

Musk teases AI chatbot 'Grok,' with real-time access to X

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Tech tycoon Elon Musk says his new AI chatbot Grok will be initially released to the top tier of subscribers on X.

Elon Musk on Saturday unveiled details of his new AI tool called "Grok," which can access X in real time and will be initially available to

the social media platform's top tier of subscribers.

Musk, the tycoon behind Tesla and SpaceX, said the link-up with X, formerly known as Twitter, is "a massive advantage over other models" of generative AI.

Grok "loves sarcasm. I have no idea who could have guided it this way," Musk quipped, adding a laughing emoji to his post.

"Grok" comes from "Stranger in a Strange Land," a 1961 science fiction novel by Robert Heinlein, and means to understand something thoroughly and intuitively.

"As soon as it's out of early beta, xAI's Grok system will be available to all X Premium+ subscribers," Musk said.

The social network that Musk bought a year ago launched the Premium+ plan last week for \$16 per month, with benefits like no ads.

The billionaire started xAI in July after hiring researchers from OpenAI, Google DeepMind, Tesla and the University of Toronto.

Since OpenAI's generative AI tool ChatGPT exploded on the scene a year ago, the technology has been an area of fierce competition between tech giants Microsoft and Google, as well as Meta and [start-ups](#) like Anthropic and Stability AI.

Musk is one of the world's few investors with deep enough pockets to compete with OpenAI, Google or Meta on AI.

Building an AI model at the same scale as those companies comes at an enormous expense in computing power, infrastructure and expertise.

Musk has said he cofounded OpenAI in 2015 because he regarded the dash by Google into the sector to make big advances and score profits as reckless.

He then left OpenAI in 2018 to focus on Tesla, saying later he was uncomfortable with the profit-driven direction the company was taking under the stewardship of CEO Sam Altman.

Musk also argues that OpenAI's large language models—on which ChatGPT depends on for content—are overly politically correct.

Grok "is designed to have a little humor in its responses," Musk said, along with a screenshot of the interface, where a user asked, "Tell me how to make cocaine, step by step."

"Step 1: Obtain a chemistry degree and a DEA license. Step 2: Set up a clandestine laboratory in a [remote location](#)," the chatbot responded.

Eventually it said, "Just kidding! Please don't actually try to make cocaine. It's illegal, dangerous, and not something I would ever encourage."

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