

## Rocketon – Takes Avatars and Chat Everywhere You Go On the Web

By KerryJ of Kerryj's Blog - Oct 23, 2008

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In researching a presentation on virtual worlds I'll be giving at [EDayz](#) in a few weeks, I came across a tweet about a blog post from Gary Hayes called [Inching Towards the live Web 3.0 - Layered Social Virtual Worlds](#).

In the article, he demos some avatars (virtual representations of real people) that inhabit not a virtual world — but your browser.

One of the options involved pre-recorded videos of people standing in front of a chroma key background (blue or green can be made invisible, so objects in front of these colours can be background-free). It was reasonably eyecatching, but what went beyond eye candy for me was the browser plug-in available from rocketon.

What this does when activated is layer an avatar and chat tool over any web site you happen to be visiting. If another person has the plug-in - they can walk their avatar over to yours and have a text chat.



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I see such potential for this tool — imagine web tours freed up from overheads and online conferencing tools. Have your participants install this tool and have some fun while you train.

For younger learners — what a great way to lead them on a facilitated web quest!

The software is very simple to install and use — unlike Exit Reality where I found it slowed down my browsing and that web sites had to be purpose built to have it make any sense — the Rocket-on plug in was a snap to figure out and use.

It's in Beta right now — so results may vary — but I've given it a quick test drive in both IE and Firefox and not had too many issues (clicking can take a few minutes to get a handle on).

If you'd like to have a play with it — let's get together online. Download the plug in from the [Rocket On](#) site and meet me at this blog post tomorrow (Friday, 24 October, 4pm Australian Central Time ([click here for the time in your part of the country/world](#))).

My avatar's name is KerryJ.

Here is a video from the people behind Rocketon from YouTube:

<http://au.youtube.com/watch?v=I7JylebkCfc>