

Go Digital Highland 'How to...'

How to Use YouTube

In this 'How-to' document, we will show you how to use YouTube. If you haven't used YouTube for a while or if you've never used it before, this guide is going to walk you through step by step on how to navigate the video sharing platform.



YouTube is a website which allows you to watch, upload and share videos, and it's free. YouTube was created in 2005 and has since become one of the most popular websites on the internet, with videos regularly hitting millions of views.

If you've ever been shown a video from the internet, it's likely to have been a YouTube video. YouTube users are generally split into two categories:

Video creators: People who have channels and upload videos to those channels.

Video viewers: People who watch videos, interact with videos, and subscribe to channels.



Who uses YouTube?

Anyone with access to a computer or mobile device and an internet connection can watch YouTube content and share their own.



People use YouTube for all sorts of reasons, including entertainment purposes and to learn how to do something. YouTube is particularly popular among young people, who often spend more time on the website than watching television, however the site has videos appropriate for young and old.

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Get Started With Watching Videos On YouTube

There are all sorts of ways you can watch YouTube videos. These ways include:

- Navigating to YouTube.com
- Downloading the YouTube mobile app for iOS or Android
- Watching a YouTube video that was embedded into a post on a social network (like Facebook or Twitter)
- Watching a YouTube video by clicking a link to a video that is shared by email, text message, social media, or another method.



To get personalised video suggestions, create playlists, comment on other videos, and subscribe to channels, you must create a YouTube account.

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Creating a YouTube account

If you're using YouTube a lot, it might be worth creating an account (even if you'd never wish to create your own channel and upload videos). The benefits of having a YouTube account are:

- Get tailored recommendations for videos to watch on the home page, based on what you've watched previously.
- If you've found a channel you like, you can subscribe to it.
- Keep track of your video viewing history (this will save you trying to find them again)
- Save videos to watch later.
- Create your own video playlists.



As YouTube is owned by Google, all you need is a Google account to create a YouTube account and start using it.

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Find Videos to Watch on YouTube

There are many ways to find what you want to watch on YouTube, including:

- The search bar – you can search for whatever you'd like
- Topics and categories
- Filter results by date and popularity.
- Visit the trending topics tab.

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Interact with YouTube videos

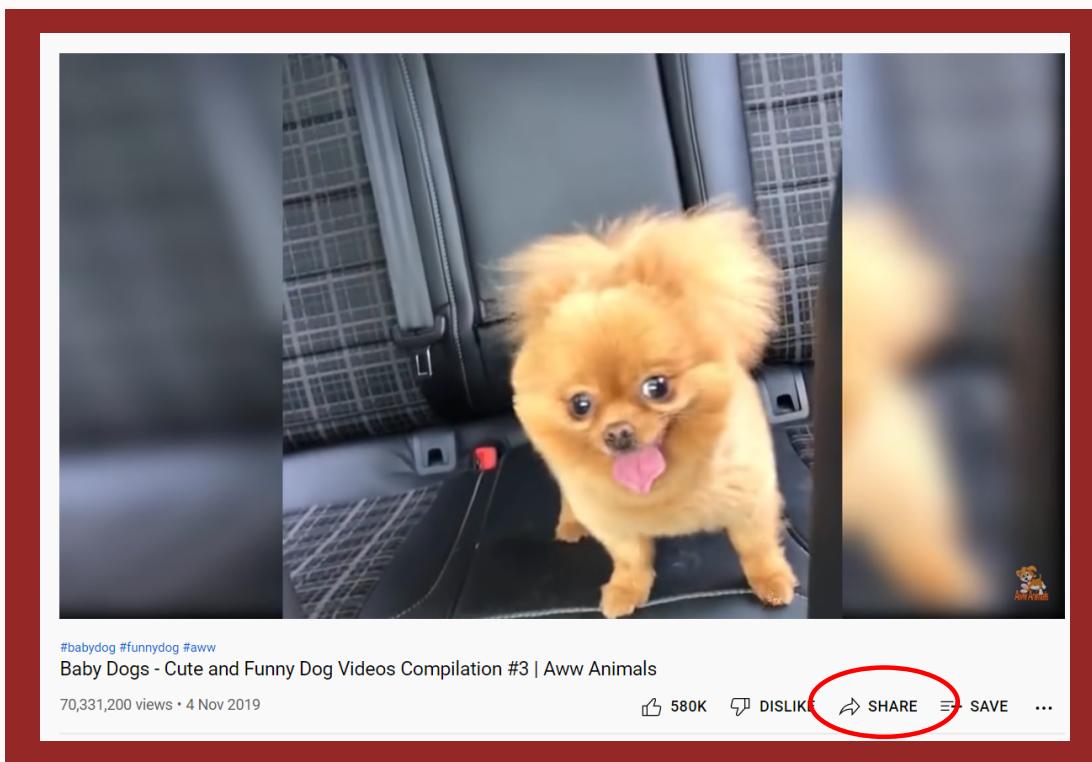
You might find a video that you really like (or dislike) and you can show that by:

- Giving the video a thumbs up or a thumbs down
- Leaving a comment.
- Replying to another user's comment.
- Liking another user's comment.



Share YouTube videos

If you've found a video that you know someone else would enjoy, you can share it. Click the share button below the video and you will be given several options for sharing it, including e-mail and other social media websites.



Subscribe to YouTube channels

Another way to keep up with the people whose videos you enjoy is to subscribe to that user's account. That way, every time they upload something, you are notified. It's as simple as clicking the Subscribe button.