



Your guide to free entertainment online...

Washington - If you have a computer and an Internet connection, you've also got a world of free multimedia entertainment at your fingertips. Finding it all, though, is often not as easy as it could be. Most folks aren't even aware that they can download music legally, watch movies, and listen to the radio online.

Q: I used to use Napster to download music. I understand it's not legal, so how can I download music legally?

A: You can download a variety of free music from mp3.com, including some music from big-name commercial artists. For the most part, however, you do need to pay for the commercial music that you download.

The good news is that thanks to the Internet, you can preview samples of the music you wish to download and then buy only the music you want.

'Is there any place that I can watch movies for free online?'

Even better, services such as Rhapsody give your listening and purchasing experience a new dimension. Rhapsody is a virtual megastore of music, and it comes to you in the form of a free downloadable interface that makes finding and selecting both independent and major-label music makers a breeze.

During the Olympics, Rhapsody is running a special whereby you can gain free access to the entire catalogue of music without giving out your credit card information. It's worth a look.

Q: Is there any place that I can watch movies for free online?

A: Yes. There are plenty of movies available over the Internet that you may watch at no cost. Commercial, box-office films, however, are not generally among those. That said, the independent movie industry has experienced a renaissance of sorts thanks to the Internet.

Turn to a site such as AtomFilms to watch movies you may otherwise never have known existed. Most of these films are short and offbeat in nature. Angry Kid 2, for example, is an animated film featuring claymation characters. A family sits around a table spinning a hammer. When the hammer stops spinning, the person closest to the handle does something with the hammer - exactly what is part of the mystery.

'Where can I download free games online?'

If you'd like to see previews of the latest films, stop in at a site such as Hollywood.com, which naturally is tailored to the Hollywood movie industry. For a wider selection, try Comingsoon.com, where you can see a fairly complete list of upcoming movies and watch trailers for free.

Q: Where can I download free games online?

A: The Internet is abuzz with online gaming, but you can download games to your PC and play them at your leisure, as well. Lots of sites claim to offer free games,

but you can spin your wheels looking for games that are worth downloading.

That's why a site such as [Download Free Games](#) can come in handy. The site calls the best games from popular categories such as arcade in action and offers them to you for free.

Q: What's the best way to find radio stations on the Internet?

A: There are a number of online radio "portals," places you can go to see what online radio stations are available and to gain access to them. One of the nicest new entrants is [I Choose Radio](#), a slick site that, after a brief registration, asks you to choose the type of music or entertainment you prefer, and then gives you a choice of stations from which to choose.

Another portal, [Live365.com](#), bills itself as the world's largest Internet radio portal. While there's no telling whether this is true, it's certainly as large as I Choose Radio. Live365 most not only radio stations but a "community," and online gathering place where you can chat with others, shop, and browse through extensive music libraries.

Most free radio stations and portals that lead to the stations remain free by presenting some sort of advertisements. With radio stations, the ads usually fall in the beginning of your listening time. - Sapa-dpa

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