Introduction to Pinterest

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Nashua Public Library
Introduction to Pinterest

Class Objectives

After this class you will be able to:

• Identify uses for Pinterest
• Create an account
• Identify common terms
• Create a Pinterest Board
• Add and manage Pins

What is Pinterest?

Pinterest is a social networking site that allows users to collect, organize and share things found on the internet. Pinterest allows you to create a digital bulletin board or scrapbook to store things found online.

If you like to find recipes on the internet, then Pinterest can help you make a visual catalog of those recipes for easy browsing. For example, here is a board called “Favorite Recipes” and pinned to it are photos of recipes the user collected. Clicking on one of the images will pull up information on that recipe and provide a link to the original website that the recipe came from. You can also follow friends and family on Pinterest and share pins with them.
Creating an account

To create an account, open your web browser and go to pinterest.com. Enter your email address, password, and age and click **Continue**. Follow the steps to create your account. If you have a Facebook or Google account, you can use that account to quickly create an account on Pinterest.

After you set up your account, you can customize your profile. To do this, click on the arrow in the upper right-hand corner of the screen, then select **Settings**.

From the Settings page, you can change your name, upload a profile photo, add a bio, or link to your website.

**Pinterest Terms**

Reviewing some of the most commonly used terms will give you a better understanding of how Pinterest works and what to expect as you get started.

**Pinner:** Users on Pinterest are commonly called Pinners. Whenever you find Pinners you like, you can choose to follow their pins. This way, whenever they share new pins, you'll see them on your homepage.

**Follower:** Followers are other Pinterest users who have chosen to follow your pins. Whenever you add a new pin, it will appear on your followers' homepages.

**Save:** When you pin something you discover on Pinterest to one of your own boards it's called **saving**.
**Source Link:** A source link is the **URL of the website** where a pin comes from.

**Pin:** A pin is a **visual bookmark** that links from Pinterest to another website.

**Pinning:** The act of posting a pin to Pinterest.

**Board:** A board is where you'll save related pins. For example, you could create a board for the different knitted scarf patterns you find online.

### Navigating Pinterest

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pinterest Button</strong></td>
<td>Clicking here (or on the <strong>Home</strong> button) will return you to the homepage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Search Box</strong></td>
<td>To search Pinterest type in a keyword and press <strong>Enter</strong>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Notifications</strong></td>
<td>From here, you can see your recent <strong>notifications</strong>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inbox</strong></td>
<td>Click here to see direct messages from your friends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Profile</strong></td>
<td>Click here to access your profile page.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Account Options</strong></td>
<td>Here you can switch accounts, change your <strong>Settings</strong>, <strong>Get help</strong> or <strong>Log out</strong>.</td>
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</table>
**Pins:** Recent pins from people you follow or pins recommended by Pinterest will appear when you sign in. Click on a pin to open a larger view, and then click the image to navigate to the pin's original source page – where it was found on the internet before being pinned to Pinterest.

**Following Source Links**

Whenever you are browsing on Pinterest you can click on a pin to open a larger view. This view shows some additional information about the pin and clicking on the image from this page will open the original source link for the pin.

Ideally the original source will be a website that the Pinner found it on that will give you a lot more detail and context. However, sometimes the original source will only be a picture in a Google search.
Creating a Board and Pinning Items

When you first set up your Pinterest account you won’t have any boards. To create one, click on the Create button (+) on your profile page, then select Board.

In the Create board window, Name your board. You have the option of setting Dates. You might do this if your board is for project you hope to have completed by a certain time, or if it’s for an event with a scheduled date. By default, a board is public. Toggle the Keep this board secret toggle if you want to keep it private for yourself and only people you invite to see it.

When you create a new board, Pinterest will suggest some Pins that you might like to add to it. The more pins you select, the better Pinterest’s algorithm will get at suggesting things you might like.

Once your board is created, click the ... icon and select Edit board to add or change information about your board. Enter any pertinent information and click Done. Click the + to invite collaborators.
Once you've created a board, you're ready to start adding pins! There are several ways to add a pin to a board. The easiest method is the Pinterest Save button. This is a special feature you can add to your web browser. Installing the button is beyond the scope of this class, so we'll discuss other ways to pin items to your board.

If you want to pin something from a specific webpage, go to the board you'd like to add the pin to and click the Create icon (+), then Pin. A Create Pin dialog box will appear. Click Save from site.
Paste the website’s URL and hit Enter or the click the right arrow.

On the next page you can choose the image(s) you want to use for your pin. Click on an image to select it, click again to deselect it. When you’ve chosen all you want, click on the Add Pins button.

Then you can enter a name and description for the pin, both optional, and choose the board you want to add it to. It will default to the board you were in, but you can change your mind here and save to a different board or create a new board to put it in.

You can also pin items from other users’ boards on Pinterest. One way is to search Pinterest. Enter the term you want to search for and hit Enter.
Then hover the mouse over a photo you want to pin and click **Save**. It will guess which board you want to save it to, but you can change it by clicking on the down arrow.

Pinterest also has a **visual search tool** for finding pins that match parts of images. Let’s say you’ve found a pin with an outfit you like, but you’re only interested in the shoes and want to find more pins like them. You can do this by clicking on the image to see its full details, then the **visual search** icon in the bottom right corner of the image. This will open a page where you can select the part of the photo you want and see pins related to that.
Managing Boards and Pins

Once you’ve become a pro at creating boards and pinning items, there will be times when you want to change, remove or rearrange things on Pinterest.

At any point, you can Edit a board’s settings, Delete it, Merge it with another board, or Archive it. Archiving saves it to an archived section in your profile; it will no longer show up in public searches and you won’t be able to save new pins to it.

The order that boards are listed on your profile page can also be changed. By default, it’s drag and drop, so you can drag them into whatever order you like. You can change the sort from Drag and drop to A to Z or Last saved to by clicking the Sort icon.

You can change the order of pins within a board by going to the board and clicking the Organize button. It’s drag and drop again, so very easy. There you can also Move a pin to a different board, Copy it to a different board, or Delete it.
Other Resources


Universal Class has a Pinterest class. Access Universal Class with your library card from the library’s website under eLearning - https://www.nashualibrary.org/explore/elearning/