

## *Top 100 Undiscovered Web Sites*

PC Magazine ([www.pcmag.com/top100websites](http://www.pcmag.com/top100websites)) chose their Top 100 Undiscovered Sites based primarily on the appeal of their contents, not on technical criteria.

### **Computing**

KbAlertz [www.kbalertz.com](http://www.kbalertz.com)

**KbAlertz indexes the hundreds of thousand of useful articles in Microsoft's Knowledges Base. Sign up her for e-mail notification of any new articles in your choice of more than 200 categories.**

OldVersion.com [www.oldversion.com](http://www.oldversion.com)

**This site lets you relive the past. Maybe you want to glory in the heyday of Internet Explorer 2.0 or just avoid the enormous disk or memory requirements of a program that would overtax an older PC. Whatever the reason, if you don't want to run the latest, "greatest" version of popular Internet applications, OldVersion.com is a safety net that'll take you back.**

Outlook & Exchange Solution Center [www.sliptick.com](http://www.sliptick.com)

**Solutions to common problems, and information on security holes, this is the place to go. It's loaded with how-to-articles and links to useful add-ins.**

Qualys's Free Browser Check-up <http://browsercheck.qualys.com>

**Can I break into your computer? Let's try it now "Nuff said. This free service audits Internet Explorer on Window machines for vulnerabilities. With a few clicks, you'll get the exact specs on your browser and the results of Qualys's series of attempts to hack your system. Fortunately, if the tests find a hole, they also tell you how to fix it.**

The Risks Digest <http://catless.ncl.acuk/risks>

**Though we're on them, we know that computers and technology aren't always 100 percent good for you. The Risks Digest keeps an eye on high-tech threats to your privacy and security.**

Search Engine Watch <http://serchenginewatch.com>

**Your ability to find what you need in the vast information warehouse of the Web is only as good as your search engine and your ability to use it. Search Engine Watch keeps a close eye on the subject, with a great collection of links to search engines for every task imaginable; searching tips; and search engine news, review, and updates.**

Tech Bargains [www.techbargains.com](http://www.techbargains.com)

**Tech Bargains takes you several steps deep into savvy shopping by suggesting other ways to save-along the lines of “Get credit card X for \$90 a year, then use that card to buy a digital camera at store Y and the card will match store Z’s price, saving you \$200.”**

ThinkGeek [www.thinkgeek.com](http://www.thinkgeek.com)

**If you need a glowing keyboard to work through the night, some Shower Shock caffeinated soap to recover the next morning, or even a fog-producing pistol to blow of some steam the next day, stop by ThinkGeek, a Sharper Image for the Web set.**

The Ultimate Computer Acronyms Archive [www.acronyms.ch](http://www.acronyms.ch)

**There are plenty of other acronym sites out there (UCAA links to many of them), but this is a good first stop for technologists.**

VCD Help [www.vcdgeko.com](http://www.vcdgeko.com)

**The site that tells you everything you always wanted to know about burning video onto VCS’s (video CDs), SVCDs (super video CDs), and DVDs.**

Vmyths.com [www.vmyths.com](http://www.vmyths.com)

**Next time, before you forward a message to everyone you know, check Vmyths.com to find a list of hoaxes, ways to spot them, and interesting if snarky commentary on the phenomenon.**

Whatis?com <http://whatis.techtarget.com>

**Keep up with the latest technologies and the quickly evolving terminologies that grow up around them at this superb reference site.**

CrackZ Reverse Engineering Page for the Millennium

[http://202.114.22.131/mirrors/www\\_litespeed\\_org/index2.html](http://202.114.22.131/mirrors/www_litespeed_org/index2.html)

**CrackZ provides loads of sarcastic commentary, tips and tools and links for the more technical reader.**

Dynamic Drive [www.dynamicdrive.com](http://www.dynamicdrive.com)

**Dynamic HTML, (DHTML) gives Web authors remarkable power over how pages appear and behave.**

Light Reading [www.lightreading.com](http://www.lightreading.com)

**An excellent source of news, event listings, job listings, opinion, product test results, and financial and technical information regarding optical networking. Tutorials on optical networking are free.**

32bit-Serverfiles.com [www.32bit.com](http://www.32bit.com)

**This site is a directory of software for network administrators. Antivirus, VPN, database, inventory-it covers the range of server-side software. For each product there’s a short review with links, user ratings and sometime a screenshot. Use this site when you need new or updated software for the network.**

## **Information**

All About Hangovers [www.all-about-hangovers.com](http://www.all-about-hangovers.com)

**This helpful site contains everything you’ll ever need to know about the causes of, symptoms of, prevention of, and cures for a hangover. Be sure to visit the Old**

**Wives' Tales pages; it's got a more reliable line on hangover prevention than your drinking buddies have.**

Altnet.org    [www.altnet.org](http://www.altnet.org)

**AlterNet is an online magazine devoted to independent coverage of important issues.**

Appliance411    [www.appliance411.com](http://www.appliance411.com)

**If you need answers to your major appliance question, start here.**

Arianna Online    [www.ariannaonline.com](http://www.ariannaonline.com)

**Columnist Arianna Huffington airs her views and concerns taking aim at liberal and conservative policies, Republicans and Democrats alike.**

Fark.com    [www.fark.com](http://www.fark.com)

**For run-of-the-mill news links, go to CNN.com; but if you want to learn about things like the college kid who lived on a diet of soda, chocolate, cheese, and crackers and ended up with scurvy, check out Fark. Some links are a bit off-color, but there are often indications of which stories are workplace-safe.**

Flak Magazine    [www.flakmag.com](http://www.flakmag.com)

**Flak Magazine prides itself on covering a little bit of everything.**

Invisible Web    [www.lib.berkeley.edu/Teaching.Lib/Guides/Internet/InvisibleWeb.html](http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/Teaching.Lib/Guides/Internet/InvisibleWeb.html)

**Vast amounts of information on the Web, such as data in searchable databases, can't be found through standard search engines. The librarians at UC Berkeley demystify this invisible Web with graphs, links, and clear explanations about how to find such valuable info.**

Kelley Blue Book    <http://dbb.com>

**What's your car worth? Should you sell or trade in. How do the 2003 models stack up? Find answers to these questions and more at the Kelley Blue Book site, a comprehensive and easy-to-use resource from the folks who brought you the original Used Car Buyer's Bible.**

My Way    [www.myway.com](http://www.myway.com)

**Take the popular Yahoo and MSN, subtract the annoying pop-up ads and add a Google search field and you have My Way. You can sign up for free e-mail and stock tracking, among other services.**

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration    [www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov)

**The online home of the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, this site is chock a block with articles and resources on the weather and our oceans. Subjects range from sustainable coastal development to current water temperatures at the nation's beaches.**

Newarama.com    [www.newsarama.com](http://www.newsarama.com)

**This is the comic book fan's CNN. Here you'll find news from every angle, covering comic book titans DC and Marvel as well as the indie houses. This site also includes a new link to a memorabilia auction site.**

The New Yorker    [www.newyorker.com](http://www.newyorker.com)

**The New Yorker has been great for decades, but the Web site is just coming into its own. Every week you can find all the fact pieces, casuals and short stories available in the current issue. You'll also find online-only supplements, such as Q&A's with short-story writers and companion articles.**

The Online Books Page <http://digital.library.upenn.edu/books>

**This site makes finding good reading material much easier by bringing together a searchable database of links to over 18,000 such books.**

On-This-Day.com [www.on-this-day.com](http://www.on-this-day.com)

**Visit the site for information on momentous and obscure events that occurred on today's date throughout history. Click on your birth date and find out who shares your birthday.**

Refdesk.com [www.refdesk.com](http://www.refdesk.com)

**When you need facts, you can gain quick access to online dictionaries, encyclopedias, and other reference sources.**

The Register [www.theregister.co.uk](http://www.theregister.co.uk)

**UK-based. The Register is one of the best IT-related news sites on the Web. Check out the site's topic-specific channels and job listings; it even has an ISP division- which is call Vulture Capitalist.**

The Weather Underground [www.wunderground.com](http://www.wunderground.com)

**It's more exhaustive than Weather.com. It's better looking than Yahoo! Weather. And it sounds mighty subversive.**

2002 Year-End Google Zeitgeist [www.google.com/press/zeitgeist.html](http://www.google.com/press/zeitgeist.html)

**This analysis of Google's 55 billion searches provide a fascinating look at the people, events, trends, and more that interested the Web-searching public and those that lost steam last year (Shakira was up, Angelina Jolie was down).**

World Press Review Online [www.worldpress.org](http://www.worldpress.org)

**Review gathers headline stories from news media all over the world and translate them into English.**

Academic Info [www.academicinfo.com](http://www.academicinfo.com)

**If you're looking for educational resources, there's a good chance you'll find them at this nonprofit portal, which links to everything from the Archives in London to the Washington State University Digital Collections.**

Bartleby [www.barleby.com](http://www.barleby.com)

**An amazingly deep literature resource.**

Blackmask Online [www.blackmask.com](http://www.blackmask.com)

**Blackmask hosts more than 10,000 e-books in a wide variety of formats, in categories ranging from (Doc Savage) to (Doctor Doolittle).**

DoItYourself.com [www.doityourself.com](http://www.doityourself.com)

**Want to make major improvements to your home or build your own furniture, a bike rack, or a home intercom system? Try DoItYourSelf.com which even sells the materials and instructions you'll need.**

Exploratorium [www.exploratorium](http://www.exploratorium)

**The site' 12,000-plus pages include fun experiments you can do at home, online extensions of museum exhibits, and Webcast galore**

Footnotes to History [www.buckyogi.addr.com/footnotes](http://www.buckyogi.addr.com/footnotes)

**This site features ephemeral nations, ones you didn't learn in School. The Republic of Rough and Ready, for example, was a California gold-rush town that seceded from the Union over taxes in 1850 (and rejoined the next year). Check the maps; you may be living in one of over 800 forgotten nations.**

Footnote TV [www.footnotetv.com](http://www.footnotetv.com)

If you watch more sitcoms than news, you may find yourself ignorant of real-world issues mentioned in shows like “West Wing.” Footnote TV helpfully explains the facts and history behind lines blithely tossed off on such shows as “Saturday Night Live,” “The Daily Show” (Not up to date, unfortunately), “West Wing,” and “South Park.”

History’s Women: The Unsung Heroines [www.historyswomen.com](http://www.historyswomen.com)

**History’s Women offers a refreshing view of women in history and their extraordinary contributions.**

The Internet Plasma Physics Education Experience <http://ippex.pppl.gov>

**This site uses Flash and Shockwave to teach you about how fusion reactors work and the basics of electricity, magnetism and energy.**

Legal Affairs [www.legalaffairs.org](http://www.legalaffairs.org)

**Legal Affairs is the Web incarnation of a magazine that explores “the link between law and our national culture.**

Malaspina Great Books [www.malaspina.com](http://www.malaspina.com)

**This site is a fascinating survey of the great thinkers and their works, with biographies, links and research resources.**

Mayo Clinic [www.mayoclinic.com](http://www.mayoclinic.com)

**Here you can consult drug references, research illnesses, learn about healthful lifestyles, even ask questions of Mayo Clinic specialist.**

PlumbDesign Visual Thesaurus [www.visualthesaurus.com](http://www.visualthesaurus.com)

**Here’s one of those sites you just have to see. Plumb Design has found a visual way to represent the relationships among words, their various meanings, those meanings’ synonyms, the synonyms’ various meanings, and so on. It’s useful and entertaining.**

SoYouWanna.com a wedding dress [www.soyouwanna.com](http://www.soyouwanna.com)

**This how-to site has hundreds of detailed tutorials on such topics as training dogs and buying a wedding dress. The site has dozens of quick and dirty tutorials called Mini Wanna.**

World Wide Words [www.worldwidewords.org](http://www.worldwidewords.org)

**This site provides scholarly essays on the meaning or origin of hundreds of words, from absquatulate (to decamp or abscond) to zenzizenzizic (the eighth power of a number).**

Yahoo! Education <http://education.yahoo.com>

**You will be able to search *The American Heritage Dictionary*, *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, and *Gray's Anatomy of the Human Body* all at once.**

## Travel

Flyer Talk [www.flyertal.com](http://www.flyertal.com)

Want travel information? Flyer Talk's forums are filled with posts on just about every travel related subject imaginable.

Roadfood.com [www.roadfood.com](http://www.roadfood.com)

**Road Food is a great resource for reviews of roadside restaurants specializing in this culinary niche. The search features are powerful and discussion boards lively.**

Roadside America [www.roadsideamerica.com](http://www.roadsideamerica.com)

**Roadside America has collected thousands of offbeat attractions. Buildings shaped like fruit, mysterious vortexes-they're all here.**

Road Trip USA [www.roadtripusa.com](http://www.roadtripusa.com)

**Brief information on 11 cross-country routes, including highway and selective attraction information. The routes go through every state in the continental U.S., Except Arkansas.**

Trip Advisor [www.tripadvisor.com](http://www.tripadvisor.com)

**Just type in the city you want to visit and get links to hotel and airfare deals from many larger sites for easy comparison.**

Worldisround [www.worldisround.com](http://www.worldisround.com)

**This community-rich site focuses on sharing travel photography, whatever your skill level. Currently you can find nearly 100,000 pictures of locales as far-flung as the Sultanate of Oman and Bora Bora.**

## **Entertainment**

AuctionSniper.com [www.auctionsniper.com](http://www.auctionsniper.com)

**Ever wonder how the eBay pros always manage to outbid you by mere cents at the last instant? They do it automatically, using a method known as sniping. Auction Sniper will monitor your bids and crush the hopes of other hapless bidders for you by trumping them at the last instant, for a small fee. The first three shots are free.**

The Bill Gates Net Worth Page [www.quuxuum.org/-evan/bgnw.html](http://www.quuxuum.org/-evan/bgnw.html)

**This site teems with different ways to conceptualize the wealth of the richest man in the world. Did you know that Bill Gates's net worth is more the gross domestic product of Ukraine? He could give \$5.15 to every single person in the world.**

The Brunching Shuttlecocks [www.brunching.com](http://www.brunching.com)

**Watch the Flash videos. Find out what your name would mean if it were a cyborg acronym. (N.I.N.A: Networked Intelligent Nullification Android).**

Cartoon Bank [www.cartoonbank.com](http://www.cartoonbank.com)

**Now you can find your favorite New Yorker cartoons online. You can browse through hundreds of cartoons by subject or search for specific cartoons. You can even download cartoons (for a fee) to include in your next PowerPoint presentation.**

The Death Clock [www.deathclock.com](http://www.deathclock.com)

**Punch your birth date and gender into the Death Clock to see your Personal Day of Death.**

Degree Confluence Project [www.confluence.org](http://www.confluence.org)

**Volunteer travelers with GPS's (Global Positioning System) needed. The goal of this online project is to host a photo of the intersection of each and every latitude and longitude integer degree in the world (except those over the oceans). And you can view all 18,799 photos (at the time of the writing) from 115 different countries.**

Emode [www.emode.com](http://www.emode.com)

Tests, tests, tests, and more test. What's the ideal cocktail for your personality? Many of the test are geared toward matchmaking, but mostly they're just lots of fun.

GameGal.com [www.gamegal.com](http://www.gamegal.com)

Since 1998, the GameGal site has been providing in-depth game reviews from the oft-overlooked female perspective. It's refreshing to read this site's reviews of the games.

GameRankings [www.gamerankings.com](http://www.gamerankings.com)

This supersite holds a catalog of over 100,000 game reviews covering over 6,000 titles. Each title is given an overall ranking based on magazine and Web site reviews. This is the place to learn everything about anything game-related.

Googlism [www.googlism.com](http://www.googlism.com)

This quirky site has an opinion for any subject.

Hollywood Stock Exchange [www.hsx.com](http://www.hsx.com)

So you want to be a Hollywood player? This survivor from the good ol' days of the Web still lets you get all Gordon Gekko with your favorite (or most hated) actors and their movies. Like Tom Cruise: Buy his stock and watch it rise and fall like the NASDAQ. Greed is definitely good.

HomestarRunner [www.homestarrunner.com](http://www.homestarrunner.com)

Need a dose of goofy before the next episode of "South Park"? The cartoons, games and just plain silliness are our kind of lowbrow.

It's Your turn [www.itsyourturn.com](http://www.itsyourturn.com)

Here you can play dozens of games, including chess, checkers, and backgammon. This site keeps track of your games and displays the boards with current positions. When your opponent makes a move the site automatically e-mails you to let you know that it's your turn.

Movie Review Query Engine [www.hsx.com](http://www.hsx.com)

It may not win any design awards, but for movie lovers who value the opinion of critics, this humble site ranks right up there. The idea is simple; Cull movie reviews from hundreds of sources, including daily papers, newsweeklies and Web sites and make them easily searchable.

The Nitpickers Site [www.nitpickers.com](http://www.nitpickers.com)

Have an unerring eye and unending fascination for detail? Maybe you notice the band in Back to the Future had a Gibson guitar that didn't exist in 1955. At the Nitpickers Site, users post these types of anachronisms, discontinuities and other flaws for thousands of television shows and movies.

Paperfolding.com [www.paperfolding.com](http://www.paperfolding.com)

The site celebrates the ancient art of origami, with a look at its history and a fascinating discourse on the mathematic of origami. The best part is the section that shows you how to make cool origami creations, complete with diagrams and pictures of finished products.

Seven Wonders [www.penncen.com/7wonders/7wonders.html](http://www.penncen.com/7wonders/7wonders.html)

Each weekday Seven Winders serves up a link to a new site, one you probably never heard of. Each day has a category, Wednesday get Net Culture, for example.

Snarg [www.snarg.net/index.html](http://www.snarg.net/index.html)

Click through this site for a small but satisfying collection of Interactive, morphing technobaroque art.

TheSpark.com [www.thespark.com](http://www.thespark.com)

TheSpark.com has questionable science projects (such as the Stinky feet project, which chronicles one man's attempt to infect himself with athlete's foot) and, in stark contrast to the rest of the site, useful free study guides. You'll find classic books online and quite a decent selection of reference tools.

StreamingSoundtracks.com [www.streaming-soundtracks.com](http://www.streaming-soundtracks.com)

This site provides round-the-clock streaming movie and television sound tracks based on user requests.

Superbad [www.superbad.com](http://www.superbad.com)

Pioneering HTML as art site or just a waste of time? That all may depend on your inhalation practices or state of mind. Superbad replaced paint on paper with HTML code, and we like it.

PopCap Games [www.papcap.com](http://www.papcap.com)

Super-addictive little games. We'd write more, but we're too busy playing Bookworm.

Weekly World News [www.weeklyworldnews.com](http://www.weeklyworldnews.com)

This web version of the supermarket tabloid gives you the news that the major news services are afraid to print. The WWN brings the "weirdness of the web to you".

Yesterland [www.yesterland.com/yester.html](http://www.yesterland.com/yester.html)

The Virtual home of Disney theme parks' discontinued attractions.

E-Wedding Site [www.e-weddingsite.com](http://www.e-weddingsite.com)

E-Wedding Site is an alternative way to keep your family and friends updated on the big day. The site lets you create a personal Web site with your own domain name at \$89.00 for 18 months. You can set up a wedding registry, let guests RSVP online, post wedding photos, set up a guest book and post directions and accommodation information.

FitDay.com [www.fitday.com](http://www.fitday.com)

Studies seem to bear out our long-held suspicion that Americans are fat and lazy. FitDay helps conquer both corpulence and indolence. Just enter your calorie intake and calorie-burning activities and get graphs showing you where you stand for the day, and whether you're meeting your goals for the day, week, and month.

Luminous Landscape [www.luminous-landscape.com](http://www.luminous-landscape.com)

This site offers tutorials on both film and digital photographic techniques, product reviews, essays on the craft, and gallery of works by select photographer.

Primitivism [www.primitivism.com](http://www.primitivism.com)

It's like joining a peace march with a gun in your pocket. Primitivism is a Web site dedicated to "the pursuit of ways of life running counter to the development of technology." Once you get past the ridiculous irony of it all, the site's seemingly endless trove of essays, book excerpts and shameless pretension will keep you occupied for hours on end.

Project Vote Smart [www.vote-vote-smart.org](http://www.vote-vote-smart.org)

Project Vote Smart's nonpartisan group staff has assembled an enormous collection of voting records, ballot initiatives and campaign finances to help voters see beneath the pancake makeup.

Saute Wednesday [www.sautewednesday.com](http://www.sautewednesday.com)

**A seemingly endless list of food-related links to sites including chef Paula Wolfert's Web page, newspaper food sections, and sustainable cuisine sites, plus a nationwide directory of small farms farmers' markets, and more.**

Soup of the Evening: Beautiful Soup [www.soupsong.com](http://www.soupsong.com)

**The Mock Turtle would surely approve of this site and its enormous selection of soup recipes, soup anecdotes, celebrity soup favorites, soup jokes, soup customs, soups in the news, and late-breaking soups.**

WeightWatchers.com [www.weightwatchers.com](http://www.weightwatchers.com)

**Dieters looking for a simple weight loss plan will find their Mecca in Weight Watchers Online. \$29.95 to start and \$14.95 a month gets subscribers a Winning Points number, which determines how much they can consume each day, plus access to a food guide, a journal, and a weekly weight tracker.**

## **Kids**

Big Fun Toys [www.bigfuntoys.com](http://www.bigfuntoys.com)

**Forget the chain stores. At Big Fun Toys, find truly cool toys and games. The Neurosmith Jumbo Music Block, Sea Monkeys, Moon Shoes, the Sigmund Freud Action Figure, and much more. Search within age-group categories that include 0 Months Plus, Groovy Girl, Rough-and-Tumble Boy, and Grownups.**

Internet Public library KidSpace [www.ipl.org/div/kidspace](http://www.ipl.org/div/kidspace)

**For homework help or something to do on a rainy day, IPL KidSpace is a great place to begin. It's an easy-to-use portal that points kids directly to the information they need, and all the resources are age-appropriate. TeenSpace, a separate portal site, provides similar services for the 13-and-up set.**

SafeChild.net [www.safechild.net](http://www.safechild.net)

**Dave Barry says kids start trying to kill themselves around age 2, and it's parents' job to stop them. SafeChild.net takes neurotic parenting to a new level. You'll find safety tips and helpful articles on nearly every child-related activity and a fully searchable, well-organized recall database lets you know exactly which toys, clothes and furniture items are potential hazards to your child's well-being.**

Windows to the Universe [www.windows.ucar.edu](http://www.windows.ucar.edu)

**Send your kids to this site whenever they need information about space and the planets. It's bursting with information, including real-time images of near-Earth space, biographies of scientists, and even educational games. A clever feature lets you adjust the detail level of the content, detailed for you, simple for your grade-schooler.**