

## **Practical Stuff**

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### **Email explained**

Client vs. server. Where is my email stored?

Your email is stored on the server handling your mail. If you have comcast, centurylink, or verizon it is on their server. You may be running client software like Outlook Express on your computer and it downloads the mail from the server to your computer removing it from the server. With these three providers there is a low limit on how much mail they will keep on their server.

If you are using a cloud based mail server such as yahoo, gmail, or live then the mail remains on their server and you use a browser to access it and read it. You do not download it to your own computer. They have a very large amount of space allotted to you for mail storage and it will be a long while before you run out of space (gmail is 15gb).

I suggest everyone should have two email addresses. If one is down for some odd reason you have a second one to use to communicate with the first one to resolve the issues. I suggest they be on two different servers such as yahoo and gmail, gmail and live, etc.

If you are downloading mail to your own computer and then find yourself with a new smartphone and/or tablet and want to get you mail there as well you will have a problem. You mail will have already gone from your provider's server and you will not be able to see it unless you are on your main computer.

So, I suggest you should have an account with yahoo, gmail, or live and use it as your primary email address. Set your provider email to auto forward to your cloud based email. This way all your email will be in one place and anyone who sends email to your old address will still find you.

### **Should I still be running AOL?**

AOL is best known for its online software suite, also called AOL, that allowed customers to access the world's largest "walled garden" online community and eventually reach out to the Internet as a whole. 30 million users. About 3 million still use dial up service--or at least are still paying for it!

If you are paying for AOL, you can stop doing so unless you need the dial up service. You will not lose your email address, contacts, or emails. You can still install AOL on your computer if you like that approach to using the Internet. Or you can access your AOL email on your browser of choice at [www.aol.com](http://www.aol.com).

### **Should I have a battery backup? What use is it?**

Why do I need it if I have a laptop? A UPS or battery backup protects you from lightning strikes as well as keeping your modem and router up and running. This keeps your WiFi running while the power is out so you can stay on the Internet with your laptop, smartphone, or tablet.

If you have to run on generator power, use the UPS between the generator and the computer to insure that the level of power to your computer or other electronics is clean and with acceptable range.

### **Why backup my computer if I never save anything on it?**

It is not only your stuff, it is the OS and all the updates. Even if you are able to rebuild from the original backups you made when you bought your computer, you would have to download all the Microsoft updates to get up to date.

I use EaseUS todo backup free. Class available at the club on how to use it. It will make a complete image of your hard drive so if you ever need it you can restore back to the day you made the image. It is simple and foolproof. You will need an external USB hard drive of at least 500mb.

Here is the link: <http://www.todo-backup.com/products/home/download.htm>

### **Create and broadcast your own internet radio station.**

Might not apply to you, but what about your church or club?

Check it out here: <http://www.iradeo.com/>

### **What do I use to store my passwords?**

I keep them in a locknote file on my desktop. It is a simple notepad app where I can type anything I want. I save it with a password so to open it you need that password.

Here is the link: <http://sourceforge.net/projects/locknote/>

### **What about remote user?**

I use join.me when I want to work with someone else and help them on their computer. It allows me to see their screen and I can ask them for permission to access their mouse and control their screen. Good way to help someone else or have someone help you.

If I need to transfer files to them, I use dropbox or send an email with an attachment.

### **How to I get Dropbox?**

Dropbox is a great way to store files of any type in the cloud. You can send others a link to a folder or single file stored in dropbox so they can access it. Good way to move large files to someone else.

Here is a link to get it: <http://tinyurl.com/b87mha8>

### **How do I resize a block of images?**

I use a program called prishresizer. When installed it adds a right-click option. Select the images you want to resize and right-click. Then select the prishresizer option and choose the size. Your 1-2 mb files will be downsized to less than 100 kb each using the 1080 size option. The original image is not changed. All resized images are placed in a subfolder named resized.

Here is a link to get it: <http://prish-image-resizer.software.informer.com/>

### **How do I grab an image of the screen to save it?**

Windows 7 and 8 come with a utility called SnipIt. Works okay, but I like MWsnap better. It lets me grab a portion of the screen by drawing a box around it and clicking. I can then edit what I grabbed, save it as an image, or even print it. When I want to use it I simply press Shift+Alt+A. It works with XP up through 8.

Here is a link to download it: [http://download.cnet.com/MWSnap/3000-2072\\_4-10524229.html](http://download.cnet.com/MWSnap/3000-2072_4-10524229.html)

### **Other sites we talked about:**

Free online courses on a variety of subjects: <https://www.khanacademy.org/>

Free talks on a variety of topics: <http://www.ted.com/>

My Useful Links page: <http://rwevans.com/cccg/Useful%20Links.htm>