Accessing Blocked Websites with Alkasir

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[Alkasir](#) is a free program **used to circumvent the censorship of URLs.** It has been primarily used in the Middle East and is sponsored by [Mideast Youth](#) and [YemenPortal.net](#). Alkasir can be used to access content (websites, blogs, forum discussions, etc.) that may be blocked by the government due to its political nature. Unlike other circumvention programs, **alkasir only allows the circumvention of certain content based on their [policies](#)**.

Alkasir is only activated when you browse blocked websites; other websites that are not blocked are accessed directly through ISP connection. Alkasir also tracks the censorship of reported URLs by periodically checking to see if reported sites are still blocked; it uses this to measure internet filtering.
Disclaimer! The use of any circumvention technology carries some risk. No method guarantees complete anonymity, and evidence of downloaded software could land you in trouble in certain countries.

Note: alkasir is only available for PCs running Windows XP and higher.

Step 1.

Point your browser to https://alkasir.com. First, you have the option of registering with alkasir. All you need to provide is a username and an e-mail address. An e-mail will be sent to you with password information.

Tip!

If anonymity is an issue, protect yourself by using a tool like Tor and creating an anonymous e-mail address. Use that address to sign up. [See our guide to anonymous blogging.](#)

Tip!

Is the alkasir website blocked in your country? E-mail get@alkasir.com to request the installation file as an attachment along with instructions on how to have alkasir successfully installed on your computer.

Tip!

Check out alkasir's [cyber-censorship map](#) that automatically plots censored websites based on the data collected from the alkasir database. You can filter results on the map by genre of blocked URLs (for example, news and opinions or social networks). This can help you to s**ee what URLs are blocked in your country that are on alkasir's approved list to access**.

Step 2.

Click on the "Download" tab at the top of the home page. There are different versions of the alkasir software to download depending on your operating system and programs. [Check the software requirements](#) to make sure you download and install the version appropriate for your browser.

Tip!

If you do not want to install the software on your computer or are using a shared computer, you can [download the USB version](#) of alkasir. This USB version has its own browser built on Mozilla's Gecko browsing engine.

Step 3.

After installing alkasir and launching the software for the first time, you will see a prompt where you should select your country and your interface language (either English or Arabic). Then click "OK."

Step 4.

You will then be prompted to configure your browser's proxy settings. This is necessary for alkasir to work properly. You can choose automatic proxy setup, manual proxy setup, or use alkasir's built-in internal browser.

Which type of setup should you choose?

If you choose automatic, all browsers you have open will shut down and restart. A prompt will tell you that the proxy settings have changed.

If you al ready have your own proxy settings, select manual. You will then see a clear set of instructions to configure the proxy. Alkasir's browser is customized to identify blocked URLs. It automatically uses the appropriate proxy settings to circumvent censorship for sites that are verified to be blocked. Learn more about the specifics of alkasir's browser [here](#).

Step 5.

You will also need to configure your settings. On the main interface window, click on "[Option/Circumvention Settings](#)." A pop-up window will appear that will enable you to configure your settings.

Step 6.

On the bottom side of the main interface, you can find details about your connection and your active session. You will see details about your proxy status, number of blocked URLs in your country, your public IP address, your ISP name, your city, your country, the proxy type you are using, and the status of your internet connection.

Step 7.

If you want to **see a list of blocked URLs by your ISP in your country**, go to the main interface window and click on the "List Blocked URLs" link. You will be directed to a page that opens in your default browser that lists any URLs blocked, along with information about when the URL was reported as blocked and what category of URL it belongs to.

Step 8.

Do you want to report a blocked site? Before you report it to alkasir, make sure your internet connection is working properly and you are able to access other nonblocked websites. Try to access the potentially blocked

site at other times of the day to make sure it wasn't down due to maintenance. Also, ensure that the URL is allowed based on alkasir's policy.

If you want to report a blocked site, go to the main interface window and click on "Report Blocked URLs" in the Action Menu. A pop-up box will come up in which you will add the blocked URLs. You can enter more than one URL at a time. Click on the radio button if you wish to be notified of the moderator's decision. Then click "Submit." You must be registered with alkasir to receive e-mail notifications.

You will then need to wait for alkasir to verify the information you have submitted. After the verification process, your browser would display the results of the process.

Tip!

Each blocked website is reported once for it to be considered by alkasir. Upon approval of a site, the person who reported it, plus every other user with that ISP, would be able to bypass censorship and access the website.