

Happy New Year!



Park Place Computers, 1602 West Lincolnway, Marshalltown, IA 50158

Phone: **641-352-4424**

Email: pchelp@parkplacecomputers.com

Website: www.parkplacecomputers.com

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Value Your Privacy? Try DuckDuckGo

www.DailyDot.com



DuckDuckGo is a search engine that is currently the eighth most popular search engine, behind bigger names like Google, Bing, and Yahoo, among others. DuckDuckGo differs from other search engines such as Google

and Bing in a few ways.

1-Keeping your data private

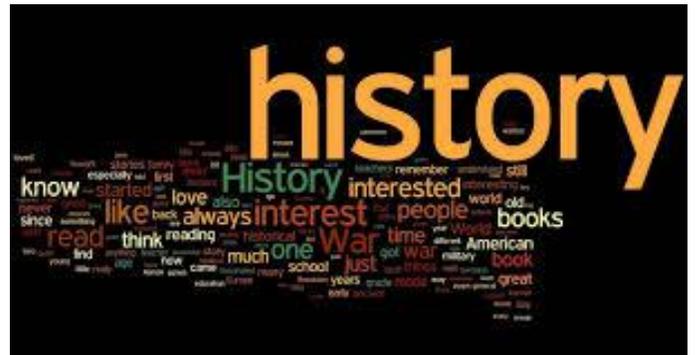
DuckDuckGo doesn't collect or share any personal information—and says so right at the top of its privacy policy. On other search engines, typically (even if you search privately) that search criteria isn't just shared with the search engine—it's also shared with any sites you visit after conducting that search. When you visit websites, your computer also typically shares information like your IP address with that site. DuckDuckGo takes a slightly different path.



2 - Encrypted sites get prioritized

DuckDuckGo also will automatically pull up the encrypted (HTTPS) version of a site rather than the unencrypted version. While this practice is increasing in popularity, not all browsers or search engines do this just yet, though.

3 - No search history



This search engine also doesn't save your search history. This means that there's no timeline of your searches, and no log that law enforcement can request as part of legal investigations. It also means that your search habits aren't vulnerable to hacking, since that information isn't tracked. (It does save searches, but in an aggregated, non-identifiable way. It uses this information to improve its search performance when it comes to things like misspellings.)

You can use DuckDuckGo in any browser. Just head to www.DuckDuckGo.com to get started. The main page looks similar to other search engines, like the Google homepage. It's got the site's logo top and center, and below that, a search field. Type your search as you normally would, and **you can browse the web knowing that your information isn't being shared or tracked.**



EBooks / Audiobooks

Winter is a good time for reading or listening to books, especially when you can check out books for free at the Marshalltown Public Library.



Go to www.marshalltownlibrary.org and click the eBooks & audio link. This gives you two options.



Hoopla allows patrons to check out TV shows, movies, music albums, comics, eBooks, and eAudio and download or stream them on computers, phones, and tablets. Most movies and TV episodes can be checked out for 3 days, music albums for 7 days, and eAudio, comics and eBooks for 21 days. Spanish titles are available!



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You must have a current Marshalltown Public Library card which is available at the library.

It Sure is Windy!

If you are a weather buff, you will like the website www.windy.com. This site is especially informative if you are fascinated by weather fronts, not just here in Iowa but anywhere in the world. You check current temperatures and conditions on your PC on Windy. There is also an app named Windy which you can download for your Android or iPhone mobile devices.



Computer Humor

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