

# Photo-sharing app Instagram expands to the Web

November 5 2012, by Barbara Ortutay

---



Picture sharing website Instagram on Monday began rolling out online profiles that let people showcase themselves and photos they've taken with the Facebook-owned smartphone application.

Instagram, the photo-sharing app that was created for mobile phones, is expanding to the Web.

The service will launch Instagram profiles on the Web over the next few

days. Previously, users' profiles existed only on Instagram's mobile applications accessed on the [iPhone](#) or Android devices. Now, users will have a website with a profile photo, bio and a selection of the snapshots they've recently shared on Instagram.

Instagram, which is owned by Facebook Inc., made its announcement in a blog post Monday.

The layout of the Web profiles is reminiscent of Facebook timelines, except with little text and no ads. Users will have a large cover image that's a collage of their old Instagram shots. Their profile photo is on the right side and their snapshots cascade down the page.

Facebook has insisted since it bought Instagram this year that it will keep it running as a separate service. That still appears to be the case. The Instagram Web pages don't link to Facebook and don't ask users to log in using their Facebook accounts.

Instagram's [privacy settings](#) are like Twitter's. Users can either choose to be fully public, so that anyone can see and comment on their photos, or private, such that photos can be seen only to pre-approved followers. Unlike with Facebook's complex, granular privacy controls, there is nothing in between.

Facebook, which is based in Menlo Park, California, agreed to buy Instagram in a deal valued at \$1 billion in April, before its May [initial public offering](#) of stock. Upon closing on Aug. 31, the deal was worth \$715.3 million because of [Facebook's](#) fallen [stock price](#).

Copyright 2012 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

Citation: Photo-sharing app Instagram expands to the Web (2012, November 5) retrieved 26

April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2012-11-photo-sharing-app-instagram-web.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.