New Modular Design introduces a liquid navigation experience powered by multithreading in the browser UI. Opera One also automatically arranges tabs into Tab Islands based on context.

OSLO, Norway, April 25, 2023 /PRNewswire/ -- Opera is unveiling Opera One today. Opera One is the early access version of a completely redesigned browser that is planned to replace the flagship Opera browser for Windows, MacOS, and Linux later this year. Based on Modular Design, Opera One transforms the way you interact with your browser, delivering a liquid navigation experience which is more intuitive to the user. With today's release, Opera One also becomes the first major Chromium-based browser with a multithreaded compositor that brings the UI to life like never before. Opera One also introduces Tab Islands, a new, more intuitive way of interacting with and managing multiple tabs. This news from the company comes just weeks after announcing its first generative AI features, including AI Prompts, as well as access to ChatGPT and ChatSonic in the sidebar.

Introducing the first implementation of Modular Design

Opera has a history of reinventing itself to address the changing needs of its users as well as the evolving nature of the web. With Opera One, the browser has been redesigned according to Modular Design. The new design philosophy, which is being presented today for the first time, will allow Opera to over time build a more powerful and feature-rich browser that is ready for a generative AI-based future. The Opera browser is thus beginning its metamorphosis into a browser that will dynamically adapt to the user's needs by bringing only the key features to the foreground: the relevant modules within Opera One will adjust automatically based on context, providing the user with a more liquid and effortless browsing experience.

Beyond creating space for existing generative AI services, the new design is also laying the groundwork for the AI services Opera is planning to unveil in the near future.

First major browser with Multithreaded Compositor for super smooth UI experience

The power of the web has been continuously growing, enabling high performance graphics operations on websites without interruptions by other processes. With Opera One, Opera is introducing a similar approach to the browser user interface, implementing a new multithreaded compositor to deliver a faster and smoother user interface layer. With the Multithreaded Compositor, Opera One is the first major Chromium-based browser that brings its UI to life like never before. Combined with the new Modular Design Principles, this new architecture enables the implementation of new features and allows Opera to continue its differentiation from other Chromium-based browsers. One of the new features made possible by the improved browser architecture is Tab Islands.

Tab Islands: a new, intuitive way of interacting with tabs

Tab Islands is a new feature that delivers a smooth and intuitive experience built for users that interact with many tabs.

Researchers have found that the existing tab design in browsers makes it difficult to jump between sets of tasks. Moreover, according to Opera's research, the majority of people feel overwhelmed by how messy their tabs get and wish web browsers would do more to help them manage their tabs.

Opera One's new Tab Islands address this challenge. Tab Islands are a new way of keeping tabs that are related to each other together in an intuitive way - without forcing users to change their habits. Are you looking for the best lunch restaurant? The tabs with the menus, locations, and restaurant details will open in a dedicated tab island. Do you have a bunch of Google Docs you use for work? They, too, can get a tab island of their own. As you browse and more tab islands are created, you can easily distinguish the topics you were focusing on and switch between them. In the new, reinvented version of Opera, Tab Islands are the first manifestation of its Modular Design: they are clearly distinguishable in the browser UI, marked by separate colors and clear island borders.

"Tab Islands are a natural way of arranging your tabs into contextual groups without disturbing your flow. They make it easy to keep tabs that relate to each other in groups that you can open and collapse as needed. This makes browsing with many tabs more efficient, allowing for a more pleasant, liquid browsing experience," said Joanna Czajka, product director at Opera.

Tab islands are automatically created to keep the tabs together within the same browsing context. Open websites can also be gathered into a tab island by pressing the CTRL/Command button and clicking on the ones you want to group and then right clicking to create a tab island. They can also be moved by dragging and dropping between islands. You can also add to an existing tab island by drag and drop or by pressing the small plus button on the side of the island.

Popular AI features in the sidebar

Opera's updates in early 2023 that included the addition of generative AI features into the browser have paved the way for this new, redesigned browser. In the future, Opera will morph to become fully modular, making the browser UI more intuitive and functional.

"Opera One is the first instance of our smart, modular design within Opera. It marks the beginning of a chain of innovation, including Opera's own AI engine to be shipped in the coming months. The web just got smarter and faster with generative AI. With Opera One, we are ready to embrace and lead that change," added Czajka.
About Opera

Opera is a web innovator building on more than 25 years of innovation that started with the Opera web browser. While Opera is leveraging its brand and engaged user base in order to grow and develop new products and services for people who seek a better internet experience, Opera's PC and mobile web browsers, content discovery platform Opera News, and apps dedicated to gaming, Web3 and e-commerce are already the trusted choices of hundreds of millions of active and engaged users. Opera is headquartered in Oslo, Norway, and listed on the NASDAQ Stock Exchange under the OPRA ticker symbol. Download and access Opera's products and services from www.opera.com.


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