

Social Bookmarking

Social bookmarking is a way to keep all of your bookmarks in one online place you can access from anywhere. It is also a way to organize your bookmarks by tagging them with words that make the most sense to you, which will make it easier for you to find what you want later. In addition, you can add notations to each bookmark, essentially creating an annotated bibliography. It's important to keep in mind that keyword searches and tag searches are different on these sites. With keyword, you are searching the entire content of the bookmark, including the title and notations. Clicking on a tag word, however, will only return items that have been tagged with the same word.

What makes it "Social?"

You can see what other people are bookmarking in a topic you are interested in by searching for a certain tag. You can also share your own bookmarks with people, which is great for collaborative research.

Why would you want to use Social Bookmarking?

- Your bookmarks will be accessible from any computer
- Create annotated bibliographies
- Collaborate on research
- Find other great links on your topic that other people have bookmarked.

Social bookmarking sites you can use include:

Delicious	One of the most widely used bookmarking sites on the web, Delicious offers simple and clean-looking pages, is very easy to use, and allows you to create a network of other users and get a single feed for all their public bookmarks.	http://del.icio.us	All four of these sites can be used to bookmark any website in addition to the special items noted.
Penn Tags	Created by the Penn Libraries, this site enables you to bookmark any record in Franklin, and create research project folders.	http://tags.library.upenn.edu	
CiteULike	Specifically for academic research purposes and can export to EndNote + BibTeX.	http://www.citeulike.org	
Connotea	Specifically for academic research purposes and can import/export from EndNote, ProCite + BibTeX.	http://connotea.org	

How can RSS and Social Bookmarking work together?

- Subscribe to feeds for certain tags that might be relevant to your research
- Subscribe to feeds for everything bookmarked by another user

How do you know what to use RSS for and what to Bookmark?

You should use RSS feeds to subscribe to web pages that are updated on a regular basis. Bookmarking is more useful for static pages, where the content does not change. For example, if you like to read the American Journal of Sociology, you might bookmark the webpage and tag it "sociology" and "journal" so that other people looking for those topics would be able to find it. However, you also want to know when they publish new articles, so you would subscribe to an RSS feed of their table of contents. This way, you do not ever have to remember to go to their website and check for new content. The new articles are gathered in your feed reader, and can be read there.

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Optimizing Firefox for Social Bookmarking:

Delicious Plugin	http://del.icio.us/help/firefox/extensionnew (firefox extension/add-on) http://del.icio.us/help/buttons (bookmarklet)
Penn Tags Bookmarklet	http://tags.library.upenn.edu/help/getting_started
Connotea Bookmarklet	http://www.connotea.org/bookmarklets

To add bookmarklets to your Firefox browser, simply click on and drag the link to your folder toolbar.

About Bookmarklets

From Wikipedia: "A bookmarklet is an applet, a small computer application, stored as the URL of a bookmark in a web browser or as a hyperlink on a web page. The term is a portmanteau of the terms *bookmark* and *applet*."

Whether bookmarklet utilities are stored as bookmarks or hyperlinks, they are designed to add one-click functionality to a browser or web page. When clicked, a bookmarklet performs some function, one of a wide variety such as a search query or data extraction. Usually the applet is a JavaScript program."

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bookmarklet>