

Liking, Tweeting, Trending

THE INTERNET CONNECTS PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD. IT ALSO LETS PEOPLE DECIDE WHAT THEY WANT TO READ, SEE, AND SHARE.

Many people use the Internet to reconnect with family and old friends. For example, when Frances Simpson was 18, she started looking for her father. She hadn't seen him since she was three years old. But it wasn't easy. She couldn't find him for a long time.

Then, after looking for 33 years, she finally found him through Facebook. After connecting on the Internet, they talked on the phone, and then they met face-to-face. They hadn't seen each other in almost 50 years.

Social networking is the most popular reason people use the Internet. And Facebook and Twitter are two of the most popular social networking sites.

Most Popular Reasons People Use the Internet

- Social networking
- Send emails and messages
- Get news and information
- Get directions to a place
- Check the weather
- Shop
- Do banking
- Share or look at photos, videos, and files
- Play games
- Look for a job or place to live
- Take online classes

Twitter is a site where people post, or put, short personal messages online. These "tweets" can be no more than 140 characters³ long. It's very popular. In 2012, there were over one billion tweets per day!

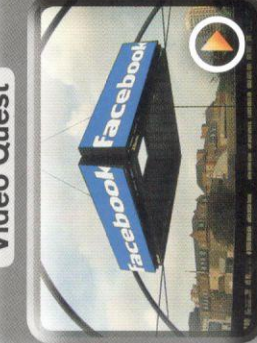
Facebook is even more popular. In 2013, there were over 664 million Facebook users. If Facebook were a country, it would have the third largest population⁴ in the world after China and India!

Instagram, a photo-sharing site, is also really popular. In January 2013, over 100 million photographs were posted on the site.

³ **characters:** letters, numbers, and other keyboard symbols

⁴ **population:** the number of people living in a place

Video Quest



Facebook

Watch this video to find out about Mark Zuckerberg and Facebook. Where did Facebook start? Who used it?