users, and the posting of illegal and offensive content. The Guardian summarized the 4chan community of 2008 as "lunatic, juvenile (...) brilliant, ridiculous
 and alarming".[5] Background Christopher Poole, 4chan's founder, at XOXO Festival in 2012 The majority of posting on 4chan takes place on imageboards, on which users have the ability to share images and create threaded discussions.[6][7] As of August 2022[update], the site's homepage lists 75 imageboards and one Flash animation board. Most
boards have their own set of rules and are dedicated to a specific topic, including anime and manga, video games, music, literature, fitness, politics, among others. Uniquely, the "Random" board—also known as /b/—enforces no particular rules.[8] 4chan is the Internet's most trafficked imageboard, according to the Los Angeles Times.[9]
4chan's Alexa rank is 853 as of March 2022[update][10] though it has been as high as 56.[11] It is provided to its users free of charge and consumes a large amount of bandwidth; as a result, its financing has often been problematic. Poole has acknowledged that donations alone could not keep the site online, and turned to advertising to help make
ends meet.[12] However, the explicit content hosted on 4chan has deterred businesses who do not want to be associated with the site's content.[13] In January 2009, Poole signed a new deal with an advertising company; in February 2009, he was $20,000 in debt, and the site was continuing to lose money.[14] The 4chan servers were moved from
Texas to California in August 2008, which upgraded the maximum bandwidth throughput of 4chan from 100Mbit/s to 1Gbit/s.[15] Unlike most web forums, 4chan does not have a registration system, allowing users to post anonymously.[16][17] Posting is ephemeral, as threads receiving recent replies are "bumped" to the top of their respective board
and old threads are deleted as new ones are created.[2] Any nickname may be used when posting, even one that has been previously adopted, such as "Anonymous" or "moot".[18] In place of registration, 4chan has provided tripcodes as an optional form of authenticating a poster's identity.[19] As making a post without filling in the "Name" field
causes posts to be attributed to "Anonymous", general understanding on 4chan holds that Anonymous is not a single person but a collective (hive) of users. [20] Moderators generally post without a name even when performing sysop actions. A "capcode" may be used to attribute the post to "Anonymous ## Mod", although moderators often post
without the capcode.[21] In a 2011 interview on Nico Douga, Poole explained that there are approximately 20 volunteer moderation team, called "janitors", who may delete posts or images and suggest that the normal moderation team ban a user, but who cannot post with a capcode
Revealing oneself as a janitor is grounds for immediate dismissal.[22] 4chan has been the target of occasional denial of service attacks. For instance, on December 28, 2010, 4chan and other websites went down due to such an attack, following which Poole said on his blog, "We now join the ranks of MasterCard, Visa, PayPal, et al.—an exclusive club!
[23] History The site was launched as 4chan.net on October 1, 2003, by Christopher Poole, a then-15-year-old student from New York City using the online handle "moot".[24] Poole had been a regular participant on Something Awful's subforum "Anime Death Tentacle Rape Whorehouse" (ADTRW), where many users were familiar with the Japanese
imageboard format and Futaba Channel ("2chan.net").[16] When creating 4chan, Poole obtained Futaba Channel's open source code and translator.[note 1][25] After the site's creation, Poole invited users from the ADTRW subforum, many of whom were dissatisfied with the
site's moderation, to visit 4chan, which he advertised as an English-language counterpart to Futaba Channel and a place for Western fans to discuss anime and manga.[7][26][27] At its founding, the site only hosted one board: /b/ (Anime/Random).[note 1] Before the end of 2003, several new anime-related boards were added, including /h/ (Hentai), /c/
(Anime/Cute), /d/ (Hentai/Alternative), /w/ (Wallpapers/Anime), /y/ (Yaoi), and /a/ (Anime). Additionally, a lolicon board was created at /l/ (Lolikon),[29] but was disabled following the posting of genuine child pornography and ultimately deleted in October 2004, after threats of legal action.[30][31] In February 2004, GoDaddy suspended the 4chan.net
domain, prompting Poole to move the site to its current domain at 4chan.org. On March 1, 2004, Poole announced that he lacked the funds to pay the month's server bill, but was able to continue operations after receiving a swarm of donations from users.[32] In June 2004, 4chan experienced six weeks of downtime after PayPal suspended 4chan's
donations service after receiving complaints about the site's content. [33] Following 4chan's return, several non-anime related boards were introduced, including the sports board at /sp/, the fashion board at /fa/ and the "Japan/General" (the name
later changed to "Otaku Culture") board at /jp/.[35] By this point, 4chan's culture had altered, moving away from the "early, more childish," humour, as evident by the likes of Project Chanology; trolling underwent a so-called "golden age", taking aim at American corporate media.[36][37] In January 2011, Poole announced the deletion of the /r9k/
("ROBOT9000") and /new/ (News) boards, saying that /new/ had become devoted to racist discussions, and /r9k/ no longer served its original purpose of being a test implementation of xkcd's ROBOT9000 script.[38] During the same year, the /soc/ board was created in an effort to reduce the number of socialization threads on /b/. /r9k/ was restored or
October 23, 2011, along with /hc/ ("Hardcore", previously deleted), /pol/ (a rebranding of /new/) and the new /diy/ board, in addition to an apology by Poole where he recalls how he criticized the deletion of Encyclopedia Dramatica and realized that he had done the same.[39] In 2010, 4chan had implemented reCAPTCHA in an effort to thwart spam
arising from JavaScript worms. By November 2011, 4chan made the transition to utilizing Cloudflare following a series of DDoS attacks. The 4chan imageboards were rewritten in valid HTML5/CSS3 in May 2012 in an effort to improve client-side performance.[15] On September 28, 2012, 4chan introduced a "4chan pass" [40] that, when purchased,
 "allows users to bypass typing a reCAPTCHA verification when posting and reporting posts on the 4chan image boards"; the money raised from the passes will go towards supporting the site. [41] Hiroyuki Nishimura, the owner of 4chan since 2015 On January 21, 2015, Poole stepped down as the site's administrator, citing stress from controversies
such as Gamergate as the reason for his departure. [42][43][44] On September 21, 2015, Poole announced that Hiroyuki Nishimura was the former administrator of 2channel between 1999 and 2014, the website forming the
basis for anonymous posting culture which influenced later websites such as Futaba Channel and 4chan; [47] Nishimura lost 2channel and 4chan; [48] after the latter alleged financial difficulties. [50] Wired later reported that Japanese toy manufacturer Good Smile Company, Japanese
telecommunication Dwango, and Nishimura's company Future Search Brazil may have helped facilitate Nishimura's purchase, with anonymous sources telling the publication that Good Smile obtained partial ownership in the website as compensation.[51] In October 2016, it was reported that the site was facing financial difficulties that could lead to
its closure or radical changes. [52] In a post titled "Winter is Coming", Hiroyuki Nishimura said, "We had tried to keep 4chan as is. But I failed. I am sincerely sorry", citing server costs, and network fees. [53] On November 17, 2018, it was announced that the site would be split into two, with the work-safe boards moved to a new
domain, 4channel.org, while the NSFW boards would remain on the 4chan.org domain. In a series of posts on the topic, Nishimura explained that the new 4channel domain would allow for the site to receive advertisements by mainstream ad providers.[54] In a 2020
interview with Vice Media, several current or past moderators spoke about what they perceived as racist intent behind the site is management. They described how a managing moderation of the site primarily to RapeApe."
Neither Nishimura nor RapeApe responded to these allegations.[55] Far-right extremism has been reported by public authorities, commentators and civil society groups as connected, in part, to 4chan, an association that had arisen by 2015.[56][57] Christopher Poole Reported by public authorities, commentators and civil society groups as connected, in part, to 4chan, an association that had arisen by 2015.[56][57] Christopher Poole Reported By public authorities, commentators and civil society groups as connected, in part, to 4chan, an association that had arisen by 2015.[56][57] Christopher Poole Reported By public authorities, commentators and civil society groups as connected, in part, to 4chan, an association that had arisen by 2015.[56][57] Christopher Poole Reported By public authorities, commentators and civil society groups as connected, in part, to 4chan, an association that had arisen by 2015.[56][57] Christopher Poole Reported By public authorities, commentators and civil society groups as connected, in part, to 4chan, an association that had arisen by 2015.[56][57] Christopher Poole Reported By public authorities, commentators and civil society groups as connected, in part, to 4chan, an association that had arisen by 2015.[56][57] Christopher Poole Reported By public authorities are connected by public authorities.
Wall Street Journal. Prior to that, he had used the alias "moot".[24] In April 2009, Poole was voted the world's most influence the vote.
[59][60][61] 4chan's interference with the vote seemed increasingly likely, when it was found that reading the first 21 candidates in the poll spelled out a phrase containing two 4chan memes: "mARBLECAKE. ALSO, THE GAME."[62] On September 12, 2009, Poole gave a talk on why 4chan has a reputation as a "Meme Factory" at the
 Paraflows Symposium in Vienna, Austria, which was part of the Paraflows 09 festival, themed Urban Hacking. In this talk, Poole mainly attributed this to the anonymous system, and to the lack of data retention on the site ("The site has no memory.").[63][64] In April 2010, Poole gave evidence in the trial United States of America v. David Kernell as a
government witness.[65] As a witness, he explained to the court the nature of the data given to the FBI as part of the search warrant, including how users can be uniquely identified from site audit logs.[66] Notable imageboards /b/ Main article: /b/ The
 "random" board, /b/, follows the design of Futaba Channel's Nijiura board. It was the first board created, and has been described as 4chan's most popular board where "people try to shock, entertain, and coax free porn from each other."[6] /b/ has
a "no rules" policy, except for bans on certain illegal content, such as child pornography, invasions of other websites (posting floods of disruptive content), and under-18 viewing, all of which are inherited from site-wide rules. The "no invasions" rule was added in late 2006, after /b/ users spent most of that summer "invading" Habbo Hotel. The "no invasions" rule was added in late 2006, after /b/ users spent most of that summer "invading" Habbo Hotel. The "no invasions" rule was added in late 2006, after /b/ users spent most of that summer "invading" Habbo Hotel. The "no invasions" rule was added in late 2006, after /b/ users spent most of that summer "invading" Habbo Hotel. The "no invasions" rule was added in late 2006, after /b/ users spent most of that summer "invading" Habbo Hotel. The "no invasions" rule was added in late 2006, after /b/ users spent most of that summer "invading" Habbo Hotel. The "no invasions" rule was added in late 2006, after /b/ users spent most of that summer "invading" Habbo Hotel. The "no invasions" rule was added in late 2006, after /b/ users spent most of that summer "invading" Habbo Hotel. The "no invasions" rule was added in late 2006, after /b/ users spent most of that summer "invading" Habbo Hotel. The "no invasions" rule was added in late 2006, after /b/ users spent most of the properties of the prope
rules" policy also applies to actions of administrators and moderators, which means that users may be banned at any time, for any reason, including for no reason at all.[69] Due partially to its anonymous nature, board moderation is not always successful—indeed, the site's anti-child pornography rule is a subject of jokes on /b/.[11] Christopher Poole
told The New York Times, in a discussion on the moderation of /b/, that "the power lies in the community to dictate its own standards" and that site staff simply provided a framework.[70] The humor of /b/'s many users, who refer to themselves as "/b/tards",[70][71] is often incomprehensible to newcomers and outsiders, and is characterized by
intricate inside jokes and dark comedy.[71] Users often refer to each other, and much of the outside world, as fags.[11] They are often referred to by outsiders as trolls, who regularly act with the intention of "LOL" used to denote amusement at another's expense.[70][72] A significant amount of media coverage is
in response to /b/'s culture, which has characterised it as adolescent, crude[70][11] and spiteful,[6] with one publication writing that their "bad behavior is encouraged by the site's total anonymity and the absence of an archive".[2][73] Douglas cited Encyclopedia Dramatica's definition of /b/ as "the asshole of the Internets [sic]".[6] Mattathias
Schwartz of The New York Times likened /b/ to "a high-school bathroom stall, or an obscene telephone party line",[70] while Baltimore City Paper wrote that "in the high school of the Internet, /b/ is the kid with a collection of butterfly knives and a locker full of porn."[11] Wired describes /b/ as "notorious".[71] Each post is assigned a post number
Certain post numbers are sought after with a large amount of posting taking place to "GET" them. A "GET" occurs when a post's number ends in a special number, such as 12345678, 22222222, or every millionth post.[74] A sign of 4chan's scaling, according to Poole, was when GETs lost meaning due to the high post rate resulting in a GET occurring
every few weeks. He estimated /b/'s post rate in July 2008 to be 150,000-200,000 posts per day.[75] /mlp/ See also: My Little Pony: Friendship Is Magic and its
spin-offs. While discussion of the show on 4chan initially began on /co/ (the comics and cartoons board), /mlp/ was eventually created in 2012 to discourage its proliferation to other boards.[76] As of August 2022[update], in accordance to 4chan's global rules, pony-related threads and images may only be posted on /mlp/.[8] First proposed in early
2019, the Pony Preservation Project is a "collaborative effort by /mlp/ to build and curate pony datasets" with the aim of creating applications in artificial intelligence. [77][78][79] The developer of the popular text-to-speech web applications in artificial intelligence.
trained on a large dataset crowdsourced by the Pony Preservation Project: audio and dialogue from the show and related media—including all nine seasons of Friendship Is Magic, the 2017 movie, spinoffs, leaks, and various other content voiced by the same voice actors—were parsed, hand-transcribed, and processed to remove background noise by
the contributors of the Pony Preservation Project. According to the development of 15.ai.[77] /mu/ The music board, /mu/, is dedicated to the discussion of music artists, albums, genres, instruments.[80] Described as "4chan's best
kept secret" and a "surprisingly artistic side of 4chan", /mu/ is used by users to share their music interests with similar minds and discover "great music they would never have found otherwise" with many moments of insightful candor that can affirm or challenge their own musical tastes.[81][82] The board has gained notoriety for earnestly focusing
upon and promoting challenging and otherwise obscure music.[83][84] Some common genres discussed on /mu/ include shoegaze,[85] experimental hip hop,[82] witch house,[81] There is a significant overlap between user bases of /mu/ and music site Rate Your Music.[90] The board's
culture has inspired many online music communities and meme pages on social media that emulate /mu/'s posting style.[91] Publications such as Pitchfork and Entertainment Weekly noted the board played a significant role in popularizing various music artists, such as Pitchfork and Entertainment Weekly noted the board played a significant role in popularizing various music artists, such as Pitchfork and Entertainment Weekly noted the board played a significant role in popularizing various music artists, such as Pitchfork and Entertainment Weekly noted the board played a significant role in popularizing various music artists, such as Pitchfork and Entertainment Weekly noted the board played a significant role in popularizing various music artists, such as Pitchfork and Entertainment Weekly noted the board played a significant role in popularizing various music artists, such as Pitchfork and Entertainment Weekly noted the board played a significant role in popularizing various music artists, such as Pitchfork and Entertainment Weekly noted the board played a significant role in popularizing various music artists, such as Pitchfork and Entertainment Weekly noted the board played a significant role in popularizing various music artists.
Nice Life.[96][97][98] Prominent music critic Anthony Fantano began his career on /mu/ to get honest feedback, as well as find inspiration from the board.[100][86] In particular, Zeal & Ardor said their
sound, which mixes black metal with spirituals, came from suggestions by two users.[100] Andrew W.K. did a Q&A with the board's users in 2011, causing the servers to crash from the increased traffic.[101] Death Grips seeded various clues on /mu/ in 2012 about their then-upcoming albums The Money Store and No Love Deep Web.[102] A rendition
of "Royals" by Lorde appeared on /mu/ in 2012 before its official release, although she denied ever writing on the board in 2014.[103] Singer Lauren Mayberry shared on /mu/ in 2015 a link to a thread on /mu/ about her band's song "Leave a Trace" to showcase what online misogyny looks like.[104] An alleged unreleased Radiohead song, titled
"Putting Ketchup in the Fridge" and "How Do You Sit Still", was initially reported as genuine by NME and Spin until CNN revealed it was a hoax promoted by the board's users.[105][106] The board has been acknowledged for sharing rare music recordings and unreleased materials, as well as finding albums thought to be lost. Notable examples
include the works of Duster,[107] D>E>A>T>H>M>E>T>A>L by Panchiko,[108] and All Lights Fucked on the Hairy Amp Drooling by Godspeed You! Black Emperor.[109] This was described by NPR as resembling "a secret club of preservationists obsessed with the articulation of a near-dead language".[107] The board has attracted further
attention for various projects done by its users. A group called The Pablo Collective posted a 4-track remix album of Kanye West's The Life of Pablo to /mu/, claiming it was based on Neutral Milk Hotel's In the Aeroplane Over the Sea,
designed with help from the board's users, received coverage from Polygon[111] and Pitchfork.[112] /pol/ Main article: /pol/ /pol/ ("Politically Incorrect") is 4chan's political discussion of news, world events, political issues, and other related topics."[113]
/pol/ was created in October 2011 as a rebranding of 4chan's news board, /new/,[39][114][115] which was deleted that January for a high volume of racist discussion.[38][114] Although there had previously been a strong left-libertarian contingent to 4chan activists, there was a gradual rightward turn on 4chan's politics board in the early-mid 2010s
with the fundamentalist approach to free speech contributing. [56][116] The board quickly attracted posters with a political persuasion that later would be described with a new term, the alt-right. [117] Media sources have characterized /pol/ as predominantly racist and sexist, with many of its posts taking an explicitly neo-Nazi bent. [118][120]
[121] The site's far-reaching culture of vitriolic and discriminatory content is "most closely associated" with /pol/, although only it features predominant Alt-Right beliefs; /pol/, like other boards, has been prominent in the dissemination of memes, in cases, featuring coordination to disperse Alt-Right sentiments.[4][56] /pol/ "increasingly became
The board's users have started antifeminist, homophobic, transphobic, and anti-Arab Twitter campaigns. [120][125][126][127] Many /pol/ users favored Donald Trump Jr., appeared to acknowledge the support by tweeting /pol/-associated memes. Upon his
or "beta rebellion" meme, the idea of taking revenge against women, jocks and others perceived as the cause of incels' problems, was popularized on the sub-section. [139][140] It gained more traction on the forum following the Umpqua Community College shooting, where it is believed that hours prior to the murders, while other users encouraged
him, 26-year-old perpetrator Chris Harper-Mercer also warned people not to go to school, "...in the Northwest."[141][142][143] The perpetrator of the Toronto van attack referenced 4chan and an incel rebellion in a Facebook post he made prior to the attack, while praising self-identified incel Elliot Rodger, the killer behind the 2014 Isla Vista killings
[144][145] He claims to have talked with both Harper-Mercer and Rodger on Reddit and 4chan and believes that he was part of a "beta uprising", also posting a message on 4chan about his intention the day before his attack. [146][147] /sci/ /sci/ is 4chan's science and mathematics board. On September 26, 2011, an anonymous user on /sci/ posted a
question regarding the shortest possible way to watch all possible orders of episodes of the anime The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya in nonchronological order. Shortly after, an anonymous user responded with a mathematical proof that argued viewers would have to watch at least 93,884,313,611 episodes to see all possible orderings. 7 years later
 professional mathematicians recognized the mathematical proof as a partial solution to a superpermutations problem that was unsolved for 25 years. Australian mathematician Greg Egan later published a proof inspired by the problem.[148] /vp/ /vp/ is
 4chan's Pokémon board. Developed by members of /vp/, Pokémon Sage is an upcoming role-playing fangame that is set to feature an entirely new region, plot, and cast of human characters and Pokémon Sage is an upcoming role-playing fangame that is set to feature an entirely new region, plot, and cast of human characters and Pokémon Sage is an upcoming role-playing fangame that is set to feature an entirely new region, plot, and cast of human characters and Pokémon Sage is an upcoming role-playing fangame that is set to feature an entirely new region, plot, and cast of human characters and Pokémon Sage is an upcoming role-playing fangame that is set to feature an entirely new region, plot, and cast of human characters and Pokémon Sage is an upcoming role-playing fangame that is set to feature an entirely new region, plot, and cast of human characters and Pokémon Sage is an upcoming role-playing fangame that is set to feature an entirely new region, plot, and cast of human characters and Pokémon Sage is an upcoming role-playing fangame that is set to feature an entirely new region, plot, and cast of human characters and Pokémon Sage is an upcoming role-playing fangame that is set to feature an entirely new region, plot, and cast of human characters are playing fangament that is set to feature an entirely new region and plot is a set to feature and plot is a set 
to Pokémon Pink, a canceled companion game to Pokémon Yellow.[152] /x/ The "paranormal" board, /x/, is dedicated to discussing topics regarding unexplained phenomena, the supernatural, and non-political conspiracy theories. /x/ was initially launched in January 2005 as 4chan's general photography board; in February 2007, it was repurposed as a
 uploaded and another user commented on it with the first story about the Backrooms, claiming that one enters the Backrooms when they "noclip out of reality in the wrong areas". After the 4chan post gained fame, several Internet users wrote horror stories relating to the Backrooms. Many memes were created and shared across social media, further
popularizing the creepypasta.[155] American model Allison Harvard first gained notoriety in 2005 as an Internet meme on the /x/ board where she became known as Creepy Chan.[156] Known for her large eyes and peculiar interests like fascination with blood, photos she posted on her blog were widely circulated on the board. She gained mainstream
 notoriety in 2009 and again in 2011 by appearing on America's Next Top Model. She would visit /x/ after new episodes of America's Next Top Model would air to see what was being written about her and participated in discussions.[157] The SCP Foundation, a fictional secret organization documented by the collaborative writing wiki project of the
same name, originated on /x/ in 2007, when the very first SCP file, SCP-173, was posted by an anonymous user.[158] Initially a stand-alone short story, many additional SCP files were created shortly after; these new SCPs copied SCP-173's style and were set within the same fictional universe. A stand-alone wiki was created in January 2008 on the
EditThis wiki hosting service to display the SCP articles. The EditThis website did not have moderators, or the ability to delete articles. Members communicated through individual article talk pages and the /x/ board.[159] /x/ was the first place where the 2015 viral video 11B-X-1371 was posted.[160] The board also contributed to investigating and
popularizing the controversial Sad Satan video game. [161] Internet culture Early internet culture Early internet culture to contemporary internet culture to contemporary internet culture to contemporary internet culture. [21] This included "So I herd u liek mudkipz" [sic], which
 involved a phrase based on Pokémon and which generated numerous YouTube tribute videos,[16] and the term "an hero" [sic] as a synonym for suicide, after a misspelling in the Myspace online memorial of seventh grader Mitchell Henderson.[162] 4chan and other websites, such as the satirical Encyclopedia Dramatica, have also contributed to the
development of significant amounts of leetspeak. [163] A lolcat image using the "I'm in ur..." format A lolcat is an image combining a photograph of a cat with solecistic text intended to contribute humour, widely popularized by 4chan in the form of a weekly post dedicated to them and a corresponding theme. [164] [165] In 2005, the installment of a
word filter which changed "egg" to "duck", and thus "eggroll" to "duckroll", across 4chan led to a bait-and-switch meme in which users deceitfully linked to a picture of a duck on wheels.[166] This was then modified into users linking to the music video for Rick Astley's 1987 song "Never Gonna Give You Up". Thus, the "rickroll" was born.[37] A link to
the YouTube video of Tay Zonday's song "Chocolate Rain" was posted on /b/ on July 11, 2007 and than subsequently circulated by users, becoming a very popular internet meme. [167][168][169] The portion of the song in which Zonday turns away from the microphone, with a caption stating "I move away from the mic to breathe in", became an oft-
repeated meme on 4chan and inspired remixes.[167][170] Fellow YouTuber Boxxy's popularity was due in part to 4chan.[171] In his American incarnation, Pedobear is an anthropomorphic bear child predator that is often used within the community to mock contributors showing a sexual interest in children.[172] Pedobear is one of the most popular
memes on non-English imageboards, and has gained recognition across Europe, appearing in offline publications. [173] It has been used as a symbol of pedophilia by Maltese graffiti vandals prior to a papal visit. [175] Anonymous and anti-Scientology activism Protests against Scientology See also: Anonymous (group) and Project Chanology 4chan
has been labeled as the starting point of the Anonymous meme by The Baltimore City Paper,[11] due to the norm of posts signed with the "Anonymous is associated with 4chan and 711chan, as well as numerous Internet Relay Chat (IRC) channels.
[176] Through its association with Anonymous, 4chan has become associated with Project Chanology, a worldwide protest against the Church of Scientology's website. This message resulted
in the Church receiving threatening phone calls. It quickly grew into a large real-world protest. Unlike previous Anonymous attacks, this action was characterized by 4chan memes including rickrolls and Guy Fawkes masks. The raid drew criticism from some 4chan users who felt it would bring the site undesirable attention.[11] My Little Pony:
 Friendship is Magic fandom Main article: My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic fandom The adult fandom and subculture dedicated to the children's animated television series My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic fandom The adult fandom and subculture dedicated to the children's animated television series My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic fandom The adult fandom and subculture dedicated to the children's animated television series My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic fandom The adult fandom and subculture dedicated to the children's animated television series My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic fandom The adult fandom and subculture dedicated to the children's animated television series My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic fandom The adult fandom and subculture dedicated to the children's animated television series My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic fandom The adult fandom and subculture dedicated to the children's animated television series My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic fandom The adult fando
establishment of the fan websites, causing the show to reach a wider audience across the internet. [76] Media controversies Internet attacks See also: Anonymous (group) § 4chan raids (2003–2007), and Sarah Palin email hack According to The Washington Post, "the site's users have managed to pull off some of the highest-profile collective actions in
the history of the Internet."[181] Users of 4chan and other websites "raided" Hal Turner by launching DDoS attacks and prank calling his phone-in radio show during December 2006 and January 2007. The attacks caused Turner sued
4chan, 7chan, and other websites; however, he lost his plea for an injunction and failed to receive letters from the court.[182] KTTV Fox 11 aired a report on Anonymous, calling them a group of "hackers on steroids", "domestic terrorists", and collectively an "Internet hate machine" on July 26, 2007.[183] Slashdot founder Rob Malda posted a
comment made by another Slashdot user, Miang, stating that the report "seems to confuse /b/ raids and motivational poster templates with a genuine threat to the American public", arguing that the "unrelated" footage of a van exploding shown in the report was to
 "equate anonymous posting with domestic terror".[184] On July 10, 2008, the swastika CJK unicode character (卐) appeared at the top of Google's Hot Trends list—a tally of the most used search terms in the United States—for several hours. It was later reported that the HTML numeric character reference for the symbol had been posted on /b/, with a
request to perform a Google search for the string. A multitude of /b/ visitors followed the order and pushed the symbol to the top of the chart, though Google later removed the result.[9] Later that year, the private Yahoo! Mail account of Sarah Palin, Republican vice presidential candidate in the 2008 United States presidential election, was hacked by
a 4chan user. The hacker posted the account's password on /b/, and screenshots from within the account to WikiLeaks.[185] A /b/ user then logged in and changed the password on the /b/ thread. However, he forgot to blank out the password in the
screenshot.[186] A multitude of /b/ users attempted to log in with the new password, and the account was automatically locked out by Yahoo!. The incident was criticized by some /b/ users. One user commented, "seriously, /b/. We could have changed history and failed, epically."[187] The FBI and Secret Service began investigating the incident shortly
after its occurrence. On September 20 it was revealed they were questioning David Kernell, the son of Democratic Tennessee State Representative Mike Kernell. [188] The stock price of Apple Inc. fell significantly in October 2008 after a hoax story was submitted to CNN's user-generated news site iReport.com claiming that company CEO Steve Jobs
had suffered a major heart attack. The source of the story was traced back to 4chan.[189][190] In May 2009, members of the attacked YouTube, posting pornographic videos on the site.[191] A 4chan member acknowledged being part of the attack, telling BBC News that it was in response to YouTube "deleting music".[192] In January 2010,
members of the site attacked YouTube again in response to the suspension of YouTube user lukeywes1234 for failing to meet the minimum age requirement of thirteen.[193] The videos uploaded by the user had apparently become popular with 4chan members, who subsequently become again in response to the suspension of YouTube user lukeywes1234 for failing to meet the minimum age requirement of thirteen.
wave of pornographic videos to be uploaded to YouTube on January 6, 2010.[193] Later the same year, 4chan made numerous disruptive pranks directed at singer Justin Bieber.[194] In September 2010, in retaliation against the Bollywood film industry's hiring of Aiplex Software to launch cyberattacks against The Pirate Bay, Anonymous members,
recruited through posts on 4chan boards, subsequently initiated their own attacks, dubbed Operation of America and the Recording Industry Association of America and Industry Association of America
recovering. The website of the UK law firm ACS:Law, which was associated with an anti-piracy client, was affected by the cyber-attack. [198] In retaliation for the initial attacks being called only a minor nuisance, Anonymous launched more attacks, bringing the site down yet again. After coming back up, the front page accidentally revealed a backup
file of the entire website, which contained over 300 megabytes of private company emails, which were leaked to several torrents and across several sites on the Internet.[199] It was suggested that the data leak could cost the law firm up to £500,000 in fines for breaching British Data Protection Laws.[200] In January 2011, BBC News reported that
the law firm announced they were to stop "chasing illegal file-sharers". Head of ACS:Law Andrew Crossley in a statement to a court addressed issues which influenced the decision to back down "I have been hacked. I have been hacked. I have been hacked. I have been subject to criminal attack. My e-mails have been hacked. I have been hacked. I have been subject to criminal attack.
2012, 4chan users attacked a third-party sponsored Mountain Dew campaign, Dub the Dew, where users were asked to submit and vote on name ideas for a green apple flavor of the drink. Users submitted entries such as "Diabeetus", "Fapple", several variations of "Gushing Granny", and "Hitler did nothing wrong".[201][202] Threats of violence On
October 18, 2006, the Department of Homeland Security warned National Football League officials in Miami, New York City, Atlanta, Seattle, Houston, Oakland, and Cleveland about a possible threat involving the simultaneous use of dirty bombs at stadiums. [203] The threat claimed that the attack would be carried out on October 22, the final day of the simultaneous use of dirty bombs at stadiums.
the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. [204] Both the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security expressed doubt concerning the credibility of the threat turned out to be an ill-conceived hoax perpetrated by a grocery store clerk in Wisconsin with no terrorist ties. The FBI
Pflugerville High School. Promptly after the blast, I, along with two ther Anonymous, will charge the building, armed with a Bushmaster AR-15, IMI Galil AR, a vintage, government-issue M1 .30 Carbine, and a Benelli M4 semi auto shotgun. —The Pflugerville threat[208] Around midnight on September 11, 2007, a student posted photographs of mock
pipe bombs and another photograph of him holding them while saying he would blow up his high school—Pflugerville, Texas—at 9:11 am on September 11.[208] Users of 4chan helped to track him down by finding the perpetrator's father's name in the Exif data of a photograph he took, and contacted the police.[209] He was
which time I am incapacitated or killed by the police".[215] The post, accompanied by an image of another man holding a shotgun, threatened a shopping mall near Beverly Hills.[216] While the investigation was still open, Willis was charged with criminal defamation for a separate incident[217] but died before the case was heard.[218] On February
4, 2009, a posting on the 4chan /b/ board[219] said there would be a school shooting at St Eskils Gymnasium in Eskilstuna, Sweden, leading 1,250 students and 50 teachers to be evacuated. [220] A 21-year-old man was arrested after 4chan provided the police with the IP address of the poster. Police said that the suspect called it off as a joke, and they
released him after they found no indication that the threat was serious.[221][222] On January 21, 2014, an anonymous poster started a thread on /b/ identifying a student named Westley Sullivan who apparently went to the same high school as the poster. The original post included a link to Westley Sullivan who apparently went to the same high school as the poster.
taken down, and a screenshot of a post which said "if fairview isn't closed tomorrow im going to blow it up", referring to Sullivan's Facebook profile and found his address, phone number, school ID number, school schedule and teachers, and other
personal information. Information like his teachers and ID number had been posted directly, and the more personal information like his address was found in the EXIF data of some of the pictures posted on his profile. These individuals then contacted Fairview school officials and the local police department, as well as the FBI. The next day it was
learned that police had arrested Sullivan in his home and he had been charged with 2nd degree terroristic threatening, a Class D felony in Kentucky. [223][224] On June 28, 2018, a man named Eric M. Radulovic was arrested following an indictment by the U.S. Department of Justice "on one count of transmitting in interstate and foreign commerce as a com
threat to injure the person of another. "[225] The indictment alleged that Radulovic posted anonymously to /pol/ the day after the Unite the Right rally, communicating an intention to attack protestors at an upcoming right-wing demonstration, ostensibly to elicit sympathy for the alt-right movement. "I'm going to bring a Remington 700 and start
shooting Alt-right guys. We need sympathy after that landwhale got all the liberals teary eyed, so someone is going to have to make it look like the left is becoming more violent and radicalized. It's a false flag for sure, but I'll be aiming for the more tanned/dark haired muddied jeans in the crowd so real whites won't have to worry," wrote Radulovic
according to the indictment.[225] Incidents of child pornography A fixture of media attention, child pornography has been posted to 4chan various times.[36][226] "This post is art" On July 30, 2014, an anonymous user made a reply in a thread on the board /pol/ "Politically Incorrect" of 4chan, criticizing modern art in an ironic fashion, saying: Art
used to be something to cherish Now literally anything could be art This post is art.—Anonymous[227] Less than an hour later the post was photographed off the screen and framed by another user who posted another reply in the thread,
created an auction on eBay for the framed photo which quickly rose to high prices, culminating in a price of $90,900.[228][230][231] Celebrity photo leaks On August 31, 2014, a compromise of user passwords at iCloud allowed a large number of private photographs taken by celebrities to be
posted online,[232] initially on 4chan.[233] As a result of the incident, 4chan announced that it would enforce a Digital Millennium Copyright Act policy, which would ban users who repeatedly posted stolen material.[234] Gamergate See also: Gamergate See also:
controversy Also in August 2014, 4chan was involved in the Gamergate controversy, which began with unsubstantiated allegations from an onymous Internet users. [235] The allegations were followed by a harassment campaign against several women in the
images posted to 4chan that appeared to be of a murder victim. The body was discovered in Port Orchard, Washington, after the images were posted. [239] The posts were accompanied by the text: "Turns out it's way harder to strangle someone to death than it looks on the movies." A later post said: "Check the news for Port Orchard, Washington, in a
few hours. Her son will be home from school soon. He'll find her, then call the cops. I just wanted to share the pics before they find me."[239] The victim was Amber Lynn Coplin, aged 30. The suspect, 33-year-old David Michael Kalac, surrendered to police in Oregon later the same day; he was charged with second-degree murder involving domestic
violence.[240] Kalac was convicted in April 2017 and was sentenced to 82 years in prison the following month.[241] Bianca Devins murder Main article: Murder of Bianca Devins on July 14, 2019, 17-year-old Bianca Devins murder Main article: Murder of Bianca Devins was murdered by 21-year-old Bianca Devins murder Main article: Murder of Bianca Devins was murdered by 21-year-old Bianca Devins was murdered by 21-year-old Bianca Devins Main article: Murder of Bianca Devins Was murdered by 21-year-old Bianca Devins Main article: Murder of Bianca Devins was murdered by 21-year-old Bianca Devins Main article: Murder of Bianca Devins Main art
 pictures of the victim's bloodied deceased body and posted it to Discord and his own Instagram page. [243] The photos were widely shared on Instagram and other sites, particularly on 4chan, where many users mocked and celebrated her death, saying she deserved it and praising the killer while depicting Devins as a manipulative young woman. [244]
 [245] Devins had developed a small following online and was a 4chan user herself. [246] Clark later pleaded guilty to the crime [247] and was sentenced to a minimum of 25 years' imprisonment. Death of Jeffrey Epstein Main article: Death of Jeffrey Epstein A report of Jeffrey Epstein's death was posted on /pol/ around 40 minutes before ABC News
broke the news. It was originally suspected that the unidentified person who made the posts may have been a first responder, prompting a review by the New York City Fire Department, who later stated that the unidentified person who made the posts may have been a first responder, prompting a review by the New York City Fire Department, who later stated that the unidentified person who made the posts may have been a first responder, prompting a review by the New York City Fire Department, who later stated that the unidentified person who made the posts may have been a first responder, prompting a review by the New York City Fire Department, who later stated that the unidentified person who made the posts may have been a first responder, prompting a review by the New York City Fire Department, who later stated that the unidentified person who made the posts may have been a first responder, prompting a review by the New York City Fire Department, who later stated that the unidentified person who made the posts may have been a first responder, prompting a review by the New York City Fire Department, who later stated that the unidentified person who made the posts may have been a first responder, prompting a review by the New York City Fire Department, who later stated that the unidentified person who made the posts may have been a first responder.
a mass shooting occurred at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York, USA. The accused, Payton S. Gendron, is reported to have written a racist manifesto including birth date and other biographical details, that match the suspect in custody.[250] The author wrote that he began to
frequent 4chan, including its Politically Incorrect message board /pol/, beginning in May 2020, where he was exposed to the Great Replacement conspiracy theory. [251] ISP bans AT&T temporary ban On July 26, 2009, AT&T's DSL branch temporarily blocked access to the img. 4chan.org domain (host of /b/ and /r9k/), which was initially believed to be
 an attempt at Internet censorship, and met with hostility on 4chan's part.[252][253] The next day, AT&T issued a statement claiming that the block was put in place after an AT&T customer was affected by a DoS attack originating from IP addresses connected to img.4chan.org, and was an attempt to "prevent this attack from disrupting service for the
impacted AT&T customer, and... our other customers." AT&T maintains that the block was not related to the content on 4chan. [255] [256] In the end, this wasn't a sinister act of censorship, but rather a bit of a mistake and a poorly executed, disproportionate response on AT&T's
part. Whoever pulled the trigger on blackholing the site probably didn't anticipate [nor intend] the consequences of doing so. We're glad to see this short-lived debacle has prompted renewed interest and debate over net neutrality and Internet censorship—two very important issues that don't get nearly enough attention—so perhaps this was all just a
blessing in disguise. Major news outlets have reported that the issue may be related to the DDoS-ing of 4chan, and that 4chan users suspected the then-owner of Swedish-based website Anontalk.com. [257][258] Verizon temporary ban On February 4, 2010, 4chan started receiving reports from Verizon Wireless customers that they were having
difficulties accessing the site's image boards. After investigating, Poole found out that only the traffic on port 80 to the boards. 4chan.org domain was affected, leading members to believe that the block was lifted several days later. [259] Telstra
ban On March 20, 2019, Australian telecom company Telstra denied access to millions of Australians to 4chan, 8chan, Zero Hedge and LiveLeak as a reaction to the Christchurch mosque shootings. [260] New Zealand Following the Christchurch mosque shootings.
shooting, including 4chan. The ISPs included Spark, Vodafone, Vocus and 2degrees. [261] [262] See also Internet phenomena Pepe the Frog International: 2channel, Japan Ilbe Storehouse, South Korea Notes ^ a b c As explained by Poole during a live-video online interview with Hiroyuki Nishimura
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