

HOP Class Notes 9-6-2019

Welcome, Ken. Good to have you join our monthly group. There were some great questions this morning. Please feel free to email me with questions. I am also available by phone and text at 941-467-4153. And I will do house calls if you need me. Check out the local computer club at the Cultural Center. I am usually there from 10-2 on Tuesdays to answer questions and help you with your computer. See CCCGC.info for information on joining and a calendar of events.

We talked about the importance of **doing a backup**. Especially before any major event, like upgrading from an old OS (operating system). I use EaseUS. See an article I wrote recently on how to do it on DCT (Daves Computer Tips). <https://tinyurl.com/y5zvphmf>

We talked about **maintaining your computer** and the programs I suggest and use to do just that. They are:

CCleaner

SUPERAntiSpyware

Malwarebytes

Glary Utilities

I use the free versions and run them about once a week. Except for CCleaner, I use ninite.com to install them and update them just before I run them. Here is a link to an article I wrote on using Ninite;

<https://tinyurl.com/y54zh8rm>

Here is a presentation I did on using the maintenance programs including how to obtain CCleaner.

<https://tinyurl.com/y34bfncy>

Browsers

A browser is what we use to open a website. A search engine is what we use to search for something on the Internet. Here are the browsers I use in the order to importance to me, top to bottom.

Brave

Chrome

Edge

The search engine I use is Google.

Each browser has a default search engine and it can be changed to your preference.

Windows 10's browser defaults to Edge and it can be changed to your preference as well.

VPN

A VPN (a virtual private network) is a way for your browsing to be done through another service (the VPN). It is used mostly by companies and little by individuals. I did a complete talk on it a few weeks ago. The following link will take you to the notes from that day.

<https://tinyurl.com/y4zkn2ao>

Background Apps

Left to its own devices Windows will happily run all sorts of stuff in the background on your PC. A lot of the time you might not even realize it's happening. One important thing to consider, however, is that all these background Apps use up precious system resources and that might not be a good thing on an older computer. Heck, even on

modern systems, why have the CPU working on things that don't matter to you?

<http://tinyurl.com/yywfl2hh>

Quick Removal new default

Quick removal is the safer option as it ensures that devices can be disconnected from the Windows PC directly. Better performance improves performance but requires that users need to use the "Safely remove hardware" option before they unplug external storage devices. Failure to do so may lead to data loss

<https://tinyurl.com/yynek995>

<https://tinyurl.com/y5utqm4t>

Google can delete your account when you die

Your Google account is probably the last thing you think about when making your end-of-life plans. The same likely goes for logging off your online life. But it's a good one to add to the mental list -- and it's something that's easy to take care of any time.

<http://tinyurl.com/yywu3ht9>

PicResize

Easily crop, resize, and edit your images online for FREE. Images are automatically deleted after 30 minutes.

<https://picresize.com>

How Do I Edit a Reply or a Forward?

Even though you might not see it, most email programs include the original message as part of your reply. If you don't edit the reply yourself, your one-line response might be accompanied by the entire original message that everyone's already seen. The problem, of

course, is that exactly how to edit the entire reply often isn't obvious at all.

<http://tinyurl.com/y4rr4632>

Easy Photo Editor is a simple and free image editing tool that makes your pictures look more beautiful. The text tool allows you to add text to your image, select font type, font color and more to make your photo "speak" for itself! Features: • Select an image from your phone media library or camera.

<http://www.easyphotoedit.com/>

Importance of backups

Backing up is your computer's life insurance policy. We live in Florida so we know the importance of having an insurance policy on our homes. We remember Charlie. What got damaged or destroyed was rebuilt.

What happens when our computer crashes? It could be a worn-out hard drive. It could be a virus. It could be a dropped laptop. It could be a stolen laptop. Whatever causes you not to be able to access your system the result is the same and you are not a happy camper.

What if you could get everything back just the way it was in a matter of hours? Isn't that the kind of insurance you want to have?

<https://davescomputertips.com/author/dick-evans/>