

Google was founded in the United States in 1998 by Stanford University PhD students Larry Page and Sergey Brin. The company's name originates from the misspelling of the word googol, which is "1" followed by 100 zeroes – a reference to how the search engine was intended to provide large quantities of information.

The Straits Times looks at how the company has grown

Google

GROWTH OF A GIANT

GREAT SINGAPORE MOMENTS CAPTURED ON GOOGLE DOODLE



National Day
Aug 9, 2009

Singapore's first doodle features its favourite mascot, the Merlion.



National Day
Aug 9, 2013

Google replaces its text logo with a series of illustrated shophouses.



Zubir Said's 107th birthday
July 22, 2014

This doodle honours the composer behind Majulah Singapura, Singapore's national anthem.



Doodle 4 Google
Aug 9, 2015

Kids are invited to create Doodles with the theme "Singapore, the next 50 years". This is part of Singapore's golden jubilee celebrations to fete 50 years of independence.



Singapore Elections
Sept 11, 2015

Singaporeans go to the polls. The elections are held in the 50th year of the country's independence.

SEPT 27, 1998

Google considers this its official birthday. This is also the year that Google.com is made available in Singapore.

JUNE 2000

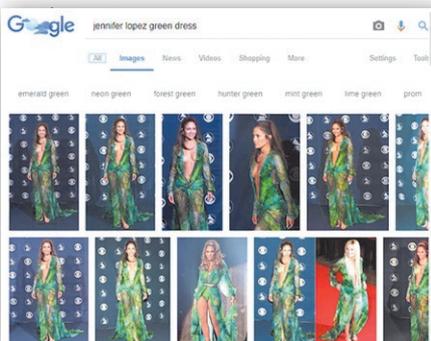
Google's search index reaches one billion pages.

OCTOBER 2000

Google AdWords is launched to make it easier for companies to connect with consumers searching online for their products and services.

JULY 2001

About 250 million images are made available under Image Search for Google.



The inspiration for Image Search came from the 2000 Grammy Awards, where Jennifer Lopez appeared in a much-talked-about green dress that could not be shown in Search at the time.

2002

The domain google.com.sg is registered in Singapore to make it easier for users here to access Google Search. Google News, a news aggregator, is launched in the US.

DECEMBER 2003

Google Print, which is now known as Google Book Search, is made available. This function indexes small excerpts from books to appear in search results.

MAY 2007

Google announces Universal Search, which integrates videos, news, books, images and local results on the search results page.

MAY 2009

Google's Search Options is launched, allowing users to zoom in on results.



SEPTEMBER 2010

Searches become quicker after Google Instant is introduced. This function takes what users have typed already and predicts what they are searching for. It streams results in real time for these predictions too.

2011

Google News launches in Singapore with 4,000 news sources.



JUNE 2011

Searching on desktop goes multimedia, with Google allowing users to search with their voices and by image. These functions were previously available only on mobile devices in 2008 and 2009 respectively.

OCTOBER 2011

Emergency Public Alerts, a platform for disseminating emergency messages, is launched.

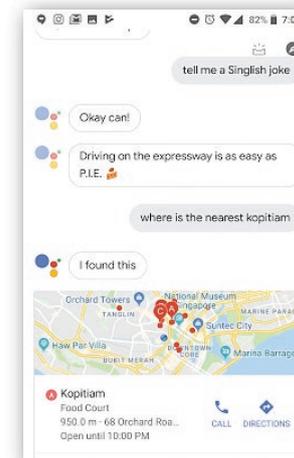
MAY 2016

Google Assistant, which uses artificial intelligence to help users get things done across their devices, is made available.



NOVEMBER 2017

Google Assistant in Singaporean English is launched, improving voice recognition and providing locally relevant information to users.



AUGUST 2018

Job-hunting platform Google for Jobs is released.

MORE THAN A SEARCH ENGINE

To play a game, simply type the words "Atari Breakout" on Google Search



To relax, explore galaxies millions of light years from Earth with Google Sky



Set a timer or alarm when you Google any amount of time, followed by "timer"

