

Appendix Three

Open-ended responses from questionnaire answers received.

Question Four – If you use another method or methods to locate torrents please describe them briefly here: (Total of 14 responses)

www.torrentspy.com also www.torrentfive.com
Torrent Harvester standalone windows application
Private trackers.
Private trackers
private trackers
private trackers
Private tracker ie torrentleech or filelist
Private Torrent Sites
Private Bittorrent Sites
I regally find torrent links in blogs.
i have a forum dealing with 25k+ torrents daily
<http://www.filesoup.co.uk>
forum based community with torrents
Community Forums w/ BT release categories

Question Six – Below are a number of statements regarding your activity on bittorrent websites. Please indicate any that you currently take part in by ticking as many as are applicable.

Other (respondents to answer in empty text field): (total of 11 responses)

Run a torrent forum
I suggest changes where I think they would improve efficiency
I seed

I request a torrent file when i don't found any related

I maintain a bittorrent site. (admin)

I host a college FTP sharing my downloaded torrents

I have found new friends, people I wouldn't have if it weren't for BitTorrent, have gained a better understanding of Internet Protocols, Hash Transfer, Announces and through community have improved my programming skills, which is what I would like to do as my profession in life. Needless to say BitTorrent has changed my life. I would also like to add that if I download a file via BitTorrent, and I really appreciate/enjoy the file (whether it be a movie, TV show, music etc.) I will make it my obligation to purchase that file 'legally'.

I contribute to making the spreading of torrent information more efficient for spesific suppliers.

I am a volunteer admin on a torrent index site, and a volunteer moderator on the associated forums

I also seed torrents too

bittorrenttalk@yahogroups.com

Question Twelve – If you use any other type of information when finding and selecting a torrent file, please enter the details in the box below: (total of 14 responses)

Who produced the torrent

Size of the pieces that comprise the torrent

Who it was uploaded by. If I'm familiar with that person/group & trust them, I'm more likely to download that file than a similar file by someone I've never heard of.

Also, a clarification: The file size is important to me not so much because of the length of time it takes to download or the amount of hard drive space it uses. Rather, I look at the file size to make sure it matches up with what I would expect it to be. If the file size doesn't seem right, I assume it's a fake or a virus & move on.

the release group

scene group (the group that made the specific version of material from the original/retail source) -- through usage you start to recognize groups whose releases you previously downloaded and enjoyed the quality and prefer them... like RNS for music... or other tags in filenames which mean the file is either complicated to get and use (goldesel -- all files password protected with the same password or Hockney -- creates only VCD format)

Reviews from outside sources usually magazines.

Release group, capping group, advertising on television/web/radio (then will try to find the file available on BitTorrent), friends opinions

release group name

Release group (10)

Distributor, if it differs from originating website (10)

Reference from family friends and third persons

On some sites there is a column that lets you/me see the overall speed of the torrent....i tend to use this a lot when deciding to DL a file or not

If the torrent swarm is large and its a public tracker, i'll download publicly for faster speeds. If the torrent is nearly dead or slow, i'll go find the torrent on a private tracker.

Software = I tend to download them via http/direct downloads unless i cant find the software via http downloads. [reason is because http only requires downloads and no uploads]. If there are several torrents regarding the same item [e.g. same film] then i always read other people's comments as to the quality. Notably for videos.

google

average download speed of the peers

A rating system on most torrents will give me an indication of a torrents quality or authenticity.

Question Thirteen – Finally, if you have any further feedback or thoughts that may be relevant to this study, please type them into the box below: (total of 27 respondents)

While answering section 3 (the statements section) I get the feeling that you think torrent files usually have a lot of unnecessary and/or faulty information.

Whether I'm right or wrong is not really relevant since we'll never be able to discuss that.
So for arguments' sake here goes;

I feel that, especially since every torrent poster goes to great lengths in copying and emulating the scenes' info's, people want to have 'their' torrent dl'ed as much as possible. In order to do that they post as much meta data as they can, trying to lure as much people into dl'ing their torrent.

So to most people the information provided may seem a bit on the steep side but the torrent poster is merely trying to cater as big of a target group as possible.

Good luck on your project.

Kind regards,

[Username]

When i don't find what i need on Private bittorrent sites then im using eMule :)

To be honest .. in Section 3 .. about torrent names .. there is nothing worse then when torrent files get renamed by uploaders. The dir names or file names are specially picked out to describe the files and shouldn't be messed with.

Since I work offshore, I only use torrents to catch up on TV shows that I have missed while I was gone. This allows me to watch new shows within a fairly quick time of their release rather than waiting for reruns or DVD release.

Please keep this info anonymous.....Us torrenters are a very paranoid lot...i hope this help you out buddy

:)

none at the moment

Nlce survey, not too long. Good luck with your studies

My selection of torrents largely depends on whether its public or private tracker. Private trackers - if too many seeders and few leechers, i wont chose that torrent as it would be hard for me to maintain my ratio. If the seeder/leecher ratio is more or less average, then i'll chose it as i would be able to maintain my ratio.

Public trackers = if its well seeded then i'll chose the torrent. Unless i can wait for a complete download and i'm in no rush, then i'll just use public tracker.

Another thing that makes me chose a torrent over another, is whether i have the files from newsgroup. If i've downloaded the files already from newsgroup, and i find the exact files on torrents, i will jump on the torrent swarm to help seed.

If there is anything i dont udnerstand, i use google e.g. info about a movie, album track listings etc. Hence its unimportant if a torrent has imbd/3rd party links in its description [cos i would have already googled about it].

Reading user comments and rating as to the 'QUA

Most of the above problems usually occur on public trackers (thepiratebay.org etc), naming/description problems etc almost never occur on good quality private trackers (BitMe, OiNK etc).

Good survey, just thought I should add that. :)

Methods to download for me:

bittorrent: ~10%

newsgroups: ~70%

http/ftp: ~20%

it would be great if the study were publishing in all the places where you asked for participants to fill this out... I for one would be glad to read it... [Username]

It is VERY important to know if a publicly listed torrent is through a private tracker or otherwise needs a password.

It appears that many improvements could be made in the way the client software preforms for better efficiency and I constantly try to make the developers aware of the shortcomings I discover.

In the audio section, I answered 'not sure' for 'A description of the material content (as opposed to technical details) *' I wasn't sure what you meant here. Do you mean information such as artist/album/track list or ebook title/author/reader? If so, then it's very important (put me down for a 10). If you mean more a review of the material or extraneous information about the recording (i.e. 'artist x plays guitar on this track') put me down for something more like a 3.

I mostly use a single private site specifically for music and apps, and on occasion soulseek. I hate public trackers but use them for movies.

I have discovered many of my primary sources for torrents by reading recomendations in user forums.

I disagreed w/ the 4 questions on this page and said that I 'rarely have difficulty finding torrents...'

I believe this has a lot to do w/ the fact that I get 99% of my torrents from private trackers. I suppose if you had to do torrents spy all the time the answers may vary.

google is good for finding torrents

Good luck with your study

Good luck with the research.

Good luck on your report!

Finding and posting torrents through community based forums, makes me feel sure that I get what I want and nothing more/else.

Finding (good ie: no virii, passworded etc) torrents, whether they be (general) software, games, movies/other video, or audio *can* be hard on the public trackers (less stringent on what is uploaded - ie: TPB). But then again, generally if an indexer (ie TPB or mininova) has a space to input comments on a given torrent, *someone* is bound to let people know if a torrent is bad for one reason or another.

On the flip side, finding (good) torrents on a private tracker is MUCH easier (generally good 90% [arbitrary #, but you get the point] of the time), as they tend to have much more stringent rules on content and packaging as it were (and will ban people if rules/regs are violated [esp repeatedly]). Of course, alot of the stuff is new (or recent) releases, and most trackers seem to have the same stuff... But some of the better trackers have user supplied releases (more in the video side of things mind you), and if looking for older or rare-er content, a private tracker can be much more valuable (vs public tra

cool idea, i'm very curious as to the results :)

Bittorent is a great way of previewing a movie or a cd before you buy it.

I buy much more cd's and dvd's since i started downloading.

95% of torrents i download, i do so from private torrent trackers.

also i only download torrents while peerguardian is running.