

Songza

www.songza.com

A music web search engine and internet jukebox

what is it?

According to its web site, Songza is a "music search engine and internet jukebox". Songs are pulled from YouTube and played through the site. Clicking on search will pull in your results where you can play, share, rate (quality of audio), and add to a playlist.

educational use?

While music and pop-culture are often not thought of as instructional tools, music is fundamental to all cultures and can be used educationally in a number of ways. It can be used to increase social presence in online courses—through having students share a personally meaningful song and explain why the song is important—as well as increase content interaction—for example through having students build playlists to illustrate specific points. Finally, it can be used as an ice breaker by having students do such things as creating a soundtrack of their life.

pros & cons?

Songza's strength lies in its simplicity. It's easy to use and share individual songs as well as to create playlists. It also makes it easy to post songs to Twitter or Facebook. However, Songza's biggest drawback is its near complete reliance on YouTube. This results in a more limited song selection (compared to its competitors) as well as a larger amount of live music. Another drawback is the inability to create multiple playlists.

what's it cost?

Songza is free to use.

alternatives?

There are a number of notable alternatives to Songza. In fact, for individual use, many prefer Pandora (<http://www.pandora.com>), FineTune (<http://www.finetune.com>), or LastFM (<http://www.last.fm>). Other alternatives are BlipFM (<http://blip.fm>) and Live Music Archive (<http://www.archive.org/details/etree>).