

February 2025

TechTalk by Wyant

Your monthly tech update



**WHAT'S
INSIDE
YOU
ASK?**

**Work Specific
Tools**

Jeopardy

**Gadget
Goldmine**



Tom's Take



Did you know some of the easiest ways hackers steal money is through phishing or by guessing weak passwords? With phishing, they're sending out fake emails or text messages pretending to be banks, online stores, or social media sites you probably use. Seems totally legit, you click their link, BAM! Your personal information, credit card numbers or bank details are gone! With weak passwords,

they've got programs that try thousands of passwords in seconds. Seconds people! Using passwords like "1234" or "password" is NOT what we should be doing in 2025. One of the easiest ways to stay safe is by using Multi-Factor Authentication. MFA requires more than a password to log in. It basically adds an extra layer to your password, another lock on the door if you will.

Let's Talk Work Specific Tools!

Facebook Messenger, WhatsApp and similar apps are quick and easy to use. Plus, most people already have them on their phones, right? It makes it tempting to use them to communicate with your team, especially since they're so familiar. These are great tools if you're sharing vacation photos or planning a get together, but really these are not the best choices for work-related conversations.

Heads up, they can cause serious issues for your business. Before you start to try and justify your choices, let me explain what I mean. You and your team are sharing sensitive information, we're talking customer details, employee records, even financial data. Most apps that aren't designed specifically for businesses, don't have advanced security measures you need to protect your business from threats like cyber criminals or malware. So what happens if you're using a personal app like Facebook messenger and you have a cyber-attack? Besides potentially having your sensitive and confidential customer information leaked to the bad guys? You'll lose your customers on top of it, your trust as a secure business, and possibly your reputation. Not good.

Let's talk about business specific communication tools now. Microsoft Teams is a tool that doesn't just have the security you need, but it allows you to stay organized in your business and with your team.

You can create separate channels for different projects you may have going on, share files between employees and teams securely, and you can even integrate some other apps that your business uses. The issue with personal apps is you've got an important message from Steve in Payroll, buried in chat threads full of GIFs and memes. Using personal apps for business also make it easy to accidentally share the wrong file, or God forbid share something confidential and sensitive to someone OUTSIDE of the company.

I highly recommend switching to a proper business communication tool. Not only is it easy to switch, but it's also probably one of the easiest and best ways to protect your company's information while helping to keep your team running smoothly. Not sure where to start or need help getting switched over? Give us a call or send us an email, we're always happy to help.



- 1.This acronym stands for a system that translates domain names into IP addresses
- 2.This programming language is the primary choice for developing apps for Apple's mobile operating system
- 3.This coding issue was expected to cause widespread computer network disruptions when the year 2000 arrived
- 4.Websites often use this feature to differentiate between human visitors and automated bots
- 5.Released in 1993, this device made the term "personal digital assistant" or PDA widely popular.

Keep Reading to Find the Answers

We Love A Good Battery Indicator



Nothing is better than looking at that tiny battery symbol and knowing EXACTLY what your battery charge is at. Unless you're using Microsoft 11. The current version is small, hard to read, and inconsistent, especially when charging. We're looking at an update though that will make this a thing of the past, hallelujah! The new design with the update is larger AND now includes colors to show the status. Green when charging and yellow when you have the energy saver mode turned on. This is a huge step up from what we're working with now. For now the update will only be on the taskbar, but I'm sure the lock screen version will follow soon.

*“Does anyone remember life before the battery indicator?”
- Our Dispatch Clerk,
Probably*

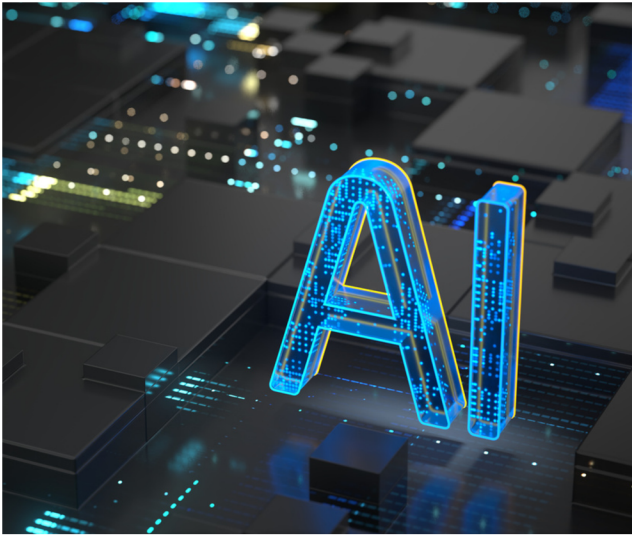
File Explorer Will Remember So You Don't Have To

Along with the other updates in the pipeline for Windows 11, there's a great update for File Explorer. Just like your web browser, you can restore all your open tabs after a restart. We're hoping it rolls out soon. As always, we'll keep you posted on all the updates.



Tech Facts

How Many Did You Know?



1.ChatGPT has over 300 million WEEKLY users and more than 1 billion messages sent every day. It was created by OpenAI, with 1.3 million developers now building on its tech. Please remember, don't put any personal info in your messages, no one wants a real-world version of Joaquin Phoenix falling in love with an AI voiced by Scarlett Johansson. (Even though the movie "Her" had a 95% Rotten Tomato score. Our point stands.)

2.One-third of business emails last year were spam. That's more than 20 billion emails. 427 million were malicious, with phishing being the leading case. This translates to an average of 36 phishing attempts a day! Makes our plea for strong cyber security more and more critical, wouldn't you agree?

3.Even if you say no, over 70% of top websites are sharing your personal data with third parties. A recent report showed that there's widespread non-compliance with privacy laws. See why we care so much about strong data protections?

AirDrop: It's Not Just For Apple

Well, it's more like AirDrop adjacent. This is for the iPhone users trying to function using a Windows work computer. A new Microsoft update is making it easier to share files between your iPhone and your Windows PC. It's called The Phone Link app for Windows and Link to Windows app for iPhone. It lets you share files similar to Apple's AirDrop. This is a game changer for those Apple users in a Windows world.



We Know Your Next Smart Move

Phishing emails, stolen devices, ex-employees still accessing your systems. All challenges no one told you to expect when running a business. Microsoft 365 Standard is a great package for businesses to use to make sure work gets done, but it doesn't offer the advanced security or management tools needed to handle these risks.

Allow me to introduce your next smart move: Microsoft 365 Business Premium. It's everything you know and love about Business Standard. You know, apps like Word and Excel, email hosting, Microsoft Teams, and OneDrive for cloud storage. The difference though is it adds powerful features to keep your business secure and efficient.



Let me give you some examples. Cyber threats. Phishing emails are designed to trick you into clicking on dangerous links that can install malware that locks your files or steals sensitive data. Business Premium has a feature called Microsoft Defender for Business which scans for these threats and stops them in their tracks. It's basically a 24/7 centurion guard for your data. Nifty right?

"Ok, but what about stolen devices or ex-employees?" I hear you; I hear you! Let's say an employee loses their laptop. Instead of panicking about a potential hacker now PHYSICALLY having your business's sensitive information in their hands, Business Premium's Microsoft Intune lets you remotely erase company data. There's also the issue of protecting confidential information. Business Premium uses Purview Information Protection to label sensitive files and control who can access them. Say an email gets forwarded outside of your company, the protection stays in place, safeguarding the data no matter where it goes.

These are all really cool and great features. But they're also ESSENTIAL for any modern business and the growing cyber security threats. The added cost is a small investment, but the confidence that your team, data and reputation is protected? Just like those Mastercard commercials said, that's priceless.

- 1.What is DNS or Domain Name System
- 2.What is Swift
- 3.What is the Y2K bug
- 4.What is CAPTCHA or Completely Automated Public Turing Test to Tell Computers and Humans Apart
- 5.What is the Palm Pilot

For your next party trick, try saying Completely Automated Public Turing Test to Tell Computers and Humans Apart ten times fast.

JEOPARDY!

You've Got Questions; We've Got Answers!

Q – Where do I start using AI in my business?

A – Copilot is a great place to start. It works alongside many of your Microsoft apps to make things easier!

Q – How do I stop my team from using their personal phones for work tasks?

A – First step, educate them on the dangers of doing this. Then educate them on the consequences if they keep doing it. (We don't recommend putting them in a time out, that seems to stop working after a certain age.)

Q – Should I restrict access to business files for certain employees?

A – Short answer, yes. Long answer, allowing access to only relevant files for an employee to execute their role, is the most secure move you can make. Great product plug, Microsoft 365 Business Premium has tools to help you do exactly this. Don't worry, we're not an ambassador, we just love their product and trust them.



Gadget Goldmine: Top Pick of the Month

Logitech Multi-Device Wireless Keyboard

Allow me to channel my inner Leo Getz here, okay-okay-okay! (Please tell me you all get the Lethal Weapon reference and can hear Joe Pesci in your head.) Do you use more than one device each day? Is it a pain switching from one to the other? Boy do we have the tech gold nugget for you. It's the Logitech Multi-Device wireless keyboard that connects to up to three devices, AND lets you switch between each one seamlessly. It's even got a nifty little stand to place your phone or tablet on it for easy viewing. Our favorite feature though? It makes your typing quiet, so now you won't disturb those around you when you're in the zone, fingers blazing a trail across those keys.

**Did you read all the
way to the end? Tell
us your thoughts on
this month's
newsletter!**



(231) 946 -5969



info@gowyant.com



www.gowyant.com

wyant
TECHNOLOGIES