

Microsoft: Millions download freshly-launched Internet Explorer 9

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"The initial reaction has been pretty overwhelming, and we are very humbled by the response our customers have had," Roger Capriotti of the Windows team at Microsoft said in a blog post.

More than two million people around the world downloaded the beta IE9 during the two days following its release on September 15, according to Capriotti.

Microsoft's lean, muscular new Internet Explorer browser was crafted to

spotlight slick websites and beat back competition from [Firefox](#) and [Google](#) in the Web browser arena.

IE9 taps into more of the processing power in computers, especially the capabilities of graphics chips that excel at seamlessly rendering videos or videogame action.

A typical beta period for stable browser software would be three months, but Microsoft might wait until after the year-end [holiday season](#) to make a final version of IE9 available worldwide.

Microsoft doesn't charge separately for IE and the [browser](#) is included with Windows software.

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