Bot Surfer FAQ Sheet Guide

This is info that you can refer to that answers some common questions that Bot Surfer users have asked about.

I want to share them with you as quick solutions in case you need them.

Let's get right into it...

Q1.Why isn't Bot Surfer searching?

A. There are 6 possible reasons for this - most all are easily resolved:

1. When putting 2 keywords into Bot Surfer, make sure you separate them with a comma "," (without the quotes). e.g. Keyword1,Keyword2 - if not, Bot Surfer won't search.

2. The keyword(s) you used simply did not pull-in results and Bot Surfer is either still searching or done searching and you may think it did nothing. Solution: Try other keywords to refine your search. Tip: Always watch the bottom left corner of the Bot Surfer browser screen to view which forum is being currently searched from your forum URLs list.

Bot Surfer searches in consecutive order as to how the URL addresses are placed in the numbered lineup. Note: If a forum is not pulling results quick enough, just move on to the next forum URL in your lineup by clicking the NEXT button. Make sure you are calibrating Bot Surfer to search type 2 forums by checking the right hand column of the Input URL menu window. Bot Surfer willl not search type 2 forum sites without being checked.

Type 1 forum sites should NOT be checked in the right hand column - only Type 2 forums. See the Bot Surfer help file for more detail on the differences between Type 1 (Threaded forums) and Type 2 (Linear forums).

4. You are not using the correct forum site URL that is searchable by Bot Surfer. The main URL of some forum site is not always itself searchable. Many times the main home web page of a forum is like a menu that shows all the different topics of discussion.

This is usually in the Type 2 forums. Bot Surfer will not usually search these Type 2 forum home page URLs as they do not have the specific criteria needed for forum searching available. What you want to do is visit a specific topic page you are interested in at that forum site. Once you are at the page for a specific topic, copy/paste that URL directly into Bot Surfer's >Input URLs section.

This is a searchable forum URL that Bot Surfer will search. Bot Surfer will remember it for you as long as you keep it listed in the Input URLs menu.

5. Occasionally, you may find that Bot Surfer will not search some forum sites at all. The reason for this is the search criteria used for a small percentage of forum sites does not use the search ID information that Bot Surfer requires to sniff out in search queries.

e.g. Some forum sites, have no headline hyperlinks making it impossible for Bot Surfer to decipher the correct information to do a search. This accounts only for a small amount of forum sites as Bot Surfer searches a high percentage of them. However, if you try to search a forum site that Bot Surfer will not search, this is why.

6. You cannot use Bot Surfer on a Mac computer - Sorry Mac users.

Q2. Why won't the Help Files work?

A. Botsurfer needs to be associated with the Botsurfer.chm file by being placed in the same folder/directory. It is a file with a yellow question mark (?) icon in it. Botsurfer.chm is the help file and no matter how you extract Bot Surfer files from the zip file it's downloaded in, the Botsurfer.chm help file must be placed in the same folder/directory as the botsurfer.exe file BOTH together. Then the help file will work...

You can even click on the Botsurfer.chm help file directly and it will open perfectly. But it's best to have it associated in the same folder/directory so you can have access to the help files through Bot Surfer... The same goes for the optional brander tool help file. It's Brander.chm file needs to be associated with the Brander.exe the same

way for it's help files to work. (More on the optional Bot Surfer Brander Tool below)

Also, I have posted the help files up at the following URLs. This is so anyone can view the help files online if necessary.

http://www.botsurfer.com/bot-helpfile/bot-surfer-helpfile.htm

http://www.botsurfer.com/bot-helpfile/brander-helpfile.htm

Q3. Which files can I distribute with my Giveaway Rights?

A. The very same bot-surfer1-0.zip file that you downloaded is what you can distribute. *However*, if you have the optional Bot Surfer Brander Tool, then you MUST select the files after rebranding and repackage them into another zip file for distribution. (See below for more details on the brander tool and which files can be distributed with Giveaway rights using a branded version).

For Branding License Owners:

Q4. Why can't I brand Bot Surfer but instead get an I/0 error?

A. You have to make sure you DON"T have BotSurfer.exe open while you are branding it.

The Brander.exe can only 'brand' the main BotSurfer.exe app when it is NOT open. If you try to, that's when you'll get the I/0 error. But you can easily make it go away simply by closing out the Botsurfer.exe.

Then, when you open Botsurfer.exe (after branding) your branded links will show just fine.

What happens is sometimes we forget Bot Surfer is open while branding.

This will take care of the Brander Tool 1/0 error.

Here are some other tips...

* Keep the brander.exe OPEN until you are satisfied with
your branded version of Botsurfer.exe. This way you don't
have to re-set all of your branding links again like you
will if you close it - but then need to re-open it again to
rebrand.

* You MUST have the Brander.exe and the Botsurfer.exe in the
same folder/directory or you will not be able to brand
Botsurfer.exe. A good idea is to keep all of your Bot Surfer
related files that you download in the same folder/directory
on your hard drive. This way... all associations will take
place - help files and branding, etc.

Then just place a shortcut icon of Botsurfer.exe right on
your desktop and the Help files will be accessible too. When
ever you want to rebrand Botsurfer.exe with the Brander.exe,
just go back to the main folder where you have all of your
Bot Surfer related files and do your branding from there.

* You can rebrand Bot Surfer re-writing over it unlimited
times.

NOTE: Your must NEVER give away the optional Brander Tool as
it is licensed to ONLY you when you purchase it. You CAN
give away YOUR branded the version of the main Botsurfer.exe
search tool. Here is a list of all files that need to go
with your repackaged zip that you can have your recipients
download with your Giveaway Rights...

* Botsurfer.exe (Your branded version)
* Botsurfer.chm (help file)
* Readme 1st.txt (gives initial Bot Surfer instructions)
* Forums URL List.txt
* WILD CARD List.txt
* fmebook.exe (this is a bonus great companion to Bot Surfer)
* readme-fm.txt (forum ebook read me)
* Landing Page info.zip (pre-written Bot Surfer webpage)

Zip up these files and you can distribute your own version
of Bot Surfer.

For anyone who does not have the optional Bot Surfer Brander
Tool, but would like to know how to get it, just open up
your copy of Bot Surfer and then click on ABOUT in the menu.

The active link in there is coded to take you to a web page that will allow you to upgrade to get the optional brander tool. With the Bot Surfer Brander Tool, you can begin using Bot Surfer's maximum viral marketing strategies right away!

So, just follow this Bot Surfer FAQ Sheet Guide and also consult the Help Files... then you will get the most out of using Bot Surfer.

Wishing you Bot Surfer Success!

Michael Nicholas,
Internet Author, Publisher and Software Developer.