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If you want to reactivate a deactivated account, you simply just need to log back in to your account within 30 days of deactivation. If you've lost your password you can reset it from the app via SMS or email. If your account has been compromised, you can try to gain access back by resetting your password, but you should contact Snapchat Support for help. Log in to Snapchat with your username and password. If you deactivate your account but change your mind, you have 30 days to log back into your account to reactivate. When your account is deactivated, you cannot log in with your email. You can't change your password when your account is deactivated. It may take 24 hours after deactivation for you to be able to reactivate the account.[1] Advertisement 1 Tap Forgot your password? in Snapchat. If you lost your password, you can reset it. If you have access to the original email or phone number associated with your account.[2] 2 Select Email or SMS. If you select email, Snapchat will send a link to the email associated with your account. If you select SMS a verification code will be sent to the phone number associated with your account. 3 Enter the verification code if you selected SMS. Reset your password. If you selected email you will have to click the link Snapchat emailed you to reset your password. If you selected SMS, after you enter the verification code you will be prompted to enter a new password. Advertisement Use your email to log in if you forgot your username. Snapchat does not offer support for forgotten usernames. So the easiest way to get back into your account if you forgot your username is to use your account email. Ask a friend for help. If you have a friend added on Snapchat as a friend, then can look at their friends list to see what your username is. 1 Think of all the emails you could have used to sign up for Snapchat. You can also go to your email and search for mail from "Team Snapchat" to see if that email was used to sign up for a Snapchat account. 2 Open Snapchat. 3 Tap Forgot your password?. 4 Enter one of the emails you think may be your Snapchat email. If the email is not associated with a Snapchat account you will get an error that says "Email address is invalid." A valid email will move you to the next step of the password recovery process, which you can then cancel out of and log in to your Snapchat account with the newly recovered email. Advertisement 1 Try to reset your password. If you've been locked out of your account because a hacker accessed your Snapchat and changed the password, you can try to reset your password to get back in. If the hacker changed your account's phone number and email, you will not be able to use the password recovery method to get back in. 2 Contact Snapchat Support. If you can't get into your account and your information has been changed, Snapchat Support can help you gain access again.[3] Snapchat Support will need to verify the account is yours, so they may ask for additional identifying details. You should never share your password with anyone, however, even Snapchat Support. 3 Secure your account once you have it back. You can do the following to strengthen your account security once you have recovered it: Use a strong password that is unique, long, and hard to guess. You should use a different password for all of your accounts, and a password manager can help you remember them. Ensure the linked email and phone number belong to you. If these have been changed, change them to your phone number and an email address. Use 2FA. Two-factor authentication adds another layer of security to your account by requiring you to verify your identity when logging in to your Snapchat account. Forget linked devices you don't recognize. You can do this by going to two-factor authentication in your Snapchat settings and tapping Forget Devices. Press the X button next to each device you want to forget.[4] Advertisement 1 Open Snapchat. If you have two-factor authentication (2FA) activated on your Snapchat account and you lose your phone, change your phone number, or lose access to your authenticator app, you can log back in with a recovery code. Snapchat will not offer support for lost recovery codes.[5] Recovery codes can be created in the Two-Factor Authentication menu in Snapchat's settings.[6] 2 Log in with your username and password. 3 Enter your recovery code when prompted. If you use a recovery code to log in, 2FA will be disabled on your Snapchat account. You will have to go back into your settings to turn 2FA back on. Advertisement Ask a Question Advertisement Thanks for reading our article! If you'd like to learn more about social media, check out our in-depth interview with Naveh Ben Dror. Co-authored by: Social Media Security Expert This article was co-authored by Naveh Ben Dror and by wikiHow staff writer, Hannah Dillon. Naveh Ben Dror is a Social Media Security Expert and the CEO of Spikerz based in Tel Aviv, Israel. Naveh and his team provide social media protection for content creators, businesses, and enterprises. His professional background is in international financial marketing and e-commerce. Naveh received both his Bachelor of Law and MBA from Reichman University. This article has been viewed 78,930 times. Co-authors: 6 Updated: October 28, 2024 Views: 78,930 Categories: Snapchat Print Send fan mail to authors Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 78,930 times. Snapchat is a popular social media platform that allows users to share photos and videos with friends and followers? However, losing access to your Snapchat account due to a forgotten email or phone number can be frustrating. But don't worry, as there are still ways to recover your account without this information. In this article, we will discuss five methods you can use to recover your Snapchat account. However, it's crucial to note that in addition to account recovery, you should also take steps to protect your account from potential security breaches and Snapchat suspicious activity. In this article, we'll explore some important security measures you can take to ensure the safety and privacy of your Snapchat account. By implementing these measures, such as enabling two-factor authentication, using strong passwords, and regularly updating the app, you can greatly reduce the risk of unauthorized access and protect your personal information and content. So, if you ever find yourself in a situation where you have lost access to your Snapchat account, don't panic. Just follow the recovery methods outlined in this article and take proactive steps to secure your account. By doing so, you can continue enjoying the many benefits of Snapchat while ensuring the safety and privacy of your account. 1. Use Your Username If you remember your Snapchat username, you can try logging in with it. On the login screen, tap on the "Forgot Password" option and enter your username. Snapchat will send you an email with instructions on how to reset your password. Also read: How Can I Monitor My Child's Snapchat Without Them Knowing? 2. Use a Trusted Friend's Phone If you have a trusted friend who has your phone number saved in their contacts, you can ask them to request a password reset for you. They can do this by going to the login screen, tapping on "Forgot Password," and entering their username or phone number. Snapchat will send a verification code to your friend's phone, which they can then share with you to reset your password. 3. Contact Snapchat Support If the above methods don't work, you can contact Snapchat support directly. Go to the Snapchat support page and select "My account login" as the issue you're facing. Provide as much information as you can about your account, including your username and any previous phone numbers or email addresses you may have used. Snapchat support will then guide you through the recovery process. 4. Use Your Recovery Code If you have previously enabled two-factor authentication on your Snapchat account, you would have been given a recovery code. This code can be used to recover your account even if you no longer have access to your email or phone number. To use the recovery code, go to the login screen and tap on "Forgot Password." Enter your username and then tap on "Use Recovery Code." Follow the prompts to reset your password. 5. Try a Third-Party Recovery Tool If none of the above methods work, you can try using a third-party recovery tool. These tools are designed to help recover Snapchat accounts that have been lost or hacked. However, you should be cautious when using these tools as they may not always be safe or reliable. Make sure to do your research and only use trusted recovery tools. Also read: WhatsApp Scams: How to Spot It and Prevent It Security Measures To Protect Snapchat Account Now that you know how to recover your Snapchat account without email or phone number and have taken steps to regain access to your account, it's important to take further measures to protect your account from suspicious activity. Here are some additional security measures you can take to ensure that your Snapchat account remains secure. Enable Two-Factor Authentication: Two-factor authentication (2FA) adds an extra layer of security to your account by requiring you to enter a verification code in addition to your password when logging in. This makes it harder for hackers to access your account even if they have your password. Use a Strong Password: Choose a strong, unique password that contains a combination of upper and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols. Avoid using easily guessable passwords like your name or date of birth. Don't Share Your Login Credentials: Never share your Snapchat login credentials with anyone, including friends or family members. This includes your password, recovery code, and any other account information. Regularly Update Your App: Make sure you're using the latest version of the Snapchat app, as updates often include security patches and bug fixes. Beware of Scammers often use social engineering tactics to trick users into revealing their login credentials or downloading malware. Log Out of Unused Devices: If you've logged into your Snapchat account on a device that you're no longer using, make sure to log out of the account on that device to prevent unauthorized access. Review Your Login Activity: Check your Snapchat login activity regularly to make sure no one else has accessed your account. You can do this by going to your account settings and selecting "Login Verification." By taking these security measures, you can help protect your Snapchat account from being compromised and ensure that your personal information and content remain secure. Final Words Don't worry; recovering your Snapchat account is doable, even if you've lost access to your email or phone number. We've outlined five methods that you can try, to just follow the steps in the article, and you'll be back to snapping in no time! It's also a good idea to take some proactive measures to protect your account from any suspicious activity in the future. Implementing security measures such as two-factor authentication and using strong passwords can go a long way in keeping your account safe and secure. So go ahead, give these methods a try, and keep snapping away! Snapchat is a widely popular social media platform that allows users to share photos and videos with friends and followers. However, losing access to your Snapchat account can be frustrating, especially if it contains valuable memories or a long list of followers. However, it's important to stay calm and remember that there are steps you can take to regain access. From verifying your phone number to contacting Snapchat support, we will explore various methods that can help you retrieve your old account without relying on an email address. So, if you're eager to get back into your old Snapchat account, keep reading for some useful tips and strategies to make the process as smooth as possible. Check for alternative access options When trying to regain access to your old Snapchat account without an email, the first step is to check for alternative access options. While email is the most common method of recovering accounts, there are other options you can explore. A verify if you have multiple email accounts Before assuming that you don't have access to the associated email, check if you have multiple email accounts. Sometimes, users may have forgotten that they used a different email address for their Snapchat account. Try logging in with any other email accounts you might have used in the past. B. Determine if you have connected your phone number If you don't have multiple email accounts or can't remember them, check if you have connected your phone number to your Snapchat account. Snapchat allows users to link their phone numbers, which can serve as an alternative method for account recovery. Attempt logging in using your phone number and see if you can regain access to your old account. You can have neither multiple email accounts nor a connected phone number, don't lose hope just yet. There are still avenues you can explore to regain access to your old Snapchat account. ## IContacting customer support Contact Snapchat Customer support can be a crucial resource when trying to regain access to an old Snapchat account without an email. Snapchat provides a support page that offers various avenues for assistance. ### A. Explore the Snapchat support page To start, visit the Snapchat support page on their website. This page contains a wealth of information and resources that can help in resolving account access issues. It provides answers to frequently asked questions and troubleshooting tips for common problems. Additionally, the support page may have specific instructions on how to recover an account without an email. It is essential to read through the information thoroughly to understand the steps involved. ### B. Submit a request for assistance If you are unable to find a solution on the support page, the next step is to submit a request for assistance. This can be done by navigating to the Snapchat support contact page or through the app itself. When submitting a request, ensure to provide accurate and complete information regarding your account and the issue you are facing. Specify that you do not have access to the associated email and explain the situation clearly. The more details you can provide, the better your chances of getting the necessary assistance. Snapchat's customer support team will review your request and work on resolving the issue. Be prepared to wait for a response, as the time it takes to receive assistance can vary depending on the volume of requests they receive. It is important to note that while contacting customer support can be helpful, there is no guarantee of immediate resolution. However, it is always worth exploring this option as they may be able to provide guidance or offer potential solutions specific to your situation. In the next section, we will discuss additional steps you can take to regain access to your old Snapchat account without an email by utilizing the "Forgot Password" feature. RecommendedProvide Relevant Details A. Specify your username and password (if remembered) When attempting to regain access to your old Snapchat account without an email, it is essential to provide as much relevant information as possible. Start by specifying your username, as this is the primary identifier for your account. If you remember your password, be sure to include it as well. Even if you do not have access to the associated email, providing your username and password (if remembered) can help streamline the account recovery process. B. Include any information that can prove ownership of account In addition to your username and password, include any other information that can prove your ownership of the account. This information can vary depending on your specific circumstances, but here are some examples of details you can provide: 1. Previous phone number: If you have changed your phone number since creating the account, provide the previous phone number associated with the account. Snapchat may use this information to verify your identity. 2. Friends' usernames: List the usernames of friends who are connected to your old Snapchat account. This can serve as evidence that you were the owner of the account, especially if you have close friends who can vouch for your ownership. 3. Profile pictures: If you remember the profile picture you used on your old Snapchat account, describe it or provide any available screenshots. This can help further prove your ownership of the account. 4. Memories and chats: If you have any specific memories or saved chats on your old Snapchat account, mention them in your request for assistance. This demonstrates that you have personal content on the account that only that true owner would possess. By including these additional details, you provide Snapchat's customer support team with more evidence to confirm your ownership of the account. This will increase the chances of successfully recovering your old Snapchat account, even without access to the associated email. Overall, providing relevant details is crucial in the account recovery process. Combined with the previous sections covering alternative access options and contacting customer support, including this information will help you navigate the process and regain access to your old Snapchat account. Utilize the 'Forgot Password' Feature A. Access the Snapchat login page If you are unable to regain access to your old Snapchat account due to a forgotten password and lack of email access, there is still hope for recovery. To begin the process, you need to first access the Snapchat login page. You can do this by opening the Snapchat app on your smartphone or visiting the Snapchat website on your computer. B. Select the 'Forgot your password?' option Once you have reached the login page, look for the "Forgot your password?" option. This is typically located beneath the login fields. Tap or click on this option to proceed with the password recovery process. By selecting this option, you indicate to Snapchat that you are facing issues with your password and require assistance to regain access to your account. Recovery Options: Snapchat offers several recovery options to help you reset your password and regain access to your account. Depending on the information you have available, you can choose one of the following verification methods: 1. Phone Number: If you have linked a phone number to your Snapchat account, you can request a verification code to be sent to that number. This code can be used to verify your identity and reset your password. 2. Email: If you have access to the recovery email associated with your Snapchat account, you can select this option. Snapchat will send a password reset link to your email, allowing you to create a new password and regain access. 3. Username: If you remember your Snapchat username but don't have access to the associated email or phone number, you can still use it to initiate the password recovery process. Snapchat will send a verification code to your device that is linked to your account, allowing you to reset your password directly. It is important to carefully follow each step and provide accurate information to ensure a successful account recovery. Once your new password is set, you can proceed with reactivating your account and accessing your old Snapchat memories. By utilizing the "Forgot Password" feature, Snapchat offers a convenient and secure method to regain access to your old account, even if you no longer have access to the associated email. Remember to choose a strong and unique password to enhance the security of your account. Resetting your password A. Choose the preferred verification method After exploring alternative access options and contacting customer support, if you are still unable to gain access to your old Snapchat account without an associated email, the next step is to reset your password. Snapchat provides various verification methods to reset your password, depending on the information you have available. The two common methods are through email and phone number verification. Choose the preferred method based on the information you can provide. If you have access to an alternative email associated with your Snapchat account, select the email verification method. Snapchat will send a password reset link or code to the alternate email address. Open the email and follow the instructions provided to reset your password. If you have connected your phone number to your old Snapchat account, choose the phone number verification method. Snapchat will send a verification code to your phone number. Enter the code on the Snapchat login page to verify your identity and proceed with the password reset. B. Follow the instructions to reset your password Once you have selected your preferred verification method, you will receive the necessary instructions to reset your password. Follow the instructions carefully to ensure a successful password reset. If you chose the email verification method, make sure to check your alternative email inbox. Look for the email from Snapchat with the subject line relating to password reset. Open the email and click on the password reset link provided. This link will direct you to a page where you can create a new password for your Snapchat account. Choose a strong and unique password that you haven't used elsewhere to enhance the security of your account. If you opted for the phone number verification method, enter the verification code sent to your phone number on the Snapchat login page. After successfully verifying your identity, you will be prompted to create a new password. Choose a strong and unique password that you can remember easily but is difficult for others to guess. Once you have successfully reset your password, make sure to remember it or store it securely. It is also advisable to change your password periodically to maintain the security of your account. Now that you have reset your password, you are one step closer to regaining access to your old Snapchat account. In the next section, we will discuss how to reactivate your account using your recovered login credentials. Reactivating your account A. Access the Snapchat app or website To reactivate your old Snapchat account without an associated email, you will need to access the Snapchat app or website. If you remember your old username and password, enter them accordingly. If you don't remember your password, don't worry. There is another option to reset it, which was covered in the previous section. If you have successfully entered your login credentials, you should be able to log into your old Snapchat account and regain access to all your saved memories, friends, and chats. Remember, it is important to take additional steps to secure your account and prevent any unauthorized access in the future. It is worth noting that if you have not used your old Snapchat account for an extended period, it may have been deactivated. In this case, you will not be able to reactivate it, and you will need to create a new account instead. Enabling two-factor authentication A. Define the importance of two-factor authentication Two-factor authentication adds an extra layer of security to your Snapchat account. It requires you to provide not only your password but also a second form of verification to log in. This helps protect your account from unauthorized access, even if someone manages to obtain your password. B. Set up the feature to secure your account To enable two-factor authentication on Snapchat, go to your account settings and look for the "Login Verification" or "Two-Factor Authentication" option. Follow the instructions provided to set up the feature. Usually, you will need to link your phone number to receive verification codes. Once enabled, whenever you log in to your Snapchat account from a new device, you will be required to enter a verification code sent to your linked phone number. This ensures that even if someone has your password, they won't be able to access your account without the secondary verification code. It is highly recommended to enable two-factor authentication on all accounts, including social media platforms like Snapchat, to maintain a higher level of security and protect your personal information. Safeguarding your account information A. Utilize a strong, unique password To safeguard your Snapchat account, it is crucial to use a strong, unique password. Avoid using common passwords or using the same password for multiple accounts. Create a password that includes a combination of uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, and special characters. B. Update your recovery email and phone number Regularly updating your recovery email and phone number on Snapchat is essential. In case you forget your password or need to recover your account, having up-to-date recovery information ensures that you can regain access quickly and easily. To update your recovery email and phone number, go to your Snapchat account settings and look for the appropriate options. Make sure to verify your email and phone number to ensure they are valid and functioning. By following these steps to safeguard your account information, you can minimize the risk of unauthorized access and protect your personal data. Always prioritize your online security to have a safe and enjoyable Snapchat experience. Enabling two-factor authentication A. Define the importance of Two-factor authentication Two-factor authentication (2FA) is a security feature that adds an extra layer of protection to your Snapchat account. It requires users to provide an additional verification method, typically a unique code sent to a registered device, in addition to their username and password. By enabling 2FA, you significantly enhance the security and prevent unauthorized access to your account. Two-factor authentication is especially important for safeguarding your personal information on Snapchat. With the increasing number of cyberattacks and data breaches, it has become crucial to take proactive measures to protect your online accounts. By implementing 2FA, you can greatly reduce the risk of someone gaining unauthorized access to your Snapchat account, even if they manage to obtain your username and password. B. Set up the feature to secure your account To enable two-factor authentication on your Snapchat account without requiring access to your old email: 1. Open the Snapchat app and log in to your account. 2. Tap on your profile icon and go to "Settings" by tapping on the gear icon. 3. Scroll down until you find the "Two-Factor Authentication" option and tap on it. 4. Select the verification method you prefer, which can eTher be SMS or an authentication app. 5. If you choose SMS, enter your phone number and verify it by entering the verification code sent to your device. 6. If you choose an authentication app, follow the on-screen instructions to set it up and connect it with Snapchat. 7. Once your preferred method is set up, Snapchat will prompt you to enter a recovery code. Save this code in a secure location, as it can be used to regain access to your account in case you lose your device or cannot receive verification codes. 8. After confirming your recovery code, two-factor authentication will be enabled for your account. Snapchat is a popular social media platform that allows users to share photos and videos with friends and followers? However, losing access to your Snapchat account due to a forgotten email or phone number can be frustrating. But don't worry, as there are still ways to recover your account without this information. In this article, we will discuss five methods you can use to recover your Snapchat account. However, it's crucial to note that in addition to account recovery, you should also take steps to protect your account from potential security breaches and Snapchat suspicious activity. In this article, we'll explore some important security measures you can take to ensure the safety and privacy of your Snapchat account. By implementing these measures, such as enabling two-factor authentication, using strong passwords, and regularly updating the app, you can greatly reduce the risk of unauthorized access and protect your personal information and content. So, if you ever find yourself in a situation where you have lost access to your Snapchat account, don't panic. Just follow the recovery methods outlined in this article and take proactive steps to secure your account. By doing so, you can continue enjoying the many benefits of Snapchat while ensuring the safety and privacy of your account. 1. Use Your Username If you remember your Snapchat username, you can try logging in with it. On the login screen, tap on the "Forgot Password" option and enter your username. Snapchat will send you an email with instructions on how to reset your password. Also read: How Can I Monitor My Child's Snapchat Without Them Knowing? 2. Use a Trusted Friend's Phone If you have a trusted friend who has your phone number saved in their contacts, you can ask them to request a password reset for you. They can do this by going to the login screen, tapping on "Forgot Password," and entering their username or phone number. Snapchat will send a verification code to your friend's phone, which they can then share with you to reset your password. 3. Contact Snapchat Support If the above methods don't work, you can contact Snapchat support directly. Go to the Snapchat support page and select "My account login" as the issue you're facing. Provide as much information as you can about your account, including your username and any previous phone numbers or email addresses you may have used. Snapchat support will then guide you through the recovery process. 4. Use Your Recovery Code If you have previously enabled two-factor authentication on your Snapchat account, you would have been given a recovery code. This code can be used to recover your account even if you no longer have access to your email or phone number. To use the recovery code, go to the login screen and tap on "Forgot Password." Enter your username and then tap on "Use Recovery Code." Follow the prompts to reset your password. 5. Try a Third-Party Recovery Tool If none of the above methods work, you can try using a third-party recovery tool. These tools are designed to help recover Snapchat accounts that have been lost or hacked. However, you should be cautious when using these tools as they may not always be safe or reliable. Make sure to do your research and only use trusted recovery tools. Also read: WhatsApp Scams: How to Spot It and Prevent It Security Measures To Protect Snapchat Account Now that you know how to recover your Snapchat account without email or phone number and have taken steps to regain access to your account, it's important to take further measures to protect your account from suspicious activity. Here are some additional security measures you can take to ensure that your Snapchat account remains secure. Enable Two-Factor Authentication: Two-factor authentication (2FA) adds an extra layer of security to your account by requiring you to enter a verification code in addition to your password when logging in. This makes it harder for hackers to access your account even if they have your password. Use a Strong Password: Choose a strong, unique password that contains a combination of upper and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols. Avoid using easily guessable passwords like your name or date of birth. Don't Share Your Login Credentials: Never share your Snapchat login credentials with anyone, including friends or family members. This includes your password, recovery code, and any other account information. Regularly Update Your App: Make sure you're using the latest version of the Snapchat app, as updates often include security patches and bug fixes. Beware of Scams: Be cautious of any messages or links sent to you on Snapchat, especially if they're from people you don't know. Scammers often use social engineering tactics to trick users into revealing their login credentials or downloading malware. Log Out of Unused Devices: If you've logged into your Snapchat account on a device that you're no longer using, make sure to log out of the account on that device to prevent unauthorized access. Review Your Login Activity: Check your Snapchat login activity regularly to make sure no one else has accessed your account. You can do this by going to your account settings and selecting "Login Verification." By taking these security measures, you can help protect your Snapchat account from being compromised and ensure that your personal information and content remain secure. Final Words Don't worry; recovering your Snapchat account is doable, even if you've lost access to your email or phone number. We've outlined five methods that you can try, to just follow the steps in the article, and you'll be back to snapping in no time! It's also a good idea to take some proactive measures to protect your account from any suspicious activity in the future. Implementing security measures such as two-factor authentication and using strong passwords can go a long way in keeping your account safe and secure. So go ahead, give these methods a try, and keep snapping away! Snapchat is a popular social media platform that allows users to share photos and videos with friends and followers? However, losing access to your Snapchat account can be frustrating. But don't worry, as there are still ways to recover your account without this information. In this article, we'll discuss five methods you can use to recover your Snapchat account. However, it's crucial to note that in addition to account recovery, you should also take steps to protect your account from potential security breaches and Snapchat suspicious activity. In this article, we'll explore some important security measures you can take to ensure the safety and privacy of your Snapchat account. By implementing these measures, such as enabling two-factor authentication, using strong passwords, and regularly updating the app, you can greatly reduce the risk of unauthorized access and protect your personal information and content. So, if you ever find yourself in a situation where you have lost access to your Snapchat account, don't panic. Just follow the recovery methods outlined in this article and take proactive steps to secure your account. By doing so, you can continue enjoying the many benefits of Snapchat while ensuring the safety and privacy of your account. 1. Use Your Username If you remember your Snapchat username, you can try logging in with it. On the login screen, tap on the "Forgot Password" option and enter your username. Snapchat will send you an email with instructions on how to reset your password. Also read: How Can I Monitor My Child's Snapchat Without Them Knowing? 2. Use a Trusted Friend's Phone If you have a trusted friend who has your phone number saved in their contacts, you can ask them to request a password reset for you. They can do this by going to the login screen, tapping on "Forgot Password," and entering their username or phone number. Snapchat will send a verification code to your friend's phone, which they can then share with you to reset your password. 3. Contact Snapchat Support If the above methods don't work, you can contact Snapchat support directly. Go to the Snapchat support page and select "My account login" as the issue you're facing. Provide as much information as you can about your account, including your username and any previous phone numbers or email addresses you may have used. Snapchat support will then guide you through the recovery process. 4. Use Your Recovery Code If you have previously enabled two-factor authentication on your Snapchat account, you would have been given a recovery code. This code can be used to recover your account even if you no longer have access to your email or phone number. To use the recovery code, go to the login screen and tap on "Forgot Password." Enter your username and then tap on "Use Recovery Code." Follow the prompts to reset your password. 5. Try a Third-Party Recovery Tool If none of the above methods work, you can try using a third-party recovery tool. These tools are designed to help recover Snapchat accounts that have been lost or hacked. However, you should be cautious when using these tools as they may not always be safe or reliable. Make sure to do your research and only use trusted recovery tools. Also read: WhatsApp Scams: How to Spot It and Prevent It Security Measures To Protect Snapchat Account Now that you know how to recover your Snapchat account without email or phone number and have taken steps to regain access to your account, it's important to take further measures to protect your account from suspicious activity. Here are some additional security measures you can take to ensure that your Snapchat account remains secure. Enable Two-Factor Authentication: Two-factor authentication (2FA) adds an extra layer of security to your account by requiring you to enter a verification code in addition to your password when logging in. This makes it harder for hackers to access your account even if they have your password. Use a Strong Password: Choose a strong, unique password that contains a combination of upper and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols. Avoid using easily guessable passwords like your name or date of birth. Don't Share Your Login Credentials: Never share your Snapchat login credentials with anyone, including friends or family members. This includes your password, recovery code, and any other account information. Regularly Update Your App: Make sure you're using the latest version of the Snapchat app, as updates often include security patches and bug fixes. Beware of Scams: Be cautious of any messages or links sent to you on Snapchat, especially if they're from people you don't know. Scammers often use social engineering tactics to trick users into revealing their login credentials or downloading malware. Log Out of Unused Devices: If you've logged into your Snapchat account on a device that you're no longer using, make sure to log out of the account on that device to prevent unauthorized access. Review Your Login Activity: Check your Snapchat login activity regularly to make sure no one else has accessed your account. You can do this by going to your account settings and selecting "Login Verification." By taking these security measures, you can help protect your Snapchat account from being compromised and ensure that your personal information and content remain secure. Final Words Don't worry; recovering your Snapchat account is doable, even if you've lost access to your email or phone number. We've outlined five methods that you can try, to just follow the steps in the article, and you'll be back to snapping in no time! It's also a good idea to take some proactive measures to protect your account from any suspicious activity in the future. Implementing security measures such as two-factor authentication and using strong passwords can go a long way in keeping your account safe and secure. So go ahead, give these methods a try, and keep snapping away! Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution — You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Losing access to your Snapchat account can be frustrating—especially if you've also forgotten your password or the email address linked to your account. If you're suddenly logged out, you'll need both the correct email and password to log back in. However, if your Snapchat account is hacked, even accurate credentials might not help. Whatever the situation, don't worry—we're here to help. This guide walks you through how to recover your Snapchat account and protect it from future breaches. Become an iOS 18 Master: Get our exclusive iOS 18 eBook for FREE when you sign up for our newsletter below. If you're still logged in but have forgotten your password, don't panic—you can reset it easily. But make sure you have access to the phone number or email associated with the Snapchat account.Steps to reset your Snapchat password: Open the Snapchat app and go to the Login screen. Enter your username or email, then tap Forgot your password?. Now, select how you want to reset your password. In our case, we chose the phone option. Enter your mobile number and hit Continue. Enter the 6-digit Snapchat password reset code received on your phone and hit Submit. Follow the on-screen instructions to set a new password. If you select email, Snapchat will send a password reset link to your inbox. Just follow the link to create a new password.If you've forgotten both your email and username—and don't have access to your phone number—it gets tricky. Snapchat cannot recover accounts without identity verification. Here's what you can try: Make a list of all the email IDs you've ever used. Try using each one on the Forgot Password page in the app. If one works, reset the password and regain access. Unfortunately, if none of them work and you can't recall your details, recovery might not be possible without contacting Snapchat Support.If your Snapchat account has been hacked, the outcome depends on the changes made by the hacker.Scenario 1: You're logged out but your credentials still work Log in immediately. Go to Settings → Password → Enter current password → Change your password. Scenario 2: Your password/email/phone number has been changedIf you're locked out and can't reset your password: Try using the last known email or phone number. If those fail, visit Snapchat Support and submit a help request. Be honest and detailed in your responses so Snapchat can verify your identity and assist you in recovering the account.If you deleted your Snapchat account and want to bring it back, reactivation is simple—as long as it's within 30 days of deletion. To reactivate a Snapchat account: Open the Snapchat app and log in using your credentials. Snapchat will prompt you with a message asking if you'd like to reactivate your account. Tap Yes to proceed, and it is done. Snapchat will restore your account and all associated data. However, if it's been over 30 days, the account is permanently deleted and cannot be recovered.While resetting your password is easy, hacked accounts can be a pain to recover. That's why it's always best to secure your Snapchat profile.With so many passwords and platforms to remember, forgetting your Snapchat or any other social media account isn't uncommon. So, to stay on the safer side, it will be beneficial if you jot down your username and password somewhere secure. If you use an iPhone user, we suggest you use the Apple Passwords app to save your Snapchat credentials.Enabling 2-factor authentication is against unauthorized access. Once enabled, your Snapchat account will require you to enter a verification code every time you log in.How to enable 2FA in Snapchat: Open the Snapchat app and tap your Bitmoji icon at the top left corner. Tap the Settings icon at the top right. Select Two-Factor Authentication, then follow the on-screen instructions. Once you're done, you'll receive a backup code, which you must keep somewhere safe. You can use the backup code to log into your Snapchat account if you lose access to the 2FA app or phone number.While we have already told you to keep your backup code somewhere secure, you can generate a new recovery code in case the original one is lost.Here's how you can: Open the Snapchat app and head to Settings. Here, tap on Two Factor Authentication. Now, select Recovery Code. Next, tap the Generate Code button and follow the on-screen instructions. Once a new code is received, jot it down somewhere safe. Always choose complex passwords with uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols. If you have an iPhone, let Apple generate and save strong passwords for you.Signing off... Losing access to your Snapchat account can be stressful—but with the right steps, recovery is usually possible. Just remember your basic credentials, enable 2FA, and stay vigilant about account activity.Need more help? FAQs Can I recover my Snapchat account without an email or phone number? Yes, if you have a backup code from 2FA. Otherwise, your only option is to contact Snapchat Support. Why is my Snapchat account locked, and how can I unlock it? Accounts may be locked for violating community guidelines or sending spam. Visit accounts.snapchat.com/accounts/unlock to log in and tap Unlock. How long do I have to recover a deleted Snapchat account? You have 30 days to recover a deactivated account. After that, it's gone permanently. Read more: How to change your Snapchat username How to download your Snapchat data Become an iOS 18 Master: Get our exclusive iOS 18 eBook for FREE when you sign up for our newsletter below. Author Editor I have been a tech enthusiast for as long as I can remember. I enjoy explaining tech to the internet and doing this since I was old enough to understand mathematics. At GeeksBlog, I will guide the internet in solving some common issues with their iPhone, iPad, Mac, AirPods, and Apple Watch. When not writing, you can find me preparing for my exams in a whole city. Author Editor Vikhyat has a bachelor's degree in Electronic and Communication Engineering and over five years of writing experience. His passion for technology and Apple products led him to the tech writing space, where he specializes in writing App features, How-to guides, and troubleshooting guides for fellow Apple users. When not typing away on his MacBook Pro, he loves exploring the real world. Publishing or transfer of photos online This article needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.Find sources: "Image sharing" – news · newspapers · books · scholar · JSTOR (May 2022) (Learn how and when to remove this message) A photo shared on the Instagram app Image sharing, or photo sharing, is the publishing or transfer of digital photos online. Image sharing websites offer services such as uploading, hosting, managing and sharing of photos (publicly or privately).[1] This function is provided through both websites and applications that facilitate the upload and display of images. The term can also be loosely applied to the use of online photo galleries that are set up and managed by individual users, including photoblogs. Sharing means that other users can view but not necessarily download images, and users can select different copyright options for their images. While photoblogs tend only to display a chronological view of user-selected medium-sized photos, most photo sharing applications allow for viewing by different metrics such as albums, tags or categories; photoblogs tend to be about one particular photographer and are a means of self-expression, whereas photo sharing sites generally aim to display, discuss, share, or sell the photographs of many different photographers. SmugMug offers features such as custom photo galleries and e-commerce options.[7][8][9] In 2003, Yahoo! Photos was one of the most popular photo sharing platforms thanks to its integration with Yahoo's email and search services.[10][11][12] In 2004, Flickr was founded, quickly becoming popular due to its vibrant photography community and effective tagging system.[13][14] The 2010s saw the rise of mobile apps[15][16] and cloud storage.[17][18] The advent of smartphones with high-quality cameras and the availability of cloud storage services such as Google Photos, Dropbox, and iCloud Photo Library revolutionized the way people take, store, and share images. Mobile apps such as Instagram,[19] Snapchat,[20][21] and TikTok emerged, offering a simple and socially focused photo sharing experience. These apps met the need for instant sharing with friends and followers. In recent years, AI and machine learning have become increasingly integrated into photo sharing platforms.[22][23] AI is being used to improve image quality, automatically tag images with relevant keywords, detect and filter inappropriate content, and create new effects and filters. AI has the potential to revolutionize the way people share photos, making it easier for them to share their photos in groups: sites that offer photo sharing for free and sites that charge users directly to host and share images.[24] Of the sites that offer free photo sharing, most can be broken up into advertising-supported media plays and online photo finishing sites, where photo sharing is a vehicle to sell prints or other merchandise. These designations are not strict, and some subscription sites have a limited free version. Consumers can share their photos directly from their home computers over high speed connections through peer-to-peer sharing using applications. Peer-to-peer photo sharing often carries a small one-time cost for the software. Some sites allow you to post pictures online and they will then project the image onto famous buildings during special events, while other sites let you insert photos of the digital postcards, slide shows and photo albums and send them via email. Others sites are owned by camera manufacturers, and only accept photos made with their hardware. To reduce the costs of hosting and free up server sites offer their services without the distraction of advertisements or promotion for prints and gifts. They may also have other enhancements over free services, such as guarantees regarding the online availability of photos, more storage space, the ability for non-account holders to download full-size, original versions of photos, and tools for backing up photos. Some offer user photographs for sale, splitting the proceeds with the photographer, while others may use a disclaimer to reserve the right to use or sell the photos without giving the photographer royalties or credit. A number of subscription-based photo sharing sites offer their services without the distraction of advertisements or promotion for prints and gifts. They may also have other enhancements over free services, such as guarantees regarding the online availability of photos, more storage space, the ability for non-account holders to download full-size, original versions of photos, and tools for backing up photos. Some offer user photographs for sale, splitting the proceeds with the photographer, while others may use a disclaimer to reserve the right to use or sell the photos without giving the photographer royalties or credit. Peer-to-peer photo sharing Peer-to-peer photo sharing (broadband) connections directly to users, it is feasible to share images and videos without going through a central service. The advantages of peer-to-peer sharing are reduced hosting costs and no loss of control to a central service. The downsides are that the consumer does not get the benefit of off-site backup; consumer Internet service providers (ISPs) often prohibit the serving of content both by contract and through the implementation of network filtering, and there are few quality guarantees for recipients. However, there are typically no direct consumer costs beyond the purchase of the initial software, provided the consumer already has a computer with the digital assets to share, and Applications like Tonido provide peer-to-peer photo sharing. Operating peer-to-peer sharing methods without a central server can create problems as some users do not leave their computers online and available at all time, though these problems can be addressed only by those with appropriate permissions.[27] A variation on the peer-to-peer model is server-to-browser, whereby images are shared on the PC with the use of a local (on the host computer) software service (much like peer-to-peer) but made available to the viewer through a standard web browser. Technically speaking, this may still be described as peer-to-peer (with the second peer being a web browser) but it is characteristically different as it assumes no need to download peer software for the viewer. This is accessed by regular URLs that should have been understand entirely without any further software required. Consequently, photos shared in this way are accessible with the software installed by the sharer).[citation needed] Peer-to-browser sharing has (similar to peer-to-peer) reduced hosting costs, no loss of control to a central service, and no waiting for files to upload to the central service. Furthermore, universal web browser access to shared files makes them more widely accessible and available to use in different ways, such as embedding in, or attaching to, from within web pages. As with peer-to-peer, there are lack of off-site backup, possible inhibition by some ISPs, and limitations in speed of serving.[citation needed] With the emergence of social networks, image sharing has now become a common online activity. For example, in Great Britain, 70% of online users are engaged in image sharing.In 2013, 64% of British users shared their photos through a social network. Facebook started in 2015 that there were approximately two billion images uploaded to its site daily. In terms of image sharing, Facebook is the largest service provider.[28] On Facebook, people can upload and share their photo albums individually, and collaboratively with shared albums. This feature allows multiple users to upload pictures to the same album, and the album's creator has the ability to add or delete contributors.[29] Twitter collaborated with Photobucket in developing a new photo sharing service so users can attach a picture to a tweet without depending on other application such as TwitPic or Yfrog.[30] As of June 2016, there were more than 500 million monthly active Instagram users.[31] Image sharing on social news and image aggregators such as Reddit, Imgur, 4chan, Pinterest and Tumblr allow users to share almost any content of a large community of users, and the most liked content of the aggregator directly from mobile phones has become popular. Several networks and applications have sprung up offering capabilities to share the captured photos directly from mobile phones to social networks. The most prominent of these is Instagram, which has quickly become the dominant image-sharing network with over 500 million members.[31] Other applications and networks offering similar service and growing in popularity include Streamzoo, Path, PicsArt, Pictu, and Starmatic. Instagram, Snapchat, and Nice are examples of photo sharing apps with millions of users. Software can be found on the Internet to generate digital photo albums, on the web, using a home web server. In general, this is for advanced users that want a website that they can control over the appearance of their web albums and the actual servers they are going to run on the internet. In this case, users are able to classify images.[34] Most sites propose at least a taxonomy where images can be grouped within a directory-like structure in so-called "galleries". Some sites also allow users to classify images using tags to build customized "collections" of images that share a common characteristic, such as a common theme or location. Depending on the restrictions on the set of allowed tags, tagging can be either broad or narrow.[35] A folksonomy is broad when there is no restriction on the set of taggers and available tags. When there are limitations, the folksonomy is called narrow. Another mechanism is coupling taxonomy and folksonomy, where tags associated to galleries and artists are cascaded to the galleries and artist's pictures. Broad taxonomies have interesting properties like the power law.[36] See also: Social bookmarking Photo tagging is the process that allows users to tag and group photos of an individual or individuals.[37] With facial recognition software, an image can become quicker and easier; the more tagging done of an individual the more accurate the software can be. This type of software is currently in use on Facebook.[38] Photo tagging is a way of labeling photos so that viewers can know who is who in the picture. On most online photo sharing sites such as Facebook, a tag can also be used as a link that when clicked will take you to the person's profile that was tagged. If the same photos can only be tagged by people that you know on some sites photos can be shared by other users as well. These tags can be searched for across the entire Internet, on separate websites or in private data bases. They can be used for crowdsourced classification (see the section on the entire Internet, on separate websites or in private data bases. They can be used for crowdsourced classification (see the section on collaboration) and to categorize the presented images, and hence often to provide entertainment in online communities that allow the creation of broad folksonomies. Main articles: Geotagging a photo is the process in which a photo is marked with the geographical identification of the place it was taken. Most technology with photo taking capabilities are equipped with GPS systems that automatically geotag photos and videos. Crowdsourced data available from photo-sharing services have the potentiality of tracking places. Geotagging can reveal the footprints and behaviors of travelers by utilizing spatial proximity of geo-tagged photos that are shared online, making it possible to extract travel information at a particular location.[39][40] Instagram, Flickr, and Panoramio are a few services that provide the option of geotagging images. Flickr has over 40 million geotagged photos uploaded by 400 thousand users, and still growing at a rapid pace.[41] Some sites, including Panoramio and Wikimedia Commons show their geocoded photographs on a map, helping the user find pictures of the same or nearby objects from different directions. Critics of image/photo sharing are concerned with the use of applications such as Instagram, because they believe that the behaviors portrayed on these sites could potentially be linked to the narcissism of its users. Keen argues that "self" is ruining our digital culture, and he shares that people use social-media platforms because they are interested in advertising themselves.[42] Ruffardi and Campbell (2008) also alleged that Instagram offers "a gateway for self-promotion via self-descriptions, vanity via photos, and a large number of shallow relationships." However, they later said that the large number of shallow relationships that the site fosters is normative.[43] See also: Privacy concerns with social networking services Privacy activists and researchers have noted that the sharing of images on social networks may compromise the privacy of people depicted in them. Further, most current social networks afford their users little control over content that they did not post themselves.[44] In this privacy policy, Facebook states that any information posted using its service, including images, may be used to display relevant ads to its users.[45] Facebook utilizes automatic facial recognition software that can automatically recognize the face of another Facebook user in new photos, and suggest that the user be tagged in the photo.[38] A Ghent

University study found that employers commonly search for prospective employees on Facebook, and may decide whether or not to grant an interview based on the person's profile picture.[46] The increasing ease of use has encouraged image sharing in insurance, including crop insurance.[47] The insurance company and farmer have a shared interest in the current state of a field.[47] This method allows crop health to be monitored more quickly and easily than any other way.[47] Digital photo frame File hosting service File sharing Image hosting service List of image-sharing websites List of photo and video apps Timeline of file sharing ^ Aichner, T.; Jacob, F. (March 2015). "Measuring the Degree of Corporate Social Media Use". International Journal of Market Research. 57 (2): 257–275. doi:10.2501/IJMR-2015-018. S2CID 166531788. ^ Kosowski, Thorin (2010-03-23). "How WiFi Cameras Work". HowStuffWorks. Archived from the original on 30 November 2012. 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4chan (main content follows) Homepage on May 3, 2023 Type of site Imageboard Available in English Country of origin United States Owner Hiroyuki Nishimura (since 2015) Created by Christopher Poole Services 4chan PassURL 4chan.org Advertising Yes Commercial Yes Registration None (except for staff) Launched October 1, 2003 (21 years ago) (2003-10-01) Current status Active Written in PHP 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, television to literature, cooking, weapons, music, history, technology, anime, physical fitness, politics, and sports, among others. Registration is not available, except for staff, and users typically post anonymously.[2] As of 2022[update], 4chan receives more than 22 million unique monthly visitors, of whom 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 originally used 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 lolcats, Rickrolling, rage comics, wojaks, Pepe the Frog, as well as hacktivist and political movements, 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 as a result of its lax censorship and moderation policies. In 2008, The Guardian summarized the 4chan community as "lunatic, juvenile [...] brilliant, ridiculous and alarming".[5] 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, and sports, among others. Uniquely, the "Random" board—also known as /b/—enforces few rules.[8] 4chan is the Internet's most trafficked imageboard, according to the Los Angeles Times.[9] 4chan's Alexa rank was 853 in March 2022 though it has been as high as 56.[11][11] It is provided free of charge 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 that 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 100 Mbit/s to 1 Gbit/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 of 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 Nico Douga, Poole explained that there are approximately 20 volunteer moderators active on 4chan.[note 1] 4chan also has a junior 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] Gianluca Stringhini, an associate professor at Boston University College of Engineering, said in August 2024, "The only moderation on the platform appears to be for clearly illegal content, such as child pornography. Everything else remains untouched."[23] 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!"[24] 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".[25] Poole had a background 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 code and translated the Japanese text into English using AltaVista's Babel Fish online translator.[note 1][26] 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.[17][28] 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), and /a/ (Anime). In the early days of the website, Poole hosted meetings from 2005 to 2008 in various locations to promote it, such as Otakon,[30] that popularized some of the 4chan-related memes. Additionally, a lolicon board was created at /l/ (Lolikon),[31] but was disabled following the posting of real-life child pornography and ultimately deleted in October 2004, after threats of legal action.[32][33] 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.[34] In June 2004, 4chan experienced six weeks of downtime due to PayPal suspending 4chan's donations service after receiving complaints about the site's content.[35] Following 4chan's return, several non-anime related boards were introduced, including /k/ (Weapons), /o/ (Auto), and /v/ (Video Games).[36] In 2008, nine new boards were created, 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/.[37] By this point, 4chan 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" that took aim at American corporate media.[38][39] 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.[40] During the same year, the /soc/ board was created in an effort to reduce the number of socialization threads on /b/. /r9k/ was restored on 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 criticized action [as needed] 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"[41] 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 to supporting the site.[42] Hiroyuki Nishimura, the owner of 4chan since 2010 In September 2015, 4chan stepped down as the site's administrator, citing stress from controversies such as Gamergate as the reason for his departure.[43][44][45] In September 21, 2015, Poole announced that Hiroyuki Nishimura had purchased from him the ownership rights to 4chan, without disclosing the terms of the acquisition.[28][46][47] 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.[48] Nishimura lost 2channel's domain after it was seized by his registrar, Jim Watkins[49][50] due the latter's alleged financial difficulties.[51] Wired later reported that Japanese top 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.[52] In October 2016, it was reported that the site was facing financial difficulties that could lead to its closure or radical changes.[53] In a post titled "Winter is Coming", Hiroyuki Nishimura explained, "We had tried to keep 4chan as is. But I failed. I am sincerely sorry", citing server costs, infrastructure costs, and network fees.[54] 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 domain. In a series of posts on the topic, Nishimura explained that the split was due to 4chan being blacklisted by most advertising companies and that the new 4channel domain would allow for the site to receive advertisements by mainstream ad providers.[55] All boards returned to the 4chan domain in December 2023 for unknown reasons, and 4channel.org now redirects to 4chan.org. In a 2020 interview with Vice Media, several current or past moderators spoke about what they perceived as racist intent behind the site's management. They alleged that a managing moderator, known online as RapeApe, was attempting to use the site as a recruitment tool for the alt-right, and that Nishimura was "hands-off, leaving moderation of the site primarily to RapeApe." Neither Nishimura nor RapeApe responded to these allegations. 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.[57][58] According to 4chan's filings to the New York Attorney General's Office, 4chan signed an agreement to pay RapeApe $3,000 a month for their services in 2015. By May 2022, that fee had risen to $4,400 a month. The submitted documents also revealed RapeApe lamenting that 4chan was "getting the shaft" over the Buffalo terrorist attack and his attempt to persuade the advertising platform Bid.Glass to remove them from the website.[59] On April 14, 2025, 4chan was hacked by an anonymous user who later announced the hack on soyjak.party, a rival imageboard whose users are majority made up of former 4chan users who were banned from 4chan following a dispute over the ownership of a board on the website called /qa/.[60] Source code and user login pages of those who registered with emails were apparently acquired by the user and leaked online.[61] Additionally, the deleted /qa/ board was restored. On soyjak.party, information purporting to be from the hack was released, claiming "admin" level access, a lack of updates to the site since 2016, and identities of admins, among other claims.[62] One of the last known posts made on 4chan before it was taken down was the "Chicken jockey!" quote, taken from A Minecraft Movie.[63] In the days following the attacks, 4chan and Nishimura's official Twitter accounts released statements confirming that they would work to fix security vulnerabilities and return at a later date.[64][65][66][67] The site returned on April 25.[68] Due to its temporary unavailability, some users took to the site's Downdetector page, using its comment section as a temporary replacement for the website.[69] Main article: Christopher Poole Christopher Poole conceived his real-life identity until it was revealed on July 9, 2008, in The Wall Street Journal. Prior to that, he had used the alias "moot".[25] In April 2009, an open Internet poll conducted by Time magazine voted Poole as the world's most influential person of 2008.[70] The results were questioned even before the poll completed, as automated voting programs and manual ballot stuffing were used to influence the vote.[71][72][73] 4chan's interference with the vote seemed increasingly likely, when it was found that reading the first letter of the first 21 candidates in the poll spelled out a phrase containing two 4chan memes: "mARBLECAKE. ALSO, THE GAME."[74] On September 12, 2009, Poole gave a talk regarding 4chan's 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 both to the anonymous system and to the lack of data retention on the site ("The site has no memory.").[75][76] In April 2010, Poole testified in the trial United States of America v. David Kernell as a government witness,[77] explaining the terminology used on 4chan to the prosecutor, ranging from "OP" to "lurker", as well as 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.[78] Board Name NSFW Year created /3/ 3DCG No 2005 /a/ Anime & Manga No 2003 /adv/ Advice No 2010 /an/ Animals & Nature No 2006 /aco/ Adult Cartoons Yes 2015 /adv/ Advice No 2010 /an/ Animals & Nature No 2006 /asp/ Alternative Sports No 2013 /b/ Random Yes 2003 /banner/ International/Random Yes 2017 /biz/ Business & Finance No 2014 /c/ Anime/Cute No 2003 /cgl/ Cosplay & EGL No 2006 /ck/ Cooking No 2006 /cm/ Cute/Male No 2006 /co/ Comics & Cartoons No 2006 /d/ Hentai/Alternative Yes 2003 /diy/ Do It Yourself No 2011 /e/ Ecchi Yes 2006 /f/ Flash No 2008 /fa/ Fashion No 2008 /fg/ Fitness No 2008 /g/ Technology No 2003 /gd/ Graphic Design No 2013 /gif/ Adult GIF Yes 2005 /h/ Hentai Yes 2003 /hc/ Hardcore Yes 2008 /his/ History & Humanities No 2015 /hm/ Handsome Men Yes 2012 /hr/ High Resolution No 2005 /i/ Oekaki No 2003 /ic/ Artwork/Critique No 2005 /int/ International No 2011 /jp/ Otaku Culture No 2008 /k/ Weapons No 2004 /lgbt/ LGBT No 2013 /lit/ Literature No 2010 /m/ Mecha No 2004 /mlp/ Pony No 2012 /mu/ Music No 2006 /n/ Transportation No 2006 /news/ Current News No 2015 /o/ Auto No 2004 /out/ Outdoors No 2013 /p/ Photography No 2005 /po/ Papercraft & Origami No 2006 /pol/ Politically Incorrect Yes 2011 /pw/ Professional Wrestling No 2021 /qa/ Question & Answer No 2015 /qst/ Quests No 2016 /r/ Request Yes 2004 /r9k/ ROBOT9001 Yes 2008 /s/ Sexy Beautiful Women Yes 2013 /sci/ Science & Math No 2010 /sp/ Sports No 2006 /t/ Torrents Yes 2003 /tg/ Traditional Games No 2007 /toy/ Toys No 2008 /trash/ Off-Topic No 2015 /trv/ Travel No 2008 /tv/ Television & Film No 2010 /u/ Yuri Yes 2004 /v/ Video Games No 2004 /vg/ Video Game Generals No 2012 /vip/ Very Important Posts No 2016 /vm/ Video Games/Multiplayer No 2020 /vmg/ Video Games/Mobile No 2020 /vp/ Pokémon No 2010 /vr/ Retro Games No 2013 /vrpg/ Video Game Generals/RPG No 2020 /vst/ Video Games/Strategy No 2020 /vt/ Virtual YouTubers No 2021 /w/ Anime/Wallpapers No 2003 /wg/ Wallpapers/General No 2005 /wsg/ Worksafe GIF No 2012 /wsr/ Worksafe Requests No 2015 /x/ Paranormal No 2007 /xs/ Extreme Sports No 2021 /y/ Yaoi No 2004 An early board on 4chan was the "random" board, /b/, which was the first board created after the site's launch on October 1, 2003, and has been described as 4chan's most popular board, accounting for 30% of site traffic in 2009.[79][80][2] Gawker's Nick Douglas summarized /b/ as a 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 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 rules" policy also applies to actions of administrators and moderators, which mean that users may be banned at any time, for any reason, including for no reason at all.[81] Due partially to its anonymous nature, board culture and the site's anti-child pornography rule is a subject of jokes on /b/.[81] 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.[82] The humor of /b/'s many users, who refer to themselves as "/b/tards,"[82][83] is often incomprehensible to newcomers and outsiders, and is characterized by intricate inside jokes and dark comedy.[83] 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 "doing it for the lulz," a corruption of "LOL" used to denote amusement at another's expense.[82][84] A significant amount of media coverage is in response to /b/'s culture, which has been characterized as adolescent, crude[82][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][85] 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",[82] while Baltimore City Paper wrote that "/b/ is the id 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".[83] 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.[86] 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.[86] Main article: My Little Pony fandom /mlp/, titled as Pony, is dedicated to discussion of the animated television series My Little Pony: Friendship Is Magic and its associated fandom. Created on February 16, 2012, the board was established by Poole in response to the growing popularity of pony-related content flooding other boards, particularly /co/ and /b/.[88] Along with the board's creation, Poole implemented "Global Rule 15" (GR15), which banned pony content outside of a few select boards, directing all such discussions to /mlp/.[89] The board became home to the "brony" fandom on 4chan, though many users on /mlp/ reject this label, preferring self-deprecating terms like horsefuckers or ponyfags.[90] Notable events include a 2013 Q&A with Friendship Is Magic creator Lauren Faust[91] and the board's temporary merger with /pol/ on April 1, 2017, creating "/mlpol/".[92] Despite the original series ending in 2019, /mlp/ continues to maintain a stable community. The board has been the subject of academic research regarding masculinity and online identity, particularly in a 2017 ethnographic study published in the journal Sexualities that examined how users construct collective identity around their interest in the show and its characters.[90] Main article: /mu/ The music board, /mu/, is dedicated to the discussion of music artists, albums, genres, and instruments.[93] Described as "4chan's best kept secret" and a "surprisingly artistic side of 4chan", /mu/ is used by users to discover new music they would never have found otherwise" with many members of the community that can affirm or challenge their own musical tastes.[94][95] The board has gained notoriety for earnestly focusing upon and promoting challenging and otherwise obscure music.[96][97] Some common genres discussed on /mu/ include shoegaze,[98] experimental hip hop,[95] witch house,[94][99] IDM,[100] noise music,[101] vaporwave,[102] and K-pop.[94] There is a significant overlap between user bases of /mu/ and music site Rate Your Music.[103] The board's rules have inspired many online music communities and meme pages on social media that emulate /mu/'s posting style.[104] Publications such as Pitchfork and Entertainment Weekly noted the board gained a significant role in popularizing various music artists such as Death Grips.[105][106] Neutral Milk Hotel,[107] and Have a Nice Life.[109][110][111] Prominent music critic Anthony Fantano began his career on /mu/ and developed a significant following there.[112] Genres artists, like Zeal & Ardor and Conrad Tao, admitted to posting their music anonymously on the board and getting feedback, as well as find inspiration from the board.[113][99] In particular, Zeal & Ardor said their sound, which mixes black metal with spirituals, came from suggestions by two users.[113] Andrew W.K. did a Q&A with the board's users in 2014.[116] Singer Lauren Mayberry shared on Twitter in 2015 a link to a thread on /mu/ about her band's song "Leave a Trace" to showcase what online musicians thought about the album.[116] 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.[116] Genres artists like Zeal & Ardor and Conrad Tao, admitted to posting their music anonymously on the board and getting feedback, as well as find inspiration from the board. Singer Lauren Mayberry shared on Twitter in 2015 a link to a thread on /mu/ about her band's song "Leave a Trace" to showcase what online musicians thought about the album. Notable examples include the works of Duster,[120] D>E>A>T>H>B>E>T>A>L by Panchiko,[121] and All Lights Fucked on the Hairy Amp Drooling by Godspeed You! Black Emperor.[122] This was described by NPR as resembling "a group called The Pablo Collective posted a 4-track remix album of Kanye West's The Life of Pablo titled The Death of Pablo to /mu/, claiming it was based on a recurring dream from one of the board's users. Main article: /pol/ /pol/ ("Politically Incorrect") is 4chan's political discussion board. A stickied thread on its front page states that the board's intended purpose is "discussion of news, world events, political issues, and other related topics."[126] /pol/ was created in October 2011 as a rebranding of 4chan's news board, /new/[127][128] which was deleted that January for a high volume of racist discussion.[40][127] 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.[57][129] The board quickly attracted posters with a political persuasion that would later be described with a new term, the alt-right.[130] Media sources have characterized /pol/ as predominantly racist and sexist, with many of its posts taking a explicitly neo-Nazi bent.[131][132][133][134] The site's far-reaching culture of vitriolic and discriminatory content is "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][57] /pol/ "increasingly became synonymous with 4chan as a whole".[135] The Southern Poverty Law Center regards /pol/'s rhetorical style as widely emulated by white supremacist websites such as The Daily Stormer; the Stormer's editor, Andrew Anglin, concurred.[132] /pol/ was where screenshots of Trayvon Martin's hacked social media accounts were initially posted.[136][137] The board's users have started campaigns.[133][138][139][140] Many /pol/ users favored Donald Trump during his 2016 United States presidential campaign. Both Trump and his son, Donald Trump Jr., appeared to acknowledge the support by tweeting /pol/-associated memes. Upon his successful election, a /pol/ moderator embedded a pro-Trump video at the top of all of the board's pages.[141][142][143][144] /r9k/ is a board that implements Randall Munroe's "ROBOT9000" algorithm, where no exact reposts are permitted.[145] It is credited as the origin of the "greentext" rhetorical style which often center around stories of social interactions and resulting ineptness.[38][146] By 2012, personal confession stories of self-loathing, depression, and attempted suicide began to supersede /b/-style roleplaying, otaku, and video game discussion.[147][148] It became a popular gathering place for controversial online incel community.[149][150] The "beta uprising" 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 subsection.[151][152] 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.[153][154] 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 positing a message on 4chan about his intention the day before his attack.[155][156] /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 that argued viewers would have to watch at least 93,884,313,611 episodes to see all possible orderings. Seven years later, professional mathematicians recognized the mathematical proof as a partial solution to a superpermutation problem that was unsolved for 25 years. Australian mathematician Greg Egan later published a proof inspired by the proof from the anonymous 4chan user, both of which are recognized as significant advances to the problem.[157] /nv/ is 4chan's video games board. The board has spawned multiple Internet memes, most notably the NPC Wojak in 2018 (derived from the gaming term non-player character to describe those who do not think for themselves or make their own conscious decisions).[158] Main article: /x/ The collaborative writing wiki-project SCP Foundation originated on /x/ in 2007. 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 paranormal-themed board.[159] Many of the earliest creepypastas (Internet horror-related legends) were created on /x/.[160] The idea of the Backrooms gained popularity thanks to a thread on /x/ created on 12 May 2019, where the users were asked to "post disquieting images that just feel 'off." There, the first photo depicting the Backrooms was 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.[161] American model Allison Harvard first gained notoriety in 2005 as an Internet meme on the /b/ board where she became known as Creepy Chan.[162] 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 participate in the discussions.[163] 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 first SCP file, SCP-173, was posted by an anonymous user.[164] Initially a stand-alone short story, many additional short stories, called SCP files were created shortly after within the same 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.[165] /x/ was the first place where the 2015 viral video 11B-X-1371 was posted.[166] The board also contributed to investigating the controversial Sad Satan video game.[167] "[A] significant and influential element of contemporary internet culture", 4chan is responsible for many early memes and the site has received positive attention for its association with memes.[2][4] 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,[168] 4chan and other websites, such as the satirical Encyclopedia Dramatica, are also contributed to the development of significant amounts of leetspeak.[169] A lolcat image using the "I'm in ur..." format A lolcat is an image combining a photograph of a cat with subscriptic text intended to contribute humour, widely popularized by 4chan in the format of an image macro. Lolcats are also called cat macros. The exact origin of the lolcat concept is not known, although the term itself dates to 2005 and the phrase "I Can Has Cheezburger?" was popularized by "Caturday" the practice of posting cat-related images every Saturday, which was practiced on 4chan.[170] Along with the board's creation, Poole implemented "Global Rule 15" (GR15), which banned images of cats outside of a few select boards, directing all such discussions to the music video for Rick Astley's 1987 song "Never Gonna Give You Up". Thus, the "rickroll" was born.[39] A link to the YouTube video of Tay Zonday's song "Chocolate Rain" was posted on /b/ on July 11, 2007, and then subsequently circulated by users, becoming a very popular internet meme.[173][174][175] 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.[173][176] Fellow YouTuber Boxxy's popularity was also due in part to 4chan.[177] In his American incarnation, Pedobear is an anthropomorphic bear child predator that is often used within the community to mock pedophiles. The predator's name gives away when the alt-right.[130] Media sources have characterized /pol/ as predominantly racist and sexist, with many of its posts taking a explicitly neo-Nazi bent. The most popular memes on non-English imageboards, and has gained recognition across Europe, appearing in offline publications.[179][180] It has been used as a symbol of pedophile warning[181] See also: Anonymous (hacker group) and Project Chanology Protesters against Scientology 4chan has been labeled as the birthplace of the Anonymous meme by The Baltimore City Paper,[111] due to the norm of posts signed with the "Anonymous" moniker. The National Post's David George-Cosh said it has been "widely reported" that Anonymous is associated with 4chan and 711chan, as well as numerous Internet Relay Chat (IRC) channels.[182] Through its association with Anonymous, 4chan has become associated with Project Chanology, a worldwide protest against the Church of Scientology held by members of Anonymous. On January 15, 2008, a 4chan user posted to /b/, suggesting participants "do something big" against the Church of Scientology's website. This message resulted in the Church heightened interest in the show after a critical Cartoon Brew article was shared, resulting in praise for its plot, characters, and animation style.[183] Discussion of the show extended to /b/, eventually to a point of contention. Discussion then spread from its communities external to 4chan, including the establishment of fan websites, causing the show to reach a wider audience across the internet.[183] 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. Later on, another user replied to the post was photographed off the screen and framed by another user who posted another reply in the thread with a photo of the framed quote. Later the user, after endorsement by other anonymous users 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.[189][190][191][192] See also: Anonymous (hacker group) 4chan raids (2003–2007), and Sarah Palin email hack Anonymous, a decentralized hacktivist movement that saw its origins from /b/ 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."[193] Users of 4chan and other websites "raided" Hal Turner by launching denial-of-service attacks and prank calling his phone-in radio show during December 2006 and January 2007. The attacks caused Turner's website to go offline. This cost thousands of dollars of bandwidth bills according to Turner. In response, Turner sued 4chan, 7chan, and other websites; however, he lost his plea for an injunction and failed to receive letters from the court.[194] 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.[195] Slashdot founder Rob Malda posted a comment made by another Slashdot user, Miang, stating that the story focused mainly on users of "4chan, 7chan and 420chan". Miang claimed 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".[196] In 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.[197] A /b/ user then logged in and changed the password, posting a screenshot of him sending an email to a friend of Palin's informing her of the new password on the /b/ board. However, he forgot to blank out the password in the screenshot.[198] 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."[199] 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.[200] 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.[201][202] In May 2009, members of the site attacked YouTube, posting pornographic videos on the video-sharing platform under names of teenage celebrities. The attack spawned the popular Internet meme and catchphrase "I'm 12 years old and what is this?" as a response to a user comment on one such video. A 4chan member acknowledged being part of the attack, telling BBC News that it was in response to YouTube "deleting music".[204] 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.[205] The videos uploaded by the user had apparently become popular with 4chan members, who subsequently became angered after the account was suspended, and decided to launch a coordinated attack. The perpetrators of the attack, which took place on January 6, 2010,[205] Later the same year, 4chan made numerous disruptive pranks and calls against singer Justin Bieber.[206] 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 Payback, targeting the website of the Motion Picture Association of America and the Recording Industry Association of America.[207][208][209] The targeted websites usually went offline for a short period of time due to the attacks, before recovering. The website of the UK law firm ACS:Law, which was associated with an anti-piracy client, was affected by the cyber-attack.[210] 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 news sites on the Internet.[211] It was suggested that the data leak could cost the law firm up to £500,000 in fines for breaching British Data Protection Laws.[212] 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 ceased my work ... I have been subject to criminal attack. My e-mails have been hacked. I have had death threats and bomb threats."[210] In August 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".[213][214] 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.[215] The threat claimed that the attack would be carried out on October 22, the final day of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.[216] Both the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security expressed concerning the credibility of the threats, but warned the relevant organizations as a precaution.[217] The threat turned out to be an ill-conceived hoax perpetrated by a grocery store clerk in Wisconsin. The FBI considered it a clearly frivolous threat and the 20-year-old man was charged with fabricating a terrorist threat, sentenced to six months in prison and two years of supervised release, and ordered to pay $26,750 in restitution.[218][219] Hello, /b/. On September 11, 2007, at 9:11 am Central time, two pipe bombs will be detonated at Pflugerville High School. Promptly after the blast, I, along with two other 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[220] Around midnight on September 11, 2007, a student posted photographs of mock pipe bombs and other explosives on /b/ with the caption that he would blow up his high school—Pflugerville High School in Pflugerville, Texas—at 9:11 am on September 11.[220] 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.[221] He was arrested before school began that day.[222][223][224][225] The incident turned out to be a hoax; the "weapons" were toys and there were no actual bombs.[226] While the investigation was still open, he was charged with criminal defamation for a separate incident.[229] but died before the case was heard.[230] On February 4, 2009, a posting on the 4chan /b/ board[231] said there would be a school shooting at St. Eskils Gymnasium in Eskilstuna, Sweden, leading 1,250 students and 50 teachers to be evacuated.[221] A 21-year-old man was arrested after 4chan provided the police with the IP address of the suspect called it off as a joke, and they released him after they found no indication that he was going to carry out the threat.[233][234] On June 28, 2018, a man was arrested for transmitting in interstate and foreign commerce a threat to injure the person of another.[235] The indictment alleged that he referenced anonymously to /pol/ the day after the Unite the Right rally, communicating an intention to attack protesters 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 needs to be a martyr and go full Alt-right and shoot up the place... I'll be aiming for the more tanned/dark haired muddied jeans in the crowd so bystanders won't have to worry," he wrote, according to the indictment.[235] In 2023, a 38-year-old of Monmouth Junction, New Jersey, was arrested for threatening Volusia County, Florida sheriff Mike Chitwood on 4chan due to Chitwood's condemnation of anti-Semitism. According to authorities, the poster, who lived 974 miles away from Volusia County, advocated "shooting] Chitwood in the head and expressed a desire to see Chitwood dead."[236] In April of that same year, two other 4chan users, residents of California and Connecticut respectively, were arrested for threatening to kill Chitwood over his condemnation of anti-Semitism.[237][238] On the evening of April 2 and morning of April 3, 2024, two threats were posted on 4chan claiming there was a bomb in the Norwegian parliament building. Oslo police closed down the parliament building while the Norwegian Police Security Service carried out an investigation. No one was harmed in the building. The culprit behind the threats was not identified and nobody was arrested in relation to the case.[239][240] Main article: August 2014 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,[241] initially on 4chan.[242] As a result of the incident, Apple stated that it would enforce a Digital Millennium Copyright Act policy, which would allow users who repeatedly posted stolen material iCloud have their access to the site illegally, and would ban users who repeatedly posted stolen material[243] See also: Gamergate controversy Also in August 2014, 4chan was involved in the Gamergate controversy, an anti-feminist harassment campaign against several women in the video game industry, organized on 4chan.[8] particularly /r9k/[248] Discussion regarding Gamergate was banned on 4chan due to alleged violations of 4chan's policies.[246][247] According to court documents filed on November 5, 2014, there were suspects located in the Christchurch mosque shootings.[263] Following the Christchurch mosque shootings, numerous ISPs temporarily blocked any site hosting a copy of the livestream of the shooting, including 4chan.[262] Main article: Buffalo shooting On May 14, 2022, a mass shooting occurred at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York, US. The accused, Payton S. Gendron, a document he wrote a written a racist manifesto before the shooting), with the manifesto including birth date and other biographical details, that the suspect in custody.[253] 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.[254] 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.[255][256] 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.[257] 4chan's founder Christopher Poole responded with the following:[258][259] In the end, this wasn't a sinister act of censorship, but rather 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'd 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 the actual users suspected the then-owner of Swedish-based website Anontalk.com.[260][261] 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 "explicitly blocked". The block was lifted several days later.[262] 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.[263] Following the Christchurch mosque shootings, numerous ISPs temporarily blocked any site hosting a copy of the livestream of the shooting, including 4chan. Vodafone, Vocus, and 2degrees.[264][265] Internet portal Comedy portal List of Internet phenomena Pepe the Frog Wojak Notes ^ a b c d e f g h This board is now unusable. The archive shows only the Japanese website Nico Nico Douga during his time in Japan in 2011[29] ^ moot (October 1, 2003). "Welcome". 4chan. 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handedness Anti-Masonry Aporophobia Audism Biphobia Fear of children Clannism Elitism Ephebiphobia Health mental in poverty Fatphobia Gayphobia Gerontophobia Heterosexism HIV/AIDS stigma Hypergamy Homophobia In-group Leprosy stigma Lesbophobia Against men Misandry Misogyny Nepotism Outgroup Perpetual foreigner Pregnancy Sectarianism Supremacism Aryanism Black Hutu Chauvinism Han Female Human Nordicism Male Jewish Ultranationalism White Transphobia Non-binary Transmisogyny Trans men Vegaphobia Xenophobia Religious Persecution of non-believers Atheism Blasphemy law Religious censorship Diyya Religious persecution in China Exclusivism Bahá'í Faith Buddhism Christianity Persecution Catholicism Eastern Orthodoxy Coptic Christianity Jehovah's Witnesses LDS or Mormon Protestantism Tewahedo Orthodoxy post–Cold War era Falun Gong Hinduism Persecution Untouchability Islam Persecution Ahmadiyya Shi'ism Sufism Sunnism minority Muslim Judaism Persecution Antisemitism New antisemitism Race or ethnicity Africa Slavery Anti-African sentiment Apartheid Asian Anti-Chinese Anti-Japanese States Assyrian Australian Austrian Azerbaijani Black people African Americans China South Africa Bengali Bulgarian Catalan Chechen Chinese Han people Colombian Croat Dutch English Estonian Filipino French Finnish Georgian German Greek Haitian Hazara Hungarian Indian Indigenous people Australia Canada United States Iranian Irish Italian Japanese Jewish Eliminationist New Religious Anti-Yiddish Zionist Korean Kurdish Lithuanian Malay Māori Mexican Middle Eastern Mongolian Montenegrin Nigerian Pakistani Palestinians Pashtun Polish Portuguese Quebec Romani Romanian Russian Scottish Serb Slavic Somali Spanish Taiwanese Tatar Thai Tibetan Turkish Ukrainian Uyghur Venezuelan Vietnamese Welsh White people Manifestations Algorithmic bias Anti-LGBTQ rhetoric SPLC-designated list of anti-LGBTQ hate groups Blood libel Bullying Cancel culture Capital punishment for homosexuality Carnism Cognitive Compulsory sterilization Corrective rape Counter-jihad Cultural genocide Defamation Democide Dog whistle Domicide Economic Education Employment Ethnic cleansing Ethnic conflict Ethnic hatred Ethnic joke Ethnocide Eugenics Femicide Forced conversion Freak show Funding Gay bashing Gendercide Transgender genocide Genital modification and mutilation Circumcision Female genital mutilation Glass ceiling Hate crime Disability hate crime Violence against LGBTQ people Violence against transgender people Hate group Hate speech Institutional abuse Discrimination Racism Homeless dumping Housing Hypergamy Age disparity Indian rolling International inequality Kill Haole Day Lavender scare LGBTQ+ grooming conspiracy theory Linguicide Lynching Media Minority stress Moral exclusion Mortgage Murder music Native American mascots Braces Blackhawks Chiefs Occupational Apartheid Inequality Injustice Segregation Opposition to immigration Paper genocide Persecution Political Racial repression Ideological repression Purge Racialization Religious persecution Religious terrorism Religious violence War selling witch hunt Scapegoating Selective enforcement Selective prosecution Sexual harassment Sex-selective abortion Slut-shaming Structural abuse Structural discrimination Structural inequality Structural violence Suicide Untermensch Trans-bashing Victimization Violence against women White flight Wife selling Whitewashing Slavery Trafficking Discriminatory practices Blacklisting Boycott Anti-boycott Bumdiwiner model Conscription and sexism Crime of apartheid Disabilities Catholic Jewish Disparate impact Fagging Gender pay gap Gender roles Protecting Women's Private Spaces Act Gerontocracy Gerrymandering Ghetto benches Internment Jewish quota Law for Protection of the Nation Opposition to LGBTQ rights MSM blood donation restrictions No kid zone Numerus clausus (as religious or racial quota) One-drop rule Racial quota Racial steering Redlining Same-sex marriage (laws and issues prohibiting) Segregation age racial Jim Crow laws Nuremberg Laws Segregation academy religious sexual in Islam Social exclusion Sodomy law State atheism State religion Ugly law Voter suppression White Australia policy Countermeasures Affirmative action Anti-discrimination law Anti-racism Audit study Autism rights movement Blind audition Constitutional colorblindness Cross-cultural friendship Cultural assimilation Diversity, equity, and inclusion Diversity training Empowerment Egalitarianism Feminism Fighting Discrimination Golden Rule Hate speech laws by country Human rights Intersex human rights Journalistic LGBTQ rights Music in the movement against racism Nonviolence Racial integration Racial reconciliation Reappropriation Rock Against Sexism Self-determination Social integration Toleration Universal suffrage Women's suffrage Women's rights Related topics Allophilia Alterity Amatonormativity Bias Cisnormativity Civil liberties Criminalization of homosexuality Dehumanization Diseases of despair Diversity Multiculturalism Neurodiversity Ethnic penalty Figleaf Gender-blind Heteronormativity Historical eugenics Internalized oppression Intersectionality Mad pride Masculism Medical model of disability autism Net bias Nonperson Oikophobia Oppression Police brutality Respect Polyculturalism Power distance Prejudice Prisoner abuse Racial bias in criminal news in the United States Racism by country Racial color blindness Religious intolerance Second-generation gender bias Snobbery Social equity Social exclusion Social identity threat Social model of disability Social privilege Christian male white Social stigma Speciesism Stereotype threat The talk vs 8kun, previously called 8chan, Infinitechan or Infinitychan (stylized as ∞chan), is an imageboard website composed of user-created message boards. An owner moderates each board, with minimal interaction from administration.[1] The site has been linked to white supremacism, neo-Nazism, the alt-right, racism, antisemitism, hate crimes, and multiple mass shootings.[2][3][4] The site has been known to host child pornography;[5][6] as a result, it was filtered out from Google Search in 2015.[7] Several of the site's boards played an active role in the Gamergate harassment campaign, encouraging Gamergate affiliates to frequent 8chan after 4chan banned the topic. 8chan is the origin and main center of activity of the discredited QAnon conspiracy theory.[8][9][10] Shortly before the 2019 El Paso shooting, a four-page message justifying the attack was posted to the site, and police have stated that they are "reasonably confident" it was posted by the perpetrator.[3][11] In the aftermath of the back-to-back mass shootings on August 3 in El Paso and August 4 in Dayton, Ohio, respectively, the site was taken off Cloudflare providing their content delivery network (CDN) service.

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