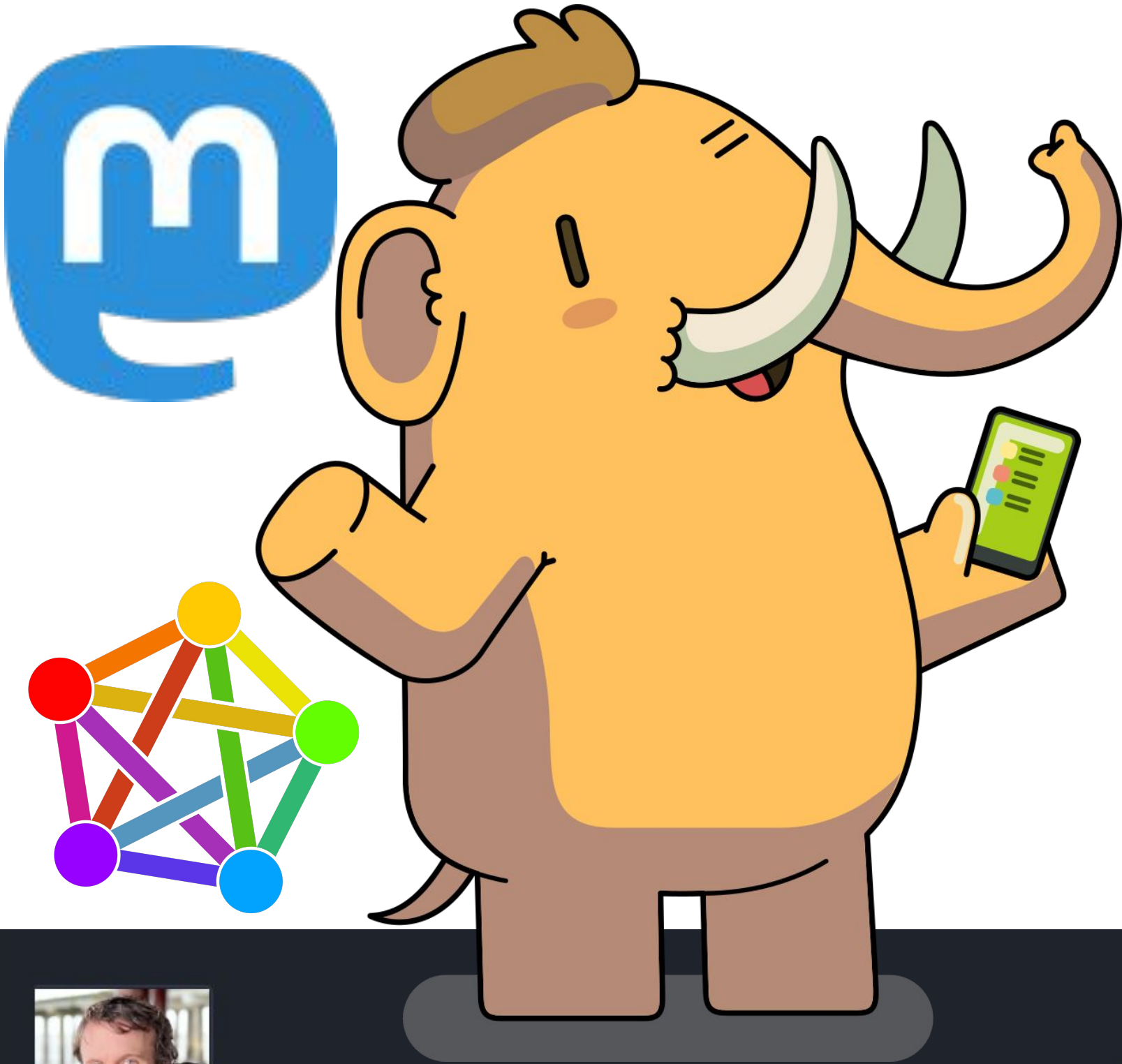


What is the Mastodon?



Matt Brown

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Follow



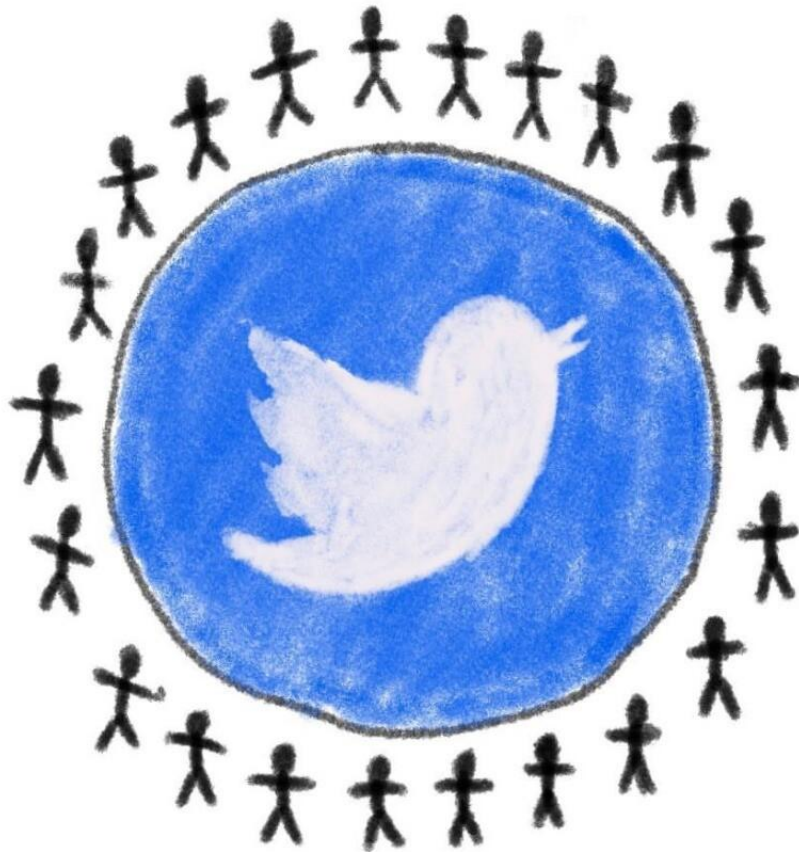
How to talk to your relatives about Mastodon

Thanksgiving dinners provide a space to have difficult conversations with loved ones.

This year, the big question on everyone's minds is "what is the Mastodon, and should I be on it".

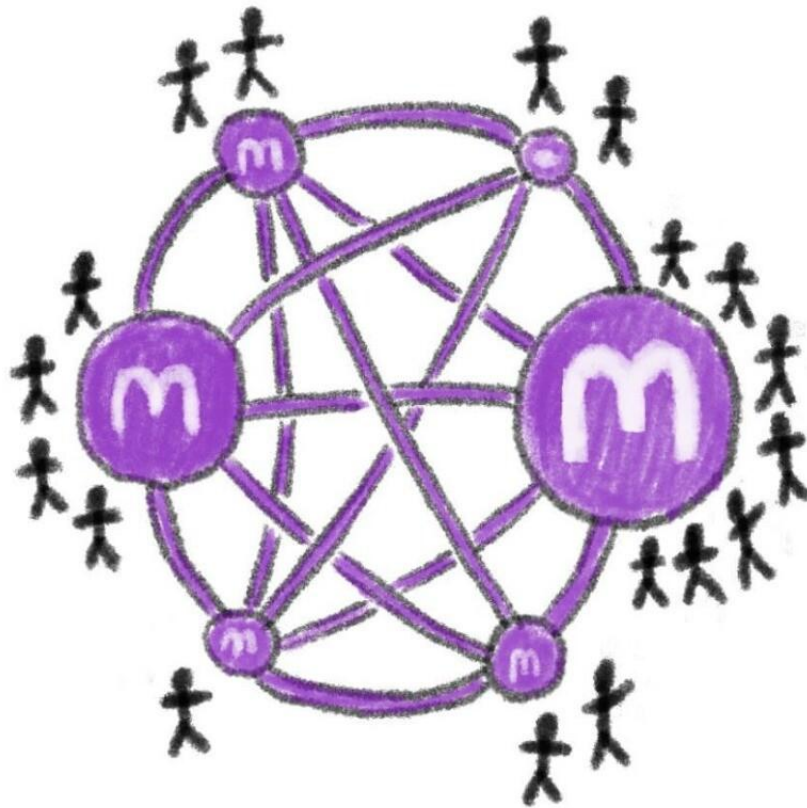
Here's a quick explanation that'll make sense to your great-aunt.

This is Twitter. Lots of people use to talk to one another! It's a centralised website, and the people who run it spend a lot of money to keep it running. Twitter uses advertising to pay the bills.



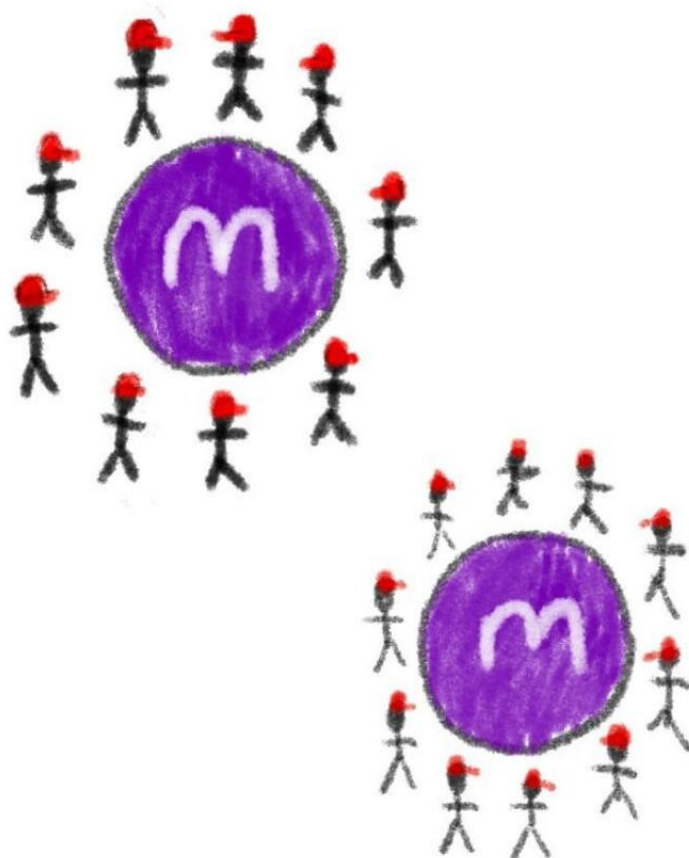
Lately a few things have gone wrong at Twitter — mass firings, ritual human sacrifice, etc., and some people have moved to different social network that's mostly run by geeky volunteers.

This is Mastodon. Though it's similar to Twitter, it's not one big website. It's made up of lots of smaller websites. connected through a bunch of magic internet pipes.



These magic internet pipes allow Mastodon websites to know what people are saying on all the other Mastodon websites.

There are also a few Mastodon websites that have chosen to cut themselves off from the Mastodon network.



We do not speak of them.

Anyhow,

As you probably know, if you want to sign in to Twitter you just type in its website address



For Mastodon, though, there isn't a single website. There are many different websites, and you have to choose a specific one to join

These are all Mastodon websites.
There are thousands of different
ones



mas.to

General-purpose



kpop.social

For K-pop fans



bologna.one

For people who
live in Bologna

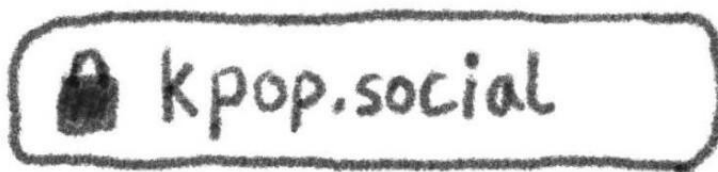


tech.Lgbt

For LGBT
people
in tech

Once you've joined Mastodon, you can follow people from different Mastodon websites.

Mastodon gives you access to millions of peoples' thoughts, just like Twitter.



Piero

@piero@bologna.one

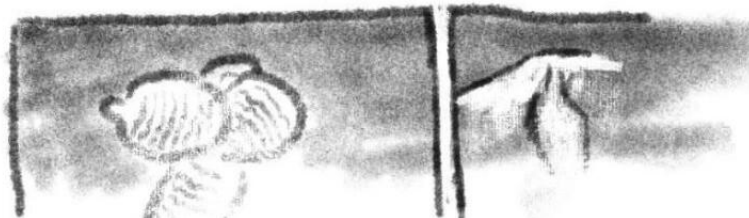
Mia nonna cucinava per
8 miliardi già 20 anni fa.



Soryane

@Soryane@masto.art

It's crochet time!!!

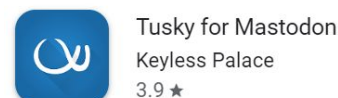
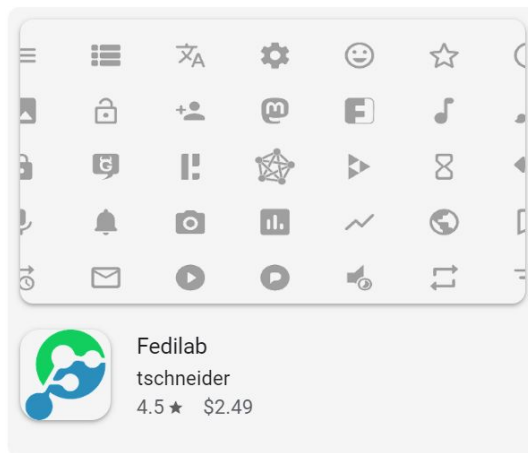


Ready to get started? Hop on over to <https://joinmastodon.org/> and choose an instance/server to signup and get started today.

Official Mastodon Apps:



3rd Party Android Apps



3rd Party iOS Apps



Metatext 17+

Open source Mastodon app

[Metabolist](#)

Designed for iPad

#86 in Social Networking

★★★★★ 4.5 • 150 Ratings

Free



Toot! 17+

Social networking that is nice

[Dag Agren](#)

#1 in Social Networking

★★★★★ 4.3 • 33 Ratings

£3.49 · Offers In-App Purchases



Mercury for Mastodon 17+

[Daniel Nitsikopoulos](#)

★★★★★ 3.7 • 39 Ratings

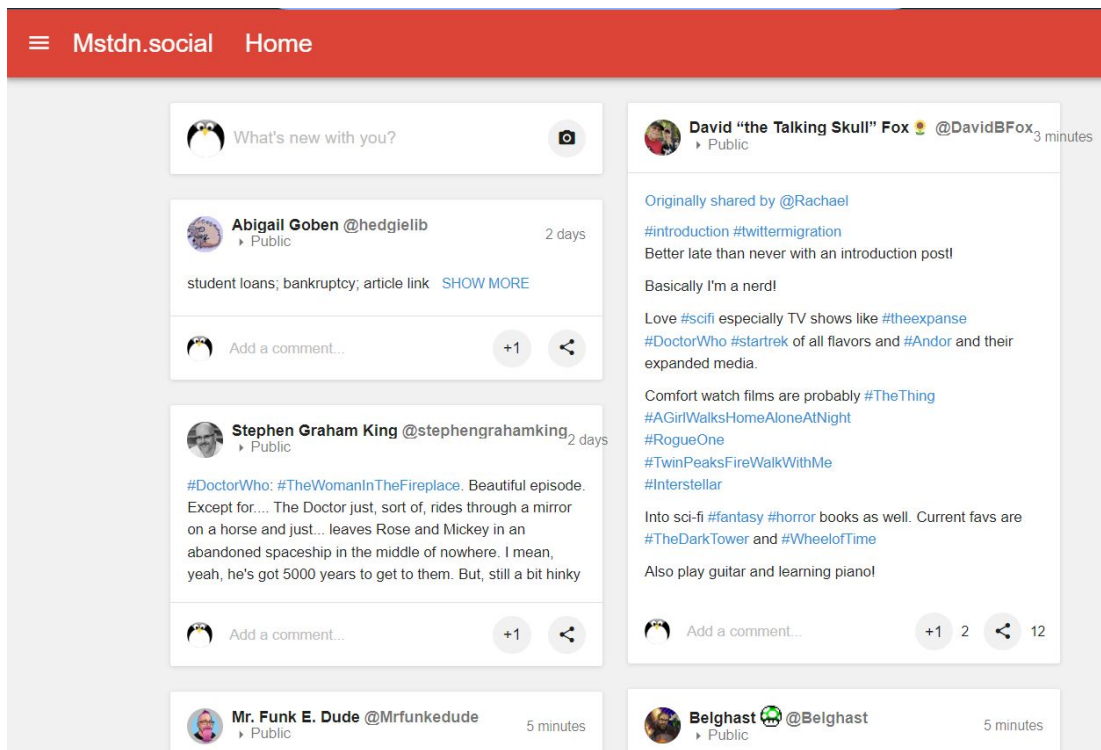
Free · Offers In-App Purchases

Alternate Web Clients

<https://pinafore.social/>



<https://cuckoo.social/>



Credits & Acknowledgements

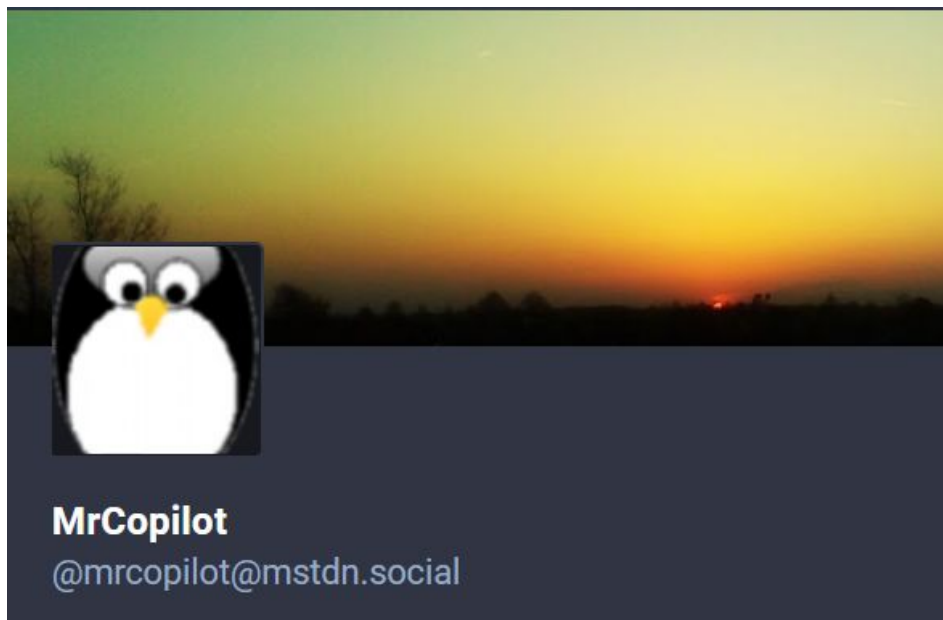
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