

Loading...



A Spy in King David's Court

What my time in the Rails community
has taught me about how to beat it

Erik Kastner <kastner@gmail.com>

Microapps for Fun and Profit

**Erik Kastner <kastner@gmail.com>
metaatem.net**

Microapps for Fun and ~~Profit~~

**Erik Kastner <kastner@gmail.com>
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Microapps for Fun and Profit

MICRO

Erik Kastner <kastner@gmail.com>
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I'm lovin' it



Facebook

facebook

Email:

Password:

Remember me

[Login](#)

[Forgot Password?](#)



Facebook is a **social utility** that **connects you** with the people around you.

Use Facebook to...

-  Keep up with friends and family
-  Share photos and videos
-  Control privacy online
-  Reconnect with old classmates

Find your Friends on Facebook



or [Use the Friend Finder](#) ▶

Sign up for Facebook
It's free and anyone can join.

Full Name:

Your Email:

New Password:




Birthday:

Why do I need to provide this?


[Sign Up](#)

By clicking Sign Up, you are indicating that you have read and agree to the [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).

Flickr

Signed in as [kastner](#)   (96 new) [Help](#) [Sign Out](#)

[Home](#) [You](#) [Organize](#) [Contacts](#) [Groups](#) [Explore](#) [Search](#)



Guten Tag kastner!

Now you know how to greet people in German!

- You have [96 new messages](#).

Flickr News

08 Apr 08 - Video! Video! Video! The rumours are true and "soon" is now. We're thrilled to introduce video on Flickr . If you're a... [read more news](#)

» [Flickr Blog](#) Great content & latest news, daily!

Do more with your photos!



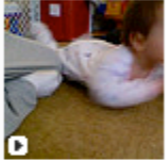

Posters! Books! DVDs!

Now there's even [more you can do](#) with your photostream:

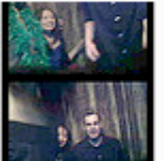
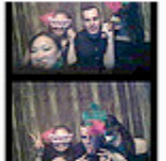


- [HP Prints, Photocubes, Posters and Books](#) **NEW**
- [MOO](#) Tiny, wonderful photo calling cards

» [Upload Photos or Video](#) (Or, look at our uploading [tools](#)...)

» [Your Photostream](#) ([Recent activity](#) / [Comments you've made](#))



» [From your Contacts](#)



From [Shinesf](#) From [Shinesf](#) From [Shinesf](#) From [Shinesf](#)

NOT

Microapps

Twistori

<http://twistori.com/> by Amy Hoy & Thomas Fuchs

secrets

ninja porn out there...

saw a woman in full burkha in Seattle. Asked 9yr old what religion she was, daughter replied

ninja?" Must teach better

catching up with Ask a

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Wanna know what would be really awesome? Being married to a

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Riding mah bike through Fitzroy, dressed entirely in black. I look like a ninja on my

ninja bike...

This

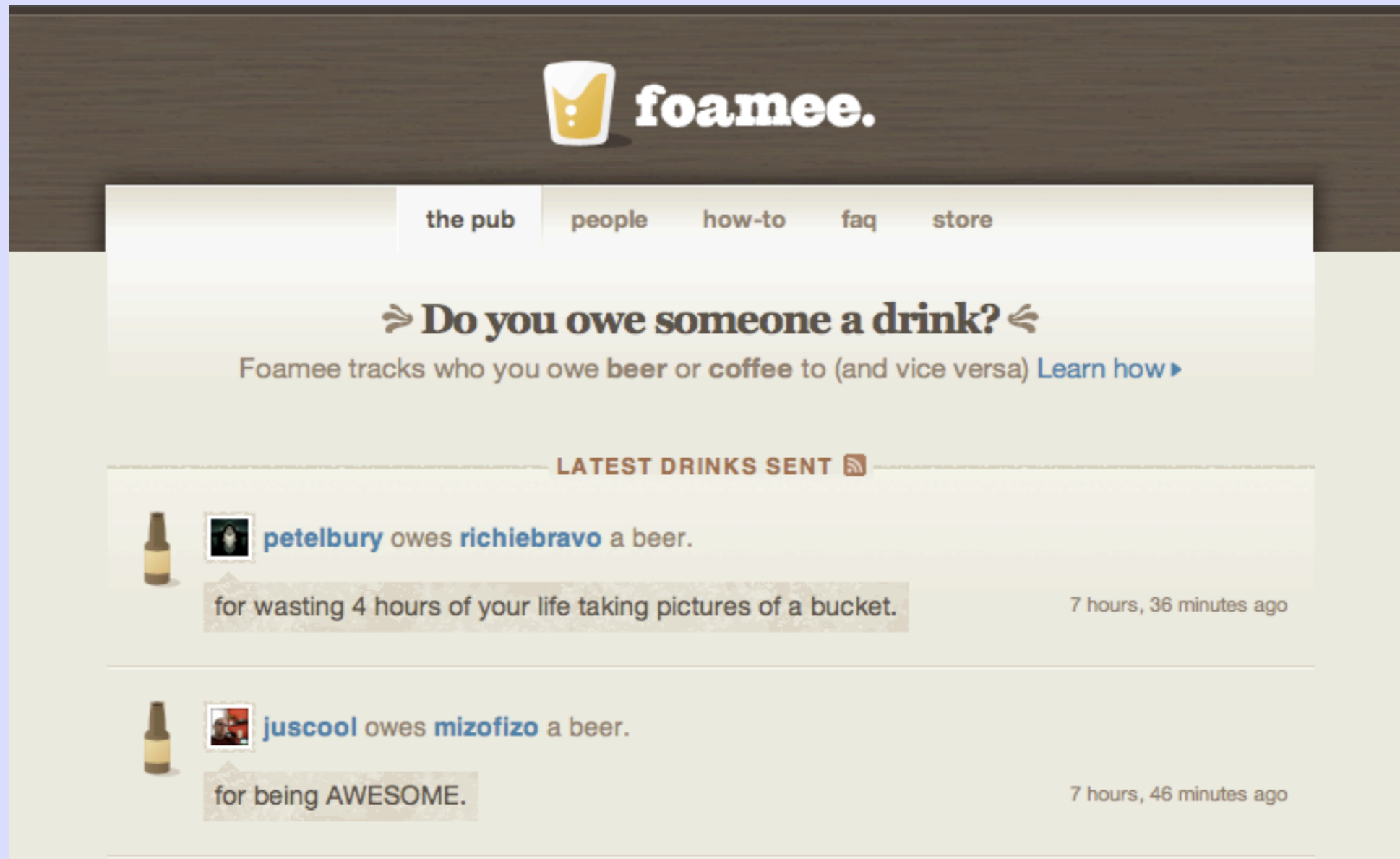
ninja has green eggs and ham... and you don't have none.

pirate
ninja
cowboy
robot

twistori
this is the first step in an ongoing social experiment, based on [twitter](#). inspired by [wefeeline](#) and drawing data from [summize](#), hand-crafted by [amy hoy](#) and [thomas fuchs](#).

Foamee

<http://foamee.com/> by Dan Cederholm




The screenshot shows the Foamee website interface. At the top, there is a dark brown header with the Foamee logo (a yellow beer glass with a white head of foam) and the text "foamee." in white. Below the header is a navigation menu with the following items: "the pub", "people", "how-to", "faq", and "store". The main content area has a light beige background. A central heading reads "⇒ Do you owe someone a drink? ⇐" in a bold, dark font. Below this heading is a sub-heading: "Foamee tracks who you owe beer or coffee to (and vice versa) [Learn how ▶](#)". A horizontal line separates this from the "LATEST DRINKS SENT" section, which includes a small RSS icon. There are two entries in this section, each featuring a small beer bottle icon, a user profile picture, and a text box with a message. The first entry shows "petelbury" owing "richiebravo" a beer for "wasting 4 hours of your life taking pictures of a bucket." with a timestamp of "7 hours, 36 minutes ago". The second entry shows "juscool" owing "mizofizo" a beer for "being AWESOME." with a timestamp of "7 hours, 46 minutes ago".



foamee.

the pub people how-to faq store



⇒ Do you owe someone a drink? ⇐

Foamee tracks who you owe beer or coffee to (and vice versa) [Learn how ▶](#)

LATEST DRINKS SENT 

  **petelbury** owes **richiebravo** a beer.

for wasting 4 hours of your life taking pictures of a bucket. 7 hours, 36 minutes ago

  **juscool** owes **mizofizo** a beer.

for being AWESOME. 7 hours, 46 minutes ago

Down for everyone or just me

<http://down4.net> by Alex Payne

It's just you. twitter.com is up.

[Check another site?](#)

[Bambi](#)

Everything to do with Bambi items.

[Yahoo.com](#)



[Love Lyrics](#)

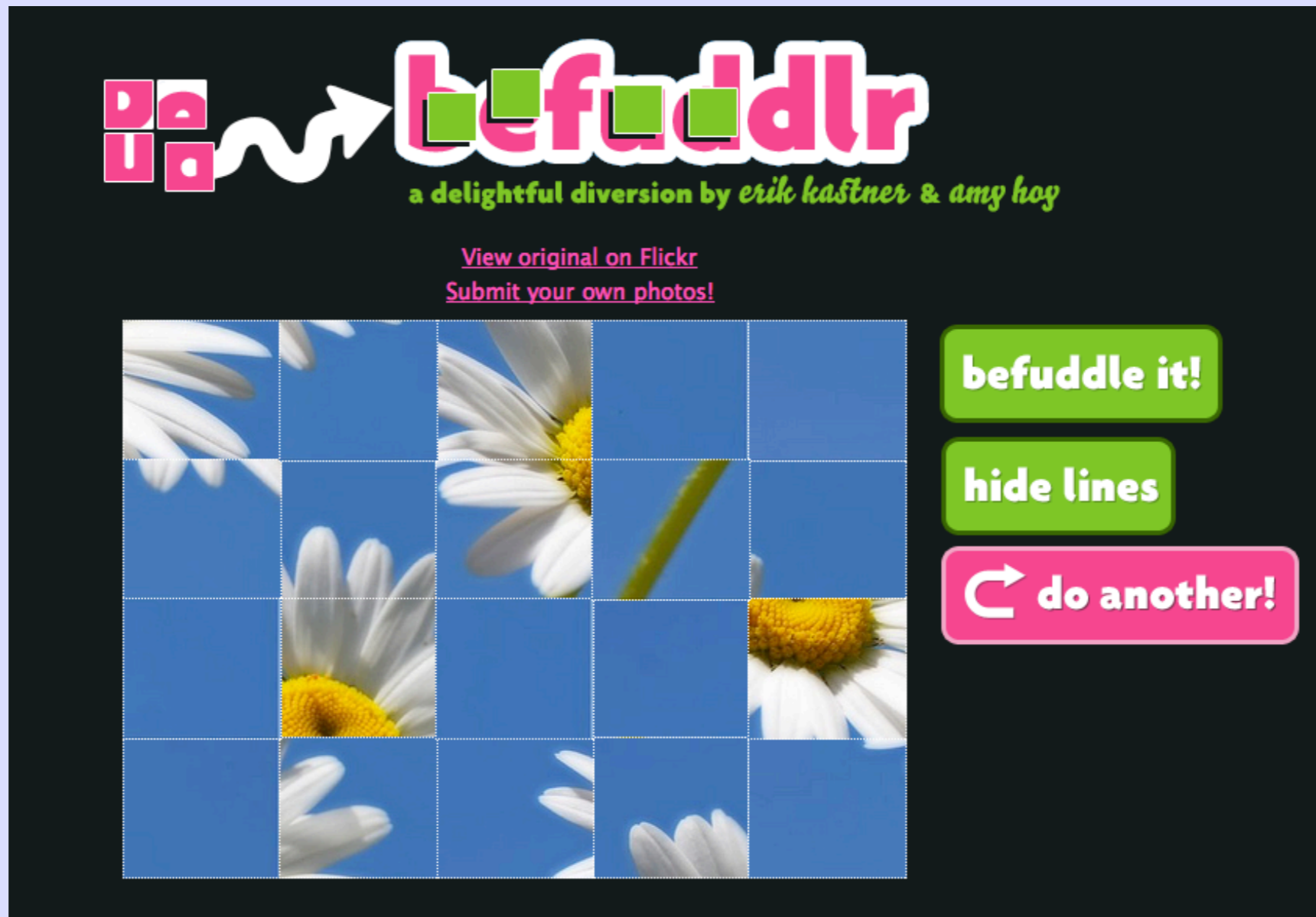
Get In The Mood with Love Song Lyrics &

More w/Free Music Toolbar

Ads by Google

Befuddlr

<http://befuddlr.com/> by **Amy Hoy and Me**



The screenshot shows the Befuddlr website interface. At the top left, there is a logo consisting of four colored squares (red, green, blue, yellow) arranged in a 2x2 grid, with a white arrow pointing to the right. To the right of the arrow is the word "befuddlr" in a stylized, rounded font with a white outline and a green-to-pink gradient. Below the logo, the text "a delightful diversion by erik kastner & amy hoy" is written in a green, lowercase font.

Below the logo and text, there are two links in pink text: "View original on Flickr" and "Submit your own photos!".

The main content area features a 5x5 grid of puzzle pieces. The pieces are images of a daisy flower against a blue sky background. The pieces are arranged in a way that they do not perfectly fit together, creating a "bafu" or "bafu" effect. The grid is outlined with a dashed white border.

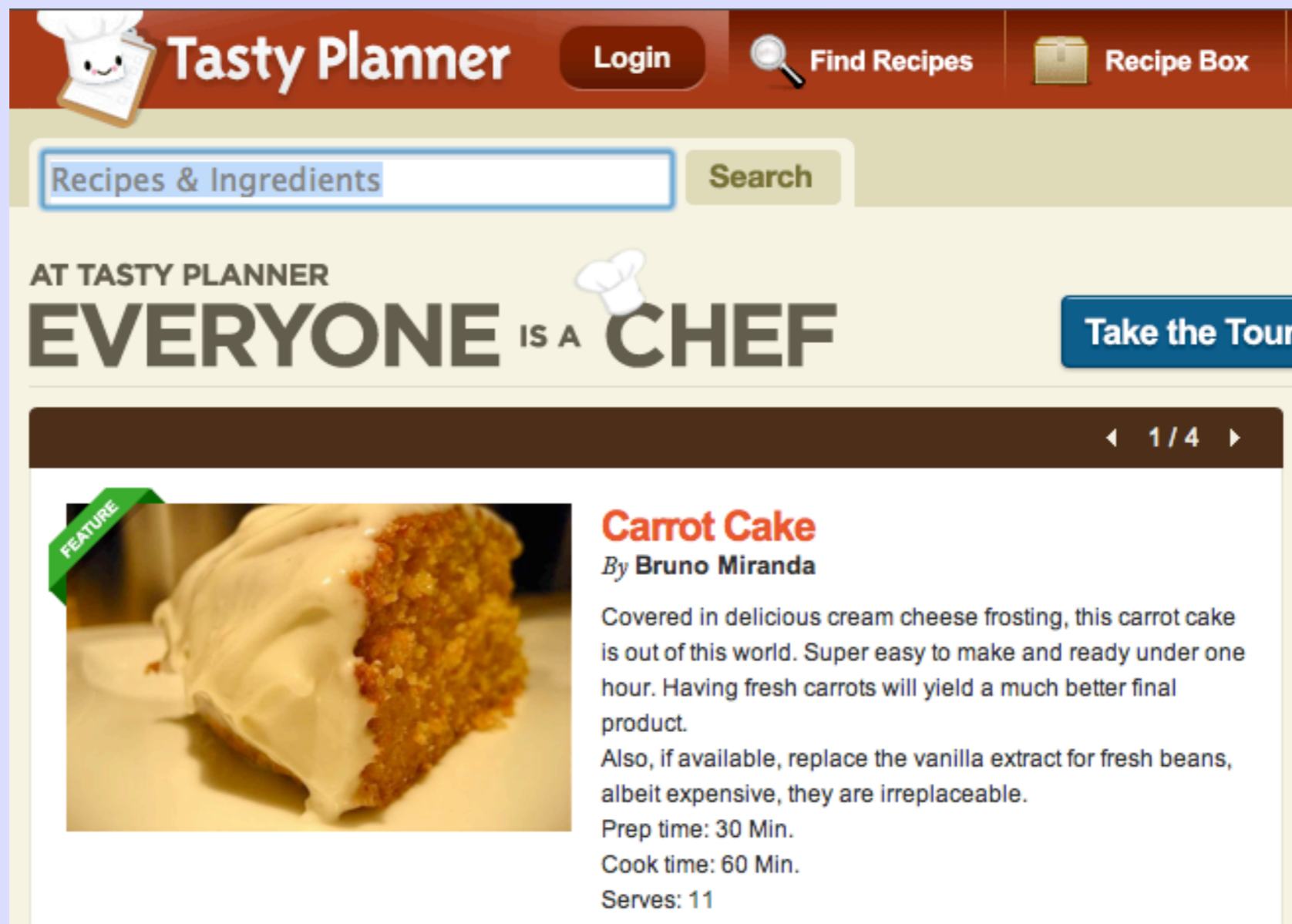
On the right side of the grid, there are three buttons:

- A green button with the text "befuddle it!" in white.
- A green button with the text "hide lines" in white.
- A pink button with a white circular arrow icon and the text "do another!" in white.

Tasty Planner

Started as something of a Microapp - built for Rails Rumble
<http://tastyplanner.com>

by: Josh Owens, Chris Saylor, Bruno Miranda and Kevin Burg



The screenshot shows the Tasty Planner website interface. At the top, there is a dark red navigation bar with the Tasty Planner logo (a smiling chef's hat) on the left, followed by the text "Tasty Planner". To the right of the logo are three buttons: "Login", "Find Recipes" (with a magnifying glass icon), and "Recipe Box" (with a folder icon). Below the navigation bar is a search bar with the placeholder text "Recipes & Ingredients" and a "Search" button. Underneath the search bar is a banner with the text "AT TASTY PLANNER EVERYONE IS A CHEF" and a "Take the Tour" button. The main content area features a carousel of recipe cards. The first card is for "Carrot Cake" by Bruno Miranda, marked as a "FEATURE" with a green ribbon. The card includes a photo of a slice of carrot cake with cream cheese frosting, a description, and preparation details: "Prep time: 30 Min.", "Cook time: 60 Min.", and "Serves: 11".

Tasty Planner Login Find Recipes Recipe Box

Recipes & Ingredients Search

AT TASTY PLANNER
EVERYONE IS A CHEF Take the Tour

1 / 4

Carrot Cake
By Bruno Miranda

Covered in delicious cream cheese frosting, this carrot cake is out of this world. Super easy to make and ready under one hour. Having fresh carrots will yield a much better final product.

Also, if available, replace the vanilla extract for fresh beans, albeit expensive, they are irreplaceable.

Prep time: 30 Min.
Cook time: 60 Min.
Serves: 11

Spell with Flickr

<http://metaatem.net/words>

rails by **Spell with flickr**

[Ads by Google](#)

[List Words](#)

[Words 2004](#)

[Vocabulary Word](#)

[Words Lyrics](#)

[Hidden Words](#)

Created by **kastner** (Erik Kastner) with PHP and javascript

Please send me comments, suggestions or questions, kastner@gmail.com. I love getting emails about Spell with Flickr - and all my programming projects.

here is "rails" in images

Click on each letter to get a new one!



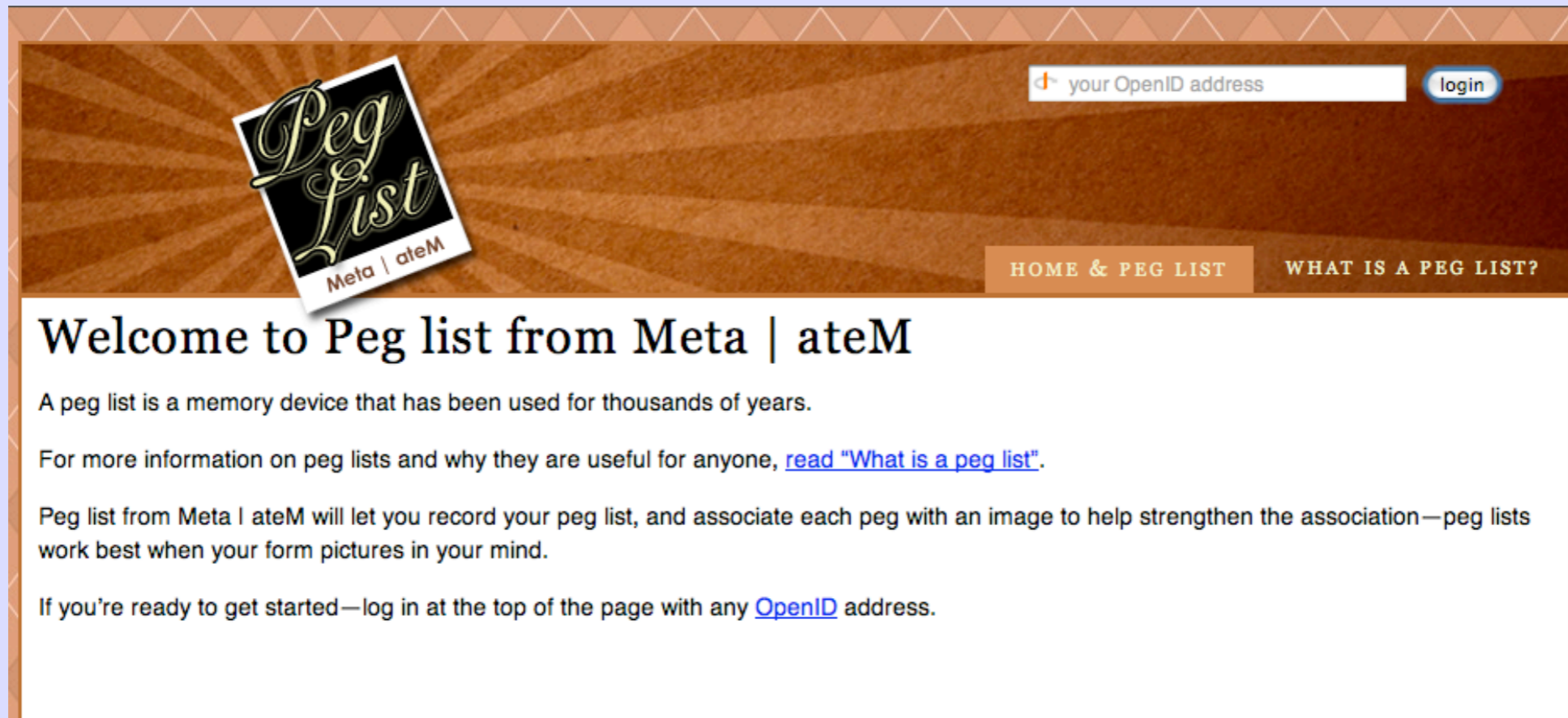
Hide an Image with CSS

<http://metaatem.net/highlite>



Peglist

<http://peglist.metaatem.net>



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Peglist website. The header features a logo for 'Peg List' by Meta | ateM on the left, a search bar for 'your OpenID address' with a 'login' button on the right, and two navigation links: 'HOME & PEG LIST' and 'WHAT IS A PEG LIST?'. The main content area has a white background and contains a welcome message, a definition of a peg list, a link to a 'What is a peg list' article, a description of the website's functionality, and a final instruction to log in.

Welcome to Peg list from Meta | ateM

A peg list is a memory device that has been used for thousands of years.

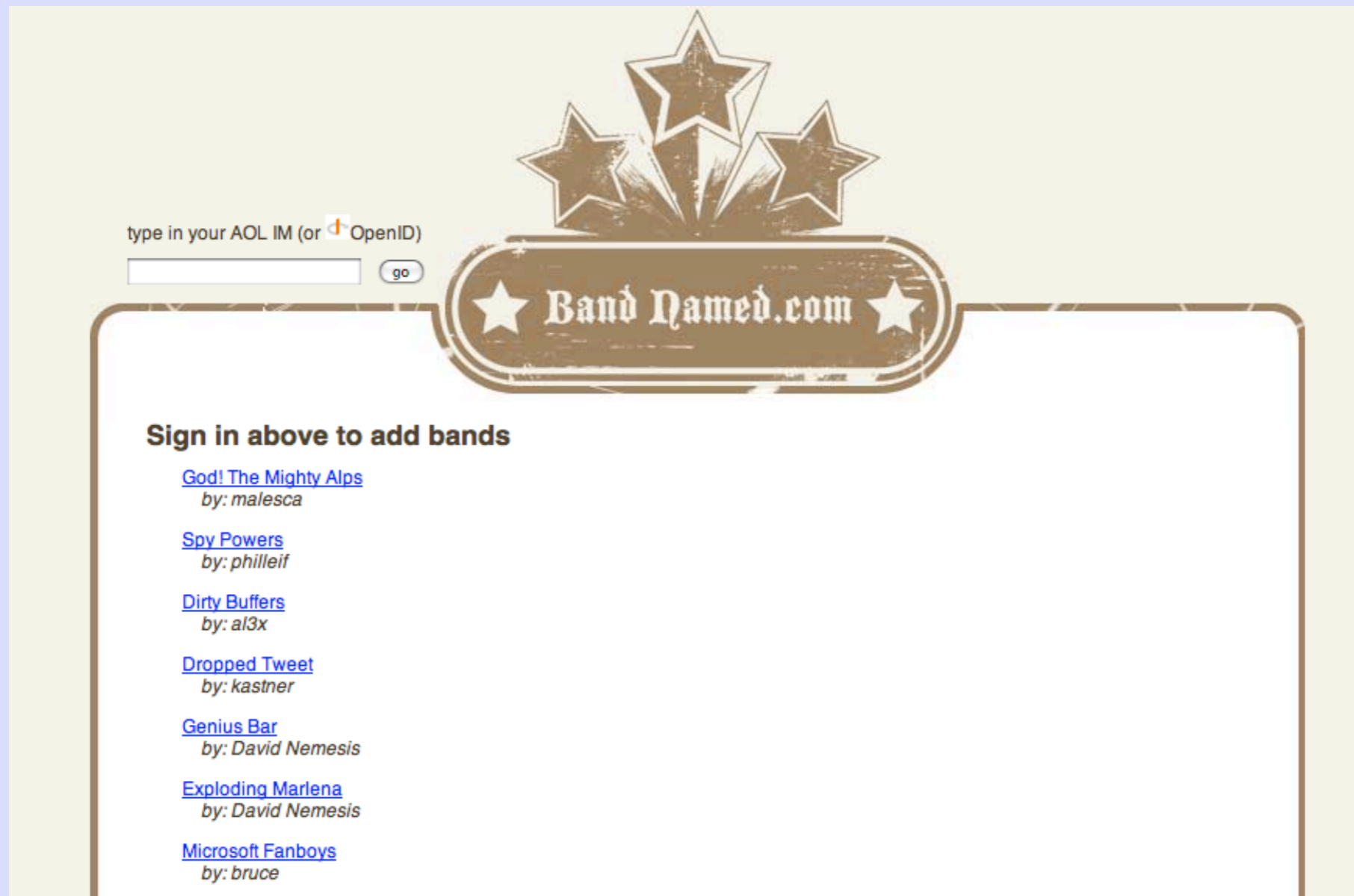
For more information on peg lists and why they are useful for anyone, [read "What is a peg list"](#).


Peg list from Meta | ateM will let you record your peg list, and associate each peg with an image to help strengthen the association—peg lists work best when your form pictures in your mind.

If you're ready to get started—log in at the top of the page with any [OpenID](#) address.

Band Named

<http://bandnamed.com/>



type in your AOL IM (or  OpenID)



Band Named.com



Sign in above to add bands

[God! The Mighty Alps](#)

by: malesca

[Spy Powers](#)

by: philleif

[Dirty Buffers](#)

by: al3x

[Dropped Tweet](#)

by: kastner

[Genius Bar](#)

by: David Nemesis

[Exploding Marlina](#)

by: David Nemesis

[Microsoft Fanboys](#)

by: bruce

“Microapps”

Micro

micro | 'mīkrō |

noun (pl. **-cros**)

1 small : *micromachines*.

ORIGIN from the 80s **MicroMachines**



App

app | ap |

noun

short for **web application**.

Cruz in

One Sitting

Rails

Camping

Sinatra

Merb

Mongrel

Bash, C, Perl, even straight html

HTML

Where is Britt?



That's where Britt is!

Even PHP!

“For Fun”

Play

Learning

**Working with
folks who rule**

“and Profit”

\$\$\$

\$ \$ \$

£ £ £

\$ \$ \$

£ £ £

€ € €

AdSense

- **Easy**
- **Geeks don't click ads**

Beg

- **Put a pay pal button up and be done**
- **Talk about how “hard” you worked**

Sponsor / Patronage

- **Kind of like begging**
- **Kind of like ads**

**Better than
money**

Reputation

“Personal Brand”

Experience

Making a Microapp

Easy Steps

Design

Design

Develop

Design

Develop

Deploy

Design

Design is Hard

Twistori

secrets

pirate
ninja
cowboy
robot

twistori

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This

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Foamee



the pub

people

how-to

faq

store

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7 hours, 36 minutes ago



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7 hours, 46 minutes ago

Develop

Rails

```
rails bookr
```

```
cd bookr
```

```
script/generate scaffold book \
```

```
  title:string description:text
```

```
rake db:migrate
```

```
script/server &
```

```
open http://localhost:3000/books
```

Sinatra

```
mate bookr.rb
```

```
require 'rubygems'  
require 'sinatra'
```

```
get "/" do  
  "Hello There"  
end
```

```
ruby bookr.rb &
```

```
open http://localhost:4567/
```

Foamee

- **Made by a non-coder**
- **Built without a twitter library**

Deploy

Just Do It

Just Do It

Real Artists Ship

Just Do It

Real Artists Ship

Ready, Fire, Aim

Just Do It

Real Artists Ship

Ready, Fire, Aim

Get Real

Just Do It

Real Artists Ship

Ready, Fire, Aim

Get Real

Release Early, Release Often

Twistori

- **Built in 6 hours**
- **Amy wanted to “Ship something”**

In the tub, slowly starting the day...

<http://snipurl.com/264nz>

about 23 hours ago from [Twinkle](#) ☆



Thomas Fuch

In the tub, slowly starting the day...

<http://snipurl.com/264nz>

about 23 hours ago from [Twinkle](#) ☆



Thomas Fuch

just launched <http://twistori.com/> with
[@amyhoy](#) -- small projects FTW

about 17 hours ago from web ☆



Thomas Fuch

Tasty Planner

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Tasty Planner". The browser's address bar contains several tabs, including "Tasty Planner", "Campfire: Saturd...", "recipebuilder.jpg...", "DB1.png (PNG Im...", "Picture 2-65.png...", and "Tasty-Planner---...". The website's header is a dark red bar with the "Tasty Planner" logo on the left, and "Signup", "Login", "Find Recipes", "Recipe Box", and "Make a Grocery List" buttons on the right. Below the header is a search bar with the text "tomato" and a "Search" button. A message below the search bar reads: "Welcome rails rumble users/judges! Please check our [about](#) page for more info and vote!". The main content area is titled "Latest Recipes" and features four recipe cards. Each card includes the recipe name, category, a description, a small image, and a button to "Add to My Recipe Box".

Tasty Planner Signup Login Find Recipes Recipe Box Make a Grocery List

tomato Search

Welcome rails rumble users/judges! Please check our [about](#) page for more info and vote!

Latest Recipes

Gameday Chili Dinner [Add to My Recipe Box](#)

This is the perfect chili dish to serve at your next halftime get together. Serve with grated cheese and tortilla chips for dipping....

Prep Time: 5 Cook Time: 0 Serves: 4

Insalata Caprese (Tomato, Basil, and Mozzarella Salad) Snack [Add to My Recipe Box](#)

A simple salad from the Italian region of Campania, made of sliced fresh mozzarella, plum tomatoes and basil. It is seasoned with salt, black pepper, and olive oil. ...

Prep Time: 5 Cook Time: 0 Serves: 5

Steak with Citrus Salsa Recipe Breakfast [Add to My Recipe Box](#)

Tasty Steak with Citrus Salsa Recipef...

Prep Time: 25 Cook Time: 35 Serves: 4

Golden Oyster Bisque Recipe Snack [Add to My Recipe Box](#)

Saffron colors this holiday favorite a rich yellow-gold. You won't miss it if you omit it, though; the bisque will simply look paler, like oyster stew or chowder....

**Don't repeat
Anyone**

Don't repeat Anyone

- **Use libraries**

Don't repeat Anyone

- **Use libraries**
- **Steal code (when permitted)**

Don't repeat Anyone

- **Use libraries**
- **Steal code (when permitted)**
- **Get help**

NIH Rules

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- **Don't learn 2 (or more APIs) to use 1**

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NIH Rules

- **Don't learn 2 (or more APIs) to use 1**
- **Don't learn 1 API when 0 will do**
- **READ CODE!!!**