

# What is Social Media?

Presented by J.W. Owens







Lighting the Way

"Social computing is not a fad, nor is it something that will pass you or your company by...

Gradually, social computing will impact almost every role, at every kind of company, in all parts of the world."





# What is Social Media?

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Social media is best understood as a group of new kinds of online media,

which share most or all of the following characteristics:







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# **Participation**

Social media encourages contributions and feedback from everyone who is interested.

It blurs the line between media and audience.







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# **Openness**

Most social media services are open to feedback and participation.

They encourage voting, comments and the sharing of information.

There are rarely any barriers to accessing and making use of content – password-protected content is frowned on.





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## Conversation

Whereas traditional media is about "broadcast"

(content transmitted or distributed to an audience)

Social media is better seen as a two-way conversation.





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# Community

Social media allows communities to form quickly and communicate effectively.

Communities share common interests, such as a love of photography, a political issue or a favorite TV show.





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## Connectedness

Most kinds of social media thrive on their connectedness,

making use of links to other sites, resources and people.





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## Basic forms of social media

At this time...

there are basically Six kinds of social media.





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## Social networks

These sites allow people to build personal web pages and then connect with friends to share content and communication.

The biggest social networks are *MySpace, Facebook and Bebop*.















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# Blogs

Perhaps the best known form of social media, blogs are online journals, with entries appearing with the most recent first.









## Wikis

These websites allow people to add content to or edit the information on them, acting as a communal document or database. The best-known wiki is Wikipedia4, the online encyclopedia which has over 2 million English language articles.









## **Podcasts**

Audio and video files that are available by subscription, through services like Apple iTunes.







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## **Forums**

Areas for online discussion, often around specific topics and interests.

Forums came about before the term "social media" and are a powerful and popular element of online communities.





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## Content communities

Communities which organize and share particular kinds of content.

The most popular content communities tend to form around photos (Flickr), bookmarked links (del.icio.us) and videos (YouTube).









# Micro blogging

Social networking combined with bitesized blogging, where small amounts of content ('updates') are distributed online and through the mobile phone network.

Twitter is the clear leader in this field.







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A good way to think about social media is that all of this is actually just about being human beings.

Sharing ideas, cooperating and collaborating to create art, thinking and commerce, vigorous debate and discourse, finding people who might be good friends, allies and lovers – it's what our species has built several civilizations on.







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That's why it is spreading so quickly, not because it's great shiny, wheezy new technology, but because it lets us be ourselves – only more so.

People can find information, inspiration, likeminded people, communities and collaborators faster than ever before.

New ideas, services, business models and technologies emerge and evolve at dizzying speed in social media.





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## How social networks work

Social networks on the web are like contained versions of the sprawling blog network.

People joining a social network usually create a profile and then build a network by connecting to friends and contacts in the network, or by inviting real-world contacts and friends to join the social network.







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These communities retain the interest of their members by being useful to them and providing services that are entertaining or help them to expand their networks.

MySpace, for instance, allows members to create vivid, chaotic home pages (they' ve been likened to the walls of a teenager's bedroom) to which they can upload images, videos and music.







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 Perhaps the most 'grown-up' of the popular networks is LinkedIn, which allows users build their business and professional contacts into an online network.

It has been criticized for not being open enough and for charging for too many of its services – but next to **Facebook** it is still the most popular online social network among people aged 25 and over.





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Web | MySpace | People | Music | Music Videos | Blogs |

Search

powered Google

Home | Browse | Search | Invite | Film | Mail | Blog | Favorites | Forum | Groups | Events | Videos | Music | Comedy | Classifieds

#### **Cool New Videos**

38,397 uploaded today!



2006 Pipeline Masters

ice.



Dreaming Peter Lowey



Motorbike crash



Time Thugs The Tenderloins

Books Blogs ChatRooms Classifieds

Comedy Filmmakers Games

Games Horoscopes Jobs News Movies Music Music Vide MySpaceIM Schools TV On Dema

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Nikon COOLPIX 5 series featuring the new Nikon COOLPIX 59 see one now >



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#### **Cool New People**

ART







Videos

brought to you by



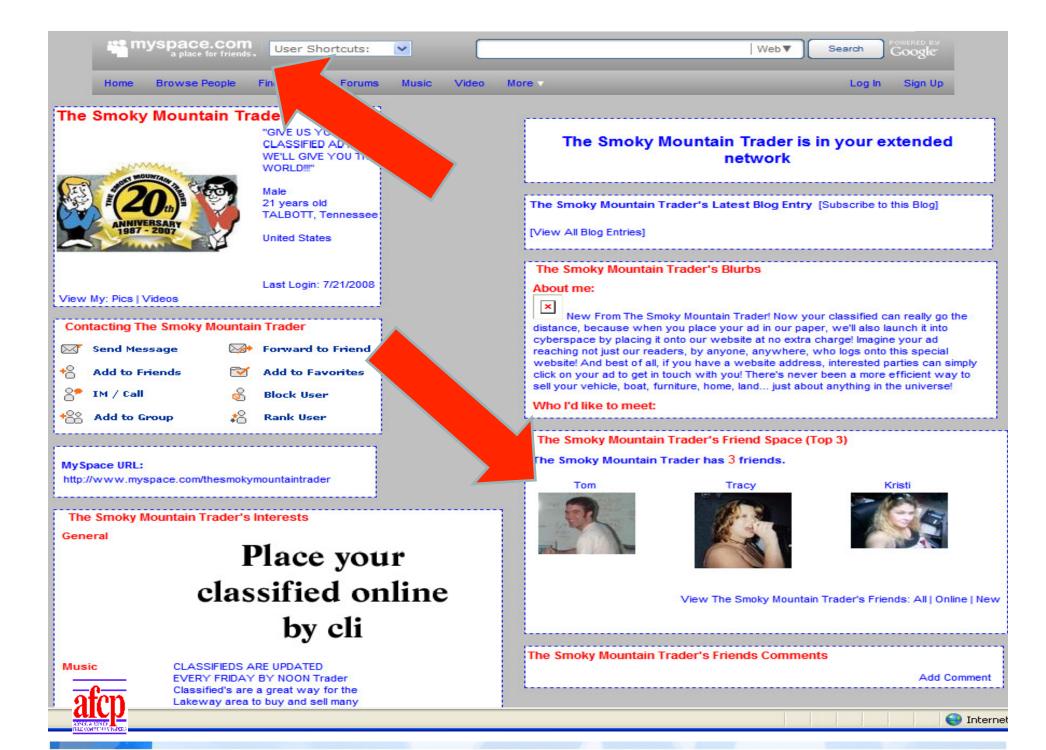


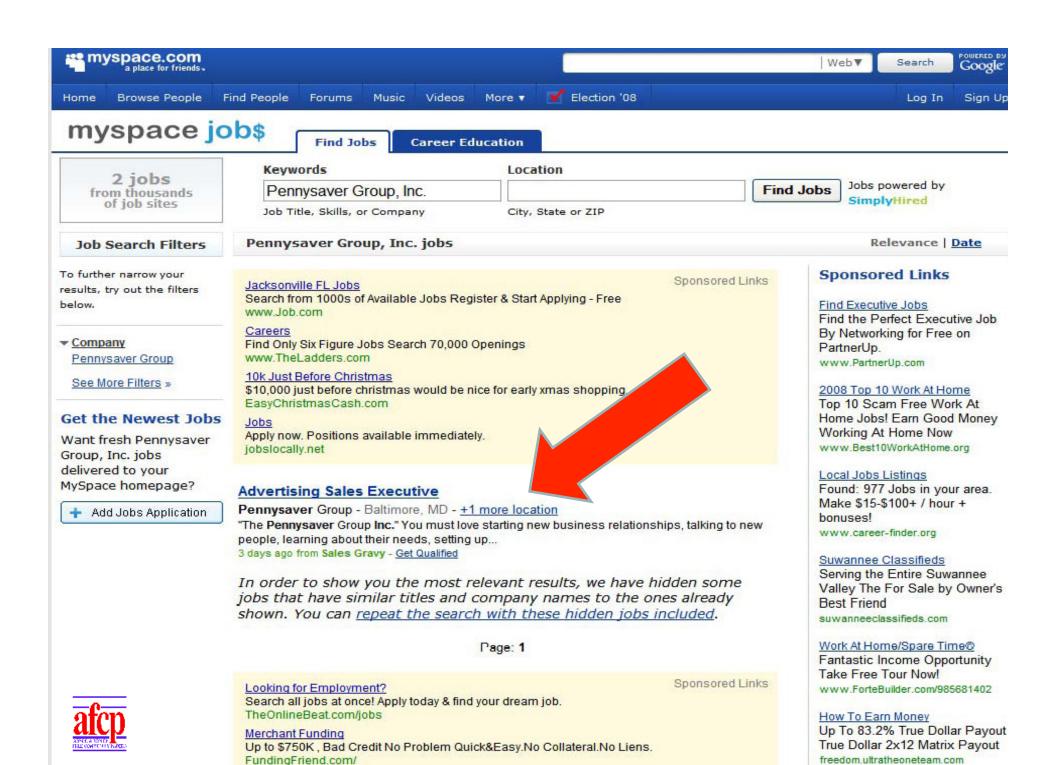
2006 - Year in Review

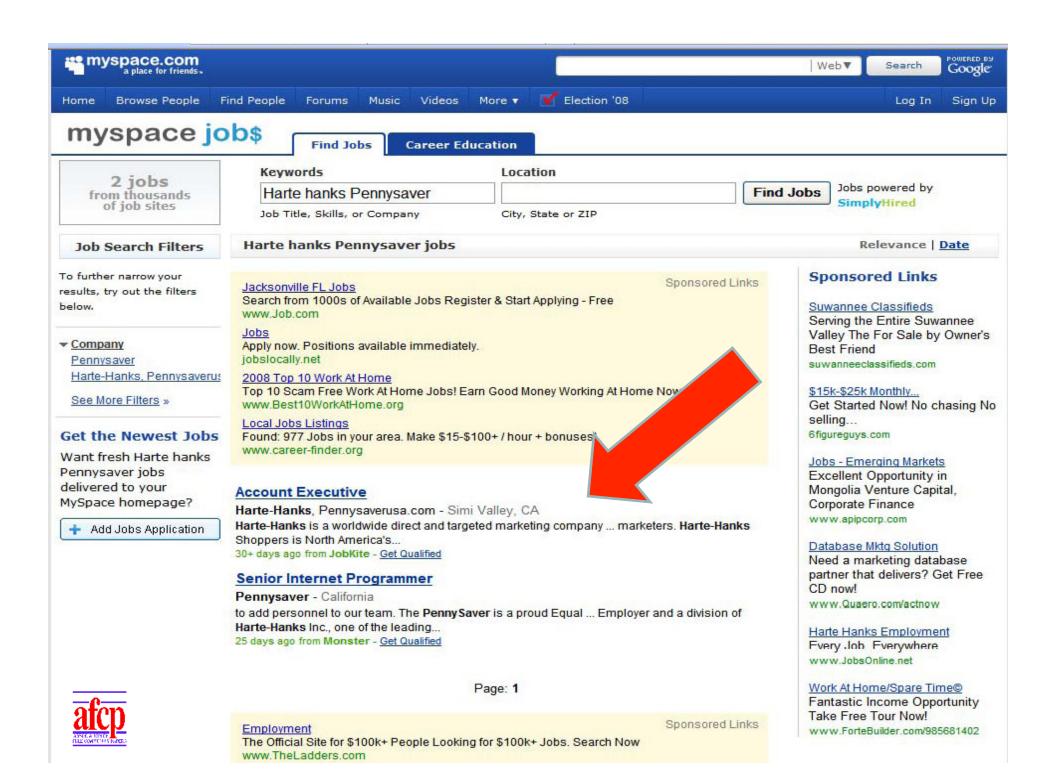
Britney Spears, Mel Gibson and George Bush., 2006 Year in Review by Owen and Ron.

» Watch It Now!













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MySpace is the top social networking site. Millions of people go there to find old friends and make new friends. Your profile page shows who your friends are and you can keep it private or keep it public for all to see. Customize your profile to make it look the way you want it to look.

More things you can do with MySpace:

- <u>Instant Messaging</u> MySpace has an IM program that will let you keep in touch with other MySpace members and even find out what they're doing on their profiles.
- Add Photos To Your Profile A photo helps tell the world who you are. Add photos, and make them good.
- Add Other Photos Do you have an online photo album or another site where you
  have your photos? Use them on your MySpace profile without actually having to
  upload them to MySpace.
- <u>Fix Up Your Blog</u> The MySpace blog is where you tell people about you. Make it look good too. the way you design your site says a lot about you.
- Avatars Avatars are little pictures, usually cartoon type, that you can use instead of a photo of yourself or just to add some character to your profile.
- <u>Slideshow</u> After you add pictures to your MySpace profile you can turn them into a slideshow if you want to.
- Music Add music, any music, to your MySpace profile. Choose music from MySpace's site and add it to your MySpace profile for free.













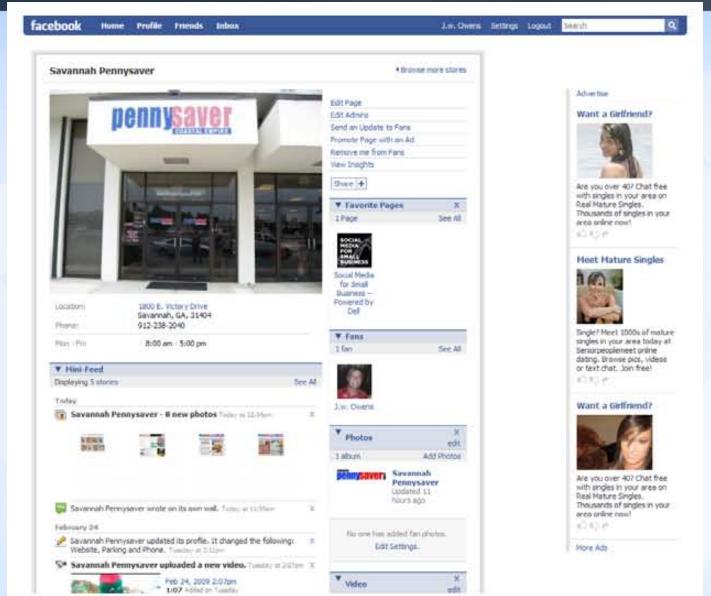


















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Add new friends to your **Facebook** profile and always know when they add new notes or update their profile. Join groups on **Facebook** so you can meet friends with the same interests as you. Find old friends too using **Facebook's** classmates and co-worker search.

- Photos and Photo albums Photos tell people all about you, your friends and your family. Make your Facebook profile more personal by adding some great photos. There is also a photo album feature on Facebook so you can organized your photos into photo albums.
- Meet People Meet old friends and new. Facebook is all about making friends so go ahead and make them.
- Blog At Facebook it's called notes. Your notes can be organized by using tags so other people can find the kinds of notes they are looking to read.
- Forums and Groups Join forums and groups to find other people who like the same things you do. Discuss favorite sports, recipes, religion or anything else you have an interest in.
- Calendar There is a calendar feature that lets you keep track of events and create a timeline.



 More - Facebook will let you know when your friends birthdays are, find out when your friends have updated their site, or play the friend game.







### What can you do on Gather?

- . Make lasting connections
- . Publish your own thoughts & images
  - Read thought-provoking articles

learn more

My Gather

Articles

Images

Comments

Tags People

Groups

hyte

Publish:

Mail

#### Featured Tags

amazon shorts family holiday food dassics united nations entertainment

#### Suggested Tags »

books business education environment food gardening health money movies

#### Gather members connect on thousands of topics.

#### A Featured Conversation on Family

Articles by Members »



## Southern Christmas circa 1944 by Sunnye T.

December 17, 2006 08:44 PM EST -- Christmas, 1944 I was nine years old. I wanted more than anything a Tommy Tucker doll, a doll house, a 16mm movie projector with films to show. In 1944 the world was at war and everyone was dedicated . . . more

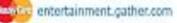
### Mark School responds:

Very touching imagery. Much of it I can relate to directly myself. Very sad ending—I fear it's true, but so sad. Keep writing, Sunnyel more

noin the conversation









Which tune of eith do you









### Gather Is For People Who Love To Write

is a social networking site for writers, authors, photographers, bloggers and others. By using **Gather** you earn "Gather points" that you can eventually cash in or donate to a charity. Find all sorts of interesting articles on **Gather** using tags. Tags will also help you find people with your same interests.

- Gather is a great site for sharing stories, writing articles and connecting with other talented people. Find like minded people and share your zest for something you feel passionate about on Gather.
- Writers, authors, photographers and bloggers, Gather is the social networking site for you.
   Come together and meet like minded people on Gather. Share your stories and write your articles on Gather and share them with other writers, authors, photographers and bloggers.
   Gather uses tags to help you find stories and articles you want to read. Earn Gather points by participating in Gather.
- Tags Since Gather is a social networking site for writers what better way to organize content than with tags.
- Photos Upload your artwork or photos and show them off.
- **Blog** Not really. This is not a blogging community, this is a writers community so instead of a blog there is a place for you to write articles.
- **Groups** Join a group of writers that write about the same things you write about or that have the same interests as you. Get inspired.





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Sign In New User? Sign Up

### Create your Place on Yahoo! 360°

A place that's all about you to share with friends and family.

### express

Your blog, photos, interests, and what matters to you.

## control

How your page looks, and who sees what

## keep up

With the latest from all your friends.

Create your own page

**Get Started** 

or Sign In

#### Interesting Pages on Yahoo! 360°

Check out what others are sharing on Yahool 360\*.



TriBenCoach: "Celui qui combat peut perdre, mais celui qui refuse le combat a perdu d'avance."



Les pages de Punky: Un peu de tout, mais surtout beaucoup de n'importe quoi. Bierwenue dans:



Day's Journal of a Journey: Communicating, creating.



Just A Crazy Woman: There's o fine line between being creative and stimulating.....THINKING: being crazy. Just A









- Yahoo 360 lets you create a profile page that you can use to meet friends on the Web. Yahoo 360 also has a blog feature for you blogging people. You can also create a photo album to share with your friends, family and anyone else who wants to see it.
- Photo Album Add your photos to more than your profile. Create a photo album on your Yahoo 360 site.
- Blog Yahoo 360 also has a blog so you can tell your friends about what goes on in your daily life and keep them updated on your latest events.
- Add Friends Isn't that what social networking is all about after all.
   Add friends to your Yahoo 360 profile.
- Video Use You Tube, Yahoo! Video or Google Video to add video to your Yahoo 360 profile.



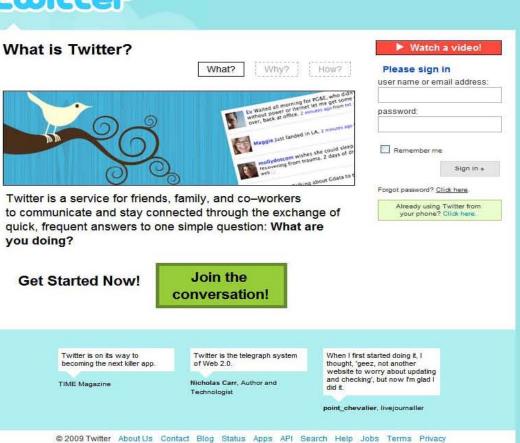




Select Language ... 💌



you doing?

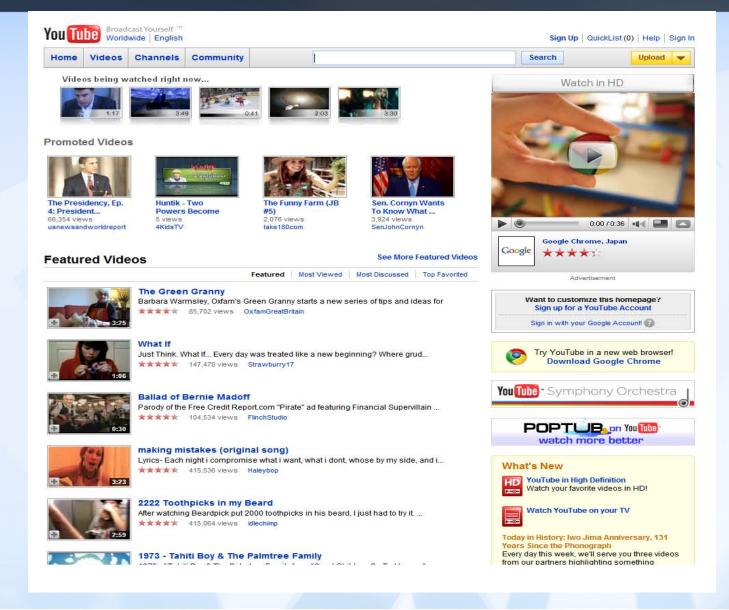








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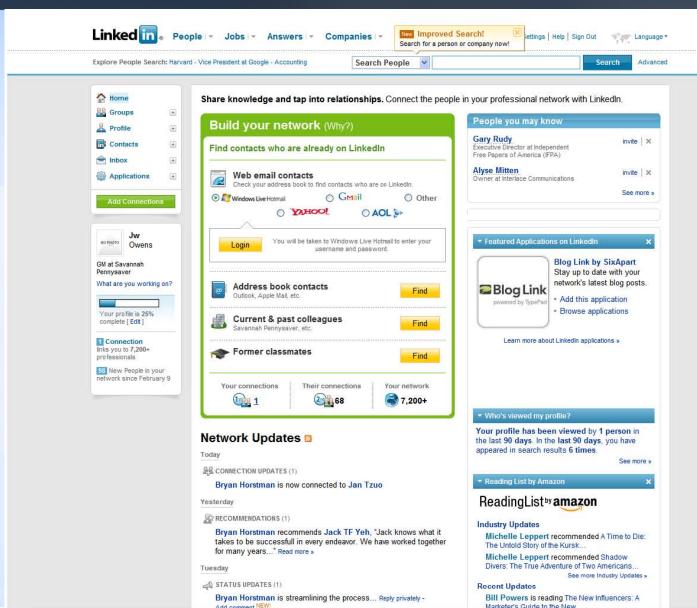








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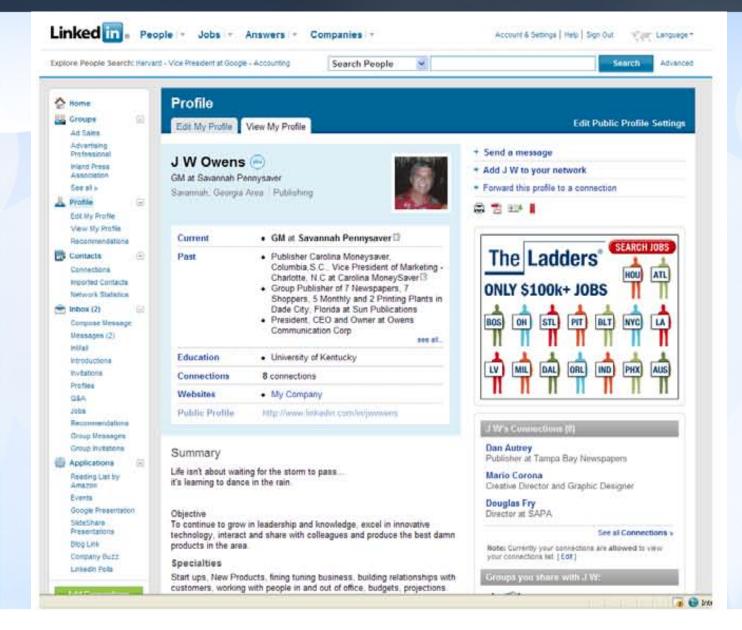








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How to Promote a Business Using Social Media

Step 1: Join appropriate social media networks.

Pick your social media outlets wisely. An entertainment copywriter can connect with other writers and potential music and film clients on MySpace and Facebook. A chiropractor looking to expand his client roster is better suited to promote his business on Twitter and LinkedIn. Think about your target market and where the group gathers on the Internet, before joining an online community.









#### How to Promote a Business Using Social Media

#### Step 2: Create a social media bio.

Here is your chance to craft a short message highlighting your services and products. Use this opportunity to position your company as an emerging market leader.

Most social networking sites encourage users to create a biography. Write a two-paragraph bio that effectively summarizes your company's mission and product or service offerings.





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How to Promote a Business Using Social Media

Step 3: Become an active member of the social community.

Include a friendly welcome message to your social media pages to encourage other members to interact with your page.

Introduce yourself to other community members.

Invite other users to become friends.





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How to Promote a Business Using Social Media Step 4: Help others.

Suggest interesting websites, articles and information that will add value to the online conversation.

LinkedIn, for example has area where you can answer other users' questions or suggest questions to be answered by the community of experts.

Add value to the online community. Comment frequently on popular blogs and within social networks.





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How to Promote a Business Using Social Media

Step 5: Drive traffic to your website.

Build inbound links to your other websites as a member of the social media community.

Read each social network's rules carefully. Don't just drop self-serving links without investigating the site's policies.

Community users do not tolerate spammers. Yahoo! Answers and WikiAnswers will quickly ban users who abuse their commenting rules.







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How to Promote a Business Using Social Media Step 6: Promote your products and services to a captive audience.

Create a subgroup of users within the community who have similar goals and interests as your company.

Post notices once a month advertising your business to members who have expressed interest in learning more about your company.









wallstrip







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The best way to understand a new media is to compare it to what's come before? So, what kind of media do you have lying around your house? Probably these:

- Newspapers.
- Magazines.
- Television.
- Radio.
- Books.
- CDs.
- DVDs.
- A box of photos.
- Physical, paper mail and catalogs.
- Yellow Pages.







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Now, what about the social media?

What are some attributes of it that are different than any of the "old media"?







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The media above can't be changed. A newspaper can't magically change its stories, even if society decides something in them is incorrect. Social Media can be updated for all readers nearly instantly if someone demonstrates that I was wrong on a post.

You can interact with my site.

You can leave a comment. Call me an a\_\_\_\_hole. Etc. Etc. With the above you can't interact at all.

You can get some sense of the popularity of my stuff in real time. How many comments does each post get?

How many links does each post get?

None of the media above do you have a clue about the granular popularity of any of the items until much later after best seller lists are published.



With the "new media" you can look at my archives and see all posts. Try doing that with a newspaper.





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 Here I can mix media. A post could contain text, audio, video, or photos.

Not so on newspaper or magazines.

Here I don't need to convince a committee to publish.
 Not true with other media forms.

Imagine you walked into CNN and said

"Hey, I have some cool video, can you publish it?"

The new media is infinite.

The media above all has limitations in terms of either length (a TV station only has 24 hours in a day — over on YouTube.







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 The new media is syndicatable and linkable and easily reused.

I can link to your media, for instance, a few seconds after you publish it.

Try doing THAT with any of the other media.







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 The social media can be mashed up with data from other services.

Many people are putting widgets on their pages that display various things from places they don't control. That's impossible in the older media above.

When I say "social media",
 I'm talking about Internet media that has the ability to interact with it in some way.







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# Good Selling



A special Thanks to iCrossing for some content and information Video by commoncraft and Lee LeFever



