

PORTUGUESE WEB ARCHIVE



The Web
does not archive itself.

The main objective of the Portuguese Web Archive is to preserve information published on the Web, over the years. This system periodically collects, archives and gives access to interesting content to the Portuguese community, which is no longer available online.



ARQUIVO DA WEB
PORTUGUESA



What is a Web Archive?

Every day, millions of pages are published exclusively on the Web. However, the Web is permanently changing and the majority of its information becomes inaccessible after a short period of time and is lost forever. For example, it is estimated that after just 1 year, 8 in 10 Favorites that you kept on your browser, lead to content that is no longer available.

The "legal deposit" law obliges publishers to deliver copies of their printed publications to specific national repositories, for preservation purposes. However, nationally, there is no equivalent law for Web publications. Hence, web archives contribute to fulfil this gap and perpetuate access to information.

What is the purpose of the Portuguese Web Archive?

This Web archive enables digital content to be used for the same purposes as paper content, for example:

- Can obtain information to document an article;
- Can find content with historical and scientific relevance;
- Can access no longer available.

Does the Portuguese Web Archive bring something new?

Search engines order results so that the most relevant ones for a given search can be presented first. However, a Web search engine finds information on the current Web and does not contemplate a temporal perspective. The Portuguese Web Archive developed innovative search mechanisms to enable temporal search. This way, users become able to easily find the most relevant results among the numerous Web contents archived over the years.

Which contents are archived?

In the first stage of the project, all contents hosted under the .PT, .AO and .CV domain. Nevertheless, anyone can suggest the archiving of a website relevant to the Portuguese community.

How can I access the archived information?

Archived information can be accessed by the public through the search mechanisms available by:

- Associated to the searched content;
- Typing in a certain Web address (URL);
- Specific services, available for Research & Development, which make it possible to automatically process large amounts of archived information.

Can I collaborate with the Portuguese Web Archive?

Anyone can collaborate to preserve the Portuguese Web. You just need to install an application named rARC and lend a little disk space on your computer to save a backup copy of the archived information.

If you have historical Web content, like copies of old websites, you can supply them for preservation by the Portuguese Web Archive.

www.arquivo.pt