



THE WYSIWYG



March 2019

Volume 31 Issue 3

STERLING HEIGHTS COMPUTER CLUB

PO Box 385

Sterling Heights, Michigan 48311-0385

MAIN MEETING: TUESDAY March 5

7:00 PM

(doors open at 6:30 PM)

Baker College

34950 Little Mack Ave.

in Clinton Township

Located at the southeast corner of
Little Mack Avenue and 15 Mile Road
(Enter at the main entrance on Little Mack Ave.
The meeting room is then straight ahead.)



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This Month's Main Meeting Topic:

Mike Bader of SHCC will present:

"Potpourri of News, Current Events, Software, and Websites"

This month we are pleased to have member Mike Bader return to finish the presentation he started in February. Due to more club business than usual, Mike had less time than normal. So, between the time crunch and the interest shown in the topic, we're having Mike finish up this month.

Guests and visitors are welcome. People can attend any SHCC meetings during two consecutive months before deciding whether to become a member or not. July and August don't count since there is no main meeting in those months. Membership includes admission to all SHCC functions and the newsletter. Membership is open to anyone. It is not limited to the residents of Sterling Heights.

DUES: \$30/YEAR

CLUB ADDRESS: PO Box 385, Sterling Heights, MI 48311-0385
CLUB E-MAIL ADDRESS: Info@SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org
CLUB WEB PAGE: <http://www.SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org>

2019 SHCC Officers

President	Don VanSyckel
Vice President	Mike Bader
Secretary	(open)
Treasurer	Bernie DeFazio

Resource People

Firefox	Don VanSyckel
General Computer Questions	Jack Vander- Schrier
Hardware	(open)
MS Publisher	(open)
MS Word	Rick Schummer
Spreadsheets	Rick Schummer

SHCC Coordinators

Associate Editor	Rick Schummer
Door prizes	Don VanSyckel
Greeter for visitors	Jim Waldrop
Newsletter Publisher/Editor	Paul Baecker
Program Coordinator	Mike Bader
Publicity	Patrick Little
Publicity	Phil Reynaud
Resource People	(open)
Welcome & check-in desk	Jim Waldrop
Web Site Admin	Don VanSyckel
Web Watch column	Paul Baecker

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Jack Vander-Schrier (Call Jack after noon)	586-739-5952	jvanders@comcast.net

Four-Month Meeting Schedule

APRIL 2019	JUNE 2019
2 - SHCC Main Meeting	4 - SHCC Main Meeting
14 - SEMCO Meeting	9 - SEMCO Meeting
MAY 2019	JULY 2019
7 - SHCC Main Meeting	SHCC - NO Meeting
12- SEMCO Meeting	14 - SEMCO Meeting

Other Computer Clubs

As a member of SHCC, you can attend meetings of the other clubs where we have reciprocating membership agreements, at no charge.

South Eastern Michigan Computer Organization (SEMCO) (new location)
Time: 2nd Sunday at 1:15PM
Place: Lawrence Tech (Southfield Campus) 21000 W. 10 Mile Rd, Southfield, Wayne H. Buell Mgmt. Bldg, Room M213
Web page: <http://www.semco.org>
 Reciprocating: Yes

Computer Club of Marysville and Port Huron (COMP)
 Group no longer has a web site or offers presentations.

Group meets for dinner on the first Wednesday each month (except for January) at 6 pm - the meeting place changes each month, depending on where everyone wants to eat.

Royal Oak Computer Club
Time: Every Wednesday at 12:30
Place: Mahany/Meineger Senior Community Center 500 Marais Ave. Royal Oak, MI 48073
 248-246-3900
 Reciprocating: No

Upcoming get-togethers should be posted at:
www.facebook.com/bwcompclub
 Reciprocating: Yes

Newsletter submissions are due 10 days before the club meeting, but the earlier the better. They should be sent to : newsletter@SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org

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The President's Pen

by Don VanSyckel



I have a potpourri of items to discuss this month.

First, a reminder to be on the look-out for a new meeting location. Baker College is closing the campus we meet at in August 2020. So we either move this September or next September. Please send any ideas to any of the Officers for consideration. See "**Meeting Room Search**" box on page 13 for our meeting room requirements.

The PC raffle will be held at the March meeting. See details in the column at the right. In a surprise offer, if we sell 30 or more raffle tickets, a second PC will be donated for a second prize. The second PC is not the same as the first and has Windows 7 installed. But this doubles your chance of winning.

Did you attend the recent Word Press presentations at SHCC? They were very good and there was quite a bit of interest among club members. Mr. Eric Malcolm, the Word Press professional who did the presentations, has volunteered to mentor a group of SHCC member who are interested in learning Word Press and building their web sites. There will probably be several meetings. The location and schedule of these meetings has not been set. Once I have a list of those interested I will attempt to accommodate everyone or at least the most possible with meeting schedule. Likely to be at a free room in one of the area libraries in the evening — we'll see. Please let me know by the March meeting if you are interested. No charge for this. Thank you Mr. Malcolm! Five members and counting. We'll have a good time!

With the passing of newsletter duties to new people, it has come to our attention that our current newsletter of 14 pages (seven sheets of paper for those who receive the paper newsletter) is heavier than one ounce, so we need to use more postage. When we checked the copying cost, it has also gone up since we implemented the charge for the paper newsletter. We figure that the paper newsletter now costs \$3.10/issue to print and mail, or \$31.00 for the year. If we want, within two-ounce weight we *could* add one sheet (2 pages) or two sheets (4 pages). Each sheet would be an extra \$3 per year. The club dues are controlled by the Constitution, so at the March meeting I will be looking for someone to make a motion to change the \$20 paper newsletter up-cost to \$31, \$34, or \$37, depending on how big you want the newsletter, both electronic and paper. If you receive the paper newsletter, please try to attend the March meeting.

Currently your club does not have a Secretary.

Nominations for the vacant Secretary position were opened at the January and February meetings, and will be re-opened at the March meeting, with voting to follow. Refer back to the January WYSIWYG for details of the position.

We certainly hope that YOU will consider to accept this very important challenge.

*** SHCC Raffle ***

We will be raffling off a computer, donated by a club member, at the March meeting. Tickets are \$5.00 each. Specifications of the computer are listed below. The computer is a refurbished unit in fine working order. It will be available for inspection at the March meeting.

Tickets can be purchased at the March meeting. Tickets can also be purchased by sending a check for \$5.00 for each ticket, to the club P.O. Box. We won't send back a ticket for mail purchases, but we will acknowledge receipt of the money via email, and will put a ticket in the drawing jar for you. The club mailing address is on page 2 of the WYSIWYG. All checks sent by mail must arrive in the P.O. Box by Saturday, March 2 (so don't delay!). You do not need to be present at the meeting to win.

The drawing will be held at the end of the March meeting, in addition to the normal door prize drawing.

Specs of the raffle PC:

Hardware:

- ◆ HP Compaq 8000 Elite SFF Tower
- ◆ Intel Duo Core CPU 3.0 GHz
- ◆ 4 GB RAM, 320 GB Hard Drive
- ◆ PS2 Keyboard, MS USB Laser Mouse
- ◆ 17" Monitor
- ◆ 4 USB ports on front, 6 on back
- ◆ VGA, Display, Ethernet ports
- ◆ On-board Sound

Software:

- ◆ Windows 10 Professional, version 1809, updated, 64-bit
- ◆ Adobe Reader DC, Flash, Shockwave, Java
- ◆ IE11, Microsoft Edge, Google
- ◆ Bullzip PDF Printer
- ◆ Classic Shell
- ◆ LibreOffice (alternative to MS Office)
- ◆ Windows Defender, Silverlight
- ◆ PIXresizer
- ◆ PrintKey 2000
- ◆ Roxio Business ver. 10
- ◆ WinAmp with 60's music

Failing Retirement

by Rod Scher
The Geekly Weekly
<http://www.thegeeklyweely.com>

My 9th grade Intro to Algebra teacher lied to me. I was given the impression that in my life there would be numerous occasions when I would be required to determine exactly when the blue train would meet the green train, both of them having left different stations at different times and traveling toward each other at different rates of speed. This has yet to happen to me. And it's a good thing, because I had no idea how to figure out when the trains would cross paths, and I still have no idea how to figure this out. If the occasion did suddenly arise, I would have to call my friend Rick, who knows all of this stuff. (I'm trying to figure out what could possibly happen that would cause this issue to arise; perhaps if I were tied to the tracks, it would become a matter of some import to me. I'm working very hard at avoiding such a situation.)

See? Working. Work, work, work. That's all I do on these trips. (Photo by Lesley Scher.)



But all of this is just to say that life never quite works out as we expect. I had planned to be a psychologist. I really loved all the psychology classes I took—and also the related coursework in sociology, anthropology... You know. All of those -ologies. But then it turned out that psych majors had to take a statistics course. This is when I became an English major. (But the joke was on me. When I went to graduate school as an Education major, it turned out that I still had to take a statistics course!)

So, here I am many years later, retired. Sort of. It turns out that I apparently don't know how to be retired. I had the best of intentions. I was going to fish. A lot. I bought new fishing gear, some for freshwater fishing on lakes and rivers, and some much larger, more intimidatingly manly gear for surfcasting. The latter I have never used. The former I've used once, in a muddy river seemingly bereft of fish. (Though I did catch a very nice branch, which I had planned to take home and mount on the wall, until Lesley unplanned that for me.)

We even bought a beautiful little travel trailer; we take it all over and love camping in the beautiful state parks in Oregon and Washington. The private RV parks are a little pricier, but they often have amenities that are lacking in some of the parks. (Boondocking sites—places to park your RV for free or almost free—are often very beautiful, but generally lack all amenities, including showers, dump stations, or bathrooms. Since one cannot dump one's tanks at most

such sites, the longest we can stay at a boondocking site is 3-4 days; after that it's time to dump our tanks and take a very long hot shower.) And we do take the trailer out as often as we can. In fact, we're currently planning a 3-week trip, which means that a new editing job will show up in my inbox exactly 6 hours before we leave.

There. See? Working. Slaving away while everyone else is out hiking, sweating, mired in the mud, being chased by bears and cougars and angry moose... Actually, you know what? Never mind. I'm good. (Photo by Lesley Scher.)



See, even though I do a lot of camping, and in spite of this theoretical "retirement," I'm still working. Even when I'm "camping" I'm often working. All I need, after all, is a cell signal. (Actual Wi-Fi is rare, but it does happen.) So, I've spent many an hour with our trailer nestled in the beauty of a forest of pines, blue skies overhead, the sounds of a rushing river in the background, the smell of fresh elk poop wafting all around—and there I am, hunched over our little dinette table, working away on my laptop, editing a book or writing an article.

In fact, I had planned to start my own little company (doing some very secret, cybersecurity-related stuff), but every time I get a few minutes to think about that project, in comes another editing gig. I'd really like to have another source of income, but I'm too busy working to figure out how to work.

And here's our cute little trailer, stopped for lunch somewhere on the road. (Photo by Lesley. Or Rod. Or possibly some passerby, I'm not sure.)



I can't complain, really. I mean, the money is needed to help pay for Lesley's health insurance and to buy camping equipment and computer gear. And possibly a fully restored 1963 Austin-Healey 3000 convertible. (I just snuck that in there to see if Lesley was actually reading these blog entries. My plan, if she doesn't read this, is to just buy the car and when she says, "Where—and WHY—did you buy that car, dammit?!" I can simply respond, "But Honey, I told you I was going to buy it! It was right there in blog post #37!" This is a foolproof plan, I can tell already.)

Still, I had always thought retirement would involve more fishing.

This article is republished, with permission, from The Geekly Weekly.



What Happens to Amazon Returns?

From the Ask Bob Rankin Newsletter
<https://askbobrankin.com>

Easy, no-hassle returns of merchandise have been critical to Amazon's success. The e-commerce giant does not publish returns figures, but analysts estimate the MSRP value of returns runs into billions of dollars annually. What happens to all that returned merchandise? The answers may surprise you... read on!

Return to Sender... Then What?

I can remember when I was very young, my mother explained to me why she preferred to shop at the Lloyd's department store in our town, and not at the newer store that had recently opened nearby. It was all about the return policy, she said. If a store makes it easy to return an item, you shop there with confidence. According to a Deloitte Retail Survey, 60 percent of shoppers consider easy returns a major factor when shopping online. So Mom was right!

Perhaps Jeff Bezos, the CEO of Amazon, received similar advice from his mother. I should have asked him that when I interviewed him for Boardwatch Magazine, back in 1996. Back then, Amazon was still "Earth's biggest bookstore," and would not begin to expand into clothing, toys, gadgets and groceries for several years. But the no-hassle return policy has been a bedrock of the company since its inception in 1994.

Amazon says "You may return most new, unopened items sold and fulfilled by Amazon within 30 days of delivery for a full refund." Most returns are free, and refunds are completed in 3-5 days after the return is received. And from what I've read, they'll take back even opened items if you decide you didn't like or want it. If you received a damaged or defective item, they will provide a replacement of that item.

Amazon return policy

And that's where things get a little sticky. Returned items may go back on the warehouse shelf to be sold again, if it is still in its original packaging and undamaged. But opened, defective, or damaged merchandise may face several different fates. Some used merchandise ends up on the Amazon Warehouse site, where used goods from third-party sellers are offered at steep discounts.

There's also an Amazon Renewed section for electronics and appliances that have been tested and certified



to "look and work like new;" a 90-day warranty is included. Only selected sellers with high satisfaction ratings are allowed to offer "Amazon Renewed" goods. In some cases, the goods are refurbished by their manufacturers; on others, the seller refurbishes things.

Some prices are lower than MSRP but don't seem like anything to write home about. This HP 14-inch laptop is \$285.99, for instance. But there are some good deals. This refurbished Dyson Ball Multi Floor 2 Upright Vacuum which has an MSRP of \$399, is offered for just \$269. And this Blendtec Total Classic Original Blender (MSRP \$449) is available for \$269.

Liquidate: Not Just a Setting on Your Blender

Liquidation is another path that returned goods may follow. Here, Amazon disposes of used goods that third-party sellers don't want back. Huge quantities of returned goods, unsorted and uninspected, are sold for pennies on the dollar to companies like Liquidity Services, which last year reported buying \$33.7 million worth of Amazon returns.



At companies like Liquidity Services, items are loosely sorted into broad categories such as "electronics," "home décor," "health & beauty," with no testing or close inspection. A pallet full of such items is shrink-wrapped and auctioned off to hopeful resellers. Each pallet's online listing includes a manifest of its contents and the MSRP of each item, which is utterly meaningless as a measure of value. A pallet with \$4,000 MSRP value may sell for a bid of \$200. Huge warehouses around the country exist solely for processing and reselling returned items. Here's a [video](#) of that in action.

Pallet buyers have to be as patient and optimistic as gold-panners. It's common for up to half of a pallet to be unsellable trash that has to be thrown out, according to experienced liquidation seller Walter Blake Knoblock. He has some good advice for would-be liquidation resellers in his live-streamed video preserved on YouTube. But hardly anyone takes it, because it's not what they want to hear.

Liquidity Services says it has 3,357,000 registered buyers who spent \$626.4 million last year on returned or surplus stuff, including but not limited to Amazon returns. These millions of small resellers are the gold panners of what Liquidity Services calls the "reverse supply chain."

A lot of returned items end up on eBay in auctions that

(continued on page 8....)

DuckDuckGo vs. Google: The Best Search Engine for You

By James Frew

<https://www.makeuseof.com>

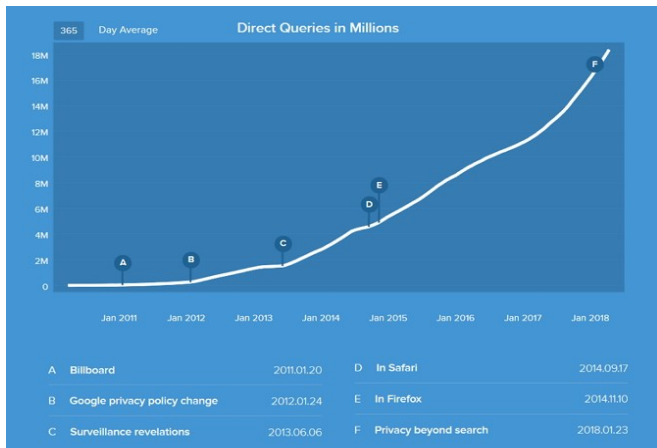
Over the years, Google has left its humble origins behind to become one of the largest companies in the world, offering a wide range of devices and services.

To keep those services free, Google records data about you and uses it to display targeted advertising—their main source of revenue. As the debate around online privacy ramps up, many people are looking for an alternative.

Fortunately, DuckDuckGo might be the privacy-focused search engine you've been looking for.

What Is DuckDuckGo?

DuckDuckGo describes itself as “the search engine that doesn't track you.” Most search engines collect search data, with Google even linking that data to your account. The recorded data is used to personalize your search results, and to show you targeted advertising. But DuckDuckGo (DDG) doesn't track you and opts not to personalize your search results.



The site has grown steadily since its inception, going from an average 79,000 daily searches in 2010, to 23.5 million daily and 16 billion total searches as of April 2018. Some of this growth has been down to DDG's partnerships with browsers like Firefox, and Apple's Safari. They have also partnered with many Linux operating systems, and have native apps for both Android and iOS.

For those that want to take anonymity a step further, TOR browser users are presented with DuckDuckGo search results by default. DDG focuses on search result quality over quantity, with results coming from over 400 sources.

If you still crave alternative results, DDG's bangs feature allow you to directly search third-party sites and even other search providers.

Who Owns DuckDuckGo?

Gabriel Weinberg

CEO & Founder, DuckDuckGo. Co-author, Traction. I want to publish zines and rage against machines.



DuckDuckGo was first launched in 2008 by founder and CEO Gabriel Weinberg. It is still owned and operated by Weinberg under the privately held company DuckDuckGo Inc. The company currently has 45 employees working behind the scenes to continue development of DDG.

When talking privacy, it can be important to know a bit about the people that run the companies you entrust with your data.

Before creating DDG, Gabriel Weinberg developed one of the first-wave social networks, Names Database. He later sold the business for approximately \$10 million in 2006.

The money was used to self-fund the development of DDG through the company's early years. Weinberg later co-authored Traction, a book about startup growth. Due to his stance on user privacy, he is regularly quoted as an expert source by the news community.

How Does DuckDuckGo Earn Money?

Weinberg's original cash injection carried the company for some years. In 2011, the venture capital firm Union Square Ventures invested in DDG. That initial funding round netted DDG an additional \$3 million.

However, venture capital investments don't make a company profitable. To create a financially sustainable business model, DDG displays advertising.

However, unlike other search engines, the adverts are not based on targeted data. Instead, the ads are based exclusively on the keywords in your search. All of DDG's advertising is syndicated by Yahoo, which is part of the Yahoo-Microsoft search alliance.

While DDG doesn't provide any personal data to either company, the inclusion of two technology giants with questionable attitudes to privacy might make you uncomfortable. That's why DDG allows you to pop over to the settings, and disable advertisements. This is one of the most important points in the DuckDuckGo vs. Google battle.

DuckDuckGo is also part of Amazon and eBay's affiliate programs. If you click through to either site from your search results and make a purchase, DDG receives a small percentage of the sale.

Can You Trust DuckDuckGo?

You may have noticed that technology companies aren't the most trustworthy of businesses. The list of problematic activity includes cooperation with government spying, unethical data gathering, and even an inability to protect your data. So it's only natural that you would question why you should trust DuckDuckGo.

The founder's privacy-focused background and the company's admirable business model are excellent starting points, but there are plenty more reasons to trust DDG.

Privacy Policy

Their clearly written privacy policy also makes for reassuring reading, providing detail on the small amount of information they do collect. The key takeaways are that they "do not store IP addresses or unique User agent strings" and will set a cookie only for storing site settings.

It ends with the assuring statement:

"...we will comply with court-ordered legal requests. However, in our case, we don't expect any because there is nothing useful to give them since we don't collect any personal information."

Open Source

As well as being built using free and open source software (FOSS), DDG has made parts of their software open source.

Many of the site's designs, mobile apps, browser extensions, whitelists, and instant answers are available on DuckDuckGo's GitHub page. Although the primary search core is proprietary, open-sourcing most other parts of the site means that, given the inclination, anyone can view the code.

Donations to Privacy

Like many companies, DDG also donates a portion of their income to good causes. They specifically select organizations which share their "vision of raising the standard of trust online."

Each year DuckDuckGo selects a new group of organizations, even reaching out to Reddit for suggestions. To date, they have donated \$800,000 to their chosen beneficiaries.

Beyond Search

In January 2018, DuckDuckGo moved beyond search, releasing a suite of tools to help you maintain your privacy across the internet.

They revamped their browser extensions and mobile apps to include tracking protection, encryption, and quick access to their private search. The update also added a Site Privacy Grade rating from A through to F, for you to

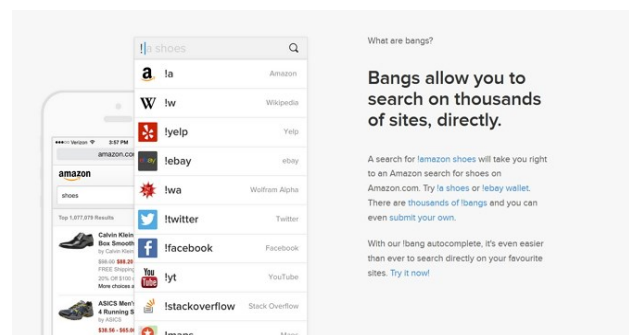
gauge how much a site maintains your privacy.

DuckDuckGo vs. Google

Alongside search, Google operates some of the web's most used software including Gmail, Docs, Drive, Calendar and more besides. Google's access to vast amounts of your personal data means that its results can be deeply personalized and their search page pulls it all together in one place. DuckDuckGo doesn't have any personal data to draw from, and so makes itself stand out in other ways.

The privacy-focused environment is almost the exact reverse of Google's highly targeted surroundings. There are no personalized ads, no personal search results, and no filter bubble. Depending on your point of view, this is either one of DDG's best or worst features.

For the privacy-minded, this lack of tracking is likely to seal the deal. However, DuckDuckGo has another trick up its sleeve: *bangs*.



Bangs allow you to search third-party sites directly from DuckDuckGo. Say you wanted to search makeuseof.com. Google would let you perform a site search by entering "site:makeuseof.com". Using DDG's bangs you enter "!muo".

What's more, searching a site with any of the thousands of available bangs takes you directly to the site, rather than the search engine's results. If you do find yourself missing Google's tailored results, then adding '!g' before your query will take you directly there.

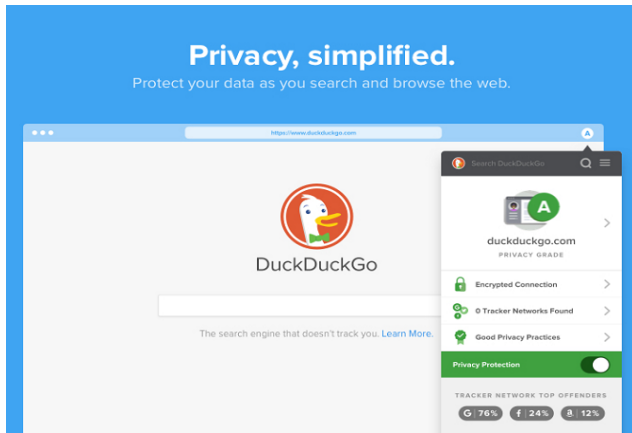
DuckDuckGo Apps and Extensions

At this point, most of us are already deeply embedded in operating systems, browsers, and apps. That Google is so widely accessible on nearly every device, screen, and browser means that DuckDuckGo needs to be readily available wherever you need it.

That's why DDG has graduated from its web-only origins to now offer mobile apps and browser extensions which add privacy-focused features to their private search.

DuckDuckGo on Your Browser

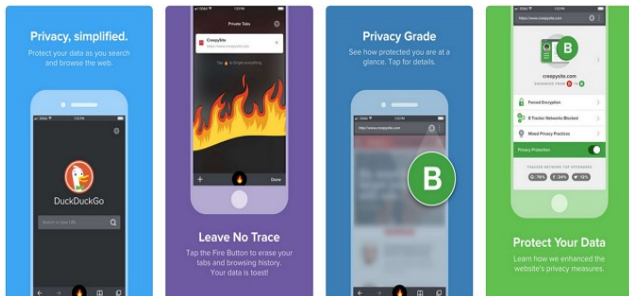
DuckDuckGo is a search provider on most mainstream browsers, but Chrome, Firefox, Opera, and Safari users



can also install the DuckDuckGo extension. The extension blocks hidden advertising trackers, forces sites to HTTPS where it's available and gives you quick access to DDG's search.

DuckDuckGo Mobile Apps

DuckDuckGo's Android and iOS offerings build on the features found in the browser extensions. Tracking prevention, encryption, and DDG's private search are all built into a minimal mobile web browser. A fire icon on



the browser lets you erase all browsing data and close all active tabs.

There is a basic bookmarking feature for access to your favorite sites, but there are few other features. For most people, this won't do as a browser replacement. However, it's handy for when you need to search for something sensitive.

Giving The Duck a Go

Google became the dominant force in search by offering you personalized search. They built incredibly useful apps and services which captured even more of our data to improve your search results further. However, in light of several privacy scandals in recent years, we are becoming more cautious with our data.

DuckDuckGo appeals to the privacy-minded, but importantly it isn't a niche product. With a range of useful

features, some of which aren't even available on Google, DuckDuckGo shows that user privacy and usefulness aren't mutually exclusive. Is it the absolute winner of the DuckDuckGo vs. Google fight? We'll let you decide.

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Amazon Returns (.....continued from page 5)

may start with a 1-cent bid. They may or may not come with a return option. In many cases, eBay's Buyer Protection program will help buyers recover their money even if the seller's policy is "no returns". But often the price paid for an item is not worth the expense or hassle of returning it, so buyers just toss their "bargains" in the trash.

My Own Liquidation Story Had an Unhappy Ending

I've learned personally that some of that damaged merchandise is sold on Ebay and other outlets as "New" when it's clearly not. A few weeks ago, I tried to buy a replacement controller for an electric blanket. One seller on Ebay had the exact model I needed for \$30, which was the best price I could find. The item arrived in a few days, but there was a surprise. The power cord was cut in half! I knew from a previous return experience of my own that vendors often require customers to cut the power cord before returning, so the item cannot be resold.

Clearly this was a defective, previously returned item being passed off as new merchandise. I had to fight a few rounds with the seller, who accused me of the dirty deed, before he agreed to refund me in full. To make things worse, I ordered the controller again (from a different Ebay seller) and that item was also dead on arrival. Ebay does have a strong refund policy as well, so at least it didn't cost me anything, except my time and frustration.

Buying used, returned merchandise is a gamble unless the goods come with a dependable company's warranty. The lower price of such an item may not be worth the risk, especially if the price is dozens or hundreds of dollars. But sometimes it's fun to drop \$10 to \$20 on an "amazing deal" just to see what you get. Even more fun (and free) is to search YouTube for "unboxing Amazon returns" and watching Millennials take the risk for you. Many "unboxing" videos get millions of views. Huh.

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How To Clean Up Mashed Up Prints

by Terry Hollett

<https://davescomputertips.com>

I like to save copies of my uploads to Daves Computer Tips. Originally I used the MHTML format to save the documents. This allowed me to save the document as one file compared to saving it as a complete web page. But this format seems to be falling out of favour. I tried printing to a PDF, but here is what happens if I try to print a page of Daves Computer Tips to printer or PDF:



But I found a way to clear it up without having to use

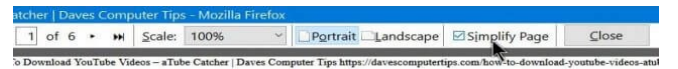
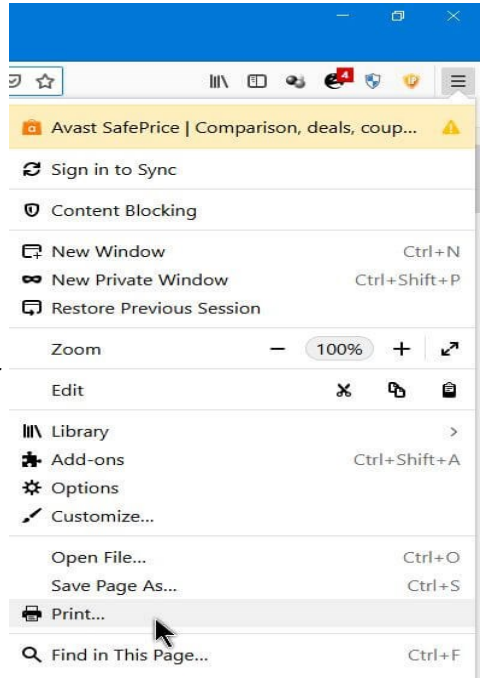
Important (Some) Dates in March

Need an excuse to celebrate? Here are some opportunities in March:

- 1 **National Pig Day** — Cuddle up with one, read about one, or eat one.
- 1 **Employee Appreciation Day** (first Friday in March) — Feel appreciated...unless you're retired.
- 3 **National Anthem Day** — Hum a familiar tune.
- 4 **Paczki Day** — Enjoy a Polish donut.
- 5 **Shrove Tuesday / Mardi Gras**
- 6 **National Frozen Food Day** — Visit a frozen food aisle.
- 7 **National Cereal Day** — My favorite way to start the day.
- 10 **Daylight Saving Time** begins at 2:00 am
- 11 **National Napping Day** — Catch up on that lost hour.
- 12 **National Open an Umbrella Indoors Day** — Avoid the chandelier.
- 17 **Saint Patrick's Day**
- 20 **International Earth Day**
- 22 **National Goof Off Day** — Skip whatever you're supposed to be doing.
- 28 **National Weed Appreciation Day** — The ones you pull (not smoke) all Summer.
- 29 **National Vietnam War Veterans Day**

any extensions. Just use a different browser, other than Opera and in this case it's Firefox. Open the document in your browser, go to the three bars menu in the top left-hand corner and click on Print.

Then, click on "Simplify Page" in the top right-hand corner of the page. See the difference (below)?



How To Download YouTube Videos - aTube Catcher | Daves Computer Tips

About the Author Terry Hollett

I wrote before about using [4K Video Downloader](#) to download YouTube videos. One reader suggested another downloader and I decided to check it out. It's called [aTube Catcher](#).

Be careful during the setup—it offers to install **McAfee Web Advisor** and **The Brave Browser**. Accept if you want any of these or just click on **Decline**.

aTube Catcher

Once installed, open it up and you'll get a colourful tiled screen with a few program options. Right now I'm only concerned with the downloader, so you can just close this and if you want, check the **Don't show again** box towards the bottom.

Just goes to show, when you get brave enough to click on a button just to see what happens, this is how you figure things out.

This article is republished, with permission, from the DavesComputerTips newsletter.



{Ed. notes: Just try different browsers, until you find one that will properly display the print image for your eyes.

The "3-bars menu" icon mentioned in the article is sometimes called the "hamburger" icon (as in a 'triple-decker' burger).

The "Simplify Page" feature does not always work. Sometimes it is 'greyed-out', which means that it doesn't function for the specific web print that you're choosing (perhaps due to some web site coding). I have found it useful on occasion when it has cooperated, but just don't plan for it.}

Everything You Need to Know About the Browser Cache

By Tina Sieber

<https://www.makeuseof.com>

Whenever you have an issue with a website, one of the first suggestions you will hear from IT support is “try to clear your browser cache” along with “and delete your cookies”. So what is this ominous browser cache? What does it store and what is it good for? What your browser cache does, why you would want to clear it, and how this is done are the questions addressed in this article.

What Is A Browser Cache?

The browser cache is a temporary storage location on your computer for files downloaded by your browser to display websites. Files that are cached locally include any documents that make up a website, such as html files, CSS style sheets, JavaScript scripts, as well as graphic images and other multimedia content.

When you revisit a website, the browser checks which content was updated in the meantime and only downloads updated files or what is not already stored in the cache. This reduces bandwidth usage on both the user and server side and allows the page to load faster. Hence, the cache is especially useful when you have a slow or limited Internet connection.



Why Do I Need To Clear The Cache?

The browser cache can get quite large and take up a lot of space on your hard drive, filled with data from websites you will never visit again. While you can limit how large it can get, it is still useful to occasionally clear it to fix problems and speed things up again.

Sometimes, cached versions of a website can cause issues, for example when the browser does not download a fresh copy, even though the site was updated since last caching it. Another evidence for a cache issue is when a website only loads partially or looks like it's badly formatted. Since the cache lies at the heart of many website-related problems, IT support will recommend that you clear your cache when you report respective phenomena.

Moreover, cached data reveals what websites you have visited in the past. This may be a privacy concern, depending on who has access to your computer or how other websites you visit use this information.

How Can I Easily Bypass Or Clear The Cache?

An easy way to reload a page and bypass the cache (force-reload page) involves using keyboard shortcuts. Generally, the keyboard shortcut [Ctrl] + [F5] will work. But ultimately, this depends on what browser you are using.

A thorough list of keyboard shortcuts sorted by browser can be found in [this Wikipedia article](#). Below you will find shortcuts for the most common browsers.

Mozilla Firefox:

- *reload page and bypass cache*: [Ctrl] + [F5] or [Ctrl] + [SHIFT] + [R] or [Shift] + browser Reload button
- *clear cache*: [Ctrl] + [Shift] + [Del]

Google Chrome:

- *reload page*: [Ctrl] + [F5] or [Shift] + [F5] or [Ctrl] + browser Reload button
- *reload page and bypass cache*: [Ctrl] + [Shift] + [R] or perform above page reload twice in a row
- *clear cache*: [Ctrl] + [Shift] + [Del]

Internet Explorer 9:

- *reload page and bypass cache*: [Ctrl] + [F5] or [Ctrl] + browser Refresh button
- *clear cache*: [Ctrl] + [Shift] + [Del]

You can also clear the cache by going through the browser menu. Again, the exact path depends on which browser you are using. A thorough walkthrough for almost any browser can be found in [this WikiHow article](#).

To avoid storing cache for a session, check out [how to enable private browsing](#).

This article is republished, with permission, from the MakeUseOf web site.

{Ed. note: Another way to avoid having to clear the cache (because it does destroy convenience things for sites you visit) is to just use “Incognito mode” or “Privacy mode” (different terms, similar meanings). See the web site link in the WYSIWYG Web Watch on page 14.}



Streaming Basics

by Cyn Mackley
Cyn Mackley's Tech Tips

<https://cynmackley.com/category/cyns-tech-tips/>

We talk a lot about streaming services like Netflix and Hulu and how to get them on your TV. To watch these services on your television, you need some type of streaming device. That could be a game console like a PlayStation or Xbox, but it is often a streaming box or streaming stick. Examples of a streaming device include Roku, Amazon Fire Sticks, or Apple TV.



These devices require a high-speed wireless Internet connection. Some boxes can be plugged directly into a modem, but that means you'll be limited to having a device right there by the modem. Devices range in cost from around \$30 for a basic streaming stick to \$150 for something like AppleTV.

Streaming *sticks* plug into an HDMI port on your TV. Streaming *boxes* plug into an HDMI port with a cable. Streaming sticks are smallish, roughly double the size of a USB flash drive. Most boxes are quite small, roughly around 4" by 4".



Basically, these devices turn your TV into a tablet that's capable of running apps (which is short for application and means the same thing as a program in this situation.) In most cases an Android tablet, unless you are using Apple TV. Instead of a touchscreen, you control the stick or box with a remote or with an app on your

tablet or smartphone.



An example of an app that runs on a streaming box is Netflix. You can open Netflix and select from their library of programming to watch. You can watch any program you like at any time. There's no schedule as to when things air as with traditional TV. These shows are not stored on a hard drive on your device. You are streaming them from a cloud server. Viewers are able to pause where they like and then come back later to pick up where they left off.



Some services, such as Netflix, have an individual monthly subscription fee. Others like PlutoTV or basic YouTube are free to download and to watch. You can have subscriptions to multiple services like Netflix, Amazon Prime, or Hulu. You won't receive one consolidated bill for all of your services like with cable and satellite. You'll need to pay for each subscription service separately.

You aren't limited to watching Netflix programming on your TV. You can also download the app to watch on phone, tablet, or PC. In fact, you don't actually need a TV at all for the service. The same is true for most other streaming apps.

This article is republished, with permission, from Cyn Mackley's Tech Tips.

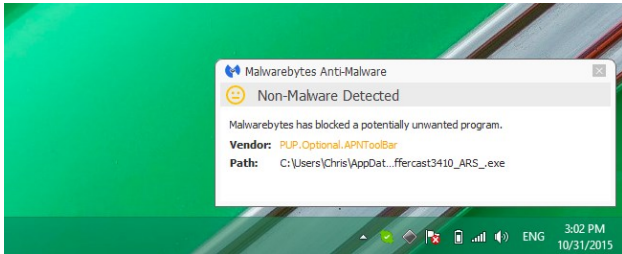


PUPs Explained: What is a “Potentially Unwanted Program”?

by Chris Hoffman

<https://www.howtogeek.com/>

Anti-malware programs like Malwarebytes pop up warnings when they detect “potentially unwanted programs” you might want to remove. People call PUPs many other names, including “adware” and “crapware.” You almost certainly don’t want these programs on your computer, but they’re categorized differently for legal reasons.



Malware is a type of malicious software that infects your computer without your permission. “Potentially unwanted programs” often arrive bundled with other software and often have a EULA you probably clicked right through. PUP developers can argue their programs aren’t malware.

What is a “Potentially Unwanted Program”, or PUP?

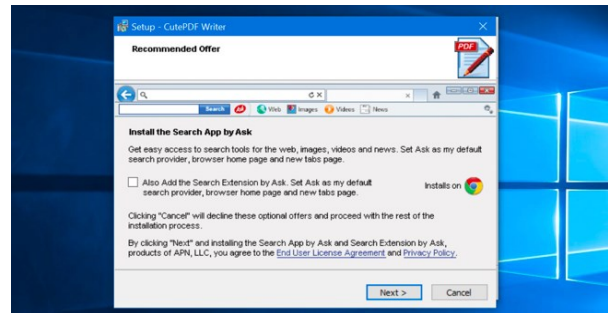
The quick answer is that “potentially unwanted program” isn’t the best name. Instead, these programs should really be called “almost certainly unwanted programs.” In fact, if someone does want one of these “potentially unwanted programs” installed, there’s a good chance that person doesn’t fully understand what that program is doing on their computer.

These are programs which don’t really do anything good for you. For example, browser toolbars that clutter your browser, track your web browsing, and show additional advertisements to you are “potentially unwanted programs.” A Bitcoin-mining program like the one uTorrent once included is a “potentially unwanted program.”

Note that these programs do absolutely nothing good on your computer — they slow it down, track you, clutter the system, and show you additional advertisements.

The key difference is how a potentially unwanted program arrives. “Malware” is malicious software that arrives without your express permission. “Potentially unwanted programs” are programs that arrive along

with a EULA that tricks you into installing them.

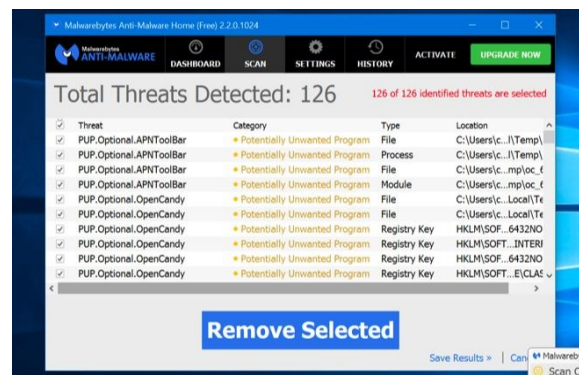


Why they’re called PUPs and not malware

There’s a lot of money in crapware. All the big free Windows software download sites bundle crapware — even SourceForge does! And it’s now become normal for Mac freeware download sites to bundle potentially unwanted programs, too. If you download and install this stuff, your computer wasn’t infected against your will — you agreed to some fine print and gave the company permission to run this stuff on your computer.

This is all completely legal, of course. Blocking such an application and labelling it “malware” would open up a company to lawsuits — at least, that appears to be the feeling across the industry. Antivirus companies like Avira have even been sued just for labelling software programs like these as “potentially unwanted programs.” Avira won that particular lawsuit, but they might have lost had gone farther and labelled that program flat-out malware.

By classifying these programs as just “potentially unwanted programs,” antimalware software creators are attempting to shield themselves from legal action while detecting software most people don’t want on their computers.

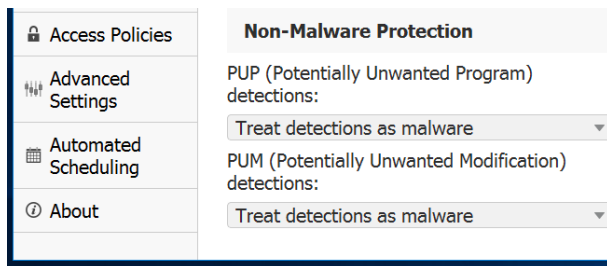


Whether an antimalware — or antivirus — application chooses to flag and detect PUPs is up to that individual engine. Some security software makers are more focused on malware, while others — Malwarebytes, for example — are more serious about detecting and removing PUPs.

What do PUPs do, exactly?

So what does it take for a program to be considered a PUP? Well, Malwarebytes offers a list of behaviors that will cause Malwarebytes to flag a software program as a PUP. Advertising that obstructs content or interferes with web browsing, pop-up windows, pop-under windows, search engine hijacking, home page hijacking, toolbars with no value for the user, redirecting competitors' websites, altering search results, replacing ads on web pages — these are all actions that will cause a program to be flagged as a PUP.

While this all may be arguably legal, this is all the sort of nasty stuff most people just wouldn't want on their computers.



Should you remove that PUP?

You almost certainly don't want that potentially unwanted program installed — remove it. If you're curious, perform a web search for the detected PUP's name to see more information about it.

This is how the phrase “potentially unwanted program” is usually used by antimalware programs. But some antimalware tools sometimes include certain system and security-related tools in the PUP category to help their enterprise customers.

For example, a utility that finds and displays the product keys for installed software on your current PC might be categorized as a “PUP” so large businesses can prevent their employees from running this type of software on their workstations. A VNC program for remote-desktop access might be considered a “potentially unwanted program,” too.

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{Ed. Note: The important term here is “potentially”. Not all PUPs are unwanted software. Just as a couple of examples, the popular free “Advanced System Care” maintenance tool from IObit (<https://www.iobit.com>) and the also-popular free “Auslogics Disk Defrag” defragmentation tool (<https://www.auslogics.com>) are flagged by Malwarebytes as PUPs, for unknown reasons. So, before simply trusting the results of an anti-spyware/malware tool and deleting everything that it finds, scrutinize the findings carefully, particularly the PUPs. Research them on the web, if necessary. Some tools (such as Malwarebytes) have settings that allow you to mark individual findings as legitimate (= wanted by you) and to be ignored in future scans.}

Door Prize Winners

February 2019:

Gail Minnick — Flash drive
Ralph Osinski — DVD spindle
Louise Manning — Microfibre cloth pack
Bernie DeFazio — CD case
Warner Mach — Printer paper
Don VanSyckel — Power strip
Paul Manning — Tape measure

Meeting Room Search

Our room requirements are:

- First-Tuesday evening availability each month (except July/August)
- Internet connectivity and room audio system
- Projector and screen (and a microphone, depending on room size)
- 40-person capacity minimum
- Ability to reserve the room for a full year (Sept. – June)
- Reasonably quiet environment

Club Dues Amounts

The dues were raised to \$30 per year at the November 2018 meeting.

This includes a digital version of the newsletter sent monthly, except for July and August, when the club does not meet.

A paper version of the newsletter is available in place of the digital newsletter, for an additional \$20 per year.

Associate memberships, for a second member of a household, remain at an additional \$15 per year.

VISIT THE SHCC WEB SITE:

<http://www.SterlingHeightsComputerClub.org>

SHCC Emergency Cancellation

Sterling Heights Computer Club meets at Baker College In Clinton Township. We will meet if Baker College is open and will not meet if Baker College is closed. Baker College closure is announced with other school closings on many local TV and radio stations and on their web site. All members of SHCC have an email address. One of the SHCC officers will send an email to the addresses SHCC has on file alerting members to the event cancellation. If your email is broken, call an officer; and don't leave a message. Call another officer if you don't talk to someone live.

It is your responsibility to keep the email address you have listed with SHCC current.

WYSIWYG WEB WATCH (www)

by Paul Baecker — webwatch@sterlingheightscomputerclub.org



This column attempts to locate sites containing valuable, amusing, and free content, with no overbearing pressure to purchase anything.

Club members are encouraged to submit favorite sites (a description is optional) to the e-address noted above, for inclusion in a

future WYSIWYG issue. Also check the SHCC web site (“Web Page Reviews”) for previous gems.

9 ways to solve the “100% disk usage” error in Windows 10 (viewable in the Task Manager).

<https://www.guidingtech.com/solve-100-disk-usage-error-windows-10/>

Thumbnail previews not showing in Win10 File Explorer.

<https://www.intowindows.com/thumbnail-previews-not-showing-in-windows-10-file-explorer/>

The differences between MP3, AAC, FLAC and other audio formats.

<https://www.maketecheasier.com/difference-between-mp3-aac-flac-other-audio-formats>

How do I remove PUPs, foistware, drive-bys, toolbars, and other annoying things I never wanted?

<https://askleo.com/how-do-i-remove-pups-foistware-drive-bys-toolbars-and-other-annoying-things-i-never-wanted/>

Watch seasons 1 through 4 of the 1960’s **COMBAT!** TV series in B/W and season 5 in color.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IS4grrSWuZo&list=PLfQk6ph47fOzjRNdlvAtWO_GtkZmUiJuZ

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CXsDuQDIKuA&list=PLskaQ2EnbiOYwmhyYclSw71OFq8otOE9x>

Whatever the inspiration for browsing privately may be, the bottom line is that many people want to avoid leaving behind tracks. Here is how to activate *Incognito Browsing Mode* (also known as *Privacy Mode*) in your browser.

<https://www.lifewire.com/browsing-incognito-445990>

Telephones are instruments designed for the simultaneous transmission and reception of the human voice, and have become the most widely used telecommunications devices in the world. This lengthy article discusses historical phone types, development, networks, dialing, signaling, transmission, more.

<https://www.britannica.com/technology/telephone/Introduction>

It is not unusual for a single Windows computer to be used by multiple people, each with their own account. Here’s how to delete an individual account.

https://windows.tips.net/T010714_Deleting_a_User_Account.html

Between your browser ID, the wi-fi networks you can see, your language settings and all of your cookies, it turns out that you’re not too hard to track as you travel around online. Microsoft applies to you a unique “Advertising ID” to make all of this tracking even easier. Should you let your Windows 10 apps access your Advertising ID?

<https://www.askdaveytaylor.com/let-windows-10-apps-access-advertising-id-privacy/>

How do I know when to repair or replace my computer? Consider cost, time, warranties, features.

<https://www.askdaveytaylor.com/know-when-repair-or-replace-computer/>

When attempting to watch a YouTube video, either through a website or via a link from a friend, having it blocked in your country can be a huge pain. Here’s how to get around it.

<https://www.maketecheasier.com/watch-restricted-youtube-videos>

I tried to block Amazon from my life. It was impossible.

See why in this video. (9-min. video)

<https://gizmodo.com/i-tried-to-block-amazon-from-my-life-it-was-impossible-1830565336>

NOTE: Many of the links in the digital newsletter connect to the Internet if clicked. For those that do not, copy and paste the link into your Internet browser.

Web Watch Column on the Club Web Site

Check out the **WebPageReviews** section on the club’s web site. There you can see past web sites reviewed in this column. They are arranged into various *keyword* categories to help locate a specific topic or site.