

# ISYS HindSite for Netscape Navigator Plug-In

## What is HindSite?

ISYS HindSite is a plug-in for Netscape Navigator.

You're surfing the Web. Some pages look interesting; you make a bookmark. Other pages really don't appeal to you; you don't make a bookmark.

It's two weeks later. You remember seeing something on the Web — you'd like to revisit the site — you don't remember where you saw the information and you didn't make a bookmark.

ISYS HindSite knows everywhere you've been and everything you've seen. It's like someone looking over your shoulder, reading every word you read, but remembering exactly where you saw it.

HindSite works hand-in-hand with Netscape Navigator — just surf the Web as you do normally, and HindSite works in the background indexing the content of every page you visit. Then, when you want to revisit a site, pose a query either via HindSite's Menu-Assisted or Plain English queries. HindSite allows you to revisit sites of interest.

Forget about bookmarks and URLs — HindSite isn't just a list of URLs — it knows the content of where you've been. And, it's automatic for every page you visit.

HindSite **does not** duplicate all the pages you've visited. It builds an *index* of the text *content* of the pages.

## Ok, so what now?

You can chose to run HindSite in one of two ways:

- \* As an applet, where HindSite runs alongside Netscape, but is not part of Netscape. To run HindSite in this way, just click on the "HindSite Applet" icon under Program Manager.
- \* As a Plug-In, where HindSite becomes integrated with Netscape. To run HindSite as a Plug-In close down Netscape and click on the "HindSite Plug-In" icon under Program Manager.

Once Netscape loads with HindSite as a Plug-In, set a Netscape bookmark to activate HindSite any time you like. Thereafter, start Netscape as you normally do and use the bookmark to access HindSite when you need it.

Note that you cannot take advantage of the Plug-in option if you are running the Windows 95 version of Netscape. The Applet option works fine, however.

## **How does HindSite work?**

HindSite periodically updates its indexes with all the places you've been. By default, it'll update its indexes every time you start HindSite, but you can configure it differently.

Click on the Menu-Assisted query icon to build your own Boolean or proximity query, or use the Plain English query feature to just type what you want to know as a simple question or statement.

HindSite displays a list of all the pages you've visited that match the search criteria you entered. In the results set you'll see the URL, the name of the page, when you last visited the site, when the page was published, how large the page is, and how many hits to your query appear on the page.

By default, HindSite displays the list in reverse chronological order of visit, but you can sort the list in any other sequence by simply double-clicking on the column title. To sort in the opposite sequence, double-click the title while holding down the shift key.

You can resize columns by dragging the separator bar between each column,

and you can re-order them by clicking and dragging the entire column.

To revisit a page of interest, double-click on the row containing the URL you want to revisit, or click the Netscape icon on the tool bar. Netscape allows you to re-visit the page.

You can also click on the ISYS toolbar icon and Netscape takes you directly to the ISYS home page for information on new versions of HindSite.

## How do I search?

HindSite provides the full functionality of the ISYS indexing and retrieval engine. You can search for phrases simply by typing in the phrase you want. You don't need to enclose the phrase in quotes or use other delimiters. For example you type in:

Surfboard Wax

Alternatively, you can construct your own Boolean or proximity search expression using the Menu-Assisted query builder. Additionally, you can use wild-cards, for example "Read\*" locates all words that begin with the characters "read".

HindSite also understands word tenses, for example, searching for the string "Read~" locates all tense forms of the word "read", including "reader", "reading", "readers", etc., but does not return the term "readjusted".

The easiest way to pose queries is via the Plain English query mode. Using Plain English type in what you want to know in the form of a statement or question. HindSite interprets your queries and finds what you need, for example:

Where did I see that thing on Netscape Servers?  
Population statistics?  
Microsoft product support?

## Where have I been on the Web?

By clicking on the tree icon on the HindSite toolbar, you can also see a tree-structured outline of all the places you've been.

By double clicking, you can "drill-down" and see exactly what domains you've been to, including the areas within those domains.

## Two Configurations — Stand Alone or Plug-In

HindSite is available in both Plug-In and Stand Alone configurations.

If you are using the Plug-In configuration, HindSite runs within the Netscape browser window, rather than as a stand-alone application.

Note, however, that when you install new Netscape plug-ins, you must exit and restart Netscape before the plug-in becomes available.

If you click on the HindSite Plug-in icon, you get a the message "if you can see this, I'm not installed correctly", then you may have pointed HindSite to an incorrect Netscape directory. Try installing HindSite again.

Note that HindSite can only be used as a plug-in with the 16-bit version of Netscape Navigator.

## Common questions & answers

*Does HindSite work with Navigator 2.0?*

Yes, HindSite works with Navigator 1.x and 2.x.

*How about Windows 95?*

This version of HindSite works fine as an Applet under Windows 95, and works correctly with the Windows 95 version of Netscape. However, you can't use it as a 32-bit plug-in.

*But I'm using the 32-bit version of Netscape! What do I do?*

I'm glad you asked. Just run the HindSite Applet instead of the plug-in, and

everything will be fine.

*Why doesn't HindSite find things I visited just a few minutes ago?*

HindSite observes pages passing through your Netscape cache and indexes their content as they go through. Consequently, HindSite doesn't index pages from the current surfing session until you click on the "update indexes" button in HindSite. Pages from previous sessions should automatically be indexed.

*Do I need to run a huge Netscape cache?*

No way. HindSite watches pages pass through your cache, and indexes their content as they go, but it doesn't rely on you running a huge Netscape cache. The default settings work just fine.

*How is HindSite different from a list of persistent bookmarks?*

Bookmarks and history lists only enumerate the names of places you've been to, not what you saw when you were there. The whole reason you surf the Web is for what you see on the pages, and HindSite is revolutionary in that it knows the content of the pages you've been to, as well as the URLs.

*Can I search based on URL as well?*

Absolutely. HindSite indexes both the *content* of pages you visit, and their *URL addresses*.

*Isn't this going to consume a lot of disk space?*

That depends on how much surfing you do. The "average" Web user can expect the HindSite index to grow at the rate of about one megabyte per month. Obviously your mileage may vary.

*Does my index just keep growing and growing, until it takes over my disk?*

In the full version of HindSite, you configure it to keep a "rolling" number of weeks or months. For example, track all your visits for a six month time frame.

*So where do I get the full version of HindSite?*

HindSite is currently free, but on May 31 when this version expires, you'll have the opportunity to either download another free version, or obtain the full version for a nominal fee. Stay tuned to the ISYS home page for details.

## Who is ISYS/Odyssey Development?

ISYS/Odyssey Development is the manufacturer of the ISYS 4.0 and an entire suite of industrial-strength information retrieval products, including:

- **ISYS 4.0** — supports over 40 major word processing formats and indexes all the text on your hard disk, fileserver or WAN, and provides instantaneous access to it. Also supports spreadsheets, Microsoft Access, and any ODBC-compliant relational data.
- **ISYS API** — gives you access to the ISYS text indexing and retrieval engine for seamless integration in your own applications.
- **ISYS Image** — integrated scanning, OCR and document management. Just place paper documents into your scanner, and ISYS Image automatically scans, performs OCR, names, saves, indexes and associates the OCR text with the original image of the page.
- **ISYS Electronic Publisher** — an out-of-the-box solution for disk or CD-based electronic publishing. Supports special optimizations for CD usage, locked publications, encryption, hypertext linkages and more.
- **ISYS for Acrobat** — a plug-in for Adobe Acrobat that extends the professional search and retrieval technology of ISYS to Acrobat.
- **ISYS Web** — both an integrated Web Server and a clip-on search tool for existing Web servers, ISYS Web makes the sophisticated search facilities of ISYS available through the Web. As well as indexing your HTML pages, ISYS Web can also directly index your legacy word processing and ASCII files without any need for conversion, mark-up or hypertext linking.

For more information on any of the ISYS suite of information retrieval products, contact ISYS/Odyssey Development at:

1-800-992-4797 or [isys@dash.com](mailto:isys@dash.com)

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