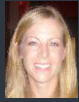


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TEKKIE HELP NEWS

OUR FIRST EXHIBITION!

Come and see us at the Hollandse Club Fair on Friday 27th September. We will have a show exclusive offer of 10% off Tekkie Help services.

Appointments must be booked between 27th – 4th October (either at the show, over the phone or by email).

SHAKE IT ALL ABOUT!

Not really news about Tekkie Help but I felt compelled to share this really cool tip I discovered for iPad and iPhone users...

Did you know that if you accidentally cut away some text whilst typing, if you give the device a quick shake, the Undo button appears?!

If you want to hear about more useful techie tips, please do

"Like" us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/tekkiehelp



This issue

Keeping your children safe online
Thinking of joining the Cloud?
Streaming media over a home network
The App Zone and Tekkie Tips

Help keep your children safe online

We have identified the best free parental control utilities out there

Every parent wants to make sure that their kids aren't misusing the Internet or getting bullied online, but choosing the right software can be confusing. There are tons of solutions available and some of them can cost a bundle. Fortunately, there are a few great parental monitoring tools available for free.

Full-Scale Parental Control

When evaluating a parental control system, we look for several essential features. It should block access to inappropriate websites in parent-selected categories, and it should work no matter what browser the child uses. A time-scheduler should let parents define a weekly schedule for when the child is allowed on the Internet, the computer playing games and chatting, or both. It should produce reports that let parents easily check up on the child's online behaviour. Parents should also be able to define different configurations for different children.

Norton Family Online and Microsoft's Windows Live Family Safety both manage these basic tasks just fine.

They also include quite a few features found in the paid products. Both can track each child's Internet usage across multiple PCs, a feature not found in every for-pay product, as well as track instant messaging conversations and control who the child can chat with. Windows Live lets parents limit games the child can play based on ESRB ratings (to make sure they are age appropriate). Both programs offer remote management and viewing of reports, with the option of email alerts on any violation.

Social Networking Worries

Parents worry about young children been exposed to graphic sex or violence online accidentally. When they get older, the worry shifts to how they are interacting on Facebook and other social networks. A new breed of parental monitoring tool aimed specifically at social networking has begun to arise in recent years, and some of these tools are free as well.

SocialShield tracks your child's activity on a number of social networks including Facebook, MySpace, twitter and Google+. It summarises all activity in an online dashboard and calls out potential problems like risky posts or suspicious new friends. Parents can leave the kid some privacy by only viewing the alerts, but if a real problem arises, the entire list of social network activities is available.

MinorMonitor focuses on Facebook and Twitter. It offers similar warnings of risky activities and also displays some interesting statistics. For example, it graphs Facebook activity by hour for all days, weekdays, or weekends, so parents can tell whether they are using Facebook at inappropriate times.

Lots of Choices

Which tool you choose is up to you and your personal preferences. What we like is that there are free options out there, the benefit being that you don't have to make a commitment with your wallet. You can download each and see which suits you best. To help you make a decision, below we have rated and summarised each tool discussed.

Continued.....

If you need some additional advice on which parental control tool is best for you, would like information on paid for alternatives, or need help with getting started with the software, get in touch with us on 81138682 and we can arrange a consultation.



Norton Online Family *****

Parental control for multiple PCs or Macs. Full remote configuration and reporting. Controls/monitors instant messaging. Email alert on violations. New email summaries. Tracks surfing, searches, social networking.



Windows Live Family Safety *****

If you are using Windows Live Essentials (Microsoft's free virus protection software) on your family computers it makes sense to enable the Family Safety component. If not, it does require an investment in time and energy to set up from scratch.



Minor Monitor *****

Warns parents when problem words or phrases turn up on a child's Facebook account, and also warns about possible inappropriate friends. Parents can view all photos posted by the child. It's a useful and informative free tool.



SocialShield *****

Tracks all of a child's activity across multiple social networking sites, warning parents when it detects bullying, suspicious friends or other problems. If parents can't end a cyber bullying problem, the company promises to help. This is one impressive monitoring tool.

Thinking of joining The Cloud?

The adoption rate of public cloud services has expanded consistently for the past four years. In a recent survey, 30% of respondents said they were using a cloud provider, and an additional 40% said they were planning on using or evaluating cloud services.

The future of computing is in the cloud. Looking at the advantages, it is understandable why people are flocking there. Amongst other things, cloud services allow users to:

- ✓ **Save storage space on their devices.** With your data securely stored and available through any web connection, you can access your pictures and other files from anywhere. They don't have to take up space on your hard drive anymore.
- ✓ **Share files with others.** With your data available anytime, anywhere and from any web-ready device, it is easy for you to share and view documents together.
- ✓ **Peace of mind data is safe.** While it is still important to have a local back up, accidents can happen. Backing up to the cloud means that in the event of a flood, earthquake, robbery, or other disaster that could destroy your data you still have an off-site copy.

Knowing this, here is a rundown of three of the major cloud computing service providers.

iCloud

iCloud is Apple's cloud service, which blends seamlessly with Apple products. The service also keeps your email, contacts and calendars up to date across all of your devices without syncing. Although the service only works on Apple mobile devices, it will sync with Windows based PCs as well.

What you get for free: Free storage up to 5GB (this doesn't include a your photo stream and other purchased content – music, movies, books etc)

Cost of extra storage: \$20/year for 10GB, \$40/year for 20GB and \$100/year for 50GB of extra storage.

Google Drive

Google Drive allows you to share files and collaborate with users you have given permission to. You can upload almost any file type, which can then be accessed by nearly any type of web-connected device.

What you get for free: Free storage up to 5GB

Cost of extra storage: \$2.49/month for 25GB and \$4.99/month for 100GB of additional storage.

DropBox

DropBox is a file sharing service that allows you to drag and drop files to a folder on your computer which is synced with the cloud, making that file available on other computers and devices you have DropBox set up on. You can share out the link to friends, making it available whenever they need. Since this folder syncs automatically across similarly set up devices, you'll have access to these locally-synced files even when you are not online.

What you get for free: Free account starts at 2GB

Cost of extra storage: \$9.99/month for 50GB or \$19.99 for 100GB. You can also get additional space if you refer friends!

This is just a sampling of the many cloud-based services available. If you would like to discuss some of the options available, feel free to call us for a chat on 81138682.

3 POPULAR CLOUD SERVICE PROVIDERS

- iCloud
- Google Drive
- DropBox



THE APP ZONE

A quick review of the apps we are loving at the moment.

WHATSAPP



Jump on the bandwagon and download this free

messaging app, it will be worth your while (and save you a few dollars!)

What it does: Allows you to exchange messages without having to pay for SMS. You can chat for free with anyone else who has downloaded the app. It also offers a few extra features such as, group chat and nifty location services.

Why we love it: It will save a few extra dollars on text charges – every little helps!

JAMIE OLIVER 20 MINUTE MEALS



We don't usually

Feature paid for apps

But this is a fav of one of our fans so we felt compelled to share.

What it does: provides 60 delicious recipes (with step by step photo instructions) that only take 20 minutes to prepare.

Why we love it: It's great source of inspiration and it has a handy shopping list feature which sorts ingredients into logical categories, making supermarket navigation super quick and easy! \$10 well spent!

Case Study: Streaming media over home network

Set-up of a complete home network and multimedia solution

A new house renovation is an ideal opportunity to get your technology working *exactly* how you want it to. We were delighted to be given the opportunity to work with one family to do just this in their beautiful townhouse. (it also got our creative juices flowing, a techie's dream!).

The family wanted seamless wireless coverage throughout their 4-storey home, as well as a central place to store data – music, videos, photos etc. They also wanted easier access to their media and other online content.

Firstly we recommended MyRepublic

fibre broadband service. This instantly gave a whopping 100MB bandwidth and the ability to access TV shows from around the world (Netflix, BBC, Hulu etc). We then installed the home network using a mixture of different technologies. For efficient data storage, we connected a storage device, called a 'NAS' (Network Attached Storage) to the network and configured it to create a secure, private and central area for each member of the family. Some of the folders are shared folders for photos, music etc. The added benefit of a NAS is that data does not take up storage space on individual devices and PCs.

We then connected the TV to the network so the family can easily stream anything from the Internet or their stored data straight to the screen. We transferred their music library to the central store, removing any duplicates and adding any missing data such as album cover, track titles and artists etc. As added value, we gave them Tekkie Help's music library of 450 albums. The final job is to install a super duper home entertainment system. The end result is seamless access to their media by the press of a button.

TEKKIE HELP'S Q&A TECHNOLOGY TIPS

Q: How can I check how much space is left on my hard drive?

A: It is essential to know how much space is left on your computer as if you start to reach the upper limit your computer may start to malfunction and may even overwrite data. It is simple to do :

On a PC:

Click on Start/ Windows Explorer and the My Computer. It will show you how much space is left on Local Disk (C).

On a Mac:

Click on the Apple sign in the top left of the screen. Select About This Mac, then More info...Click on the Storage tab and you will see a full visual breakdown of how space is currently utilised and how much space is remaining.



Q: What do I do if my hard disk is reaching full capacity?

A: You need to take action if your hard drive is 90% full or with around 20GB of free space. At this point your computer may start to be problematic and risk losing data. You need a strategy to make space. Firstly, remove any unwanted programmes or user data, especially duplicates.

Secondly, it is a good idea to move large files to an external drive (ensure you have a back-up). Photo and music libraries are often big space consumers and can be easily transferred.

Finally, you may like to think about upgrading your computer and installing a larger hard disk, or even replacing it altogether.

Latest offer: 10% Limited Discount

Book a consultation with Tekkie Help between 27th September and 4th October for 10% off

Visit does not have to be scheduled within the offer period.

Offer only applicable for one visit.

Quote DUTCHCLUB upon booking.

tekkiehelp
information | communication | technology

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