

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Rampant abuse of QL and Popularity should be punished](#)

Scrubspoo - May 29, 2024, 11:02 pm

QL for QL should be banned

Pop for pop should be banned

QL and pop requirement for contests should be banned

Posting requirements for threads like this one should be banned:

<https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?pid=62382114>

I've never given QL for a post that was not quality. I don't rep users unless they deserve it. Anyone who abuses the system is a retard. I don't reply to any of the contests I am tagged in because of this.

Lets do something about it now before this gets out of hand.

Scrubsnoob - May 30, 2024, 3:46 am

LOL. Bro shut the fuck up. As if your 1286 Popularity were legit obtained.

When I was here with my old account 1-2 years ago I do remember seeing you being involved in giving Popularity to random members for increasing your at the same time.

Not sure why you made this thread since you have also abused the Popularity system. Maybe we should reset your Popularity to 0?

The Pact - May 30, 2024, 4:00 am

This is encouraged for two awards right now, so this doesn't make much sense while that is in place.

Nachfolger - May 30, 2024, 7:16 am

The whole point of credibility ratings is to make popularity useless. Why is it an issue if pop4pop is allowed? Quickloves are useless too, so again, why should QL4QL be stopped?

I would gladly go back to pre-reset HF if I could, but this suggestion seems to just be based entirely on your opinion of the use for QLs and Pop. We should probably ban you before your suggestions get out of hand.

Jamika - May 31, 2024, 6:43 am

(May 29, 2024 11:02 PM)Scrubspoo Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) QL for QL should be banned

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Lets do something about it now before this gets out of hand.

There is no pop for pop

QL exchange is not prevented as omni allow it, if omni see it bad he would stop it

Thats simple

titi - May 31, 2024, 9:36 am

don't see the issue with asking a small favour to be able to win some money , it's not like a QL does something

Oak - May 31, 2024, 6:04 pm

In reality, yes I think the current state of pop is sad. Reputation used to be so cool :'(

Unfortunately it also brought with it drama, but it also made it mean something.

At the end of the day, pop is meaningless, so don't worry about it fam

EDIT: Trading Pop4Pop, anyone interested?

Domestos - June 2, 2024, 9:56 am

Pop might be useless in a way, I agree with that, but the pop system can be used by scammers, basically, people who just come in, farm a bit of pop, and go on scamming people. New members have no idea what those green numbers mean, they just see a big green number and automatically think the person is trustworthy, so I can partly agree with this. QL though, idk I mean you're just giving out bytes and taking an award.

SilentNuke - June 2, 2024, 10:30 am

Pop system is abused, especially when people decide to neg bomb people, which, for a reason im not even sure of, as you can see, happened to me - not on a major scale as i have seen happen, multiple times since i have been here, but has left me negative - i dont particularly care, but seeing as red number there makes people either not pay attention to anything you say, even if the advice is solid, or causes more people to jump on the neg bomb train. It is extremely frustrating and has caused people to leave as a result. This is the sort of abuse that needs to be addressed or investigated.

Probably going to get another bomb, but nevermind. Ive already decided to stay out of convo and other areas of the forum as a result, but nevermind. The hive mind prevails.

Allelujah - June 2, 2024, 1:28 pm

Could we cut out the "tag someone to enter" nonsense? It's nonsense.

illuminati? - June 2, 2024, 1:34 pm

(Jun 2, 2024 01:28 PM)Allelujah Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Could we cut out the "tag someone to enter" nonsense? It's nonsense.

can agree.

hating being tagged in those threads.

Couldn't care less if its a reminder about daily check-ins. but for contests is wild.

Aeowulf - June 2, 2024, 3:42 pm

Credibility is the legitimate statistic. Pop has been acknowledged to be worthless so... doesn't matter?

Ren And Stimpy - June 2, 2024, 3:51 pm

Facts, even though I did do the QL 4 QL before, just for the reward, but POP is def, earned!

Pr0m3th3us - June 2, 2024, 3:52 pm

I don't mind getting tagged. Doesn't bother me at all. It's more of a hassle finding new users to tag than getting a notification about being tagged. Seems like the users making threads encouraging tags should be the one targeted for neg pop...the neg bombs are just users who think they are cool and getting revenge for a post they disagree with anyways. Deal with it, it's a forum bruh.

Fludems - June 3, 2024, 3:27 am

(Jun 2, 2024 09:56 AM)Domestos Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Pop might be useless in a way, I agree with that, but the pop system can be used by scammers, basically, people who just come in, farm a bit of pop, and go on scamming people. New members have no idea what those green numbers mean, they just see a big green number and automatically think the person is trustworthy, so I can partly agree with this. QL though, idk I mean you're just giving out bytes and taking an award.

To be fair, I didn't think of this until you mentioned it. A person with a high popularity rating would give a new user a false sense of security. Even for me, it would subconsciously place more trust in the 'popular' individual.

I'm not saying calling it cookies, but as an example, if it were a user's 'Cookies', the wording doesn't potentiate this problem so badly.

I'd also suggest renaming Credibility to something basic like 'Trust Score'. If someone has '500 cookies' combined with a Trust Score of 0, it doesn't have as much authority.

Finally, visually just make 'Trust Score' more important / emphasised in the visual hierarchy to really drill it home.

Currently, it's just above popularity; I think it'd be a good move to place it outside of that box altogether. It'll allow you to increase the font size or font weight without it looking out of place.

(Jun 2, 2024 10:30 AM)SilentNuke Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Pop system is abused, especially when people decide to neg bomb people, which, for a reason im not even sure of, as you can see, happened to me - not on a major scale as i have seen happen, multiple times since i have been here, but has left me negative - i dont particularly care, but seeing as red number there makes people either not pay attention to anything you say, even if the advice is solid, or causes more people to jump on the neg bomb train. It is extremely frustrating and has caused people to leave as a result. This is the sort of abuse that needs to be addressed or investigated.

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The problem isn't that you got neg-bombed. The problem is when that matters or you believe it matters.

Popularity should be nearly meaningless. Changes need to be made to lower it's value if it does have one.

Domestos - June 3, 2024, 3:43 am

(Jun 3, 2024 03:27 AM)Onyx Digital Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) To be fair, I didn't think of this until you mentioned it. A person with a high popularity rating would give a new user a false sense of security. Even for

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Popularity should be nearly meaningless. Changes need to be made to lower it's value if it does have one.

The thing is even though popularity has changed (previously rep) the whole point or how people see it didn't, rep used to be something that is earned, and rep was something you'd have to put a lot of work into, especially since you couldn't ask for it or you would get rep fucked. Nowadays even though you can ask for it, people still treat it as something you give out to other members if you like what they posted, if you like what they do etc.

So even a normal casual member could trust someone who farmed like 1200 rep from a 100\$ giveaway and he would have more trust, it is possible he might scam, from what I remember this has happened before, it's not something new.

Maybe we could close up shop on the rep begging, possibly on Quick Love but my personal opinion is since Quick Love does not give you anything it's the same as begging for bytes, so maybe remove ql for ql so people won't just get an award out of nowhere, at the same time allow a comment like "If my post was helpful, do consider leaving a quick love" or something like that, the more I think about this the more I agree with OP even though I hosted a giveaway for rep and ql (Wanted to get the ub3r upgrade) as well as I've posted threads like ql4ql, I do see the abuse in this system and the need for change.

So all in all I do agree with OP.

Fludems - June 3, 2024, 3:49 am

(Jun 3, 2024 03:43 AM)Domestos Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The thing is even though popularity has changed (previously rep) the whole point or how people see it didn't, rep used to be something that is earned, and rep was something you'd have to put a lot of work into, especially since you couldn't ask for it or you would get rep fucked. Nowadays even though you can ask for it, people still treat it as something you give out to other members if you like what they posted, if you like what they do etc.

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(Wanted to get the ub3r upgrade) as well as I've posted threads like ql4ql, I do see the abuse in this system and the need for change.

So all in all I do agree with OP.

Yeah I see no problem with Ql4Ql its meaningless. Probably because it's called Bytes and it's not bold and green.

What I care about is if popularity is giving people a false sense of trust and causing more scams, then some action should be taken to reduce the influence it has on someone's judgement.

I don't care if people neg rep bomb each other, or do Pop4Pop

I only care about protecting users and new users if it's raising scam rates as a byproduct.

I was here when Rep4Rep wasn't allowed and was bannable. Don't worry

And only l33ts had +1, and Ub3r's had +3, and there was no +5 or +10

Domestos - June 3, 2024, 3:55 am

(Jun 3, 2024 03:49 AM)Onyx Digital Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yeah I see no problem with Ql4Ql its meaningless. Probably because it's called Bytes and it's not bold and green.

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I don't care if people neg rep bomb, popularity for popularity

I only care about protecting users and new users if it's being overemphasized in its wording and where it sits on the visual hierarchy of pages in the forum.

I was here when Rep4Rep wasn't allowed and was bannable. Don't worry

And only l33ts had +1, and Ub3r's had +3, and there was no +5 or +10

The main point is no one bombs anyone out of nowhere with shitrep, unless you do or say something stupid. Rep still plays a valuable role in the HF ecosystem.

Fludems - June 3, 2024, 4:04 am

(Jun 3, 2024 03:55 AM)Domestos Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The main point is no one bombs anyone out of nowhere with shitrep, unless you do or say something stupid. Rep still plays a valuable role in the HF ecosystem.

Okay and the user who just posted this thread got neg bombed. If rep / popularity has an influence on perceived trust then they are now less trustworthy.

So, if you are arguing against me, this means you hold one of two beliefs:

You believe that as a result of posting this thread, the OP is more likely to scam people and people should be wary.

OR

You believe that this user deserves to lose out on deals because he posted this thread. (as a result of being perceived as less trustworthy)

Now, if you don't hold any of those beliefs. That would be because you never actually understood

what I've been saying.

I'm not saying remove Popularity.

I'm not saying neg bombing or P4P is bad.

I'm saying this should not influence how trustworthy a person is perceived. Renaming popularity to something that does not have a connotation of trust is half of the fix I propose.

The other half is putting more emphasis on 'Credibility' and how it's displayed on the screen. Renaming it to 'Trust Score' would also further help alleviate this issue.

Cooligan - June 3, 2024, 4:11 am

The one thing I will touch on after reading is the post requirements some contest/giveaway threads have.

I'm not talking about the ones where the OP makes you post in the actual contest thread to enter - that's normal.

What I'm talking about is the contest threads that say "post on <this> thread to enter!" or something similar like QL'ing, and that thread winds up being a sales thread of some sort. That in my opinion is artificial growth for that sales thread, and also could make it appear as if it's had a bunch of customers when in reality a lot of the posts & QL's were from a contest requirement. Not saying this happens often, but it's the one "potentially negative" aspect I've noticed with post requirements.

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I agree. I think maybe this should be disallowed IMO.

I don't think anyone would go to the lengths of creating a giveaway to create artificial demand for a product just to scam people.

But it just is a shitty tactic. So maybe post entries can only be done on the same thread as the giveaway?

If you are delivering value to people you don't need to go around doing stuff like this to get people to buy your stuff.

What might happen is that people see that X is the most popular product and buy it. It's not a scam, but it's garbage compared to the other options.

The user has now had a worse experience due to market manipulation.

SilentNuke - June 3, 2024, 4:50 am

(Jun 3, 2024 03:27 AM)Onyx Digital Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The problem isn't that you got neg-bombed. The problem is when that matters or you believe it matters.

Popularity should be nearly meaningless. Changes need to be made to lower its value if it does have one.

It doesn't bother me having neg-rep, as you said, seeing a high or positive reputation, people see that and pay more attention to what you say as it's seen as that person is trustworthy. Having a neg reputation, people see that and subconsciously think that person is untrustworthy and immediately brush off anything that person has to say, even if it's relevant to the topic at hand.

I think it would be a good idea to be able to select whether you want to display your reputation or not in your user info in posts.

Domestos - June 3, 2024, 5:39 am

(Jun 3, 2024 04:04 AM)Onyx Digital Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Okay and the user who just posted this thread got neg bombed. If rep / popularity has an influence on perceived trust then they are now less trustworthy.

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The other half is putting more emphasis on 'Credibility' and how it's displayed on the screen. Renaming it to 'Trust Score' would also further help alleviate this issue.

He got negged for voicing his opinion that people disagree with, that's perfectly normal.

SilentNuke - June 3, 2024, 6:27 am

(Jun 3, 2024 05:39 AM)Domestos Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) He got negged for voicing his opinion that people disagree with, that's perfectly normal.

Neg-bombing for voicing an opinion that some people disagree with is a double-edged sword.

If you voice your opinion and as a result get neg-bombed, then it discourages people from having an opinion which in itself isn't a good thing as having to restrict what you post and making every post neutral to avoid getting neg-bombed is ridiculous and makes people uncomfortable posting in fear of getting abused.

However, people have a right to freedom of speech and freedom of expression and it is an important thing to uphold.

Perhaps renaming it to Trust Score is not the right name for it, as I feel it would probably be even more focused on and seeing a negative "Trust Score", in my opinion is worse than a negative

Popular score. Popularity and Trust have different effects and people react differently so as they are similar, people view trust above popularity in most cases.

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Well, I checked the last 2 negs you got and I'm pretty sure it's for shitposting on a scam report, not a bright thing to do, the fact you're complaining about getting those negatives just attracts people to send more your way, that's just a basic thing that happens around here, complain about neg rep get more neg rep, that's pretty normal.

People ignoring you because you have neg rep, yes, that's pretty normal as well, since they figure if you're that deep than most likely your just shit posting.

You can voice your opinion, someone might not agree, someone might someone might hate your opinion and neg you, someone might love it and send a positive one, that's just how it works.

SilentNuke - June 3, 2024, 7:47 am

(Jun 3, 2024 06:50 AM)Domestos Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Well, I checked the last 2 negs you got and I'm pretty sure it's for shitposting on a scam report, not a bright thing to do, the fact you're complaining about getting those negatives just attracts people to send more your way, that's just a basic thing that happens around here, complain about neg rep get more neg rep, that's pretty normal.

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I wasn't shit-posting at all, at least I don't think I was?

I suppose you are right, bringing attention to something isn't always a good idea.

As yes, you may be right in terms of some people don't agree and give you a neg, but people tend to join the bandwagon just because they can, want to be part of that group or just following the crowd. That's the issue, people just hopping on the bandwagon without an actual reason - just because a small group of people are doing it, they want to be part of it as well. I don't disagree nor hate the fact you can give/get a negative rating for something, it's the "I did it because someone else has done it" mentality that is, IMO, the issue.

I've seen it multiple times in convo, someone says "I'm going to neg x" and people in their social circle join in, or someone says "hey x, let's neg bomb y", that's what I have an issue with.

Pr0m3th3us - June 3, 2024, 8:51 am

(Jun 3, 2024 05:39 AM)Domestos Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) He got negged for voicing his opinion that people disagree with, that's perfectly normal.

I got negged for tagging a user in a post made by a user who encourages and requires tagging for the contest. Pathetic.

And I will add not a single user has negged him for making these contests....sooooooooo????

Then I got negged by calling out other users about being little baby's on an online forum. Again pretty pathetic reason to neg bomb someone just cause your feelings got hurt, all in all though I got a good laugh out of it...so thanks? ?????

(Jun 3, 2024 07:47 AM)SilentNuke Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I wasnt shit-posting at all, at least i dont think i was?

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Yea a lot of users still have high school type attitudes and haven't grown up yet unfortunately, still being a bully behind their computer ? Iv seen the same thing in chat as you mentioned, it's pathetic. Jumping on the bandwagon usually means you can't think for yourself and just follow what other people do because it's "cool" again that's a high school mentality. Most adults grow up and get over it. Others don't. ?????

SilentNuke - June 3, 2024, 9:05 am

(Jun 3, 2024 08:51 AM)Unknown Inebriated User Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I got negged for tagging a user in a post made by a user who encourages and requires tagging for the contest. Pathetic.

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Yeah, thats the biggest issue in terms of popularity, for me at least. I dont care about neg-pop, i care about the fact that i try to be helpful and give real insight and support to people who need it, and them ignoring it because of a little red number below my name.

I said before, i think having the ability to show/hide your reputation would, in my eyes, be ideal. That way you dont have to worry about first impressions on a post as the first thing that grabs your attention are those red and green number.

Pr0m3th3us - June 3, 2024, 9:08 am

(Jun 3, 2024 09:05 AM) SilentNuke Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I said before, i think having the ability to show/hide your reputation would, in my eyes, be ideal. That way you dont have to worry about first impressions on a post as the first thing that grabs your attention are those red and green number.

Agreed, I like that idea but it will likely only apply to Uber and vendors since they always get the good stuff.

SilentNuke - June 3, 2024, 9:10 am

(Jun 3, 2024 09:08 AM) Unknown Inebriated User Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Agreed, I like that idea but it will likely only apply to Uber and vendors since they always get the good stuff.

Yeah, its definitely pandered more towards paying members, but thats business i suppose.

ScrubspooF - June 3, 2024, 9:14 am

I am closing this because its clear it won't be changed.