

It all started in 1969 when a student at the University of Stanford tried to log in to a university computer, from his home in Los Angeles. People can attend university or courses online and obtain academic and professional qualifications. E-mail, instant messaging and online video calls connect people across the globe for business, education and social purposes. Social networks allow people to communicate with large numbers of friends, and upload pictures and videos to share. All you need to do is 'Google' a few key words and you get numerous sites and documents. This gave scientists the idea that people could communicate through computers, instead of posting letters or talking by telephone. In 1990 Tim Berners-Lee and Robert Cailliau succeeded. At first, it was used mainly by scientists, governments and the military. Many scientists researched ways to try and do this. Now, more than 30 years later, there are more than four and a half billion users of the Internet (about half of the world's population!). Information is accessible to everyone online. They created a system for people to communicate with each other and find out information using computers. In the beginning, they called it the "Worldwide Web". They changed the name to "The Internet" later. The Internet started with a few basic websites and e-mail. We can also now learn via the Internet.