# DIGITAL RESISTANCE ZONE

Small websites. Personal homepages. Weird forums. Hand-written guides. Fan pages. Web rings. Guestbooks. Animated GIFs. MIDI files. Bad layouts made with too much enthusiasm and not enough knowledge.
It was messy.
It was sometimes ugly.
It was often slow.
But it felt personal.
The Web wasn't just a collection of platforms.
It was a collection of places.
People built their own little corners and invited others in.
You could stumble upon something completely unexpected because an algorithm hadn't already decided what you were supposed to see.
That spirit is still here.
You just have to look for it.

# SOCIAL, MINUS THE MEDIA CIRCUS

### Decentralized alternatives to the usual suspects

Same basic idea, different rules:
No ads.
No algorithm deciding what you see.
No company owning the whole network.
There are alternatives to the major platforms. They aren't perfect, and they don't magically solve everything, but they offer something increasingly rare: spaces where communities can exist without being completely controlled by a single corporation.

## INSTEAD OF X / TWITTER

### MASTODON

A decentralized social network built around independent servers, called instances.
**You get:**

- chronological feeds
- independent communities
- federation between servers
- no single company controlling the entire network
- open-source software
- **You won't find:**
- one giant centralized timeline
- advertising as the core experience
- an algorithm deciding everything you see

- **BLUESKY**

- A social network built around the AT Protocol, designed to make the social layer more open and portable.
- **You get:**
- customizable feeds
- account portability
- independent moderation possibilities
- a more open architecture
- **You won't find:**
- the traditional centralized social-media model in exactly the same form
- a single algorithm controlling every user's experience

## • INSTEAD OF INSTAGRAM

### • PIXELFED

- A decentralized, federated image-sharing platform designed around photography and visual media.
- **You get:**
- image-focused profiles
- chronological timelines
- federation
- independent servers
- a more community-oriented environment
- **You won't find:**
- an endless stream optimized primarily for advertising
- the same level of centralized control found on traditional image platforms

## • INSTEAD OF REDDIT

### • LEMMY

- A decentralized alternative to Reddit built around communities and federation.
- **You get:**
- discussion communities
- voting
- threaded conversations
- independent servers
- federation between communities
- **You won't find:**
- one corporation owning the entire network
- a single centralized database controlling every community

## • INSTEAD OF YOUTUBE

### • PEERTUBE

- A decentralized video platform based on federation and peer-to-peer technology.

- **You get:**
- independent video hosting
- federated instances
- open-source software
- communities that can run their own servers
- **You won't find:**
- one company controlling the entire video ecosystem
- a single recommendation algorithm deciding what everyone watches

- **ODYSEE**
- A video platform built around a decentralized approach to publishing and content distribution.
- **You get:**
- alternative video hosting
- creator-focused publishing
- less dependence on traditional platform infrastructure
- **You won't find:**
- the exact same ecosystem as YouTube
- the same centralized model of content distribution

- **VIDLII**
- A video-sharing platform inspired by the older style of the Web.
- It feels less polished.
- That's part of the point.
- Sometimes the Internet is more interesting when it doesn't look like every other corporate platform.

- **INSTEAD OF FACEBOOK**

- **FRIENDICA**
- A decentralized social network designed to connect different communities and federated services.
- **You get:**
- social profiles
- groups
- federation
- connections across different networks
- more control over your community
- **You won't find:**
- one corporation owning the entire social graph
- the same level of centralized control

- **DIASPORA***
- A long-running decentralized social network built around independently operated servers, known as pods.
- **You get:**

- decentralized communities
- user-controlled pods
- privacy-oriented design
- federation
- **You won't find:**
- a single corporation owning everyone's social identity
- one centralized platform controlling the entire network

## THE FEDIVERSE

- The Fediverse is not one website.
- It is a collection of independently operated communities and services that can communicate with each other.
- Different servers.
- Different rules.
- Different communities.
- One larger network.
- That difference matters.
- A decentralized network doesn't have to be perfect to be valuable.
- It simply needs to give people another option.
- An option to leave.
- An option to build.
- An option to host their own space.
- An option to exist online without handing the entire experience over to a corporation.

## KEEP THE WEB WEIRD

- Support decentralized and federated spaces where communities, not algorithms, shape the conversation.
- Make websites.
- Join independent communities.
- Run a server.
- Write things nobody asked you to write.
- Build something useless.
- Build something beautiful.
- Build something strange.
- Don't optimize everything.
- Don't turn everything into content.
- Don't measure everything.
- Don't let the algorithm decide what deserves to exist.
- The Web was never supposed to be a shopping mall.
- It was supposed to be a place to explore.
- **Keep it weird.**
- **Keep it open.**
- **Keep it yours.**
- **§1M~~O~~N3**
- *hand-coded somewhere between nostalgia and digital resistance*