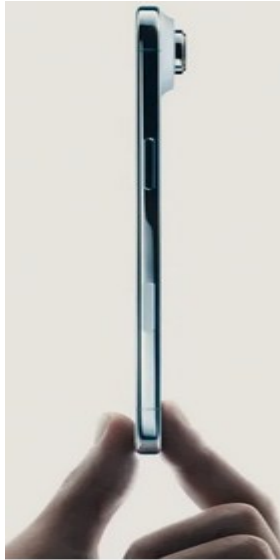


Newsletter



Apple's iPhone 17

Specs



- 22 inch thin
- 36 pound model
- 48 megapixel lenses
- 8x optical zoom
- New phones include new front facing camera with centre stage feature to automatically keep you in the middle of the frame

Windows 11 version 25H2 is being released without new features

With the general release of version 25H2 expected in the next few months, Microsoft has confirmed there will be no new features. While ISO media is available it won't be long before the version is generally available.



- Official ISO media for Windows 11 version 25H2 has been released.
- 25H2 will have 24 months support for the Home and Pro versions.
- When released delivery will be via an enablement package that only takes a few minutes to download and install.

Reference: Windows Central

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Observations

Email Drafts

When you start an email in Gmail or Outlook a draft is created. If you don't finish the email and click inbox to look at an incoming email the uncomplete email stays in the drafts folder.

Delete email drafts if you don't intend to finish the email.

The Cloud

Confused about what it is?

Technically it's a vast network of remote servers around the world that store, manage and process data. This can save you storing it on your own device's storage.

Some users don't want anything to do with the cloud but they don't realise their photos,/ documents have uploaded to the cloud.

Understand that OneDrive folders on your computer sync to the cloud if you haven't turned sync off.

Microsoft discontinues Outlook Lite app

Android Users

From **October 6th 2025** Microsoft will block new installs and require users to switch to the Outlook Mobile App which is being retired. For current users you will likely have a few months before the app is fully retired.

A year ago Microsoft celebrated 10 million Outlook Lite downloads.

Reference: PCMag



Only weeks before Window 10's support finishes and you may have noticed the many ads for laptops. If you are purchasing a new laptop give some thought to what you want to use it for. You may not be the top of the range device

Lindsay Happy Computing

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Could Your Phone Have Malware?

Spyware, adware or ransomware are forms of malware that at times are difficult to know they are on your smartphone.

While android devices are more vulnerable than Apple devices, malware has been found in the Apple app store.

Signs Your Phone May Be Infected

- Pop-Up Ads That Won't Go Away
- Unexplained Fees on Your Bill
- Your battery Drains Faster Than expected.
- Your Phone is Overheating
- Your Phone Is Slower Than Normal
- Dropped Calls and Poor Connections
- An Unexpected App Appears

How To Remove Malware From Your Phone

- Enter Safe Mode on Android
- Scan for Viruses
- Reset Your Device (factory reset)

Avoiding Malware

- Read reviews before installing apps
- Consider whether you will pay later. (offers)
- Think about permissions when installing a new app. Only give access to features you think the app needs.

Reference: PCMag—Article By Jason Cohen at link below

<https://au.pcmag.com/mobile-phones/91438/how-to-figure-out-if-your-phone-has-malware>



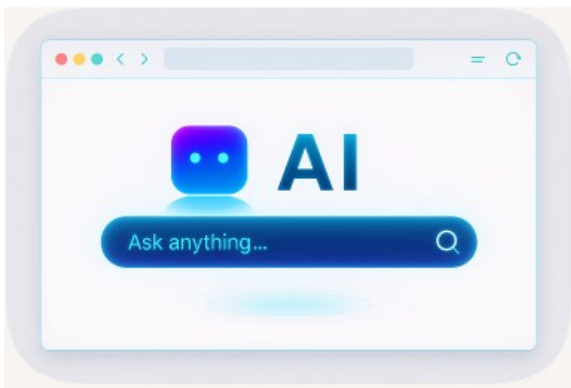
What to do if you suspect a file or email attachment is suspicious

Jotti is a free service that scans suspicious files.

Five files can be submitted at a time but there is a limit of 250MB per file.

Easy to use. Just click browse and then submit the file.

<https://virusscan.jotti.org/en-US/scan-file>



What is an AI browser?

- A web browser that integrates artificial intelligence technologies directly into its interface.
- **Bob Rankin** delves into what is almost becoming common place in browsers like Chrome, Edge, Firefox, and Brave.
- AI browsers are evolving into intelligent companions that help users navigate, process and personalize their online experiences.
- Bob's full article is available at the link below.

[https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm&ogbl#inbox/](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm&ogbl#inbox/FMfcgzQcpcdhkWWLCnbHCMdBXvmzvvhCQZ)

[FMfcgzQcpcdhkWWLCnbHCMdBXvmzvvhCQZ](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm&ogbl#inbox/FMfcgzQcpcdhkWWLCnbHCMdBXvmzvvhCQZ)

[FMfcgzQcpcdhkWWLCnbHCMdBXvmzvvhCQZ](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm&ogbl#inbox/FMfcgzQcpcdhkWWLCnbHCMdBXvmzvvhCQZ)

7 Bad habits that may be destroying your PC

• Disregarding Overheating Problems

A hot computer may result in a slow processor or shutting down completely, and/or a reduction in the life of the processor, fans and battery.

• Letting Dirt, Dust and Liquids Run Wild

Desktops located on a floor can collect dust, hair, and carpet fiber can block the power supply's intake fan. Avoid smoking, eating and drinking over the keyboard.

• Handling Your Laptop Carelessly

Avoid opening from one side (you may damage a hinge), picking up a laptop by the display and using a laptop as a coaster for drinks.

• Mismanaging Your Old Battery

Batteries degrade over time. Regular recharging instead of letting the battery drop to 0%. Purchase replacement batteries from the manufacturer or a respected third party store. The same with chargers. Manufacturer or a certified USB-PD charger.

• Disregarding Electrical Safety

It's recommended you use a surge protector and change it every 3 to 5 years as it wears out over time.

• Stressing the cables and ports

Don't force USBs into ports or if you leave a USB plugged in to your computer take care not to bend it, Don't force cables into ports, bend or pull out by the cord. Don't coil them too tightly when putting them away and if they are frayed replace ASAP.

• Browsing the Web Unprotected

Malware protection should be used. i.e. Microsoft's builtin Windows defender is free, while Malwarebytes offers a free version for a scan or a paid version for extra features.

Don't forget to keep your operating system and apps up to date. Use a password manager. Keep your home WiFi secure with a WPA2 (or WPA3) password.

Reference: PCMag

https://www.pcmag.com/how-to/i-am-a-computer-expert-these-bad-habits-are-killing-your-pc?utm_source=email&utm_campaign=tipstrickshowto&zdee=gAAAAABj-dghE29mZ35jW3lPARzVGIjnDkXh-Fo9wxBZOdsDOMhhWFhUrS-e-_df5TeMXDRRrZNpxgO8OsfazfrQ6utucSWFr1vqag0s5MXJNY11O4V8E0%3D&ictg=43321363083#5-disregarding-electrical-safety

Which iPhone icon is that?

Get to know some of the features on your iPhone or iPad with the Be Connected guide to common mobile device icons.



Use the camera on your smartphone or tablet to scan the QR code for quick access to website

Which Android icon is that?

Get to know some of the features on your Android phone or tablet with the Be Connected guide to common mobile device icons.



Be Connected

How to

- Use Gemini on your Android phone or Siri on an iPhone.
- Take a screenshot on your Android phone or iPhone.
- Share a file/contact/content
- Block an email or phone number

Tips for longer phone life

- Avoid extreme temperatures
- Don't charge your phone to 100%

What's Trending in AI

Desperate Companies Now Hiring Humans to Fix What AI Botched

Company Replaces Customer Support With AI, Then Forces Engineers to Work the Phones as the AI Fails

Patients Furious at Therapists Secretly Using AI

"He was taking what I was saying and putting it into ChatGPT."

Past Sands Tech Group Newsletters can be found at this link. <https://sandslifestylebfs.wixsite.com/scgbfs>

Disclaimer:

The information contained in this newsletter is of a general nature. Always do your own research and seek advice before acting on the information provided.