

URL: <https://stvp.stanford.edu/blog/videos/google-history>

Larry Page and co-founder Sergey Brin started Google while at Stanford working on their PhD's. When the company grew too big to be run from their dorm rooms, the founders made a pitch to a computer science professor who wrote them a \$100,000 check on the spot. As of 2002, it is a company of almost 400 people, it handles over 1500 million searches a day, and it has been profitable for over a year.



Transcript

So I knew you guys would ask me about Google.. So I will try to give you a very quick summary here.. In fact we started at Stanford.. Sergei and I started working on Google in 1995 as grad students; his PhD is in Computer Science.. That was our dorm stage.. We eventually had so many people using Google that we had to commercialize it.. And one day on a porch in Palo Alto, David Cheriton's fax number here and Andy Bechtolsheim we had a meeting with them and they said, "Oh yeah, we should invest in this." and in fact David Cheriton wrote us a \$100,000 check made out to Google.. At the time we had no company at all and in fact we couldn't cash the check.. Despite of it with no legal documents and none of that stuff and it's quite an event and eventually we then got incorporated, we eventually moved in to half of someone's house and we had a garage and we eventually then moved in to Palo Alto and we kept growing all the while, traffic was growing and so on and finally moved in to a big corporate park in Mountain View where we are now with I say almost 400 people.. Google's been profitable for over a year..

We are sort of unique in having lots and lots of PhD's in Computer Science and other really high level technical people.. That's how we do the innovation that we do; Over a 150 million searches a day.. This is a graph of all of our traffic and where it comes from.. This is like a five-minute period.. Actually the interesting thing is that if you have a satellite picture of the earth at night it shows where all the lights are and it corresponds almost exactly to anywhere there is lights there are people using Google...