

---

# Tim Berners-Lee

---

## Introduction

I'm sure that nearly all of you surfed in the World Wide Web one time.

But who of you knows, where the Web comes from? Who was the developer of the WWW?

Does anybody know something about a man, called Tim Berners-Lee?

OK. Now it is my part to tell you something about that person. At first I must say, that I haven't found much about his family life. So I can't tell you anything about his children or wife. The only private thing I know is his hobby: windsurfing. But I think, that's not important to realise, what a "great" man Tim Berners-Lee is.

*He has invented the World Wide Web. Without him, perhaps we wouldn't be able to surf in the web.*

## 1. Who is Tim Berners-Lee - a short biography

He was born in London, England, in 1955, as a son of two British computer scientists.

Tim Berners-Lee graduated from the Queen's College at Oxford University, England, in 1976. While he was there he built his first computer.

He worked for two years at Plessey Telecommunications Ltd [imited → mbH] Poole, Dorset, UK), a big UK Telecom equipment manufacturer.

In 1978 Mr. Berners-Lee left Plessey and joined D.G Nash Ltd (Ferndown, Dorset, UK). At D.G Nash Ltd he wrote among some other things typesetting software for intelligent printers and a multitasking operation system.

For a year and a half he worked as an independent consultant. In that time he was as consultant software engineer at CERN, the European Particle Physics Laboratory in Geneva, Switzerland. While he was there at CERN he wrote for his private use a program named „Enquire“. This program formed the conceptual basis for the future development of the World Wide Web.

From 1981 until 1984 he worked at John Poole's Image Computer Systems Ltd.

1984 took he up a fellowship at CERN.

In 1989 he proposed a global hypertext project, which is now known as the World Wide Web. It was based on the „Enquire“ program and it was designed to allow people working together by combining their knowledge in a web of hypertext documents. He

wrote the first World wide web server and the first client. *That was in a way the hour of birth of the World Wide Web we know today.*

Through 1991 and 1993 Mr. Berners-Lee continued working on the design of the web.

In 1994 he joined the Laboratory of Computer Science (LCS) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

In 1999 he became the first holder of the 3Com Founders chair.

He is the director of the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), which coordinates web development world-wide. *The Consortium wants to lead the Web to its full potential, caring for its stability through rapid evolution and revolutionary transformations of its usage.*

He also wrote some books. One is called „Weaving of the Web“ and it's about the past present and future of the Web. Another book is called ...

He won a couple of prices which I don't want to enumerate because that are too much!

“Tim Berners-Lee is one of the most intelligent people in the world“ says the American Time-Magazine. He has already won a big number of prices.

## **2. His intensions for the future (of the Web)**

In his opinion the web should be a space of information, like a clay clod, which can be formed and processed one day.

One of his dreams about the web is making the global communication much easier.

There's a big list of things, which the rich countries owe the poorer ones. The internet is only one more point on that list.

Tim Berners-Lee also cares about the independence of the web (it doesn't matte, which company you mean)

He thinks that the opinion of the web to be a space without any laws is nonsense.

He says that we have to reach the point, where you can publish your creativity with 1 mouseclick. Therefor the software and interfaces must get much easier to handle.