



# Features

SmartCal provides a very rich set of features, supporting both web and wireless clients. These features are carefully integrated to provide a much larger array of functionality and services.

SmartCal supports “cobranded” installations and seamless integration with a partner’s web and wireless services. Almost all of the features of SmartCal are optional to fine-tune the user experience on a per site basis.

The following describes the main features of the SmartCal product:

## Personal Calendar

Easy to use, personal calendar system. Information can be added on the web and retrieved using any web enabled device (cell phone, kiosk, pager, etc).

## SmartCal RSVP

Tracks who has responded and what their response was (Yes, No or Maybe) along with any comments they have. SmartCal automatically generates follow-up email lists according to how invitees responded, enabling rapid follow-up.

## Automatic Contact List

Every time a user invites a person to an event, that email address is automatically added to their contact list for easy retrieval next time.

## Events Directory

Browse a directory of events happening around the country (arts, sports, business, politics, etc.). Event listings can be added to personal calendar and are then automatically updated.

## Search Engine

The powerful SmartCal event engine offers search by date, keyword and geography. The search engine also respects access permissions for private, public, or group calendars.

**Technical Highlight:** Most online calendars have, at best, rudimentary search capabilities. SmartCal has already implemented the third generation of its search subsystem with even more features and better performance than its predecessors.

## Event Feeds

Commercial event feeds such as SportsTicker and Hollywood.com are automatically loaded and categorized to provide up to date schedules and game reports of professional sports.

**Technical Highlight:** Compare SmartCal's event feeds with those seen on other sites. Most sites load the schedules when the season starts and leave it at that. SmartCal implements *live* feeds that automatically update events as changes occur and add new events to record game summaries and playoff matches.

## Event Reminders

Get a reminder of any event sent to your cell phone or email account.

## Group Scheduling System

Integration with RSVP enables members of the group to monitor who in the group is going to which events. Any group can create a private group calendar. Customize it with logo and color scheme. Group calendars can be subscribed into personal calendars such that members can track the group schedule in their own personal calendars.

**Technical Highlight:** SmartCal has a proper subscription model for implementing what is sometimes called *calendar layering*. Unlike other systems which simply copy events between calendars to simulate subscriptions, SmartCal maintains just one copy of each event and uses a sophisticated algorithm to determine which events should appear on a given calendar when its subscriptions are taken into account. In spite of this, SmartCal is still one of the fastest online calendars.

## Subscription

Subscribe to live event feeds that update personal calendars automatically (e.g. sports, concerts, groups). Add events from other user's calendars.

## Dynamic Updating

Any changes made by the event's author in the event details, location, time, etc. are updated automatically in any personal calendar subscribed to those events.

<p><b>Recurring Events</b></p>	<p>Quickly schedule weekly meetings, monthly events, birthdays or any other event that occurs on a regular basis.</p> <p><b>Technical Highlight:</b> Some calendars just make copies of events to make them recur through a range of dates (e.g. a weekly meeting). SmartCal keeps just one copy of an event and does the calculations necessary to show the correct instances of the event to the user. The practical outcome of this is that SmartCal handles repeating events over any span of time, even from 01-JAN-0001 to 31-DEC-9999. Try that on any other calendar!</p>
<p><b>Daily Schedule</b></p>	<p>Automatic notification of important events. Option to receive a copy of any schedule by email daily, weekly and/or monthly.</p>
<p><b>Sharing</b></p>	<p>Members can invite anyone else to share access to their calendar.</p> <p><b>Technical Highlight:</b> To ensure that user's information is private until they want others to see it, SmartCal implements a security model which protects data much in the same way a modern multi-user operating system does. Calendar owners can grant different privileges to different individuals making it easy to, for example, create group access that allows a large number of people to view events, contacts, notes, etc while only permitting a subset to modify anything. The interactions between the security model and the subscription model provide an interesting technical challenge. Consider, for instance, what happens when someone subscribes to a calendar that is in turn subscribed to another calendar to which they do not have viewing rights - SmartCal always gives the right answer!</p>
<p><b>Multiple Personal Calendars</b></p>	<p>Users can create additional calendars to share with others, or to track different types of events or schedules. For example, sporting events, party schedules, and work schedules can be put on separate calendars.</p>
<p><b>Display Customization</b></p>	<p>Users can choose from several color schemes, include a GIF image, select time zone, daylight saving time adjustment, and a default view.</p>
<p><b>Tasks</b></p>	<p>Enables the tracking of tasks.</p>
<p><b>Links</b></p>	<p>Enables users to store web URLs online.</p>
<p><b>Notes</b></p>	<p>Users can store notes online.</p>

### Add To Web Page

With just a few quick clicks, anyone can add a fully shared calendar system to any web site.

**Technical Highlight:** A unique feature of SmartCal is the ability to display a calendar in another web page. This gives users a greater feeling of ownership and increases return visits to the host site. Of course, SmartCal implements this taking into account its advanced security model so private data is protected at all times.

### Internationalization and Localization

Support for multiple languages, date formats, timezones, daylight saving time rules, and other locale specific parameters.

### Y9K Compliant

Supports any date from 1/01/0001 to 12/31/9999.

**Technical Highlight:** Most calendar systems limit the user to a span of dates one year in the past to 5 years in the future. For many purposes this is adequate but is an indication that the underlying implementation is less robust. SmartCal's support for a wide range of dates not only shows the solidity of its internal design, it makes certain unusual historical applications of calendars possible that would not have been thought of in a more restricted system.