

Social Networking: or MyFace in MySpace

What Are Social Networks?

Social networks are online communities of people who share similar interests and activities. Members of a social network can interact with each other using web based services like chatting, messaging, email, video, voice chat, file sharing, blogging, and discussion groups.

What Social Network is Right for Me?

There are hundreds of social networks available! Facebook and MySpace are the most popular, but there are also social networks focused on music (www.last.fm), art (www.deviantart.com), books (www.librarything.com), photography (www.flickr.com), and other interests. Since most social networks are free to join, try a few and see what you like the best!

List of Social Networks: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_social_networking_websites

What Makes a Network, well, Social?

Each social network will have a different look and interface, but the functionality will be about the same across networks. Most social networks provide the following:

Profiles are created by users to share information about themselves.

Groups share common interests. You can create a group or search for groups you would like to join.

Videos & Music can be uploaded and shared or viewed by other members.

Forums/Discussions members can create discussions about any subject and other members can contribute to the discussion.

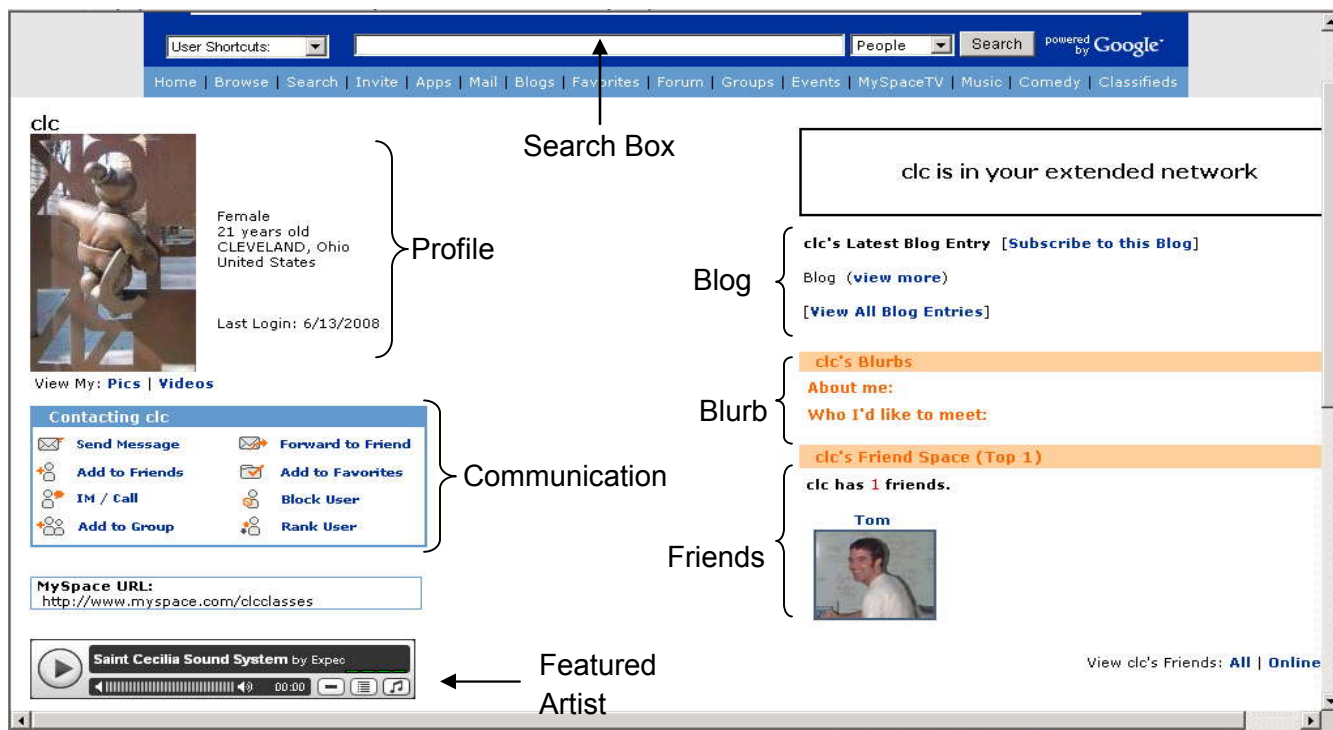
Friends are other members on the site that agree to be friends. Friends are usually people you know in real life and are on the same network as you or people you have met on the network.

Privacy Controls some services allow users to decide how much information about you or your site people can see.

Blogs similar to regular blogs, many social networking services have a place for people to blog, where they can write about whatever they want.

Mail/Messaging in a social networking website can usually on go to other members, and cannot be used as an email provider.

Chat you can type back and forth with other members while you are on the social networking website.



How Do I Sign Up?

All social networks will require you to have an email address.

- Go to the social network site that you wish to sign up for (e.g. www.facebook.com, www.myspace.com, www.urbanchat.com)
- Click on “Sign Up” or “Join” or similar
- Fill out the form
- Make note of your user name and password
- You're ready to network!

Additional Resources Available at Your Library:

Awl, Dave. Facebook Me! : A Guide to Having Fun With Your Friends and Promoting Your Projects on Facebook. Berkley: Peachpit, 2009.

Call Number: 006.754 F138Za 2009

Butow, Eric and Michael Bellomo. Amp Your Myspace Page. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2008.

Call Number: 006.7 M998Zb 2008

Llc, Editors. Facebook Fanatic. City: BottleTreeBooks LLC, 2007.

Call Number: 004.69 F138Zf 2007

Veer, Emily. Facebook: the Missing Manual. Sebastopol: Pogue Press, 2008.

Call Number: 004.678 F138Zv 2008