

# Bulk Account Creation

Messaging Anti-Abuse Working Group (MAAWG) Meeting  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, October 27th, 2009

Joe St Sauver, Ph.D. (joe@uoregon.edu, joe@internet2.edu)  
MAAWG Senior Technical Advisor

<http://www.uoregon.edu/~joe/bulk-account-creation/>

**Disclaimer:** all opinions expressed in this presentation are solely those of the author and are not necessarily those of any other entity or organization.

# Why Is This Topic Part of Today's APWG Session At MAAWG?

- *Backstory in one sentence:* A few months ago, during an APWG IPC conference call, I was (briefly) foolish enough to ask if the bulk creation of free accounts was posing any problems for people.
- From such a simple, innocent, unsuspecting inquiry, this talk was born (although neither APWG nor MAAWG nor any other organization bears responsibility for my remarks today)

# Free Accounts

- Free accounts are offered by many leading web email providers, including AOL, Gmail, Hotmail, and Yahoo, as well as by other online services such as Craigslist.
- Generally, accounts are meant to allow an individual to obtain access to certain services, including messaging, which require authentication for access control, resource allocation (e.g., disk space), and user privacy.
- Accounts also allow “state” (preference and configuration data, etc.) to be persistently saved from session to session, regardless of whether the user is using the same computer they used the last time they were on.
- Sites also leverage user accounts for statistical tracking.
- Accounts, even free accounts, are important to both providers and to users.

# One (or Perhaps a Few) Account(s) Per Person

- Most services implicitly expect users to have only a single account, or perhaps just a couple of accounts (such as a personal account and a business account).
- Many providers do not explicitly limit the number of accounts a user may have, however most services do require accurate contact information.
- For example, Google's Terms of Service (TOS) state, "In order to access certain Services, you may be required to provide information about yourself (such as identification or contact details) as part of the registration process for the Service, or as part of your continued use of the Services. You agree that any registration information you give to Google will always be accurate, correct and up to date." [emphasis added]

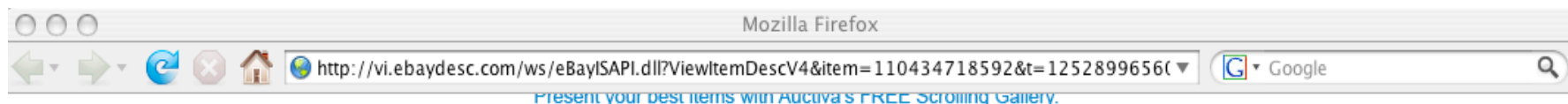
# Selling or Otherwise Transferring Accounts

- Selling (or otherwise transferring accounts) is generally forbidden. Again looking at Google's terms of service, we see:  
"Unless you have been specifically permitted to do so in a separate agreement with Google, you agree that you will not reproduce, duplicate, copy, sell, trade or resell the Services for any purpose." [emphasis added]
- Similarly, Hotmail's terms of service say:  
"In using the service, you may not: [...] resell or redistribute the service, or any part of the service."
- eBay says: "While using eBay sites, services and tools, you will not: [...] transfer your eBay account (including Feedback) and user ID to another party without our consent"

# It's Therefore "Surprising" To Learn That People *Are* Buying and Selling Accounts

- Well, actually, it's not too big of a surprise if you think about it a little, but you know what I mean.
- What may be surprising is how forthright people are about trading in bulk accounts, how many accounts they are selling, how little they're charging for what they're selling, and how many people appear to be doing it...
- Let's look at a few examples

# You Really Can Buy "Anything" On eBay...



1000 unique email accounts!

If you want more or less, message me for the amount wanted. 10 cents each.

Each come with a unique password.

Forwarding takes extra time from 1-4 days! Non forwarding will be under 24 hours!

Will send as a text file when bought.

I HIGHLY RECOMMEND NOT TO BUY FORWARDED GMAIL ACCOUNTS. GOOGLE SEEMS TO DISABLE THESE AFTER A COUPLE WEEKS. IF REQUESTED TO DO FORWARDED YOU ARE FULLY AWARE THAT THESE FORWARDED ACCOUNT HAVE A HIGH CHANCE TO BE DISABLE.

Otherwise, plain regular gmails are fully guaranteed and will be replaced if they are disabled . (which they won't be :-) )

Examples of the gmail email addresses that you will receive:

juanchen14@gmail.com  
edwardoosborn@gmail.com  
giovannimelendez1@gmail.com  
roxannarichards5@gmail.com  
elvishansen6@gmail.com

Each comes with a unique password in this format in txt file.  
juanchen14@gmail.com:password

[<http://pages.ebay.com/help/policies/maillists.html> explicitly prohibits the sale of "email addresses" on eBay...]

# Other Sellers May Use Dedicated Websites



http://www.gmailbank.com/ Google

## ★ GMAIL ACCOUNTS:

**Gmail Bank** is your #1 source for bulk Gmail accounts.

Gone are the days of manually creating or buying 3rd party software to create accounts from Google.

Now you can order any amount of Gmail accounts and have them delivered to your inbox in 48 hours.

[View Packages Now >](#)

## ★ PARTNERS SITES:

- ▶ Backpage Bot Pro
- ▶ Bot Wiz
- ▶ Captcha King
- ▶ Craigslist Bot Pro
- ▶ Kijiji Bot Pro
- ▶ Jiffy Gmail Creator
- ▶ PVA Genie

## ★ BENEFITS OF GMAIL BANK:



### EMAIL FORWARD INCLUDED:

Let us know the email you want your Gmail accounts to forward o and we will take care of the rest.



### EASY ACCOUNT IMPORT AND EXPORT:

We provide our customers account data via Excel. Simply copy and paste into any 3rd party software.



### GMAIL ACCOUNTS IN 48 HOURS:

We delivery your accounts to your inbox in 48 hours. So you can quickly be up and marketing online.



# Some Bulk Account Sellers May Be International



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying <http://www.creatings.cn/>. The website has a beige background with red borders. On the left, under the heading "some of our products", there are three product listings: "Gmail accounts" with a Gmail logo, "Gmail" with a price of \$0.05 for 100-999 accounts, and "CL Account" with a price of \$0.12 for 50-999 accounts. On the right, under the heading "welcome to creatings.cn !", there is a paragraph about the company's services, a section titled "Calling All Clients" with a photo of a woman on a phone, and a closing statement.

**some of our products**

**Gmail accounts**

All of the mail accounts we sell are created by hand and we change IP for each account, so they are more safely to use.

**Gmail**

NON-forwarded 100-999 Gmail \$0.05

**Buy Now**

**Craigslist accounts**

Each Craigslist Account is made on a unique Gmail base. The Gmail accounts are made with actual names, so they don't look suspicious.

**CL Account**

50-999 CL accounts \$0.12

**welcome to creatings.cn !**

Are you looking for user accounts creation services ? then look no further ,we are a professional user accounts manufacturer which specializes in creating Gmail&CL account.also we can create forum user account/classified websites account/social site account.

Currently, we have sold a large number of accounts and many of our clients have repeatedly purchased account from us.Our service is cheap, fast and of high quality.We look forward to your orders !

**Calling All Clients**

no matter how big or small your project, we want to help.

we don't just create for creatings sake! We want to deliver results and use our skills to meet your

# Some Bulk Gmail Account Providers Use Gmail Themselves



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying <http://www.accountheadquarters.com/gmail-account-creation.html>. The page content includes a promotional message about brand new bulk Gmail accounts, delivery time, and account uniqueness. A green 'ORDER BELOW!' banner is followed by a product selection dropdown showing 'New Gmail Accounts! (1,000) \$45.00' and an 'Add to Cart' button. The footer contains contact information for 'accountsuperstore@gmail.com'.

<http://www.accountheadquarters.com/gmail-account-creation.html> Google

**I'm offering Brand New Bulk Gmail Accounts for the lowest prices in the marketplace!** All accounts are made Brand New and in working order....I only sell accounts to One customer and they are never resold!(Beware of cheaper Gmail Sellers) These are created with the highest degree of quality and privacy (making your marketing efforts harder to follow!)

**Delivery will be between 3-6 days.**

**All passwords+Gmail addresses are unique in their style and creation(using a Name format ie Robertjones886@gmail.com)....I cannot do Gmails with custom passwords or addresses...Sorry...**

**ORDER BELOW!**

Bulk Gmail Accounts!

New Gmail Accounts! (1,000) \$45.00

[Add to Cart](#)

---

For Any Questions or Concerns Please Contact me at [accountsuperstore@gmail.com](mailto:accountsuperstore@gmail.com)...

# Another Example Of A Gmail-Based Gmail Account Provider

Bulk Gmail Accounts - Cheapest Price, 24/7 Support, Fast Delivery

<http://forums.digitalpoint.com/showthread.php?t=1424747>

**[2] How Much Can you Provide Per Day?**

100 K + Account!!

**[3] I Have Some Accounts Which don't Work, Will You Replace?**

Yes , We Replace any Accounts Which don't work immediately

We deliver in 10 minutes

**[4] Can I Have A Refund ?**

**Yes, We offer a refund If you had 100+ accounts which don't work and this never happens before with us**

**[5] I Have more questions, Where to ask ?**

Contact our 24/7 Support With

P.M me here.

Skype: Mohamed elzarie

Yahoo messenger: karate\_man24

AIM: elzarie

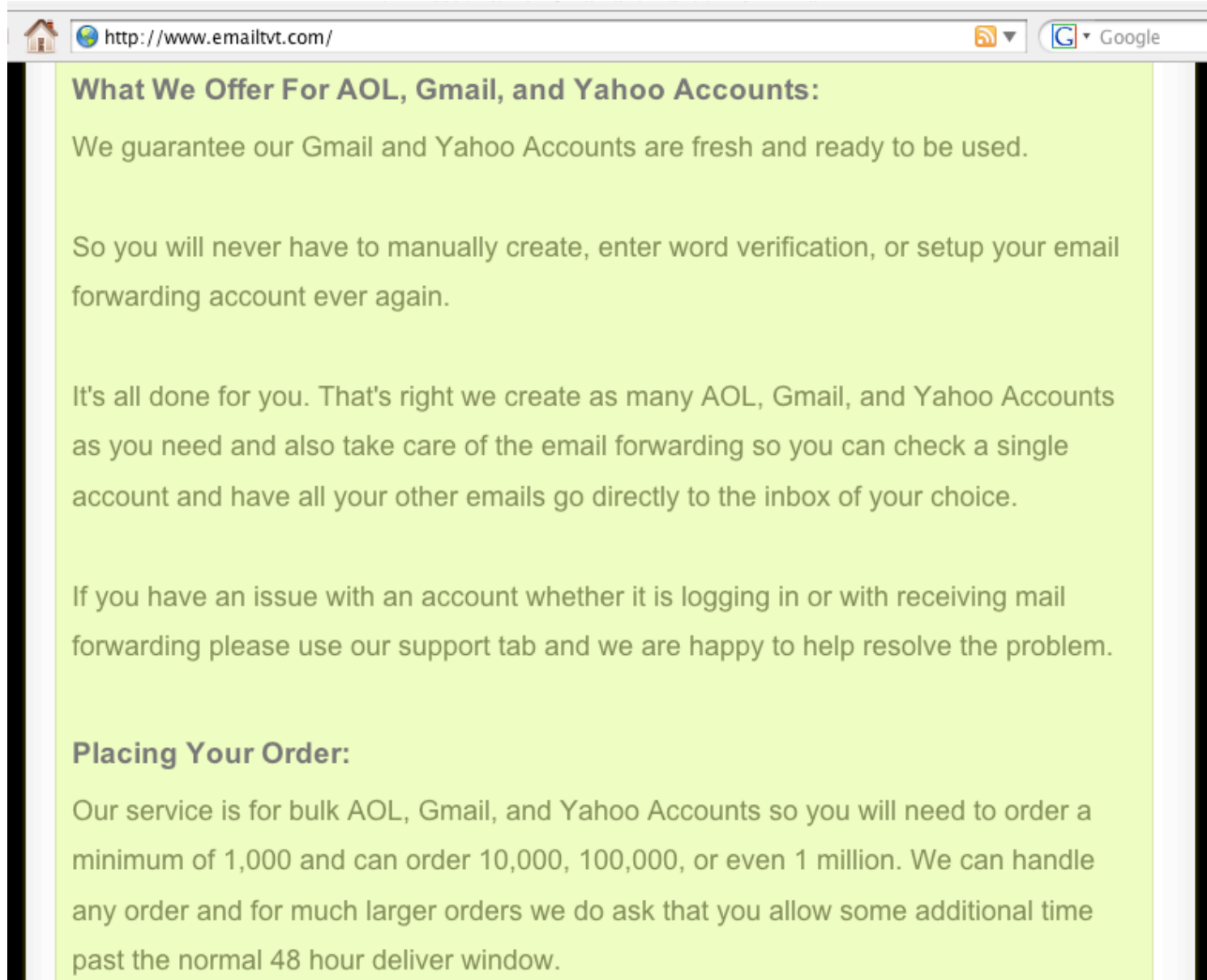
**[6] I Want To Order , What to do ?**

We Currently Accept PayPal For payment

PayPal Email: [mygoldseries@gmail.com](mailto:mygoldseries@gmail.com)

After Payment P.M Me with the following

# AOL and Yahoo Accounts? Also No Problem

A screenshot of a web browser displaying the website http://www.emailvt.com/. The browser's address bar shows the URL, and the Google search bar is visible on the right. The website content is on a light green background. It features a heading "What We Offer For AOL, Gmail, and Yahoo Accounts:", followed by three paragraphs of text. The first paragraph states that Gmail and Yahoo accounts are fresh and ready to use. The second paragraph assures users they won't need to manually create accounts or set up forwarding. The third paragraph mentions that the service creates as many accounts as needed and handles email forwarding. A fourth paragraph offers support for login or mail forwarding issues. Below this is another heading "Placing Your Order:", followed by a paragraph explaining that the service is for bulk orders (minimum 1,000, up to 1 million) and that larger orders may require more time than the standard 48-hour delivery window.

**What We Offer For AOL, Gmail, and Yahoo Accounts:**

We guarantee our Gmail and Yahoo Accounts are fresh and ready to be used.

So you will never have to manually create, enter word verification, or setup your email forwarding account ever again.

It's all done for you. That's right we create as many AOL, Gmail, and Yahoo Accounts as you need and also take care of the email forwarding so you can check a single account and have all your other emails go directly to the inbox of your choice.

If you have an issue with an account whether it is logging in or with receiving mail forwarding please use our support tab and we are happy to help resolve the problem.

**Placing Your Order:**

Our service is for bulk AOL, Gmail, and Yahoo Accounts so you will need to order a minimum of 1,000 and can order 10,000, 100,000, or even 1 million. We can handle any order and for much larger orders we do ask that you allow some additional time past the normal 48 hour deliver window.

# If You're More of A "Do-It-Yourselfer" And You Need Accounts, You Can Buy Tools...

- No need to wait on someone to make bulk accounts for you...



# Gmail Account Creator

Gmail Auto Account Creator



make this site your home page

Gmail Account Creator

Gmail Account Creator

FAQ

Buy Now

Contact Us

Articles

Partners

## FEATURES

- ▶ Setup Auto-Responder automatically!
- ▶ Setup Forwarding automatically!
- ▶ Use random or custom names!
- ▶ Enable POP3 automatically!
- ▶ Proxy support: HTTP/SOCKS4/SOCKS5
- ▶ Multiple exporting options!
- ▶ Automatic self-updating software!.

## Gmail Account Creator

**GMail** Creator Software  
 "...when one email account isn't enough..."

GMail Account Creator enables you to better utilize the world's best email service. For an unlimited amount of reasons, you might need to mass create GMail email accounts.

## "Why Gmail?"

Gmail is Google's free webmail service. It comes with built-in Google search technology and over 2,600 megabytes of storage (and growing every day). You can keep all your important messages, files and pictures forever, use search to quickly and easily find anything you're looking for, and make sense of it all with a new way of viewing messages as part of conversations.

There are no pop-ups or untargeted banner ads in Gmail, only small text ads. Ads and related information are relevant to your messages, so instead of being obtrusive, they may even be useful for once..

**\$147 NOW! \$97****Buy Now**

**That's a whopping \$50 savings but you must act now because this offer will not last! Gmail Account Creator Software comes with FREE lifetime updates!**

### System Requirements:

Windows 2000; Windows 98; Windows 98 Second Edition; Windows ME; Windows Server 2003; Windows XP; Windows VISTA

**W**e believe that with the features contained within the **EasyGmail™ Creator Suite**, you will now have a product that you can now rely on for your long-term usage:

- **Custom Usernames**
- **Custom Display Names**
- Unique Passwords
- Proxy Support (**Auto-Rotating**)

### A Few Bells & Whistles

- Integrated Help Desk & Support
- **Account Un-Locker** & Auto-Updating
- Notification when IP Change is needed
- Modify Settings: Enable Forwarding & POP
- **Multi-Threading** & Multiple Cookie Sessions
- Create Accounts & Modify them later on Auto-Pilot
- Manual Captcha Entry Option or **Automatic Captcha Entry** via *ImageToText.com*
- Created Accounts can be Exported to a simple text file format



### A Professional Marketing Tool Researched & Designed Specifically For You

**Creator** - Because of this tool's effective method of **multi-threading**, it is so fast that even utilizing the manual Captcha entry mode of the Creator, it is hard to keep up. With **multiple local cookie sessions** and complete control over your display name, usernames, and unique passwords; you can now be at ease knowing that your marketing campaigns will not be disrupted due to account deletion of "enemy" looking accounts.



- **Fully Automated** signup process (using image2type service)
- Create **Gmail, Yahoo, Hotmail, Craigslist, Backpage & KIJIFI** accounts
- **Create and Activate KIJIFI, Backpage and Craigslist** accounts
- Single click login to Gmail, Yahoo!, Hotmail, Craigslist or Backpage accounts
- **Choose domain (rocketmail, ymail, yahoo)** for Yahoo accounts
- **Choose domain (live.com, hotmail.com)** for **Windows Live Hotmail** accounts
- **Verify Craigslist** accounts
- **Change password** for existing Gmail accounts
- **Change password** for existing Craigslist and Backpage accounts
- Allow to **change email forwarding** for existing Windows Live Hotmail accounts



# Jiffy Gmail Creator

Create Your Gmail Accounts In A Jiffy!

[HOME](#)
[OVERVIEW](#)
[ADD ONS](#)
[CONTACT](#)
[FAQ](#)
[ORDER](#)

Do you want to automatically create Gmail Accounts in seconds flat without breaking a sweat? Introducing the new Jiffy Gmail Creator version 2.3 for unlimited email accounts!

## Gmail Accounts In A Jiffy

With Jiffy Gmail Email Creator Software you are able to better utilize the world's best email service. For an unlimited amount of reasons with your business, you might need to **mass create Gmail email accounts**. Our software handles all the tedious tasks of email creation and you can do it in a few simple clicks.

[Download Demo](#)


### Create Accounts



Now with one piece of software you can post ads online, along with create Gmail, Hotmail, and Craigslist accounts. All in a few simple clicks for easy marketing, only with CLAD Genius.

### Easy Ad Maker



Benefit with "mutations" by creating your ad once and having CLAD Genius create unique versions for infinite posting abilities, helping you stay clear of ghosting and flagging.

### Custom Marketing








Easily select the cities and countries you want to promote your product or service to. This gives you instant marketing abilities to target the consumers you are looking for.

### Simple



Simple and easy to use. Frequently used by many sites.

#### Main Menu

- Home 
- Purchase 
- Download 
- FAQ 
- Contact 
- Phone Verified Accounts

#### Make Money Posting



If you aren't using free classified



" A friend of mine mentioned online classified sites as a vehicles quicker and said that with CLAD Genius it would be both and it really should be this simple. Thanks guys for s

- A. Clark/ Baltimore, MD  
*Auto Dealer*







## Auto Posting The Smart and Easy Way



Whether you are posting on Craigslist.org, Backpage.com, Kijiji.com or all the smarter and faster way to get your classified postings online and fully autom tool is called CLAD Genius, short for Classified Advertising Genius, the only s

# Can't Find What You Need? Hire Someone to Custom Code It for <\$200 From Scratch

GetAFreelancer.com – Gmail/AOL/Yahoo/Hotmail account creator with Proxy | .NET | C/C++ | Data Entry | Java | JavaFX

 <http://www.getafreelancer.com/projects/C-C-Java/Gmail-AOL-Yahoo-Hotmail-account.html>   Google

**Status:** Frozen  
(Bid period finished)  
**Selected Providers:** -  
**Budget:** \$30-250  
**Created:** 08/04/2009 at 3:31 EDT

**Bid Count:** 13  
**Average Bid:**  
\$ 163

10/03/2009 at 3:31 EDT  
**Project Creator:** [TenStrikeTech](#) [VIEW PM](#) [POST PM](#)  
**Employer Rating:** (No Feedback Yet)

[BID ON THIS PROJECT](#)

**Description**

Hai I need software to Create Bulk Gmail accounts. I need the Gmail software to be fully automated except the Captcha entry. I need the software to create atleast 200 Gmail account per hour with Proxy and 256 Kbps internet connection. Also i need the same software to enable POP3 and forward mail option. Also in the software secondary email should be assigned. Everything should be automated.

I also need the same software to create AOL.com accounts, AOL.CO.UK accounts, Yahoo and Hotmail accounts.

I Need a IP changing function So that i can change my computer IP and assign a USA IP. I will import the Proxy IP address through a list so i need an option for proxy also.

You can see some good sample of same software in YCC BOT MAKER and ROHAN GMAKER. But some of this software is slow and also no secondary mail option. Also cant handle AOL and Hotmail. So I need a good software.

MY BUDGET IS LOW and need TRAIL BEFORE I BUY THE SOFTWARE

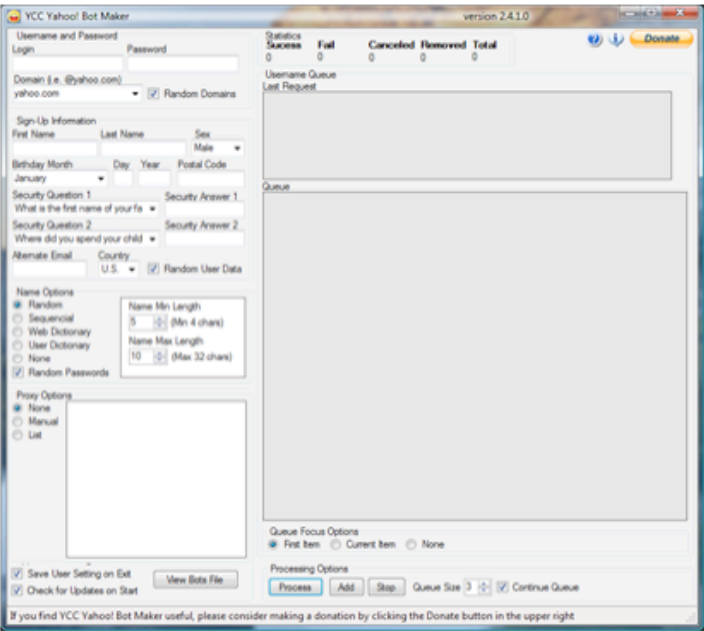
[Report Violation](#)

# There Are Even Open Source Options...

Yahoo! Coder's Cookbook YCC Yahoo! Bot Maker – A program designed to quickly and efficiently create Yahoo! accounts

http://www.ycoderscookbook.com/code/YCC\_Yahoo\_Bot\_Maker.html

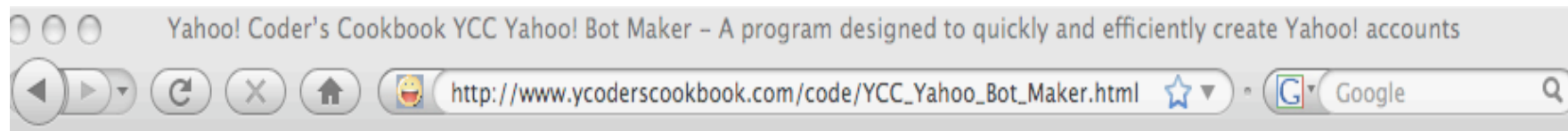
## YCC Yahoo! Bot Maker 2.4.1

Description:	YCC Yahoo! Bot Maker is a program designed to quickly and efficiently create Yahoo! accounts.
Language:	<a href="#">Visual Basic.NET 2008</a>
Screenshot:	
Virus Scan:	<a href="#">YCC Yahoo! Bot Maker Virus Total Report</a>

### Introduction

YCC Yahoo! Bot Maker is a program designed to quickly and efficiently create Yahoo! accounts. The accounts created by YCC Yahoo! Bot Maker can be used for any of the Yahoo! services such as Yahoo! Mail or Yahoo! Instant Messenger (YIM).

# There Are Even Open Source Options (cont.)



## License Agreement

The software, YCC Yahoo! Bot Maker, is distributed under the Creative Commons GNU General Public License which can be found at <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/GPL/2.0/> The major points follow:

1. No commercial distribution without permission.
2. You are allowed to modify the program and source, all I ask is you keep the original credit.
3. If you do modify the program it will fall under the same license agreement.

I have chosen this license to allow users to do pretty much what they want with the program. The big thing that I ask is please don't redistribute this software without acknowledgment to YCC and a link back to <http://ycoderscookbook.com>. I would love to hear what you think about the program and if you have made useful changes. A forum for YCC Bot Maker can be found at <http://www.ycoderscookbook.com/forums/viewforum.php?f=8>.

As with any piece of freeware, I have made every effort to make the software useable and friendly. With that said I take no responsibility for damage created by this program or the user's actions. You may be violating the Yahoo! Terms of Service by using this program. The user takes full responsibility for their actions.

# Why In The World Would Someone Want Tens of Thousands of Accounts?

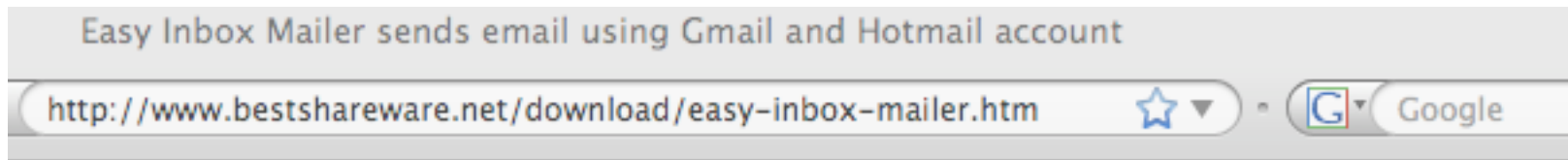
- **Actual email spam sending:** a few hundred messages per account X 10,000's or 100,000's of accounts can add up!
- **Spam filter testing:** are messages sent to "test" accounts getting through, or are those emails getting filtered?
- **Reputation (mis)-feedback:** if test emails do get filtered, spammer-controlled test accounts can potentially be used to mis-mark test emails as non-spam in an effort to "correct" that filtering "mistake"
- **Callback verification/sender address verification purposes:** spammers need many "real" accounts because completely bogus envelope sender addresses will fail callback verification tests, and if a single valid envelope sender is used too many times, it will be detected and blocked

# Why In The World Would Someone Want Tens of Thousands of Accounts? (cont.)

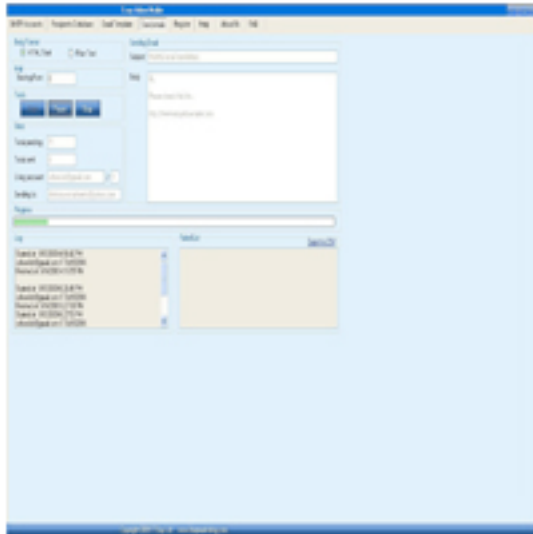
- Phishers, scammers and fraudsters need drop boxes to accept replies; using many different drop boxes insures that people can't filter on a common message body string (or thwart an entire campaign by killing a single drop box account).
- With an account on one provider, perhaps Google, one can use that account to obtain accounts on another provider (such as Craigslist).
- Etc., etc., etc.
- Let's look look at a few of those...



# Sample (Relatively Low Volume) Sending Tool



## Easy Inbox Mailer



of 1500 to 1800 emails/hour.

Easy Inbox Mailer is a quick inbox mailer which sends email using Gmail and Hotmail account from your desktop. Now you can send unlimited emails from your desktop without logging in to your gmail and hotmail account without using any SMTP server. You can add multiple email account on this software to send email. Say if you add 50 email accounts and select 200 email/account then you will be able to send 10,000 emails. The software rotates the email account automatically after sending a certain number of emails selected by you. If you select 100 then the software will send 100 email using each account and use the next account for sending to another 100 email. As this software use Gmail and Hotmail account for sending emails you can expect almost 100% inbox delivery rate. It can send at a speed



# Postfix on Callbacks ("suitable only for low traffic sites", "performs poorly under high load")



## WARNING

The sender/recipient address verification feature described in this document is suitable only for low-traffic sites. It performs poorly under high load; excessive sender address verification activity may even cause your site to be blacklisted by some providers. See the "[Limitations](#)" section below for details.

## What Postfix address verification can do for you

Address verification is a feature that allows the Postfix SMTP server to block a sender (MAIL FROM) or recipient (RCPT TO) address until the address has been verified to be deliverable.

The technique has obvious uses to reject junk mail with an unreplyable sender address.

The technique may also be useful to block mail for undeliverable recipients, for example on a mail [relay host](#) that does not have a list of all the

And yet, we know some sites do use callbacks, and thus the bad guys are motivated to work around problems which would be associated with completely bogus MAIL FROM addresses.

# Familiar Sorts of Scam Examples

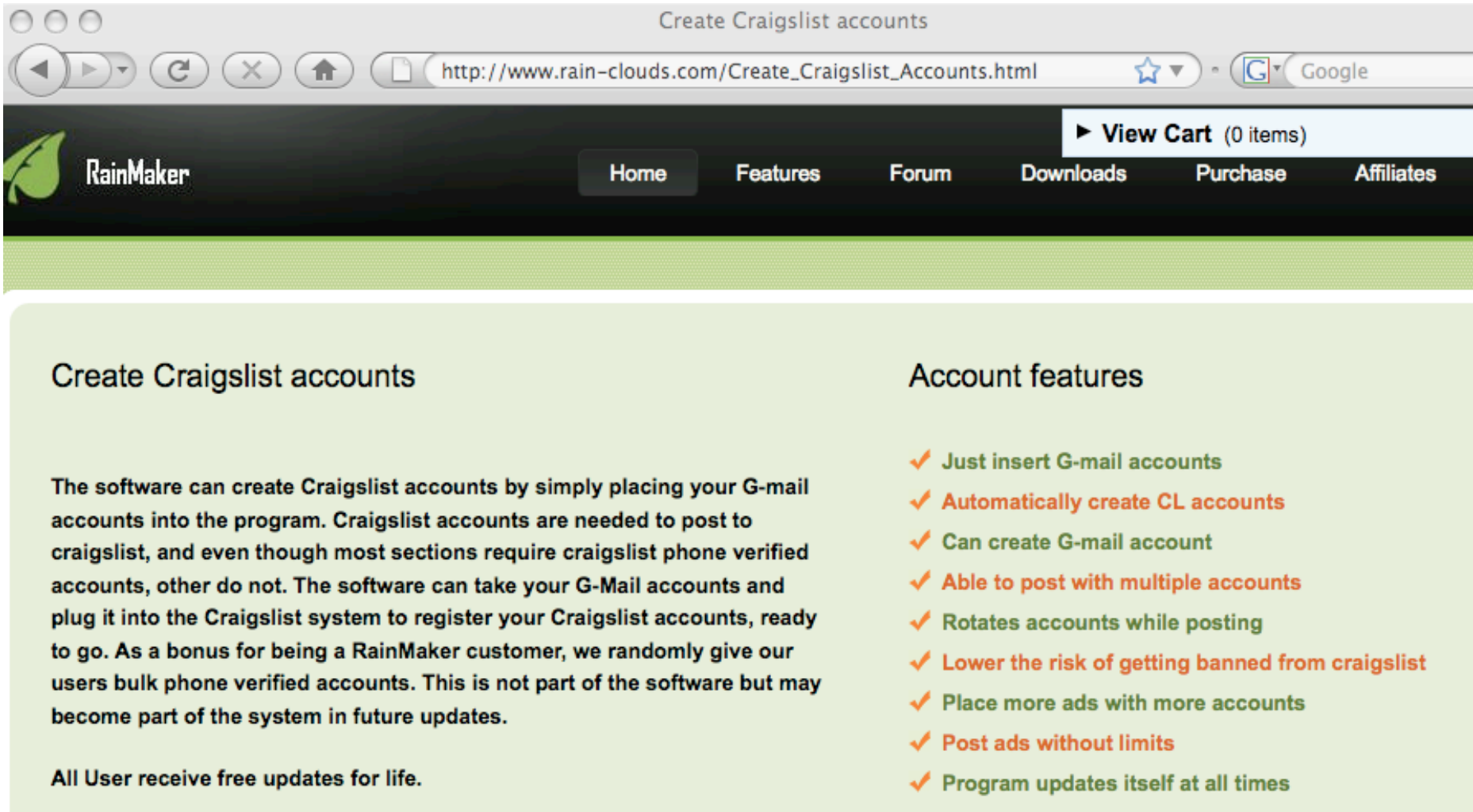
## Enabled by Bulk Created Accounts

- "I wish to notify you that late Engr. Jurgen Krugger made you a beneficiary to his WILL. He left the sum of Thirty Million,One Hundred Thousand Dollars (USD\$30,100.000.00) to you in the Codicil and last testament to his WILL. Note: You are advise to contact me with my personal email address: **deanharry\_chambers@live.com**" [continues]
- "This is to officially inform you that (ATM Card Number 048000101775550) has been accredited in your favour. Your Personal Identification Number is 437. The ATM Card Value is 2,000,000.00(Two Million, Great British Pounds Sterling).You are advised to contact Mr. Joe Brown via Email: **disbursementunit@hotmail.com**" [continues]

# Would Breaking Bulk Account Creation Make Those Sort of Scams Impossible? No...

- Scammers can still create new accounts manually on a onesie-twosie basis
- Obviously scammers could still use other contact mechanisms (such as "throw away" no contract anonymous cell phones or VoIP drop box numbers), but email is still the preferred contact members for these sort of scams.
- And anyhow, wouldn't you rather these guys use someone else's free accounts, and not your company's?

# Gmail Account Used To Bootstrap The Creation of Craigslist Accounts



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the title 'Create Craigslist accounts'. The address bar displays the URL 'http://www.rain-clouds.com/Create\_Craigslist\_Accounts.html'. The website has a dark green header with the 'RainMaker' logo on the left and a navigation menu with links: 'Home', 'Features', 'Forum', 'Downloads', 'Purchase', and 'Affiliates'. A 'View Cart (0 items)' button is located in the top right corner. The main content area is light green and divided into two columns. The left column is titled 'Create Craigslist accounts' and contains a paragraph about the software's functionality and a note about free updates. The right column is titled 'Account features' and lists ten features with checkmark icons.

## Create Craigslist accounts

The software can create Craigslist accounts by simply placing your G-mail accounts into the program. Craigslist accounts are needed to post to craigslist, and even though most sections require craigslist phone verified accounts, other do not. The software can take your G-Mail accounts and plug it into the Craigslist system to register your Craigslist accounts, ready to go. As a bonus for being a RainMaker customer, we randomly give our users bulk phone verified accounts. This is not part of the software but may become part of the system in future updates.

All User receive free updates for life.

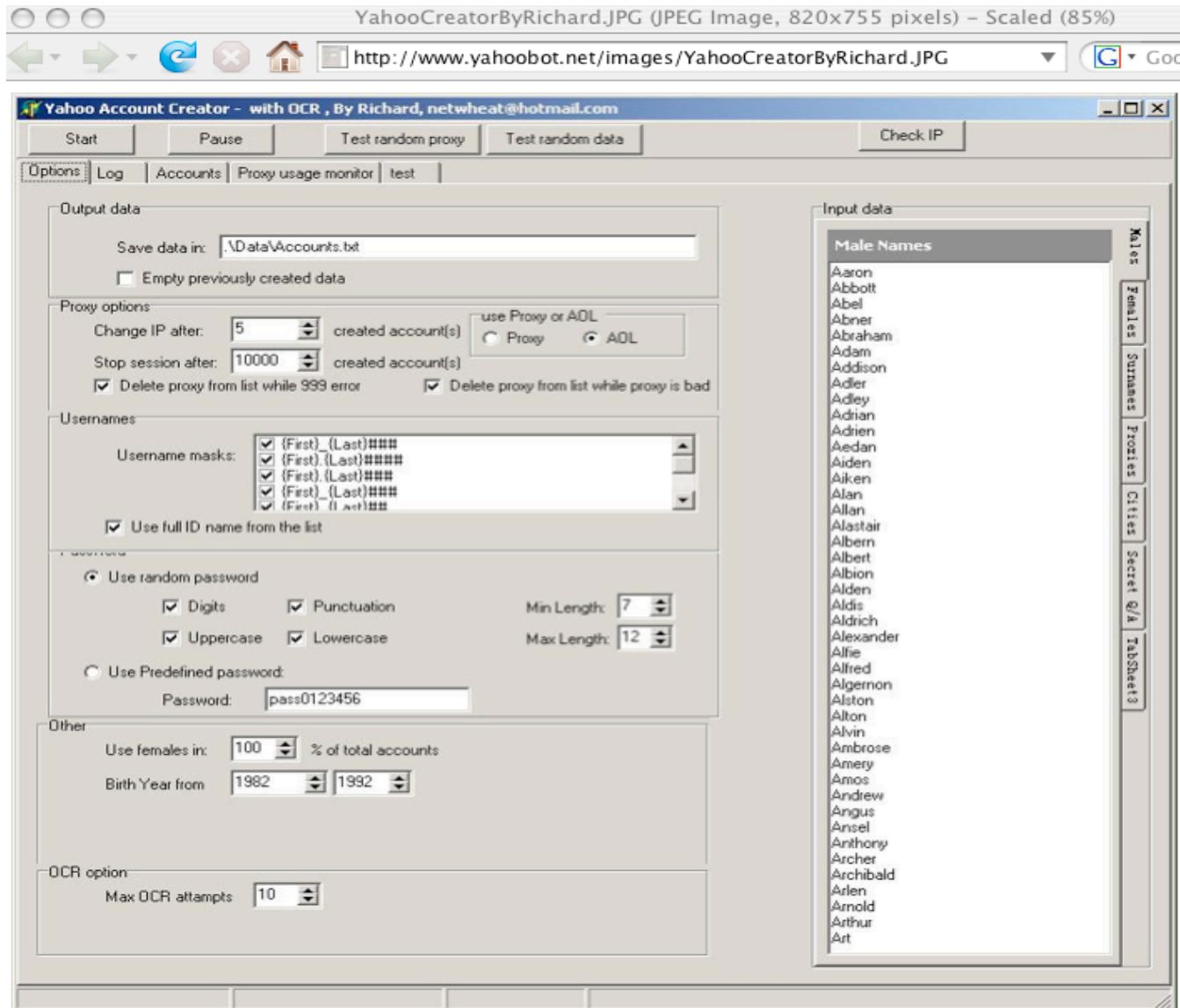
## Account features

- ✓ Just insert G-mail accounts
- ✓ Automatically create CL accounts
- ✓ Can create G-mail account
- ✓ Able to post with multiple accounts
- ✓ Rotates accounts while posting
- ✓ Lower the risk of getting banned from craigslist
- ✓ Place more ads with more accounts
- ✓ Post ads without limits
- ✓ Program updates itself at all times

# What Are the Primary Challenges The Bulk Account Creators Face?

- Providers enforce limits on the number of created accounts/IP, so account creation tools must be proxy enabled so as to be able to readily change IPs (or at least they need to constantly re-DHCP to get assigned new IPs)
- Captchas are commonly used in an effort to prevent automated account signup, but automated tools and/or manual captcha entry by workers from the third world can largely neutralize the protective effect of Captchas
- If bulk-created accounts exhibit any sort of detectable pattern, the accounts sharing that common characteristic risk being identified and deleted *en masse*
- Bulk created accounts (like spam) actually need a fair amount of other information (names, locations/zip codes, secret questions and answers, etc.)

# Example of How One Account Creation Program Deals With Some of Those Requirements



# What Are the Primary Challenges ISPs Face When Trying to Block This Sort of Abuse?

- Provider bulk account identification and takedown efforts may not scale as well as automated account creation processes (particularly when providers are loathe to incur any "false positives")
- There are LOTS of bots/open proxies out there these days
- The bad guys and bad gals are getting better at avoiding easily recognized patterns (such as the use of johnsmith1, johnsmith2, johnsmith3, etc., for account names)
- Captchas which are sufficiently difficult (e.g., able to resist automated captcha breakers) may be too hard for normal customers to successfully decode (and ISPs need to be ADA-compliant, so even if a captcha breaker can't "read" a visual captcha, could it "hear" an audio one?)

# Example of a Yahoo and AOL Captcha Decoder

Yahoo Bot - Yahoo OCR | Yahoo Captcha Decoder | AOL OCR | AOL Captcha Decoder | Yahoo Accounts Creator | /

http://www.yahobot.net/ Google

[Add to Bookmark](#)

## YAHOO! BOT

**Services and Products:**

1. **Yahoo Captcha Decoder** 3000usd per server license
2. **AOL Captcha Decoder** 3000usd per server license
3. **Yahoo Accounts** , \$15/1k to \$20/1k, depend on the amount you need. (can provide 5k to 10k dialy)
4. **Yahoo Accounts Creator with OCR**, \$2000 per license. (only limited licenses will be delievered) [Screenshot](#)
5. **Yahoo Messages Sender**, price \$500 per license. (multy - threads )
6. **AOL Accounts Creator with OCR**, \$2000 per license. [Screenshot](#)
7. **AOL Accounts** , \$15/1k to \$20/1k, depend on the amount you need. (can provide 5k to 10k dialy)
8. **OCR for other websites**, please contact us. [Click here to view the captcha styles already solved by us.](#)

msn: [netwheat\\_at\\_hotmail.com](mailto:netwheat_at_hotmail.com) I'm offline iamwheat Not Online right now yahoo : wheatinthesky

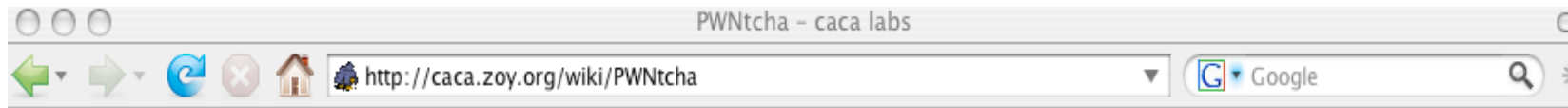
Copyright 2008 on the SkyStudio inc. All Rights Reserved.

[OCR](#) | [YAHOO OCR](#) | [AOL OCR](#) | [YAHOO BOT](#) | [AOL BOT](#) | [YAHOO ACCOUNT CREATOR](#) | [AOL ACCOUNT CREATOR](#)  
[CAPTCHA SOLVER](#) | [CAPTCHA BYPASS](#)

PayPal



# An Open Source Captcha Decoder



PWNtcha is able to detect and decode the following captchas:

Origin	Samples	PWNtcha efficiency	Comments
Authimage		100%	Vendor site: <a href="http://www.gudlyf.com/index.php?p=376">http://www.gudlyf.com/index.php?p=376</a> Weaknesses: constant font, aligned glyphs, constant glyph position, constant rotation, no deformation, non-textured background, constant colours, no perturbation.
Clubic		100%	Weaknesses: constant font, no rotation, no deformation, aligned glyph, constant background, weak colour variation, weak perturbation.
linuxfr.org		100%	Weaknesses: constant font, aligned glyphs, no rotation, no deformation, non-textured background, weak colour variation, weak perturbation.
LiveJournal?		99%	Weaknesses: constant font, constant character position.
lmt.lv		98%	Weaknesses: constant font, almost aligned glyphs, no rotation, no deformation, constant background, no colour variation, weak perturbation.
Ourcolony		100%	Weaknesses: constant font, no rotation, no deformation, no colour variation, no perturbation.
Paypal		88%	Weaknesses: constant font, almost aligned glyphs, no rotation, no deformation, constant background, no colour variation, no additional perturbation.
			Vendor site: <a href="http://www.phobb.com/">http://www.phobb.com/</a>

# Note The Going Rate: Half a Cent/Captcha

Home Pricing Order Login F.A.Q Contacts

for .NET for C++ for Java for PHP for iMacros

# CAPTCHA

Captcha-Bypass. CAPTCHA ends here.

Get tired of CAPTCHAs or cannot enter them? We have a ready solution for you.

Captcha-Bypass benefits

Here are our key features. You can find full feature list [here](#).

- ✓ We offer the **least price** comparing to our competitors: from \$0.005 per CAPTCHA
- ✓ **iMacros** support
- ✓ **Success rate** is about 95-100%
- ✓ We **solve** all **CAPTCHAs**. From any site. Yes, 24/7.
- ✓ Integration with many programming languages: **.NET, PHP, C++, Java**
- ✓ Great response time: about 5-15 seconds

**Order now** [Order CAPTCHAs Now](#)

# They Can't Auto-Decode *Every* Captcha, But They Can Automatically Read *Enough* of Them

captcha bypass captcha OCR Verification image bypass captcha decoder captcha reader						
http://www.lafdc.com/captcha/						
Google						
google	pulasas		multipic		beafis	
	licit		etsans		jacklyne	
						30%
hotmail	G3CBAGGW		8S9W95MJ		Y5WYMS9K	
	3B8DXM9H		AXU4MWAJ		G6E8CA96	
						30%
NEW yahoo	MFdMVB		AT52T3X2			
	TVyK2T3s7		2MwKMNzn			
	s6xYFM		s2eT854			
						NEW 45% \$8000

# How Might A Provider Detect These Bulk Created Accounts?

- You're looking for "statistical outliers," or "anomalies..."
- **Unusually rapid account creation speed:** users who are manually creating accounts take time to read and fill in their information; robotic account creators are fast(er).
- **Large numbers of accounts forwarding their email to a single common account** particularly if that account in turn forwards all the email it receives to still another account
- **Large numbers of accounts accessed via POP or IMAP from a single IP** (but beware potential NAT gateways)
- **Large numbers of changes to existing accounts from a single IP** (such as password updates); again, beware NAT
- **Statistically anomalous contact information** (for example: uncommon names appearing too many times).

# Detecting Bulk Created Accounts (continued)

- You're also looking for inconsistencies...
- Domestic customers registering for international accounts: this could be a legitimate out-of-region registration (for example, perhaps one done by an international student or a traveling business person), but this could also be an abuser trying to 'game' different abuse handling practices.
- More extreme example: IP geo-location says the connection used to create an account was from Vietnam; the account's postal address is Topeka, Kansas; the phone number associated with the account is from Ireland; the browser's default character set is Cyrillic... Hmm...
- The account holder seems to "misunderstand" what's spam, consistently miss-marking real spam as being "not-spam"

# How Might A Provider Detect These Bulk Created Accounts? (cont. 2)

- You're also looking for **abuse**...
- Bulk-created accounts were created for abusive purposes, so one would expect them to show up in **abuse complaints**.
- Two problems:
  - **these accounts may not show up in YOUR abuse complaints**. For example, consider a spam sample routed via provider A's mail server, but with an account from provider B used as a MAIL FROM address for callback verification purposes. That spam will likely be reported to provider A, but NOT to provider B
  - by the time complaints about one account start rolling in, it may be **too late** (e.g., the spammer may already have moved on to yet another throwaway account)

# What Can We Do To Try To Discourage Bulk Account Creation and Abuse? Some Ideas...

- Do geo-IP mapping and disallow out-of-region accounts.
- Backstop that by paying attention to network latencies -- you know that in-region customers will be  $< N$  msec away from you (where  $N$  might be say  $\leq 100$  msec, worst case, over a well provisioned domestic network)
- Disallow known bots, proxies, anonymizers and automatic language translator sites when creating accounts.
- To deal with those who are continually re-DHCP'ing for new IPs, track and rate limit account creation on a per netblock (or per /24) basis & per ASN, as well as per IP.
- Don't be too predictable. Ask for data on multiple screens, in different sequence(s), with different prompts, changing what you ask for and using different captchas.

# What Can We Do To Try To Discourage Bulk Account Creation and Abuse? (cont. 1)

- Re-ask the same user the same question multiple times, and require intrasession answer-to-answer consistency.
- Are all supplied data prima facie valid? For example, for US addresses, does the US Postal Service think that the supplied address is a valid/deliverable addresses?
- Use a "2nd channel" (such as phone or SMS validation), limit # of accounts/phone #, and periodically revalidate
- Pay attention to captcha entry failures when they occur. If only 30% of mechanically scrutinized captchas are read successfully, you may have substantial captcha failure data to mine. Track and rate limit captcha failures per IP, per encompassing network block (or per /24), & per ASN.
- The bad guys want you to be fast, so slowww downnnnn.



# What Can We Do To Try To Discourage Bulk Account Creation and Abuse? (cont. 2)

- Limit max recipients/msg & max msgs/account/day
- Watch for unused/suspiciously under-used accounts
- Make it harder for abusers to conceal their locations: insure that all emitted emails include the customer's source IP as part of the message's Received: headers
- Insure that your abuse department doesn't automatically screen and discard abuse reports simply because the reported spam didn't "originate from" your service. Scammers love to send spam from provider A, but with a Reply-To address associated with provider B, and perhaps a third (provider C) address buried in the message text
- Discuss account abuse with legal counsel; they may be able to suggest non-technical strategies for handling it.

# Thanks for the Chance To Talk Today!

- Are there any questions?