

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Encouraging Quality Activity](#)

Omniscient - August 23, 2024, 10:11 am

A member recently created a suggestion thread. Part of their suggestion was to encourage quality activity. However, there was no ideas on exactly how to do that.

So, in the interest of getting actual suggestions and feedback for such a thing...what's your idea to push quality content on HF?

Please try to be specific too, obviously things like Awards and/or Bytes comes into play as forms of encouragement but ideas should be more than "give out more awards/bytes".

globalroot - August 23, 2024, 10:15 am

Pretty much. The way is to reward people(?). Let them get their dopamine from bytes(?). There are people who do it for fun (me, Snyke, Moom for example). And not for any reward.

Imo, if someone wants/can make quality content, he will do it at his own will for little to no rewards at the end.

I have my doubts about "rewards for HQ content". They will most likely be copy pasted from some blog/AI model. Without the OP knowing nothing about what he wrote.

EDIT: You could make more ranks. Like other forums do. "Reverser", "Hacker", and other things. To give them to people who makes high quality content about them. That's a great source of dopamine.

EDIT 2: You also could give L33t, or temporary Ub3r to people who makes quality content. As a reward from HackForums.

Even though my point above still exists, I believe this could encourage "lazy-knowers" to post content.

Omniscient - August 23, 2024, 10:22 am

My concern is that the internet itself just no longer has actual quality content. I see sites like Twitter and I am not encouraged that the online world cares about quality content. Everyone is on their cell phones, they don't have full keyboards, they want to make short, quick posts or worse, just click some reaction button. Quality communication is becoming part of the past. Most people feel very comfortable with short replies with barely any thought into them. Thread creators themselves are more interested in just getting people to respond with approval than spark true dialogue or inspire quality replies.

I do wish I could crack through that, over the years, I feel like I'm just losing the battle. If anything, embracing the change to low-quality might serve HF better than attempting to force quality. Things like adding the reaction button for higher engagement rates for example.

Jamika - August 23, 2024, 10:24 am

(Aug 23, 2024 10:11 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) A member recently created a suggestion thread. Part of their suggestion was to encourage quality activity. However, there was no ideas on exactly how to do that.

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How about you, and staff, choose best response and get when reach certain level a reward?

And reporting bad qyuality too get that reward that looks like a sword (forget its name)

And shit posts and that of shit meaning please stop it

Btw, why not temporary add 5 trusty members as moderators so they permanently delete old closed posts ?

globalroot - August 23, 2024, 10:24 am

(Aug 23, 2024 10:22 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) My concern is that the internet itself just no longer has actual quality content. I see sites like Twitter and I am not encouraged that the online world cares about quality content. Everyone is on their cell phones, they don't have full keyboards, they want to make short, quick posts or worse, just click some reaction button. Quality communication is becoming part of the past. Most people feel very comfortable with short replies with barely any thought into them. Thread creators themselves are more interested in just getting people to respond with approval than spark true dialogue or inspire quality replies.

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Twitter is a shithole. Retards + freedom of speech = chaos.

The Internet can be shit, but we don't have to be shit.

In other forums I have been in, short answers "thank you", "how it works" (even though its explained in thread) were resulting in ban due to extreme low quality content. You can try that

bevc - August 23, 2024, 10:29 am

I'm afraid I'm going to be as vague and unhelpful as the original suggester, but does anyone know what happened at StackOverflow? Because it used to be that pretty much every question posted there was met with a tumult of pointless scorn and indignation from grumpy responders, and then something happened a few years ago (strict mod activity?) and now pretty much every question is either redirected appropriately, answered succinctly, or left alone.

But I imagine that would be a lot of work for someone.

Bastille - August 23, 2024, 10:44 am

Aside from bytes and awards :

- A hall of fame
- A special title
- Membership in an exclusive group (e.g., "c0ntribut0r")
- A glowing aura or animation around their profile picture, with different colors corresponding to the

forums they are most active/helpful in

- A glowing or animated username, compatible with group colors and based on the above activity
- A glowing banner
- A glowing bio box
- A special theme on their profile
- Granting additional privileges, such as:
 - > Increasing the popularity power (up to 4 / 5 / 6 ...)
 - > Increasing the daily popularity limit
 - > Increasing the bytes earning bonus
 - > Larger signature space / increasing the signature size limit

It could also be beneficial to implement features such as integrating TryHackMe and Hack The Box profiles on HF for people active in the hacking section, like this:

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Or similarly, integrating GitHub profiles so active members can share their contributions, for members active in the Coding section.

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I can see this especially with new members looking for automated tools / script, they don't want to spend time understanding they just want a "magic tool / command line" to hack everything. Even when they open a thread asking for help they provide 0 details, when you ask them : What did you try already to fix the issue ? They reply : "I tried everything"

(Aug 23, 2024 10:24 AM)Jamika Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) How about you, and staff, choose best response and get when reach certain level a reward?

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Btw, why not temporary add 5 trusty members as moderators so they permanently delete old closed posts ?

I agree with the best response as a metric, this could definitely help

Jamika - August 23, 2024, 11:08 am

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A forum already made this, resulted in shit replies in long sentences, then he stoped reward system, then activity lowred by levels

123 - August 23, 2024, 11:51 am

In my experience over the years. Monetary value plays a significant role.

A "tipjar" could be attached to each member's profile and it could be displayed alongside their posts/thread. Useful replies and quality content will ultimately attract users to tip them.

This will definitely promote quality content.

I know bytes comes under a similar scheme. But not everyone will buy bytes first to tip someone if they don't have bytes.

A simple "tipjar" "cryptojar" or something along the same idea could definitely work.

Vince - August 23, 2024, 12:03 pm

Its really hard to push any sort of quality content or get it posted on forums anymore because of how things like Reddit, discord and various social media platforms have made sharing stuff with others so easy that signing up to a forum, posting to gain access is a thing that most wont bother doing anymore. It isn't so much the websites fault, blame the average person and their attention span along with the constant need of wanting things handed to them immediately.

Then again, the driving force behind "quality" content is going to be monetary. The good ole' days of forum posting that we all enjoyed is slowly being phased out, even if some of us don't want it to or believe it.

Wolfblack - August 23, 2024, 12:21 pm

I think it's just part of wave like previously there were different quality posts, after sometime there was monetization and crypto posts, I think now just like halloween or thanksgiving

pms - August 23, 2024, 12:28 pm

Quality is as you mentioned pretty much dead on internet these days. Pushing towards a more "quality" based hackforums would kill the activity even more imo.

Tyr - August 23, 2024, 1:14 pm

I really believe that the educational section would help because people who are actual professionals in the field of IT and/or cybersecurity can post HQ tutorials there that newbies and veterans alike can contribute toward.

Also, I believe that we should somehow revive the lottery with Hackuman eggs by making new categories/colors that have different drop rates or something that encourages people to become more active via posting for this reason.

For example, I just won a blue egg but I do not think anyone will want to buy it because Hackuman is not as popular it seems. Perhaps brainstorming a way to keep LQ posts down while increasing the drop rate of eggs may help systematically increase the amount of high quality posts. This also can backfire though and cause people to spam.

Alternatively, a HQ poster award requiring staff to analyze the content written can be converted into a thread where people apply to it with their UID and/or a combination of their threads. If sufficient, they gain the silver posting award. Subsequently, we could have a gold posting award as well.

Just freewriting some of my thoughts. A little blazed right now so sorry if this doesn't make much sense, lol.

Jamika - August 23, 2024, 1:57 pm

(Aug 23, 2024 01:14 PM)Osiris? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I really believe that the educational section would help because people who are actual professionals in the field of IT and/or cybersecurity can post HQ tutorials there that newbies and veterans alike can contribute toward.

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Suggested the same many ways, but i think my ideas was not good enough, hope yours is better

I just imagine we need first to move water, we need changes to forum and new ideas first to attract and make people wanna post, and make high quality ones specially

Making same steps will bring same results

Ramsey - August 23, 2024, 2:35 pm

Metrics are needed. How do we grade quality content? Once this is a established, metrics can be enforced and content can be rewarded based on quality.

die_dunkelheit - August 23, 2024, 2:36 pm

It would be cool if you could block someone from appearing in your feed.

For example, when I click on "new posts", I want to filter out certain people who I feel don't have anything to contribute. Then, you could just look at people who get tons of "ignores" and just delete them. That way, the people do the work for you of identifying poor quality posters.

Portugals - August 23, 2024, 2:54 pm

Maybe a special title can be given like this

Frigg - August 23, 2024, 3:33 pm

The website is too broad for quality. Maybe far less sections for chatting and more sections specific to today's hacking like 0days, defcon/black hat reports, white papers, etc

Tyr - August 23, 2024, 7:58 pm

(Aug 23, 2024 02:35 PM)Whiterose Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Metrics are needed. How do we grade quality content? Once this is a established, metrics can be enforced and content can be rewarded based on quality.

This is true also

A few additional ideas came to mind during the night. I believe that to improve the quality on HF, we need to focus on two vectors :

Experienced Members: We should motivate our seasoned members to produce high-quality content. As discussed earlier, offering more privileges, awards, and unique features—such as glowing usernames, custom profile pictures, new themes, and so on—can act as rewards.

New Members: It's crucial to engage new members with potential right from the moment they register on HF.

Regarding the second point, here are some ideas:

- We have hat awards ready, but you mentioned uncertainty about how they could be implemented on HF: <https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=6220705>

What if we allowed both old and new members to choose a hat that defines their profile? This could facilitate easier connections between members who share similar goals and skills. For example:

- White Hat: Cybersecurity
- Black Hat: Hacking
- Grey Hat: A mix of White and Black
- Green Hat: Money / e-whoring / Business
- Red Hat: Gaming / Social
- Blue Hat: Coding

This is just a proposal and not limited to the colors mentioned above.

Once a hat is selected, a pop-up or page could display the following:

An explanation of the hat's role, and a note that when they see someone with the same hat, it likely means they share similar interests.

The most useful guides related to their hat.

The most appropriate categories of the forum.

Tips on how to learn and stay safe.

Important rules relevant to their hat (for example, a reminder for those in business to use contracts, deal on-site, etc.).

Many new members interested in learning hacking are seeking Discord/TG channels and mentoring opportunities. What if we offered a role similar to an Ambassador, where members could host a weekly Discord stream or chat session (maybe on Thursday or Friday night) to guide new members? This could include doing TryHackMe rooms together or similar activities. During the rest

of the week, learners could collaborate and work on rooms together. We could even stream it on HF during the same time so people could follow it.

This could also be facilitated within the convo, with additional "public" rooms, especially one for members wanting to study/work together on hacking. If managing a Discord server isn't appealing, this could be a viable alternative. New generations tend to prefer instant messaging over forums, so integrating these public convo channels onto the homepage could catch their attention, add more dynamism to the forum and help retain newer members who are more attracted to real-time interaction than waiting for forum replies.

EDIT :

Typical example, just saw this after writing my post :

(Aug 23, 2024 07:30 PM)donmaco Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Hello, Im wondering if HF has some Discord channel or like a telegram group where i can have day to day contact with people with common interests.

Zher0 - August 23, 2024, 9:59 pm

(Aug 23, 2024 10:11 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) A member recently created a suggestion thread. Part of their suggestion was to encourage quality activity. However, there was no ideas on exactly how to do that.

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I like the best response/answer you currently have showing on this thread. I'm sure this has been suggested before but add the ability to like or +1 posts and based on that it will choose that post as the best answer.

DOG - August 24, 2024, 7:44 am

Moving the forum more crypto oriented maybe? I don't know how tho.

I'm coming here mainly for crypto and video games

xadamxk - August 24, 2024, 8:33 am

I agree with you that Twitter is a cease pool for low attention span users. But I also think there is still a place for traditional forums. I've been referencing a couple car and home forums the last few months and it's been nice.

I don't come with a solution but make people that contribute to the site feel welcome and appreciated.

If they put the time and effort into something that improved the site, then figure out a way to make their work appreciated. Rather than getting buried 3 pages deep only to be bumped again in a year.

Without new site features, I'm not sure incentives alone are going to provide any long-term fixes.

(Aug 23, 2024 09:35 PM)Bastille Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) New Members: It's crucial to engage new members with potential right from the moment they register on HF.

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This is a great solution. It gives new and old members a goal to strive for while contributing to the site.

Nostre - August 24, 2024, 9:14 am

Increase popularity points based on the popularity given

Different colored apples for a new milestone reached (Add-ons with other apples or swapped after each milestone is reached)

- 1k - Green

2.5k - Bronze

5k - Silver

10k - Gold

Increase Bytes earned per post/thread based on average PPD

Release a few awards that are required to be maintained. For example, the Everyday Ninja award is a one-time requirement of 100 posts and that's it. What if we had awards that must be sustained by making X posts in specific categories each month?

We could also make QL half-off on random occasions... similar to bonus days for Bytes

These suggestions may help maintain activity. As far as quality... I'm not too sure. I think quality will grow over time as rules will be broken more often if activity increases; staff will enforce policy and hopefully fix the issue by default.

PLONK - August 24, 2024, 10:23 am

I know this is a little off the topic but not that much but why did you ban my #1 client The Mind(Fear God) he gave me over 1k bytes a day and was all in all a good person he bought many of my programming services but he did seem a little slow in the head

Blockonome - August 24, 2024, 10:26 am

I think it could be cool with some more high quality content on the site.

But this has to come from the people. Perhaps there could be awards for reaching X amount of Threads created, like there is the one with 24K posts.

I wish there would be somewhere we could do some time based live auction, but not sure if this would be a good idea or not.

DOG - August 24, 2024, 11:03 am

(Aug 24, 2024 10:26 AM)Blockonome Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I think it could be cool with some more high quality content on the site.

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Sorry but no one cares about high quality content anymore... We want fast paced dialogues and quick rush of dopamine ?

Edit: ohhh and some drama ofc

source - August 24, 2024, 11:57 am

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I do wish I could crack through that, over the years, I feel like I'm just losing the battle. If anything, embracing the change to low-quality might serve HF better than attempting to force quality. Things like adding the reaction button for higher engagement rates for example.youtube shorts, tiktok shorts, instagram shorts, the internet is made for 5 second dopamine rushes, people dont have the patience to pay attention longer than that now a days, people hardly even watch movies/tv shows now without doom scrolling the entire time on their devices. Quality content somehow gets squished into 10 seconds or the end user loses attention.

Kaleb - August 24, 2024, 12:12 pm

Sorry if this has already been said, I'm a dickhead for not reading replies but something akin to a karma system on reddit maybe? I don't know really. It would probably be a massive overhaul to try to add and I doubt you want to change the format of the forum. But I can't really think of anything. Shitposters are gonna shitpost and people who put effort into their posts are going to do so.

A karma system usually reflects quality posts because the community reads it, gets to gauge its contents, and usually if its a solid or interesting thread, etc, people upvoted it. I just don't know how

you implement something of that nature into something like a forum/HF without some massive rehaul that really I wouldn't even want.

Now that rep for rep and stuff is allowed there's no real currency to try to go after. Back in the day a high reputation user would usually be a reflection of like, either at the very least this guys popular, and its likely they're either a funny member, fun to engage with, or provide the website with quality content, that's gone now.

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I was thinking about this the other day. I really do miss the old internet. Things changed heavily once cellphones became widely available and now /everyones/ on the internet. I often long for those pre 2010-ish days where forums were popping, and the internet had so many cool corners it felt like. Hackforums being one of them. It almost felt like a place to discover you know? Nowadays its like the same streamline of memes all coming from Twitter/Snapchat/Instagram and I dunno, its just boring. Part of the reason I love browsing here still is because it takes me back to that "old internet" that I remember. Even though the forums not quite as lively as it once was.

Not to go full blackpilled but yeah, it seems like nowadays most people are pretty hiveminded into anything, whatever it may be. Video games? It's always some flavor of the week that everyones on, what was it a month or two ago? Helldivers? Then Once Human. Then it'll be something else. Same with most media, movies, etc.

Jamika - August 24, 2024, 5:46 pm

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This is fact but what will we do? Just wait and watch? I see same faces every day, and some times people fall, either get banned or exit scam or just leave.

Mooooookie - August 24, 2024, 8:34 pm

While it would be nice, I don't believe it's possible to force people nowadays to put out consistent, high quality thread and replies. Shitposters and trolls, will always do what they do. And users who actually put effort into their replies, will likely always do that.. as that's just them as a person. Awards for user with the most high quality posts a month, could incentivize some users to increase the quality of their posts, but I don't know if it would work with everyone.

I think there could be a shift of focus from high quality content, to things to keep users active while on the site. The more award goals, the more games, more activities there are on the site, the more reason users have to spend more time on the site. As I mentioned in one of my suggestion threads, if the daily ninja award was multi-level.. this in itself would be incentive for users who have already obtained the daily ninja award, to continue checking in daily. I know a lot of times, once someone reaches the award they've been aiming for, they will stop whatever it is they were doing to get the award once it's been obtained. Could hold a contest, for best award goal ideas.. this should generate a good amount of different ideas for awards goals.. and we could vote, or Omni could pick whichever ones he feels are the best, and make an effort to implement them. At the end of the day, people like the awards.. so anything extra activities that could be formed around an award being the end goal.. should have users engaging more on the site. Additional games.. I don't know what the percentage of people that play games on the site, but I know they get a decent amount of play, as users talk about/reference them regularly. Could create a suggestion contest for different forum games to add to the site.

Anything that can be added in addition to users creating and replying to the threads, should help to keep users on the site longer/coming back more often. Best way I can think to get a lot of ideas about this, is thru contests, awarding the users whose ideas actually get chosen as something to be added.. as not every user sees/replies to suggestions threads.. but when users hear contest, they typically get involved. Just some random thoughts.. as another user mentioned, were living in a different time.. people are in a rush nowadays, and are content with small, quick replies. It's rare to see people put effort into their posts nowadays.

Blazin - August 25, 2024, 12:16 am

Yeah, it's hard when a lot of the members are starting to get a bit older and everyone has smartphones and tablets. You could do awards and prizes for the most active members or posters each month. Maybe we could bring back the old VIP lounge we had years ago? where Ubers and upgraded members could post stuff for free methods and stuff. Smartphones make people more anti social so it's a tough call. More award goals, more seasonal awards. Maybe make it easier for members to sign up somehow.

bronzegods - August 25, 2024, 12:22 am

Mentioning the best threads of the week in a HF newsletter. I think Weekly HF news is now

discontinued but any sort of way that puts light on top recommendations from the week can increase activity and quality.

Jamika - August 25, 2024, 1:36 am

(Aug 24, 2024 08:34 PM)Mooooookie Wrote: [CITE](#) While it would be nice, I don't believe it's possible to force people nowadays to put out consistent, high quality thread and replies. Shitposters and trolls, will always do what they do. And users who actually put effort into their replies, will likely always do that.. as that's just them as a person. Awards for user with the most high quality posts a month, could incentivize some users to increase the quality of their posts, but I don't know if it would work with everyone.

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Will be cool to see levels of certain awards, as normal, bronze, silver up to diamond

Will create continous action here

Tha Sneak - August 25, 2024, 5:40 am

My thoughts would be to put an end to PM me for a link to such and such, which I believe used to be or still is a problem in the giveaways sections.

It generates replies, but they're all "please give me free item please".

I feel as though gravedigging old posts should be frowned upon especially those that have dead links. Let them sink to the bottom because they're useless and people still comment trying to get them.

Introduce a programming section like it used to be with separate languages and create a coder group where sharing of source codes, snippets, and scripts can be swapped. This would allow new tools, software, etc. to be developed right here on the forum. We just need to generate enough people interested in programming to stick with it. Like the niche of people assisting removing malware and helping with computer problems. I would like to see the programming section grow as it is fairly dead at the moment and programming is a huge part of what this forum is about.

The Lounge has always been a popular place because of the content and community. Being able to branch off into other sections and learn new things and see new things could inspire more quality content. Especially those that are not very knowledgeable at programming because this is also a place to learn.

Awards and such are great, but the community is where its at if you have a bunch of lounge dwellers they're not contributing as much quality content to other sections as others do.

There's gamers, programmers, hackers, white hats, car guys, chatters, etc. its such a diverse community, which is why this will always be my favorite forum.

I know there's probably been ups and downs with sections in the past, but encouraging learning in my opinion is what this is about. Whether it be learning cheat codes on a game, reverse engineering, malware removal, tech support, learning to build a program, etc. there are some that become masters of their craft some even seek outside knowledge to learn more.

I feel like offering incentives to help teach others would be massive instead there are some really great tutorials out there, but a lot of them are buried. I think there can even be something like members teaching other members things similar to how Bleepingcomputer, GeekstoGo, etc. teach malware removal.

There will always be those that are low quality, but I also believe a separation between questions and tutorials/guides/tools/ebooks etc would help like there be a section in hacking tools for questions and a section to share hacking tools. If that makes sense that way quality content remains in one section and doesn't get buried by a bunch of bullshit.

Hopefully my thoughts might be helpful if not I tried, but if I think of anything else I'll be sure to share.

iNviZ - August 25, 2024, 3:45 pm

Maybe something like active posting members get to stay in a special group.

M?tt - August 25, 2024, 3:54 pm

I feel like what "High Quality" is will vary between numerous members and that definition will have a big impact on what / how members will respond. To keep it short, members that take the time to provide well-worded responses that include proper grammar and encourage continuous discussions on the topic at hand are what the criteria should be (in my opinion). Responses that are lengthy can sometimes be too long and just become a "too long; didn't read" post. Not saying long responses are low-quality, but typing up an essay wouldn't make a post more or less in quality.

This is a very interesting topic and one I've debated on numerous times. I feel that the members that post high-quality threads and responses don't do it for the awards or acknowledgement, so I'm wondering what implementing a system like this will do to the community. Not being acknowledged for an award or whatever that encompasses this objective may leave members under the impression that they're not "high-quality" posters.

I am torn on whether or not this is a good idea, but numerous members here have shared great ideas and feedback on what this should look like.

ttbr0 - August 25, 2024, 8:07 pm

i suppose we would have to identify what motivates people to contribute their time and effort for producing high quality content. here are some ideas that i came up with in no particular order:

practical and real world rewards, e.g. burp suite, visual studio licenses, paid courses, etc. operates similar to giveaways but as rewards for high quality content. it could get expensive without official sponsorship from companies but maybe there are some other things that could be affordable. question is who will source it?

driving competition for high quality content will (hopefully) encourage better content. could be combined with a big competition for "the best educational post" with rewards mentioned in the point above

bounties (bytes or other currency): given on top of the normal bytes for posting, staff or verified experts can nominate a post (does not have to be op) for being high quality and informative and have an additional large currency awarded to the poster similar to how stack overflow bounties work

contracting someone for delivering an educational post paid in bytes or other currency, e.g. i want to know how hardware hacking works, i can list a contract to pay someone to make a post about it on the forums

clout: in the form of a forum status/award/exclusive group/special colors/whatever to give recognition to contributors

community driven projects or collaborative work paid out in bytes or other currency to contributors. e.g. developing tools that can benefit the community such as malware removal tooling

separation of high quality/educational content to prevent dilution with other non relevant or low quality posts, pushing these posts out of visibility (due to the nature of forum threads) and bringing longevity of these posts so that it is easily accessible and stops discouraging the contributor seeing their hard work get drowned out

perhaps a post of the month to be highlighted and pinned somewhere for an amount of time + op is awarded for it

to judge high quality content and giving out rewards, a panel of verified experts is needed in collaboration with staff to make assessments

Jamika - August 26, 2024, 1:55 am

(Aug 25, 2024 03:54 PM)M?tt Wrote: [CITE](#) I feel like what "High Quality" is will vary between numerous members and that definition will have a big impact on what / how members will respond. To keep it short, members that take the time to provide well-worded responses that include proper grammar and encourage continuous discussions on the topic at hand are what the criteria should be (in my opinion). Responses that are lengthy can sometimes be too long and just become a "too long; didn't read" post. Not saying long responses are low-quality, but typing up an essay wouldn't make a post more or less in quality.

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I am torn on whether or not this is a good idea, but numerous members here have shared great

ideas and feedback on what this should look like.

Dont forget that many, include me, are originally not english speakers, so grammer and well written may be a bad decision for us

M?tt - August 26, 2024, 4:57 am

(Aug 26, 2024 01:55 AM)Jamika Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Dont forget that many, include me, are originally not english speakers, so grammer and well written may be a bad decision for us

Note that I didn't say "English" grammar. I definitely understand that English isn't the primary language for some. For you at least, yours is better than some that even speak / write it as a primary language.

Frigg - August 27, 2024, 1:48 pm

(Aug 25, 2024 03:45 PM)jNviZ Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Maybe something like active posting members get to stay in a special group.

And just breed more separation

Omniscient - August 27, 2024, 2:19 pm

(Aug 27, 2024 01:48 PM)Frigg Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) And just breed more separation

Anything that rewards quality active members is going to appear as a separation. I don't believe in equity where all members are equal. Some provide HF will quality content, some with donations, and some do nothing but post shit. Your comment is shit.

M?tt - August 27, 2024, 7:24 pm

(Aug 27, 2024 01:48 PM)Frigg Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) And just breed more separation

What does that even mean? Unless you're worried about high quality members leveraging their "power" over normal members. Understand that each member you probably see as "prestigious" started out brand new. I've been here longer than most and while my post activity has been slightly cut back over the years, I've seen high quality members come and go. Even some members that joined this year I'd consider high quality because of what they contribute to the forum without looking for a reward.

Bastille - August 27, 2024, 8:56 pm

(Aug 27, 2024 01:48 PM)Frigg Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) And just breed more separation

I don't think that rewarding members who contribute quality content will create a divide between members; on the contrary. I don't want to seem pretentious, but I've created many threads to help forum members, including one that guides beginners, and I always make myself available when they have questions. Additionally, this could also motivate beginners to improve and, in turn, help others. I started on HF nearly 6 years ago without knowing anything about security or hacking, and thanks to members who helped me, I am now able to help others ?

Furthermore, having a distinguishing feature for those who produce quality content will make it easier for beginners to identify the people they can approach and rely on if they have questions, which will facilitate exchanges

CrackHeadDboi - August 27, 2024, 9:57 pm

(Aug 27, 2024 01:48 PM)Frigg Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) And just breed more separation

I think I get the angle you coming from but it doesn't have to be from a negative point of view

Jamika - August 29, 2024, 8:44 am

(Aug 27, 2024 08:56 PM)Bastille Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I don't think that rewarding members who contribute quality content will create a divide between members; on the contrary. I don't want to seem pretentious, but I've created many threads to help forum members, including one that guides beginners, and I always make myself available when they have questions. Additionally, this could

also motivate beginners to improve and, in turn, help others. I started on HF nearly 6 years ago without knowing anything about security or hacking, and thanks to members who helped me, I am now able to help others ?

Furthermore, having a distinguishing feature for those who produce quality content will make it easier for beginners to identify the people they can approach and rely on if they have questions, which will facilitate exchanges

You r one of most helpful staff, and general hf members, who helps new ones indeed

Proplem is that some act as they cant post high quality posts! As they are born to post shit

Carl Elias - August 31, 2024, 2:30 pm

I liked the idea [Bastille](#) suggested about including integration for Github, HTB, TryHackMe, etc. It isn't really increasing site quality directly, but indirectly it may provide some sort of "validation" of the users contributions/skills.

One thought I had was to bring back the upgraded user forum, but allow all members to view the forum. Its been so long, but I feel like previously that forum was private to only upgraded members, which was a small part of its removal since it did not add any public content - may be wrong, but that's what I think I remember happening. It may not help encourage quality post, but might bring in more quality threads possibly.

Another thought I had is probably a good amount of work, but may be a GREAT option. I was thinking of the possibility of HF implementing post ratings based off AI (for fun I asked ChatGPT to rate this post, see its response [Here](#)) and utilizing those post ratings to reward members.

For example if your profiles average post ratings is 95% or higher, you get +/-1 Popularity abilities until you drop below 95%. Another option could be that the amount of bytes you earn per post/thread is proportionate to the post rating.

This AI option would also possibly allow HF to recommend to users ideas on how to make their post better

illuminati? - August 31, 2024, 2:55 pm

(Aug 23, 2024 10:44 AM)Bastille Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Aside from bytes and awards :

- A hall of fame
- A special title
- Membership in an exclusive group (e.g., "c0ntribut0r")
- A glowing aura or animation around their profile picture, with different colors corresponding to the forums they are most active/helpful in
- A glowing or animated username, compatible with group colors and based on the above activity
- A glowing banner
- A glowing bio box
- A special theme on their profile
- Granting additional privileges, such as:
 - > Increasing the popularity power (up to 4 / 5 / 6 ...)
 - > Increasing the daily popularity limit
 - > Increasing the bytes earning bonus
 - > Larger signature space / increasing the signature size limit

It could also be beneficial to implement features such as integrating TryHackMe and Hack The Box profiles on HF for people active in the hacking section, like this:

Or similarly, integrating GitHub profiles so active members can share their contributions, for members active in the Coding section

Integrating GitHub & THM & HTB could be an interesting thing..

The profile customization is something I think a few members would be interested in.

I definitely think a Hall of Fame is a good idea that could probably be implemented easily, it could be spread up into different categories;

Proven Hackers, Fallen comrades (members that have passed away), long time members, former staff members/mentors, etc.

Popularity is kinda pointless as it doesn't mean shit.

If we increased the bytes, we should also find some new things that bytes could be used for.

(Aug 23, 2024 02:43 PM)ZELOS Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I'm sure someone had this idea in the past. I'll write it down anyway:

HF needs its own ERC20 token which is also traded on the market and listed on CMC. The token should then replace the bytes and this way you can incentivize HQ content. This will also attract many new users. The idea is brilliant, but it comes with many challenges and problems, such as:

- Price manipulation
- ChatGPT content
- More bots
- Post hunting
- Alt accounts

Yeah, there are too many different variables that would make this more of a headache than helpful I think.

(Aug 23, 2024 09:35 PM)Bastille Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) A few additional ideas came to mind during the night. I believe that to improve the quality on HF, we need to focus on two vectors :

Experienced Members: We should motivate our seasoned members to produce high-quality content. As discussed earlier, offering more privileges, awards, and unique features—such as glowing usernames, custom profile pictures, new themes, and so on—can act as rewards.

New Members: It's crucial to engage new members with potential right from the moment they register on HF.

Regarding the second point, here are some ideas:

- We have hat awards ready, but you mentioned uncertainty about how they could be implemented on HF: <https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=6220705>

What if we allowed both old and new members to choose a hat that defines their profile? This could facilitate easier connections between members who share similar goals and skills. For example:

- White Hat: Cybersecurity
- Black Hat: Hacking
- Grey Hat: A mix of White and Black
- Green Hat: Money / e-whoring / Business
- Red Hat: Gaming / Social
- Blue Hat: Coding

I think for some of the members that are more on the sketchy side of law this would be like planting a target on their back.

Like I get it, they do what they do and that's their choice, but it feels like a way to help assist feds more than it would do good.

May we could utilize the awards and hand them out to members more frequently if they prove themselves, and whatnot.

(Aug 24, 2024 09:14 AM)Nostre Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Increase popularity points based on the popularity given

Different colored apples for a new milestone reached (Add-ons with other apples or swapped after each milestone is reached)1k - Green

2.5k - Bronze

5k - Silver

10k - Gold

Increase Bytes earned per post/thread based on average PPD

Release a few awards that are required to be maintained. For example, the Everyday Ninja award is a one-time requirement of 100 posts and that's it. What if we had awards that must be sustained by making X posts in specific categories each month?

We could also make QL half-off on random occasions... similar to bonus days for Bytes

These suggestions may help maintain activity. As far as quality... I'm not too sure. I think quality will grow over time as rules will be broken more often if it activity increases; staff will enforce policy and hopefully fix the issue by default.

I think some awards that drive more activity could potentially be helpful.

Like, the golden bar award, could have a bronze, silver, etc.

Oak - August 31, 2024, 3:39 pm

My suggestions:

Delete popularity, go back to [reputation](#) with custom messages.

Delete most awards, limit the amount of purchasable awards.

De-monetize much of the site.

Promote social (lounge, gaming, etc) as it's always been popular and that isn't a bad thing.

Quit deleting threads and posts. It's demoralizing when you put work into posting and engaging and it gets culled. That said I understand there may need to be balance here for the sake of server capacity.

Re-instate official groups that are worth pursuing (similar to prior groups like HJT Team / MRT, Reviewers, Writers, etc. Mentors is a good start imo).

Quit deading and banning people that get on your nerves. Put up with some bullshit from people that contribute to the site. Or just ignore drama sometimes, don't necessarily get involved when a lot of it will blow over.

Separate out Crew userbars and make them smaller, emphasize userbars and groups again.

Reduce confusion and fluff.

Get rid of the +10 / -10 BS and buyables like that from private groups. Revert that back to official mods and admins only.

Imo, much of the HQ from back in the day was a top layer of people that contributed most heavily to the site. People were notable and respected in the community, they were differentiated from others. Awards meant something, rep meant something, you could tell someone was someone by their profile. These people drove further HQ as people wanted to build their own reputation on the site and become known themselves. Nowadays it's a mass bland mess of meaninglessness. There's nothing to work for, there's no reason to be HQ, and there's no 'reward' in becoming someone on the site. Everyone is able to drench themselves in glamour and it's impossible to tell who's who or verify that someone's actually 'HQ' or just spent a bunch of money on the site.

Jamika - September 1, 2024, 12:41 am

(Aug 31, 2024 03:39 PM)Oak Wrote: [CITE](#) My suggestions:

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the site. Everyone is able to drench themselves in glamour and it's impossible to tell who's who or verify that someone's actually 'HQ' or just spent a bunch of money on the site.

Sure omni good reply but wanna say

1- reward and its selling is a must as source of income for him, otherwise we have all to pay him, its a way to make a win win situation

2- old members already posted and carried the forum, so do new ones, despite that new ones find it hard to get rewards old members already had, i am here for almost a year and i posted more than half od members, u can believe some posted 10 posts from 10 years and came back now to find themselves with skull award which i will get when i die probably

3- value and trust cant be controlled or judged by rep, many scammed with high rep, and with thousands of cash, so not ql or rep or anything is a measure, u can read others review and see, or use middle man

4-old posts deleted to make forum light and when move to a new server, and as it will not affect ur bytes or reward then why its important?

Carl Elias - September 1, 2024, 8:00 pm

(Sep 1, 2024 07:09 PM)Snyke Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) There is a generational age gap from old members to new members. Letting a bunch of old heads debate over "popularity this", "I miss the old X", "Remember when we had uber/leet forums?", "Merge this and this to make it look more active" and "awards were earned in my day blah blah" is just old men yelling at clouds speaking primarily from emotion and nostalgia. Nothing more.

I do feel like the account age gap is noticeable and you are not wrong about the debating. I will say that the award system in my eyes has lost my interest. The one example that I can think of is back when we had the clover award that was randomly awarded to posts that had over XX characters. That was one period of time that I felt more inclined to create posts. This is what lead me to making my own user script to count characters in my posts to increase the chances of getting one by making sure all my posts met that character limit. Of course we do have the Hackuman awards today, but those go away overtime and if you do not really play the game, there is not really a point of the award.

Another period of time that inclined me to post more was when we had the "Prestige" rating system. It was a mystery and there were a number of people spending time tracking their HF interactions to try to reverse engineer the formula used to create that rating, two of which being [Steve](#) and [Xerotic](#). Of course they got much further than I did, but it was a fun trying to crack the rating.

This is why I suggested bringing back something that encourages posting. My idea of using some AI or post-quality rating to weigh posts and give rewards based off that weight may be beneficial and is similar to the clover award and prestige ratings except this method puts quality ratings directly to post and not just the account as a whole. Doing so would hopefully create both quantity and quality posts. With the amount of content generated on HF, I feel like it would totally be possible to create a dataset of "quality posts" to be referenced when creating the rating of newer posts.

Cap - September 1, 2024, 9:53 pm

(Aug 23, 2024 10:44 AM)Bastille Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Aside from bytes and awards :

- A hall of fame
- A special title
- Membership in an exclusive group (e.g., "cOntribut0r")
- A glowing aura or animation around their profile picture, with different colors corresponding to the

forums they are most active/helpful in

- A glowing or animated username, compatible with group colors and based on the above activity
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 - > Increasing the popularity power (up to 4 / 5 / 6 ...)
 - > Increasing the daily popularity limit
 - > Increasing the bytes earning bonus
 - > Larger signature space / increasing the signature size limit

It could also be beneficial to implement features such as integrating TryHackMe and Hack The Box profiles on HF for people active in the hacking section, like this:

```

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Or similarly, integrating GitHub profiles so active members can share their contributions, for members active in the Coding section.

I can see this especially with new members looking for automated tools / script, they don't want to spend time understanding they just want a "magic tool / command line" to hack everything. Even when they open a thread asking for help they provide 0 details, when you ask them : What did you try already to fix the issue ? They reply : "I tried everything"

I agree with the best response as a metric, this could definitely help

Stemming off of these ideas, here are my thoughts:

What if we did something along the lines of a tiered system with certain milestones or XP. At each milestone, you receive a special perk or reward essentially for the continuous dedication. Or we could do it based off of XP, where each action grants you a certain amount of XP. After XP is met, you essentially rank up and receive a perk. Here is how it could possibly look:

Tier 1:

- 5 tutorials/guides approved by Staff
- 2 site contests
- Upgraded 3 members
- Received 1 best response (by staff)

Reward:

- Award (maybe a tiered award that changes based on what tier you're on?)
- 10% increase in bytes per post

Tier 2:

- 10 tutorials/guides approved by Staff
- 5 site contests
- Upgraded 5 members
- Received 3 best responses (by staff)
- Completed 5 award goals

Reward:

- Award (next version of it)
- 20% increase in bytes per post
- +2 in popularity power
- Lower bytes bump fee

Tier 3:

- 15 tutorials/guides approved by Staff
- 7 site contests
- Upgraded 10 members
- Received 5 best responses (by staff)

Reward:

- Award (final version of it)
- 30% increase in bytes per post
- +4 in popularity power
- Glowing username
- Added to special group/hall of fame

Of course nothing is set in stone and these are just simple ideas that popped in my head. I know it would be a lot of work to implement something like this, but I feel it may drive quality activity.

Jamika - September 2, 2024, 2:03 am

(Sep 1, 2024 07:09 PM)Snyke Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You're asking the wrong people.

The only people this post is going to reach are people that love HF, understand HF and want more than anything for it to grow into the healthy being it once was hanging onto nostalgia for the sake of nostalgia.

DMAIC plans to new members can be issued in the welcome PM. If you want to know why they showed up, what they want to see, and what would make them continuously checking; Simply ask them. What's a 5 minute survey for 100 bytes to unlock some links in the hacking tutorials section? Qualitative research has never been cheaper.

As you get answers, refine your DMAIC survey into targeted data analysis.

From there, you can impose your demand system, imply metric quotas to highly valued content areas and imposing of a new kind of rewards system similar to bytes (perhaps call it HF IQ?) in which these points cannot be traded to other members, but are redeemable for perhaps old awards that are no longer available, or a select conversion into bytes. The higher demand topic, the higher IQ points earned. These trending topics can be pulled from anywhere.

The data is there, and the data doesn't lie. There is a generational age gap from old members to new members. Letting a bunch of old heads debate over "popularity this", "I miss the old X", "Remember when we had uber/leet forums?", "Merge this and this to make it look more active" and "awards were earned in my day blah blah" is just old men yelling at clouds speaking primarily from emotion and nostalgia. Nothing more.

It's true your market segment for traffic has dwindled, and the PR opportunities for HF isn't as buzzing in favor of "edgier" forums, but the curious minds are still out there. It's upto you to inspire your members to create content that draws them in.

This is just my two cents, as someone who has contributed extensively in my past lives because I simply enjoyed it, garnishing thousands of replies from my tutorials and hand-written threads, this would have inspired me to contribute even more.

edit:

Also, GPT integration and modernization with MyBB is time. From what I've seen, the implementation of posting as a person doesn't garnish good reception, but a little hack-buddy help-bot could never hurt and provide intrinsic value to the site through an API for minimal to no fee.

I like the idea of points that only got by your effort, no buy no trade no transfer no flip

If u wanna sell it to bytes do, or exchange for rewards

Very smart!

neightworks. - September 3, 2024, 6:43 am

Group Battles.

Bi-Weekly tournament between all groups that enter. Charge either a byte fee or a Bitcoin fee per player required ie: \$20/p League=\$100 entry, Risk=\$20 entry. Winner keeps a percent, house keeps a percent. Add these games to the sports betting to encourage participation outside of players.

Give the winning teams "Group Battle Points" to spend on awards and other goodies like sticky credits, the amount of points people get is based on the size of the group and placement in the tournament.

Entry requirements: group must have an overall warning level below 10% (this might be an issue if we bring mentors back), group must have at least 100 posts in the last 30 days outside the SF.

I am willing to host the first one to gauge response before creating a whole new plugin.

Edit: seems like there is a little confusion on what the battles would be.. a good example would be maybe one battle would be a custom Minecraft plugin that separates players into their team and the first team to beat the ender dragon wins. Pvp enabled, your team can have unlimited players but remember every player costs \$20.

Another weekend it could be a simple ARAM tournament, blackjack, CSGO, TFT, Yahtzee, etc etc.

Jamika - September 3, 2024, 11:35 am

(Sep 3, 2024 06:43 AM)neightworks. Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Group Battles.

Bi-Weekly tournament between all groups that enter. Charge either a byte fee or a Bitcoin fee per player required ie: \$20/p League=\$100 entry, Risk=\$20 entry. Winner keeps a percent, house keeps a percent. Add these games to the sports betting to encourage participation outside of players.

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Entry requirements: group must have an overall warning level below 10% (this might be an issue if we bring mentors back), group must have at least 100 posts in the last 30 days outside the SF.

I am willing to host the first one to gauge response before creating a whole new plugin.

Nice idea, can make it with bytes entry per group, and winners who post hq posts and threads, be active more, and so on

Idk, but ur idea is good

neightworks. - September 3, 2024, 11:52 am

(Sep 3, 2024 11:35 AM)Jamika Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Nice idea, can make it with bytes entry per group, and

winners who post hq posts and threads, be active more, and so on

Idk, but ur idea is good

Bytes logically make the most sense but I'm not sure if it's the biggest incentive the way things are right now, I think if you gave group owners a way to potentially profit off their group it would revive them. However hosting money tournaments probably involves a lot of legal stuff. I also think it's the most lucrative to Omni if it was somehow involving real tender as he could collect from both the gambling side and the prize percentage side.

Tyr - September 3, 2024, 12:22 pm

Only Secret Society members post HQ content.

illuminati? - September 3, 2024, 12:24 pm

(Sep 3, 2024 12:22 PM)Osiris? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Only Secret Society members post HQ content. Umm. Did you read the thread?

We recommend you take the time to read the [HF Help Documents](#) section. The answer to your questions should be contained in there.

Tyr - September 3, 2024, 2:21 pm

(Sep 3, 2024 12:24 PM)illuminati? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Umm. Did you read the thread?

We recommend you take the time to read the [HF Help Documents](#) section. The answer to your questions should be contained in there.

Have you actually read the amount of contributions that would be deemed HQ over the years to this forum of which I have made in an effort to help people? It becomes a tad exhausting.

illuminati? - September 4, 2024, 4:22 am

(Sep 3, 2024 02:21 PM)Osiris? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Have you actually read the amount of contributions that would be deemed HQ over the years to this forum of which I have made in an effort to help people? It becomes a tad exhausting.

Life is exhausting but we still do it no?

Tyr - September 4, 2024, 1:30 pm

(Sep 4, 2024 04:22 AM)illuminati? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Life is exhausting but we still do it no? Real talk tho.

Jamika - September 5, 2024, 8:28 am

(Sep 3, 2024 12:22 PM)Osiris? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Only Secret Society members post HQ content. Really? May be because you r in the group so u say that, u judge is totally mess

NoSuchAgency - September 5, 2024, 6:33 pm

(Aug 24, 2024 12:12 PM)Kaleb Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) .. something akin to a karma system on reddit maybe.. I think this would be great because it also allows many of our lurkers to give input. Upvote or downvote threads and replies.

Omniscient - September 6, 2024, 9:32 am

(Sep 5, 2024 06:33 PM)NoSuchAgency Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I think this would be great because it also allows many of our lurkers to give input. Upvote or downvote threads and replies.

MyBB wasn't designed (most forums aren't) to sort the threads by votes. It's possible, I could do it though with some coding and setting changes. We have sort options by default, could set them by "rating" and allow Thread Ratings again, change the ratings to Up/Down votes even. But I think I'd have to also do the sorting by maybe past 7 days, else much older threads might rule the listing.

We certainly don't have enough daily threads for this to be a great feature imho. If we had 1000 threads a day it makes more sense than the 120 threads per day we have now. So the effectiveness of this will be poor.

Net - September 6, 2024, 10:08 am

(Sep 6, 2024 09:32 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) MyBB wasn't designed (most forums aren't) to sort the threads by votes. It's possible, I could do it though with some coding and setting changes. We have sort options by default, could set them by "rating" and allow Thread Ratings again, change the ratings to Up/Down votes even. But I think I'd have to also do the sorting by maybe past 7 days, else much older threads might rule the listing. We certainly don't have enough daily threads for this to be a great feature imho. If we had 1000 threads a day it makes more sense than the 120 threads per day we have now. So the effectiveness of this will be poor.

Maybe a "Most Quick Loved thread Today / This week / This month"?

Jamika - September 6, 2024, 11:01 am

(Sep 6, 2024 10:08 AM)Net Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Maybe a "Most Quick Loved thread Today / This week / This month"?

You mean op that get ql, right?

If someone made a ql for ql post , it will exceed many

Net - September 6, 2024, 11:12 am

(Sep 6, 2024 11:01 AM)Jamika Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You mean op that get ql, right?

If someone made a ql for ql post , it will exceed many

Maybe just exclude some sections for this idea? Just thinking out loud.

Tyr - September 6, 2024, 1:01 pm

(Sep 5, 2024 08:28 AM)Jamika Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Really? May be because you r in the group so u say that, u judge is totally mess

Buddy. It wasn't meant to be taken literally. ?

RangoWorld - September 6, 2024, 1:51 pm

Do we actually need focus on quality engagement among current users or more active users?

Back in the day HF was a very busy place. I recall Marketplace being particular extravagant. That's unfortunately not the case anymore.

Still for instance lets say the forum could have 2X the number of active users it has right now. Wouldn't the quality of engagement overall on the forum get increased 2X as well?

Jamika - September 7, 2024, 10:13 am

(Sep 6, 2024 01:51 PM)RangoWorld Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Do we actually need focus on quality engagement among current users or more active users?

Back in the day HF was a very busy place. I recall Marketplace being particular extravagant. That's unfortunately not the case anymore.

Still for instance lets say the forum could have 2X the number of active users it has right now. Wouldn't the quality of engagement overall on the forum get increased 2X as well?

Not necessary, we can grow with more shit, we need more quality and quantity

Omniscient - September 7, 2024, 12:06 pm

(Sep 6, 2024 01:51 PM)RangoWorld Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Do we actually need focus on quality engagement among current users or more active users?

Back in the day HF was a very busy place. I recall Marketplace being particular extravagant. That's unfortunately not the case anymore.

Still for instance lets say the forum could have 2X the number of active users it has right now. Wouldn't the quality of engagement overall on the forum get increased 2X as well?

Well the hope is more quality holds more users engaged. Nothing wrong with quantity imho but if there is nothing but low-quality then that's a problem. It's not going to entice people to engage.

Nostre - September 10, 2024, 5:38 am

Since we can obtain eggs for posting to use in HUM, what about something called "Loot" that drops items to use in HUM as well? Such as potions, food, etc. I could expand a bit more, but I'm sure we understand where I'm coming from. This doesn't necessarily increase quality however, it may help with activity for both the forum and HUM. It also helps we have an award for seasonal winners too.

I'm always noticing the majority of active posters are in a group, so working with and incentivizing the owner/members could help. We have independent awards for reaching goals which is great, but we could also include group challenges. This could be monthly, quarterly, and/or yearly depending on the goals and prize for reaching said goals. This can start with bytes, added popularity points (Your OG idea), and potentially go as far as being granted a custom group award.

Riggs - September 10, 2024, 6:30 am

What about a system where posts have a probability of earning trading cards representing different areas of hacking, cybersecurity tools, techniques, or famous incidents etc, categorised into tiers of rarity:

Common Cards: Basic concepts, tools (e.g port scanning, Wireshark, CIA triad, SQL injection, reverse engineering, Metasploit modules etc).

Rare Cards: Real-life hacking events, well-known security breaches, or famous hackers (e.g., Stuxnet, the Equifax breach, Kevin Mitnick etc).

Legendary Cards: Highly rare and specialised techniques or legendary figures in cybersecurity history (e.g., zero-day exploits, Stuxnet etc).

Cards could augment the current rewards system, where some can be purchased directly using bytes, traded with other members, or earned for completing tasks, with prestige scoring reintroduced based on the types/number of cards collected.

Cards could also have categorised collections, where completion of a collection produces a categorised award and increases that HF member's prestige scoring.

Cards could be earned by:

Making posts

Completing challenges (e.g., augmented from the awards system)

Participating in special forum events or competitions

Categorised awards would also introduce some cosmetic consistency (which the current awards don't have).

Would need the commitment of a dedicated artist.

Time required to implement suggestion = 9999999999999999999999999999 hours gogogo