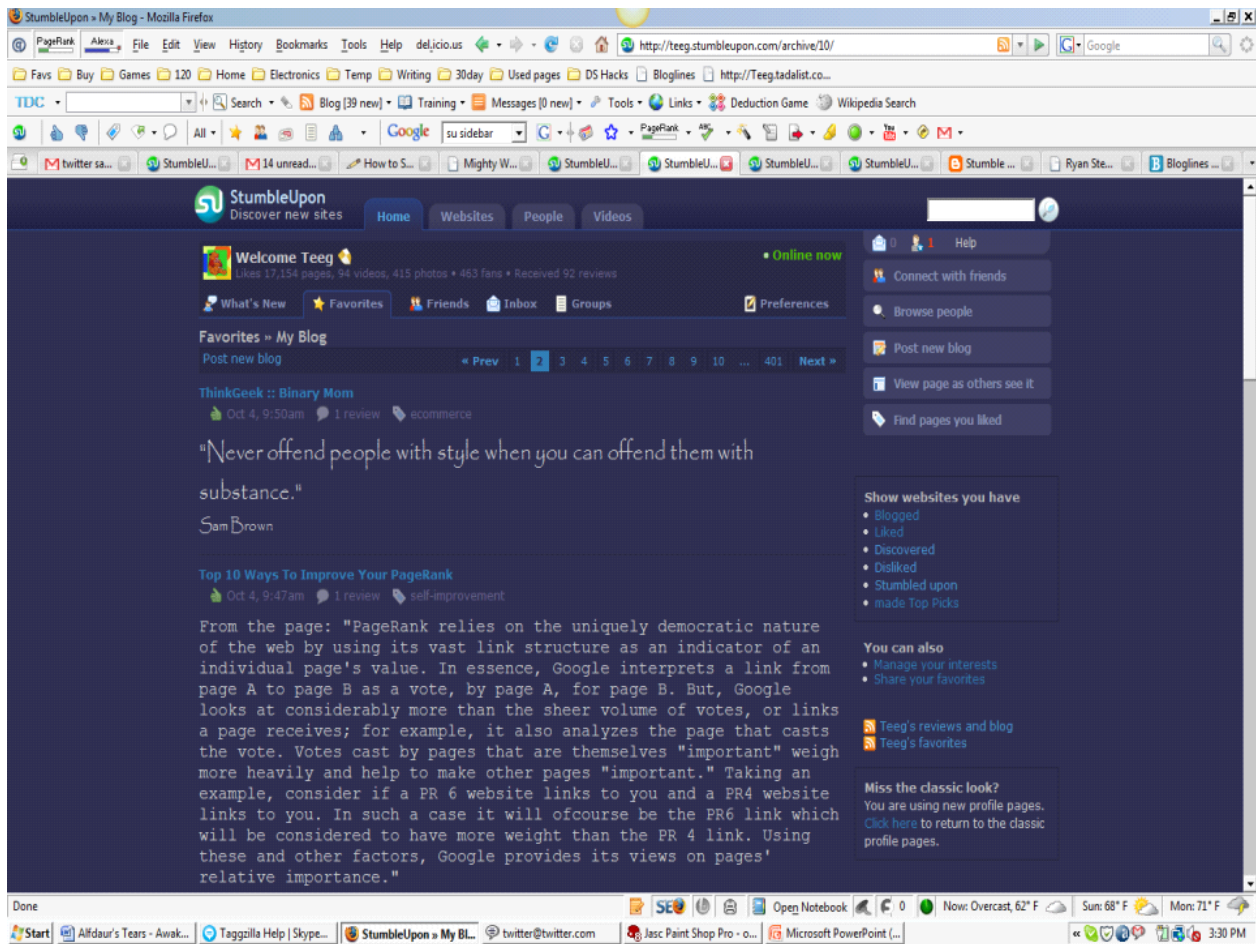


Getting Started with
StumbleUpon
Using the Toolbar



Brought to you by SU Com



Pseudonym, a friend on StumbleUpon, once told me: “Coming to SU was *definitely* the best move I ever made in my life...the experience has given me ever more confidence in myself, in what is possible, in what is available, happening, knowable, fascinating, and just plain *fun* out there in cyberspace.”

This is how the toolbar looks when you first download it.



Stumble!

- A number beside this icon means a friend has sent a page they want you to see.

Thumb up

- The most important button on here. Use this every time you like a page.

Thumb down

- Use this when you don't like the **type of page** you stumbled.

Send to

- Lets you share the webpage you're on.

Reviews

- Read what everyone else has said about a page, or add your own review.

Clicking on the **stumble** button will take you to a web page that someone else has already discovered and thumbed up. A number beside the SU picture, or icon, shows how many pages your friends have sent that you haven't viewed yet. Only mutual friends can send pages for you to view, so you don't have to worry about a stranger spamming you.

The **thumbs** are the most important buttons on your toolbar. Giving a page a thumb up means “I like this page,” but in a broader term, it means “I like this type of page and would like to see more.” By the same token, giving a page a thumb down means “I don’t like pages like this. Please don’t send any more.” The more you thumb pages up or down, the better the StumbleUpon program gets to know you and can direct your stumbles.

The **Send to** button let’s you share pages with your friends. You can send a page and a short note to any mutual friend or anyone whose e-mail that you have.

And the **Reviews** button (I call it the Comments button on the video) let’s you read what everyone else has said about a page, or add your own comments.

This is what the toolbar looks like when you first download it.



Channel

- Stumble by topic, including movies, friends' favorites, blogs, certain websites, and more.

Favorites

- Takes you to your StumbleUpon favorites page.

Friends

- Takes you to your Friends page.

Tools

- Dropdown menu that gives you several important options

The **Channel** area gives you several options to choose from. If you want to just stumble news, friends, one of your interests, or even see what pages have been thumbed up on a specific site, you can choose the option from the channel area.

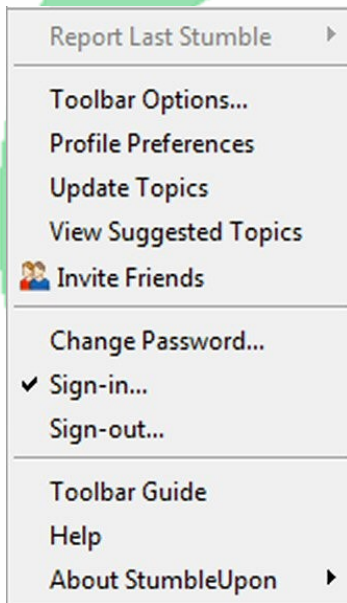
Clicking on the word **All** brings up a drop down list that let's you choose any of those or one of several other options.

Favorites takes you to your StumbleUpon blog, where you can see the websites you've commented on.

Friends takes you to the same page that the Friend's tab does. You can see up to ten friends who are online, up to ten people that you are fans of, and up to ten people who are your fans.

Finally, **Tools** brings up a drop down menu...

Tools Dropdown Menu

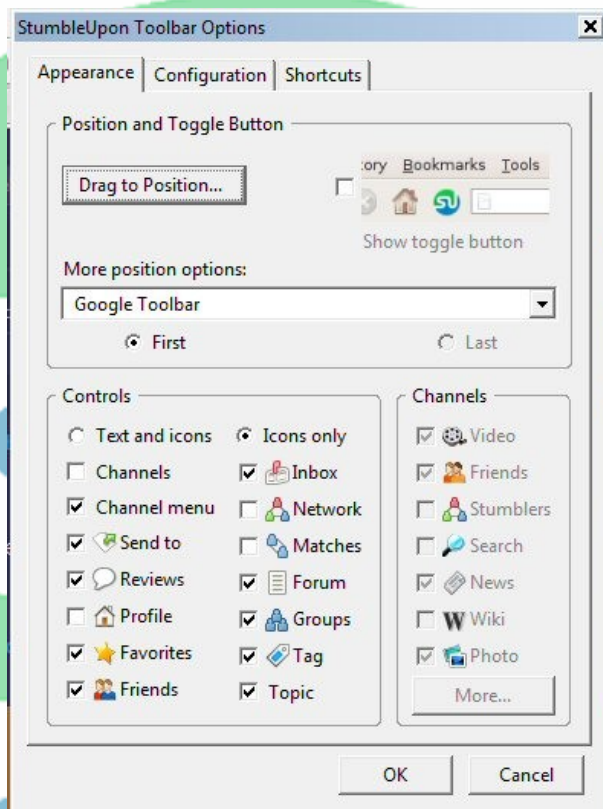


Sections you'll want to remember:

- Toolbar Options...
- Invite Friends
- Sign-out...

...that looks like this. There are several sections on the tools menu that you'll want to note. This is where you come to **invite a friend to SU**, and on the rare occasions that you need to, you can **sign out of StumbleUpon**.

Let's look some more at the Toolbar Options for now.



StumbleUpon Toolbar Options

For the rest of this video, I will be focusing entirely on the **Appearance** tab. Under the **configuration** tab, you can set whether SU shows if someone has discovered the page and what the page rank is when you use a web search such as Google or Yahoo. The default is to show this information, but if you prefer not to get it, unclick the first box under Search.

Personalizing Your SU Toolbar



I would recommend the following buttons:

Inbox

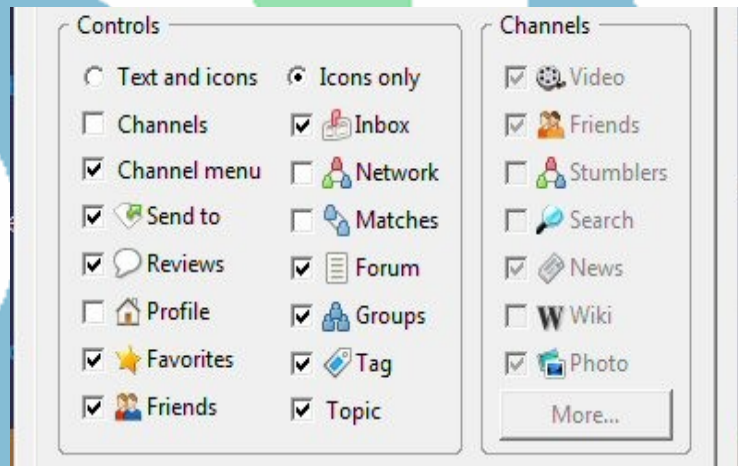
Channel menu

Send to

Reviews

Favorites

Tag



Now that you know what the buttons on the toolbar do, it's easy to create a toolbar that fits you.

There are several buttons I recommend keeping on your toolbar, in addition to the permanent **Stumble** and **thumbs** buttons.

The **inbox** puts a mailbox icon on your toolbar. If you have mail, the flag on the mailbox stands up. I love knowing when to check my inbox, without having to wait for an e-mail notice.

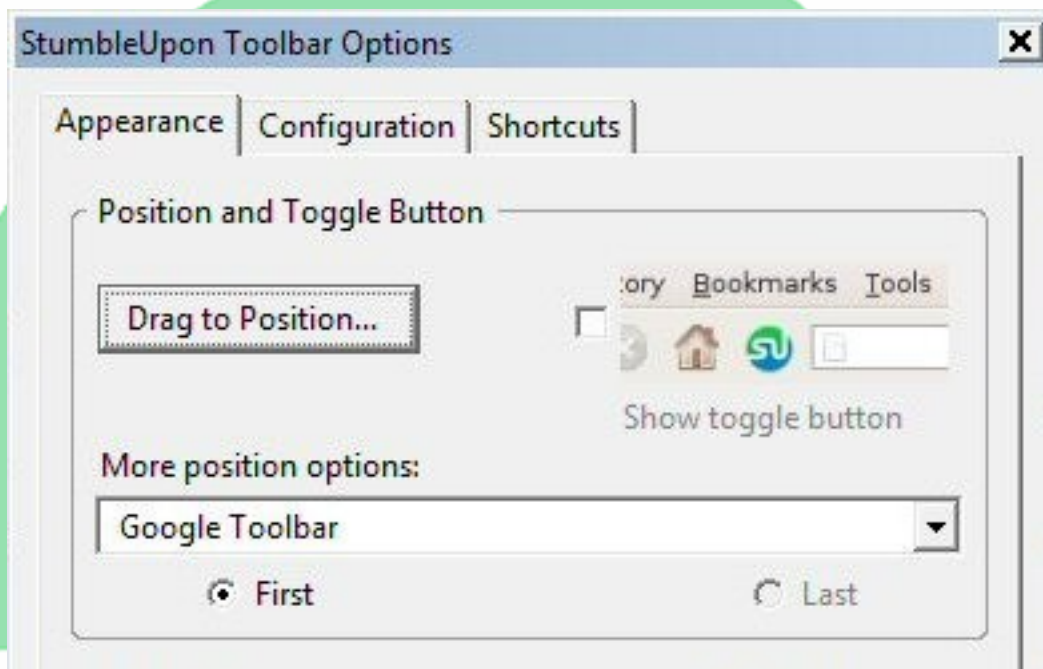
The **Channel Menu** puts everything from the channel area into a drop down menu, so it doesn't take as much space on your toolbar. If you'd like, you still have the option of adding to the toolbar the channels that you use most.

Send to makes it easy to send web pages to your friends.

Reviews so it's easy to write reviews about pages you like, or to see what others have to say about the pages.

Favorites gives you a fast way to get to your blog.

And last, the **Tag** icon, which lets you easily add tags to any page. Once you've added tags to a page, the icon will turn to the right, and will change from blue to red. Hovering over it will show the tags you've selected for that page.



Click "Drag to Position"

Pull your SU Toolbar in front of your Google Toolbar

Click OK

It's that simple!

One thing I LOVE about the StumbleUpon toolbar is that you can add it to other toolbars. The easiest way to do this is to click on "Drag to position," pull the SU toolbar beside another toolbar, and click OK. All toolbars don't mix as nicely as SU and Google, so you may have to try several to get it to work.

Happy stumbling!

Spam Slam, Thumbs Down

 November 15th, 2007  Beginner, StumbleUpon, Stumbling, Thumbs

 No Comments >

This morning, there was a notification in my inbox that I had received 4 comments on this blog last night. Unfortunately, I could tell, even from the few words that the notification included, that the comments were spam that my filter hadn't caught.

I have to admit, since e-mail is the first thing I check right after I wake up, my mouse actually slid up towards the spam button on my e-mail before I realized what I was doing, and came to the website to label them as spam instead.



I had been thinking about writing an article on using the thumbs down button a couple days ago, but wasn't sure what to use for an example. (Be

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