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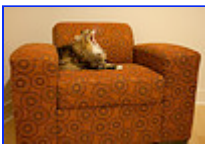
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[The Rosetta Disk Online - 1,500 Languages In A Browser Window](#)

posted by [Aaron Muszalski](#) on Tuesday, March 24th, 2009

guest post by [Aaron Muszalski](#)



Thanks to the rather clever folks at [The Long Now Foundation's](#) Rosetta Project, you can now [explore the contents of their Rosetta Disk in your browser window](#).

Inspired by the historic [Rosetta Stone](#), the [Rosetta Disk](#) is intended to be “a durable archive of human languages” as well as “an aesthetic object that suggests a journey of the imagination across culture and history”. Made of nickel alloy (with a 2,000 year life expectancy), the physical Disk is three inches across, and micro-etched with over 13,000 pages of language documentation, covering over 1,500 languages.

[On the front side of the disk] the text begins at eye-readable scale and spirals down to nano-scale. This tapered ring of languages is intended to maximize the number of people that will be able to read something immediately upon picking up the Disk, as well as implying the directions for using it— ‘get a magnifier and there is more.’



The [online version](#) allows viewers to zoom into, and scroll through the entire contents of both sides of the disk, and easily read pages of information which, on the physical disk, are only .019 inches, or half a millimeter, across.

image by [The Rosetta Project](#) & photo by [Lincoln Smith](#)

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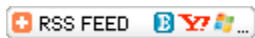
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 - reminder: Laughing Squid Los Angeles Drinkup tonight, 7pm at The Cat & Fiddle in Hollywood, here's more info <http://bit.ly/185fKV> [15 minutes ago](#)

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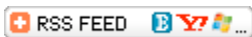
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 - [Philip Smith](#): Why would anyone brag that it took him 25 years to develop THIS? In 25 years Silicon Valley produced Cisco, Ebay, Google, Yahoo, the...
 - [Guy](#): The fact that it does not fit in a rolodex: is it not defying the purpose of a business card? (I think someone said something similar above.)...
 - [Printclick](#): Haha this guy is quite the character. Nice find!

- [Dave Arneson 1947-2009, Co-Creator of Dungeons & Dragons \(1\)](#)
 - [Jason Schupp](#): Webcomic Order of the Stick has a fun tribute to him for today’s strip.

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 - [fermin briceno f](#): Dear sir: Thanks a lot for sharing these fantastic videos. I am just another huge fan of air traffic control communications and...

- [Crush All Hu-Mans! Diesel Sweeties Book Featuring Red Robot \(3\)](#)
 - [ron turner](#): hey, should last gasp carry this book? although I am a hu-man I side with the robots on the crushing thing. how many nano robots does...
 - [Scott Beale](#): Thanks Rob, I’ve updated the post.

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- [Michael](#): A saw that book for the first time at a friends house while I was...you know. Don't read many novels these days but Everybody...

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