

# Whoogle

## Discover Whoogle: Your Private, Self-Hosted Search Engine Alternative

In an age where online privacy is increasingly valued, Whoogle stands out as a remarkable tool for safeguarding your search queries from prying eyes. Whoogle is a self-hosted, ad-free, privacy-focused search engine alternative that proxies your searches through Google, providing you with all the power of Google search without the tracking and ads. This blog post delves into the features of Whoogle, provides installation instructions using Docker-Compose, and guides you through the basic setup.

### What is Whoogle?

Whoogle is an open-source, self-hosted search engine that acts as a privacy proxy for Google search. By stripping away ads, trackers, and logging, Whoogle allows you to perform Google searches without compromising your privacy. It is designed to be lightweight and easy to deploy, making it an ideal solution for privacy-conscious users.

### Key Features of Whoogle

#### 1. Privacy-Focused Search

- **No Tracking:** Whoogle does not track your search queries or store any personal information.
- **No Ads:** Enjoy a clutter-free search experience without ads or sponsored results.
- **Proxy Searches:** Whoogle proxies your search queries through Google, ensuring that your IP address and other identifying information are not exposed to Google.

#### 2. Customizable Interface

- **Themes and Layouts:** Customize the appearance of Whoogle to suit your preferences with various themes and layout options.
- **Search Filters:** Adjust search settings to filter results by date, language, and more.

### 3. Open-Source and Self-Hosted

- **Open-Source:** Whoogle is open-source, allowing you to review the code and contribute to its development.
- **Self-Hosted:** Host Whoogle on your own server to maintain full control over your search engine.

### 4. Lightweight and Fast

- **Minimal Resource Usage:** Whoogle is designed to be lightweight, requiring minimal resources to run efficiently.
- **Fast Performance:** Experience quick search results with Whoogle's optimized performance.

## Installing Whoogle Using Docker-Compose

Deploying Whoogle with Docker-Compose simplifies the installation and management process. Follow these steps to get Whoogle up and running.

### Step-by-Step Docker-Compose Installation

#### 1. Install Docker and Docker-Compose

Ensure Docker and Docker-Compose are installed on your system. For installation instructions, refer to the [Docker installation guide](#) and the [Docker-Compose installation guide](#).

#### 2. Create a Docker-Compose File

Create a directory for your Whoogle setup and navigate to it. Create a `docker-compose.yml` file with the following content:

```
services:
  whoogle:
    image: benbusby/whoogle-search:latest
    container_name: whoogle
    ports:
      - "5000:5000"
    environment:
      WHOOGLE_CONFIG_DISABLE: "True"
    restart: unless-stopped
```

### 3. Start Whoogle

Open a terminal, navigate to the directory containing the `docker-compose.yml` file, and run the following command:

```
docker-compose up -d
```

This command will pull the Whoogle Docker image and start the container in detached mode.

### 4. Access the Whoogle Web UI

Open your web browser and navigate to `http://localhost:5000` to access the Whoogle search interface.

## Basic Setup Instructions

Once Whoogle is running, follow these steps to configure your private search engine.

### Step 1: Customize Whoogle Settings

- **Access Settings:** Click on the settings icon in the Whoogle interface.
- **Adjust Preferences:** Customize search settings, appearance, and other preferences to suit your needs.

### Step 2: Secure Your Instance

- **Use HTTPS:** Configure your server to use HTTPS to ensure secure connections. You can achieve this by setting up a reverse proxy with Nginx or Traefik.
- **Set Environment Variables:** Customize your Whoogle instance further by setting environment variables in your `docker-compose.yml` file.

## Useful Links

- [Whoogle GitHub Repository](#) – Explore the source code and contribute to the project.

## Conclusion

Whoogle offers a powerful and privacy-focused alternative to traditional search engines by leveraging Google's search capabilities while eliminating tracking and ads. Its lightweight, self-hosted design makes it an ideal choice for users who value privacy and control. By following the Docker-Compose installation and setup instructions, you can quickly deploy Whoogle and start enjoying a private search experience.