

Happy birthday YouTube!

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YouTube is celebrating exceeding two billion hits a day, five years after it launched in beta.



To celebrate its fifth anniversary, the Google-owned site will launch a campaign in which users tell their personal stories of how YouTube has affected their lives, underlining its founding commitment to be a place where "anyone with a video camera and an internet connection can share a story with the world".

Five years ago Chad Hurley, the site's co-founder and chief executive, said he had pinned his hopes for YouTube on the basic premise that "everyone in the back of their mind wants to be a star".

The 'My YouTube Story' campaign will be featured on a Five Year Channel showing interactive world maps of user videos and an interactive timeline of video milestones.

Guest curators including American chat-show host Conan O'Brien will pick five of their favourite YouTube clips from the past five years.

The site has gained a billion views a day in the past seven months, indicating that its decision last year to introduce long-form content is paying off.

[Click here to view YouTube's celebratory video](#)

Some recent YouTube viral hits:

- [Plane Mob, Germanwings, Germany](#)
- [Brighter Mornings, Tropicana, Canada](#)
- [Space chair, Toshiba, USA.](#)

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