

Streaming websites: Basics

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Streaming websites enable you to play music and other media — on mobile devices, game consoles, and computers. Many music-streaming websites let you listen for free while others require you to create a free or fee-based account. “Free” access, however, generally comes with fewer features and advertising on the webpages.

Music-streaming websites use “playlists” (or “sets” or “stations”) to play collections of songs. Users can play existing playlists, build their own, or collaborate on a playlist. Most websites observe users’ music selections to develop genre- and theme-based playlists.

Many sites let you upload your own files — to add to the material available for playlists.

Helping E. CHINA C

Streaming sites have *huge* inventories of songs and artists. That makes it difficult for unknown, indie artists to be found by listeners who would enjoy their music.

One way for artists to “get noticed” is to develop a number of users who have indicated they like the band. Each streaming website has a function for doing that.

The function is usually activated through a button on the streaming website’s home or main webpage for the band. If you use any of this document’s streaming sites, please indicate that you support E. CHINA C. Thanks.

Regular playing of a song increases the possibility of it being incorporated into a playlist.

SoundCloud

You can immediately start free streaming on SoundCloud. But if you create a “free” account, you can upload three hours of your own music.

The FOLLOW and LIKE functions are available with free access and don’t require you to create an account. But the webpages, for such users, will contain advertising.

FOLLOW function

This action can be taken without creating a SoundCloud account.

1. Launch your browser and go to [E. CHINA C’s profile webpage](#).

Note: Clicking the blue-colored text, above, will launch your browser and display the indicated webpage.

2. Look just below the top-of-page banner — on the right side of the webpage — and click

A rectangular orange button with the word "Follow" written in white text.

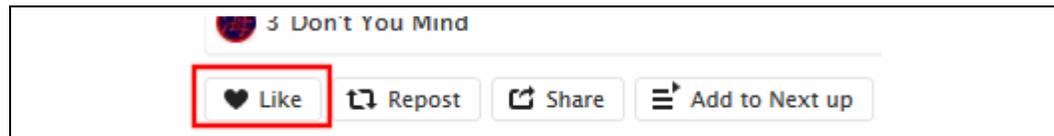
Creating an account

1. Go to [the SoundCloud homepage](#).
2. In the upper, right corner of the webpage, click **Create account**.
3. Follow the subsequent instructions and select the **Free** option.

LIKE function

You can “like” an individual song, album, or playlist. For individual songs, the button appears in a function bar — below the song’s signal graph. Albums and playlists place the function bar below their list of songs.

(The “All” webpage — listing all tracks, playlists, and albums — displays all entries’ LIKE and other buttons.)



Above: The function bar — as it appears at the bottom of a playlist or album’s list of songs.

Spotify

This streaming website requires you to create an account, but a free account is available. Spotify’s Web Player must be installed for mobile and other special devices. Computers can play music with a browser or install the Web Player.

If desired, your Spotify account can be linked with your Facebook page.

Spotify’s website sometimes navigates between webpages without generating a new URL (web address) and redirects browsers to a different URL, without telling you. If you want a *free* account, ensure that the sign-up webpage is for a *free* account, not a *Premium* one.

If you are having difficulty finding the *free* sign-up page, do a Web search for Spotify free.

Creating a free account

1. Navigate to [the free-account webpage](#).
2. Fill out the webpage form and click the **SIGN UP** button.

The “install file” webpage and an operating-system pop-up box appear.

If you are going to stream music with a computer, using a browser, ignore the next two steps. You can go to [the Spotify homepage](#), log in, and start free-streaming.

3. *To install the Web Player, click the pop-up box’s **Save File** button.*

The file `SpotifySetup.exe` is saved to your Desktop.

4. Navigate to your Desktop, double-click the **SpotifySetup** icon, and click the **Run** button in the operating-system pop-up box that appears.

FOLLOW function

You must have a free or paying account to perform this function. If you start the process without an account, you will be asked to **SIGN UP**.

The easiest way to FOLLOW the band:

1. Go to [the Spotify listing on E. CHINA C’s “Music” webpage](#).
2. Click the **FOLLOW** button, at the bottom of the right column.

YouTube

You can immediately start free-streaming YouTube videos — without an account. The website can be accessed with a Web browser or mobile-device app.

To show your support for E. CHINA C, you must “Subscribe” to the band. Subscribing is free.

You must have a *free* Google account, however, to subscribe. That account can be with Gmail, Google Photos, or another Google service.

Creating an account and ‘subscribing’

1. Launch your browser or app and navigate to [the band’s YouTube “album” homepage](#).
2. In the top, right corner of the webpage, click the **Sign in** button.
3. Do one of the following:
 - *If you don’t have a Gmail, Google Photos, or other Google account*, the **Sign in** button displays a drop-down menu that gives you the option to create one. Select that option and complete the process.
 - *If already have a Google account*, clicking the **Sign in** button displays the Google login webpage. Select an account to use, click **Next**, and enter your password in the second menu.

The band’s album homepage redisplay.

4. On the left side of the webpage, below the album cover and band name, click the **Subscribe** button.