

The Onion Router (Tor)



History

- Tor was developed by the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory in the 1990s to protect U.S. intelligence communications online.
- In 2004, it was released under a free license, and in 2006, the Tor Project, Inc. became a non-profit.

Tor Project Mission

“To advance human rights and freedoms by creating and deploying free and open source anonymity and privacy technologies, supporting their unrestricted availability and use, and furthering their scientific and popular understanding.”

Who Uses Tor?

- **Everyday People:** Seeking online anonymity and privacy.
- **Academia:** Tor and dark web-related research.
- **Cyber Security Professionals:** Cyber defense-related research.
- **Journalists:** To communicate more securely with their sources.
- **Law Enforcement:** To surveil illegal dark web activity.
- **Criminals:** The dark web is commonly used for illicit purposes.

How Tor Works



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