

Social bookmarking: Getting started in Diigo

Background information (from Diigo site)

Diigo (pronounced as **Dee'go**) an abbreviation for "*Digest of Internet Information, Groups and Other stuff.*" is a research and collaborative research tool on the one hand, and a knowledge-sharing community and social content site on the other.

It's a **Social Information Network (SIN)** where information consumption, research, and sharing is central, and where the connection between people and people, between people and information, and between information and information, are exploited and harnessed to improve knowledge sharing and content discovery, and to enable more meaningful social connections and intellectual exchanges.

As you read on the web, instead of just bookmarking, you can **highlight portions of web pages** that are of particular interest to you. You can also attach sticky notes to specific parts of web pages. All the information -- highlighted paragraphs, sticky notes, and the original url -- are saved on Diigo servers, creating your personal digest of the web, your own collection of highlights from the web. You can easily search, access, sort and share this collection from any PC or even iPhone.

Diigo enables effective collaborative research. You can easily share your findings, complete with your highlights and sticky notes, with friends and colleagues. A project team can create a group on Diigo to pool relevant resources, findings and thoughts together.

With every Diigo user tagging and annotating pages online, the Diigo community has collectively created a wonderful repository of quality content, filtered and annotated by the community, on almost any subject you may be interested in. For example, if you would like to find popular resources on e-learning, searching Diigo can probably get what you want in less time than using search engines, and you may also gain insights from other users. You can find and subscribe to the most recent or most popular bookmarks under any set of tags.

Setting up your account

Head to the Diigo website

<http://www.diigo.com>

and click on the green JOIN NOW button.

You'll be asked to provide a username, password and email address.



Once you have joined Diigo and you log in you will be taken to your DASHBOARD.

Here you see your latest activity, friends movements etc.

You should take a little time to add information to your profile so others know who you are, and upload an image for yourself.

On your dashboard page you can download the Diigo Toolbar to the computer you are on. It's a simple process that does not seem to be impacted by admin rights.

You need the toolbar to bookmark sites etc. It will show (as below) when you open your browser.



The screenshot shows the Diigo toolbar and sidebar. The toolbar is at the top and includes icons for Diigo, Bookmark, Highlight, Comment, Send, Message (0), and Options. The sidebar is on the left and has tabs for My Bookmarks, This URL, and Friends. The My Bookmarks tab is active, showing a search bar with tags (tag1, tag2, tag3) and a Filter button. Below the search bar is a list of bookmarks with titles and timestamps. Annotations with lines pointing to specific parts of the interface are as follows:

- Open sidebar (points to the sidebar icon in the toolbar)
- Store and tag your bookmarks online (points to the Bookmark icon in the toolbar)
- Highlight the web just as you would on paper (points to the Highlight icon in the toolbar)
- Leave / View comments on a webpage (points to the Comment icon in the toolbar)
- Send your findings in various ways (points to the Send icon in the toolbar)
- Explore friends' recent activities (points to the Friends tab in the sidebar)
- Discover readers and view annotations on this page (points to the This URL tab in the sidebar)
- View / search my bookmarks (points to the My Bookmarks tab in the sidebar)

Importing your existing bookmarks

If you already have a presence in another bookmarking site like del.icio.us you can import all your existing data including tags into Diigo (what a relief that was!)

For del.icio.us users – go to your del.icio.us account – SETTINGS - and select 'export/backup' from the Bookmarks menu. Click on EXPORT TO HTML and bookmarks will be saved to a location on your hard drive.

	<p>Now go to the Diigo website, click on the down arrow next to your username on the right of the top blue toolbar. Select the TOOLS option.</p> <p>Click on IMPORT BOOKMARKS, select your current tool and BROWSE for the location of the html file you saved for del.icio.us</p> <p>The import may take quite some time if you have a lot of bookmarks!</p>
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Finding friends and joining or forming Groups

<p>As a social information network Diigo is all about connecting with other people.</p> <p>From your dashboard, click on INVITE FRIENDS</p> <p>Invite Your Friends</p> <p>Adding friends will enable you to have more meaningful knowledge sharing and interaction. Invite friends »</p> <p>You can either import or type in email addresses to send an invitation.</p>	
<p>On the MY GROUPS page you can search for Groups to join by entering a term in the search box</p>	<p>Or set up your own group and invite people to join.</p>

Exporting your Diigo bookmarks and sharing with existing networks

	<p>Of course you may already be part of social networks that you want to share your Diigo bookmarks with.</p> <p>Diigo allows you to Twitter your new bookmarks and also offers a Facebook application that enables you to show and share your and your Diigo friends' bookmarks on your Facebook Account.</p>
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You can also continue to save your new bookmarks back to del.icio.us (just in case you change your mind eh!) via TOOLS in the drop down menu next to your username on the site.



Save Elsewhere

"Save Elsewhere" allows you to simultaneously add your new bookmarks to other services you set up here.
 1) Select the service 2) Input your account information
 3) Check the account to make sure it is valid 4) Save
 After you set up your accounts here, all new bookmarks you add using Diigo Toolbar 3.0 or later are automatically posted to these other websites.

	Username	Password	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Del.icio.us	<input type="text" value="robynjay"/>	<input type="password" value="****"/>	Validate account
<input type="checkbox"/> Ma.gnolia	<input type="text"/>	<input type="password"/>	Validate account
<input type="checkbox"/> Simply	<input type="text"/>	<input type="password"/>	Validate account
<input type="button" value="Save"/>			

Bookmarking sites using Diigo

When you are at a website that you wish to bookmark, click on BOOKMARK in the toolbar (outlined above).

A window will open where you can enter a description, set your bookmark to public or private, send the bookmark to Twitter, add tags etc.

At the bottom of the window you can direct your new bookmark to one or more of your Groups with a comment if you wish, and then click SAVE.

Using the comment and highlight functions of the toolbar you can also highlight areas of text on the page (public or private) and add floating sticky note comments that only you, everyone, or a particular Group will see when they visit the site.

Diigo has LOADS of tools and features so take time to click and explore and see what it can do for you!