

# 1/7 of the world population uses Google Earth

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Google Earth is a planetary simulation software that allows you to take a virtual tour around the globe through satellite images, maps, terrain, 3D buildings and some other content.

In 2005, Google launched Google Earth after acquiring Keyhole digital map firm, and *'never imagined this geospatial technology would be used by many people for such purposes'*, according to words of Vice President of Engineering John Hanke in charge of Google Earth and Google Maps.

One billion downloads are for all versions of the application including desktops, mobile applications and plugins (apps included) for the browser.

To highlight the multi-purpose Google Earth application and various objects, from researchers, airplane pilots to travelers, Google has a website dedicated to Google Earth named *'One World Many Stories'*, tells a story about how users have used Google Map creatively, like Google's introduction:

*'Visit' One World Many Stories' to learn how Professor David Kennedy (Western Australia University) used Google Earth to scan thousands of square kilometers across Saudi Arabia and Jordan from Perth desks (Australia ). Professor discovered ancient tombs dating back at least 2000 years. Or architect Barnaby Gunning after the April 6 earthquake devastated the Italian city of L'Aquila, encouraging his compatriots to start*

*rebuilding the city on a 3D computer using Google Earth. Their online urban planning will support planners and architects. Jerome Burg, a retired professor, used Google Earth to connect places in famous books to geographic locations, encouraging students to connect the things they learn in the school with the outside world they are living.'*

Google's demand for 'online planet' has increased rapidly in recent years. The last time Google shared data about Google Earth was in 2009 with 700,000 downloads.

Will Google Earth reach 2 billion downloads? In addition to upgrading to Google Earth via mobile devices, Google Earth Director, Peter Birch, said Google hopes users will contribute more images, maps and other content to Google Earth.

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