



What is Twitter?

Boroondara BUG and the uses of Twitter



So... what is Twitter?



A platform to produce short messages
(140 characters in length)



Called “Tweets”



Like SMS (on your phones)



but different



You can use it to send out a message or many messages



It's free (sort of)



As long as you don't mind the advertising



You contact others on it with their twitter handle



So... what's Boroondara BUG's Twitter handle?



@BBUGVic
(and it's case insensitive)



So... what's Boroondara BUG's profile look like?



On a browser:



Boroondara BUG (@BBUGVic) | Twitter - Chromium

Home Moments Notifications Messages Search Twitter Tweet





TWEETS 10 **FOLLOWING** 59 **FOLLOWERS** 10 [Edit profile](#)

Boroondara BUG
@BBUGVic

The Boroondara BUG is a voluntary group working to promote the adoption of a safe and practical environment for utility and recreational cyclists.

📍 Boroondara, VIC, Australia
🌐 boroondarabug.org
📅 Joined July 2016

Tweets [Tweets & replies](#)

You Retweeted

 **Ride2Work** @Ride2WorkAust · 40m
Confident or confused: how to use road position when riding a bike
[#ride2work](#)

 **Ride On magazine** @RideOnMagazine
Are you communicating confidence when you ride? #activetransport
rideonmagazine.com.au/road-positioni...

🔄 1 ❤️ ⋮

 **Boroondara BUG** @BBUGVic · 6h
Be seen, ride safe. And pack some wet weather gear, just in case.

 **BOM Victoria** @BOM_Vic
Another relatively mild day across the State, with showers in the south.
bom.gov.au

Who to follow · Refresh · View all

 **Bicycle NSW** @BicycleNSW ×
[Follow](#)

 **Jenica Brooke** @JenicaBroo... ×
Followed by [Ballarat BUG](#) an...
[Follow](#)

 **Projector Bike** @Projectorbi... ×
Followed by [Vic bike laws](#) an...
[Follow](#)

[Find friends](#)

Trends · Change

[#FamousMelaniaTrumpQuotes](#)
33.2K Tweets

[#DialCon16](#)



As a side note, install AdBlock Plus



On a phone via the twitter app:





So... can you share an account / profile?



Yes



And you can have more than one handle



Helps in targetting different audiences



So... who uses Twitter?



People, organisations, news, political parties,
retail shops, trolls, 'bots



Essentially anyone



You follow them



They follow you



It's all optional – no one is forced to follow you,
and you're not forced to follow them



Your twitter stream will be populated with the messages from the entities you follow



Your followers will have their twitter streams populated with your messages



So... how do I write a message to someone?



Use their handle (with the “@” symbol in your message)



For example:



@BBugVic Where can I buy innertubes in Hawthorn?



or



*I just joined @BBugVic to better cycling in
Boroondara*



That last example is more like a notification



Advantages:



- Quick



- Little effort



- Short messages



- Web Links get shortened, so they don't chew up too much of the message length



- Searchable



- Handles up to 4 attached pictures per message



Disadvantages:



- Short messages



- Fiddly when it comes to adding pictures



- Does not replace Facebook or Instagram or a proper web site



- Once you write a message, Twitter owns it (in case you're worried about privacy)



You can lock your account



You can delete your account



but Twitter still has a copy of your messages



So... what is a hash tag?



Hash tags are single words preceded with a “#” character



It allows you to group messages, or join conversations without specifically talking to anyone



They're optional



They're case insensitive (just like a handle)



Examples:



#Cycling



or



#BoulieTacks
#boulietacks



They can be added within a message or after



Up to you



For example:



#Cycling in #Melbourne is fun



or



I just got a puncture riding the Kew Boulevard

#boulietacks



So... what is a retweet?



Copying or quoting another tweet into your stream
for your followers to read



So... what is a like?



You can show that you appreciate a certain message



I don't “like” – but this is different for everyone



Twitter analyses likes, and will shape your stream to show more messages from the handles you have liked more



So... where do I find out more?



Twitter itself:
<https://twitter.com/>



Once you have an account:
<https://analytics.twitter.com>



Wikipedia:
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twitter>



So... you have any questions?

