

# Surf 'N Stuff 'N Tips

## G is for Google

When you need to find something on the Internet, you probably refer to Google.com. Most people do.

What you may not know is that Google offers ways to help you find whatever you may be seeking. The site has set up specific pages to help you find local listings, convert currencies, get stock quotes, check the weather and find the status of a flight or package.

Today's site is a specific page at Google that lists them all. Look at the list of different ways to use Google and you're bound to find one to save you time.

**TO VISIT THIS SITE, GO HERE:**  
**[www.google.com/help/features.html](http://www.google.com/help/features.html)**

## Get Google's Gmail

Google launched Gmail about a year ago. But until now, only the elite who received an invitation could join.

Gmail is Google's free e-mail service. It's so impressive that Hotmail and Yahoo! were forced to upgrade their free offerings.

Why is Gmail so great? Well, you get a whopping two gigabytes (and counting) of storage space. That means you don't need to delete messages -- simply archive them. And features such as threaded views help you manage your e-mail.

You can get Gmail on the Google home page. If you know people who have accounts, they can send you an invitation. Or you can visit the Google home page and click "refresh" in your Web browser until the offer to join comes up.

Okay, that's a bit lame -- but, the link below will take you directly to the account setup page.

**TO VISIT THIS SITE, GO HERE:**  
**[www.google.com/accounts/New/Account](http://www.google.com/accounts/New/Account)**

## FREE GAMES

Miniclip has over 100 free games. Some of them are challenging or just plain silly. Others are irreverent, but they're not mean-spirited. They'll give you a good laugh.

A favorite game is Flashman, which is really just Pac Man. You might call that boring, but it is old-school fun!

You can play the games online or download them to play later. You can even put them on your Web site, if you have one. Flash and Shockwave are required. You'll be directed to download the free players if you don't have them.

**TO VISIT THIS SITE, GO HERE:**  
**[www.miniclip.com/Downloads.htm](http://www.miniclip.com/Downloads.htm)**

## STAYUP-TO-DATE ON SECURITY THREATS

Do you feel that you're the last to know when it comes to security issues? Then you should take a look at the federal government's alert site. Known as the Computer Emergency Readiness Team, it is run by Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. This organization issues alerts when bad news erupts.

**You'll find information on e-mail alerts at:**  
**<http://www.us-cert.gov/cas/signup.html#subscribe>**

**Humor for the Thinking Person (For those who love the philosophy of hypocrisy and ambiguity.)**

- Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
- What if there were no hypothetical questions?
- How is it possible to have a civil war?
- Why is there an expiration date on sour cream?
- If you try to fail, and succeed, which have you done?