

# Solve IT

How can I search online for information about people more easily?

Miriam Brent  
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One of the most common reasons we use search engines is for information on people. But standard tools such as Google will throw up literally thousands of results, often making you question exactly how you got from Jacques Cousteau to custard - which is where the dedicated people search engine Spock.com comes in.

Still in beta, Spock ("single point of contact through keyword") is dedicated solely to the business of people finding, and has an index of more than 100 million entries. Rather than providing a biography-type summary (like Wikipedia, for instance) it produces a list of when the name is mentioned online - and then links the sites back to the individual, giving you an instant back-catalogue of data.

You can search through tags, location or names, with an advanced option allowing you to enter email addresses, age and photo criteria. There's also an element of social networking built in - registered users can create a network of associates and search the contacts of trusted friends. You can even vote on the relevance of your contacts' tags and websites, which will enhance the relevance of future searches.

If you're concerned about what information is being linked back to you, registering with Spock gives you the opportunity to "claim" your profile. This gives you the control to add more relevant tags and URLs, as well as other personal data, should you wish.

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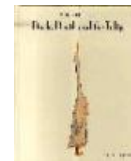
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