

#thebrief

Let's hook up

Geosocial Networking

Geosocial Networking is a type of social networking which utilises user-provided location data to match users with a place, event, person, or local group relevant to their interests. Users can then use this information to socialise.

Did you know? - Geocoding and Geotagging add geographical information to media such as photos, videos or even Facebook statuses, telling people where media was uploaded from.

Version 14.03

Foursquare is a location-based social networking website for mobile devices, such as smartphones. Users "check in" at places by selecting from a list of venues the application locates nearby.



Each check-in awards the user points and sometimes "badges". The user who checks in the most often to a venue becomes the "mayor," and users regularly vie for "mayorships."

Hyper-specific check-ins are encouraged —one can check into a certain floor/area of a building, or indicate a specific activity while at a venue.

Did you know? "Checking-In" on Foursquare and Facebook is seen as a fun way to tell people where you are. As this information is often made public (e.g. to a Facebook feed) it can be used to inform people when you are not at home or where you are likely to visit.

GPS Hook-Up Apps

There is increasing concern over GPS hook up apps used to contact and meet people nearby. Most of these have an 18 age limit, however it is not uncommon for younger users to be registered.

Originally marketed for gay men, there are now many free hook-up apps on the market tailored to people of all sexualities. These apps are available on most smart phones. Some of the more popular ones are outlined on the next page.

Tinder is a location based social discovery app that facilitates communication between mutually interested users.

Tinder's targeted demographic is men and women between the ages of 18–35. It is used for dating as well as other kinds of networking.

Using Facebook profiles, Tinder analyses users' information to create potential matches that are most likely to be compatible based on geographical location, number of mutual friends and common interests. Contact cannot be made unless both individuals 'like' each other and a match is made.

Did you know? The App Store rates Tinder as being for ages 12+ due to "Infrequent/Mild Sexual Content or Nudity."

Other Similar Apps:



Zoosk



Badoo



Blendr



Plenty of Fish



Grindr is a geosocial networking application geared towards gay, bisexual, and bi-curious men.



It runs on iOS, BlackBerry OS, and Android devices. The app makes use of the device geolocation, which allows users to locate other men within close proximity. This is accomplished through a user interface that displays a grid of representative pictures of men, arranged from nearest to farthest away. Tapping on a picture will display a brief profile for that user, as well as the option to chat, send pictures, and share one's location.

Did you know?

Apps targeted towards gay men and lesbians have been used by people under 18 to reach out and find people of similar sexualities as a support network. However, these apps were not designed for this purpose.

Other Similar Apps:



Scruff



Findhrr



Hornet

Know The Language

Like most things on the internet, Geo-Social Apps have their own acronyms, language and health hazards! How many of these do you know?

A/S/L – Age / Sex / Location – A relic from the bygone chat room age which has been brought into modern times. Not quite as relevant as it used to be in the modern age of pictures and fast hook-ups!

NSA – No Strings Attached – Those looking for nothing but a sexual hook-up.

Pic-Collector – Individuals who purposefully use pictures collected from others and pass them off as their own.

Troll – Generally fake profile users who entice others into conversations whilst pretending to be someone completely different. Can often be offensive and generally have no intention of meeting up with their targets.