# Elon Musk expands access to AI chatbot Grok on X platform



Elon Musk has recently expanded access to his AI chatbot, Grok, which is now available to all users on the social media platform X, previously known as Twitter. This rollout marks a significant shift from its prior limitation where only those holding an X Premium subscription, which costs between £3 to £17 monthly, had access. Users can now experiment with what has been described as an “uncensored” version of Grok, allowing more freedom in the applications of AI without the typical guardrails put in place by competing AI products.

The introduction of Grok 2 brings enhanced features such as improved instruction-following capabilities and support for multiple languages, making it more inclusive to a global audience. Notably, Grok now incorporates web search and citation functions, enabling users to pull data from both the platform and the wider internet. This capability allows for the verification of information, with Grok providing direct citations alongside its responses.

The platform is generating significant attention for its minimal restrictions compared to competitors like Google Gemini and ChatGPT. Users can generate images featuring copyright-protected characters, which could lead to potential copyright infringements. Early examples shared on X have shown Grok creating highly realistic images of US political figures, celebrities, and even fictional characters engaged in unusual or controversial scenarios. This has prompted a wave of creativity among users, resulting in various images depicting well-known figures, including Donald Trump and Taylor Swift, in unexpected contexts.

Critiques are emerging regarding the lack of safeguards in Grok’s image generation capabilities, as it has been observed to produce images that could infringe on copyrights belonging to entities like The Walt Disney Company and Nintendo. Daniel Card, a fellow of BCS, the Chartered Institute for IT, highlighted the potential for misinformation and disinformation proliferating on the platform due to Grok’s unregulated nature, calling it a “societal crisis.” He noted the pressing need for regulators and tech innovators to address these challenges before misinformation spreads widely.

In addition to these capabilities, the X team has introduced features aimed at further integrating Grok into the social platform. A new "Draw Me" feature enables users to generate personalized illustrations based on their profile information, and suggestive prompts for real-time searches are being implemented across users' feeds. These updates are designed to make it easier for users to engage with trending discussions and enhance their overall experience on the platform.

Elon Musk appears enthusiastic about Grok's capabilities, referring to it as "the most fun AI in the world" in a recent post on X. However, his history of caution regarding AI technologies is juxtaposed with his current promotion of Grok. Earlier this year, he articulated various concerns during an AI Safety Summit, citing the potential risks of AI advancements.

In relation to user data privacy, X has committed to not training its AI systems, including Grok, with personal data from users in the European Union without consent. This decision follows scrutiny from the Data Protection Commission in Ireland, confirming the importance of safeguarding user rights and transparency in data usage.

As Grok becomes more widely available, its implications for various industries, business practices, and creative processes remain to be fully realised. The release signals a new chapter in AI development, raising questions about the balance between innovation and regulatory oversight in the rapidly evolving technological landscape.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.business-standard.com/technology/tech-news/elon-musk-opens-grok-ai-access-to-all-on-x-what-it-is-and-how-it-works-124120900747_1.html> - This article supports the claim that Elon Musk's AI chatbot, Grok, is now available to all users on X, including those without a subscription, and provides details about its capabilities.
* <https://builtin.com/articles/grok> - This article explains Grok's features, including its ability to access real-time information through X and its willingness to answer provocative questions, positioning it as a competitor to ChatGPT.
* <https://www.pymnts.com/artificial-intelligence-2/2024/musk-offers-free-access-to-grok-2-ai-chatbot-to-x-users/> - This article discusses the rollout of Grok-2, highlighting its improved features such as enhanced instruction-following and multilingual support, and mentions its availability to all X users.
* <https://www.noahwire.com> - This is the source article itself, providing an overview of Grok's capabilities and implications.
* <https://www.bcs.org/> - This is the website of BCS, the Chartered Institute for IT, which is relevant to Daniel Card's comments on the societal implications of Grok.
* <https://www.dataprotection.ie/> - This is the website of the Data Protection Commission in Ireland, which is relevant to the discussion on user data privacy and consent in the EU.
* <https://www.x.com/> - This is the website of X (formerly Twitter), where Grok is integrated and available for users.
* <https://www.openai.com/> - This is the website of OpenAI, which developed ChatGPT and is relevant to the comparison with Grok.
* <https://www.disney.com/> - This is the website of The Walt Disney Company, which is mentioned as a potential copyright holder affected by Grok's image generation capabilities.