



**DoggyMates**  
gives dog owners  
the opportunity  
to help each other out.

An online friendship service, where you and your dog can meet new friends.  
This site is just for dogs and people who love dogs.  
eg. Doggy day care, dog minding and dog social events.

[www.DoggyMates.com.au](http://www.DoggyMates.com.au)

# Internet Interpet

By Phil Tripp

For many people, the Internet is a vital research tool, entertainment medium or just plain funny. For others, it's totally useless, unless you're a Victorian software developer named Useless Creations which dubs itself 'almost a complete waste of time'. For them, the Net is a new moneyspinner with the introduction of a 3D Desktop Dogs Screen Saver and a 3D Desktop Aquarium Screen Saver—both available for Mac or PC.

You can download a trial version for free or pay a mere \$10 for a full feature version. The software turns your screen into a 3D playground for puppies which scratch, sleep, sniff and bound around your screen leaving footprints on your desktop background. They will also pee on your screen which dries electronically and fades. But there's no smell and nothing to clean up—it's all done when you resume work or wake up your monitor.

The Aquarium starts with your monitor filling with water and real 3D fish start to swim around on the screen you were just working on. Just like the dogs, they go up and down, in and out, back and forth and are quite realistic, not two dimensional. The free version of both of these is quite fun, but the paid version allows you to download various breeds of dog with five different models and 25 colours and fur patterns or fish in 20 different species and various sizes. In the case of the aquarium, you can choose saltwater or freshwater and it even has a background hum and bubbling sound if you wish.

Find them both with a range of other screensavers at [www.uselesscreations.com](http://www.uselesscreations.com)

Looking for useless or must-have pet gadgets? Is your dog a nerd? Then head over to [www.petgadgets.com](http://www.petgadgets.com) for the latest in bizarre and high tech pet products.

For example, why wash the whole dog, especially with water restrictions, when it's only the paws that are muddy? The PAWPLUNGER, which looks like a giant plastic coffee cup, gently cleans paws BEFORE your pup cleans them on your best rug or new slipcovers or freshly mopped floor. Just fill the PAWPLUNGER with warm water and plunge each soiled paw once or twice. This was selected "BEST IN SHOW" for Dogs at the Global Pet Expo.

[www.pawplunger.com](http://www.pawplunger.com)

If your dog gets lonely at home while you're away, why not get the Chatterbowl, yup, a talking dog bowl. Push a button on the bowl, speak up to ten seconds and your dog or cat will get your message every time it eats or takes a drink if you have two. And it has not one, but TWO videos on the site to sell you.

[www.chatterbowl.com](http://www.chatterbowl.com)



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[www.PetDirectory.com.au](http://www.PetDirectory.com.au)

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TROY HARASTOC Pet Friendly Accommodation

Enjoy the ride

For those dogs who need to see what sort of tails are coming up the street, the PetPeek is the window for your fence. The PetPeek™ is a durable, clear, hard plastic dome 9.5 inches in diameter, with a black non-corrosive trim-ring and all necessary hardware for easy do-it-yourself installation. That is if you can make a round hole in your fence! Designed to be mounted into a wooden fence, allowing dogs confined within the fenced area to have a peek out. It's an odd looking bubble but tons of fun for pups in the back yard wanting to see the passing crowds.

[www.petpeek.info](http://www.petpeek.info)

And for the cat who's housebound, a slide in unit for sash windows, the PetSafe® Cat Veranda™ is the first window-mounted cat flap that includes an open-air patio with covered roof and indoor lounging platform. Now your cat can enjoy the outdoors as they please, or you can choose to close the flap for restricted use. Each Cat Veranda has a durable white frame, clear acrylic cat flap to retard mold and mildew, weather resistant outdoor carpet and a sturdy indoor lounging platform for maximum visibility. The PetSafe Cat Veranda gives your cat the sights, sounds, and smells of the outdoors while keeping them safe.

[www.petdoors.com/petsafe\\_cat\\_veranda.htm](http://www.petdoors.com/petsafe_cat_veranda.htm)

If you have trouble keeping your cat off your keyboard, the simple Kitty Keyboard Kover solves the problem with a Perspex cover that can support up to a 7 kilo cat. It also helps keep kitty hair and dust out of the keys, to a degree.

[www.kittykeyboardkover.com](http://www.kittykeyboardkover.com)

Picking up poop is a task that has created an entire industry of services that come to your house to clean your yard or driveway. It's also spawned a range of pooperscooper products for the household.

The first freeze-spray aerosol made for animal waste pick-up is called Pop Freeze. Spray and wait ten seconds as the refrigerant does its thing. A white crusty film solidifies the waste. Completely non-flammable. No CFC's to destroy the ozone and is environmentally friendly. Can be used indoors or outdoors. Does not harm vegetation. Ideal for diarrhea or loose stool as the makers claim and can be used on carpets or lawns without harm.

[www.poop-freeze.com](http://www.poop-freeze.com)



Leave it to the Canadians to combine their national sport with poop.

For dog poop, fruit or debris as they call it, the Turd Burglar is a device that fastens onto a hockey stick (but will also fit some golf clubs) that allows you to scrape and flick in one motion. As it says in the ad "Kids will get off the sofa, stay out of the street, exercise, invent and have fun!"

[www.tburglar.com](http://www.tburglar.com)

And while we're on the subject, the KaKaKing is the lighted pooper scooper, ideal for travelling or camping as well as at home at night. It's functional, fashionable, effective and yes, there's a video and an online photo gallery.

[www.kakaking.com/s3.htm](http://www.kakaking.com/s3.htm)

There are plenty of cat products too for mess removal. The Litter Robot is a pod that is self cleaning, enclosed, comes with a disposal tray and means you may never have to touch cat litter again. It constantly lifts and sifts using any self clumping litter and prevents mold and smells.

[www.litterrobot.com](http://www.litterrobot.com)

Would you rather have a cat that requires no care, other than changing the batteries every once in a while? Then you need the Fur Real artificial breathing cat that like real cats, sleeps at least 18 hours a day. 24 in this case. There are no vet bills, no hair balls, no fur all over the furniture, no feeding, no dead birds and lizards in the lounge room, no tripping over as they wrap around your legs, no kitty litter, no fleas and no claws sinking into your ankles as they stalk you from behind the couch.

[www.LatestBuy.com.au/fur\\_real\\_pet\\_cats.html](http://www.LatestBuy.com.au/fur_real_pet_cats.html)



If you can't afford the whole kitty, then how about just the hand. From Japan, the Neko-Nyanbou (Cat's Hand) – is an 11cm long cat's hand, made out of fake fur and can bend downward just like a real cat's hand would when you press the trigger. The plastic claws will fully extend when you pull the trigger all the way in. Good for giving yourself a scratch or freaking people out by using it to touch them on the shoulders from behind!

[www.hlj.com/product/BAN929492](http://www.hlj.com/product/BAN929492)