

PBS.org

Video

Programs

TV Schedules

Shop

Donate

THE RUNDOWN

SYRIA HEALTH REFORM

A BLOG OF NEWS AND

MORNING LINE

INSIGHT

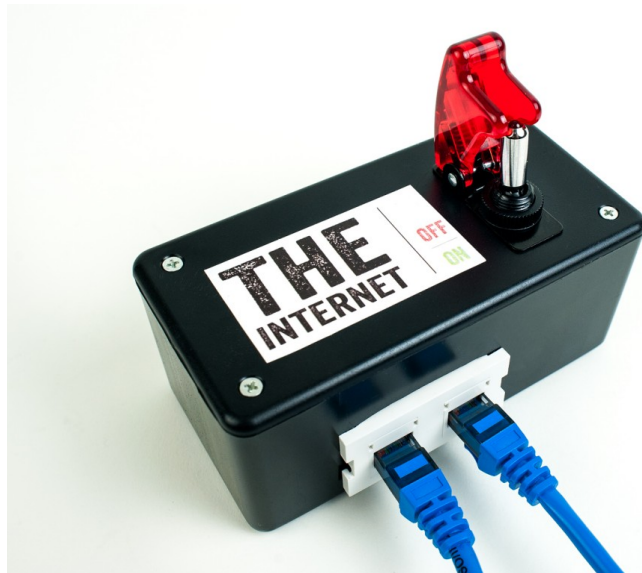
SUBSCR. FOLLOW US    

SUPPORT FOR PBS NEWSHOUR PROVIDED BY



Recalling the early days of the World Wide Web

BY BRIDGET SHIRVELL March 3, 2014 at 11:23 AM EDT



The internet kill switch, a Maker project that enables users to disconnect from the World Wide Web to protect their privacy. Photo from Makezine

The World Wide Web in its public form celebrates its 25th birthday on March 12. That's the day in 1989, Sir Tim Berners-Lee wrote a paper [proposing a system of servers,](#)

THE RUNDOWN

The Rundown offers the NewsHour's unique perspective on the important events of the day with insights from the journalists you trust.

SUBSCRIBE

Receive The Rundown news blog in your inbox.

[SUBSCRIBE](#)

PODCAST: [ITUNES](#) | [XML](#)

[HEADLINE FEEDS: XML | RSS](#)

READ THIS NEXT

What can the Dutch teach the U.S. about selling pot?



10



16



+1

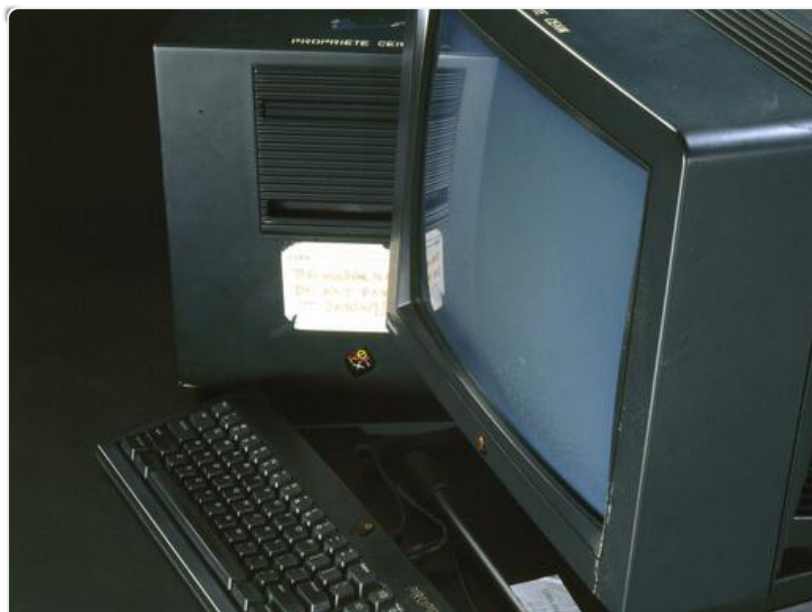
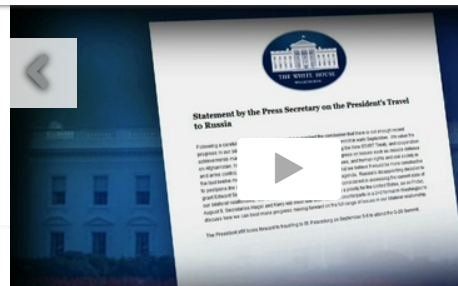


EMAIL

hyperlinks and other technologies that make the web possible..

Do you remember the first time you used the internet?

View as slideshow



**MOST
READ**

**MOST
DISCUSSED**

- 1 Can you really live better longer without long-term care insurance?
- 2 Analyzing the uphill optimism of the Millennial generation
- 3 Losing sleep can lead to brain damage, scientists warn
- 4 What can the Dutch teach the U.S. about selling pot?
- 5 New research challenges old wisdom on saturated fat

PBS NEWS HOUR NewsHour
@NewsHour

Happy 25th birthday, World Wide Web!

Do you remember the first time you used the internet?
to.pbs.org/1cctOmw

12:15 PM - 27 Feb 2014

115 RETWEETS 44 FAVORITES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2014



Dawn Miller

@DawnMil56000548

Foll

@NewsHour @OETAOK Wow, feels like it has been around all my life. Guess my first time online was around when it first came out.

3:28 PM - 27 Feb 2014

1 FAVORITE

SUPPORT FOR PBS NEWSHOUR
PROVIDED BY



charles
SCHWABVIEWERS
LIKE YOU

Vickie Lynn

1997 and ever since !! I bought an old used computer and my son in grade school taught me how to use it ..

21 DAYS AGO

Today, 87 percent of adults in the U.S. say [they use the internet](#), including 71 percent who use it on a typical day. Back in 1995, only 14 percent used the internet.



Mary C. Anderson

In 1997 when my son was traveling in a remote part of Colombia SA... he was able to get to a college computer in Monteria I believe and I received my first e mail from him.. so exciting.

21 DAYS AGO

The majority of American adults say the internet has [strengthened their relationships](#) with friends and family.



Jennifer Hill

January 1994 when a colleague in grad school said "type MOSAIC" in the command line. Spent 3 hours looking at the CERN site and others, then told everyone I met the next week about how I could find so much information!

21 DAYS AGO



Wayne Harrison

We were on Prodigy at work. I was pretty amazed at what you could find, although by today's standards it was pretty limited.

21 DAYS AGO



Jon Dagle

@jondagle

Follow

[@newshour](#) 1st time: 1994, used dial up modem to connect to CERN's new www from a PowerBook 165c dialed into a mil mainframe.

12:23 PM - 27 Feb 2014

2 FAVORITES

**Toryan Dixon**

@toryandixon

Follow

@NewsHour It was '98. I was 12, feeling scared and powerful on 56k.

12:24 PM - 27 Feb 2014

1 FAVORITE

**Sarah Beagle**

Chat rooms in 7th grade in 96'

21 DAYS AGO

**DJ Hawkes**

middle school when my friends told me about AIM. i used it before the actual web browser.

21 DAYS AGO

**Brennan Neill**

Fall of 1993 when I arrived at college. First time I was given an email address as well.

21 DAYS AGO

In 1983 a survey by the Louis Harris & Associates polling firm asked those who owned personal computers if being able to send and receive messages from other people on a home computer [would be useful](#). About 23 percent of computer owners said it would be very useful, 31 percent said it would be somewhat useful and 45 percent said it would not be very useful.

**Paul Joseph Canniff**

My first blog was hand-coded HTML that I did day by day on a road trip from Seattle to LA over the course of 10 days. I used a Kodak DC-20 camera that held 8 photos. It was so new to be uploading almost-live photos that Kodak linked to

my blog from their digital camera sales page. If I recall correctly I was dialing into AT&T from my laptop. Summer 1996? Clearly I had been online before to consume content but this was my first real uploading.

21 DAYS AGO



James Flannery

Aol on a 14.4 modem, ugh those were the days

21 DAYS AGO

The [Pew Research Center's Internet Project](#) in partnership with [Elon University's Imagining the Internet Project](#) is marking the internet's birthday with a series of reports on internet penetration, privacy, cyber security, the "internet of things" and net neutrality. The first report released Feb. 27 shows Americans generally feel the [internet has made a positive impact](#) on their lives and personal relationships.



SHARE ON
FACEBOOK



SHARE ON
TWITTER

INTERNET

PREVIOUS POST

« **Supreme Court considers
state IQ guidelines for
executions**

NEXT POST

**U.S. cancels presidential
delegation to the
Paralympic Games in** »