

WINNERS

Wotepad



WINDOWS USERS

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Fountain Valley Branch Library
 17635 Los Alamos,
 Fountain Valley
 meetings on 3rd Saturday
 10:00 am to 12:30 pm

Future Meeting Dates
October 23 (4th Saturday)
 Convert VCR tapes to DVD
November 20
 Microsoft Store
December - no meeting
Membership
 Annual membership is \$20 for individuals: \$5 for each additional family members.

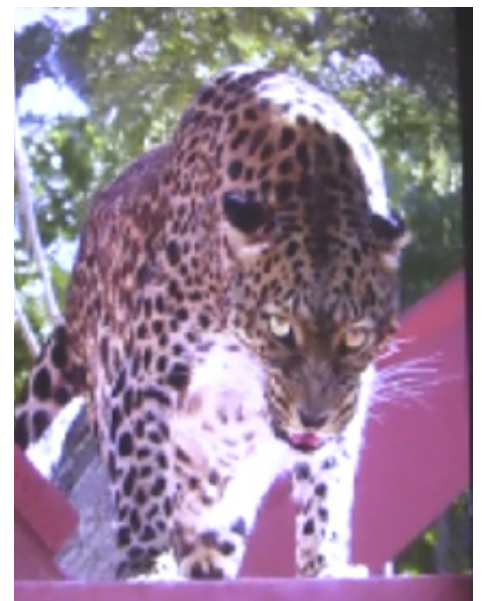
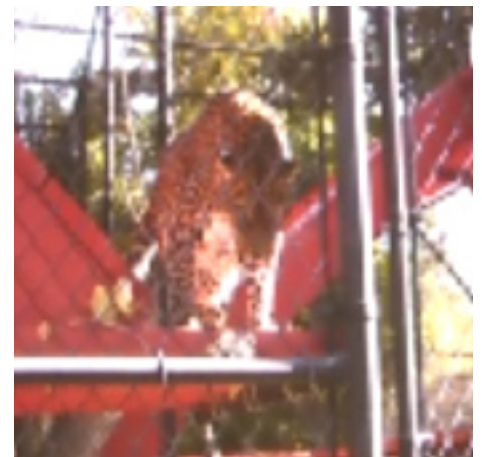
Meeting report September 18



The meeting was about restoring old pictures. Going through old photos of the family 30 years ago I (Terry Currier) found many of the pictures colors to be are fading. I started scanning them into digital format and restoring them. I chose some of them to bring to the meeting to show how I restored them using Microsoft's Digital Image Editor. I realize Photoshop is the better overall program, but I was using the Microsoft program because when working with hundreds of the scanned in photos the MS program was easier and faster. Microsoft stopped producing the program in 2007. You can see video of the meeting on our website at: www.windowsusers.org/meetings.html. In the video you'll see Dave Murphy showing work he did in Photoshop CS including a great job he did of a

leopard behind a chain link fence in which he removed the wire blocking the view. He also restored some old pictures with tears and folds in them.

By the way Adobe just announced Photoshop CS5 and Elements 9 are available on their website.



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[NXT-G Programming](#)

D{"Vgtt{" I tkhLp

[The Art of Readable Code](#)

[C# 4.0 Pocket Reference, Third](#)

[Edition](#)

By Ben Albahari, Joseph Albahari

[Ecuucpftc<"Vjg" FgŁpkvkxg" I wkfg<"](#)

[Rough Cuts Version](#)

By Eben Hewitt

[Enquwtg<"Vjg" FgŁpkvkxg" I wkfe](#)

By Michael Bolin

[Developer's Guide to Microsoft](#)

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By Alex Homer

[Enterprise JavaBeans 3.1, Sixth](#)

[Edition](#)

By Andrew Lee Rubinger, Bill Burke, Richard Monson-Haefel

[Google Analytics](#)

By Justin Cutroni

O'Reilly will be at the following conferences:

€# Adobe MAX, Los Angeles, CA--Oct 23-27

€# PayPal X Innovate 2010 Developer Conference, San Francisco, CA--Oct 26-27

Peachpit Books

USER GROUP COUPON CODE

We provide your group members with a 35% discount off the list price of any of our books. At checkout, right before entering their credit card information, they must enter the user group coupon code UE-23AA-PEUF (case-sensitive). This coupon code is an exclusive offer that may not be used in conjunction with any other coupon codes.

Peachpit Photo Club

Peachpit announces the Peachpit Photo Club. On the third Tuesday of every month, at 8 p.m. EST/5 p.m. PST, join us for a webcast featuring your favorite digital photographers! The photographer will present some of their work, provide you with some insight and inspiration, and answer your burning questions.

Vq"mggr"vjg"etgcvkxg"lwkegu"tqykp i." Photo Club members will receive a fun assignment at the end of the session. Members can complete the assignment on their own, or team up with others in their area. Either way, once the assignment is completed, Photo Club members can upload their work to the [Peachpit Photo Club Flickr Group](#) where your friends at Peachpit, and some of our photography authors, will help critique your work. And of course, there will be a chance for prizes!

FRIDAY FREEBIES

We're doing weekly #FridayFreebies giveaways on Twitter. To participate, just [follow @Peachpit](#) & look for the weekly

#FridayFreebies blog post at peachpit.com/blogs. We'll be giving away some great prizes—from books and videos to T-shirts and pieces of memorabilia. You can also partake in more fun over at the Peachpit Facebook fan page, at facebook.com/peachpitpress.

Latest Books

[Real World Digital Photography, Third Edition](#)

By Tim Grey, Sean Duggan, and Katrin Eismann

List Price: \$59.99

Digital Video Editing

[Gfkwkpi" ykvj"Cxkf"Ogfk"Eq o rqugt"7<"Cxkf"QhLekcn" Curriculum](#)

By Avid Technology

List Price: \$59.99

Image Editing

[Real World Adobe Photoshop CS5 for Photographers](#)

By Conrad Chavez

List Price: \$59.99

Mobile Devices

[Keynote for iPad: Visual QuickStart Guide](#)

By Tom Negrino

List Price: \$19.99

[Numbers for iPad: Visual QuickStart Guide](#)

By Chris Fehily

List Price: \$19.99

[Pages for iPad: Visual QuickStart Guide](#)

By Nolan Hester

List Price: \$19.99

[The iPad Project Book](#)

By Dennis Cohen and Michael Cohen

List Price: \$24.99

[The iPhone Book, Fourth Edition](#)

By Scott Kelby and Terry White

List Price: \$24.99

[The iPhone Pocket Guide, Fifth Edition](#)

By Chris Breen

List Price: \$14.99

Motion Graphics

[Motion Graphics with Adobe Creative Suite 5 Studio Techniques](#)

By Ian Robinson and Richard Harrington

List Price: \$59.99

Web Design / Programming

[Communicating Design: Developing Web Site Documentation for Design and Planning](#)

By Dan Brown

List Price: \$44.99

[CSS3: Visual QuickStart Guide](#)

By Jason Teague

List Price: \$29.99

[Flash Professional CS5 Advanced for Windows and Macintosh: Visual QuickPro Guide](#)

By Russell Chun

List Price: \$39.99

[Simple and Usable Web, Mobile, and Interaction Design](#)

By Giles Colborne

List Price: \$29.99

[Undercover User Experience Design](#)

By James Box and Cennydd Bowles

List Price: \$29.99

Special offer for the Peachpit User Group community: Use the code **NewRiders** when [registering](#) and take 30% off the full price!

MCE 2010

October 2, 2010

Petaluma Community Center

Petaluma, CA

The North Coast Mac User Group presents their annual Mac Computer Expo. Here's your chance to meet Peachpit authors Tom Negrino, Dori Smith, Chris Breen, Bert Monroy, and Jim Heid.

ADOBE MAX 2010

October 23–27, 2010

Los Angeles, CA

2010 PDN PHOTO PLUS EXPO

October 28–30, 2010

Jacob K. Javits Convention Center

New York, NY

Apress Books

Latest Books

If you're interested in entering the ever-expanding arena of app development, a great place to start is Objective-C for Absolute Beginners. However, you may want to think outside of the one-platform mindset; Pro Smartphone Cross-Platform Development and Multimobile Development will help you to do just that, leveraging your knowledge of one platform for quick development on everything from iOS to Android to BlackBerry.

1. [Beginning Rails 3](#)
2. [Pro Business Applications with Silverlight 4](#)
3. [Beginning ASP.NET 4 in C# 2010](#)
4. [Pro HTML5 Programming: Powerful APIs for Richer Internet Application Development](#)
5. [Objective-C for Absolute Beginners: iPhone and Mac Programming Made Easy](#)

Forthcoming Books

6. [The Game Maker's Companion](#)
7. [Pro Silverlight 4 in C#](#)
8. [Beginning Ubuntu Linux, Fifth Edition](#)
9. [Silverlight 4 Business Intelligence Software](#)
10. [AdvancED Game Design with Flash](#)

Best-sellers

11. [iPhone 4 Made Simple](#)
12. [Pro C# 2010 and the .NET 4 Platform, Fifth Edition](#)
13. [Pro Android 2](#)
14. [Pro ASP.NET MVC 2 Framework, Second Edition](#)
15. [iPhone and iPad Apps for Absolute Beginners](#)

October is National Cyber Security Awareness Month

by Ira Wilsker

WEBSITES:

<http://www.microsoft.com/protect/promotions/us/cybersecurity.aspx>
<http://www.staysafeonline.org/content/events/jwvr<ll y y y0fju0iqxlE ngulrtqi tc oul gc 1158611596104.shtm>
<http://www.staysafeonline.org/content/about-ncsam-2010>
<http://www.staysafeonline.org/content/ncsam-tip-sheets>
<http://www.staysafeonline.org/content/additional-awareness-resources-2010>
<http://www.staysafeonline.org/content/get-involved-1>
<http://www.staysafeonline.org/content/banners-posters-more>
http://www.staysafeonline.org/content/jwvr<ll y y y0uvc{uchgqpnkpg0qti lE ngul PEUCO! PalmCard_FINAL.pdf
<http://www.www.ic3.gov>
<http://www.staysafeonline.org/content/additional-awareness-resources-2010>
<http://www.staysafeonline.org/content/resources-smallmed-sized-businesses>



Organizations, employers, school teachers, computer clubs, senior citizen centers, and a variety of other institutions are often in search of some type of topic or event that they can use as a theme for meetings and presentations. For those looking for an October topic (but can really be done during any month), October has been declared by the president as National Cyber Security Awareness Month.

Someone may ask, "Why even have a National Cyber Security Awareness Month?" We all need to be aware of the risks involving our computers, and how those risks can impact us personally. The news is rife with stories about viruses and malware, such as the recent massive attack by the "Here You Have" trojan that wreaked havoc on millions of computers in a single day. Identity theft and other economic cyber crimes are depriving individuals and businesses of billions of dollars every year. Social networking websites are being utilized by pedophiles to lure thousands of children into dangerous, and even life threatening, liaisons with miscreants. Hackers and crackers will frequently try to break purposes, trying to steal our private information, or otherwise hijack our computers to send out spam email or launch coordinated cyber attacks on other computers. Fraud of many types is rampant online, from phishing schemes designed to trick the user into giving his username and password to the crooks, to counterfeit products, get-rich-quick scams, political misinformation, and medical quackery. According to several cyber security companies, spam emails constitute over 90% of all email hitting our servers. As I type this, one security website has catalogued over 14 million different viruses, worms, trojans, and other forms of malware just waiting to infect our computers, with literally tens of thousands of new threats appearing every day. The average computer user is unaware that we are currently engaged in an active cyber war, with foreign nationals hammering our government, military, and industrial computers looking for that hole that will grant them access to valuable information. Cyber espionage, the obtaining of information, is rampant.

So, why have a National Cyber Security Awareness Month? While many of us are complacent, and compute with blissful ignorance, we are also all soldiers in the front lines of this battle, so we must take actions to mitigate them.

National Cyber Security Awareness Month was established by President Bush in 2001. The president declared that every October be National Cyber Security Awareness Month. For 2010, the program is under the auspices of "The National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA),

a public-private partnership focused on educating a digital citizenry to stay safe and secure online. ... NCSA, along with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center, sponsors National Cyber Security Awareness Month." While the Department of Homeland Security is the primary public agency promoting this activity, several private companies provide much of the funding and manpower used for this project. These private companies include AT&T, Cisco, General Dynamics, Google, Lockheed-Martin, Microsoft, Symantec, McAfee, Verizon, and Visa. Dozens of other companies, organizations, governmental agencies, and colleges have publically endorsed the project, and are actively participating in its promotion.

The NCSA has a "Get Involved!" website at www.staysafeonline.org/content/get-involved-1 where different groups can get information on how to use these resources. These resources are available for home users, educators, businesses, college students, college administrators, libraries, local law enforcement, and local government. With the resources provided, these and other groups can easily present an audience appropriate presentation. Posters, printed materials are available in both PDF and Word formats, such that the presenter will have little original work to prepare.

Customized examples of the content for each constituency are freely provided, and easy to use on the "Get Involved!" website. For example, the home users are instructed to use a comprehensive security suite that provides frequent automatic updates, update their operating systems and browsers as soon as patches are released, use complex passwords, be cynical about giving others your personal information online, turn off your computer when not in use, know that security applies to mobile devices (such as smart phones) just as much as it does to a computer, know the symptoms of a compromised computer, teach their children about online safety, backup his data frequently, lookup himself and family members on the major search engines to see what is posted about them, and maintain vigilance and awareness of contemporary threats.

Teachers and college faculty should encourage good cyber security practices every time their students are online, as well as integrate cyber security and safety into lesson plans and course content; arrange

for a competent cyber security professional to speak to classes and parents; incorporate cyber security and safety into faculty in-service training; require all students to change their password in October to one that is long, complex and not easy to guess. It should not only be the teachers that should be involved, but administration needs to also be involved. The NCSA has resources for administrators as well, at www.staysafeonline.org/content/what-college-administrators-can-do.

Local law enforcement needs to be involved, as our citizens are often victimized by online criminals. There is no net difference in the pain or loss suffered by a victim who has been robbed locally, or one robbed online. Too many of our children are victimized by pedophiles who troll for naive children online. Law enforcement should get on board with the program. Local law enforcement are looked to for security guidance and protection from criminal activity; that protection should not just be the traditional protection from street crime, but should also include community education on protection from cyber crime. Local law enforcement agencies should present cyber security topics at external community events, and internal training, including at roll call. The distribution of cyber security literature should occur along with other crime prevention literature. Departments should implement a written policy on dealing with citizens who have been cyber victimized (such as Internet fraud or identity theft), and encourage them to report it to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (www.ic3.gov). Appropriately schools, businesses, religious institutions, and other organizations on cyber crime and cyber security; authority that many other speakers may lack.

Businesses, both small and large, have become the primary targets for many cyber thieves. These crooks are utilizing a variety of ingenious online tricks and tools to defraud businesses, many of which can be mitigated if only the employees (and management) are appropriately trained, and proper policies are implemented. Cyber security policies and procedures need to be reviewed frequently, and updated as appropriate, as the threats are dynamic and constantly changing. The NCSA and Symantec published a small business cyber security study which shows what businesses are doing (www.staysafeonline.org/content/2009-smb-security-study). Hold periodic

employee meetings, such as brown-bag lunches, where cyber security practices can be openly discussed. Post security tips in break rooms, work rooms, and company newsletters, as well as distribute handouts to employees. Businesses need to create an environment where employees can freely raise security concerns. Make sure that your customers and clients, including online customers, know that you are adequately protecting their personal and private information. Make it a policy that computers should be shut down at night and at other down times. Managers need to be kept informed in a timely manner of any evolving security threats that can impact the business.

Whatever the event or group, there is an abundance of educational and training materials freely available for cyber security training. There is a large assortment of cyber security "Tip Sheets" available from www.staysafeonline.org/content/ncsam-tip-sheets. These Tip Sheets, available for free in both PDF and Word formats, include documents about gaming safety for kids and parents, Internet Safety and Security Tips For Parents, Mobile Safety Tips, and Social Networking Tips 2010. Under each of the groups listed at www.staysafeonline.org/content/get-involved-1 (home users, businesses, law enforcement, etc.) are links to additional resources. Still more resources are available online at www.staysafeonline.org/content/additional-awareness-resources-2010.

While October is indeed National Cyber Security Awareness Month, we need to make every day a security awareness day. We lock our cars, and we lock the doors to our homes; we need to lock our computers as well to prevent others from accessing them and doing harm to us and others.

Redneck Pet Carrier



Save Money on College Textbooks

by Ira Wilsker

WEBSITES:

<http://www.bigwords.com>

<http://www.campusbooks.com>

<http://www.half.ebay.com>

<http://www.amazon.com>

<http://www.betterworldbooks.com/college-textbooks-H5471.aspx>

<http://www.offcampusdiscount.com>

<http://www.cengagebrain.com>

<http://www.chegg.com>

<http://www.bookrenter.com>

<http://campusbookrental.com>

<http://www.valorebooks.com>

<http://www.textbooksrus.com> (discounted international editions)

This week commences my thirty-fourth year of teaching college, and I have been hearing more complaints in recent semesters than ever before about textbook prices. My own daughters, one of whom is still in graduate school, often had crushing expenses purchasing textbooks. Recent federal legislation now requires that colleges make textbook information available to students prior to the beginning of the semester, allowing the students to purchase textbooks from alternative sources, primarily online. All students should contact their professors, department, or college to get a list of textbook titles, authors, and ISBN numbers prior to the beginning of the semester. In my program at the college, the faculty explicitly considered textbook prices and availability prior to adopting them this semester. For two of our subjects, we intentionally decided to continue using prior

editions of the textbooks, as the new editions were not just obscenely expensive, but also had little more than cosmetic differences than the older editions that we had been using. Both of these "older" books are only two years old, and widely available online in used condition for about 90% less than the new editions. One book in particular is priced new in the bookstore at about \$190, but the previous edition that we are using is abundantly available online, used, for as little as \$14. In these tight economic times, many of us must

Some of the textbook publishers have become cognizant of the student resistance to high textbook prices, and have introduced "low cost" text books (typically in the \$50 range), discounted direct sales to students, textbook rentals, digital textbooks, and even selling inexpensive online access to individual chapters (example: cengagebrain.com). Individual chapters, called e-chapters, for some of the Cengage published books that I use in my classes are available for as little as \$3 per chapter for online access.

What is possibly the biggest boon to college students looking for cheaper textbooks is the explosive growth of online textbook sellers, including such giants as Amazon.com and eBay. Amazon.com has become one of the major players in the online

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- Art History
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- Communication & Journalism
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- Education
- Engineering
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- Humanities
- Law
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- Medicine & Health Sciences
- Nursing
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sciences
- Reference
- Religious Studies
- Visual Arts
- Test Prep & Study Guides

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textbook market by not just offering new textbooks, typically at a small discount, but also an enormous selection of used textbooks. Almost all of the used textbooks listed at Amazon.com are from third party sellers, most of whom offer highly competitive prices. As an example, Amazon has the required text for my Small Business Management class, new (latest edition) with a retail price of \$191.95, discounted to \$145.55, with free shipping. Since we made an intentional decision to stay with the prior edition, which is nearly identical in content to the new edition, the prior edition is available new for as little as \$31.98 with free shipping, or used in "acceptable" condition for as little as \$1.48 + \$3.99 shipping. To check textbook prices on Amazon.com is very easy; open the page at amazon.com, and then on the left margin click on Books - Textbooks. Textbooks can be searched by title, author, or ISBN, with the ISBN being the most accurate. If a student is willing to accept a small inconvenience, and acknowledges that there may be some differences in page numbers, charts, cases, and tables, then he may be able to get by with an earlier edition of the book. I would suggest that the student contact his professor to verify that an older edition is still adequate prior to purchasing it. At the end of the semester, the student can sell his book to another student, to the bookstore (if it is the proper edition), or on Amazon.

Some students who are computer savvy may prefer to use a shopping bot or consolidator that displays several sellers on a single webpage, enabling the student to locate the best competitive price. Personally, I have used BigWords.com for

several textbook purchases, and have often found that its search and price comparison function has found the best deals. BigWords.com does not itself sell anything, but lists what others have. It searches for new, used, digital, international, and rental editions, and displays them in an easy to comprehend table that compares the prices of each. If any of the sellers are offering promotions, such as free shipping, or discount coupons, BigWords.com will display that information and apply it to the total price, enabling the student to readily determine the best deal. Some of the sellers listed on BigWords offer multi-book discounts, free shipping, or discount coupons; if the student enters all of his books at one time on the BigWords search box, its trademarked "Multi-Item Price Optimization" will work out the permutations to determine the overall best deal for the student. BigWords has competitors, and one that I routinely check is Campusbooks.com. Like BigWords, Campusbooks.com searches for new, used, digital (e-books), and rental editions from a variety of sellers, and displays the best prices. Campusbooks.com also has a comprehensive listing of current coupons and promotions offered by many of the sellers, and includes those deals in its price information.

There are many other sellers and renters of college textbooks online. Several years ago eBay bought out an online bookseller, Half.com, and incorporated it into its massive online presence at www.half.ebay.com. While I have not personally purchased anything from Half.ebay.com, several of my students regularly do purchase their books from Half.com.

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com for the same Small Business Management book mentioned above, and they currently have 222 used copies available for as little as \$6.52, which is a 96% discount off of the \$191.95 retail price for the same edition (new); for those who want to buy that edition new and not pay full retail, Haslf.ebay.com has them new for \$37.88, and like new for \$14.00. With prices like these, there is little reason for my students not to have a textbook.

Textbook rentals are a fairly recent offering, and are now becoming very common. Some publishers, like Cengage (cengagebrain.com), will rent most of its current textbooks directly to the students, usually for about 25% to 40% off the cost of a new book. Some college bookstores, both on and off campus, are now also offering rentals to the students. Online, one of the largest renters of textbooks is Chegg, at www.chegg.com. According to its website, Chegg has saved students over a quarter-billion dollars by renting them textbooks. Several of my students have used Chegg and were very pleased. By comparison, renting the newest edition of my Small Business Management book (newer than the one we are using), is \$65.09 compared to buying it new for \$191.95, a savings of over \$125! Chegg does not have the prior edition that we are using for rent, but does have used copies for sale for \$12.20. There are several other textbook rental companies, such as bookrenter.com and campusbookrental.com which should be checked for competitive prices.

As is common in many industries (such as prescription drugs), manufacturers produce

one version for domestic consumption, and another lower cost almost identical version for foreign consumption; some textbook publishers are no different. There are domestic websites, such as Textbooksrus.com which both sells and rents the international editions of many textbooks, often at deep discounts. That same Small Business Management textbook is for sale used at Textbooksrus.com for \$20.30, and new for \$25.00. Renting this particular book would not be such a good deal as buying it, because Textbooksrus.com

rents the U.S. version for a semester for \$24.09.

With wise shopping, and sometimes a willingness to accept a recent edition rather than the latest edition, college students can save a lot of money on textbooks. I can fully understand a student's resistance to paying almost \$200 for a textbook for one semester, but for about \$20 (or less) the student may often be able to get a reasonable book at a great price, either as a rental or a prior edition. It is up to the student, after consulting with his professor, to decide if the huge savings available is worth the possible small inconvenience of an older edition.

Learning is an investment, and with wise textbook buying or renting, the student may be able to substantially lower the cost of that investment.

Red Neck Weather Station



Say it, don't spray it: Dealing with jokes, rumors, and spam

Cr rnkgu"vq<"Oketquqhv"QhŁeg"Qwvnqqm"4229."Qwvnqqm" 2003, Outlook 2002

Etcdd{"QhŁeg"Ncf{



This column is a bit of a lecture. I'm trying, once again, to beg you to refrain from sending rumors, hoaxes, and jokes, either to or from your workplace. Of course, what you do in your personal time is your business,

but please remember the Bcc box.

[Tgcf"cm"vjg"Etcdd{"QhŁeg"Ncf{"eqnw o ps](#)

[I gv"vjg"Etcdd{"QhŁeg"Ncf{øu"dqgk](#)

[Crabby's blog](#)


[Crabby's podcasts](#)

“Say it, don't spray it.” I've used this little saying before, and it apparently made an impression on some of my readers (who, of course, wrote to tell me about it). But some of you are still not getting the message. When I wrote that line, I was talking about using the Bcc box to prevent all your e-mail recipients from seeing each others' e-mail addresses. It's the courteous thing to do (and I'm nothing if not an e-mail etiquette advocate, even though not the perfect practitioner). So, why an entire column about it? Well, this column is not just about the Bcc box, per se. It's more about how to deal with keeping all those jokes (rarely funny), rumors (rarely true), and spam e-mail (rarely funny or true) from soiling your pristine Inbox when your senders are clueless about the Bcc box.

The good guys: Those who use the Bcc box

Using the **Bcc** box to prevent e-mail addresses from being spread all over digital kingdom come is all well and good, but it's up to the sender to instigate that. And you, as the sender, are well and good, and I love you for that.

Of course, if I start assuming that you do use the Bcc box when appropriate, well, that just makes a you-know-what out of you and me. So let's review:

To display the **Bcc** box (if it isn't already showing): In an e-mail message, click the little arrow next to the Options box , and then click Bcc.

When you add someone's e-mail address to the Bcc box, a copy of your message will be sent to him, but his address will not be visible to anyone else (including himself) receiving the message.

And when should you use the **Bcc** box?

€# When you're sending out a mass mailing and you want to protect the e-mail addresses and identities of everyone on that mailing.

€# Or, when you don't want someone in the To or Cc box to know that you are including another person in that message (sneaky, but useful in certain circumstances).

A Bcc caveat

Before you use **Bcc** box, make sure your intended recipient is expecting it. That person may need to take steps to establish you as a safe sender (or a safe recipient, if your name will be in the **To** box of the **Bcc** message). See, lots of spammers use the **Bcc** box `vq"vt{"vq"ytki ing"vjgkt"yc{"qww"qh"vjg"lwpm"o ckn"Łnvt"*K"jgct"vjgkt"uetgc o u"cpf"kv"Łnu"o g"ykvj" ingg+."uq"o cp{"lwpm"o ckn"Łnvtg"cwvq o cvkecnn{"Łci"o guuci gu"wukpi"vjg" Bcc box as junk.`

So how can you, as the receiver, prevent — or at least diminish — the amount of junk you get (and still manage to save the friendship of the senders)? Let's dig a little deeper (meaning let's go beyond praying `vjcv{"qwt"ugpfgtu"ctg"wukpi"vjg"Dee"dqz+"cpf"Łpf"qww`)

Taking matters into your own hands

So you say that your senders do not know what the **Bcc** box is and have no plans on learning how to use it? I know; there's only so much we can do for our loved ones (besides full-blown interventions). I used to take the tack of telling my friends to stop sending me these awful jokes and rumors, but I have lost more than a few friends doing that. And so I shall not advise you to do as I did.

Instead, there are steps you can take to diminish the impact these types of messages have on your Inbox. And by “these messages” I mean rumors, hoaxes, jokes, and plain old junk mail. Let's review:

Rumors, hoaxes, and phishing

When I was younger and had no more sense than your

average garden gnome, I believed. I believed that my tiny, sugar-encrusted baby teeth were worth money to an apparently cash-strapped fairy. I believed that a certain 5-year-old cereal commercial star died from eating a certain type of exploding candy mixed with a certain soft drink. And I believed that if I forwarded a message promising free champagne to 10 (now former) friends, in six days I, too, would receive a case of the bubbly stuff myself.

As you know (or should now, frankly), none of these are true. And frankly, the majority — if not all — the rumors you receive from well-meaning e-mail senders are not true either. Here are some general guidelines:

If the message has something in the subject or body to the effect of “Forward this message to get a free...”, it’s a hoax. (Bye-bye free bubbly. Bye-bye free Gap clothes.)

Microsoft and AOL are not merging (as far as I know, anyway). As well, Mr. Gates himself has no interest in giving away vast sums of his hard-earned money to people who forward the most chain letters. (While yes, I do work for Bill, no, I did not get this denial from him directly. However, I’m fairly certain that this hoax is just that: a hoax.)

“Phishing” scams try to get personal information from you for identity theft. Any e-mail you get about foreign lotteries, about PayPal trying to get you to update your personal information, or about money in Nigeria that someone needs help getting out of the country is a phishing scam. Don’t bite the phishing line; you may end up with a painful hook in your mouth that may take years to heal.

Jokes

On to the jokes. If you’re like me (and if you are, you know who you are), you have family members, friends, and even coworkers who have nothing better with their time than to pass on jokes to you via e-mail. And, if you are even more like me, you can’t help but to burst. Although this may not make headline news (nor should it), it is an irritation, and if it gets to be too overwhelming, it becomes a threat to your digital security. And why is this? Because the more jokey e-mails passed on from one person to the next, the more the problem grows. And why is this? Because the more jokey e-mails passed on from one person to the next, the more the problem grows.

Don’t get me wrong; I like a good joke as much as anyone. Part of a joke is in the telling of it. However, I do understand that sometimes a joke is just too good to keep to one’s self, and perhaps the person you want to tell it to isn’t nearby or perhaps is, I don’t know, doing iceberg research in Antarctica and not reachable by phone (but, of course, has e-mail availability). And so ... the digital joke is the only way to go for some people who just cannot wait to tell it.

But folks, please listen to me: When you forward one of those Internet rumors or jokes to someone, particularly if you pass it on to many someones whose e-mail addresses you put plainly in the To box, you’re exposing all of them to the scary digital world of scammers and their ilk.

Think of it this way (and I’ll try and keep this as G-rated as I can): When A kisses B and then B kisses C, it’s just as if C kissed A (creating a real rift between B and C, but that’s a different sort of column for a different type of Web site. Paging Dr. Phil! Paging Dr. Phil!).

What I’m saying is this: You’re putting your privacy and everyone else’s into serious jeopardy when you pass on these types of “messages.” And all those kisses could be coming from people with serious halitosis.

And so, how can you protect yourself from these, um, funny mails and scintillating rumors without actually telling your senders to cease and desist? To me, it’s obvious. Luckily, Outlook has some solutions.

You make the rules

I use rules in Outlook a lot. I use them to move messages as they arrive, when I send them, and to deal with the issues this column covers. You can create just about any sort of rule. Examples:

Create a rule that will move arriving messages with words such as “Fwd,” “Viagra,” or “joke” in the subject line. Then you can choose to either read them later or just dump them permanently.

If you know that certain people in your life only send junk, create a rule that sends messages from those people to a folder you can choose to read them later or dispose of them.

More information about setting up and using rules

§ Outlook 2003:

[About managing messages with rules](#)

[Create a rule](#)

§ Outlook 2007:

[Manage messages by using rules](#)

[Create custom actions rules](#)

Wug"v j g"Lwpm"G/Ockn"Łnvgt

V j g"Lwpm"G/Ockn"Łnvgt"kp"Qwvnqqm"ku" {qwt"dguv"htkcpf." cpf"tgcnn{." {qwt"dguv"vqqn"htq"eqpvtqnnkpi "v j g" t q y "qh" y j cvgxgt {qw"fgg o "ölwpmö"vq" {qwt"Kpdqzł"Dwv"Łtuv." let me give you some examples of some of the ways kp"y jkej" {qw"ecp" o cmg"v j g"Lwpm"G/Ockn"Łnvgt" {qwt" rgtuqpcn"ugewtkv { "qhŁegt" ô "cpf"v j ku"ku"uq o gv j kp i "v j cv" you can continue to update, refresh, and hone as often as you want.

If you just don't want e-mail from anyone y tkv kpi "htq o "c"urgekŁe"fq o ckp." {qw"ecp"dnqem" messages coming in from the entire domain. You can do this with international domains as well. If, down the road, you strike up an ongoing correspondence with someone from that domain you blocked r t g x k q w u n { . " { q w " e c p " w p d n q e m " v j c v " u r g e k Ł e " g / o c k n " address.

You can quickly add a sender to your blocked senders list, right after the message comes in — a few clicks just one time is all it takes.

Information about setting up and using the junk o c k n " Ł n v g t

§ [Audio course: Slice the spam! How Outlook helps protect you from junk e-mail](#)

§ [Demo: Junk mail and spammers meet their match in Outlook](#)

§ [About the Junk E-mail Filter \(Outlook 2007\)](#)

§ [About the Junk E-mail Filter \(Outlook 2003\)](#)

You may have noticed, just from quickly scanning this eqnw o p . " v j c v " Q w v n q q m " t w n g u " c p f " v j g " l w p m " g / o c k n " Ł n v g t " overlap: When you're dealing with how to manage

unwanted e-mail messages or perhaps messages that you want to deal with at a later time, sometimes a rule will work better for you and sometimes using the Qwvnqqm"Lwpm"g/o ckn"Łnvgt"qr vkqpu" y kmn" y qtm"dguv0"Rnc {" around a bit and see what works best for you.

“To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk.” — Thomas A. Edison

[Annik Stahl](#). "v j g" E t c d d { " Q h Ł e g " N c f { " e q n w o p k u v . " v c m g u " all of your complaints, compliments, and knee-jerk reactions to heart. Therefore, she graciously asks that you let her know whether this column was useful to you — or not — by entering your feedback using the Was this information helpful? tool below. And remember: If you don't vote, you can't complain.

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Redneck Harley



Redneck Palm Pilot



Tales From The Trenches: Skip The Trapeze

We all have to view PDFs (Portable Document Format) from time to time, and along with everyone else, I use Adobe Acrobat Reader to open and read the documents that come across my email and browser. Reader works well enough that I'm willing to deal with its constant background presence and endless updates. I'm not here to knock Reader into the net unless, of course, you have suggestions for free and seamless replacements. Then I'm all ears.

Every once in awhile, though, most of us encounter a need to make our own PDFs. The format is incredibly helpful when you want to control the formatting of a document, such as a résumé or a newsletter. It's also useful in preventing casual editing of important documentation. It's much harder to edit a PDF (by accident or by design) than to change a Word document. PDFs also generally offer better compression than other formats for documents with lots of graphics, especially when you're dealing with images embedded in word-processing docs or spreadsheets. Finally, PDFs offer near-universal compatibility. Almost everyone has Acrobat Reader, so you won't have to worry about whether a client has the right version of PowerPoint to see your presentation.

When the need strikes, most people either shell out a few hundred bucks for Adobe Acrobat, hunt down a friend with a copy installed, or just give up on the idea. One alternative I've used in the past is a scanner. Most software bundled with scanners offers the option to save scanned material in PDF format. So, if you have a party invite or budget report that you want to preserve or protect, you can print a hard copy and pass it through your scanner into PDF format. Make sure to print and scan at high resolutions to limit degradation of quality. It's not the most elegant of solutions, but for a long time, it was about the only use I got out of my scanner.

A couple years ago, I discovered an even better solution: freeware. One nice thing about PDF is that it's an open format; other applications (besides

Cetqdcv+"ecp"etgcvg"RFH"Łngu."cu"y gnm0"Uq o g."nkmg" the Acrobat application itself, offer premium features such as collaborative document reviewing and page bookmarking for a price (anywhere from \$100 to \$300). However, there are several upstarts happy to provide free basic functionality to those of us who only need to create simple PDFs every once in awhile.

My personal standby is PrimoPDF (free; www.primopdf.com). The program is free for personal use, it provides a variety of output options (including screen, print, or high resolution), and it installs as if it were a printer. One nice thing about the "virtual printer" model is that the software only runs when you need it. It's as easy to use as a printer, too. Just select PrimoPDF instead of your normal printer. The rtqi te o "nqc fu." {qw"rkem" c"fguvkpcvkqp"rcvj" hqt"vj g"Łng." and anything you print will come out as a PDF.

I'm sure there are other options out there, and perhaps even some better ones. What have you found?

by Gregory Anderson

Gregory Anderson is a regular contributor to Smart Computing and several other technology publications. He keeps a sharp eye (with the help of thick glasses) on computing trends and enjoys working with geeks of all stripes—most of time. Share your tales of formatting frustration with Greg at gregory-anderson@smartcomputing.com.

Smart Computing Tips

Electronic Readers: Whether you're a bookworm who simply appreciates new technology or an avid reader who wants to travel with your entire collection, ereaders have an appeal unlike many other portable devices. Ereaders are capable of storing thousands of books on a single device, a convenience that can save {qw"htq o" jcxkp i"vq"Łpf"htgg"urceg"kp" {qwt" j q o g"vq" store the same number of physical books. In terms of readability, many ereaders feature an interface with a more paper-like appearance than a typical electronic display. If you're reading in bright sunlight, many fku rnc {u"ecp" fg ł gev" i nctg"qt."kh" {qwøtg"tgc fkp i"cv"pki jv." provide light via an LED so you don't strain your eyes.

Solve Network Connection Problems: Many factors can adversely affect the strength of the wireless signal reaching your computer, such as the structure of the

building, the number of people, distance, or electronic interference. Letting your mouse pointer dwell over the wireless connection icon in the System Tray will provide you with some information about the signal strength of your connection. The Windows Vista pop-up is just like the signal indicator on most cell phones: a series of bars. The more bars you have, the stronger the signal. In WinXP, the indicator is text-based: weak, strong, excellent, and so on. In Windows 7, clicking the icon will display the signal strength of each available wireless network. If you have a weak signal, try moving to another area. Sometimes, simply getting closer to the access point or eliminating sources of interference is all that's needed.

Windows 7 Shortcuts: In Windows 7, if you have several open windows, grab the top of the frame of one window and shake it back and forth. The rest of the open windows will minimize. The keyboard shortcut for the same function is WIN (the Windows logo key)-Home. Now press WIN-Down arrow to minimize the current window and WIN-Up arrow to maximize it. Pressing WIN-Right arrow or -Left arrow will dock the current window to the right or left edge of your Desktop.

Restart Your Computer For Better Performance: Many users log off their computer every night as a way to try to refresh the computer. Instead of logging off of your computer every night, restart it. In doing so, you will enable the computer to use memory and other resources that some of your hardware and software will not release, thereby making your computer work more smoothly and at a faster rate.

Going The Distance: If your current router has trouble distributing Wi-Fi (or Wi-Fi at an adequate speed) to every room in your house, look for a model that has two or three antennas and MIMO (Multiple Input, Multiple Output) technology. These features can increase the range and reliability of your Wi-Fi signal, improving the distribution of Wi-Fi across large houses or to devices that are far away from the router.

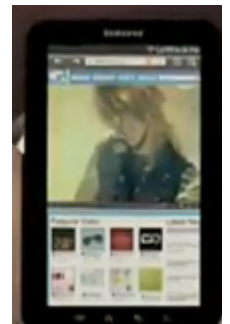
Reprinted with permission from Smart Computing. Visit www.SmartComputing.com/Groups to learn what Smart Computing can do for you and your user group!"

This past week's Interesting Press Releases

Sprint's First Android-Powered Mobile Tablet, Samsung Galaxy Tab, Available This Fall

(BUSINESS WIRE)--Sprint and Samsung Telecommunications America, today announced the upcoming arrival of Samsung Galaxy Tab™ to the Sprint 3G network this fall. This new tablet combines the popular Android platform and award-winning data features of the Samsung Galaxy S lineup of mobile devices with the reliability and value of Sprint and access to the Sprint 3G network.

Samsung Galaxy Tab weighs less than a pound and features a 7-inch Enhanced TFT touchscreen display, Android 2.2, a 1GHz Hummingbird Application processor, supporting 3D graphics and smooth Web browsing, as well as dual cameras for video chat on-the-go. It offers two fast and easy ways to enter text onto the tablet – a virtual keyboard and SWYPE technology, which allows users to input text faster and more intuitively than a physical keyboard.



It also offers mobile hotspot capability to share internet access with other devices. Additional key features include:

- Android Market™ for access to more than 80,000 useful applications, widgets and games available for download to customize the experience
- Microsoft Document Viewer & Editor to open and make changes to Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint or PDF documents
- Stereo speakers
- Wi-Fi – 802.11 b/g/n
- Integrated GPS
- 2GB onboard memory, 16GB microSD card included, with support for up to a 32GB microSD card
- 4,000 mAh battery

On-The-Go Movie Theater Experience

Samsung Media Hub will offer users an easy-to-use mobile video store with movies and TV shows available for purchase or rental and video content set

up for an HD-like entertainment experience. Users can quickly get downloads of a full library of video content powered by some of the biggest names in entertainment using Wi-Fi, including MTV Networks, NBC Universal and Paramount.

Samsung Galaxy Tab will also enable sharing user-generated video content with other devices with Samsung's exclusive AllShare service. AllShare wirelessly shares stored music, pictures and HD video (720p) to other DLNA (Digital Living Network) devices such as HDTVs, monitors, digital cameras and printers. Through AllShare, users can capture special moments with the phone's camera and camcorder and wirelessly show them to friends or family on their DLNA-compatible devices. Samsung Galaxy Tab and take it on the road.

To make staying connected faster and easier, Samsung Galaxy Tab includes Samsung Social Hub, designed to integrate social networking services, messages, personal and business email, calendars and contacts. Calendar information from portal calendars, such as Google Calendar and social networking services, are displayed together in one calendar with two-way synchronization.

Reliability from Sprint 3G

Samsung Galaxy Tab will operate on the Sprint 3G network. Customers can take advantage of Samsung's 3G service. Customers may return the device within 30 days to get reimbursed for the device purchase and activation fee, get both the early termination and restocking fees waived, and receive a full refund for the monthly service plan charges.²

www.sprint.com

Travelers in 12 Airports First to Download Movies on the Fly with Download2Go Digital Kiosks

(BUSINESS WIRE)--NCR Corporation and MOD Systems are bringing digital movies to travelers with Download2Go kiosks in 12 U.S. airports. Travelers now can download digital movies to Secure Digital (SD) cards in the same amount of time it takes to purchase a magazine. In about two minutes, consumers can own or rent new release and catalog titles for playback on Windows computers and the movies are always in

stock and never need to be returned.

Download2Go kiosks are now deployed in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Fort Lauderdale, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Phoenix, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington. Download2Go kiosks are now deployed in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Fort Lauderdale, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Phoenix, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington. Download2Go kiosks are now deployed in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Fort Lauderdale, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Phoenix, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington. Download2Go kiosks are now deployed in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Fort Lauderdale, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Phoenix, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington.

Download2Go kiosks are now deployed in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Fort Lauderdale, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Phoenix, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington. Download2Go kiosks are now deployed in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Fort Lauderdale, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Phoenix, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington. Download2Go kiosks are now deployed in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Fort Lauderdale, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Phoenix, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington. Download2Go kiosks are now deployed in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Fort Lauderdale, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Phoenix, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington.

Customers select from more than 2,600 movies and TV shows. Movie rentals at \$3.99 and purchases from \$12.99 to \$19.99. For movie rentals, consumers have 30 days from purchase to watch, and once the movie rental is started, can watch as many times as they like for 48 hours for most titles.

Consumers can use (and reuse) their own SD memory cards to download movies or purchase a card in the InMotion store. Consumers can play movies on Windows PCs and televisions (using the GreenPlay Digital Media Player) with support for additional consumer electronics devices in the future.

Toshiba's New Canvio™ Basics Portable Hard Drives Offer Pure Simplicity for Digital Backup

(BUSINESS WIRE)--In an exceptional blend of data protection, portability and simplicity, Toshiba has unveiled the newest addition to its Canvio line of portable hard drive solutions – the Canvio™ Basics Portable Hard Drive family for the PC. Developed with ultimate usability in mind for the everyday consumer, the Canvio Basics requires only a single button to format, backup and restore data.

Plug it in. With no necessary software to install and available with 320 gigabytes (GB1), 500GB, or 750GB of storage space, the Canvio Basics offers a hassle-free, high capacity storage solution right out of the box.

The Canvio Basics' one plug ease-of-use is complemented by the drive's stylish design, courtesy of its light weight and diminutive size, the Canvio Basics hits above its weight when it comes to portability. Ramp Loading Technology, and a three year Limited Warranty combine for added peace of mind whether going from the dorm to the lecture hall, the home office, or the office. Canvio Basics is needed.

Beyond its technical capabilities, the practicality of the Canvio Basics design is evident in the drive's pocket-sized form factor, which not only makes it easy to carry, but also conforms to Toshiba's environmental efforts to reduce the quantity of materials used in production. In addition, the Canvio Basics' packaging is made from 100 percent recyclable materials.

Toshiba's Canvio Basics Portable Hard Drives and the complete lineup of Canvio Portable Hard Drives can be found at major retailers and online outlets. For a full list of retailers, please visit www.wheretobuy.toshibastorage.com. Suggested retail prices (USD) by capacities are:

- €# \$80 for the 320GB Canvio Basics
- €# \$100 for the 500GB Canvio Basics
- €# \$120 for the 750GB Canvio Basics

Seagate Introduces Industry's First 1.5TB Portable External Drive

(BUSINESS WIRE)--Designed to address the explosive worldwide demand for digital storage, the new 1.5TB FreeAgent® GoFlex™ ultra-portable drive delivers an all-in-one, technically advanced solution to help store, share and enjoy libraries of digital content in one's preferred medium—whether on a Mac or PC, or a television, at home or on the go. With 1.5TB of capacity people can now store and carry up to 60 HD movies, 750 video games, thousands of photos or countless hours of

digital music.

Shipping now in the United States and rolling out globally later this year, all 1.5TB GoFlex ultra-portable drives will ship with a USB 3.0 interface cable, accelerating the transfer speed of a drive up to 10x when connected to a USB 3.0 port, when compared to a USB 2.0 port. For example, a drive that takes 47 minutes to copy 1GB of data using a traditional USB 2.0 drive will now also ship with the new Superspeed USB 3.0 cable, which will still continue to work with existing USB 2.0 ports.

In addition to coming bundled with USB 3.0 connectivity, the drive can be used with an array of add-on cables and accessories such as the GoFlex™ Net media sharing device and the GoFlex™ TV HD adapter to stream content on a TV, a network, using a mobile device, or via the Internet.

All 1.5TB GoFlex ultra-portable drives are compatible with both the Windows® operating system and Mac® OS X computers. Each drive includes an NTFS driver for Mac, which allows the hard drive to store data on Mac computers without reformatting. The NTFS driver is simply installed once on the Mac® OS X computer, and the drive is formatted as a NTFS drive.

The 1.5TB GoFlex ultra-portable drive with USB 3.0 adapter is available in black and can be purchased on [Seagate.com](http://www.seagate.com) and through select retailers for \$250.

HP Advances the Touch Experience for Consumers and Businesses

(BUSINESS WIRE)--Introducing a more personal, intuitive and entertaining computing experience for consumers, HP today unveiled the sleekly appealing HP TouchSmart310 PC, which features the most advanced version of the company's exclusive TouchSmart software to date.

The company also announced the HP TouchSmart Apps Center for one-touch access to free and subscription-based applications, as well as the HP



Omni100, which offers the performance users demand from a tower and monitor in an all-in-one design.

Create, communicate and personalize with just one touch
The latest version of HP

TouchSmart software transforms the desktop into a “Magic Canvas” that enables users to freely drag applications, music, photos, videos and web content directly onto the desktop as “Magnets.” Multilayered wallpapers bring depth and perspective to the screen, while the new “Carousel” and “Magic Menu” allow users to easily locate applications and content – all

In addition to existing applications from Twitter, Hulu, Pgyłkz."TgekrgDqz"cpf"vjg"JR"Owuke"Uvqtg"rqygtgf" by Rhapsody, the software now features a built-for-touch Facebook application that makes it easier than ever to stay connected with friends and family. Users can create a personalized video greeting and post it directly to a friend’s Facebook Wall.

The new version of the TouchSmart software will be available on the HP TouchSmart310 desktop PC and the current HP TouchSmart 600 desktop PC. The TouchSmart 600 PC also is available with Beats Audio – which provides an optimal sound experience – the way the artist intended it.

The convertible HP TouchSmart tm2 notebook PC will include updated TouchSmart Mobile 2.0 software. Similar to the interface on the HP TouchSmart desktop PC, the software allows users to drag multimedia content to use the notebook’s desktop like a personal canvas and access applications through a carousel view. The tm2 features many of the same touch applications as the TouchSmart desktop PC and includes DigiFish Dolphin, a screensaver that recreates an interactive ocean environment.

The tm2 features a capacitive multitouch, 12.1-inch diagonal, LED BrightView touchscreen display and provides a full notebook PC experience with Intel® Core™ i3 and i5 processors and AMD Mobility Radeon HD 5450 switchable graphics.

The slimmer 20-inch HD display of the HP

TouchSmart310 sits on a pedestal base that tilts up to 30 degrees. Built-in wireless LAN, webcam, front-Łtkpi"urgcmgtu"cpf"cp"qrvkqpcn"VX"vwpgt"rtqxfgc" robust multimedia experience. Other features include AMD VISION processors and Radeon graphics and up to 2 terabytes (TB) of storage.

Keeping the environment in mind, the HP Vqwejuoctv532"RE"ku"GPGT I ["UVCT İ"swcnkŁgf" and meets the standards for silver registration in the Electronic Products Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT®).

Pricing and availability

- €# The HP TouchSmart310 desktop PC starts at \$700 and is planned to be available Sept. 22 at www.hpdirect.com and at select retailers nationwide on Oct. 24.
- €# The HP TouchSmart 600 desktop PC starts at \$1,000 and is planned to be available Sept. 22 at www.hpdirect.com and at select retailers nationwide Oct. 24.
- €# The HP TouchSmart tm2 notebook PC starts at \$830 and is planned to be available Oct. 27 at www.hpdirect.com.
- €# The HP Omni100 desktop PC starts at \$500 is planned to be available Sept. 22 at www.hpdirect.com and at select retailers nationwide on Oct. 24.

More information about the products, including rrtqfwev"urgekŁecvkqpu"cpf"ko cigu."ku"cxckncdng"cv" www.hp.com/personalagain.

On Sept. 28, HP will host a 24-hour Expert Day on the HP Consumer Support Forum. Experts from HP will be on the community forum to answer questions and give tips to help people get the most out of their HP printers, desktops and notebooks.

Performance-Built Dell UltraSharp U3011 Offers Impressive Resolution in a 30-Inch Display for Color-Critical Work and Play

(BUSINESS WIRE)--Dell today announced the addition of the Dell UltraSharp™ U3011, a high-performance display that delivers accurate, consistent and precise color representation for color-critical work. The largest and most advanced display in the Dell UltraSharp lineup is adaptable to a variety of professions requiring the higher levels of color precision.

The Dell UltraSharp U3011 gives users extremely clear and accurate images allowing them to create, they are seeing the precise colors they need. The display provides a myriad of connectivity options and a lockable stand with adjustable height, swivel and tilt, making the viewing experience customizable and comfortable for a wide range of tasks. Dell also provides the Premium Panel Guarantee to give customers peace of mind during the term of the warranty by offering an exchange unit should they experience even one bright pixel, available now for \$1,499

Designed with high-end market demands in mind UltraSharp U3011 features:

- €# WQXGA 2560 x 1600 resolution to improve productivity by maximizing screen space for large projects or multiple applications
- €# Uncompromising front of screen performance with a high brightness of 370cd/m2 (typical) and 7ms gray to gray (typical) response time
- €# 12 bit internal processing and Dell's PremierColor to help deliver a high color depth of 1.07 billion colors and extremely high color gamut of 117 percent (typical) (CIE 1976) to produce true-to-life colors
- €# High Dynamic Contrast Ratio of 100,000:1 (typical) for deep blacks and bright reds with additional user control features, such as 6 axis for further image customization
- €# Extensive connectivity with DisplayPort, two HDMI, two DVI-D connectors, four USB ports, 7-in-1 media card reader
- €# ENERGY STAR 5.0, and EPEAT Silver

www.dell.com/monitors

Getac Increases Performance on Popular B300 Rugged Notebook with Intel® Core™ i7 2.0 Processor and Turbo-Boost Technology

(BUSINESS WIRE)--Getac Inc., a leading innovator and manufacturer of rugged computers that meet the is incorporating Intel's powerful Core™ i7 2.0 GHz processor, MAX 2.8GHz with Intel Turbo Boost Technology, into its popular B300 rugged notebook. This includes 4MB of Intel L3 Smart Cache readily

available to each of the processor cores, improving 25-watt consumption, the Core i7-620LM helps the B300 increase system speeds by up to 67% versus the previous generation.

The B300 offers two display options -- a 700 NITs display, and the best-in-class rating of 1400 NITs display, which includes Getac's exclusive QuadraClear display for easy viewing in extreme lighting conditions including sand and snow. An HDMI port joins the standard VGA port allowing a multiple- low-temperature option is now standard on all pre- with a dual battery option that provides up to 22 hours of battery life on a single charge. And, Gobi 2000 mobile broadband technology is now available as a

A built-in security feature using Intel® vPro™ technology enables IT specialists to maximize hardware-assisted security to better maintain, manage, and protect their business PCs. The B300 has a touchpad for the security required by government and authentication security on administrator and remote access accounts while security criteria EAL 5+ encrypts valuable data by hardware, making data transfer more secure. Staying connected on the job is easy with the B300, which includes wireless options for Bluetooth, WLAN, GPS and 3G. The B300 has a suggested retail price starting at \$3,799 (US). us.getac.com

Panasonic announced the LUMIX DMC-GH2, a hybrid touch-control camera featuring full High

The LUMIX GH2 elevates the company's revolutionary LUMIX G Series, its line of Digital Single Lens Micro (DSLM) cameras that deliver professional-level features and performance in a compact and easy-to-use camera body. PRNewswire/ -- Compatible with the Micro Four Thirds System standard, the lightweight LUMIX GH2 is newly designed with an easy-to-hold grip

image processing engine and sensor that delivers fast, sharp photos, full HD video recording, and the ability to take 3D photos with Panasonic's new interchangeable 3D lens. In addition, the intuitive touch-control operation provides ease of use in shooting and playback.



The LUMIX GH2 combines features for both the videographer and photographer, making it a true hybrid digital camera. A dedicated button on the top of the camera lets users instantly record videos while shooting photos without changing any extra settings. Building on the momentum of its successful predecessor, the LUMIX GH1 – the LUMIX GH2 can now record full HD 1920 x 1080 videos in smooth 60i, doubling the sensor output from 25p/24p to 50p/60p(2). The camera also supports 1080/24p native mode at 24 Mbps, the highest in AVCHD format, for richly expressive video. Other video features in the LUMIX GH2 include:

New Cinema mode: Record video with rich cinematic-like gradation. Added as an option of popular Film mode.

- €# New Variable Movie mode: Record video in variable frame rate – 80, 160, 200 and 300 percent – speeding up or slowing frames for more creative videos.
- €# Touch auto focus (AF): Point at the subject on the screen and shift focus to make it stand out against the background.
- €# Still photos at (16:9): Instantly take a 14MP photo, while recording videos and also save a frame of video as a photo during playback.
- €# Record high quality sound: With Dolby® Digital Stereo Creator and optional accessory Stereo Microphone (DMW-MS1).
- €# HDMI output: Monitor images on a separate screen while still recording video.

Speed is at the core of the LUMIX GH2, with technological advancements including a new 16.05-megapixel multi-aspect LIVE MOS sensor for higher image resolution and improved signal-to-noise ratio. The LIVE MOS sensor also allows high speed

burst shooting at 5 frames per second in full resolution using a mechanical shutter. Working together with the Live MOS sensor, the new Venus Engine FHD processor manages multiple signals at a high speed, making it possible to record high resolution consecutive shots and full HD video recording. The Venus Engine FHD also features advanced signal processing capabilities, including: separation of chromatic and luminance noise for clear images, prevention of color mixture and selective noise reduction for more crisp photos and video recording. The LUMIX GH2 also features faster AF, reducing detection time for focusing to approximately 0.1 second by doubling the drive speed from 60 frames per second to 120 frames per second.

The LUMIX GH2 features intuitive touch-control operation, made popular with the LUMIX G2 for its outstanding usability in shooting and playback. The LUMIX GH2 combines the easy-to-see free-angle Intelligent LCD with the newly developed Multi Aspect Wide Screen LVF (Live View Finder) for more comfortable shooting from any angle.

In addition to the advanced functions that will satisfy experienced photographers, the LUMIX GH2 is easy enough for beginners to use comfortably because of Panasonic's iA (Intelligent Auto) mode, a popular setting in the LUMIX point-and-shoots that automatically engages features and settings for optimal image quality by detecting the shooting environment. The LUMIX GH2 features new additions to the iA mode including Intelligent D-range Control for optimized exposure of an image and Intelligent Resolution for better-balanced sharpness in images for printing at larger sizes.

The Panasonic LUMIX GH2 will be available early December in three different kit options for a suggested retail price of: \$900 (Body only); \$1,000 (Body with lens LUMIX G VARIO 14-42 mm / F3.5-5.6 ASPH. / MEGA O.I.S.); \$1,500 (Body with lens LUMIX G VARIO HD 14-140mm/F4.0-5.8 ASPH./MEGA O.I.S.).

Toshiba Introduces New 4G WiMAX-ready Laptops

(BUSINESS WIRE)--Toshiba's Digital Products Division (DPD), a division of Toshiba America Information Systems, Inc., today rolled out a range

of premium 4G WiMAX™-ready laptops, designed to give consumers broader wireless coverage all over town, not just at wireless hotspots. WiMAX is currently available in 54 cities nationwide. Select models of Toshiba's premium consumer laptops will include built-in WiMAX technology.

Satellite A665

Offering a 16-inch diagonal HD TruBrite® widescreen display², a premium audio package, the latest Intel® Core™ processors and optional NVIDIA® GeForce™ graphics, as well as a suite of exclusive convenience-driven features like Sleep and Music for enjoying music through the speakers without having to power up, the Satellite A665 provides major horsepower for fast multitasking. WiMAX will be available on the Satellite A665-S6086, Satellite A665-S6094, Satellite A665-S6097, Satellite A665-S6098 and the 3D-capable Satellite A665-3DV6 models, starting at \$805 MSRP.



Satellite M645

Featuring a 14-inch diagonal HD TruBrite widescreen display, the latest Intel Core processors and a premium audio package with harman/kardon® speakers and Dolby Advanced Audio™ technology, the laptop delivers a stunning mobile entertainment experience and is easy to carry. WiMAX will be available on the Satellite M645-S4063 and Satellite M645-S4070 models starting at \$760 MSRP.

Portégé R705

With a 13.3-inch diagonal widescreen display, the laptop has a starting weight of just three pounds, measures about one inch thin and features a premium raised tile keyboard and a long battery life rating. Built-in Intel Wireless Display⁵ technology makes it possible for consumers to wirelessly connect the laptop to a big screen HDTV and enjoy digital content with great image clarity and amazing sound at the touch of a button. The Portégé R705-P35 is priced at \$900 MSRP.

Satellite E205

Features NVIDIA® GeForce™ 310M graphics processing unit (GPU) with energy-saving Optimus™ technology. With a 14-inch diagonal LED-backlit

HD TruBrite® display, the Satellite E205 is equipped with Intel Wireless Display technology, the new Intel Core i5 processor, a slot-loading DVD drive and LED backlit keyboard. The Satellite E205-S1980 is priced at \$1,080 MSRP.

Roku Introduces New Line of HD Streaming Players Starting at \$59.99

(BUSINESS WIRE)--Roku, Inc., introduced its new product lineup, with up to 1080p HD streaming support and Instant Replay, at prices starting from just

There are three new Roku models: the entry-level Roku HD at \$59.99; the Roku XD with Wireless-N and 1080p, and the top-of-the-line Roku XDS, which adds dual-band wireless technology and extensive connectivity options for home entertainment systems.



All Roku players will continue to deliver the largest collection of streaming entertainment available for the TV, including over 100,000 movies and TV shows and on-demand baseball from MLB.TV; music from Pandora, MP3tunes, MOG, and RadioTime; photo and video sharing from Flickr and Facebook; plus news and entertainment from thousands of sources.

In addition, the XDS model features dual-band Wireless-N technology, component video output, optical audio output, and a USB port. Over USB, customers will be able to play stored music, photos, and up to 1080p video using a USB playback channel, available as a free upgrade to XDS owners (expected to be available in November 2010).

Both XD and XDS models also feature an industry Instant Replay button on the remote, enabling the viewer to skip back in 7-second increments without having to wait for a rebuffering delay.

The new Roku HD is available for \$60, while the XD and XDS models are available for \$80 and \$100 respectively. www.roku.com

Housewide Storage -- Better Safe than Sorry But...

Andy Marken

Marken Communications

“A friend of mine tried one their “special offers”, nearly got himself lobotomized.” – Harry (Total Recall, 1990 – Tristar Pictures)

Another Trip to the Store – The more digital content that’s out there, the more devices the family has, the more storage that is required. You can never have too much storage, but buying storage unit after storage unit is never easy.

First, UC San Diego reports 34GB of data, content is hammering our eyes/brain...every day. Then, IDC says that in a few years, the average home will be storing 12+TB of stuff.

Since we have a “normal” household, we got a little worried.

We have the usual assortment of desktop, notebook, netbook computers around the house –pretty typical of most Silicon Valley homes. Oh yeah, there’s the full spectrum of game systems because, well...because.

And the kids can’t go anywhere without their music buds plugged in.

Then there are the obligatory cameras – pocket, point-n-shoot, DSLR – lying around.

Yes, and the smartphones everyone has to have to survive!

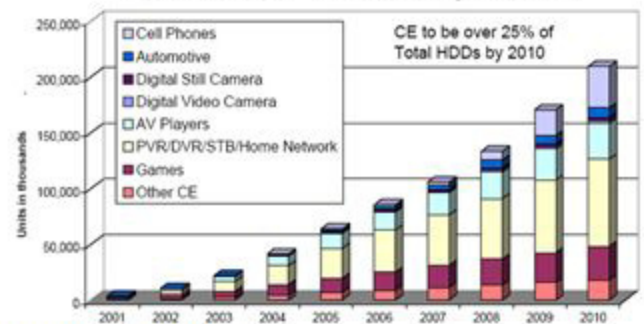
Can’t forget the DVR. We time-shift shows just in case we ever get some serious downtime

Gobbling Up Storage

Capacity disappears the minute they are turned on/connected.

In the old days, we were continually buying batteries. Today, it’s more storage.

Consumer HDD Shipments



Source: Coughlin Assoc.

Content Devices – No matter what the work or entertainment device is in the household, they all have something in common. They all have storage capacity and the ability to upload, download more content to “somewhere.” Source – Coughlin Assoc.

We pulled together and counted all of the thingies that could store stuff. The wife looked at me, shook her head and repeated Lori’s lines, “My poor baby, this is getting to be an obsession.”

The statement didn’t help Quaid in Total Recall . Didn’t do much for me either.

Can’t be certain when the family’s storage requirements came into full bloom. Probably started when we got broadband to the house.



Bigger Pipes – Content providers want to deliver more and better stuff to consumers. Consumers want to enjoy more and better stuff. The bigger the pipes to the home, the better the quality of enjoyment. When you don’t have time to enjoy it all...store it!

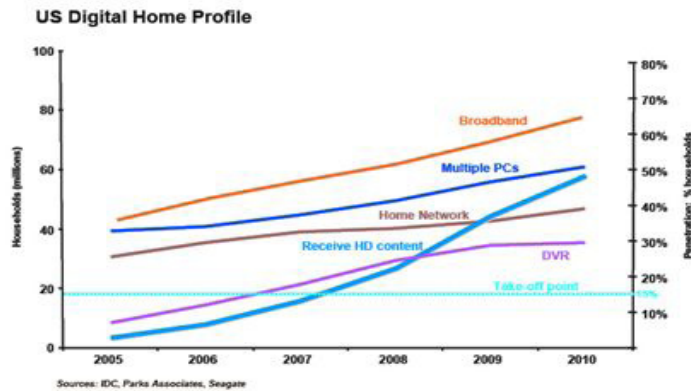
With broadband, the kids were able to grab content

from every video-ready site. They quickly found their favorite TV shows and oldies but goodies on the Net.

The ball started rolling.

IDC and Park Associates seem to indicate that the giant sucking noise picked up speed when we began receiving high-def content and using HD devices.

Rich Content, Multiple Devices



High-Def Sharing – Broadband, multiple computers, time-shifting devices and more can mean a better entertainment experience for everyone in the family. All we need now is time to actually sit down and enjoy it. Source – IDC, Parks Assoc, Seagate

The more content is out there, the more people want! That's probably why Cisco decided to start offering more bandwidth and home networking solutions.

Content Flows

Chambers probably knew Schmidt was planning a hydrant and folks just can't seem get enough of the video content.

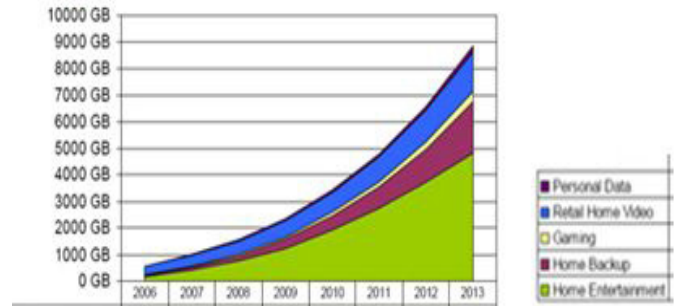
We Want It...All – The Internet has made it possible for anyone, anywhere to show his or her content in the hopes of becoming famous--and maybe even rich. It really has taken away the leverage of the gatekeepers. And people want the variety. They want it ALL!!!

Chambers says we'll see a 5x increase in consumer good; but just remember, you'll end up storing most of that stuff.

Content is growing rapidly and will continue to grow.

content storage by at least 10x. That's a ton of storage.

Digital Content Per Household



Source: Coughlin Assoc.

More Content, More Storage – When we read that a thousand minutes of video are uploaded every hour to YouTube and Facebook, we wonder who's working. But it doesn't seem to bother people in our household, they just keep creating, keep grabbing, keep duplicating their content because...well because they can!

Source – Coughlin Assoc.

If you really stored all that stuff at home, Richter might be right, "In an hour, he could have total recall."

Ah...the Cloud

Dave Reinsel, one of IDC's heavyweights, offered his two cents and said the cloud was going to be the expandable storage solution for families (and business) in the coming years.

True:

- €# Its affordable bandwidth, shared/scalable capacity means you don't waste drive capacity (green, minimizing your carbon footprint) and you're only paying for storage you use
- €# It is pretty easy, pretty fast to recover lost data sets
- €# It is accessible – you can connect and upload/download from any Internet connection
- €# Most of them – Amazon, Microsoft, IBM, HP, others – are reputable and use state-of-the-art backup, compression, encryption, data duplication, virtualization

De-duplication doesn't sound too important at home; but it is, because often everyone in the house has a copy of a photo, video, music or Web download.

That's a waste!

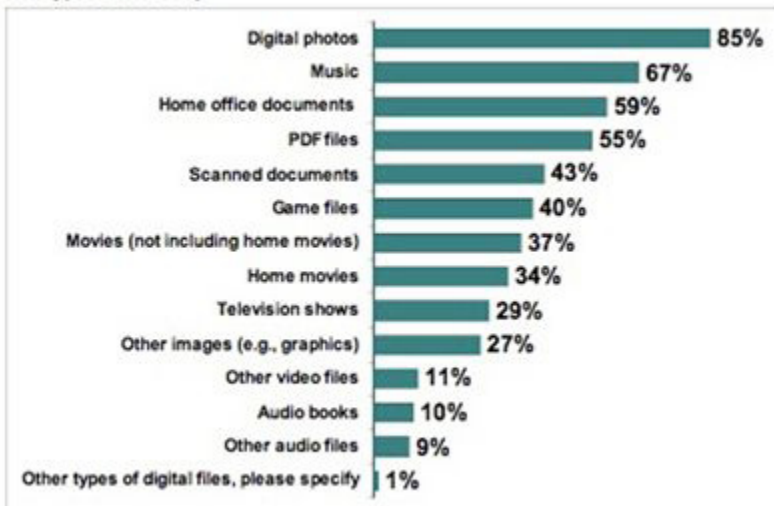
Experts estimate that data de-duplication could reduce the amount of capacity you use by 40-60 percent. That means saving power, drive space, money.

Compression can be useful because it not only saves expensive drive space, it also means it's easier to send

- Lossy compression, which “rounds off” less important information when compressing or encoding. This may be okay for JPG images, compression ratios.
- Lossless compression allows you to return the is reduced

The problem is, compression just doesn't work too well on photos, video and that's what we – and most folks – have on the devices/HDs.

File Type Ownership



Source: Parks Assoc.

Great, But... Content compression is a fantastic on your hard drive. The problem is, it doesn't work well on photos, videos, music, stuff you need to have complete. De-duplication would help, but no one has in the house.

Source – Parks Assoc.

Reinsel is a nice guy and smart; but boy, would we love to play poker with him! When we said, “What

about all the bad stuff about clouds?”, he sorta’ scuffed his toe in the carpet.

Thought he was going to pull a Quaid on us... “I don’t remember you. I don’t remember us. I don’t even remember me.”

But he didn’t.

Cloud Downsides

Instead, he pointed out some of the issues that do arise:

- Some of the new “bargain” services are thinly data
- SLAs (service-level agreements) are still a work in progress and vary widely from one provider to another
- Other cloud-based apps like Gmail, Twitter, Facebook have had security issues and there’s

no reason to believe the storage clouds won’t be attacked just as vigorously. Big targets attract big thieves.

The storage cloud is run by people and they can mishandle, lose your data just as easily as you can

If a subpoena gets served, BAM!!! they’re turning over all the drives in that area

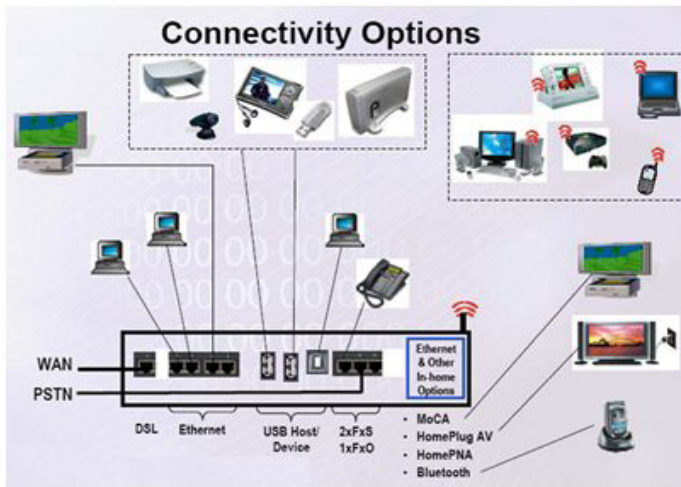
He probably could have said more, but he just repeated Lori, “No wonder you’re having nightmares. You’re always watching the news.”

NAS Solution

The best solution for our house seemed to be a NAS (network-attached storage).

J q y " f k h L e w n v " e q w n f " k v " d g A

Gotta’ be simpler than the home network we set up last year connecting our computers, printer, stereo, router plus a roadmap to do more.

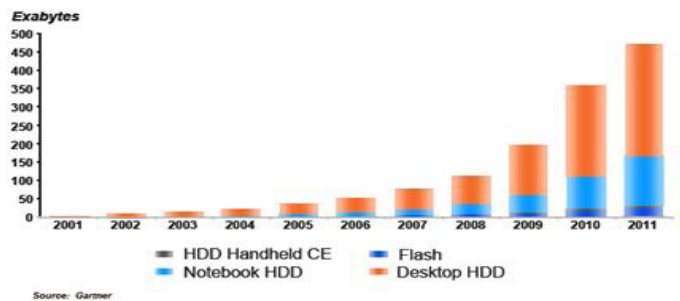


and you open the drive to the public. Hackers love it. Cp f" y g" y gtgpwv" j qv" cdqwv" v j g" k f g c" qh" cmm" qh" qwt" Lngu" possibly saying, "Adios, amigo!" Another fantastic idea down the tubes!!!

More Storage

No wonder storage unit sales continue to spiral.

Capacity Shipments by Technology



Ahh, Simplicity – The industry still falls short when it comes to simplifying the task of setting up a home everything network so you can share, enjoy your eqpvgpv. "{ qwt" y qtm" y kv j" qv jgtu0" Yqtmu" Lpg" cu" nqp i" cu" you stick with one home solution manufacturer, but that's not going to happen.

Only took a couple of IT friends a day +/- to coax it into operation.

But the shared NAS should be easy. Connect the USB or FireWire connector to the router, load the software on the home server and viola!!!

Boy, Kuato knew what he was talking about when j g" uck f. "õC" o cp" ku" f g Lpg f" d { " j ku" cev kpu. " pqv" j ku" memory."

Fortunately, our IT friend is very patient (with us) as we installed the two-drive 2TB NAS. Trust us... UPnP (Universal Plug n Play) and slam dunk NAS are still works in progress.

The reason for two 1TB drives is simple... hard ftkxgu" gxgpvwcmm { " hckn0" D { " o kttqtkp i" v j g" Ltuv" ftkxg. " y g" have our secure backup ready to take over when the inevitable happens.

Setting up the backup software was "relatively" easy. We noted we'd really like to be able to access the unit remotely when we're on the road.

Like Hauser, he looked at us and said, "Unfortunately, that's not gonna happen" It turns out, an errant click

Back to the Store – Home users are like business wugtu0" Egpvtcnk | g f" uvqtc i g" k" ecp" wug" y qtmu" Lpg" cu" nqp i" as it's the other guy's stuff, but mine? Too important, so I'll keep it here. The only choice? Back to the store for more storage. Source -- Gartner

Systems/devices still have their storage. A home server has big, shareable storage. The kids (and the rest of us) still want portable units for extra space, back up, just to be cool.

They just seem to get smaller and cheaper. And, it gives the kids exercise as they decide who is going to get the next sexy, high-capacity drive.

Friendly Rivalry – It never seems to end in our household. The kids get new work/entertainment devices and they grab/produce more content that they have just got to store so they can enjoy/use...later. Ukpeg" fngv k p i " Lngu" ku" qvw" qh" v j g" swguvkqp. " y g" ngv" v j g o " decide who is going to get the next 500GB storage unit.

Love it when they stare each other down and repeat Cohaagen's warning, "Don't touch that! Get away! Get back!"

Pqy. "kh" y g" ecp" qpn { " Lpf" y j ke j" ftkxg" j cu" cmm" qwt" vcz" return info on it...

Charge Anywhere

Reviewed by George Harding, Treasurer, Tucson
Computer Society, Arizona
June 2010 Issue, TCS eJournal
www.aztcs.org
georgehardingsbd (at) earthlink net

The last few years have produced a remarkable quantity of mobile devices: phones, MP3 players, cameras and so on. Each of these needs a power source. The internal battery can hold only so much charge and needs to be refreshed from time to time. A secondary industry has sprung up to meet this need for an external battery to charge the internal one.

Of course, your device comes with a charging unit, requiring you to plug it into a wall socket. If you have more than one device (and who doesn't?), you would need to carry a charger for each. Here's where Charge Anywhere comes in very handy!

The Charge Anywhere unit is an external battery that can be used to recharge just about any device that has an internal battery. In fact, it can charge two at once!

The unit is slightly larger than a deck of cards, has a retractable wall plug on its back side and two USB sockets on its bottom. The front side has a button and two LED lights.

When you plug the unit into a wall socket, both of the lights come on. The red one indicates the internal battery is being charged. The blue light also comes on. When you want to charge a device, you connect it with the USB cable and press the front side button. The blue light comes on to indicate your device is being charged.

The unit comes with a cable with a USB plug on one end and a connector at the other. Various tips can be attached to this connector. You'll need the right tip for each device you want to charge. One free tip comes with your purchase of the Charge Anywhere.



Once the unit is charged, you can take it with you wherever you travel. It can be used in other countries, as well, without a voltage converter, a handy travel dggpgL\0"

If you are charging two devices at once, the power available from Charge Anywhere is divided. In some instances, this may not be enough to charge a device. Either turn it off when charging or charge one at a time. Charging power is 5 watts with a capacity of 1080 milliamps per hour. This is a handy item for travelers and others that use several devices and need to be able to charge them when away from a power source.

About: Charge Anywhere
Vendor: iGo
www.igo.com
Price: ±\$70

Power Smart Wall

This device is a combination surge suppressor and wall outlet, but there's so much more!

The physical object is approximately 5" X 3" X 2", and weighs maybe a pound or so. The back side has prongs to fit a standard wall socket. Both the left and right side have two sockets for three-prong power plugs. Here's where the difference begins, though. The plugs on the left side are the usual type and are always "on", but the ones on the right side are very special. They are "green." They provide power while the plugged-in unit (laptop charger, monitor, printer and so on) needs power.

When the unit is off or in standby, the outlet shuts down. Why does this make a difference? Just about everything that is plugged in sucks power, even when turned off. The "green" outlets eliminate this power drain when power isn't needed. The surge protection feature is rated at 1080 joules, a good level of



protection, according to Underwriters Laboratory.

That's not the end, though. There is an indicator on the top of the front side. This can be pressed to restore power immediately to the "green" outlets, if they are off. The button

can also be used to cause the device to recognize the power needs of the devices plugged in to it. The unit comes with a warranty for damage to devices plugged in to it.

About: Power Smart Wall

Vendor: iGo

www.igo.com

Price: ±\$30

Magic Wand: A real portable scanner

By Martha E. Walsh, a HAL-PC family member, Texas

May 2010 Issue, HAL-PC Magazine, newsletter of the Houston Area League of PC Users, Texas
www.hal-pc.org

With this compact battery-powered **Magic Wand** scanner from **VuPoint**, you can scan most any



document without being connected to your PC. It is truly a portable scanner designed to

offer a fast and convenient way to scan, archive and organize. Ever wanted a portable scanner that you could tote around with you? Magic Wand could be what you're looking for. It was, for me.

To scan? Push the button and then move the scanner to capture the document. If you move too quickly, there's a red light to warn you. Use the provided USB cable to transfer to your computer from the micro SD card (not

included). The scans are saved in a JPG format. It's powered by two AA batteries. The Wand recognizes up to 32GB of memory.

It can scan a full color letter-size document at 600 dpi in just about 28 seconds or it can go quicker scanning black & white documents in low resolution in just *four seconds*. Your mileage may vary!

It is compatible with Windows XP SP2/ Windows Vista/ Windows 7 and Macintosh 10.4 or above. The connection is USB, so no drivers are necessary. Taking around four seconds to scan a B&W letter-size document, this portable scanner is also valuable for copying images from books or documents with thick or fragile spines that shouldn't be folded back for (research). Oh yes, how about cooks! Most important for me is it's useful for scanning docs that are located a looong way



The scanner has an automatic white balance. A white calibration sheet is included.

Accessories include a USB cable, two AA alkaline batteries, OCR software, pouch and cleaning cloth. There is an "instruction" sheet – of sorts! (Thank goodness this device is easy to use.)

It's fast and so easy to use. I can store hundreds of images (closing statements, reports, etc.) on the micro SD card. The default resolution is 300dpi.

It uses USB2 and is powered by two AA batteries. It has an LCD status window used to select resolution and color or B&W. The scanner measures 10 x 1.2 x 1.1 inches and weighs 7.5oz (a tad less than a Big

Mac or, for our European readers, 21% of a kilo).
 There are two resolutions: 300 and 600 dpi
 There are two scan modes: color and monochrome

A status window shows the number of scanned images on your micro SD card and features selected.

It has an auto off feature. NOTE: Scan *length* – 52” 1 kp" o qpq"cpf"48ö"kp"eqnqt"ó"køf" j cvg"vq" o gg"v" c" † cv"dgf" scanner that could do that!

What’s not to like?

1. Mediocre instructions and customer support. Come on VuPoint, for \$99 you can afford better docs.
2. It would be nice if the USB were an alternate power source!
3. The view window covers up about 80% of the resolution selection line.
4. There is no format button – must use a paper clip, which is a bit dangerous.

Despite the above four negative comments, the PDS-ST410-VP scanner is well designed and feels comfortable in your hand and not at all awkward to use. It does create a very nice scan. If you cannot lug ctqwpf" c" † cv"dgf"uecppgt."dw{" v jku"ppg0"Hqt" o qtg"kphq" go to www.vupointsolutions.com.

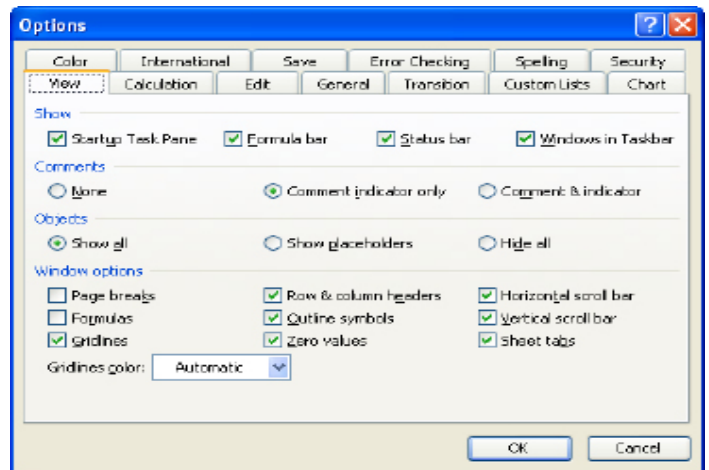
Martha E. Walsh is a HAL-PC family member who is a senior real estate broker and always “on the go”.

Controlling the Display of Page Breaks In Excel

When you are formatting a worksheet, you may want to see where Excel will insert page breaks in your printout. This is easily done by using the Print Preview option, or by using the Page Break Preview feature. You may also want to see the page breaks when you are again editing the worksheet.

Excel can display page breaks as dashed lines between rows or columns on your worksheet. To enable this display, simply follow these steps:

1. Choose Options from the Tools menu. Excel displays the Options dialog box.
2. Make sure the View tab is selected.



The View tab of the Options dialog box.

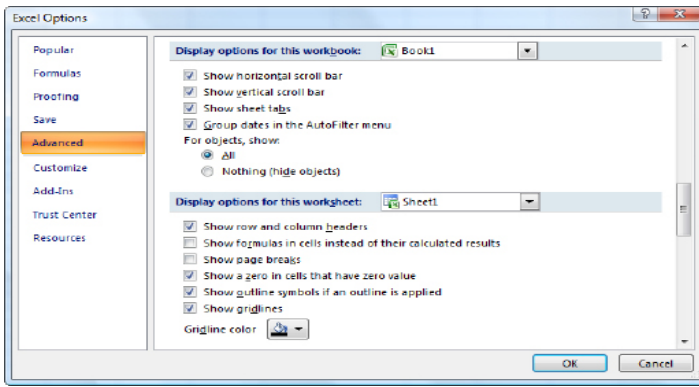
3. Make sure the Page Breaks check box is selected.
4. Click on OK.

If you are using Excel 2007 or Excel 2010 then the steps to follow are a bit different:

1. Display the Excel Options dialog box. (In Gzegn" 4229" enkem" v jg" QhŁeg" dwwvqp" cpf" v jgp" click Excel Options. In Excel 2010 display the File tab of the ribbon and click Options.)
2. At the left side of the dialog box, click Advanced.
3. Scroll through the list of options until you see the Display Options for This Worksheet section.

Redneck Grill





The Excel Options dialog box.

4. Make sure the Show Page Breaks check box is selected.
5. Click on OK.

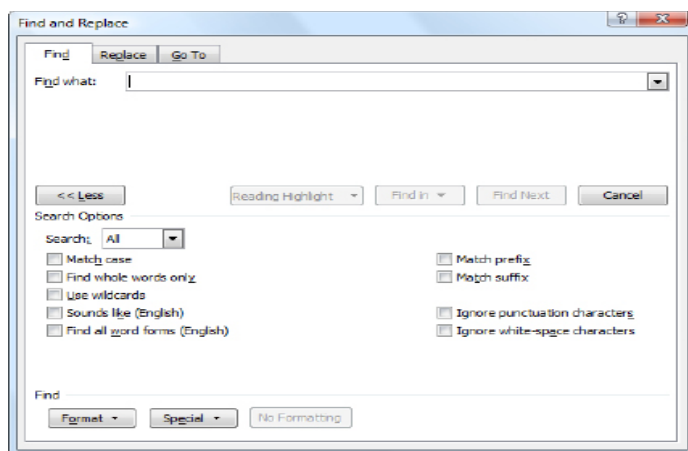
5. Click on the Format button and select Paragraph. The Find Paragraph dialog box appears.
6. Select the paragraph attributes for which you want to search. When selecting attributes that use check boxes, a check in a check box means the matching paragraph must have the attribute. If the check box is empty, then the paragraph won't have that attribute. A shaded box means the attribute doesn't matter.
7. Click on OK.
8. Click on Find Next.

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Searching for Paragraph Formatting in Word

Word has a very powerful search capability that allows {qw"vq"Łpf"pqv"lwuv"vgzv"dww"vjg"hqt o cwkpi"qh"vgzv"cu" well. To search for paragraph formatting, follow these steps:

1. Press **CTRL+F** to display the Find tab of the Find and Replace dialog box.
2. Make sure the Find What box is empty.
3. Click on the More button if it is available.



The expanded Find tab of the Find and Replace dialog box.

4. Click on the No Formatting button, if it is enabled.

Windows 7 Live Photo Gallery is a keeper

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Microsoft Windows 7! We've all begun to hear lots of (good) things about the newest and greatest operating system from our favorite software creators. We've also heard that Windows 7 does not include a photo manager or email program, among other things. While this omission may seem to decrease boot time and speed programs, some of us would prefer to view and edit our photos without buying additional software, which may cost substantial amounts.

Microsoft has come up with a suite of programs that are free to download and, I've found, actually work well without too much of a learning curve. If you go to <http://www.download.live.com> {qw"ecp"Łpf"vjg" program we're discussing here under "Windows Live Essentials" Other programs you can download are: Messenger; Mail; Writer; Photo Gallery; Movie Maker; Family Safety; and Toolbar.

You can acquire one or all of them as they work well together. For instance, Mail has replaced Outlook Express/Windows Mail and is a useful email tool. Writer is a great word processor that will also connect to your blog(s) and allow you to upload material

quickly and easily. And I have found that Movie Maker was easier and faster to use than Roxio Easy Media Creator or Adobe Premiere Elements when I had to make a quick movie with music for the family. But let's focus on the Photo Gallery in this article.

Why use this program

The Windows Live Photo Gallery [above] is just that – live. If you have a Windows ID – such as a Hotmail address – it will connect you to a website that you can use if you want as your home page or a place to communicate with others. You don't need to go get a program is easy to learn to use, and is comparable to and compatible with other graphic programs. I have used it to drag images into my Photoshop Elements window, instead of (on my Vista computer) a long wait

It is also an excellent way to see your photos and images chronologically with *.cr2's and *.jpg's side by side for easy comparison. And it immediately they're moved, and was not happy when I worked outside it to do this. So the application itself is easy, fast and powerful enough to organize your images in a logical fashion.

Looking at the interface

Did I say this was a clean, easy to use application?

it will take you to a default page similar to the one on the next page. Your folder structure will be seen on the left, and the photos themselves laid out in the center. There are many customizations you can perform, but the basic arrangement Windows Live Photo Gallery displayed here are in the folder selected on the left, in this case "garden..." which is highlighted. Images can be dragged and moved into folders from here, deleted, copied, and new folders created. Anyone with knowledge of Windows Explorer will like this feature. A small link on the upper left of the pictures allows you to sort them in different ways, in this case by "name" in "Ascending" order. There are also options date feature – busy weekends are easy to locate, and this enhances the ease of searching here.

Finishing touches – customize

Using Windows Live Photo Gallery wouldn't be complete without installing some plug-ins. A click will take you to the site for downloading my favorite – the Live FaceBook Uploader. This little program will enable you to effortlessly transport your recent pictures for all the world, or at least all your friends, to see. Other plug-ins include Liveupload to YouTube, Publish on SmugMug, Picasa Web Publisher, among others. I would recommend that you start with one and then continue with the others if all goes well. A simple project to demonstrate how to make simple corrections to a photograph, let's go ahead and do that. In your gallery window, just click on an image and then click on the Fix menu. A tile will open on the right, with several items listed.

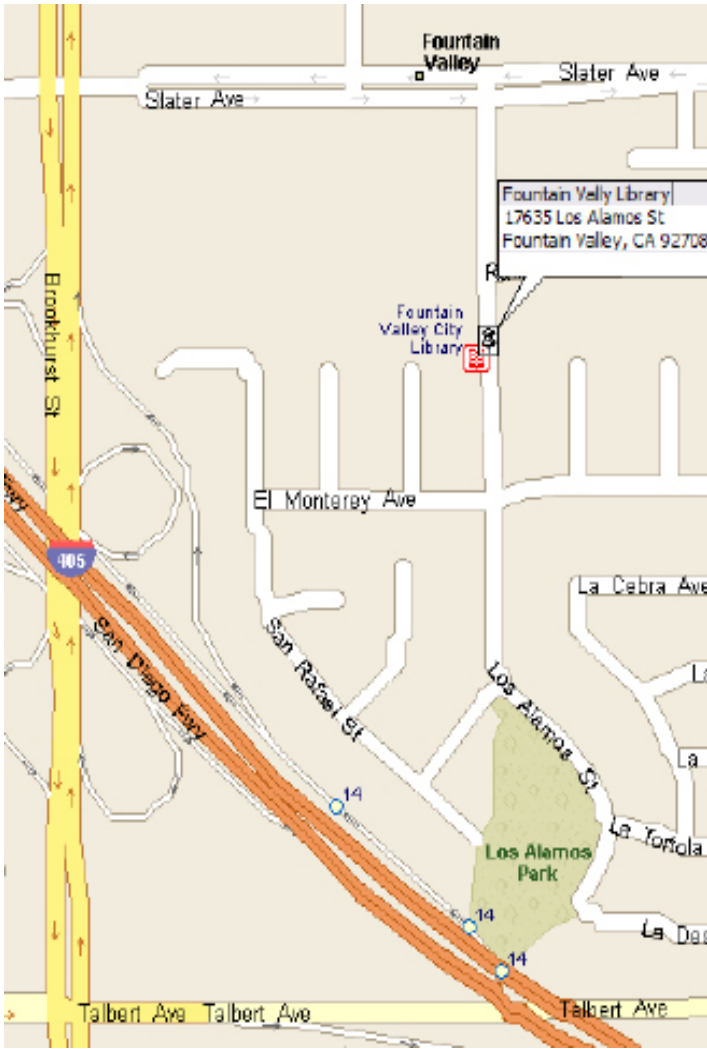
gallery. Choose "Fix" from the menu bar, and a panel will open. From here, choose "Adjust color" and move the sliders until you are happy with the result. You can also click on "Auto adjust" and the program will do the work for you.

Next, click on "Crop photo" and either change the Proportion to a print size such as 8 x 10 or 4 x 6, and move the crop box until you have it where you want. If you want to change the orientation, click on the rotate frame tool. Next, Apply. If you change your mind, you can also Undo at any point. Getting the result you want in a picture couldn't be easier.

Conclusion

Although I spend a lot of time in graphics programs like Photoshop Elements, I do revert to this application as a handy substitute for a program when I'm not planning to do a lot with layers and effects. I would recommend this program for anyone who wants to start using a graphics program but doesn't want to spend a lot of money and isn't going to be using layers. It's great for social networking sites, as the edits can be done quickly and then posted on the Internet for sharing.

I hope you try this program, and if you do and whether you like it or don't, I would love your feedback. Let's keep the conversation going.



Membership application or renewal Form

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