*Disclaimer:*

You don’t really need to read this. I’m making (AKA copypasting) this .doc as a means of preserving important data about 4chan, its culture and its history in case the original sources go down. Think of this as a time vault for the long future (as long as my hard drive doesn’t die and somebody downloads this)

Most of the text has had its format modified to be more readable and easy to understand. No information has been removed, and small parentheses were added to clarify certain parts of text. Hyperlinks and one-line text that is only there to suggest clicking a link were removed though, since they don’t fit the purpose of this .doc and would be useless. Links pointing to archived threads were left on purpose in high hopes that said archives will survive for a while. Typos and mistakes were not corrected. All parentheses on tittles show the original source of the text.

*4chan:
"A comprehensive english based resource for the collection and distribution of yaoi and dickgirlz"*

*Summaries:*

***From Github:***

*(General summary. I’d say the only required reading of this .doc)*

**Genesis:**

4chan is founded in 2003 as an english-language version of Futaba Channel. The site introduces a simpler and freer method of communication that Something Awful users have always dreamed of. It soon becomes wildly popular as a new home for banned ADTRW refugees, who in turn spread word across the internet. During this era, the first tenets of 4chan culture are created by ADTRW and 2chan. 4chan links quickly replace Futaba Channel links on ADTRW. Once Lowtax begins to create a Soviet-style police state of arbitrary rules on SA (which cost users their $15 accounts), 4chan quickly rose beyond the tired, old site.

The massive popularity of 4chan quickly becomes taxing, and moot just barely manages to keep it alive, through ads or donations. The controversial content becomes a major point of contention, closing 4chan at least 3 times. The majority of the boards take shape during this time, and the first tenets of 4chan culture are created under influence by ADTRW and 2chan.

(Following text is an excerpt from Johnnydigital’s comments (refer to his summary)

**Mootxico Era:**

(Apr 2004 - Sept 2005)

In a reactionary move towards the rise of 4chan, Lowtax begins to create a Soviet-style police state of arbitrary rules on SA (which cost users their $15 accounts). 4chan's free and anonymous posting, lenient moderation, and SA-influenced culture proves to be an appealing alternative, like Colonial America for disinherited Englishmen.

Once Moot grows up to legally visit his own site, (he is 16-18 at this point), he slowly opens up to the 4chan community, earning the term "the Mootxico" era.

4chan's culture begins to stabilize at this point, as a world of hatred, anonymity, truth in opinion, and trolling. It is an interesting counterexample to the rise of social media occuring at the same time. Some of the original users begin to thin out as they lose interest, but are just as quickly replaced by SA refugees. 4chan becomes a fast changing society beginning to carve out it's own culture and place in the world.

**Civil War Era:**

(Nov. 2005 - Nov. 2006)

4chan's momentous Civil War Era begins with moot's dismissal of moderators W.T. Snacks and Shii, seen by many anons as a harbringer of impending doom. And doom seemed imminent for all; with exponentially increasing immigration, 4chan's /b/ had begun to experience sharp cultural changes that left long time users bewildered and newfags unassimilated.

During this era, the (initially) inexperienced 4chan community gets it's first experience with internet warfare in the coalition attack against Ebaums World for it's plagarism, and later Haboo Hotel. Raids soon become commonplace on /b/ for the first time. School shooting plans and stadium bombings are posted by 4channers attracted to the sense of anonymity.

The massive increase of threads proportionally increased the rate of thread deletion. Although the ratio of good to bad content changed little, the sheer magnitude of forgettable, rehashed content created class conflict with "oldfags" and "newfags". There was a hankering for a romanticized depiction of /b/ as an idyllic place where all content was original, funny, and fresh. While this belief could not be farther from the truth, the cynical ideal quickly became a major tenet of 4chan culture.

4chan's nominal anonymity begins to attract a bunch of colorful groups to 4chan, such as Touhou fans, guro lovers, pedophiles, and worst of all, Furries. Most of these groups are given their own boards to keep them out of the other ones, but curiously, Furries have not. A persecution complex causes them to react badly to criticism, and minor distaste evolves into total hatred that threatens to destroy the boards.

When the 4chan mods begin to impose much tighter rules, a number of /b/tards leave 4chan for dead and abandon en masse. A declaration of independence is made that establishes Anonymous as a seperate group with it's home anywhere but 4chan. Ironically, during the following Golden Age, their diffusion of 4chan memes around the internet will only solidify it's position as the ultimate center of internet culture.

**Golden Age:**

(Dec 2006 - Dec 2007)

The term "Golden Age" does not refer to a lost time of actually funny and original content, or any sense of Victorian elegance, but to a time where 4chan became the center of internet, and even popular culture in the same manner as 2channel in Japan. With ever greater growth, the era managed to produce a huge amount of high-quality content in a self-fulfilling cycle. But the same growth produced a proportional amount of reposts, "newfaggotry", and forgettable threads. This title was truly a mixed blessing with no correct generalization.

On November 7, 2006, 4chan was taken down when moot was unable to pay for 4chan's increasing traffic costs. Anons scoured the internet, looking for a worthy candidate to inherit the crown of the hubsite of Anonymous, but to no avail. Each of the other major chans, (7chan, 12chan, 420chan) themselves went down due to the sudden surge of traffic, sometimes permanently. The dream of the Civil War Era, of an independent Anonymous, slowly faded once the anons realized that there was no suitable subsitute for 4chan.

Not long before this, increased migration to and from 4chan had pushed it's culture memes into the forefront of internet fame. Something Awful users emulating 4chan's Caturday sparked an observer to create I can haz cheezburger, which began, and later monetized, the meme industry outside of 4chan. On the fledging site Youtube, 4chan users created and popularized Tay Zonday's Chocolate Rain and an adaptation of the Duckroll for video, known as the Rickroll. The Rickroll would later become the most definitive meme of the era. 4chan trolls spread across the internet to cause more rage. Newfags come in expecting a hacker playground, and after the Fox News report on Anonymous, 4chan's /b/ eventually regains a strong raid mentality that the mods have given up stopping.

But the rise of the meme industry, produced unwanted interest in the site that created it all. The social problems of population growth, mainstream appeal, and problematic subcultures reached it's greatest crescendo in the Golden Age, and it is seen by many anons as 4chan's Eternal September.

**Chanology Era:**

(Jan 2008 - Jan 2009)

On January 2008, a well-known video of Tom Cruise going crazy on a Scientology training video was censored on Youtube by the Church of Scientology. A raid thread was immediately posted on 4chan's /b/, detailing the other illegal and immoral acts that the group has pulled off. With near-unanimous support, this thread began a massive operation by Anonymous to rid the world of the scourge of Scientology once and for all, through DDoS and protest. The coming events came to be known as Project Chanology, resulting in major victories over Scientologists, the use of large IRL protests, and mass media coverage due to these protests.

As time went on, the initial enthusiasm for the raid wore off, and participants of Project Chanology realized that 4chan was not the best place for organized assault. These people temporarily left 4chan for seperate sites, like 711chan, various IRC channels, and Why We Protest. The split established Anonymous as a powerful force for "hacktivism", independent of 4chan.

Strong social changes within Chanology after an influx of non-4chan immigrants causes Anonymous to take an unfamiliar face, as a force for good rather than the embodiment of evil.

**Boxxy Era:**

(Jan 2009 - )

By this point in time, Project Chanology has long faded with only a few stalwart holdouts, and the majority of Anonymous reassimilates into 4chan within a few months.

On January 7, 2009, a year-old video from a strangely tantalizing teenager named Boxxy came to the full attention of /b/, which in turn incited a major civil war on /b/ between boxxy lovers and boxxy haters. Normal users, tired of both sides, took down the entire site in a major DDoS, forcing mods to ban all boxxy-related posts. Not long after, a group of namefags calling themselves the "Center for Boxxy Control and Restriction" (CBCR) hacked into Boxxy's account and held her IRL information hostage. Their work was undermined by their radical tendencies, and support eventually broke down. The scars of the civil war would not be forgotten for years, and Boxxy has, to this day retained her rightful place as the queen of /b/.

The Boxxy Era is characterized by the rise of Reddit, a major content aggregator that rose to power after the Digg Revolt. Reddit's mainstream popularity and strong cultural influence from 4chan created a unique relationship between the two.

**Payback Era:**

(2010-2011)

After most anons forgot or gave up on Chanology, they returned to normal business on 4chan, which was still slowly growing in popularity. However, with the chilling news that Aiplex Software was DDoSing torrent sites for the MPAA, Anonymous came right out of dormancy to start a new age of hacktivism that grew to include Wikileaks and the Arab Spring. 4chan finally disowns Anonymous and it's related entities for good, and it is commonly accepted that Anonymous no longer lurks on 4chan.

***From world2ch:***

*(Various points of view from players of the time, and some of the very first screw ups and downtimes)*

***Day Zero - From SA***

Unfortunately, moot's original post[[1]](#footnote-2) was edited in '07 and lost forever. It really was the thing I wanted to quote here and went to a whole lot of trouble for nothing. Fuck, after dealing with the no-frills world of 2chan/4chan/4-ch all the time, it's difficult to remember how clunky and stupid [SA's shit homebrew modified] vBulletin is. For anyone that gives a fuck, the first post was 30 September 2003 21:21. If someone saved it, I'd love to have it.

Some interesting shit from the thread that day includes the following:

***thatdog wrote:****p.s. world2ch sux*

***Nana-C wrote*:** I'*d figure the best people to handle an english 2channel/futaba board would be actual english webmasters, instead of an underage, clueless webmaster from Japan with almost no english comprehension (and, as a result, a lack of communication to what the english majority wants in a BBS… \*ahemworld2chahem\*).*

Oh, now I remember the reason we were bitter!

***Lazy Dog wrote****[[2]](#footnote-3): Ah shit, looks like I'm going to have to mosey on over from world2ch…
Gonna miss that bastard golgolmois, though.
EDIT: Forget it, 4ch is 2chLITE. world2ch UBER ALLES.*

***moot wrote[[3]](#footnote-4)***:*4chan.net is up now. Thanks to [NPH]'s hard work we no longer have my four lined half ass page up!
Note: Load times will be slow around 12AM-2AM I believe, this is when the server does tarball backups.*

***mazfurr wrote[[4]](#footnote-5)***: Yeah*, what was the point of 4chan anyway when we've got world2ch?*

This is Shii's doing, obviously. Btw, check it: I saved the avatar for that mazfurr account. I saved the fuck out of it!$#&\*! I saved it on 2 October 2003. Nothing can be deleted on my watch! There is no escaping my archival skills/mental illness!

This is it. [](http://world2ch.org/wiki/lib/exe/detail.php?id=4chan&media=title-mazfurr.jpg)
I'm not kidding.
Amazing, no?

***Day One - From world2ch.net***

[This file](http://www.world2ch.org/dramabomb.html) is a backup of the notorious “Death to Somethingawful” thread on w2ch. For whatever the fuck reason (probably Shii), it has been deleted from archive.org. I'll sum this up and provide some choice quotes out of it later. Pay special attention to Menchi/Shii's stupidity and moot's posts.

Also [here](http://web.archive.org/web/20031117215037/http%3A/world2ch.net/test/read.cgi/netwatch/1049327730/l50):

*110 Name: 0037 @A0z7CY5eG2 : 10/01/2003 19:08UTC ID:zZLHX+AA
4chan!?! WTF MAN, you people have foresaken me! Bastard motherfuckers!*

*111 Name: @VCv4lMCNi2 : 10/01/2003 20:03UTC ID:dcZGC/RI
What a bunch of faggots.
This means we world2chers should show the true power of 2ch, by
trolling the fuck out of them. 2ch style.*

[**](http://world2ch.org/wiki/lib/exe/detail.php?id=4chan&media=first002.jpg)*WORLD2CH UBER ALLES! MANSE! MANSE!*

Hmm… sounds familiar.

The source of the drama was simple: we believed we were ripped off. It was our impression that 4chan had simply taken our code and then apparently had the audacity (somewhere; still working on that) to claim they were the first English language imageboard. There is some evidence to the contrary, but they claimed to have operated completely unaware of us and had translated the code themselves with slightly devastating results (read on).

For whatever reason, Menchi/Shii also had a problem with loli being posted (apparently on DAY ONE, wow). Shii took it on himself to write e-mails to Apis and others alerting them to what he thought were violations of TOS. I still don't fully understand why Shii hated it so much.

A couple of us did stupid shit on /b/. Most were just noisy. I may have been the only creative one as I made this stupid picture (right).

***The Very Earliest Days***

Within hours of the first day, 4chan's user base exceeded w2ch's easily a hundred-fold. The war was over instantly. In fact, I more or less give a surrender speech in the [dramabomb.txt file >>48](http://www.world2ch.org/dramabomb.txt). We proceeded to grumble about it, made suggestions on our side, and even taught them a thing or two about their own code… little good it did.

On 9 October 2003, it was pointed out on SA:

***Man-Eating Cow wrote:*** *Just to make sure moot knows: The images aren't having thumbnails generated; instead, they're just being shrunk on each index page. Thus every image is being loaded, whether or not people click on all of them. I don't know whether this is the intended operation, but I figure that bandwidth is a lot more expensive than a little bit more disk space and a modest increase in processing power.*

Somewhere in the translation, they screwed this up. This is the devastation I've been building up to. Basically, if you posted a 1.1 MB picture, it was transferred to every user looking at whatever page it was on even if they didn't click on it. The 4chan admins apparently didn't understand what that meant because the problem was not corrected. On 16 October 2003 an announcement was made on 2chan regarding 4chan. The Japanese invaded and this coupled with the coding error effectively killed the site for the first time:

The reason behind the early death was pretty simple (money). This is by an SA user named nem (real name Matt something, I forget) who runs Apis:

*…the server was doing 1 Megabyte per second, mathematically speaking we were looking at doing over ~2530 gigabytes per month, I have a 700 GB limitation, I would incur a lovely fee of ~$1370, I'm not taking that out of my 401k plan at all. Unfortunately 4chan spread like wildfire and was due to annihilating not only my bandwidth quota, but the server (with peaks of over 300 concurrent connections per second). I can't do that, sorry. I'm not ponying the $1370 per month either in fines, so it had to go.*
*Oh, fun note:
uptime
3:29am up 31 days, 14:41, 1 user, load average: 151.67, 228.55, 179.91*
*Historically speaking, that is the highest load average I have ever seen in my life.*

(17 October 2003 13:19) Fucking lol and fucking emphasis mine. This of course would not be the last time 4chan died.

**Moot** **responded** *(17 October 15:28):*

*The current plan is to get a new, dedicated server. I've already started talks with two people about getting a server online, one whom I know is trusted alot.

PETER PAYNE–MY FRIEND IN JAPAN contacted me, and didn't check it out, he seems… interested though. The only backup I have is one of /c/'s pictures (old), but I may be able to grab one out of the midnight tarball.

It'll take a few weeks, but I'll be damned if I let the dream die in fifteen fucking days. PayPal is the same as my regular mailing address, moot@raspberryheaven. Thanks to any that have the cash to donate, anything helps.*

My friend in Japan is the J-list guy. He'd do something stupid immediately. We're dead for almost two days now. Imagine that shit happening now. The Internet would burn to the goddamned ground without it

 *(18 October 2003 12:50):*

**Moot said**:

*MY FRIEND IN JAPAN said:
Okay. Honestly, nothing on****2chan.com****looks like something we'd be interested in advertising on. So I don't think we'll be able to help you.*

 *MY FRIEND IN JAPAN is worthless :(*

This was about the 300th stupid thing that happened to 4chan in the course of little over two weeks…

On 20 September 2003…

**moot said:***SERVER ACQUIRED.*

**4** days of downtime.

**13** days later on 29 October, it was back online. Follow the money trail and you should realize there was significant out-of-pocket cost, donations aside (and there was about to be trouble with that too). It had to be plainly obvious by this point though that 4chan was going to be a really big deal and perhaps worth the effort.

**moot said:**
*handyball was reading the wrong log, the entire site has done over 7GB in less than a day :(

EDIT: 12.17GB, what the fuck?*

OR NOT…

In the very earliest days, the bulk of traffic came from Japan. They posted very little but sucked up a lot of bandwidth. Oh, and then this happened on 1 November 2003:

**moot said:***Peter Payne declines, more details on your local news at 11.*

The unthinkable is considered on 2 November 2003:

**Man-Eating Cow said:***I am more than willing to go for a subscription-based access system, and I think that is what it will come to. But it might be a good idea to restrict the access to non-.jp domains to see how that affects the usage. I mean, if a subscription system is implemented after all, there will hardly be any .jp users anyway, unless Paypal works in Japan.*

Of course we all know in the end how that went down. Tons of traffic and no financing would be the story for the next couple of years.

***Early Content***

Very early on all content was imported from Japan or copied from SA. The waha! girl (Suzuran) in particular was very briefly popular (through about early 2005?). There was a lot of hentai at first. With all the oppressed masses migrating over from SA, they were allowed to breathe free for the first time and did they ever.

Not even moot knew about tripcodes so no one used them. People from ADTRW would use a name. Japanese continued to use Anonymous. Those from between the words either went tripped or not at all (hell, we saw Nameless enough to know that's how it went). In fact, there was quite a bit of confusion by the proliferation of the soon-to-be much-loved Anonymous and it confused Westerners. Again, it's just my opinion, but I think the SA crew was fed up with the nonsense over there and responded with an outburst of anonymity and assholery. According to my research and recollection, loli was posted on the first day. That shit would get you banned instantly on SA and yet on 4chan it flourished. The Japanese posters that the others seem to show so much interest on them didn't really seem to be that influential or numerous to me. I do recall a couple instances of the usual Korea hate that shows up anywhere a Japanese person is allowed to speak. Later (the 16 October fiasco), the site was pretty much inaccessible.

[](http://world2ch.org/wiki/lib/exe/detail.php?id=4chan&media=threadpair-1103.jpg)In these extremely early times, the board was not heavily populated. For instance, there was a time when /b/ moved so slow that we used to make threads to essentially host pictures we were talking about in IRC (does anyone use that shit anymore?). It was probably quite confusing for those viewing it without the common frame of reference and you'd even get other jerks adding in other pictures like they were trying to play along. Sometimes the thread would be there the next night. That's how slow it was, no joke.

**Image left:** I didn't make this screencap but I did save it on 15 Nov 2003. Do some math and note the post count vs. uptime. It was that slow!

I did mention that the Planck epoch was kind of boring. (more) Images forthcoming!

**The Nickname/Mascot/Whatever**

There is one point that I'd like to bring up that is entirely forgotten (or is it?). The early users were all otaku fucktards and tended to have an unhealthy grasp of Japanese (the modern /b/-tard has an unhealthy grasp on something else). The language uses counters: ippai, nippai, etc. where -pai is a counter (yeah, you'd actually say nihai, but I'm trying to explain this to idiots so give me a break). -pai means something cylindrical like a bottle, glass, or a dildo (or glass dildo). Basically anything that can be shoved… oh, wait. I got sidetracked.

Anyway, the counter ”-ba” refers to flat things, like “sheets of paper” or “leaves.” 2chan is nicknamed “futaba” or two leaves. If I've done my math right here, then 2 + 2 = 4 and therefore it is 4 leaves or yotsuba. This is why the site makes a big deal out of the character Yotsubato who conveniently always has her hair done up in *four* green pigtails. Well, that *was* the reason they made a big deal out of her. I imagine anymore, it's because of the many filthy incest doujins going around.

As for why Random is /b/ rather than say /r/, well that's because that's what it was on 2chan. There's little mystery there. Well, kind of. /b/ on 2chan is actually the “2D board” (now split into like five or six on last count).

**Reidick**

Throughout this wiki I often speak of accepting change and just rolling with whatever the kids are obsessed with now. You have to learn to take punches. Reidick though was something special. It tried and nearly succeeded in dick-slapping /b/ to death.





*Timelines:*

**Wiki timeline (Most complete version I know of):**

**Pre-History**

1996 - A man named Masayuki Shiba creates a BBS called Ayashii Warudo (Strange/Suspicious World). Users are anonymous. Warez and cp are posted, and there is a gesu (scum) board where website hackings and invasions are discussed. Many similar BBSes are formed, collectively called Nanashi Warudo (Nameless World), and they develop a culture based on memes. Ayashii World functions as the hubsite of Nanashi World in a similar way to how 4chan would later function as the hubsite of Anonymous. AW's popularity increases exponentially.

1998 - Ayashii World doesn't have good servers, and it keeps crashing. After the owner receives personal threats over the server issues, he shuts the site down. They need a replacement. They get their replacement with Amezou, the First Channel. It starts off as a bunch of links to alternative BBSes for wayward Ayashii Worlders, but soon becomes its own forum and introduces a new style of threaded message board, dependent on bumping and saging. Its popularity increases exponentially.

1999 - The first channel dies due to server issues. A man named Hiroyuki Nishimura sees all this and creates Ni Channeru, the Second Channel, using code based on the first, with enough servers this time to handle the exponential growth. Meanwhile, Lowtax creates Something Awful.

April/May 2001 - Lowtax creates the ADTRW (Anime Death Tentacle Rape Whorehouse) board on Something Awful.

30 August 2001 - 2channel is in danger of dying, so a backup forum is created, called Futaba or 2chan (two-leaves). Futaba invents a board called /b/ for random content. The site supports images and develops a unique culture all its own, growing out of the seed culture brought by the 2channelers.

3 March 2003 - The first English language channel is created: World2ch. Like 2channel, it supports only text. Its userbase consists of a mix of Japanese and English users, the only time that this happens for any considerable amount of time. The English speakers there are members of ADTRW, and they are also familiar with Futaba and visit it for its quirks.

**2003**

October 1 - 4chan is founded by moot, a member of the Something Awful forums, intended to be used as an English version of 2chan, a Japanese imageboard created in 2001 out of an extremely popular Japanese BBS called 2channel. moot creates /b/ (Random) and makes a topic at Something Awful about the website, which is received extremely well. moot also holds a contest to decide what 4chan's logo should be. In three hours of creating the contest, around 50 banners are submitted, after which moot decides to simply make it so that it would cycle through the best banners randomly every time a page was loaded.

October 2 - 4chan's hosting company receives an e-mail complaining about "lolikon and guro posted in /b/, to which moot writes back that neither of the two are illegal. Later in the day, moot creates a second board, /h/ (Hentai).

October 6 - moot creates four new imageboards: /c/ (Anime/Cute), /d/ (Hentai/Alternative), /w/ (Wallpapers/Anime), and /y/ (Yaoi), along with an oekaki BBS board. The /y/ board is unique in that (at the time) it was user-moderated. moot also fixes a retention bug that cause posts to be deleted too quickly and raised the maximum number of log entries for each board from 500 to 5000 (2000 for /b/).

October 9 - Two new imageboards are created: /g/ (Guro), and /s/ (Sexy Beautiful Women), both of which are user-moderated. moot announces that 4chan received over one million hits in the past six days and may be looking for sponsors to help pay the bills.

October 16 - 4chan is announced to 2chan, resulting in a massive amount of Japanese users coming to the site, at least doubling the traffic of all boards and decoupling the traffic of /c/. The onslaught of unexpected traffic causes /b/ to crash for two days.

October 21 - 4chan.net is moved to United Colo, a collocation and webhosting company, following a discussion on the Something Awful forums.

October 29 - moot makes various changes to the imageboards, including Japanese character display and adding the day of the week to posts. moot also announces that the boards will now use a MySQL database (a modified form of 2chan's futabaSQL called yotsubaSQL) and added a robots.txt file to the site to keep out some auto-downloaders, along with an .htaccess file to prevent hotlinking. /g/ temporarily suffered a problem with tripcodes, and all boards had a problem where users said their posts were not appearing and they were getting a Japanese error message. Both of these were fixed within the day by modifying the anti-spam script and fixing the imageboards' .php files, respectively.

November 1 - moot begs for donations in the first of a long history of times, complaining that the site is running extremely slowly and that he would have to block Japanese domains unless something was done, and that the cost of moot's server bill was now $400/month. moot warns that 4chan will die slowly unless enough donations are received.

November 2 - moot resets img.4chan.net and deletes all posts, drops all mySQL tables, and reduces the maximum post limit for each board from 3000 to 750. MySQLd and PHP were optimized, and moot laments that he cannot implement auto-pruning after ten pages like 2chan.

November 8 - Two more imageboards are added: /a/ (Anime) and /l/ (Lolikon). moot announces the future release of a database of archived 4chan threads that requires a paid subscription, which had been suggested by Spork, a mod, a week before.

November 10 - moot and his friend thatdog begin testing on the beta-archive and set up a new board, /r/ (Trains) to test it with. The same day, thatdog registers 1chan.net and sets up a similar train board on his site. /r/ quickly fills with /b/tards in order to help moot out.

November 22 - The site returns following two days of downtime after the server is reformatted to RH9, making the site considerably faster. moot deletes /r/ (Trains) and announces that the thread archive will be up shortly. The next day, the RH9 apt-get repository was cleared out, causing GIFs not to be thumbnailed correctly for a few hours.

December 16 - A new board is created, /t/ (Torrents), along with a torrent tracker. moot tightens the rules regarding /h/ and /l/ and cracks down on rule breakers. moot also considers blocking Japanese domains due to the fact that they make up half of 4chan's traffic and post only extremely rarely.

December 17 - moot blocks all Japanese domains from accessing the site, significantly reducing 4chan's server bill while maintaining the same level of contribution. Apparently, moot says that in the two weeks before the announcement, Japanese domains had accounted for 650 GB but only made about fifty posts or so.

December 20 - 4chan changes its board software from modified GazouBBS (modified 2chan code) to Futallaby, created by 1chan's thatdog.

December 29 - Following a massive flood of real-life child pornography, /l/ (Lolikon) is temporarily deleted. moot announces that although he has blocked Japanese domains, his traffic from the rest of the world has now passed the rate from before December 17, meaning that moot's server bill is still $400/month.

**2004**

January 8 - /l/ (Lolikon) returns along with a new imageboard, /r/ (Request), which was created after many posts on /t/ were requests instead of links to torrents, so a new board was created for torrent requests, although it quickly morphed into the /r/ we know and love today.

January 25 - Censored Vagina announces that the torrent tracker has been taken down due to it being a major strain on the server, along with the /t/ board. Censored Vagina announces that the torrent tracker will return shortly, albeit it in a considerably smaller form, with a maximum of 40 torrents.

February 14 - After GoDaddy suspends the 4chan.net domain three days before without moot realizing it, moot registers 4chan.org as a temporary domain until everything is sorted out.

February 19 - /t/ (Torrents) returns, albeit without the tracker, along with a new board, /f/ (Flash). moot adds a new server, cgi.4chan.org, on which /f/ is hosted.

February 21 - Two discussion boards are added, hosted on 0ch: /amh/ (Anime-Manga-Hentai) and /bbs/ (4chan Discussion). The next day, Censored Vagina makes a newspost announcing that the cost of running 4chan for the rest of 2004 added up to $2,200 and that the money would be needed in donations. The links on 4chan are reflected to link to 4chan.org instead of 4chan.net so that users will not need to write 4chan.org's IP into their hosts file.

March 1 - moot announces that the site will not be able to continue because the March server bill is too large to pay and that more donations will be required to pay it or 4chan will die. He makes one final request for donations and hopes for the best.

March 8 - After a week-long swarm of donations, moot announces that not only does he have enough money to pay the March bill, but that enough money was donated to keep the site running into 2005. moot thanks all donators and posters and announces that he is currently in "Cancun, Mexico".

March 28 - The 4chan.org domain becomes permanent, with 4chan.net now occupied by domain squatters (people who buy domains that will get a lot of traffic, such as porn.com, and put ads on the page). moot tells users to inform all people linking to 4chan about this change so that the domain squatters receive as little traffic as possible and therefore not profit from the incident. moot also deletes /g/ (Guro) around this time, possibly due to issues with PayPal.

April 1 - As an April Fools' Day prank, moot posts pictures of a man in a graduation uniform shortly after getting his diploma from Stanford University, and posts another picture of the man on April 4, this time showing him next to a statue in Mexico. moot claimed that the man in the photographs was him, and that his name was Robert Bopkins, and this was believed by most of 4chan for a long while until moot appeared in the flesh at the 2005 Otakon Panel, revealing himself to have a teenage-like un-nerdy appearance which surprised many /b/tards.

April 4 - Spork (4chan mod) creates an official IRC channel for 4chan, hosted on irc.pyoko.org. The channel was later moved, hosted on irc.rizon.net, where it remains today.

April 19 - 100K GET on /b/ is reached. Many were creating new topics rapidly in hopes of getting the GET for themselves, but 100K GET turned out to be an unrelated text reply in a thread that attempted to be 100K GET. The reply was completely unrelated to the thread that it was in, only saying "lol internet" with no image. To this day, it is considered to be the most win that a GET has ever been.

April 30 - moot announces that the text boards are back up, running on board software created by Shii (4chan mod and friend of moot from SA). Two of these text boards were added that day as well: /dis/ (Discussion) and /sug/ (Suggestion) (now both deleted).

June 20th, 2004: A day that will live forever in short-term memory.

June 20 - 4chan dies for the fourth and longest time, for nearly six weeks. moot blames lack of contribution and donations, asshole posters, and GNAA flooding, among other things, as the reasons for 4chan's death.

August 7 - 4chan returns in its fifth incarnation following six weeks of downtime after gathering up enough money and support. Many new moderators and administrators are added as well.

August 15 - 4chan changes its board software to a "super-hacked" version of Futallaby coded mostly by W.T. Snacks. It contains many new features such as replying with an image, hiding posts, the Name and E-mail fields, displaying image names and sizes, and linking to other posts by adding a >> next to the post number. Tripcodes were also added to /f/.

September 8 - Three new boards are added: /k/ (Weapons), /o/ (Auto), and /sm/ (Shota/Male). Jibaku (4chan mod) announces that /b/ is severely lacking in quality and asks users to contribute better.

October 9 - Four boards are added: /ib/ (Oekaki Random), /ip/ (Oekaki Pro), /v/ (Video Games), and /tech/ (Technology, discussion board); one board, /n/ (Trains) is deleted. Around this time, /z/ (ZOMG NONE!!1), a user-moderated board with flashing backgrounds, annoying embedded music, and legendary poasts (moderated by Soviet Russia !lM51PoudCg) is created.

October 30 - 4chan hosts a panel at the AnimeUSA 2004 Con in Vienna, Virginia. The same day, 4chan experiences DNS problems, and asks that people edit their host files once again.

October 31 - /l/ (Lolikon) and /sm/ (Shotakon) are deleted due to threats of legal action. On November 5, moot registers not4chan.org and moves /l/ and /sm/ there instead. On \*November 15, /g/ (Guro) is deleted as well due to threats from YowCow to seize 4chan's donations account due to guro being against YowCow's ToS.

November 1 - squeeks registers 4-ch.net, a site not related to 4chan's text boards. moot complains that squeeks is stealing his thunder. The site is based on 2channel rather than Futaba, and consists of text boards rather than imageboards, and is run on a heavily modified version of Kareha coded by !WAHa.06x36. Man of Wax (4chan mod) begs for donations and advertising on the front page of 4chan. /z/ was deleted shortly after this time.

**2005**

January 13 - 4chan's IRC channel moves from irc.pyoko.org to irc.rizon.net. This is announced on the front page, along with one of the first lines ever spoken in 4chan's Rizon channel: <moot> i wish to be the little girl.

January 19 - Four new boards are added: /e/ (Ecchi), /3/ (3DCG, stands for 3-D Computer Graphics), /g/ (Technology), and /n/ (Nature & Wildlife). /g/ and /n/ are worksafe.

January 27 - Three more boards are added: /ic/ (Artwork/Critique), /p/ (Photography), and /x/ (General Photo). Although there was already a /p/ board for photography before, it is the replacement, with new features (such as EXIF data).

February 3 - moot and shut register ikuzo.org, a side project they had formulated during 4chan's downtime in summer 2004. The site was basically meant to be a weeaboo site with news and reviews of things like anime, hentai, and general Japanese imports. However, the project is quickly abandoned and the site now redirects to img.4chan.org.

February 13 - 700K GET is fixed by the mods, with the word "ZERO HOUR" written in extremely large letters and the post count reset to 1, and the message, "ONLY 699999 TO GO GUYS!!". However, the post count is restored within the day.

February 26 - Following a meeting with other users on IRC, moot creates three more boards: /gif/ (Animated GIF), /hr/ (High Resolution), and /wg/ (Wallpapers/General).

March 31 - moot purchases a new server (tmp.4chan.org, backup of orz.4chan.org) and announces that it will be up in April. He also announces that 4chan will have a panel at Otakon 2005 and announces that he would soon recruit a new administrator following DJ Lucid's (4chan admin) departure.

April 1 - For April Fools' Day, moot makes a front-page newspost containing a picture of Robert Bopkins (thought to be moot at the time) in graduation gear shortly after graduating from Stanford University, along with the message "GREETINGS FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL!". moot also creates a new board, /fur/ (Furry), despite his promise never to do so. Although many think it the board is simply an April Fools' Day joke, the board remained the next day, and the board was started to be taken seriously. However, on the morning of April 3rd, everyone who had posted in /fur/ was banned for three months (including /b/tards who posted on /fur/ to denounce furries), following which 4chan was almost rid of furfags. This event is now referred to as April Furs' Day.

April 7 - 1M GET is reached on /b/. It was considered an "alright" GET, neither fail nor win. 1M GET was posted by a namefag under the handle Senator Rodden Clitoris, who posted picture of Sae Sawanoguchi from Magic Users Club having an orgasm, with the text "Female Orgasm", which was deleted within a few seconds. The mods instead chose another thread with a picture of a budgie in a jar and changed its posted number to 1000000 and stickied it, fooling many into believing that it was the true 1M GET.

July 1 - Many of 4chan's boards were closed unexpectedly and announcement was supposedly made by "moot's secretary" was posted on the front page, announcing that moot had abandoned 4chan and that 4chan would cease operations in a few days due to lack of funding. The next day, moot made a newspost announcing that that this had all happened behind his back, and that the post was neither true nor official.

July 29 - /b/ reaches 2M GET, a picture of someone holding up a notepad with "2000000 GET?" written on it, and the text "HAY GUYS! 2MIL GET! -Delcious Ironing" [sic]. This was (badly) photoshopped with a smiling ugly man and the text, "HAY GUYEZ WOULD YOU BE UP FOR SOME ADULT FUN AT MY COUNTRY CLUB SOMETIME -Delcious ron", which spawned a whole series of other shooped GETs.

August 13 - Shortly after celebrating one year of uptime, 4chan starts its panel at Otakon 2005, the first time ever that /b/tards actually met the real moot, after which moot revealed that "Robert Bopkins" was not only not him, but that Bopkins' name was actually Eric J. Ross and that moot picked the photos at random. Everyone has a really good time and moot hangs out with the other /b/tards who flip out over the fact that they are experiencing mootfaggotry IRL.

August 28 - Donate or Die 2005 starts, with moot announcing that he requires $20,000 in donations to purchase three new servers (bin.4chan.org, nov.4chan.org, and a second img.4chan.org). A frenzy started, with camwhores showing their tits and vagoo if users donated to 4chan. Within a week, $14,000 was raised, which was actually enough to purchase the three servers, although they fell short of their goal. Later, on September 15th, moot announces that donations will cease September 30th, and even then can only be delivered by snail mail.

October 16 - 3M GET on /b/, with a picture of Waha and Pedobear and how they would be seen in America. The post linked to itself, prefixed by ">>3000000" and "TIME PARADOX/what a lame GET/Surely you jest!". It was, unfortunately, a tripfag get, posted by 4chan mod Pixel Hotness !Ol2RiO/0Ro. The GET was considered "meh" and was suspected to have been a modGET.

October 25 - moot announces that "things are looking up" and announces that many new features will be added to 4chan, including the DevBlog. He also begs for people to advertise because he needs money to construct additional pylons.

October 30 - moot and Snacks have a long fight over IRC as moot takes the site down for a few hours to fix some problems. moot rages against Snacks for being a lazy coder and threatens to take away his server access, and generally being very arrogant towards Snacks. They both go to sleep, and continue in the afternoon the next day for about three hours, until moot tells Snacks that he will remove his server access (along with his moderator powers), which he does shortly afterwards, making him unable to moderate or code. Snacks then "leaves" 4chan for good.

November 2 - moot challenges Xenon, a popular camwhore whose artwork is often spammed on /f/, to a camwhore battle, which moot loses. moot then tells Xenon that since he beat him, Xenon received temporary admin status and moot declared November 2 to be "the Day of Xenon". Xenon used his new privileges to change /b/'s CSS layout, resulting in /b/'s background becoming pink and the Powerpuff Girls theme song being embedded into every page. /b/'s title was also changed to "All Hail Xenon".

November 3 - moot, liking the idea of fucking around with /b/'s layout, changes /b/'s background to a seizure-inducing GIF flashing yellow and white, with the techno-country song "Cotton-Eye Joe" by Rednex embedded into the pages. /b/'s title was then changed to "ON A STEEL HORSE I RIDE", and a sticky was created in which the new layout could be discussed.

November 4 - Shortly after midnight, /b/'s layout was changed again to a pink McDonald's-themed background, with "moving Javascript Golden Arches" as Lurkmore put it, along with a 1980s McDonald's jingle added as background music. This hack lasted for three days and was hated by almost everybody. During this time, Xenon released the chatlogs from moot and Snacks' fight, causing massive outrage on /b/.

December 19 - moot posts a thread in /v/ asking for applications to be a janitor (person who can delete posts but not ban), which was up to that point unheard of. News of this spread to /b/, and many applications were received, and the janitors were implemented within the month.

**2006**

January 30 - moot implements forced anonymous on /b/, with users unable to post with a name, tripcode, or subject, remaining until March 26, 2007, which, by then, it had definitely worn out its welcome.

February 6 - orz.4chan.org and cgi.4chan.org crash and are not fixed until three days later. During this time, the secret board, /5/, hosted on the orz server, was deleted.

February 17 - The three new servers purchased during the Donate or Die 2005 campaign are successfully brought online. Each served as a backup for three of 4chan's content servers, with nov.4chan.org backing up cgi, bin.4chan.org backing up zip, and tmp.4chan.org backing up orz (img was already backed up by dat.4chan.org). In addition, the new servers took care of all post submissions, speeding up the boards significantly.

February 18 - The day after the new servers are installed, 5M GET is achieved, during which the posting rate increased twenty fold. The servers were put to the test, with jumbo.4chan.org maxing out its line at 99.31 Mbit/s (~12.41 megabytes per second). The 5M GET was a picture of cat taken at an angle that made the cat look large, with the text "Needs more towercat". Users were divided between whether it was win or fail, although moot himself called it "more garbage" in the DevBlog.

March 23 - 6M GET was achieved on /b/, with a picture of Senator Bill Frist holding up a card and the text "In after 6M GET". Mostly considered a winGET due to the potential for epic shoops.

April 1 - /b/'s CSS is fucked with yet again, with the page layout being changed to tanasinn.org's layout, with a looping voice saying "Don't think. Feel and you'll be Tanasinn." Letters were randomly changed to the three-dot triangle symbol.

April 6 - Three new trial boards are added: /co/ (Comics & Cartoons), /po/ (Papercraft & Origami), and /sp/ (Sports). Two days later, five more boards are added: /cgl/ (Cosplay & EGL), /ck/ (Food & Cooking), /mu/ (Music), /n/ (News), and /tv/ (Television).

April 14 - moot announces that the three servers purchased during Donate or Die 2005 have been collocated and are up and running and also announces that he will rarely use the front page for small updates from now on, instead choosing to announce them on the DevBlog and blotter. moot also announces that 4chan will have a panel at which he will appear at AnimeCentral 2006, which took place on May 4. The next day, moot removes most of the wordfilters on /b/ and implements new ones.

April 20 - 7M GET is reached, but due to the high strain on the server, the file was deleted, and the post had no text. However, mods retrieved the MD5 data from the picture from their database and found that it was the popular image macro of Chopper Dave from Sealab 2021 shouting "UH OHHHHHHH". Also, 13-year-old Mitchell Henderson kills himself, after which /b/ raids his memorial MySpace and the "an hero" meme is born after a classmate of his posted a poem she written on his memorial account in which she constantly referred to him as "an hero".

May 11 - Eight threads are stickied, all consisting of modified versions of a picture from some Japanese show with a puppet riding on a motorcycle and the text "DSFARGEG". All posts were followed by (USER WAS BANNED FOR THIS POST) and DSFARGEG almost always resulted in a ban or a sticky.

May 18 - /b/ reaches 8M GET, one of the first GETs to be autostickied. It was considered a WinGET, due to the fact that it was a picture of George Zimmer and the text "HI, I'M GEORGE ZIMMER, FOUNDER AND CEO OF MEN'S WAREHOUSE. THIS IS 8000000 GET. I GUARANTEE IT".

June 15 - Comedian Tom Green starts his own late-night call-in talk show hosted from his own living room, hosted every night at 11 PM EST. Over the next three months, /b/ trolls his show, with around 10% of all calls on the show being prank calls from 4chan. /b/ also focused on a section of his show, "Girl Talk", which featured five stereotypical "dumb chicks" giving advice on relationships. The trolling of Girl Talk was so intense that it was canceled on August 19th because of it, combined with bad response from viewers.

June 17 - A group of anons crapflood the Zelda Guide Forums for fun, after which a member threatens to "hack" 4chan. This prompts their leader, known as "Captain Cornflake" (the name of his raid account on Zelda Guide Forums, he was anonymous on /b/) to post this information to /b/. Many Anonymous joined the raid following this post and crapflooded the forums nearly into oblivion during the night while the moderating team was asleep. As the moderators were surveying the carnage the next morning, one mod actually pleaded for /b/ to stop and said he would give them their own board to spam, which just increased the raid. The forums now require manual admin verification, which keeps out many legit users, resulting in an anon victory.

June 19 - Yet another epic raid occurs, with /b/ destroying naruto-kun.com after a user there posted about their dislike of 4chan. Following a major pornflood after which the site admin threatened to sic the FCC on 4chan, one anon discovered a source code document hidden on the site containing the site's SQL database password (which Anon posted on /b/) as well as loads of unchecked MySQL injection vulnerabilities. Anonymous also discovered that the fucking dumbass's FTP had the same password as his MySQL database, following which tons of anons logged in to the FTP account and deleted everything, destroying the entire site, including premium accounts and the database, and bringing the site down for two days.

July 4 - The first of many in a series of /b/ CSS hacks in July as the background was turned red and the text yellow. July 10th saw the theme song from "Bill Nye the Science Guy" embedded into the background (no layout changes however), while July 15th harbored a sticky in which "Also Sprach Zarathrustra" by composer Richard Strauss (2001: A Space Odyssey theme song) was embedded. Toward the end of July, ten threads were stickied, taking up the entire first page of /b/, and the theme song from Inspector Gadget was embedded into /b/.

July 7 - 10M GET is reached, considered the most failed GET of all time, simply a picture of Hazuki from the anime Tsukuyomi -Moon Phase- on a merry-go-round, with the text "hazukiget". Ironically, it was much later revealed to be a modGET, but with no trickery involved; Shii (4chan admin; coder of discussion boards) got the GET out of pure luck, proving that all modGETs, staged or not, will always be fail.

July 12 - 4chan (along with Encyclopedia Dramatica, YTMND, GNAA, Bantown, and others) storm Habbo Hotel, a virtual online role playing game where, among other things, people pay real-life money for online money (which is pretty stupid when you think about it). Thousands of "nigras" (black characters with afros wearing business suits, the official raid costume) filled nearly every room on the site, especially the Pool Deck, during which the pool was blocked for hours because the pool had AIDS. The sheer number of Anonymous was so great that the Habbo mods could not ban the nigras faster than the accounts were being created, resulting in the mods having no choice but to reset their server, after which the raid continued for a few more hours on Habbo servers in other countries, particularly the German Habbo Hotel (where the nigras would form in swastika patterns). The Habbo raid is often considered /b/'s best and spawned the "Nigra" meme and the "Pool's closed" meme. The word "AIDS" was later wordfiltered on Habbo as a result of the raid.

July 20 - moot announces that they will have a panel at Otakon 2006 from August 4-6 in Baltimore, Maryland, with enough seating capacity to allow 680 people compared to the 230 from Otakon 2005.

July 22 - /v/ reaches 1M GET, considered to be one of the greatest non-/b/ gets of all time. The GET was a picture of PONG, the first-ever video game, thus a very fitting get for /v/.

August 4 - Otakon 2006 starts and so does 4chan's panel. Many important 4channers are there, including moot, shut, Shii, and the apparent return of W.T. Snacks. An epic sermon was delivered by "Reverend" Lemmy Caution to spread the gospel of Raptor Jesus, and moot even created a new board, /con/ (Conventions), for people at the con to use, which was deleted a few hours after the con ended.

August 12 - The 4chan :codes: (words put between colons that are turned into smilies, like how posting :happy: would display a happy emoticon, for example) are released to the site. They are soon spammed all over the place, and threads are pruned extremely quickly.

August 22 - A group of Anonymous go on a midnight raiding spree, eventually attracting tons (~100) of Anonymous to their posse in raid threads. They charged, destroying Proana.us (a pro-anorexia community), deleting all accounts on the site. After this (by now around 1:00 AM of August 23), they attempted to raid the myg0t forum, but the raid failed to due myg0t's massive size. Instead, they raided teenbabynet.org (not only furries, but teenage furries with diaper fetishes), locking the forum and rendering it totally unviewable by 10:00 AM. At around this time, they turned their attention to WikiFur, leaving it in complete disarray. With mods extremely worried, moot does something drastic around noon of August 23...

August 23 - moot (in a somewhat justifiable fit of anger) posts a sticky announcing that anyone who posts illegal content will get you permabanned and possibly arrested, and that even people who REPLY to illegal threads will receive a two-week global ban, with the definition of "illegal threads" referring to CP, jailbait, personal info, and raids (some of /b/'s most cherished traditions). This led to a massive outcry due to the fact that this policy was technically introducing rules to /b/, whose main goal was to be a rule-free board. The sticky was deleted and replaced with a new sticky restating the policy, which was then destickied and restickied over and over by moot and some other mod, and, along with spamming from angry /b/tards, caused img.4chan.org to crash, leaving 14 boards, including /b/, /an/, /b/, /c/, /cm/, /g/, /k/, /m/, /o/, /p/, /r/, /s/, /t/, /v/, and /w/ inaccessible. A civil war broke out, with many /b/tards permanently leaving 4chan and taking up new homes at 7chan, IIChan, 2ch.ru, and 420chan. moot got rid of the policy very shortly afterwards due to the enormous backlash. However, img.4chan.org didn't return until August 25, two days later.

September 4 - World-famous Australian "croc hunter" Steve Irwin is killed by a stingray barb to the heart while filming a documentary. /b/ is immediately flooded with this information and one of the first threads to announce it was stickied for a week, becoming the most replied-to thread in /b/ history with slightly over 5,200 replies (later beaten by the "#fortune" sticky on April 27, 2007). Many Rule 34s and general parodies are posted in /b/ during that time.

September 11 - In response to Steve Irwin's death, the fifth anniversary of 9/11, and hatred for Habbo Hotel, /b/ starts another massive raid on Habbo, with around 5,000 Anonymous partaking in the raid (~600 nigras on the Pool Deck alone). They blocked every single room, announcing that not only did the pool have AIDS, but also had stingrays as well.

October 1 - /b/ celebrates its third anniversary, and places blue-and-pink striped party hats on the top of each thread. /b/tards made pictures interacting with the hats, causing many threads that are epic win (a good chunk of epic thread screencaps are from this day).

October 20 - Jake Brahm turns himself in to authorities following a now-infamous copypasta that he had written, reposting it around 40 times within the previous 30 days, in which he warned of simultaneous terrorist attacks against seven football stadiums across the United States on October 22nd. Two days before this, on October 18, the Department of Homeland Security was notified about the copypasta and attempted to track down and arrest the creator of it; when the Wauwatosa, Wisconsin police department (Brahm's town of residence) received a tip on October 20, he turned himself in and faces up to 20 years imprisonment, thus making him the only person to have been party v& for his actions as of 2007. The phrase "DON'T MESS WITH FOOTBALL", uttered by FBI agent Les Wiser during a news report on Brahm's arrest, has since become a meme.

November 7 - After moot doesn't pay the bills, the site goes down for two days, during which a page was put up explaining that the servers were gone because moot didn't pay and that the problem would be fixed within "24-48 hours" (crossed out with "FIFTY-BILLION YEARS" written next to it). Many /b/tards, looking for a temporary \*chan to go to until 4chan returns, cause a major spike in traffic for other \*chans as /b/tards go there temporarily. 7chan and 12chan were destroyed by the flood of traffic and suffered severe downtime.

November 30 - moot announces that more banner ads from AdBrite will be added to 4chan in December due to the fact that donations are no longer possible. As a result of the extra money, 4chan becomes faster after moot uses the money for extra bandwidth capacity.

December 20 - Hal Turner, a white supremacist talk show host from New Jersey, plans his final radio show due to lack of funding, in which he takes calls for three hours straight. However, a combined surprise raid from 4chan, 7chan, YTMND, Something Awful, and Bantown destroyed Hal's show, with 150 prank calls being made in three hours, with almost none of his real listeners being able to call in due to clogged lines. Hal then posts the phone numbers of the callers on his website (some of which were minors), sparking a huge outrage among /b/. Bantown then uncovered his personal information, including his real phone number, after which ~160 calls were made to his house. Hal gave in and removed the phone numbers from his site, but as we all know, Anonymous does not forgive.

December 25 - Hal Turner spends Christmas with his family over at his father's house; news of this spread, and Bantown quickly found his father's number, leading to a massive amount of calls and Hal supposedly being kicked out of the house. After this, Hal claimed that the FBI was investigating 4chan (an Anonymous later called in to Hal's show claiming that he had contacted the FBI and that they had said that no such investigation was taking place) and redirected his website to the FBI page.

December 31 - A happy ending for 2006 after Hal Turner surrenders to 4chan after much raiding and lulz, and announces that he is almost off of the internet completely. He announces, "I am not certain where to go from here. My entire existence - short of my physical presence on this planet - has been utterly wrecked, by people I never met from places I've never been." Anonymous knocks back a cold one and lols heartily.

**2007**

January 9 - moot posts on the front page, announcing that 4chan would soon have interstitial ads due to dwindling revenue. moot also allows all of the trial boards created on April 6, 2006 to become full boards, except for /sp/ (Sports), which is deleted.

January 10 - All text disappears on /b/, with users only being able to talk through pictures or the E-mail field. Needless to say, this was win, and caused /b/ to be fag-free for a few hours.

February 15 - Two new boards are added: /tg/ (Traditional Games) and /x/ (Paranormal), the latter being created due to the popularity of 7chan's /x/ board. moot also announces the winners in a contest for new banners. The next day, janitor applications are opened and then closed four days later, with the new janitors being implemented around early March.

March 21 - Anonymous discovers photos of 16-year-old Kelly Isenhower of Georgia sucking off her dog, as well as her phone number and address. Needless to say, Anon went batshit, raiding her DeviantArt and MySpace, calling her parents and telling them about the incident, and even e-mailing the photographs to her school principal, although she was adamant that the photos were shopped (which they obviously weren't). She was suspended from school indefinitely, her dog was taken away, and everyone now hates her, including all her former friends and her parents. Anonymous rejoices.

March 26 - moot announces a re/b/oot and aims to restore /b/ to its former glory. Two stickies are created, one being a letter moot received that inspired him to start the re/b/oot, and another sticky being his formal apology for "letting /b/ turn to shit". /b/'s background changed to a seizure-inducing flashing yellow and white background with the song "Cotton-Eyed Joe" embedded in the background. The Name and Subject fields return to /b/, effectively ending forced anonymous and allowing tripcodes. Many people were banned by moot in both stickies for comments such as "/b/ sucks", and in many other threads as well. Later, a third sticky was made which was a locked thread with only two posts, with the OP announcing that he was "afraid of being banned by the crazy bitch-ass mods" and also said, "You might as well make rules for /b/ now faggots", followed by which the poster was banned. Later in the day, 23M GET was achieved, which was a picture of a Pokemon. Considering this to be an extreme failGET (as did all of /b/), moot banned the poster, instantly transforming it into a winGET.

March 27 - The next day, /b/'s background turned /b/lack, and techno music was played. /b/'s title was changed to "Transmission" with "Trans" italicized. A sticky was posted containing a picture of Diglet and said, "/b/ is /b/ again". Many users were banned in the thread for suggesting otherwise.

March 28 - /b/'s background was changed yet again to gray with red tripcodes (allowing users to impersonate moot every easily), techno music was added with the prominent line, "I am the creator". /b/'s title was changed to "Revolution" and a sticky was posted in which a user was banned for posting DSFARGEG.

March 29 - The day after that, the background was changed to a rapidly flashing rainbow background, as well as the posts. A techno version of the song "Eye of the Tiger" was added as background music. Four stickies were created, each with a GIF of a rainbow-flashing number 5 and the four stickies contained one line each of the song's opening verse (This is a showdown/A throwdown/Hell no, I can't slow down/It's gonna go), and /b/'s title was changed to "Showdown". The next day, /b/ returned to normal, with a normal layout and no background music, during which /b/'s title was changed to "Intermission".

April 1 - Following two days of normal /b/, techno music was again added as background music, but the CSS remained unchanged, signalling the end of the re/b/oot.

April 20 - 4chan administrators are forced to temporarily shut down img.4chan.org after a thread containing four uncensored images of child pornography became stuck on the front page for over an hour (during which nobody could post) and could not be deleted due to MySQL problems. Rather than getting v&, the plug was pulled on img.4chan.org and was restored around 12-15 hours later. During the downtime, since 7chan was down as well, a massive amount of /b/tards flocked to 420chan, thus ruining 420chan's most special day, 4/20.

April 27 - "Fortunes" are introduced to /b/, a feature that moot had implemented from the very beginning but had never told anyone about. Basically, if you put your name as "#fortune", you will get a random fortune at the top of your post, chosen at random. moot announced it to the public after another mod told him to reveal it, causing mass spamming of fortunes. A thread in which someone guessed their own fortune was stickied and became the most replied-to thread in /b/ history, beating the Steve Irwin thread in just 19 hours with 5,336 posts.

April 28 - 4chan, 7chan, and especially 420chan combine forces to attack Subeta, a faggot roleplaying website similar to Gaia who stole Longcat and turned him into an item for their faggoty site. When 4chan complained, Subeta DDoSed 420chan, leaving it in ruins and sticking Kirtaner (420chan's owner) with a $6,000 server bill. The \*chans then DDoS Subeta, which they find hard to do due to lack of effort, as well as Subeta's 2000 GB monthly bandwidth and lack of large images. Nevertheless, two major Subeta fansites were shut down permanently and Subeta was down for two days. Keith (Subeta's owner) eventually apologized and removed Longcat from his site after a long and bloody battle, at which many Anonymous rejoiced. On this same day, Encyclopedia Dramatica, one of /b/'s most famous recruiting posts, encountered a severe hard disk failure and does not return until June 8.

May - first known instance of a rickroll in 4chan's /v/. Related to Grand Theft Auto.

May 13 - moot changes /b/'s layout so that everything is the same color (excluding checkboxes and fortunes), meaning that users will have to press Ctrl+A (Select All) or disable CSS in order to view text. A sticky is posted in which moot explains that the color change is to keep stupid people out, which moot closed a few hours later at around 1,900 posts. moot also announced that threads would go back to the limit of 250 posts and 100 images instead of 1000 posts and 500 images, so that topics can be pruned easier and that the directory dumper would be harder to abuse. The color change lasted a week (during which posting rates decreased by 10%) after which it was disabled, triggering some anger from some /b/tards who wished that the cancer could have been kept out longer.

June 5 - /co/ reaches 1M GET; the thread disappears within five seconds or so, and due to the strain on the server, the file was deleted as soon as it was uploaded. The post also had the text, "reducto get", referring to Reducto from Harvey Birdman, Attorney at Law, meaning that the picture was most likely one of him. The next day, /b/ reaches 29M GET, which the original poster deletes after three hours after being persuaded to do so in another thread.

June 16 - 30M GET is achieved one hour after midnight, when many /b/tards are asleep. It was an extreme failGET, as was 10M GET and 20M GET. Consisting of the text "Shit. Getting closer" and a picture from some anime, it received around 2400 replies before being deleted 15 hours later.

June 18 - moot brings back forced Anonymous on /b/ after someone insults him. Many think it is merely a temporary change; however, the forced Anonymous remains in place for just over a month.

July 20 - Sometime around 5:40 P.M. EDT, forced anonymous is turned off again. No reason is given at the time, nor is a sticky posted. It is later revealed that moot turned it off at the urging of the other 4chan staffers, all of whom were going to Otakon.

July 23? - /b/'s background music is changed to a remix of "Chocolate Rain" by Tay Zonday.

July 31? - Forced Anon returns on /b/.

July 32 - G4's Attack of the Show's plan to talk about Anon at 4chan created forced names/tripcodes of ATOS's guests and anchors for the day on /b/.

September 21 - Forced Anon is removed from /b/ for some reason, resulting in moot and W.T. Snacks impersonations (among other things).

October 1 - 4chan celebrates its 4th birthday with the return of the purple and blue party hats to /b/. A good time is had by all.

October 19 - A unknown party (or parties) begin a DDoS attack against 4chan. The attack is relatively successful, with all of the 4chan servers timing out relatively quickly. In a possibly related story, around the same time, a number of users enter the 4chan IRC channel, demanding that it be moved from its current location on irc.rizon.net to irc.partyvan.org. Their request is not taken seriously and they are banned from the channel in short order.

October 26 - New measures are planted on /b/ to stem the tide of newfaggotry. As a result, the possibility of combos was eliminated, the #fortune ability was disabled, and the cancer's hold on the board was reduced somewhat.

**2008**

February 19 - The following boards were added: /fa/,/fit/,/hc/,/n/,/sp/,/toy/,/trv/,/jp/,and /r9k/.

February 12, 2008 Moot posted on the news page basically talking about imminent changes on 4chan (new trial boards, more janitors, etc). But most of those things never happened.

April 11 - /n/- Transportation was invaded by news posts in seeking to turn the board back to /n/ - News, but in a few hours the threads were removed and the posters banned.

June 18 - The boston fail meetup. /b/'s title was changed as well to old /b/ referencing Metal Gear Solid 4.

June 13 - 4chan's /b/ got spammed with obfuscated JavaScript code with the simple instructions. In reality, it effectively turns your computer into a botnet.

August 7 - 4chan's DNS servers were down and it was not restored until August 11 2008.

September 16 - Sarah Palin email hack

November 4 - /b/'s title changed to RON PAUL 2008 and then to O/b/ama - Your new supreme overlord.

November 30 - /b/ hits 100M GET, featured a a furry image by artist Strype. This iconic action on this day would shortly thereafter be labeled as the day of "Epic Fail".

December 12 - Anontalk.org spams /b/

December 13 - Raidchan.org spams /b/

**2009**

January 28 - "After four months of being ad-free, we're running some ad tests. We ask that you bear with us as we filter out the shitty ads and see what works. Also, please don't block them, and be sure to click those that interest you. Thanks!"

March 24 - A Legendary thread full of copypasta based on a Batman Begins quote of the Joker called "My Father...was a baker...and a fiend" (http://archives.yotsubasociety.org/4chan/b/126031778.html)

April 27 - 4chan related groups successfully hacked Time 2009's Person of the Year contest by rigging the candidates names with mARBLECAKEALSOTHEGAME.

May 10 - 4chan's /b/ and /r9k/ was under a DDoS - The DDoS attack was caused by a trojan some /b/tards downloaded.

May 19 - YouTube Porn Day - /b/ - "...what would happen if ALL of us upload p3rn on YouTube non-stop?"

May 29 - moot posts a sticky called "Re:spam" with a image titled crockofshit.png

June 1 - /b/ title changed to "Twilight Appreciation Station - The darkest place on the internet -- for vampire compatriots"

June 18 - /b/ title changed to "you forgot - it was your final mission nothing will save you now."

June 19 - /b/ title changed to "tur/b/idity"

June 25 - /b/ title changed to "Goodnight Sweet Prince - RIP" in memoriam of Michel Jackson's Death.

July 12 - moot makes a global announcement stating that he might use Twitter "(ugh)" for site updates in addition to other stuff. (Despite the initial feelings about twitter, he eventually learns to enjoy it.)

July 27 - AT&T blocks 4chan's /r9k/ and /b/ more specifically the img.4chan.org subdomain was blocked.

September - Gamespot.com hosted a tournament, where its users voted to decided who is the greatest video game character of all time. 4chan decided to trash this party. Anonymous decided to have Duke Nukem, Little mac and /b/ubble & /b/bobble come out at the top. Especially /b/u/b/ & /b/o/b/. At the first round of the tournament, bub & bob were against the mighty master chief. Master chief was no match for bub & bob, since the gamespot community wasn't prepared for a raid such as this. Much lulz was had, as bub & bob, a game that most people haven't heard of defeated master chief. bub & bob defeated sonic easily in the next round, and faced Samus in round 3. It was an incredibly tight match. Hackers from both sides pulled all nighters. As a result, bub & bob won with 53% of the votes. Sadly, the gamespot admins disqualified bub & bob because they caught 5 specific people who submitted 16K votes to bub & bob. bub & bob won the battle, but Samus had won the war. Due to the raid, the word 4chan was banned from the gamespot forums. The gamespot community now refers to 4chan as mordor.

October 1 - 4chan turned 6 years old

October 7 - Party hats returned to /b/ for 4chan's 6th birthday.

**2010**

January 25 - Six new image boards were added: /adv/,/lit/,/new/,/int/,/sci/, and /3/.

January 26 - Start of the longest ever collab thread in the history of 4chan on /3/. The last time I checked as of 3/17/2012 it was incomplete.

February - A sticky was created on /b/, where moot asked what he should mention for his presentation for TED Talks. The thread received over 12K posts. moot described anonymous to a bunch of confiscates in 70 different countries (wait until all those people go on 4chan, realizing that 4chan is dead and full of porn)on TED Talks. moot claimed 4chan was dying due to the movement towards internet privacy. moot also reviled that he moved out of his mom's house and back to college.

February - Massive Q and A threads on /a/, /jp/, and /r9k/. Moot created a formspring page for Q and A things but it was flooded with 20,000 messages. Around 2012 he quietly replaced the formspring page with the 4chan FAQ.

February 28 - "Over the past 48 hours 4chan's formspring page has gotten over 12,000 questions, and I've received over 3,000 e-mails. Many thanks to everyone who submitted a question, and sent me a message! I was able to respond to a few hundred e-mails and had hoped to start answering questions on formspring, but it seems that the number of questions broke the page. Once that's sorted out, I'll sift through them and answer as time allows. Thanks again for all of the support!" - However this fix never happened due to various reasons.

February 4 - Verizon users started experiencing problems loading 4chan. Soon moot confirmed with Verizon customer support that 4chan was blocked on purpose. Verizon took themselves a week to "resolve" the situation

February 21 - 200M GET on /b/ featured an image of Ninetales, a Pokemon. On that same date, moot implemented post number truncation in response to the Bateman/Doubles Guy posts on /b, but they simply moved to /a/ and /v/ to spread this cancer.

February 23 - a clue was featured on Jeopardy in a category entitled 'Internet' containing a reference to 4chan.org. moot posted a image about the broadcast.

April 1 - 4chan 2.0 - A April Fools prank which was actually useful when dealing with the onslaught of .hta spam the site was suffering from.

May - Law & Order aired an episode where a guy with the internet nickname "moot" tried to beat cho's high score. This created much outrage. Due to the episode, the Law & Order commercial transition (full black screen with the sound effect DUN DUN) appeared after every time someone posts on 4chan's /b/. The only text being the date of the post submission.

May 4 - /r9k/ discovers Quiptext's vulnerability , /b/ founds out about it and Quiptext day was begun.

July 23 - /b/'s rules change along with a new sticky thread in "honor" of" ABC's Good Morning Coverage of Jessi Slaughter

October 1 - 4chan turns 7 years old today. He chatted as MOOTCHAT on Meebo and AIM via airplane internet. But that didn't work out, so he created #4chanbirthday @ irc.rizon.net. (Believe it or not we have the log irc channel.) Also he mentioned that The Social Network premiered in cinemas in the US.

November 14 - Operation Overlord. Tumblr and 4chan war against each other. It eventually turned into a OTP fest.

December 1 - PUDDI PUDDI PUDDI PUDDI PUDDI PUDDI PUDDI PUDDI PUDDI PUDDI PUDDI PUDDI PUDDI PUDDI

December 27 - /b/ title changed to "Moot is Olev" and party mode html was active.

December 29 - /b/ title changed to "RIP Cotton Eye Joe" at the same time it was hit with a DDoS assault that kept the site offline for nearly 24 hours.

**2011**

January 3 - 4chan suffered another distributed denial of service attack "Right on the eve of /b/’s 300 millionth post"

January 4 - /b/ finally gets the 300M GET. It was a image of France.

January 17 - Around 8pm EST moot deletes /r9k/ and /new/

February 13 - Andrew W.K. posts on 4chan's /mu/ with two threads.

March 14 - moot had his SXSW 2011 regarding canv.as. 4channers mocked him in countless threads and it was considered to be the worst of all the talks he had about 4chan in history.

October 25 - Brodyquest is stickied on /b/, a mirror thread is made by a troll mod. A lot of blinking text is involved and people that post timestamped sink pics are given false bans

October 26 - "I'm so fresh you can suck my nuts" is stickied on /b/.

November 8 - /new/ is (accidentally?) revived. No news posts are made, rules given, or mods on it. Title is "Yotsuba Image Board," the default title given to new boards; seems to be a mix of /co/ and /sp/ users at the moment with a healthy blend of racism thrown in. Posts from January still make up over half the board. Deadmau5 appears on /mu/ in two sticky threads.

November 10 - Moot resurrects /r9k/, /new/ (now /pol/), and /hc/, and creates /diy/.

November 13 - 4chan suffered a sustained DDoS onslaught by an unknown person or eniety. After the onslaught moot installed Cloudflare

November 12 - Official Chrome extension released and Firefox extension updated.

November 13 - Massive DDOS attack begins. Tumblr suspected.

November 16 - DDOS dies down

November 17 - Moot has a sticky in /g/. /r9k/ gets spoiler tags thanks to Tage Heyn and people (s)talk about Shii. /v/ becomes El Vidyo and gets Hispanic background music.

November 20 - Moot tries to make pages load more quickly by changing how captchas load. Naturally, this makes captchas stop working altogether. Quickreply/Noko/All non-official 4chan applications stop working and the submit button grays out for a lot of people. I link moot to the thread and after he posts, the thread explodes with people bitching and moot undoes the changes after the thread hits 200 replies about an hour and a half later. (/g/21167645)

**2012**

February - /v/ beats reddit at Tribes Ascend, becomes /v/ - Well-coordinated and heavily practiced Reddit team beaten by a rag-tag group of /v/irgins run by a furry and a BR with 140 ping and gets GAL男宣言 background music. /v/ is split into /v/ and /vg/. /mlp/ is added. It is now impossible to get dubs on /v/.

February - moot quietly opens /hm/ to the public.

February 4 - /int/ board occupied by Russian channers from 2ch.so due to a DDoS attack by pro-government groups.

February 17 - moot creates /mlp/ board.

**4chan history not covered in the newsposts (And the wiki timeline):**

(Shii)

 29 September 2003: Moot registers 4chan.net, just because it looked like 2chan.net (Futaba Channel) which was an ADTRW pastime. Originally, his only intention was to own an e-mail address @4chan.net, but he quickly gets to thinking.

 1 October 2003: 4chan launches. Originally, the only board is /b/. Announcements are made on two boards: world2ch and ADTRW

 2 October 2003: I attempt to get 4chan shut down by e-mailing its web host. I fail. Moot writes a post calmly explaining 4chan to me and the one or two other guys on world2ch who oppose it. /h/ is added.

 17 October 2003: 4chan dies for the first time. Apparently by this time I have realized 4chan is a good thing.

 20 November 2003: Apex tells moot that 4chan has to go. 4chan dies for the second time.

 11 February 2004: Something Awful user "nubdestroyer" attempts to get 4chan shut down, this time by e-mailing GoDaddy, the owner of 4chan.net. He succeeds. 4chan moves to 4chan.org where it is today.

 15 June 2004: TheRowan, owner of HentaiKey, attempts to get 4chan shut down, this time by e-mailing PayPal who controlled 4chan's donations at the time. He succeeds.

*Additional timelines (JohnnyDigital):*

Board titles

I didn't keep track of the order in which 4chan boards were launched. The following list is collected mainly from 4chan news posts and web archives.

30th September, 2003: Moot announces 4chan.net in Something Awful's ADTRW forum. Thread is titled "4chan.net - English 2chan.net!"

2nd October 2003: 4chan's /b/ is already in place, according to a news post on a complaint. It is named after 2chan's /b/ board, and according to Everything Shii Knows was originally the only 4chan board. The rules page describes /b/ as a test board which will later become an anime board. moot describes /b/ in a news post as "a retard bin". 4chan's "/h/ - Hentai" board launched.

6th October 2003: "/c/ - Anime/Cute" added as a place to post "cute anime/hentai pictures". "/d/ - Hentai/Alternative" added as a /h/ spinofff "to appease all those who thought the restrictions on /h/ were too Nazi-ish." "/y/ - Yaoi" and 4chan Oekaki BBS drawing board added.

8th October 2003: 4chan's /b/ board is currently named "/b/ - Anime/Random", although I can't remember if it had an earlier name. Archived thread reveals that the "/w/" board (wallpapers) existed by this date.

9th October 2003: "/g/ - Guro" added to clean the most nasty images out of /h/. "/s/ - Sexy Beautiful Women" added, and is managed by Boco\_T and PotatoSan. Boco\_T also drew two of 4chan's title images: one of Osaka from Azumanga Daioh, and one of Cardcaptor Sakura drawn in the style of Fist of the North Star.

8th November 2003: "/a/ - Anime" launched. "/l/ - Lolikon" launched to clean up /c/.

22nd November 2003: Some time between 16th October and 22nd November, /b/ has been re-named to "Random", perhaps as there is now a dedicated anime board. A news announcement reveals that a board named "/r/ - TRAINZ" was running, but has been moved to 1chan (trains trains trains).

28th November 2003: News announces that "/l/" has been removed.

8th January 2004: "/l/" returns. Newspost reveals that "/r/" (Request) has been created to solve a problem with "/t/" (Torrents), which evidently had already existed for a while.

25th January 2004: "/t/" removed.

19th February 2004: "/f/ - Flash" added. "/t/ - Torrents" returns.

21st February 2004: Two discussion boards added: "/amh/ - Anime-Manga-Hentai", and "/bbs/ - 4chan Discussion".

28th March 2004: An old saved-out thread reveals that "/p/ - Photo" and "/u/" existed by this date. Top of page boards list: a/b/c/d/f/h/l/p/r/s/t/u/w/y.

30th March 2004: Two discussion boards added: "/dis/ - Discussion" and "/sug/ - Suggestion".

15th June 2004: 4chan's Paypal donations account is reported by TheRowan, owner of HentaiKey and host of rival imageboard 5chan. (Source: SA 4chan thread)

20th June 2004: 4chan closes its doors for the fourth time. (Source: Something Awful original 4chan thread)

7th August 2004: 4chan returns.

16th August 2004: Saved thread reveals that the following boards existed already: "/m/", "/n/" (Trains), and "/cm/" (Cute Male) /cm/ was created to keep male content out of /c/. The discussion boards "/anime"/, "/ascii/" and "/game/" already existed. /r/ was named "/r/ - Request". Top of page boards list: a/b/c/d/f/g/h/l/m/n/p/r/s/t/u/w cm/y anime/ascii/dis/game/sug.

8th September 2004: "/k/ - Weapons", "/o/ - Auto" and "/sm/ - Shota/Male" added.

26th September 2004: "/n/" (Trains) mentioned in a news post.

9th October 2004: "/ib/ - Oekaki Random", "/ip/ - Oekaki Pro" and "/v/ - Video Games" image boards added. Discussion board "/tech/ - Technology" added. "/n/ - Trains" removed.

19th January 2005: "/e/ - Ecchi" added as a mid-way between /c/ and /h/. "/3/ - 3DCG", "/g/ - Technology" and "/n/ - Nature and Wildlife" added.

26th January 2005: "/ic/ - Art/Critique" added. "/p/ - Photography" and "/x/ - General Photo" added, and replace "/p/ - Photo".

26th February 2005: "/gif/ - Animated GIF", "/hr/ - High Resolution", and "/wg/ - Wallpapers/General" added. "/x/ - General Photo" removed.

9th January 2007: "/sp/ - Sports" removed after a trial.

12th February 2008: News post reveals that "/ck/" exists at this point.

29th February 2008: News post reveals nine new boards added over several weeks: "/fa/ - Fashion", "/fit/ - Health & Fitness", "/hc/ - Hardcore", "/n/ - Transportation", "/sp/ - Sports", "/toy/ - Toys", "/trv/ - Travel", "/jp/ - Japan/General", and "/r9k/ - ROBOT9000".

26th June 2008: News post reveals a former image board, "/q/ - Questions".

6th July 2008: News post reveals that drawing board "/i/" exists by this date. "/i/" was created to merge Oekaki Random with Oekaki Pro.

1st January 2010: The following boards are listed on the rules page, and must have been created before 2010: "/an/ - Animals & Nature", "/cgl/ - Cosplay & EGL", "/co/ - Comics & Cartoons", "/m/ - Mecha", "/po/ - Papercraft & Origami", "/tg/ - Traditional Games, "/tv/ - Television & Film", and "/x/ - Paranormal". There is an upload board, "/rs/ - Rapidshares". Several discussion boards have been created and shut down over the site's run.

28th January 2010: Six new image boards were added some time in January 2010: "/adv/ - Advice", "/lit/ - Literature", "/new/ - News", "/int/ - International", "/sci/ - Science & Math", and "/3/ - 3DCG". 3DCG previously existed and I'm pretty sure News used to exist as /n/. There is a Science & Math text board.

18th January 2011: /r9k/ and /new/ removed. The current board list is: [a / b / c / d / e / f / g / gif / h / hr / k / m / o / p / r / s / t / u / v / w / wg] [i / ic] [cm / y] [3 / adv / an / cgl / ck / co / fa / fit / int / jp / lit / mu / n / po / sci / soc / sp / tg / toy / trv / tv / vp / x] [rs] [status / ? / @]

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Boards sharing a letter

Several boards have used the same letter as another board at a different point in time. Usually, this occurs when a single-letter board is deleted and its letter is later re-used.

/g/ - Guro, Technology

/n/ - Trains, Nature & Wildlife, News, Transportation

/p/ - Photo, Photography

/x/ - General Photo, Paranormal

Secret boards

There were two secret boards I knew of. The first was /5/, which was for posting pictures of 5. The second was /z/, an exile board detailed at Everything Shii Knows.

*Dates of board additions (Until 2008):*

**2003**

October 1

/b/ - random

October 2

/h/ - Hentai

October 6

/c/ - Anime/Cute

/d/ - Hentai/Alternative

/w/ - Wallpapers/Anime

/y/ - Yaoi

/i/ - oekaki BBS board

October 9

/g/ - Guro

/s/ - Sexy Beautiful Women

November 8

/a/ - Anime

/l/ - Lolikon

December 16

/t/ - Torrents

December 29

/l/olikon is taken down due to CP

**2004**

January 8

/l/olikon returns

/r/ - Requests formed

January 25

/t/ removed

February 14

4chan.net is suspended, 4chan.org is "temporary" home

February 19

/t/ - Torrents returns,

/f/ - Flash founded

cgi.4chan.org hosts /f/

March 28

4chan.org is made permanent

/g/uro removed

September 8

/k/ (Weapons),

/o/ (Auto)

/sm/ (Shota/Male)

"/b/ is severely lacking in quality...contribute better"

October 9

/v/ (Video Games)

/n/ (Trains) is deleted

/z/ created

October 31

/l/ (Lolikon) and /sm/ (Shotakon) are deleted due to threats of legal action.

November 5

moot registers not4chan.org and moves /l/ and /sm/ there instead

November 15

/g/ (Guro) is deleted

November 1

/z/ was deleted

**2005**

January 19

/e/ (Ecchi)

/g/ (Technology)

/n/ (Nature & Wildlife)

January 27

/ic/ (Artwork/Critique)

/p/ (Photography)

/x/ (General Photo).

Although there was already a /p/ board for photography before, it is the replacement, with new features (such as EXIF data).

February 26

/gif/ (Animated GIF)

/hr/ (High Resolution)

/wg/ (Wallpapers/General)

August 28

Donate or Die

October 30

Snacks leaves

**2006**

February 6

/5/ is deleted

April 6

/co/ (Comics & Cartoons)

/po/ (Papercraft & Origami)

/sp/ (Sports)

Two days later

/cgl/ (Cosplay & EGL)

/ck/ (Food & Cooking)

/mu/ (Music)

/n/ (News)

/tv/ (Television)

(I am assuming /m/echa, /an/, and /cm/ are up at this time also)

April 20

An Hero raid.

June 15

Tom green raids.

June 17

Zelda Guide Forums raid.

June 19

naruto-kun.com raid.

July 12

Pool's Closed raid.

August 22

Proana.us, teenbabynet.org, WikiFur raided.

August 23

/b/ day.

img.4chan.org crashes, leaving 14 boards, including /a/, /an/, /b/, /c/, /cm/, /g/, /k/, /m/, /o/, /p/, /r/, /s/, /t/, /v/, and /w/ inaccessible.

/b/tards fleee to 7chan, iiChan, 2ch.ru, and 420chan

img.4chan.org didn't return until August 25, two days later.

September 11

Pool's closed, due to stingraids and raids.

October 1

4chan fgt hat day (3 years, baby!)

December 20

Hal Turner gets raided by 4chan, 7chan, YTMND, Something Awful, and Bantown

December 25

Hal Turner's vacation gets raided.

December 31

Hal Turner surrenders to 4chan: "I am not certain where to go from here. My entire existence - short of my physical presence on this planet - has been utterly wrecked, by people I never met from places I've never been."

**2007**

January 9

moot allows all of the trial boards created on April 6, 2006 to become full boards, except for /sp/ (Sports), which is deleted.

February 15

/tg/ (Traditional Games)

/x/ (Paranormal), created due to the popularity of 7chan's /x/ board.

March 21

Kelly Isenhower gets raided.

March 26-April 1

the re/b/oot. moot fags up /b/ to get rid of cancer.

April 28

4chan, 7chan, and especially 420chan combine forces to attack Subeta in order to take back longcat. The battle is long, but anon triumphs.

May 13

moot fags up /b/ to help stop the cancer again. 10% decrease in posting rate for a week. When it goes back to normal , people complain.

September

/rs/ - Rapidshares

October 1

4chan fgt hat day again. Fun times. (FOUR CHAN FOUR YEARS)

December

4chan gets a makeover

**2008**

February

/fa/ - Fashion

/fit/ - Health & Fitness

/hc/ - Hardcore

/n/ - becomes Transportation

/sp/ - Sports

/toy/ - Toys

/trv/ - Travel

/jp/ - Japan/General

/r9k/ - ROBOT9000

***Trivia about moot (Shii):***

I was asked to write a page about moot, owner of 4chan.

[September 2003]

<moot> regging 4CHAN.net

<moot> FOUR CHAN

<moot> brace for faggotry

Here is an example of the cognitive style of moot.

<moot> HELLO OTAKU

<otaku> HELLO MOOT

<moot> WHY ARE YOU NOT ON AMERICAN ONLINE INSTANT MESSENGER (AIM)

<moot> MINUS THE EN

<@rizzov[vrooooo]> probably because he has you blocked

<@rizzov[vrooooo]> like most everybody else

<moot> that wasnt funny because its not a joke

Another. (*Extracted from the leaked logs when W.T. Snacks was fired*)

moot (5:43:46 PM): you enjoyed all the benefits of being wtsnacks, admin of 4chan, without really putting the work into earning it

moot (5:43:48 PM): i use earning loosely

SQ (5:43:59 PM): What benefits?

moot (5:44:10 PM): internet superstar, wtsnacks, of internet fame, ON THE INTERNET

***Moar Trivia:***

**25 Name: Menchi @lWV9WxNHV. : 10/02/2003 14:02UTC ID:??? By Other Language (Permelink)**

*>>22 /"Yaoi and dickgirlz" is there because it's funny./
It's not funny when they're actually posting child porn to their imgboards! I have half a mind to call their ISP on them.
>>23 /If we can draw attention to ourselves, world2ch might live./
Er... you noticed... :) (world2ch, actually Shii in disguise, second day of the foundation of 4chan)*

Proof /b/ was never good…

***38 Name: moot: 10/02/2003 21:32UTC ID:??? By Other Language (Permelink)***

*>>21 Stop using "their" please, thanks. That board was merely the first thing I stuck up. I do not care if it becomes a shitfest, as it will be taken down when I find people to moderate (read: NAZI BAN) the serious anime boards. Moderation is the only way we can keep this evil evil pedo hentai out, because we all know ADTRW is a bunch of 40 year old pedophiles who have nothing better to do than look at pictures of women and children with penises! (world2ch again)*

And it was never meant to be.

**Origin of TITS OR GTFO (world2ch):**

Tits or GTFO serves a very important role in the culture of 4chan or at least it did at one point. Back in the day, girls on the Internet were few and far between. Merely being female made them a rarity and subject to all manner of fawning over. A girl could do absolutely dumb shit: *my boyfriend has been away in Iraq for three months and I’m a month pregnant, tee-hee!* No matter how dumb the shit they pulled, white knights would come to her defense: *if he dumps you over something so trivial, he’s a jerk! I would be honored to raise your little bastard!* (yeah, right…)

It really was like that. I’m not kidding. This was especially true on SA, the evil step-father of 4chan. Hell, people used to get banned there for calling dumb bitches dumb bitches. The rule developed on the chan side almost instantly and it was a healthy backlash against female bullshit at the time. Any thread anywhere could be instantly ruined with the appearance of “I’m a girl, lol” or anything at all like that. Hell, you could not be a girl and say it and set off a shitstorm. In the anonymity of 4chan, there’s no way to be certain (and in reality, no way with a registered username either, so what the fuck did it ever matter?).

TITS OR GTFO was born out of this. It’s a simple rule. It levels the playing field for everyone and assures equality and civility in every conversation (relative to the background noise of course, so everything is always a clusterfuck anyway). The rule was supposed to prevent things from being ruined by the trump card of “I’m a girl, lol.” It *was* a problem at the time.

These days, the Internet sex ratio is approaching that of reality which means females online aren’t nearly as special anymore. Will tits or GTFO GTFO itself? I doubt it because it’s just so fun to shout, especially in response to would-be attention whores. Besides, sometimes it actually works…

**On anonymous as a concept (world2ch):**

On world2ch.net, most users went around as anonymous and a large minority went tripped. I think the whole trip code thing was born out of the fact that it's hard to keep track of yourself without one and also we all came from the West where everyone at the very least has some identifier. On 2ch itself, trip codes are quite rare with nearly everyone posting anonymously. The feature, as far as I know, was first discovered by the West through w2ch's rules and how-tos. As I have said before, 2ch and Japanese boards like it are content-centric where those in the West tend to be user-centric. In the West, who you *are* is a big deal where in Japan, it's what you say (which is not to say that what is mostly said are insults and stupid meaningless shit).

On Something Awful, every user name is associated with a registration date. The earlier you register, clearly the more weight your opinion carries (or so they'd believe). The thing is, registration dates, names, avatars, and all the other paid add-ons are totally meaningless if you're a fucking idiot and have been since '00…

In the very early days of 4chan (like first weeks), people used their SA/RH name if they were from SA, their name/trip if they were from world2ch, then trip codes as they found out about them, or nothing at all if they were from Japan. The use of names/trips faded almost immediately and there are several good reasons for that. Firstly, SA admins were total dicks and would ban you for off-site comments/behavior at the time. Most of what the board got up to immediately was considered completely taboo at SA. Secondly, given what I just said, I don't think we really wanted to be associated with it. It was kind of the wild west back then. It was groundbreaking… we could be dicks and say whatever we wanted even about the operators of the site and *get away with it*. There was one rule and everything else was OK by them. Coming out from the cold of the despotic rule at SA, this was a great relief. As Anonymous, nothing could be tracked back to us. Being Anonymous would be the first step in taking the Internet out of the hands of the likes of SA…

Within the culture of Anonymous if you have a problem with any person, group, corporation, or government you're free to say whatever the hell you'd like with practically no way to be tracked. Well, that is unless of course you are an American citizen with a beef against someone specific in the US government, in which case they'll probably be all over you. That aside, it certainly takes a lot of control out of the hands of the mods of bullshit forums on the Internet.

**The path to hell...**

What is it that causes groups that begin with good intentions and peaceful protests to be hijacked by jerks and turn to bank robbery?

This whole hacktivist crap began well after the scope of this history project but interest in it is probably going to drag people here. The main thing I have to say about it is that the media interpretation of the group is pretty hilarious. The Wall Street Journal mentioned numbers of “core members”, etc. (23 Jun). This is just a case of old people failing to understand computers, as usual. It's all just kids being little assholes for the most-part. It's my guess that the actual hackers (the bank robbery portion) in fact uses the group as *cover* rather than having any real association with it. This is my guess. The whole thing is stupid: the participants, the media's handling of the situation, and law enforcement's total incompetence. Every one deserves what they got or are about to get.

Weren't they originally trying to shut down Scientology? Also, *why* were they trying to shut down Scientology? Who gives a fuck about Scientology? Who ever did, really? Why not protest in front of R.J. Reynolds? I'm sure that they'd turn the legal team on you if you talked shit about *them* or if you posted *their* trade secrets online. That's the same thing, isn't it? I think that point alone goes to show that it was a very small core of very charismatic people that touched this whole thing off. I'm sure it was simply hijacked by others that realized its power (or saw an opportunity to cover up their own crimes). Sucks to the original leaders, to be sure. I imagine the law is interested in them now even though they're now in charge of nothing.

Moral of the story: Whatever. I forget.

tl;dr: On 2008 hackers groups and imbecile idealists stole the concept of anonymous from us.

*On its precursors:*

**SA’s ADTRW and #Rasberryheaven (world2ch):**

**ADTRW**

I don’t recall moot being a user of any particular note on ADTRW but then again, it was mostly talk about boring series that only the hardest of hardcore nerds would go out of their way to watch. ADTRW was mostly boring except for the2chan and Azumanga Daioh threads. In addition jerks from ADTRW, jerks from FYAD also contributed heavily to the early era of 4chan (whether they want to admit it or not). ADTRW ran an operation called Raspberry Heaven (which references Azumanga Daioh) which was involved in manga translation (and fansubbing? I forget). They had their own forums apart from the greater SA and if I recall correctly, there were some people involved in RH that had nothing to do with SA (for one of the many reasons stated above).

ADTRW is notable for being one of the less-lame anime forums out there. The users aren't nearly as pathetic as they tend to be elsewhere and the Japan love not nearly as strong. A lot of the fandom is tongue-in-cheek and it tends to filter out good series quite well where others tend to think anything from Japan is of equal merit. I will thank it for exposing me to Azumanga Daioh which I hate to admit I like. Or at least it was. I don't really know the current situation.

**Inherited Content**

A lot of content migrated over from SA in the early days. In particular, the phrase ”(USER WAS BANNED FOR THIS POST)” is not something you see on futaba, but was used (extensively) on SA and added into 4chan's code. The phrase *kill it with fire!* is also from there and was usually in regards to spiders over there, which they all had a fear of some reason. That and the ocean (yeah, it's dumb). Truncating a sentence like: *Oh shi* also seems to have come from there.

The whole concept of an image macro, if not born there, was at least refined at SA. A lot of macros that are reposted on 4chan to this day are are older than the site itself and completely ripped off from the SA forums. The modern memegenerator content is a whole new “refinement”…

During the early days, there was a thread on SA which they made demotivational posters. The concept was obviously taken to extremes at 4chan. This may in fact have been 2004-2005, so never mind.

**2chan and 2ch (world2ch):**

2chan remains a mystery. What the hell they're up to over there is a confusing mess much as we must seem to them.

If there is anything to say about them, it would be that they seem far more capable of staying on topic. Threads go places. Girls in swimsuits? There will be 100 replies all on-topic. I can only chalk this up to the homogenous nature of Japanese culture which is always seeking in every way to conform as hard as possible, usually well past the breaking point and into the depths of severe mental illness.

At the time, aside from Suzuran they were also obsessed with this pencil girl thing. She was a shared artwork, basically. Anyone could add to her weird little story. It was something about her and her pet seal. I never got a straight story on what the hell this was supposed to be, but here's a sample:

In Japan there is basically one forum for all purposes and it is 2-channel. It's enormous, anonymous, and text-only (aside from the porn ads). There are hundreds of different boards on all kinds of topics. You can spend days getting lost in it…

As far as I remember, it was originally a hastily written message board for a television channel web site in the mid-1990s but quickly grew out of control. The site was then moved and disassociated with the network and became its own entity. It developed a culture all its own and now reigns supreme as *the* place to be online. It is largely anonymous.

Things that have sprung out of it include a few whistle blower scandals and the movie Densha Otoko.

Staff:

*Actual (as of April 2012, not exactly accurate):*

moot (Admin, owner, all-around nice guy and humble to the point of being annoying)

Mr. VacBob (aka MVB) (coder, writer of 4chan extensions)

ALTERNATIVE (aka DAVE and buttly)

Man of Wax (coder?)

Pixel Hotness (aka pixel)

Zanok

kami`

Zephro

invisibro

I\_AM\_ABIB

elShoggotho

l3reak

dongfix

*Former staff:*

(Also an incomplete list)

Allyson

Lec

Brian “Okk” Raddatz - #rasberryheaven goon - <http://darksquid.org/>

JDigital - JohnnyDigital - <http://www.jonnydigital.com/>

Shut - #rasberryheaven goon (Coded around by the time W.T. Snacks was fired (2005))

Censored Vagina - #rasberryheaven goon

hova

W.T. Snacks (1) (2) - <http://cookiethievery.com/> - <http://www.8chan.net/> (Admin. Coder. Internet meme. Greatest attention-whore to ever grace 4chan. Got fired on 2005 due lo laziness and moot’s lovely bad temper. Browses #4chan 24/7 and hosts a radio show. Also a hipster)

5 (Had his own secret board dedicated to pictures of him…or so the legend tells)

coda (Coder)

Xennon (Admin for one day because of a get, supposedly leaked the logs where snacks was fired by moot. Woman?)

FrankStallone/dr.wiii

Mr.Spooky

Soviet Russia (Famous tripfag, made mod in the legendary board /z/ and single-handedly attention-whored it to death)

Shii - #rasberryheaven goon - <http://www.shii.org/> (Almost succeeded in making the original host close 4chan due to loli. (Quite hypocritical of him). Member of world2ch (posed as Menchi), later helped moot to code the site on its beginnings.)

Anonymous-san - #rasberryheaven goon

Saber

rabidkimba

magz

*Unknown/mentioned:*

Lucid

Souldark

Jibaku

NICH

 “Bill?” ***[[5]](#footnote-6)***

“Simon?” ***[[6]](#footnote-7)***

*Useful links (May be dead by the time you read this):*

<https://github.com/bibanon/bibanon/wiki/4chan-History> - Someone decided to make a sort of “4chan for dummies” series of articles.

<http://www.yswiki.org/wiki/The_Complete_History_of_4chan> - Most complete wiki timeline to date I found (Which isn’t much, really)

<http://shii.org/knows/4chan> - Shii’s website (WARNING: Very subjective.)

<http://shii.org/knows/Moot> - Idem

<http://www.jonnydigital.com/4chan-history> - jDigital was a staff member for a while, not a lot of information.

<http://s3.invisionfree.com/Project_4chan/ar/t7.htm> - Board addition/removal history.

<http://world2ch.org/wiki/doku.php> - Information on its precursors, 2chan (Most popular imageboard of Japan, not sure if the first one), world2ch (first American imageboard), internet summaries, 2ch (2chan’s random forum? We may never know), 4-ch, SA and 4chan itself.

<http://world2ch.org/dramabomb.html> - Archived thread from October, 2 on wordl2ch. 4chan’s second day of life and the first Chan “war”.

<http://archives.yotsubasociety.org/> - Not a real source, but a repository of saved threads and front pages during important events. Almost dead by now, half of the archives are deleted.

<http://www.yswiki.org/wiki/Main_Page> - The wiki of Yotsuba society, wikichan’s successor. Pretty much a dead wiki by now, but it managed to accomplish the objective of recovering almost all wikichan’s articles.

<http://macrochan.org/tagTree.php> - Not a source. An astonishing amount of old memes separated by tags, some which are pretty much forgotten. We could actually bring some of these back and start a retro trend in 4chan.

<http://shimmie.4chanhouse.org/index.php?q=/post/list> - Same as above, but dedicated to board-tans

<http://www.lurkmore.com/wiki/4chan_GET_Encyclopedia> - Same as above, but about GETs.

<http://www.lurkmore.com/wiki/List_of_notable_namefags_and_tripfags> - Tripfags list, very useful for anyone willing to learn about their favourite board’s history.

<https://encyclopediadramatica.se/Chans> - Incomplete list of \*chans and camwhores, but portrays the most important ones.

<http://www.4chan.org/flash> and <http://www.4chan.org/comics> - This one is quite obvious, but since I’m already compiling all this, why not?

<http://4chanarchive.org/> and <http://chanarchive.org/> - Thread archival sites, not very useful when researching (since it’s a pain because of the sheer amount of threads being archived. There are others sites, and probably better ones.

<http://firstmonday.org/htbin/cgiwrap/bin/ojs/index.php/fm/article/viewArticle/3665/3055> - Investigation done wrong. Proof that normal people don’t understand shit about internet culture.

1. http://forums.somethingawful.com//showthread.php?threadid=724028 – Dead link [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Oct 01, 2003 12:43 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Oct 01, 2003 21:38 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Oct 02, 2003 05:25 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. And [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. : Mentioned in the leaked logs [↑](#footnote-ref-7)