PLATEAU PC USERS GROUP, INC GAZETTE

Member of apcug
An International Association of Technology & Computer User Groups

May 2025

Published by the Plateau PC Users Group, Inc. 221 Tomlon Road Crossville TN 38555
"JOIN US FOR FUN AND LEARNING AT CROSSVILLE'S COMPUTER CLUB" May 2025 **Volume 31 Issue 5**

This Month's General Meeting
Tuesday, May 13, 2025
will start at 3:00 P.M. @
FFG Christ Lutheran Church

May 13th Program @ 3:00 P.M.

This month's program will be presented by Dayle Beyer Executive Director from Tech 4 All Tennessee (formerly ROANEnet)

Dayle will introduce us to the services they provide including computers for those in need or learning, hands-on digital skills training, computer repair and accepting equipment donations.

Monday, May 26, 2025

Inside This Issue

Club information and Phone numbers	**Page 2**
Cool Sites: Remove your private data from a photo	**Page 3**
Reflections on the PC Environment	**Page 4**
Recover Your Wi-Fi Password	**Page 6**
Backup Tools and Procedures	**Page 8**
Private Browsing: Is it all it's cracked up to be?	**Page 12**
An (even) awesome ® Android wallpaper app	**Page 13**
PPCUG 2025/26 Application for Membership.	**Page 15**
June 2025 Calendar.	**Page 16**

Please Note: All Meetings will now be on the second Tuesday of each month. Starting at **3:00 P.M.**
Location: Christ Lutheran Church
481 Snead Drive, Fairfield Glade TN

Join the Club!

Anyone interested to attend the general meeting or any of the SIG meetings as a guest will be charged $3.00 per person for any or all meetings in that month. Afterwards, you are encouraged to become a member of the Plateau PC Users Group. Our Club cannot exist without you, the members.

Membership Dues

Our annual dues are now payable July 1st. of each year. Annual dues are $24 per single person / $30 per family. Persons/families joining during the fiscal year have dues payable as follows:

Join In	July - Sept	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar	Apr - June
Single	**$24**	$18	$12	$6
Family	**$30**	$22	$15	$7

BOARD OF DIRECTORS DISCLAIMER

All members of the Plateau PC Users Group are willing to help one another in the area of advice and tutorial instruction over the phone. If you should require more involved services or instruction, we have a few members who are very knowledgeable in several areas. As a responsible consumer, it is up to you to discuss, before retaining a member, any and ALL charges for repair services and time consuming tutorial activities.

It is not the desire of this Board of Directors to set fees for individuals for services rendered, nor the responsibility to intervene between members who enter into a contract among themselves.

The GAZETTE is published using the following: Microsoft Word, Microsoft Publisher, and Microsoft Windows. The Gazette is the monthly newsletter of the Plateau PC Users Group, Inc.

DISCLAIMER: No warranty, express or implied, is made by the PPCUG, the Gazette editorial staff or its contributing editors. This extends to all losses incidental or consequential from the use or non-use of any information in any issue of the Gazette.

All images used in the newsletter, website, blogs, class materials or handouts ("media") are obtained from a "free use" source, preferably images that have been released as "CCO Public Domain".

PPCUG, Inc. 2025-2026 Board Members

President	George Sengstock	(224) 760-3948
Vice-President/	Charlie Merrick	(931) 210-8013
Treasurer	Richard Del Frate	(931) 456-2251
Secretary	Richard Del Frate	(931) 456-2251
Membership	George Sengstock	(224) 760-3948
Publicity	George Sengstock	(224) 760-3948
Gazette Editor	Gordon Botting	(931) 456-2184
APCUG Rep	George Sengstock	(224) 760-3948
Equipment Custodian	Bob Willis	(931) 456-6511
Webmaster	Alan Baker	(931) 239-0877

Directors at Large

Alan Baker	Gordon Botting	Jim Buxton
Barbara Duncan	Richard Del Frate	Randy Knowles
Bob Willis		

Printed by, Business Equipment Clinic
539 West Ave. Suite 101 Crossville TN 38557

Remove your private data from a photo

When you take a photo with your phone, the camera usually saves GPS coordinates as part of the file. That's not great if you'd like to post the photo online without revealing your physical location.

 While many social networks wipe private data like this from photos automatically, that's not guaranteed. And, if you're emailing the photos, you'd need to remove the private data yourself.

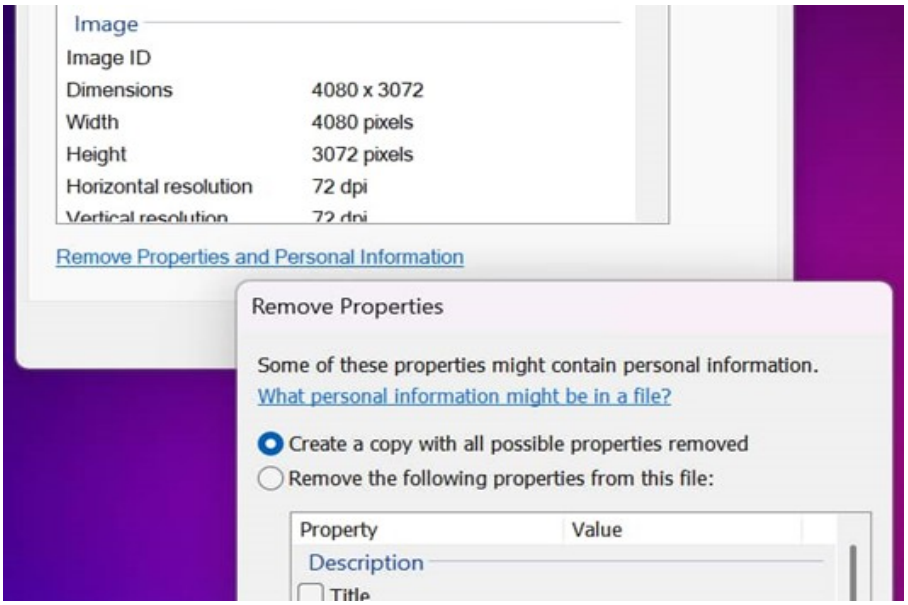
 You can do this in **5 seconds**.

 This works on **both Windows 10 and Windows 11**.

To do this, locate an image file in File Explorer. Right-click it and select "Properties."

Click over to the "Details" tab. To remove the details, click the "Remove Properties and Personal Information" link at the bottom of the window.

Select "Create a copy with all possible properties removed" (it's selected by default) and click "OK." You'll get a duplicate copy of the image file without any of those personal details.



**** Visit the PPCUG *Website* ****

At: www.PPCUGinc.com.Read all about our club activities and scheduled monthly meetings, also current and past issues of the Gazette Newsletter. Links also to the Meeting Handouts on past presentations.
Send your comments and suggestions to the PPCUG Webmaster,
Alan Baker @ **jackal33980@gmail.com** (931) 239-0877

Reflections on the PC Environment

By Dick Maybach, Brookdale Computer User Group
www.bcug.com
n2nd (at) att.net

The PC world was far simpler when I began writing PC tech columns in 1992. Many of us relied on diskettes for storage; if we had a hard disk, it held only a few hundred megabytes. Software was distributed on diskettes, and its box usually contained a manual. Windows 3.1 appeared that year, and it was the first version that was really practical, but many continued to use DOS. Significantly, Windows required a hard disk; when we used DOS, two diskette drives provided adequate storage. The PC was undergoing a transition from an experimental and educational toy to an essential information appliance. The Internet was available only to governments and large corporations, although some exchanged messages through software bulletin boards, which they accessed (slowly) over telephone lines using dial-up modems—even simple configuration changes required opening the system case to access jumpers and expansion cards. There were frequent PC shows where dozens of vendors sold hardware and software. Bookstores had extensive collections of PC books and magazines. It was an exciting time for us.

The situation is far different today. Most PC users, excluding those reading articles like this, have no interest in what goes on inside the box. They would no more open a PC case than a dishwasher cabinet. As a result, PC books, magazines, and parts vendors have largely disappeared. This is good for most folks who want to communicate with friends and family, surf the Internet, and prepare taxes. But it can be frustrating for those of us who see the larger potential of the PC. However, the barriers are superficial, and the experimental and educational world is still alive, well, and accessible on the PC. We must exercise more care while experimenting with our PCs than we did years ago because it's become a vital tool in our lives and holds valuable information we have to protect. Let's look at some of the opportunities.

For years, I took pictures with a 35-mm camera, and film and processing cost about a dollar a click. Editing required a darkroom, expensive equipment, and smelly chemicals, and few did it. Today, we don't use film; bytes are free, and image processing software costs vary from reasonable to free. Any imaging program can do things that darkroom users couldn't even imagine. When you've finished the processing, you can send the results anywhere in the world for free or, if you have a suitable printer, commit it to paper. Image editing can be complex, and it takes some effort to learn, but there are very few photos that can't be improved, many substantially. I use the GNU Image Manipulation Program (GIMP), https://www.gimp.org/, to retouch JPEG image files. Your camera compresses images to produce JPEG files and discards information in the process. You can often recover this by working with images before they are compressed, using RawTherapee, http://rawtherapee.com/, or darktable, https://www.darktable.org/. These are complex programs that require some effort to master.

Early PCs limited your programming to BASIC, which, as its name implies, has quite limited potential. However, we have a much wider choice today, including Python, https://www.python.org/, which provides an accessible start to programming and includes widespread features among all programming languages. In addition, the required software is free, and although some support tools are not, they aren't really necessary.

Experimenting with operating systems does require care, as what seems like a simple configuration change can wreak havoc and sometimes require re-installation. (Ask me how I know.) For this, I prefer using a virtual machine, such as one managed by VirtualBox, https://www.virtualbox.org/, for this. In the past, I used dual-booting to install an alternative OS, but this requires re-partitioning the hard disk, which is risky,

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)
and the UEFI BIOS in modern PCs has features to protect the installed OS. Working around these requires non-trivial expertise. Your OS views each virtual machine as an application, which avoids all this risk and complexity. If you want to experiment with Windows, you'll have to buy the software, as the virtual machine is legally a different machine. Of course, you can experiment with Linux for free.

Arduino, https://www.arduino.cc/, provides an inexpensive way to experiment with both hardware and software. This microprocessor on a small board plugs into a USB port on your PC, which supplies the power for the board and communicates with it. You program in a variant of C++, which you compile on your PC and download to the Arduino. It's easy to connect the board to external circuits, so this provides a way of learning circuit design and programming. Since all the action takes place off your PC, the risk is minimal.

The Raspberry Pi, https://www.raspberrypi.com/, provides a considerably more complex environment than the Arduino. This is a complete PC on a circuit board about the size of a playing card. While the Arduino is a controller that runs only a single program at a time, the Pi is a complete computer running Linux. You'll need a display, mouse, and keyboard to get started, making this more difficult than an Arduino. However, you can use its peripherals if you have a desktop system. (You might use a USB hub to consolidate the keyboard, mouse, and printer cables. Then you could switch between your PC and the Pi by swapping just two cables, the USB from the hub and the HDMI from the display.) After configuring the Pi, you can connect it to your home network and access it using remote desktop software on a PC; it won't need dedicated peripherals until you install a new OS on the Pi.

Fabricating objects used to require a shop and tools, but now it can be done with only a 3D printer, about the size of your existing one. You design an object using CAD software, transfer the file to the printer, and (perhaps some hours later) return to find the completed object sitting in the printer. This is an emerging technology and presently is quite limited. Printing is slow, set-up is fussy, and the material is usually plastic, but things are rapidly improving. For example, I recently saw a device, https://snapmaker.com/, that could also machine aluminum and cut sheet material and create with plastic. Currently, the projects are limited to small enclosures, key fobs, game tokens, or similar small objects, but this will surely improve.

To learn about electronics, instead of acquiring a collection of tools, parts, and instruments, you can run experiments with a circuit simulator, such as KiCad, https://www.kicad.org/. It lets you build circuits with simulated resistors, capacitors, inductors, transistors, and integrated circuits, then test the result. The next step would be to use an Arduino with a prototype board into which you plug physical components to build circuits you've simulated. Kits that facilitate this are available from such vendors as Adafruit, https://www.adafruit.com/. Because you are using Arduino to generate signals and detect the result, this approach limits you to low frequencies.

If you play a musical instrument, you probably have a collection of scores, some of which are barely legible. However, you could input them into a score composing program such as MuseScore, https://musescore.org/en, to make corrections, transpose them to a new key, or just clean up the appearance.

These examples reflect my interests and my preference to use open-source software; your interests and preferences are undoubtedly different, but perhaps these examples will inspire you to search for some that would help you. In the past, we relied on PC magazines to suggest areas to explore. There are many more interesting and useful tools today, but it takes more effort to find them without magazines. Don't let your PC become just an appliance; it can be a wonderful tool to help you enjoy life.

I've been writing these articles for a long time, have about run out of things to say, and it's time to retire. Thank you for your attention over the years.

Recover Your Wi-Fi Password

David Kretchmar, Hardware Technician
Sun City Summerlin Computer Club
https://www.scscc.club
dkretch (at) gmail.com

Computer users often seek technical support when they cannot access the Internet via their home wireless system.

First, the technician will usually walk the user through the reset procedure for the router or router/modem (turn them off and on). If that does not fix the problem and it is determined the modem is receiving a good signal, the subsequent conversation often goes something like this:

Technician: What is your password for your router?

User: I don't have a password.

Technician: If your router is not secured (i.e., password protected), you should be able to connect.

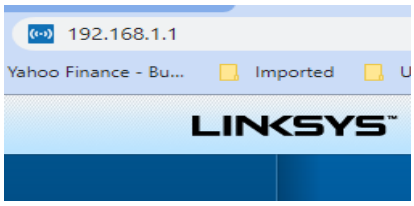
User: I don't have a password. I click the Google (or other browser) icon and get online.

At this point, the Technician explains to the User that the password is stored on the User's computer and that a few steps are required to access that password. The technician might guide the user through the process of recovering the password using the following procedure:

If the computer connects to the Wi-Fi, it automatically.
Microsoft has buried the Wi-Fi password on a computer more deeply with the latest version of Windows 10 and 11 than with prior versions. It is the same procedure for both 10 and 11. You can still find your Wi-Fi password using the following steps (note … where I use the term "click," I mean a single click on the left mouse button or a single tap on a touchscreen.):

Find your way to the "Wireless Properties."
Open your Control Panel (Type "Control Panel" into the search box to the right of the Windows button on your Taskbar and Enter). Click on Network and Internet. Click on Network and Sharing Center, then click on the name of your network, which appears in blue. In the Wi-Fi window that opens, click on Wireless Properties. In the new window that opens, click on the Security tab, then check the box on Show Characters.

If you only own a smartphone/tablet or have a PC that has not stored the Wi-Fi password



(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Log in to your router as an administrator. You can access your router by entering its IP address into your browser, such as Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge. You can research the default IP address of your router by Googling "IP address [brand name of your router]. Every router I've dealt with had an address of "192.168.X.X". The most common value for X is the number 1 (for both Xs). If that does not work, try substituting the numbers 0 or 2 for one or both of the Xs. After you log in, you should be able to find the Wi-Fi settings on the Administrative pages of your router. There, you can look up your password.

IP settings

IP assignment:	Manual
IPv4 address:	192.168.1.211
IPv4 subnet prefix length:	24
IPv4 gateway:	192.168.1.1
IPv4 DNS servers:	192.168.1.1

Ed. Note. On Windows 10/11, you don't have to guess.
You can find the internal IP address of your network router by going to Settings > Network and Internet > Status and, under the name of your Wi-Fi (or Ethernet) connection, clicking Properties. A screen will display; near the bottom are the IP settings. The IPv4 gateway IP address is the internal address of your router.

If you are like many people

The Wi-Fi password is often written on a sticker on the back of your router. This is how I usually set up home routers, and it might be a good thing to do after you have recovered your Wi-Fi password.

This is a simple but effective strategy since it is easy to find.

A burglar would have to break into your home to steal your password, and they probably would focus on more tangible items.

Backup Tools and Procedures

By Tom Burt, Vice President
Sun City Summerlin Computer Club
https://www.scscc.club
tomburt89134 (at) cox.net

It's been a few years since I've written about tools and procedures for backing up your computer. With the growing popularity of smartphones and tablets, the need for backup has expanded to include those devices and traditional Windows, Macintosh, and Linux PCs. I can't stress enough how important it is to make regular backup copies of your data files and of your computer's entire hard drive. The backup landscape has changed somewhat, so it seemed a good time for an update.

What is Backing Up?
Backing up means accurately copying some or all of the data and software stored on your computer's storage drive. The copy is commonly stored on some type of external storage device that is not generally connected to your computer. The external device may be a USB hard drive or flash drive, a removable rack-mount hard drive, a folder or partition on another computer on your in-house network, or a server elsewhere on the Internet such as Dropbox, MS OneDrive, or Google Drive. A personal backup solution may include some or all of the above.

Why Back Up?
The reason to make backups is that (putting it politely) ***BAD STUFF HAPPENS!*** Computer equipment is highly reliable and may run for years without failing, but sooner or later, storage devices fail. More commonly, accidents (drops and spills, turning off the PC's power, power failures and power surges, and so forth) happen, causing a storage device or other device component to fail. A vast array of malicious software waits for any opportunity to attack, damage, or lock up saved data. There's also a fundamental human error – accidentally deleting a file or a folder.

Without a safe backup copy, data saved on your computer may be irretrievably lost. For example, consider digital photos, videos, music, and financial / tax records. Also, if you had to start over with a new, blank hard drive, it would be relatively easy to reinstall Windows, Linux, or MacOS, but what about all the other programs, settings, and all your data?

Full Disk Backup – Cloning and Imaging
A **clone** of a hard drive is a complete copy to another hard drive. All information needed to boot and run the computer and all the programs, settings, and data are written on the backup hard drive. A clone fills up all the backup hard drive; only ONE clone can be written to the backup drive. To **restore** after the computer's internal hard drive has failed or been corrupted, one can either clone from the backup drive to the computer's (possibly new) internal drive or remove the failed drive and install the backup drive in its place. Cloning back should be the first choice on a laptop or all-in-one computer, provided the internal drive hasn't failed. Removing and replacing a laptop's internal drive is a challenging task.

An **Image** of a hard drive is a complete copy written to a single compressed file on another storage device. The compressed image file doesn't typically use as much space as the original data; only the actual space is backed up. Keeping several image files on a single external storage device is usually possible. As with a clone, the image file contains all the information needed to boot and run the PC, along with all the programs and data. However, the image file is not itself bootable.

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

A bootable recovery disk (CD or DVD) or flash drive is required to restore either a clone or an image file. All the primary backup tools include a tool to create bootable recovery media.

Popular Full Disk Backup Tools for Desktop Computers
There are several well-known software tools for backing up the hard drives of desktop PCs and Macs.

Acronis Cyber Protect Home (2023)
- **https://www.acronis.com/en-us/ or https://ugr7.com/**
- Integrated suite of backup, anti-virus, and ransomware protection.
- Excellent for backing up entire hard drives or partitions.
- Makes both "clones" and "images."
- Can "mount" a backup image as a logical drive.
- Can make bootable "Rescue Media" for both backup and restore.
- It can also back up individual files and folders.
- Single PC essential subscription lists at $50 / year, family pack of 3 about $80 / year
  There are premium offerings, including cloud storage.
  User Group Relations (Gene Barlow) prices are 50% lower. https://ugr7.com/

CASPER by Future Systems Software
- **https://www.fssdev.com/products/casper/**
- Makes "images".
- Features bootable images.
- The single system price is about $60; a family pack of 5 for $80.
- Has a 30-day free trial.

Macrium Reflect 8 Home
- https://www.macrium.com/products/home
- The free version has been discontinued but continues to work on Windows 10 and 11.; you can subscribe to the "Home" edition for an annual fee of $49.99 or buy a one-year license for $70 (no support after the first year). They offer a 30-day free trial.
- Can back up entire hard drive or partitions.
- Makes both "clones" or "images."
- Can "mount" a backup image as a logical drive.
- Can make bootable "Rescue Media" for both backup and restore.

EaseUS ToDo Backup FREE
- **https://www.easeus.com/backup-software/tb-free.html**
- See feature comparison,
- Makes "images". You can "boot" from an image.
- You can upgrade to a fuller-featured "Home" edition for $39.99 annually, one year free upgrade, or a "Lifetime Upgrades" edition for $79.95.

I tried using EaseUS ToDo Backup to back up my C: drive to a USB 3 external 7200 RPM hard drive. It required 52 min to back up 300 GB of data. The resultant image size was 184.5 GB. A substantial number of MP4 files on the C: drive had already been compressed.

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

Windows 11 Backup (Windows 7) FREE (built-in to Windows 10 and 11)

- This backup tool is reached via:
  Control Panel > All Control Panel Items > Backup and Restore (Windows 7)
- You can use it to back up key library folders or "Create a system image." Once there, you can add additional drives or partitions to the basic C: drive partition set.
- I set it up and let it run to make an image of my C: drive (300 GB of data). It ran for 92 minutes. The final image file size was 300 GB; there was NO compression.

Macrium Reflect Free Edition has been my favorite of the above offerings. It's fast, easy to use, and does everything I need for whole disk backup. And the price was right! However, I'm presently evaluating free and paid alternatives. Here's a link to a good article listing some free backup software tools:

https://www.techradar.com/best/best-free-backup-software. I'm disenchanted with the built-in Windows 7 backup. It's too slow, and the images aren't compressed. I'm also disenchanted that Acronis and Macrium will use an annual subscription model. EaseUS ToDo Backup Free edition looks promising as a replacement for the Macrium Reflect 8 Free edition.

File Backup Tools

Full disk backups are great, but users don't typically run them daily because they take time, and the backup drive has to be retrieved and connected to the computer. This creates a risk that data files that change may not be accurately reflected in the backup. Consider your saved email and contacts, financial and accounting files, and other documents and spreadsheets you may be working on.

Windows File History or MacOS Time Machine

One approach is to use an automated file backup tool that scans a designated set of folders at some specified time interval (say every hour). It makes a copy of any new or changed files to a backup storage device such as a flash drive, external hard drive, or a shared folder on another computer. I use File History, checking once an hour, to supplement full disk backups for specific key file folders.

Windows File Explorer or MacOS File Manager / Finder

For simple one-shot backups, you can still use the built-in file manager programs to select a set of files and copy them to an external flash drive, hard drive, or network-shared folder.

Cloud Backup Tools

There are many free and paid cloud backup services. Most of these include an automatic sync tool that copies files from your computer to your private space on the cloud server. Here are some of the free ones:

Google Cloud (Google Drive) - *FREE*

- **https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/my-drive**
- Requires a Google / Gmail account
- 15-17 GB of free cloud storage
- **Install Google Backup and Sync** app (Windows)
- Use Settings to specify a set of folders to be monitored and backed up to the Google Cloud whenever a change is detected (very similar to Windows File History)

Microsoft OneDrive - FREE

- **https://onedrive.live.com/about/en-us/**

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

- Requires a Microsoft Account
- 5 GB free (more if you've had a Microsoft ID for a long time). If you're subscribed to Microsoft 365 (the Office suite), you get 1 TB per license user, up to 6 TB in total.
- Syncs from a OneDrive folder on your PC or device to your OneDrive cloud storage.

Apple iCloud – FREE

- **www.apple.com/icloud**
- Requires an Apple ID (Account)
- 5 GB free, can add more space for a fee
- Built into all Apple devices, can install an App for Windows
- Syncs across all your devices

What About My Smart Phone or Tablet?

Many computer users now rely on a mobile device as their primary computer for communication, news, and entertainment, taking photos and video clips, and recording sound. What are the options for backing up mobile devices?

Android Phones and Tablets

If you have a Google account and have configured your device to link to it, you get quite a lot of automatic backup of files to your Google Drive cloud space. You will want to be connected to a WiFi router when this happens, or your Android device may use up a lot of your monthly data allotment.

You can also connect your Android device via a USB cable to your desktop computer and use the Windows File Manager or MacOS Finder to copy files from the mobile device to a folder on the desktop computer. You can also copy files from the desktop computer to the Android mobile device.

To fully back up all your Android device's data, you can purchase and install third-party backup Apps. Try a web search for **Android Full Backup** to see what's available.

Apple Phones and Tablets

If you have an Apple ID, all your devices, including iPhone, iPad, Mac, and Apple Watch, already have built-in iCloud support and will back up data files to your iCloud private storage space on Apple's servers. If you have several Apple devices, a concern is using up your free 5GB allocation; you may have to buy extra space to cover backups from all your devices.

You can connect your iPhone or iPad to your PC or Mac via a USB cable and then use Apple's iTunes program to synchronize various file types between your mobile device and your desktop computer. This isn't quite as general as what Android offers, but it takes care of many file types. iTunes also provides an easy way to fully back up all the data on your Apple mobile device into a file on your desktop computer.

Having the iCloud backup enabled on your mobile device is a good idea. This takes care of frequently changing files. Use the iTunes full backup occasionally to ensure ALL your devices' files are backed up.

With these backups in place, if your phone or tablet is damaged, goes up in flames, or gets lost, you can replace the phone or tablet with relative ease, restore all your saved data files, and be back in business.

Private Browsing: Is it all it's cracked up to be?

By Chris Taylor, President

Ottawa PC Users' Group, Ontario, Canada
https://opcug.ca
Published in Ottawa PC News (November 2023)
Editor: brigittelord (at) opcug.ca

For well over 10 years, web browsers have offered ***private browsing***, designed to keep your browsing—well—private.

Google Chrome calls it an ***Incognito window***, Firefox, Opera & Brave call it a ***Private window***, and Microsoft Edge calls it an ***InPrivate window***. The easiest way to get there is to right-click the browser's icon on the taskbar and choose the appropriate ***New…*** item from the pop-up context menu.

When in a private browsing window, browsing history, cookies & site data (such as images and contents of webpages), and information entered in forms are not saved to your computer. Other users on your computer will not be able to see your web browsing activities. When browsing, web servers won't automatically recognize you as a returning user, and you won't be automatically signed into websites.

When you close a private browsing window, the browser discards site data and cookies created during that session. Note that you need to close the private browsing window to remove traces. Until you do, a simple click on the back button will return you to the previous page visited in that window.

Private browsing deactivates extensions. You can enable extensions in private browsing windows if you need them. For example, in Google Chrome, click the kebab menu (□) at the top-right of the window. Choose ***Settings***. Find the extension you want to allow in Incognito windows and click ***Details*** under that extension. Toggle on ***Allow in Incognito***.

Private browsing is not a panacea

It does not prevent all tracking. While websites do not have the luxury of using cookies to track you, there are many other means of tracking. For example, a web server can know your operating system, browser version, extensions you have loaded, screen resolution, IP address, and more. These data items can be used to fingerprint and track you.

Private browsing does not prevent ads. It does not prevent malware. It does not hide where you are browsing from your ISP or employer.

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

As Gizmodo reported in October 2022, ***Even Google's Own Staff Thinks 'Incognito Mode' Isn't All It's Cracked Up to Be*** - https://gizmodo.com/google-incognito-mode-google-chrome-1849648071

Where is private browsing useful?
If you are using a computer at a public kiosk, it will prevent the next person using the computer from easily seeing where and what you browsed.

If you use multiple accounts on a single website, a private browsing window can help you keep things separate.

If you are using another person's computer, it can be helpful in making it less likely you leave traces behind.

Strangely, I have encountered shopping sites that required private browsing for the checkout process to work properly. I guess they didn't want to sell things to me all that badly.

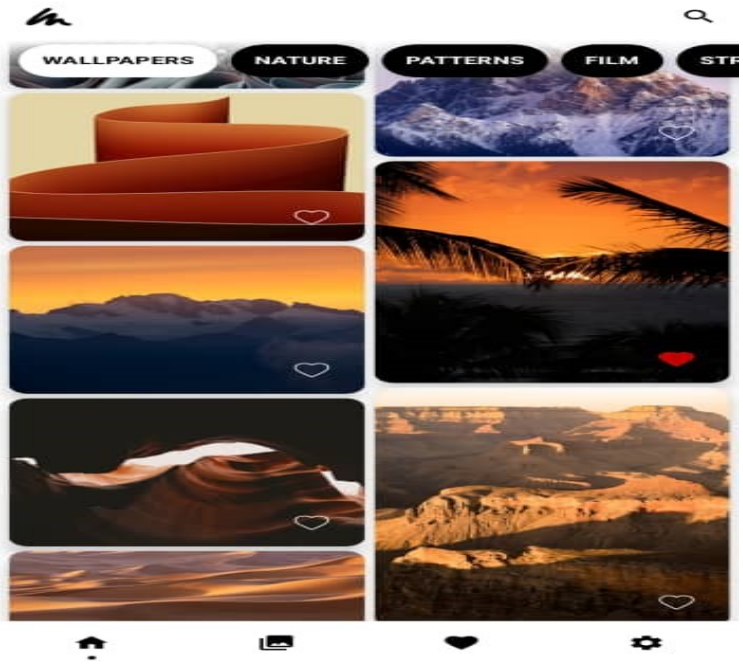
For more information about private browsing, see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Private_browsing.

An (even) awesome(r) Android wallpaper app

One of my favorite sources for standout wallpapers just got an overhaul that makes it more pleasant than ever to use.

The app is called **Walpy**. It's free with an optional in-app upgrade for extra options.

At its core, Walpy gives you easy access to all sorts of stunning images from the photography site Unsplash, which showcases high-quality images from photographers around the world.



(Continued on page 14)

What makes it especially interesting, though, is not only its selection and how simple it makes it to find and apply fantastic backgrounds but also the way it empowers you to *customize* any image you select — by changing its coloring, brightness, or contrast or even adding in a blur or vignette effect. Those effects can go a really long way when it comes to wallpapers.

"Can you buy me a new phone? Mine is already a week old. And it doesn't help that I dropped it again."

Revised April 2025

Plateau PC Users Group, Inc.

Application for Membership for 2025-2026

------- New Member ------ Renewing Member

Return this application with a check for annual dues payable to "PLATEAU PC USERS GROUP"
Return to the club Treasurer during our meeting or mail to
"PPCUG Treasurer. 221 Tomlon Road, Crossville TN 38555"

Our annual dues are now payable July 1st. of each fiscal year.

Persons// families joining during the fiscal year have dues payable as follows:

Join In	July - Sept	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar	Apr - June
Single	**$24**	$18	$12	$6
Family	**$30**	$22	$15	$7

Date: ---------- Amount Paid: $ ---------- by Cash ----- , or Check (# ----------)

---------- ---------- ----------
Last Name *First Name* *Family Member (if family membership)*

Address:

---------- -------- ---------- (----------) ----------
City *State* *Zip Code* *Phone Number*

E-Mail address: ----------
Please Print

I have belonged to a Computer Club before: Yes ---------- No ----------

I have used PC's since (year): ----------

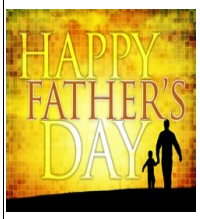
I have knowledge in the following areas that I would be willing to share with club members:

_____

_____

_____

June 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 10:00 A.M. PPCUG Board Mtg.	5	6	7
8	9	10 3:00 P.M. General Mtg. Presentation. Followed by Q&A Session	11	12	13	14
15 	16	17	18	19	20 	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					