

Social Networks

Lila Ibrahim:

How many of you have a Facebook account?

Lila Ibrahim:

Facebook. It seems like almost everyone is on it, and its users are about to get a makeover.

Alex Abnos:

Uh, they had the little link up at the top of the page that said: Hey, come check out the new home page. So I looked at it; it's a little bit better designed, um, just in terms of usability.

Lila Ibrahim:

The centerpiece of Facebook is the news feed, which tells you about your friends' activities, their photos, and videos, and right now it updates about every ten to fifteen minutes. The new Facebook home page will have a different layout, and update in real time, meaning you'll get even more information on your friends, even faster.

Daniel Reed:

I applaud Facebook for trying to make everything up-to-the-minute. Everything in this world seems to be a "we want it now," up-to-the-minute format. So, um, I think Facebook's really just going along with what its users want.

Lila Ibrahim:

The change comes at a time when another social network, known as Twitter, is quickly becoming competition to Facebook. Twitter offers an update of what you're doing and thinking in real time, but in a more bare-bones design.

Jake DiGregorio:

I'm realizing that Twitter actually has a lot of practical uses, um, both in terms of following news and following issues that, uh, you care about in real time.

Lila Ibrahim:

No matter which site is preferred, the appetite for sharing information is on the rise. More than one third of adults have at least one profile on a social networking website.

Mike Shanahan:

No, we're in it-we're in it for the long run, this is-this is not gonna change. These technologies are gonna continue to develop, and they're gonna be continued, uh, to be used by, uh, especially younger generations.

Lila Ibrahim:

Facebook has made changes before, everything from privacy policies to the page itself, but despite criticism, it keeps getting more popular and, for some users, maybe too popular.

Melissa Katz:

So many people, um, so many of my friends' parents are on Facebook. I even know teachers that are on Facebook. I know people that I work with are on Facebook. Like, it seemed like a cool idea at first, and now it's like creepy almost, the people that are on it.

Leora Kalicow:

What actually bothers me is the amount of messages I get per day. I don't need to be invited to your zombie club or your pirate-bashing game.

Lila Ibrahim:

Facebook and its 175 million members can expect to see changes on Wednesday.

Lila Ibrahim:

Lila Ibrahim, The Associated Press.

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