

# Getting online with...



Flamborough  
Yorkshire  
Sherees daily view

**BBC**

# Weather Watchers



## Little Torrington

Devon

westondoggiewalker



BBC

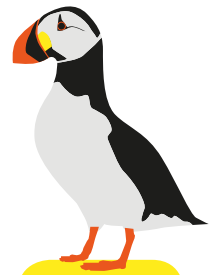
# Weather Watchers

# Weather watching with the BBC

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# What is Weather Watchers?

Weather Watchers is BBC Weather's crowdsourced online weather club for people who want to join the nation's favourite conversation and help tell the story of the UK's weather. Part of BBC Make it Digital, it is open to everyone in the UK with an interest in the weather.

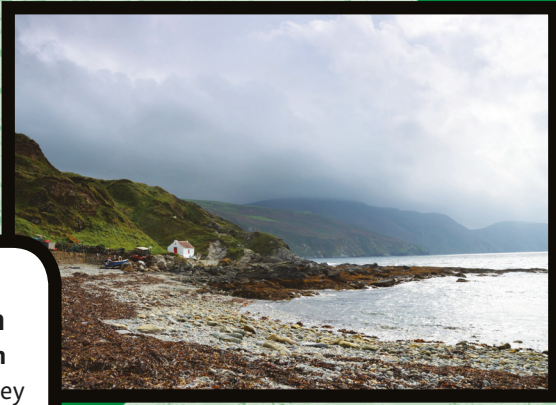
As a Weather Watcher you create and share weather reports on the BBC website, and your pictures and observations might even appear in BBC broadcasts.

The website has been designed to work well on any internet-connected PC, tablet or mobile and you don't need any scientific or weather knowledge to make your report.



**“It really does help us tell the weather story of the day, and at the same time show off our beautiful land. We love your pictures!”**

– Carol Kirkwood, BBC Weather presenter



**Port Erin**  
**Isle of Man**  
Sandie's Valley



**Gissing**  
**Norfolk**  
April's garden



**Heanor**  
**Derbyshire**  
Stoneyford View



**Lyme Regis**  
**Dorset**  
Sue on the hill.

# Exploring Weather Watchers

The screenshot shows the BBC Weather Watchers homepage. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Home', 'All your reports', 'Photos near you', and 'Settings'. Below this is a hero section with a blue background and white text: 'Nice! You're getting the hang of it.' followed by a sub-headline: 'Scroll down to see your first report and what other Weather Watchers are up to. Did you know you can also create reports for a previous date or for a different location?'. Below the hero section is a 'Create a report' button with a pencil icon and a preview of a report for 'Sevens Stoke' with a temperature of 11°. Below that is a 'All your reports' button. The next section is 'Summary of my reports' with four metrics: 'Total reports' (1), 'Lowest temperature' (2°), 'Highest temperature' (20°), and 'Average temperature' (11°). Below this is a 'Weather Watchers near you' section with a map showing various weather icons across the UK. The next section is 'Photos near you' with three report thumbnails: 'Kingsgate Kent' (10°), 'Scarborough North Yorkshire' (8°), and 'Lower Swell Gloucestershire' (17°). Below this is a 'Load more' button. The final section is 'The Weather Watchers bulletin' with a sub-headline 'Reports and info from across the UK' and several report thumbnails, including 'What is the spring equinox?', 'EDITOR'S PICK' for 'Twickenham Greater London' (15°), and 'Blossoming London'.

When you come to BBC Weather Watchers you'll see the homepage. If you're logged in this shows your latest reports, a summary of the reports you have made so far, and a selection of weather photos from your area. From here you can create your own weather reports.

This is a screenshot of a weather report card. It features a blue background with a white box containing a weather icon (sun) and a temperature of 10°. Below the temperature, the location is listed as 'Kingsgate Kent' and the user as 'BillyBoy'. The date and time are '07-04-2017 07:13'. There is a 'Share' button in the bottom right corner.

Here you can see the latest weather reports that you have created. Click on the summary to see the full report.

This is a screenshot of a large blue button with a white pencil icon and the text 'Create a report' in white.

Click on 'Create a Report' to file your report on the weather in your area – you will find out how to do this later.

## Summary of my reports



Total reports

1



Lowest temperature

2°



Highest temperature

20°

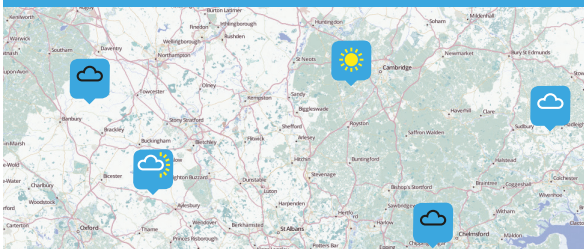


Average temperature

11°

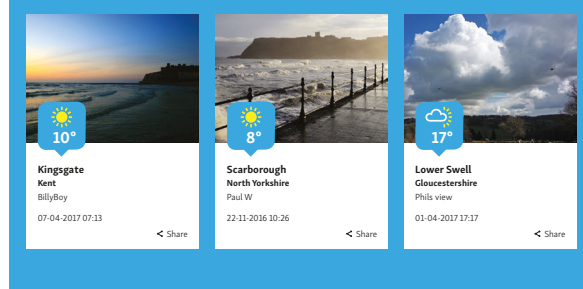
You can see a summary of the reports you have made here. It also shows the temperature range of all your reports.

### Weather Watchers near you



This is where you can see a map of reports from Weather Watchers near you. Click the weather icons to zoom into an area and drag the map to see the other areas.

### Photos near you



This section shows photographs from your area. Click to see more reports and find out where the sun is shining!

### The Weather Watchers bulletin

Reports and info from across the UK

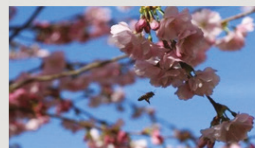


What is the spring equinox?

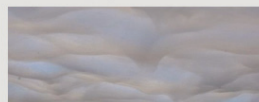


Twickenham Greater London

ruthiebabes  
Today 9 hours ago



Blossoming London



The homepage also features the Weather Watchers bulletin which shows you weather stories you might be interested in, the latest Editor's Pick photos, and other information from the BBC.

**Kilmaluag**  
Isle of Skye  
SkyeHigh

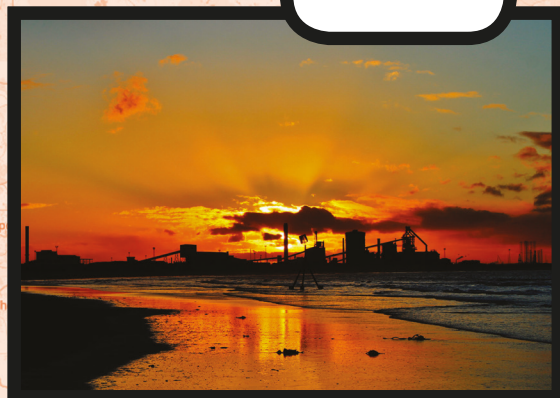


**Wasdale Head**  
Cumbria  
Cumbrian  
Clicknologist



**Ruthin**  
Denbighshire  
Rose-E

**Redcar**  
Tees  
Kev from  
Saltburn



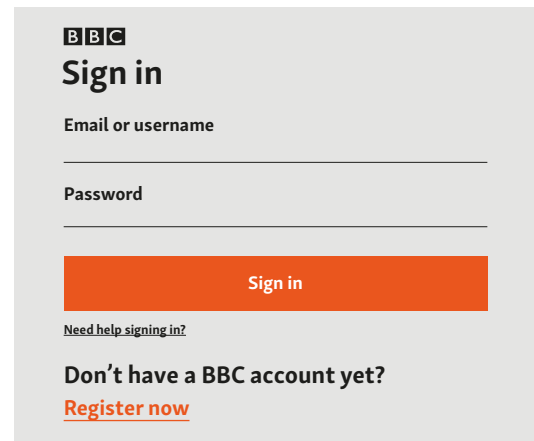


# Signing up to Weather Watchers

Before signing up to Weather Watchers you will need both an email address and a BBC ID. If you don't have these, turn to page 12 and check out 'Weather Watchers Extras' for help.

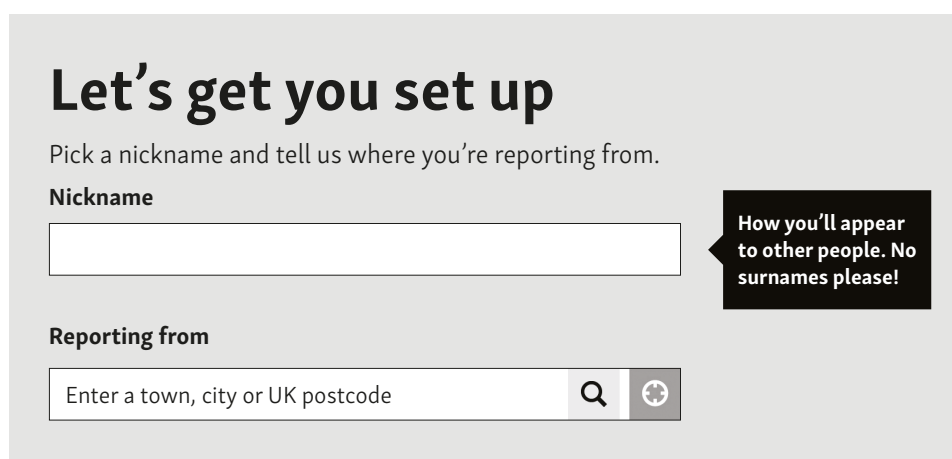
Signing up as a Weather Watcher is very easy. Just sign in with your BBC ID and then click 'get started' on the Weather Watchers home page.

If you aren't signed in, you'll be asked to do that now!



The screenshot shows the BBC Sign in page. At the top left is the BBC logo. Below it is the heading 'Sign in'. There are two input fields: 'Email or username' and 'Password'. Below these fields is an orange 'Sign in' button. Underneath the button is a link that says 'Need help signing in?'. At the bottom of the form is the text 'Don't have a BBC account yet?' followed by a link that says 'Register now'.

Once you select 'Get Started' you'll see the Weather Watchers set up page where you choose a nickname and set your default location. We ask you to choose a nickname **which doesn't include your surname**, for privacy reasons, and select your preferred reporting location, which for most people will be their home area. You can change the location for each individual report you make, but this sets the default and will save you time.



The screenshot shows the 'Let's get you set up' page. The heading is 'Let's get you set up'. Below it is the text 'Pick a nickname and tell us where you're reporting from.' There are two sections: 'Nickname' with an empty text input field, and 'Reporting from' with a text input field containing the placeholder 'Enter a town, city or UK postcode'. To the right of the 'Reporting from' field are two icons: a magnifying glass and a location pin. A black callout box with white text says 'How you'll appear to other people. No surnames please!'.

What is Geolocation? Find out more on page 16.



You can add your town, city or postcode directly in the form, but if you click the icon that looks like a wheel (to the right of the 'reporting from' text box) this will use geolocation to determine where you are, using your device's GPS.

Now carefully read the rules, and if you're happy then click "ok, I'm in".

You'll get an email from the BBC to confirm that you're a registered Weather Watcher – so check your inbox. And congratulations!

# Posting your own weather reports

Remember - before you can post to Weather Watchers you need to have a Weather Watchers profile. The previous pages tell you how to set one up.



Create a report

Once you've signed up and signed in, you start posting a report by clicking "Create a report".

**What's the weather like where you are?** [Close]

I'm in

Enter a town, city or UK postcode [Search] [Location] **1**

When's it for? [Calendar] 21 March 2017 **2** [Clock] 12:46

[Left Arrow] [Cloud with Moon] [Moon] [Sun] [Sun with Cloud] [Right Arrow] **3**

Please select a weather type.

[Temperature Icon] What's the temperature? **4**

Arctic | Freezing | Cold | Chilly | Mild | Warm | Hot

[Camera Icon] Add a photo **5**

[Note Icon] Want to add a note?

Other Weather Watchers won't see these.

[Down Arrow] Add more details **6**

Post this report **7**

**1** You will then be asked to fill in the details about your local weather.

Start by making sure you're reporting about the right place – the form will show your default location, but you might be somewhere else!

You can fill in the location by typing your town, city or postcode, or you can click the wheel on the right hand side which will fill in your location for you by using your device's GPS function.

**2** The date and time is automatically set to the current date and time so you only need to update if you are posting a report from earlier (you can't post from the future!).

**3** Here is where you choose the most suitable weather icon for the weather in your area. Choose from the well-known BBC Weather icons by scrolling through the icons and clicking on the one that best matches the weather you see around you.

Be sure to click on the icon otherwise you won't be able to save your report.

**4** Here is where you tell us the temperature. You can either use a thermometer to record the exact temperature or you can estimate using the descriptive words provided on the scale.

**Top Tip!**

Take your photo just before starting your report so you can take a few and choose your favourite. You could even try experimenting with different angles and light to see what works best.



**5** This is our favourite bit! Click on the camera icon to add a photo.

Most computers, phones and tablets have cameras, so follow the instructions to take your photo. Then choose the one you'd like to share and select 'upload' to copy it from your phone, tablet or computer to the Weather Watchers website. It will still be on your computer after you do this.

| Add more details |          |                 |
|------------------|----------|-----------------|
|                  | Rainfall | mm/hour         |
|                  | Pressure | hPa             |
|                  | Windfall | mph Direction ▾ |
|                  | Humidity |                 |

[How do I measure the weather?](#)

**6** You can now either add further details in the notes and "add more details" section (for example rainfall and pressure) or you can skip straight to posting your report.

**7** Make sure you're happy with all the details then click "Post this report". Congratulations! You have posted a Weather Watchers report. This can be seen by members of the public on the website. It might even be selected as an "Editor's Pick" or feature on a weather report.



**Your report has been created**

[Back to my Weather Watchers](#)

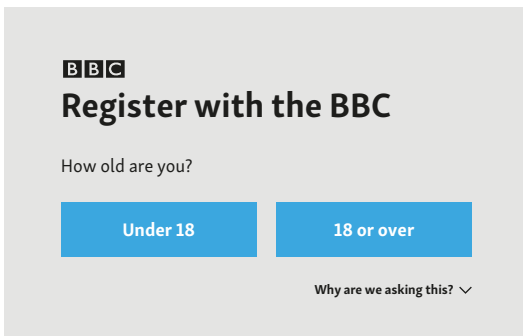
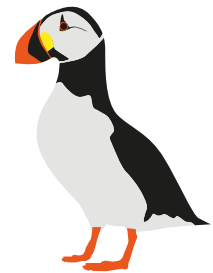
# Getting a BBC ID



The screenshot shows the BBC Sign in page. At the top left is the BBC logo. Below it is the heading "Sign in". There are two input fields: "Email or username" and "Password". A blue "Sign in" button is positioned below the password field. A link "Need help signing in?" is located below the button. At the bottom, there is a heading "Don't have a BBC account yet?" followed by a blue "Register now" link. A dashed arrow points from the "Register now" link to the "Sign in" button.

Weather Watchers knows who you are through your BBC ID, a login that lets you get more out of the BBC every time you visit the website or use iPlayer. So before you can join the community you need to create your own BBC ID.

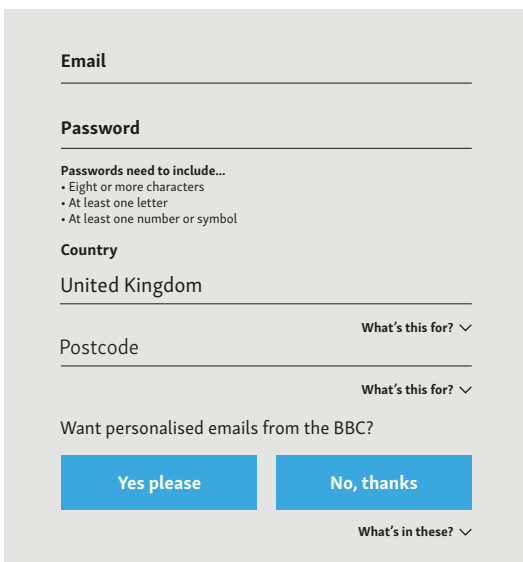
There may be a pop up saying "Cookies on the BBC Website". Find out more about cookies on page 16.



The screenshot shows the "Register with the BBC" page. It features the BBC logo and the heading "Register with the BBC". Below the heading is the question "How old are you?". There are two blue buttons: "Under 18" and "18 or over". A link "Why are we asking this?" is located below the buttons.

Start by clicking "Register" on the BBC ID page (you might get to this page if you've tried to sign in for Weather Watchers but don't have a BBC ID already).

First, we'd like to know if you're over or under 18. We use this information to make sure you don't see unsuitable material. Weather Watchers is only intended for use by people aged 16 and over.



The screenshot shows a registration form with several fields: "Email", "Password", "Country" (set to "United Kingdom"), and "Postcode". Each field has a "What's this for?" dropdown arrow. Below the "Postcode" field is another "What's this for?" dropdown arrow. At the bottom, there is a question "Want personalised emails from the BBC?" with two blue buttons: "Yes please" and "No, thanks". A "What's in these?" dropdown arrow is located below the buttons.

Then you are taken to a page where we ask for your email address and postcode. We use the email address to contact you to verify your BBC ID, and to tell you things we think you'll find useful about BBC services. We use the postcode to make sure you hear about BBC programmes in your area.

You also need to create a password, to keep your account safe. It's a good idea to use a different password for each service you use, so that if someone breaks into one account they can't get into all of them.

**BBC**

## Thanks. You're now signed in.

Be sure to use this email next time you sign in.

[youremailaddress@provider.co.uk](#) [Change email](#)

Remember to verify your email address. Check your inbox and not the link in the email we've just sent. Didn't get the email? Check your spam folder, or tell us to [send the email again](#).

Continue

Finally, you can select whether you would like personalised emails from the BBC – you can find out more about these emails by clicking the text 'what's in these'. You don't have to subscribe to any, of course.

Click 'continue' to create your account. Before your account is live you will need to verify your email address. This is done through a confirmation email that the BBC will send you which you should be able to see in your email inbox. You will need to click on the link in the email to verify your account.

## Weather Watchers

# How's the weather where you are?

Join the nation's favourite conversation.

Get started

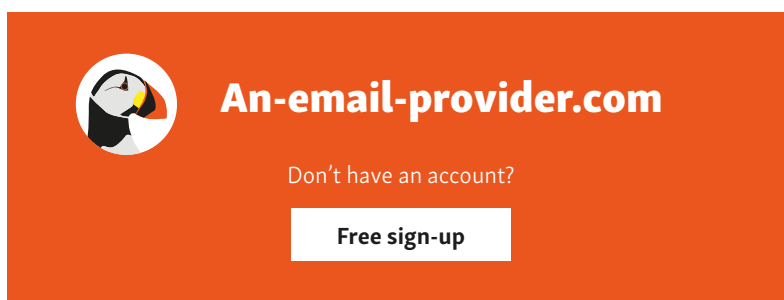
Cuminestown  
Aberdeenshire  
Panda-pops

If you've created your BBC ID while setting up your Weather Watchers account you'll be taken to the Weather Watchers homepage and you can click 'Get started' to become a Weather Watcher.

# Getting onto email

Having an email address is a great idea because it lets you sign up for many other websites and services as well as your BBC ID and Weather Watchers. You can receive personalised newsletters about your hobbies and interests, keep in touch with friends and family around the world, and create accounts for online banking and shopping.

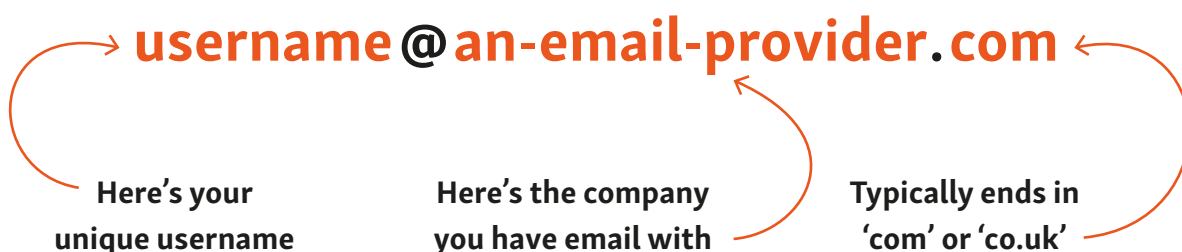
It's easy to get a free email address from any one of a range of providers. There are lots to choose from, so you may want to ask a friend or family member which one they use and choose the same. Popular providers include Google, Yahoo!, Apple and Microsoft.



When you get to the email provider's site that you decide you will need to click on 'sign up' and then you will need to choose a unique username and password. You will probably then have to fill in a few more details and then you will be set up with an email address!

A screenshot of a sign-up form on a grey background. The first section is titled 'Choose your username' and contains a text input field with the placeholder text '@an-email-provider.com'. The second section is titled 'Create a password' and contains an empty text input field.

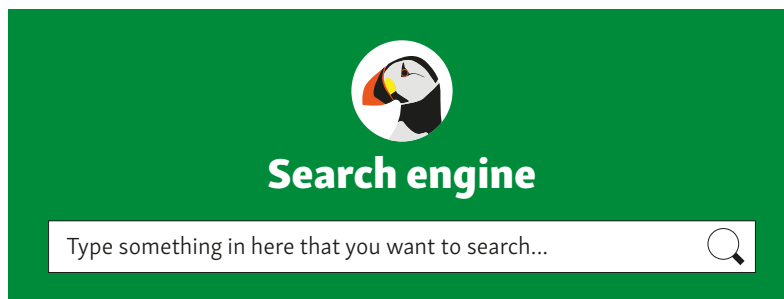
You can use your email to send and receive emails. Before people can send you messages they need to know your email address. It has different parts, a bit like a postal address.



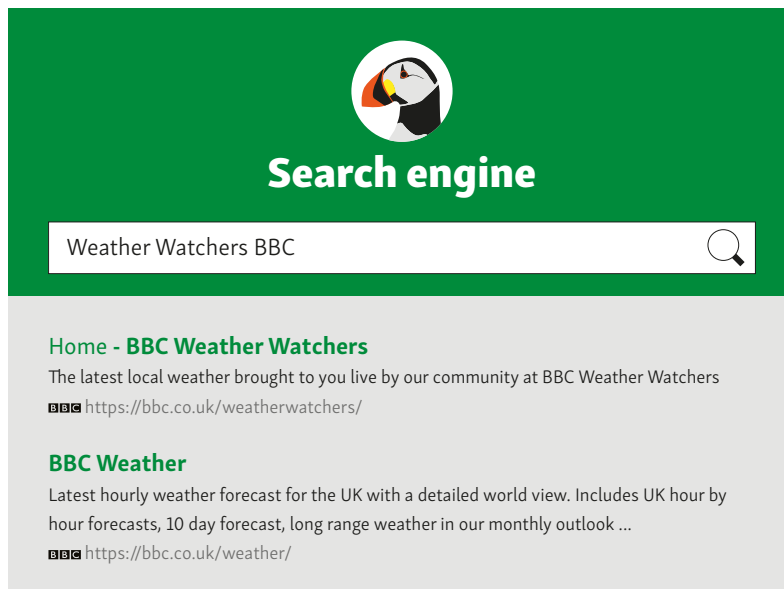
# Finding Weather Watchers online

Weather Watchers is a website run by the BBC, and you use your browser to access it at the address <http://www.bbc.co.uk/weatherwatchers/>

Another way of finding Weather Watchers online is through a search engine. Search engines are websites that help you find other material on the web. They aren't perfect, but they are the best place to start if you are looking for something!



There are lots of search engines including Google, Yahoo!, Bing and Ask. To get to a search engine you need to type the website address in your browser's address bar and then you can use the search box to search what you are looking for.



When you search you type in the words you want to look for. These are sometimes called 'keywords'. The search engine tries to find web pages that match. If you were looking for libraries in your area you might type 'Libraries in Croydon', while if you were looking for Weather Watchers you'd type 'Weather Watchers BBC'.

Most searches produce large numbers of results, with the most relevant at the top, and you will generally find what you are looking for on the first page. If you don't find it, it's worth trying a different set of keywords.

# Some words to know

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## **Device**

A piece of electronic equipment, like a mobile phone, tablet or computer.

## **Crowdfsource**

Asking lots of people to provide information for a project, usually using the internet. Sometimes used to refer to online fundraising.

## **Geolocation**

A way to find out where a device is, usually using the built-in 'Global Positioning System' (GPS).

## **Upload**

Copying information like a picture from one computer to another.

## **Website**

A collection of pages about one topic or from one organisation, viewable in a browser.

## **Homepage**

The starting screen of a website like Weather Watchers. The place most users expect to begin.

## **Address book**

Part of your email software where you store details of your friends' and contacts' e-mail addresses so you don't have to remember them.

## **Browser**

A program that allows you to view files (including web pages, PDFs, images, video and audio) over the internet. Examples include Edge, Chrome and Firefox.

## **Email**

A way of sending messages (usually in the form of text, with other files in attachments) electronically, from one person to another.

## **Favourites/Bookmarks**

A web link that you have saved to your browser so you can easily access the page without having to type in the whole address or use a search engine.

## **Search Engine**

A website that lets you search other websites for information.

## **Inbox**

The electronic folder where your incoming email is held.

## **Cookies**

Information stored by your browser to allow websites to remember who you are and your preferences.

## **Preferences**

Your chosen options for a particular website. Can include types of news story, colours, your login details etc.



Produced by BBC Make it Digital for BBC Weather Watchers

Edited by Olivia Lockyer

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With special thanks to our Weather Watchers for the brilliant photos