




Master Social Networking with Gwibber

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WHAT IS GWIBBER?

Gwibber is an application that allows you to manage all your social networks in one single window. With Gwibber, you can simultaneously read and post on Twitter, Facebook, Flickr, Digg, StatusNet, Qaiku, FriendFeed, Identi.ca, Buzz, and Ping.fm without having to login to each page.

It is impossible to read all the updates that we received through all our networks; thus, we need a way to filter the information. With Gwibber, we hope to help you gain control of your network so you can make it meaningful and relevant to you. We believe our tools allow you to easily direct your updates to people who matter to you, and hide the post you do not care about. We think social networking should be an enjoyable part of your life, not a micro-management nightmare.

WHEN IT IS GREAT TO USE GWIBBER

You need Gwibber when you are:

- Managing several social networks.
- Experiencing information overload and needing to filter content from your multiple social networks.
- Struggling to keep up with all updates from your social networks.
- Looking for a job and following potential employers on various social networks.
- Using social networks to reach potential clients.
- Marketing your company or your professional services through social networks.
- Advertising your blog to increase exposure and traffic.

All these situations have one thing in common: You have to separately manage multiple accounts (for instance, Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and Digg), and split your attention across each network to remain informed and up to date.

SO, WHY BOTHER?

Without an application like Gwibber, the following situations tend to happen:

- You have to type your username and password several times in order to login to many social networks.
- When you want to post the same text on Twitter, Facebook, Digg and Identi.ca, you have to copy and paste the same message in each social network.
- When you login to Facebook or Digg, you are overwhelmed by information that is irrelevant to you; for example, “featured posts” and advertising.
- You have to deal with a web browser and all the distractions it entails (games, blogs, videos, etc.), just to keep track of people's updates.

HOW CAN GWIBBER HELP?

With Gwibber you can:

- Use one username and password to login to all your social networks.
- See updates from across all social networks at a glance and in one single window.
- Update all your social networks, by typing a status update only once.
- Skip advertising and gratuitous posts, courtesy of your social network service (See Glossary, page 43)
- Separate posts from a specific user into its own stream (only for Identi.ca, Twitter, FriendFeed, and Qaiku).
- Set apart Facebook content by categories: Notes, Videos, Pages, Posted Links, Photos, Status Updates, Groups, Networks, and Newsfeeds.
- Block Twitter users via Twitter lists.
- Devote your browser to Internet surfing.

WHAT ISSUES GWIBBER DOES NOT SOLVE

Currently, with Gwibber you cannot:

- Use keywords to selectively block unsolicited posts or unimportant updates.

- Manage friends, followers and contacts in your social networks.
- Manage RSS feeds.
- Compile multiple accounts in several places into one person.

WHY NARROW THE FOCUS?

Two words: *information overload*. We are overwhelmed by information and need a way to select what is important to us.

WHERE ALL THIS COULD LEAD?

- A view of your network that is relevant and meaningful.
- A new microblogging (see Glossary, page 42) trend, where your posts will be more directed and focused, rather than written for everyone and no one in particular.
- More control over your social networks and therefore more opportunities to get the best out of them.

HOW TO USE THIS MANUAL

SECTIONS

Each section in this book is written in such a way that you can read this manual in any order you want. Cross-references will be provided to help you clarify terms or related content.

You will find three types of chapters: *Task*, *Concept* and *Reference*. Each type will be identified by the initial in parenthesis, next to title. For instance:

“Deleting an account (T)”

Task Sections: “(T)”

Task chapters explain how to do something; they are instructions in the proper sense. All task chapters begin with an example of a situation and are followed by instructions on how to perform a task. This will give you a clearer idea as to when and for what purpose to perform it.

Concept Sections “(C)”

Concept chapters describe or explain what something is, what it is for, or how it works. You will not find any instructions here, just information that will help you understand Gwibber, microblogging, and Social Networks.

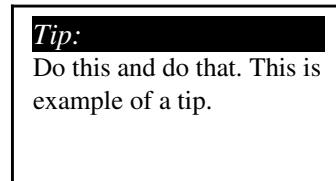
Reference Sections “(R)”

Reference chapters are lists or tables that quickly describe options, menus, buttons, or keyboard shortcuts. This as a way to quickly find very specific information.

TIPS

Text-boxes on the margin, next to set of instructions, contain additional information or alternative ways to perform a task. See Figure 1. below.

Figure 1. Example of a Tip



CONVENTIONS USED IN THIS BOOK

The following format conventions are used in this book:

- Button names, menu items and names of interface objects that you can click are set in bold type.
- When showing you how to locate a specific button in a menu, the instructions will be abbreviated as follows:

In the **Top Panel**, select **System ► Preferences ► Appearance**

This means: “In the **Top Panel**, click or point to **System**, then click **Preferences**, and then click **Appearance**.”

- Text written in *this font* indicates keyboard keys or information that you will be asked to type.

CONTACT DETAILS

WHERE CAN I GET HELP?

The best way to get solutions is by attending our **Support Saturday** meetings and **Main Events**. To find solutions online, please visit:

- <http://www.meetup.com/ubuntuvancouver/>

To find general information about Gwibber, visit:

- <https://wiki.ubuntu.com/Gwibber>
- <https://wiki.ubuntu.com/Gwibber/FAQ>

CONTRIBUTORS AND AUTHORS

Many people have contributed their time to this project. If you notice any errors or think we have let something out, feel free to contact us. We do everything to ensure that this manual is up to date, informative, professional, and useful.

For questions and comments, please contact the **Ubuntu Vancouver Local Community**. You can find more information about us in our Meetup page:

- <http://www.meetup.com/ubuntuvancouver/>

HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE?

The **Ubuntu Vancouver Local Community** has many initiatives similar to this manual. If you are interested in writing or documenting other manuals, please do join us and get involved.

For more information please visit:

- <http://www.meetup.com/ubuntuvancouver/>

If you're looking for advice on how to get involved in Ubuntu generally, and are not in Vancouver or near a local community, then you might want to try the general link for community involvement:

- <http://www.ubuntu.com/community/get-involved>

INSTALLATION

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS (C)

There are no additional requirements beyond those needed by Ubuntu itself. So, if you are running Ubuntu 10.10 you can definitely run Gwibber.

Not running Ubuntu? Then, please refer to this list to learn about hardware requirements for Ubuntu:

- <http://webapps.ubuntu.com/certification/>

Contrary to the Ubuntu Manual's advice, Ubuntu system requirements really are based on this list and not on generic RAM, CPU, or Disk recommendations. All breakage we see in Ubuntu usually results from not following the certification list.

If the system you want to use is not on this list, please contact the **Ubuntu Vancouver Local Community**, and ask for advice:

- <http://www.meetup.com/ubuntuvancouver/>

INSTALLING GWIBBER (T)

If you are using Ubuntu 10.10 you don't need to install Gwibber, you already have it. Congratulations!

GETTING STARTED WITH GWIBBER

UPDATING GWIBBER (T)

This section explains how to update your Ubuntu machine. This update is strongly recommended, as it fixes many issues reported by users. Before you start using Gwibber, you should follow these instructions and update your Ubuntu system.

SITUATION

Carla is a new Ubuntu user, who has just installed the Ubuntu 10.10 version. She wants to get started with Gwibber, but doesn't know how to get the latest updates for her system.

1. In the **Top Panel**, select **System ► Administration ► Update Manager**.
2. Click **Install Updates** and then click **Close**.

Note

This process will download and install all the updates for your Ubuntu system, including those needed for Gwibber.

ADDING BROADCAST ACCOUNTS (T)

This section explains how to add a social network account to Gwibber. Because each social network provider (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) operates in a different way, there are different instructions for each service.

SITUATION

John is an Ubuntu user who wants to start using Gwibber. As a contract photographer, he advertises himself through several social network services:

- Flickr
- Digg
- Identi.ca
- StatusNet
- Twitter
- FriendFeed
- Ping.fm
- Facebook
- Buzz
- Qaiku

John has an account in each of these services, but he simply does not have time to check each and every one of them. As a result, he wants Gwibber to help him manage all these accounts in a single window.

Before he can do that, John first needs to find the MeMenu and then add each account to Gwibber.

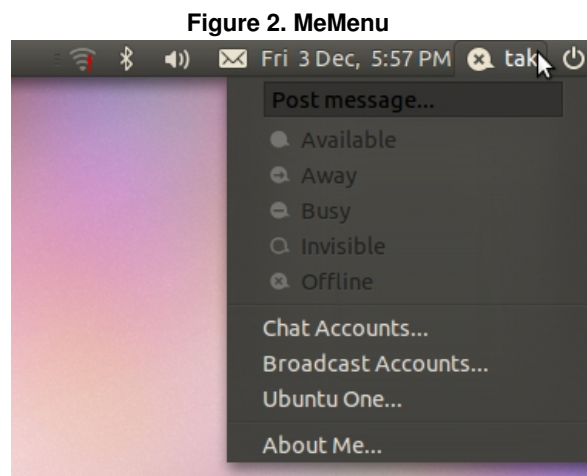
SOLUTION

Prerequisite

You need to have an account with the Social Network you want to add to Gwibber.

Finding the MeMenu

- In the **Top Panel**, on its right side, find the name of your computer or your username. See Figure 2. below.

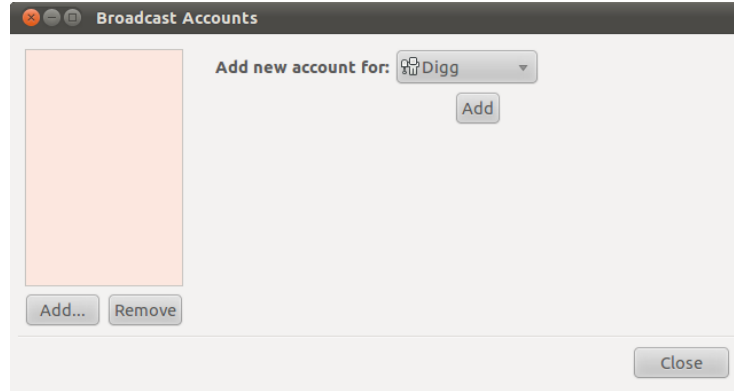


Opening the Broadcast Accounts manager

- In the **Top Panel** select **MeMenu ► Broadcast Accounts...**

Result: The Broadcast Accounts dialog box appears. See Figure 3. below:

Figure 3. Broadcast Accounts manager



Adding Digg and Flickr

1. In the Broadcast Accounts dialog box, on the bottom left side, click **Add...**
2. Click the **Add new account** button to expand the list of available accounts.
3. Select the account you want to add (Digg or Flickr), and click **Add**.
4. Type your Login ID in the box.
5. Click **Add**.

Tip:

You can add two or more accounts of the same service. For example: you can add two Identi.ca accounts.

Adding Identi.ca and StatusNet

1. In the Broadcast Accounts dialog box, on the bottom left side, click **Add...**
2. Click the **Add new account** button to expand the list of available accounts.
3. Select the account you want to add (Identi.ca or StatusNet) and click **Add**.
4. Type your Login ID and Password.
5. Click **Add**.

Note

StatusNet also requires a domain since it works as an online community.

Adding Twitter

1. In the Broadcast Accounts dialog box, on the bottom left side, click **Add...**
2. Click the **Add new account** button to expand the list of available accounts.
3. Select Twitter, click **Add** and then click **Authorize**.

Note: An authorization page may appear in French, but don't panic.

4. Type your username and password in the corresponding boxes.
5. Click **Authorize** (or **Autoriser**) and then click **Add**.

Adding FriendFeed and Ping.fm

1. In the Broadcast Accounts dialog box, on the bottom left side, click **Add...**
2. Click the **Add new account** button to expand the list of available accounts.
3. Select the account you want to add (FriendFeed or Ping.fm) and click **Add**.
4. Type `your Login ID` and click the red link located bellow.

Result: A login page appears in a new browser window or tab.
5. In the browser, login to your FriendFeed or Ping.fm account.

Result: The page will display a *Remote Key*.
6. Copy the *Remote Key* and paste it in the Broadcast Accounts dialog box.
7. Click **Save** and then click **Add**.

Adding Facebook and Buzz

1. In the Broadcast Account dialog box, on the bottom left side, click **Add...**
2. Click the **Add new account** button to expand the list of available accounts.
3. Select the account you wan to add (Facebook or Buzz) and click **Add**.
4. Click **Authorize**.

Result: A login page appears in the Broadcast Account dialog box.
5. Type your `email address` and `password` in the corresponding boxes.
6. Select the **Keep me logged in** or the **Stay signed in** check box.

Note: Buzz will also ask you to Grant or Deny access to Gwibber.
7. Click **Login** or **Sign in** and then click **Add**.

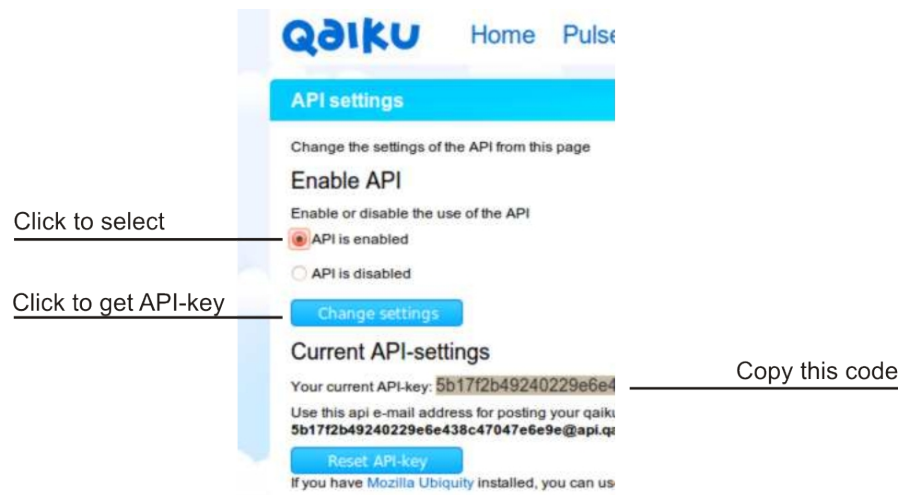
Adding Qaiku

1. In the Broadcast Accounts dialog box, on the bottom left side, click **Add...**
2. Click the **Add new account** button to expand the list of available accounts.
3. Select **Qaiku** and click **Add**.
4. Type your `Qaiku Login ID` and click the red link bellow.

Result: The Qaiku login page appears in a new browser window or tab.
5. In the Browser, login to your Qaiku account and select **API is enabled**.
6. Click **Change Settings**.

Result: Qaiku returns a **Your current API-key**. See Figure 4 in page 19:
7. Copy the current API-key (the long string of numbers and letters).
8. Go to the Broadcast Accounts dialog box and paste the API-key.
9. Click **Save** and then click **Add**.

Figure 4. Enabling API in the Qaiku Page



DELETING BROADCAST ACCOUNTS (T)

This section explains how to delete an account from Gwibber:

SITUATION

John, the photographer, mistakenly added his personal Twitter account along with his professional one. Given that he wants to use Gwibber solely for his job, he wants to delete his personal Twitter account.

SOLUTION

1. In the **Top Panel**, select **MeMenu ► Broadcast Accounts...**
Result: The Broadcast Accounts dialog box appears.
2. In the Broadcast Accounts dialog box, select the account you wish to delete.
3. Click **Remove**.


LAUNCHING GWIBBER

This section explains how to launch Gwibber for the first time. Although you can start broadcasting immediately, it is strongly recommended that you take the time to understand the interface. Imagine how embarrassed you would be if you posted your love for cupcakes on your exercise motivation channel!

SITUATION

Now that John, the photographer, has finished adding all the accounts, he wants to launch Gwibber and start broadcasting.

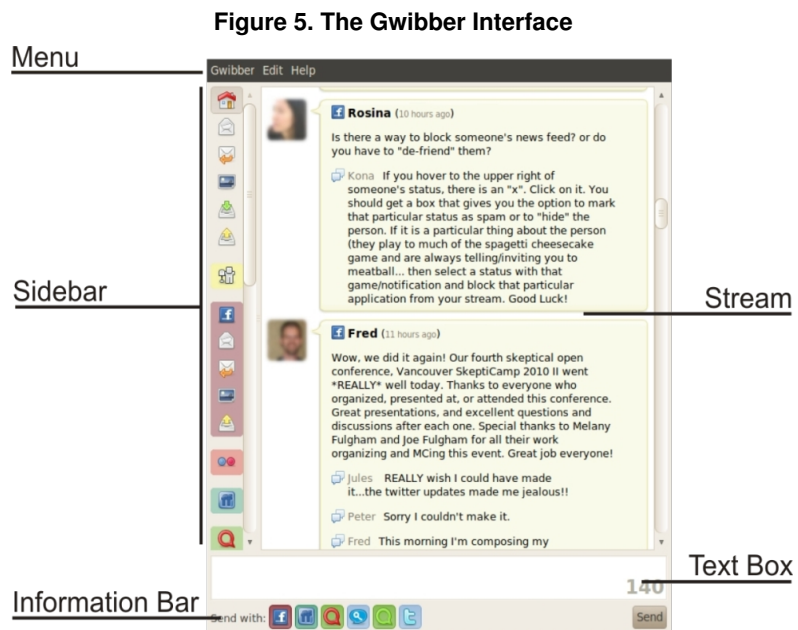
SOLUTION

- In the **Top Panel**, select  ► **Broadcast**.
Result: a new Gwibber window appears.

UNDERSTANDING THE INTERFACE

THE INTERFACE (C)

Figure 5 below, shows the main parts of the Gwibber interface.



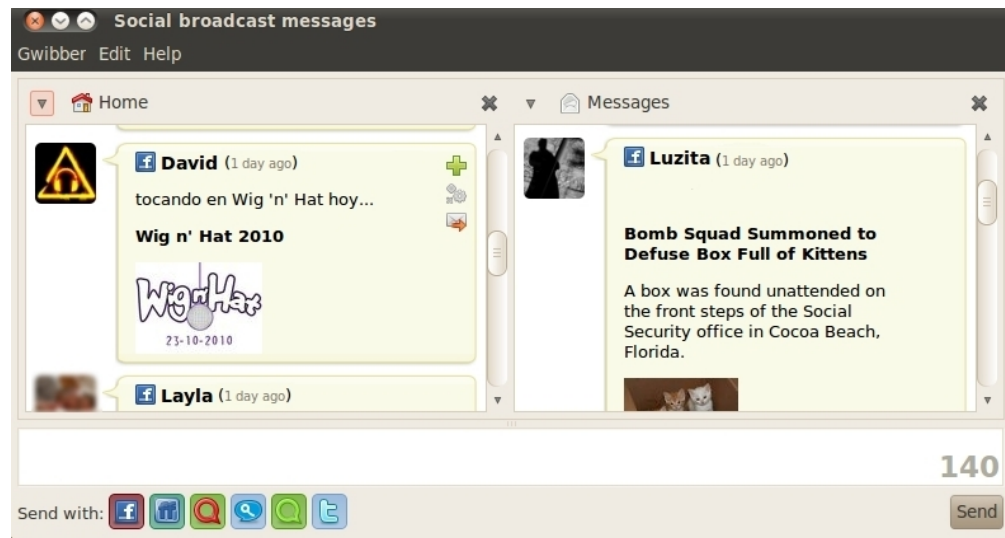
MENU REFERENCE (R)

This section describes in detail each menu, button or area that comprise the Gwibber interface. Refer to this information when you are not sure about the location or name of the menu, button or area of the interface.

Gwibber

<i>Button</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Shortcut</i>
Refresh	Checks for and displays new messages.	Ctrl + R
Search	Searches Twitter, Identi.ca and FriendFeed for public content that contains the specified keywords.	Ctrl + F
New Stream	Opens a new stream of posts. Figure See Figure 6 below.	Ctrl + N
Close Window	Closes window but does not disconnect Gwibber.	Shift + Ctrl + W
Close Stream	Closes an open string. Doesn't work if you have only one stream opened.	
Quit	Closes and disconnects Gwibber.	Ctrl + Q

Figure 6. New Stream in the Gwibber interface











Edit

<i>Button</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Shortcut</i>
Accounts	Opens up the Broadcast Accounts dialog box.	Shift + Ctrl + A
Preferences	Opens the Broadcast Messaging Preferences sheet, which contains three tabs: Options, Messages, Style. <i>See also:</i> Gwibber Preferences (R), in page 37.	Ctrl + p

Help

<i>Button</i>	<i>Description</i>
Get Help Online...	Opens the Ubuntu forums website in your default browser. It contains problems and solutions reported and solved by fellow Ubuntu users.
Translate this application...	Opens the Ubuntu translations website in your default browser. It contains information for people on the current state of translations.
Report a problem...	Opens the Ubuntu forums website in you default browser. You have to type your username and password.
About	Opens the software information sheet.

Sidebar

<i>Button</i>	<i>Description</i>
 Home (general)	Displays all messages and notifications in reverse order.
 Messages	Displays all messages you have received through all you accounts.
 Replies	Displays all replies you have posted through all your accounts.
 Images	Displays all images.
 Private	Displays all private messages. <i>Note: Only Twitter, Identi.ca, StatusNet provide this option.</i>
 Sent	Displays all messages you have sent through all you accounts.
Account Buttons	Display all applicable content in the specified account (messages, replies, images, private, and sent messages).
 Lists	Displays filter options for Facebook and Twitter content. Se also: Setting apart groups of Twitter users(T), page 30 Setting apart types of users or content in Facebook (T), in page 31.
 Search	Opens a search bar on top of the stream panel. <i>Note: Only searches Identi.ca, Twitter and FriendFeed.</i> <i>See also: Searching by keyword, page 32.</i>

BROADCASTING AND INTERACTING

BROADCASTING TO ALL ACCOUNTS (T)

SITUATION

Albert is a DJ who uses social media to communicate with his friends and fan base. He just finished adding all his social media accounts to Gwibber, and wants to advertise his next party to all his contacts in all his social networks.

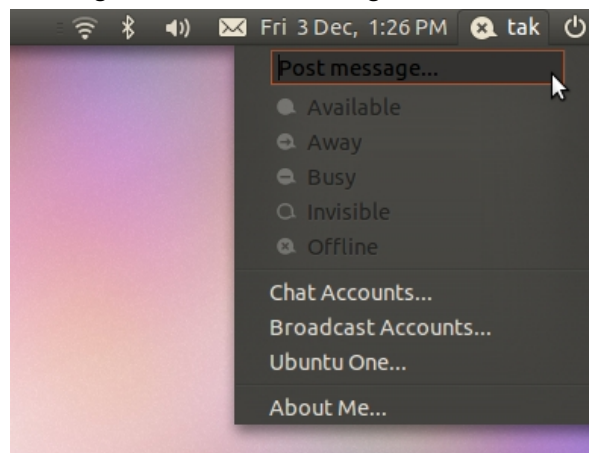
SOLUTION

1. In the **Top Panel**, click the **MeMenu**. See Figure 7 below.
2. In the **Text Box**, type the message and press ENTER.

Note

Your message will be truncated at the maximum number of *characters* allowed by each social networking service (see Glossary, page 43).

Figure 7. The Broadcasting to all accounts



BROADCASTING TO SPECIFICALLY SELECTED ACCOUNTS (T)


This section explains how to send a message simultaneously through one or more accounts, but not to other accounts.

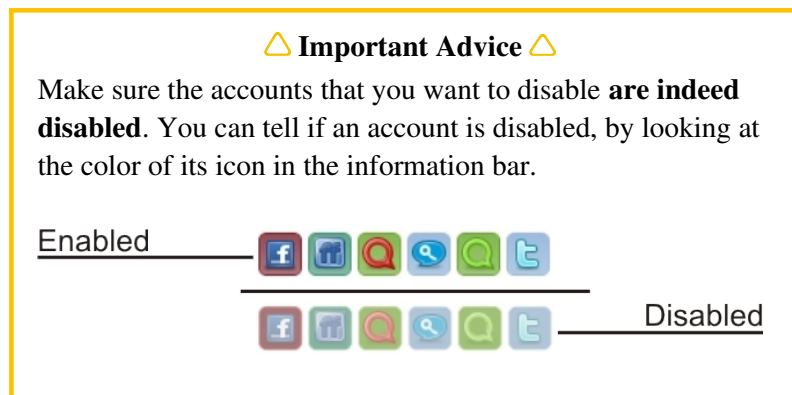
SITUATION

Albert, the DJ, wants to invite his friends to a private party using Facebook and FriendFeed. Because this party is for friends only, Albert does not want to send the invitation through any other social networking service.

SOLUTION

Disabling accounts selectively

1. In the **Top Panel**, select  ► **Broadcast**.
Result: Gwibber launches.
2. In the **Information Bar**, click the buttons of the services you want to disable.
3. The buttons you click turn brighter, like a water mark.



4. Type your message and click **Send**.

Enabling disabled accounts

- Click on each button again and make sure they are now enabled (see Important Advice above).

Related topics

Disabling outbound messages in a specified account (T), page 34.

REPLYING TO MESSAGES (T)

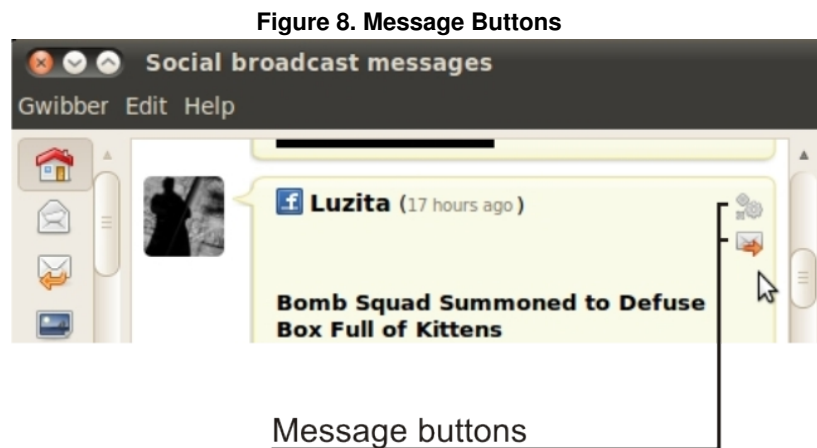
SITUATION

Albert, the DJ, often receives direct messages from his fans, and he always tries to reply to each of them. Now that he is receiving messages through Gwibber, he wants to do the same.

SOLUTION

1. Point to the message you want to reply.

Result: Two buttons appear on the right side of the message. See Figure 8 below.



2. Click the **Reply Button**. 

Result: The **Information Bar** changes and displays the recipient's name and the account that will be used to send the reply.

3. In the **Text Box**, type your reply and click **Send**.

RETWEETING (T)

This section explains how to *retweet* a message. This option only works in Twitter and Identi.ca.

SITUATION

Albert, the DJ, received a Tweet with comments about his last gig, and he wants to share it with his followers in Twitter. In other words, he wants to *retweet* a post.

SOLUTION

1. Point to the post you want to retweet.

Result: Two buttons appear on the right side of the post. See Figure 8.

Message Buttons, page 26.

2. Click the **Options Button** to open the menu. 
3. Click **Retweet** and click **Send**.

LIKING POSTS (T)

This section explains how to “like” a message. This option only works in Facebook, Identi.ca and Twitter.

SITUATION

Albert, the DJ, received a Facebook update with a link to a very funny picture of him and his friends. He wants to “like it” as though he were using Facebook.

1. Point to the post you want to “like”.

Result: Two buttons appear on the right side of the post. See Figure 8.

Message Buttons, page 26.

2. Click the **Options Button** to open the menu. 
3. Click **Like this Message**.

VIEWING (T)

This section explains how to view a message directly through the social networking service using the default browser.

SITUATION

Albert, the DJ, received a picture through his Flickr account, but it looks too small in Gwibber. He wants open the image in his browser.

SOLUTION

1. Point to the post you want to view.

Result: Two buttons appear on the right side of the post. See Figure 8.

Message Buttons, page 26.

2. Click the **Options Button** to open the menu. 
3. Click **View**.

TRANSLATING (T)

This section explains how to translate a foreign language post into English.

SITUATION

Albert, the DJ, wants read the messages he receives from his French speaking fans in Montreal.

SOLUTION

1. Point to the post you want to translate.

Result: Two buttons appear on the right side of the post. See Figure 8.

Message Buttons, page 26.

2. Click the **Options Button** to open the menu. 
3. Click **Translate**.

FILTERING THE FLOW OF INFORMATION

This section explains how to filter inbound information. Specifically, it describes four different methods:

- Setting apart users and creating a sidebar button for them.
- Blocking Twitter users via Twitter lists.
- Isolating types of users or content in Facebook: groups, networks, pages, updates, videos, links, photos, Newsfeeds.
- Searching content in Identi.ca, Twitter, FriendFeed.

SETTING APART USERS (T)

This section explains how to set apart and create a sidebar button for specific users in Identi.ca, Qaiku, Twitter and FriendFeed. *See also:* The Interface(C), page 21).

SITUATION

Steve is currently looking for a job, and wants to use Identi.ca, Qaiku, Twitter and FriendFeed to maximize his networking efforts. Because he follows so many people in these services, he wants Gwibber to filter everything but potential employers. However, he wants to continue following his other contacts.

SOLUTION

Prerequisite

You must have Gwibber show labels on the side bar. See Displaying labels in you sidebar(T), page 35.

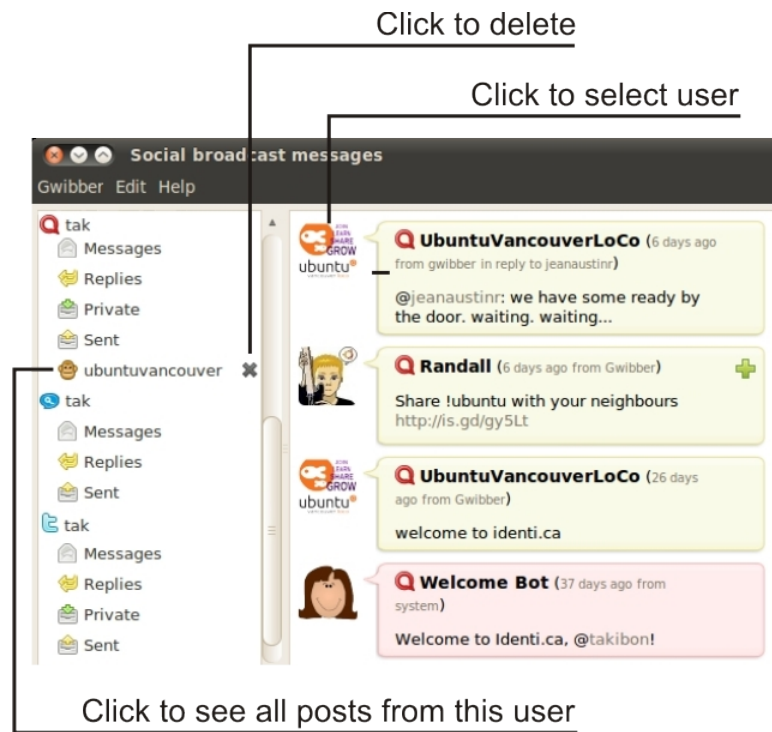
Setting apart and creating a sidebar button for a user:

- In the Gwibber stream, click the picture of the user. See Figure 9 below.

End Result

A monkey face with the selected username appears on the sidebar.

Figure 9. Selecting and Deleting Specific users



Deleting a selected user

- In the Sidebar, click the “x” next to name of the user. See Figure 9 above.

SETTING APART GROUPS OF TWITTER USERS (T)

This section explains how to separate the users you really follow from the people who post irrelevant content.

SITUATION

Steve, the job seeker, is following about 87 colleagues and potential employers in Twitter. Because he is currently more interested in updates from potential employers, he wants to separate them from the rest.

SOLUTION


Prerequisites

- You must have Gwibber show labels on the side bar. See Displaying labels in you sidebar(T), page 35.
- You must have Twitter lists already created.

For more information on how to create Twitter lists, please visit:

- <http://support.twitter.com/entries/76460-how-to-use-twitter-lists>

Setting apart a Twitter list

1. In the **Sidebar**, in the Twitter section, click **Lists**. 
2. In the **Stream**, click the list of users that you want to separate from the rest.

End Result

A new **List Button** appears on the **Sidebar**. For example, a list named “Trust” appears as follows: .

Deleting a Twitter list

- In the **Sidebar**, click the “X” on the list button.

SETTING APART TYPES OF USERS OR CONTENT IN FACEBOOK (T)

This section explains how to filter Facebook content via friends lists and categories (for example, videos, pages, posted links, photos, status updates, networks).

SITUATION


Steve, the job seeker, subscribed to the Facebook pages of local companies, to get notifications about work opportunities. Because he has 20 friends, he wants to separate all his Facebook pages from the rest of the notifications.

SOLUTION

Prerequisites

- You must have Gwibber show labels on the side bar. See Displaying labels in you sidebar(T), page 35.
- You must have at least one subscription to a Facebook page.

Managing Facebook Pages in Gwibber

1. In the **Sidebar**, in the Facebook section, click **Lists**. 
2. In the **Stream**, click the list that you want to separate from the rest.

End Result

A new **List Button** appears on the **Sidebar**. For example,  Pages ✕.

Deleting a List Button

- In the **Sidebar**, click the “✕” on the list button.

SEARCHING BY KEYWORD (T)

This section explains how to search content by keyword in all Twitter, Identi.ca.

SITUATION

Steve, the job hunter wants to use Identi.ca, Twitter and FriendFeed to connect with people who work in the same profession. He wants Gwibber to show him recent posts about important topics in his field or “mentions” (see Glossary, page 42) of certain companies and organizations.

SOLUTION

Prerequisite

You must have Gwibber show labels on the side bar. See Displaying labels in you sidebar(T), page 35.

1. In the **Sidebar**, click **Search**. 
2. In the **Search Box** located on the right, type the keywords and click **Search**.

For example: “Ubuntu Vancouver”.

3. In the **Sidebar**, under **Search**, find and click your search results.

For example: .

Deleting search results

- In the **Sidebar**, click the “✕” next to name of your search result.

CUSTOMIZING THE INTERFACE

DISABLING INBOUND MESSAGES IN A SPECIFIED ACCOUNT (T)

This Section explains how to disable inbound messages in a specific account. This option disables inbound messages only; this means that you can continue broadcasting through said account, even after you disabled its inbound messaging.

SITUATION

Andy uses Gwibber to manage his Facebook, Flickr, and Twitter accounts. Right now, he is tired of the useless messages he gets through Twitter, and wants Gwibber to block all inbound tweets. However, he wants to be able to post Twitter updates using Gwibber.

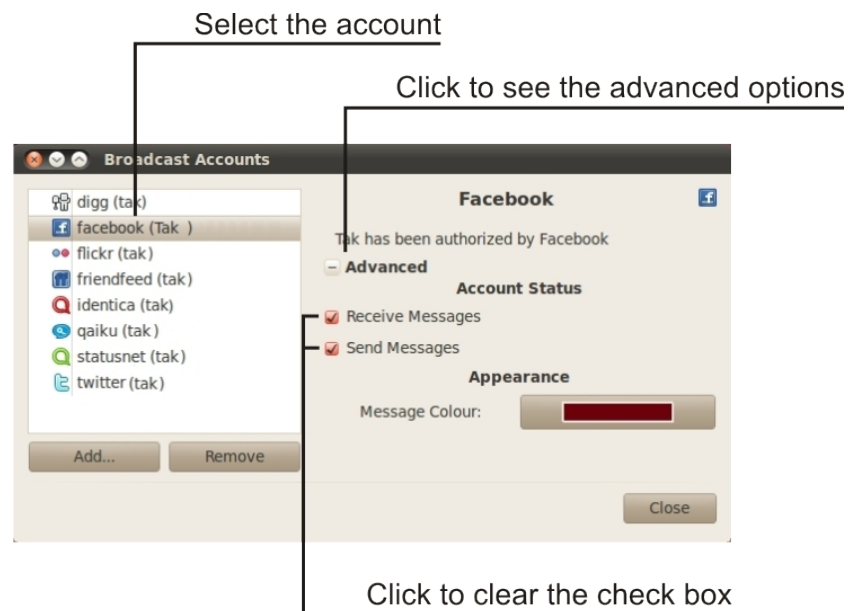
SOLUTION

1. Select **Edit ► Accounts**.

Result: the Broadcast Accounts dialog box appears.

2. In the Broadcast Accounts dialog box, select the account for which you want to disable incoming messages. See Figure 10. Broadcast Accounts Manager, Advanced Options, page 34.
3. Click **Advanced** to open more options.
4. In **Account Status**, click to clear the **Receive Messages** check box.
5. Click **Save** and then click **Close**.

Figure 10. Broadcast Accounts Manager, Advanced Options



DISABLING OUTBOUND MESSAGES IN A SPECIFIED ACCOUNT (T)

This Section explains how to disable inbound messages in a specific account. Because this option disables outbound messages only, you can continue receiving messages through said account, even after you disabled its outbound messaging.

SITUATION

Olivia is a marketing intern at Cowabunga Party Foods. She has to keep track of her company on Digg, Facebook, Twitter and StatusNet. While she is allowed to reply to customers of Facebook and Twitter, her job is to simply keep track of how the company is mentioned in Digg and StatusNet; thus, she is not authorized to post or reply to comments there.

Tip:

Alternatively, you can toggle on or off the **Send Messages** option for any account and at any time, by clicking the buttons in the **information bar**.

SOLUTION

1. Select **Edit ► Accounts**.
Result: the Broadcast Accounts dialog box appears.
2. In the Broadcast Accounts dialog box, select the account for which you want to disable outbound messages. See Figure 10 above.
3. Click **Advanced** to open more options.
4. In **Account Status**, click to clear the **Send Messages** check box.
5. Click **Save** and then click **Close**.

CHANGING THE COLORS OF YOUR ACCOUNTS (T)

This section explains how to color-code your social networking accounts, so you can easily distinguish one from the other. Both messages and Sidebar buttons of each account will appear in the specified color.

SITUATION

David uses Gwibber to advertise his blog in Digg, Identi.ca, and Qaiku. He has recently realized that most of his readership comes from Identi.ca and, thus, he wants this account to stand out among the others. To do this, he needs to change the colors of his accounts.

SOLUTION

1. Select **Edit ► Accounts**.

Result: the Broadcast Accounts dialog box appears.

2. In the Broadcast Accounts dialog box, select the account for which you want to change the color. See Figure 10. Broadcast Accounts Manager, Advanced Options, page 34.
3. Click **Advanced** to open more options.
4. In **Appearance**, click the color box, and then select the new color for your account.
5. Click **Save** and then click **Close**.

DISPLAYING LABELS IN YOUR SIDEBAR (T)

This section explains how to set your sidebar so it displays labels on all buttons.

SITUATION

Alfred is getting very confused by all the buttons in the sidebar, because he is unfamiliar with many of them. He wants Gwibber to display labels in all the buttons of the sidebar.

SOLUTION

1. Point to the edge of the **Sidebar** until it turns into a white arrow. See Figure 11. Displaying Labels on the Sidebar, page 36.
2. Drag the edge of the sidebar to make it wider.

End Result

Labels appear as the Sidebar gets wider.

Figure 11. Displaying Labels on the Sidebar



GWIBBER PREFERENCES (R)

This section describes all Gwibber preferences available in the Broadcast Messaging Preferences dialog box. The topics covered in this section include a detailed description of the following tabs:

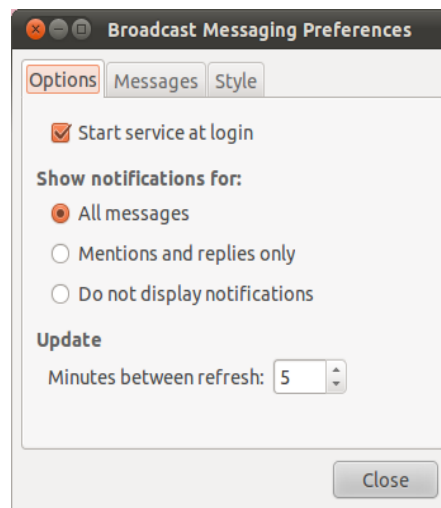
- Options
- Messages
- Style

OPTIONS (C)

Start device at login

Enable this option if you want Gwibber to run and connect to your broadcasting accounts every time you launch Ubuntu.

Figure 12. Options



Show notifications for:

All messages

Enable this option when you want Gwibber to notify you every time there is new activity in your social networks. (Not recommended)

Mentions and replies only

Enable this option if you want Gwibber to notify you only when you get mentions or replies.

Do not display notifications

Enable this option if you don't want Gwibber to notify you about any activity in your network.

Update

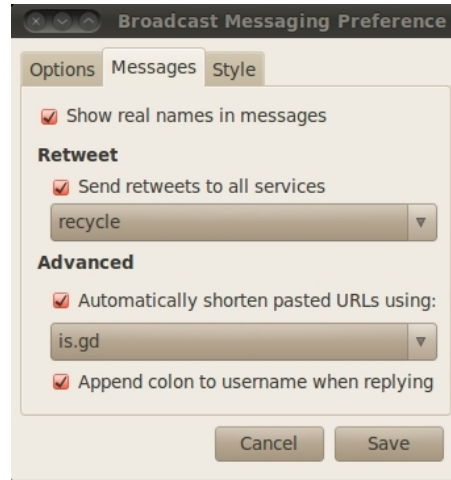
Use this option to change how often Gwibber checks for new activity in you social network. By default, the time is set at 15 minutes.

MESSAGES (C)

Show real names in messages

Enable this option if you want Gwibber to display real names in all messages, instead of usernames.

Figure 13. Messages



Retweet

Send retweet to all services

Enable this option if you want to post all retweets through all your broadcast accounts. If this option is disabled, you will retweet the post only through the service where it originated. For example: a post from Identi.ca will be retweeted only through your Identi.ca account.

Recycle (and other retweet options)

When you retweet a post, Gwibber automatically adds a text command that tags your post as a retweet. Gwibber can automatically insert the following text commands (see Glossary, page 43):

- RT
- via
- service
- /via
- RD
- /by
- recycle

The advantages and disadvantages of each of these commands are out of the scope of these manual. If you are not familiar with them, use the default option “recycle”.

Advanced

Automatically shorten pasted URLs using

Because URLs are usually long, Gwibber can automatically shorten all URLs when you paste them in your posts. This is the default setting and you should keep it enabled at all times.

If you disable this option, all URLs you paste in your posts will be inserted entirely, and your post will likely exceed the character limit.

Append colon to username when replying

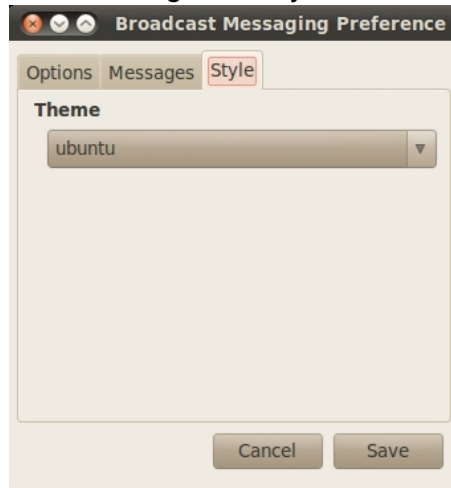
When you reply to a message in Identi.ca or Twitter, your message is preceded by “@” and the username of the person you are replying to; for example: “@johnny”. If you enable this option, Gwibber will automatically insert a colon after the username. For example: “@johnny:”

STYLE (C)

Theme

Changes the look of your Gwibber interface. There are two main options: Default and Ubuntu.

Figure 14. Style



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GLOSSARY

Domain (Internet domain)

(Noun) Domains are basic Internet addresses that have been duly registered and, therefore, it is unique. *Ubuntu.com* is an example of a domain. Subdomains are domains under another domain. An example would be *help.ubuntu.com*.

Gwibber

(Noun) Gwibber is a Social Networking Client which is now installed by default on Ubuntu.

Like (Internet)

(Verb) On Facebook, *to like* means to mark a post, video, or picture with the tag “I liked it!” In this way, users let their network contacts know that they found a post interesting, thus drawing people's attention to it.

Mention, Mentions

(Noun) A mention is an Identi.ca, Twitter, or Facebook post that contains “@username” in its body. When someone tweets a post with these combination, it is said that the “username” had a mention. If one is mentioned in any of these services, the post is shown both on the social network where it originated and on Gwibber.

Microblogging

(Noun) Microblogging is a subcategory of blogging characterized by short posts or messages: between 140 and 1000 characters per post. Unlike regular blogging, microblogging is usually conducted on a social network platform like Facebook, Identi.ca, or Twitter. There are two other microblogging sites yet to be supported by Gwibber: Tumblr and Posterous.

Retweet, Retweets

(*Verb*) On Twitter and Identi.ca, *to retweet* means to take someone else's comment and repost it in one's account. The practice has become so popular that these social networks now provide automatic ways to *retweet*.

(*Noun*) In the language of Twitter and Identi.ca, *a retweet* is an instance of the act of *retweeting*, as in "thanks for the retweet!"

RSS or Really Simple Syndication

(*Noun*) RSS or Really Simple Syndication enables people to easily manage content that is frequently updated. RSS benefits readers who want to subscribe to blogs, newspapers or job banks. They can also be used to compile, into one single package, various updates from different sites. Using an RSS reader is much like grabbing content from one's favorite sites and making it one's personal newspaper.

Social Network, Social Networking Service

(*Noun*) An online service, platform or website that allows users to connect, communicate and interact with other users or groups of users. Facebook and Twitter are famous examples of Social Networks. There are also social networks that are built for specific audiences. For instance, Ember (on emberapp.com) is a social network where people in creative fields post their designs and inspirations. Likewise, Flickr is used primarily by photographers.

Text Command

(*Noun*) Text commands are phrases that users employ as a substitute of the traditional "point and click". Social networks like Identi.ca and Twitter rely heavily on text commands, because they want their users to be able to broadcast using regular text messaging from their phones.

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