

Patrick Crispen's Complete and Total Waste of Time

Updated Fall 2006

Zombo

<http://zombo.com/>

Zombo is the greatest website in the world. You can do anything at zombocom. Anything at all. The only limit is yourself. [Inside joke: The only things zombocom does are welcome you and repeatedly extol the virtues of zombocom.]

Cute Overload

<http://cuteoverload.com/>

Awww. Cute Overload is an overwhelming collection of really cute animal images. Really, really, really cute. Updated daily.

ASCII Maps

<http://www.asciimaps.com/>

Longing for the days of gopher on monochrome monitors? Neither am I. But ASCII maps converts Google Maps into typewriter text.

The Google Card Trick

<http://www.krazydad.com/bondoogle/>
<http://ipolygraph.com/google/google.pl>

Did you know that Google reads minds? Well, not really, but your friends don't know that. The first page explains the infamous Google Card Trick and the second page is where you carry out the trick.

The image tool with a semi-naughty name

<http://tinyurl.com/7g4fa>

This 'site who shall not be named' lets you turn any picture on the web or your computer into huge, multi-page, poster-sized image that you can print out, piece together, and hang on the wall. For free. Onan would be so proud.

Pandora

<http://pandora.com/>

Okay, this one's actually quite useful. Sorry about that. Pandora asks you to enter your favorite artists or songs and then creates a custom, online radio station that helps you find new music you'll love.

Freeplay Music

<http://www.freeplaymusic.com/>

One more useful site. Freeplay Music offers professional, royalty-free, 15 second, 30 second, and one minute background music that you can use for in-classroom projects, provided those projects are not made public.

Sudoku

<http://www.uclick.com/client/nwk/nwdoc/>

Sudoku is an insanely addictive puzzle game. This site, sponsored by Newsweek Magazine, posts a new Sudoku puzzle each day. Friday's puzzles are always the hardest, and there is an archive of puzzles going back several weeks.

Pop Cap Games

<http://www.popcap.com/>

Pop Cap Games offers 15 of the best designed, most addictive, online games. Home of Bejeweled 2, Insaniquarium, Zuma. Express versions of the games are free and can be played in any web browser.

Albino Blacksheep

<http://www.albinoblacksheep.com/>

Albino Blacksheep is a HUGE repository of weird and cool Flash movies, video files, audio files, and what not. Home of the Llama song, Numa Numa, Banana Phone, and other earbugs.

Television Without Pity

<http://www.televisionwithoutpity.com/>

Missed an episode of your favorite television show and want to know everything that you missed (and I mean EVERYTHING)? Television Without Pity offers snarky, well-written, in-depth summaries of most major television shows. The site also offers active community discussion forums for most shows.

DWheel

<http://www.digitalxpression.co.uk/dwheel.swf>

A 60 second optical illusion that will cause you to exclaim, "Dude! My hand is going all wiggly."

Optical Illusions and Visual Phenomena

<http://www.michaelbach.de/ot/index.html>

Whoa. Trippy. 67 more optical illusions. And, between you and me, the Checker Shadow illusion still creeps me out.

TPS Report Cover Sheet

<http://tinyurl.com/7seej>

You have to be a fan of the movie Office Space to understand the humor behind this PDF. "It's just that we're putting new coversheets on all the TPS reports *before* they go out now. So if you could just remember to do that from now on, that'd be great."



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PopURLs

<http://popurls.com/>

This one is also kind of useful. Sue me. PopURLs aggregates the top 15 or so latest posts from Digg, Del.icio.us, Reddit, Flickr, Newsvine, Metafilter, Tailrank, Youtube, and so on. You can even change the background color by clicking on the black/white icon in the top right corner.

Video Sift

<http://www.videosift.com/>

Video Sift is a collection of interesting or humorous videos from around the web. Users vote for the videos they like, and when a video reaches a certain level of votes it is published on Video Sift's front page [a la Digg].

Worth 1000

<http://www.worth1000.com/>

Worth 1000 is photoshop competition site that contains over a quarter of a million original images, some funny and some ... well ... not. You can spend hours browsing the photoshop and photography galleries, and the site's tutorials will help you improve your graphics skills.

Fark

<http://www.fark.com/>

If you are easily offended, avoid Fark like it was covered with monkey pox. Fark is an active and often humorous user community that posts and comments on both news and news of the weird stories. Fark also runs regular photoshop contents. I strongly recommend reading the sites FAQ [a.k.a., the "FARQ"] to learn more about the site's pop culture "farkisms." Duke sucks.

Urban Dictionary

<http://www.urbandictionary.com/>

Talking about pop culture ... can't understand a single word your kids are saying? Urban Dictionary is a constantly-updated [and *often* offensive] dictionary of current street slang. With this site, you may be better able to understand what's going on inside your peeps' brizzle.

Rockwell Automation's Retro Encabulator

<http://tinyurl.com/92o3l>

Finally! Now everyone can generate inverse reactive current for use in unilateral phase detractors and automatically synchronizing cardinal grammeters. Oh, happy day.

Baseball Race

<http://baseballrace.com/>

Replay any professional baseball season by league or division from 1901 to today as an animated, day-by-day horse race. In each race you can see the exact moment the Chicago Cubs [NL Central] were mathematically eliminated.

Concert Ticket Generator

<http://tinyurl.com/g7vvo>

No, you can't use this site to sneak into sold-out concerts. Nice try. What you can do with the Concert Ticket Generator, though, is make customized, relatively realistic images of interesting or humorous concert tickets.

Custom Sign Generator

<http://www.customsigngenerator.com/>

The Custom Sign Generator is a collection of HUNDREDS of fake sign and image generators. Create your own "For Dummies" book cover, ketchup bottle label, church sign, and so on. Some generators work better than others. For example, I tried to create my own "Hello My Name Is" nametag, but the text I entered- "Inigo Montoya. You killed my father. Prepare to die."-would not fit. Inconceivable!

InterfaceLIFT Wallpapers

<http://interfacelift.com/wallpaper/>

InterfaceLIFT offers insanely high-quality and high-resolution images you can use as your computer's desktop wallpaper or as a background in a PowerPoint presentation ... for free.

The Institute of Official Cheer

<http://lileks.com/institute/index.html>

Home of the Gallery of Regrettable Food, Interior Desecrators, and much more. James Lileks digs up random ephemera and adds his own unique, hysterical commentary.

Eliza

<http://www.chayden.net/eliza/Eliza.html>

Want to chat with a 1960's era computer program that emulates a therapist? No? Are you saying no just to be negative?

Merry Christmas

<http://tinyurl.com/fpjcz>

Want to know how many days, hours, minutes, seconds there are until Christmas? Of course you do. And this site will tell you.



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