IndieAuth

Own your online identity

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"You're here because you know something. What you know you can't explain, but you feel it. You've felt it your entire life, that there's something wrong with the world [wide web]."

— Morpheus, The Matrix
Who am I?

http://facebook.com/aaronpk
http://www.linkedin.com/in/aaronparecki
https://github.com/aaronpk
http://profiles.google.com/aaron.parecki
https://foursquare.com/aaronpk
n/a
http://aaronparecki.com
Who am I?

“Which did I use when I signed up?”
Who am I?

aaronparecki.com
Web Address:

yourdomain.com

Sign In
… but this sounds like OpenID?
OpenID is a step in the right direction.
IndieAuth was designed to be easy for users and easy for developers to start using right away, without the complexities of OpenID.
Takes advantage of existing user behavior:

People already link to other social profiles on their home pages
Separation of authentication code and application logic

(I really did not want to write OAuth code for half a dozen services in the MediaWiki authentication system)
How to set up IndieAuth

1. Link to your profiles on auth provider sites

```html
<h3>My Profiles</h3>
<ul>
  <li><a href="http://twitter.com/aaronpk" rel="me">Twitter</a></li>
  <li><a href="http://github.com/aaronpk" rel="me">Github</a></li>
  <li><a href="http://profiles.google.com/aaron.parecki" rel="me">Google</a></li>
  <li><a href="http://www.flickr.com/people/aaronpk/" rel="me">Flickr</a></li>
</ul>
```
How to set up IndieAuth

2. Ensure your external profiles link back to your domain

```
Email      aaron@parecki.com
URL        http://aaronparecki.com
Company    Geoloqi
Location   Portland, OR
Member Since Aug 07, 2009
```

```
@aaronpk
Co-founder and CTO of @geoloqi. Creating my own reality. Portland, OR - http://aaronparecki.com
```

```
rel="me"
```
How to set up IndieAuth

3. There is no Step Three
How to set up IndieAuth

Web Address:
yourdomain.com

Sign In

Now you can sign in using your domain!
How it works

Create the web sign-in form

```html
<form action="http://indieauth.com/auth" method="get">
  <label>Web Address:</label>
  <input type="text" name="me" placeholder="yourdomain.com" />
  <button type="submit">Sign In</button>
  <input type="hidden" name="redirect_uri" value="http://example.com/auth" />
</form>
```
How it works

The user starts the auth flow

http://indieauth.com/auth
?me=aaronparecki.com
&redirect_uri=http://example.com/auth
How it works

The IndieAuth.com website searches for rel="me" links

• First look for OpenID delegate tags
• Iterate through all recognized rel-me links
  – if a rel-me destination is online, and
  – if the rel-me target links back to the user’s page
  – then begin the OAuth process with the target
How it works

indieauth.com handles OAuth with external services.

Authorize IndieAuth to use your account?

This application will be able to:
- Read Tweets from your timeline.
- See who you follow.

Sign In  Cancel

This application will not be able to:
- Follow new people.
- Update your profile.
- Post Tweets for you.
- Access your direct messages.
- See your Twitter password.
How it works

Twitter OAuth completed at indieauth.com

Now identity is verified, finish IndieAuth flow
How it works

IndieAuth redirects the visitor back to your redirect URI with a token in the query string

http://example.com/auth

?token=gk7n4opsyuUxhvF4
How it works

Verify the token with indieauth.com

GET http://indieauth.com/session
  ?token=gk7n4opsyuUxhvF4

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Type: application/json; charset=UTF-8
{
  "me": "http://aaronparecki.com/"
}
Summary

User visits indieauth.com/auth?me=aaronparecki.com &redirect_uri=example.com/auth

User is verified at their authentication provider of choice

User is redirected back to your site example.com/auth?token=gk7n4opsyuUxhvF4

Your site verifies token with indieauth.com

GET http://indieauth.com/session
  ?token=gk7n4opsyuUxhvF4

Verified response

```json
{
  "me":"http://aaronparecki.com/
}
```
Summary

**IndieAuth**

User visits indieauth.com/auth?me=aaronparecki.com &redirect_uri=example.com/auth

**RelMeAuth**

User is verified at their authentication provider of choice

User is redirected back to your site example.com/auth?token=gk7n4opsyuUxhvF4

**IndieAuth**

Your site verifies token with indieauth.com

GET http://indieauth.com/session?token=gk7n4opsyuUxhvF4

Verified response

```
{
  "me":"http://aaronparecki.com/
}
```
FAQ

How does it choose which provider to use?

The authentication mechanism is chosen as the first of the following:

• An OpenID delegate tag
• The first verified online recognized OAuth provider
FAQ

For example:

Today, it may use Twitter.com

Tomorrow, if Twitter is down, it may use Github

In all cases, I end up signing in as aaronparecki.com regardless of the authentication provider I used
FAQ

What if indieauth.com goes down?

Run it on your own server!

Run the code on a subdomain of your own server, i.e. auth.example.com

or integrate the logic into your application
I can only show you the door, you have to walk through it.
This is awesome. Where can I learn more?

IndieWebCamp!  Sat & Sun – Come build cool things!

IndieWebCamp is a 2-day dev camp focused on growing the independent web.

Own your data.
Rather than posting content on third-party silos of content, we should all own the content we’re creating. Publish on your own domain, and syndicate out to silos.

IndieWebCamp is an annual gathering of web creators building and sharing open web technologies to empower users to own their own identities & content on the web, and advance the state of the indie web. See the longer description.

When
The second annual IndieWebCamp is June 30 through July 1, 2012, immediately after Open Source Bridge 2012. Save the dates!

Sign in with your domain

IndieWebCamp.com

Indie Web Camp 2011 by @aaronski

indiewebcamp.com
Thank You.

IndieAuth: Own your online identity

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