

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [HF "newsfeed" with Thread Flair filtering - Make mobile HF addicting](#)

Hackers - November 22, 2025, 9:48 am

It is a big update suggestion, but it would modernize HF and cause people to get addicted to scrolling on it. For these reasons, I think we should figure out how this could happen, even if it would take weeks or months to implement.

Why can't I scroll through posts and easily engage with content? It should be easy, but the truth is that it's not and that's nobody's fault. This is a forum, using a forum interface, and we love HF. I'm not trying to break that, but it's worth figuring out how we can accomplish this because I think it could boost site activity more than any other idea I can come up with. The sad truth is that it's hard to use HF on a phone and if we can figure that out then the site will probably profit significantly.

In an extremely modern version, threads would be more like the social post "cards" we see with image/video embeds, comments, and a like (quick love) button.

I love forums, the structure, and everything. But this would help move towards a more modern way of viewing content. I'm not suggesting we go too far, and maybe this could be a separate page for a while. If it's truly as addicting as I imagine "scrolling HF" could be for mobile users (and all), then perhaps it could replace the traditional index page one day for logged in users.

I hate to say it, but I do imagine some of us will be addicted to scrolling, viewing content from all around the forum, and responding & quick loving.

If you do this I truly believe you will see a significant spike in mobile use, hours on the forum, total replies, and more. It's not easy to swipe through the videos users have posted, or images, or discussions. If something is really interesting in a sub-forum that someone doesn't frequent, it goes unnoticed.

Engaging with content should be as easy as swiping your thumb and ignoring a healthy sleep schedule. Right now it's harder than that, so fixing the mobile friction and using a more social/modern UI will pay off imo.

Tyr - November 22, 2025, 10:03 am

(Nov 22, 2025 10:48 AM)nodes Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The sad truth is that it's hard to use HF on a phone and if we can figure that out then the site will probably profit significantly.

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I dig it so long as that scrolling which hijacks the reward system in your brain doesn't lead to a decrease in content on the main forum. I am assuming you would also suggest synergy between both? For example, members using the newsfeed/css feature or whichever it unfolds to be to ensure that members are remaining engaged in both through different forms of reinforcement.

I think it's a cool idea so long as it is educational and allows people to learn. I have actually found some interesting shorts through Meta in the past that led to me learning more out of curiosity. I think it would be cool to tie this in with some sort of mechanism or stat on the forum.

The flash card comparison gave me another idea. This could be gamified too. Not only that, there is the room for expansion where a potentially new strata of users would be interested in (from my eyes).

The Hack Game could even be combined into a multifunctional module to serve as a medium between the positive reinforcement variables you mentioned but most importantly using the scrolling feature as an RSS feed to filter and organize threads within the main forum which could even be tied to our current automated news system to facilitate more interest and replies other than those farming for awards.

If some of this doesn't make sense I am sorry, I've been up too long.

Hackers - November 22, 2025, 10:39 am

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Yeah, I think it has to be a balance, and without breaking away from traditional forum experiences too.

I know we have New Posts and New Threads, but we don't really have a way for someone to just log in and explore. I imagine a UI where each thread has a sneak preview of content, a quick reply feature, and a way for the user to click into that user's profile, the thread's assigned forum, and more from just that 1 card. And if they don't like that content, they just keep swipin' down

Maybe there's a way where swiping left/right can swipe through threads in a forum, so if a thread bubbles up on the newsfeed then users can swipe down to keep finding new content, or swipe left/right within a post/card on the feed to see similar threads. This UX would make it much easier to dive into a topic (keep swiping right to see more threads in that subforum), or popular posts (swipe down to see more threads by recent/popularity/replies).

xadamxk - November 23, 2025, 8:24 am

I've felt the same way for a while, but IMO would require a native mobile app rather than different views for desktop/mobile.

The HF API needs a few changes before most of the desktop functionality could be supported.

Hackers - November 23, 2025, 12:02 pm

(Nov 23, 2025 09:24 AM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I've felt the same way for a while, but IMO would require a native mobile app rather than different views for desktop/mobile.

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Yeah, definitely would be useful to overhaul everything. Do you think it's possible to implement something in between, without a full mobile app?

xadamxk - November 23, 2025, 1:55 pm

(Nov 23, 2025 01:02 PM)nodes Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yeah, definitely would be useful to overhaul everything. Do you think it's possible to implement something in between, without a full mobile app?

Personally, I don't think it would be without creating a mobile client. But Omni has better insights into this than I do.

Hackers - November 23, 2025, 3:21 pm

(Nov 23, 2025 02:55 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Personally, I don't think it would be without creating a mobile client. But Omni has better insights into this than I do.

Mmm, I mean there are some ways to do that. If we hook up a remote connection to DB, we can get a separate instance of modern MyBB up and then hook into a PWA or a native app wrapper so it's clean & working. It may be missing some features, but that might be okay for an exclusive mobile experience.

This can be separate from the website, so the site is accessible as-is. We would just prompt user to either download the custom PWA version or go to app/play store for a native version.

It's doable if we look at it with that type of mindset. We are always thinking of how we can bring ALL the HF tech debt into a new build, but that's a way to avoid that without disrupting the main website at all.

I think we should seriously consider how this can be done because this could be the difference of HF in 10-20 years versus 5-10. I think if we find a way to make it more of a permanent place with more modern UI & apps then it can continue to be a tech hub.

HF is already very social, I think a lot of us are here because of that. We should embrace it

Terry A. Davis - November 23, 2025, 8:23 pm

I like browsing profiles of members who I used to know and talk to often.

Pepridge farm remembers the Group Skype days, and worrying that people were going to get your IP, ah... Memories.

Omniscient - November 29, 2025, 12:53 pm

Could just be a live asynchronous feed with options to "reply" to just about anything. Can be a page like live.php. May run from the websocket for efficiency.

Absolutely doable, probably a good suggestion I need to consider very carefully.

Also, you can forget a mobile app. With just 2 gatekeepers and Android ending side-loading, I'm not going to take the chance that whatever app we create doesn't get delisted for some policy violation and all the work will be for absolutely nothing.

Hackers - November 29, 2025, 1:37 pm

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No problem with the mobile app thoughts, anything we can do for a feed like you are saying would be perfect imho :)

Dank - November 30, 2025, 3:01 am

you wanna doomscroll more of this content? -_-

give it a rest already

Leroidumonde - December 1, 2025, 10:21 pm

Tu a raison , alors si l'on doit utiliser un téléphone pour HF , l'iPhone, ou Huawei serait le plus habilité ? [warn]

Hackers - December 8, 2025, 5:39 am

(Nov 30, 2025 04:01 AM)Dank Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) you wanna doomscroll more of this content? -_-

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no, I want popular and trending posts to rise to the top like 99.99% of the most popular platforms and apps in the world and stop prioritizing chronological sorting in forum UIs that are quite literally on their way out.

HF is a great place, but forums themselves were dying while HF was still peaking

I don't plan to doomscroll, but this would make people more engaged on HF, maybe more addicted, and it could be profitable for Omni. HF is a business so it's a win-win for community members and community owners.

Stanley - February 15, 2026, 5:33 am

I'm Stanley HF's helper bot. The OP (original poster) of this thread wants everyone to see this page and has elected to bump it to the top of the showthread listing. Since HF doesn't want a ton of LQP (Low Quality Posts) this is the best method of bumping your content. There is a small ?yte fee for each bump. Any OP can bump any of their threads on HF from the linked icon on the top of their first

post.

If you haven't already read the first post of this thread we encourage you to do so.

Thanks,
Stanley

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Do we even have enough new content anymore to justify this as a feature?

Basically 1 new thread every 30 minutes on average and a new post every 3 minutes.

It would be like watching grass grow? And why not just come onto HF at that point. The "live feed" wouldn't move.

Immortal - April 3, 2026, 9:43 pm

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The point is to get people scrolling down and down and down, and to stay on-site. You don't need to show timestamps, they just need to be interested enough to keep scrolling through posts, threads, photos, videos.

They don't need to wait for new posts to show up on top - they can just keep scrolling.

7 - April 4, 2026, 12:47 am

It is extremely possible if the API end points were created to use mybb as a backend and a fully responsive react site to reposition this forum thats both mobile and desktop friendly while giving it a modern feel. Is it worth it because only one thread every 30mins? No but isn't that what were trying to overcome to bring hackforums to new age of users who prefer using mobile and this kind of modern social formatting so yes if HF wants to grow further, its worth it. If were just going to say the users are visiting and not staying but we will keep it the same.... I don't really see the point in discussing any changes.

I and many others on this forums could wrap this whole site into a modern mobile friendly site that is familiar with modern day users and hopefully that would encourage users to stay and therefore more threads, therefore more reason for live feed and stanley could focus more on news scrapping and delivering HQ content updates to the community.

My opinion, sorry if it's not liked.

1 month of work max. Less if I had [Hackers newQuery](#) onboard.

Turn HF into a modern mobile-native community platform with forum DNA.

That means:

- feed for discovery
- thread for depth
- profile for identity
- notifications for retention
- marketplace/reputation for trust
- moderation tools preserved underneath

Technically, this is very feasible.

A practical architecture would look like:

- MyBB + existing DB as legacy core
- Node.js API/middleware for auth, caching, feed aggregation, notifications, search shaping
- React / Next.js front end for web
- optional React Native app later
- Redis for feed caching, notifications, rate-limits, session helpers
- Elastic/OpenSearch for fast content discovery if needed
- gradual rollout via feature flags

You could even do it in phases:

Phase 1: mobile-first responsive front end for thread reading, posting, notifications, login

Phase 2: feed/discovery layer and modern profile pages

Phase 3: realtime notifications, reactions, richer media, PM overhaul

Phase 4: app-like experience, recommendation engine, creator/community features

Check out VIBE subforum for further information on how we could proceed.

1 month max... done.

For people wanting the OG experience they could choose it in their account preferences.

We could also add AI mods and auto translate for expanding beyond English speakers.

Also you don't need a app store app to have an app experience...

Let's not watch grass grow slowly but fertilise it and watch it grow faster..

(Apr 3, 2026 09:43 PM)Immortal Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Just give the man what he wants he been asking for it for so damn long. it was a good idea.

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Just waiting on the group man... won't be long.

xadamxk - April 4, 2026, 10:40 am

(Apr 4, 2026 12:47 AM)7 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) ...

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HF is unique in many ways and one of them is that is a mix of "traditional" forum users and "social media" forum users.

Your suggestion is exactly what the "social media" users want - I agree with you there (and honestly, it is the best for retention and activity).

But does technology and the marketplace fall under that subset of users? That is what the site is all about after all.

Not dissing anyone's ideas but there is more to this than just activity and retention.

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I think I appreciate the response??

[Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NYJ2w82WifU>]

I work with AI all day long, I do often make sure my ideas are sane and logical which is probably why you feel this way about that section because it was inspired by my discussion with AI. It's not AI slop however and this idea I have been toying with for quite a long time. I have developed a full plan of execution using AI but no its not slop but it is sanitized in all fairness. But AI isn't the creative part of any idea, that's where I feel real AI slop stands but as a reference for logical planning and execution AI holds a purpose. But this kind of thing I have already done on multiple other projects.

Inside, Vibe is the full execution plan which you might call AI slop but it's not slop if it's an organized and sanitized plan.

I have spoke to Omni about this in the past and he has offered to create the end points needed to get something like this wanted for a a true mobile experience in all fairness to him.

Hackers - April 4, 2026, 7:25 pm

Social media won the battle against forum UIs, and there are plenty of tech people not using forums. I can name several apps and communities that have millions of tech people, and nowhere close to as many traditional forums. We are not a good representation of the tech world, no matter how much we want to believe we are.

What I mean is that it's not a good idea to think too deeply into what traditional forum lovers want. I am one of those people, i love forums. But the world moved on and forum software lost the battle to instant scrolls, reactions, and mobile-first UIs.

I think the reason it's hard to see this is because when forum software was dying as a whole, HF was thriving and growing. The overlap with forums dying out elsewhere, but HF continuing to grow for a few years longer has led to (in my opinion) a somewhat biased and rare experience that may lead longtime HF users to believe more strongly in forum software.

I remember discussing the deaths of forums as early as 2007-2010, and yet HF grew tremendously. But the signs were there and socials won hard back then and continued to.

I only say all this out of a love for the site. I want to see it around when i'm older, and I want to see fresh users coming in. This would help a lot with that, but really... there are greater changes needed in addition to just a feed. It's more about the philosophy than just 1 page.

clark.dll - *September 14, 2026, 8:26 am*

I know it's already ruled out, just wanted to add that speaking as an (ex) mobile app developer who had to regularly submit new versions to the App Store: HF would never be approved for the Apple Store due to RAT discussion alone.

I agree that there isn't enough activity to implement a scrollable mobile version. Think about it pragmatically.. many new posts are from new members just saying things like "does this still work?" or "how to buy this?" A feed would result in a collection of garbage unless it was modified somehow to exclude posts with fewer than X characters, but then you'd likely never have enough activity to justify the feed in the first place.

I do agree that the site is more challenging to navigate via mobile, and of course most internet traffic is from mobile devices so it's worth finding a solution to this, but I'm not sure what that would be.