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Editor:
Sarah Pinel

Sarah.pinel@tekkiehelp.com

TEKKIE HELP NEWS

REPAIR OF IPAD SCREENS

Cracked iPad screens are devastating and the thought of traipsing around trying to find someone to fix it without getting ripped off is a nightmare. Worry no more; we can now fix broken iPad screens in the comfort of your own home and for a great price too.

MAC TRAINING

New to Mac? Struggling to get your head around certain Apple applications and functions? Don't worry, we can help. We are just finalizing a series of Mac training programs. Watch this space for dates! All training will be conducted by our very own Apple certified Tekkie Specialist – Annie.



This issue

Travelling with Kids – how tech can help
How robust is your backup?
Case study: Data organisation
AppleTV – the low down

The Ultimate Tech Travel Survival Kit

All you need to make travelling with kids a breeze

Heading off for some much needed rest & relaxation, yet dreading actually getting there with kids in tow? Worry no more with our Ultimate Tech Travel Survival Kit. We shared these tips exclusively with Singapore's top parenting website [Sassy Mama](#) earlier this year.

1. Smart Phone/ tablet

Top of the list of course are tablets and smart phones. They are the saving grace of modern day travel, with the potential to provide hours of entertainment for your little ones – which can be both fun *and* educational at the same time (guilt-free!). Preload your device with new content that you know your wee ones will love. Think new music, movies, e-books, puzzles, games and activities, as well as a bunch of new apps. Popular apps that are guaranteed to keep any young child amused (for more than 30 seconds!) are those from the [Toca Boca](#) and [Dr. Panda](#) range, as well as apps like [Pat the Bunny](#), [Endless Alphabet](#), [Timmy Tickle](#) and [52 Fun Things to Do in the Car](#). [Gube](#) also provides a catalogue of pre-screened, moderated and fun YouTube videos that can be watched on or offline.

An app guaranteed to keep *you* sane is [Triplt](#) – a fab free travel organiser, which keeps all your travel details in one place, including flight schedule, maps, directions, hotel confirmations, weather, sight-seeing plans, and more.

2. Headphones

Headphones are an essential tech kit must-have for parents, as none of us (or our fellow passengers) want to hear SpongeBob for more than 10 minutes or be subjected to annoying beeps and other noises when travelling. It's best to choose ones that are specifically designed for children. to ensure a better fit and to protect their ears.

(most come with inbuilt volume control). We love the [Griffin Crayola MyPhones](#) (\$42 incl. postage) which not only look the part but also come with stickers and felt-tip pens, so kiddos can design their own earcaps – how cool is that?



If you have a couple of kids wanting to watch the same movie, a great gadget that prevents fighting and keeps the peace (pun intended!) is a headphone splitter. It enables you to plug multiple headphones into the same device. [Belkin](#) do a great one for just \$24 which can be bought from the Singapore Apple Store.



3. Power Supply

Don't be caught with a loss of power, make sure you pack a portable power bank to charge your devices on the move instead (all without the need for a power socket!). We love the range from [ProBox](#), which packs a powerful punch in a sleek and compact form and can easily slip into your handbag or pocket without weighing you down.

Universally compatible output ports deliver full speed charging to all your latest generation devices - you can even charge two devices at the same time – just plug in and juice up! Whichever power bank you choose, look out for one that features a 2A input to give you quicker charge and to also work with your iPad. Pick up yours from Courts for \$118. Alternatively, if you're travelling on a plane, many larger aircrafts now have a facility to charge your devices en route. You just need to remember to bring a UBS cable with you!



4. HDMI Cable

If you plan on spending some downtime in your villa or hotel room, come prepared with a HDMI cable so you can connect your phone or tablet to your hotel room TV. This will not only project your favourite movies and TV shows

onto the big screen, but it also enables you to have a giant family Skype session (if that's your thing!).

5. Child Locator

Have peace of mind knowing where your children are in busy airports, amusement parks, shopping malls or anywhere else your child might become distracted, with an alarm child locator. We love the "Mommy I'm Here Child Locator" which can be purchased from Lamkins for \$79.90. The cute-as-a-button teddy bear is fitted to your child's wrist, footwear or clothing and emits a high pitched alarm when your child wanders more than 20 metres from you.



So that's it! Our must have techie products to help make travelling with the kids that little bit more enjoyable (and peaceful!).

How robust is your backup?

3 steps to help protect your data

Our top tip for anyone is to always backup your data, however, a backup also needs a backup plan. We have had a number of recent cases where the backup device has been damaged, become corrupt or subjected to a virus. If this is the only copy of data then things become a bit hairy. We also have instances where people move their music and photos off their computer to an external drive and think they have a backup – if the external drive is the only remaining copy – there is no backup. To recover the data the only solution would be data recovery, which can be very costly. We strongly encourage people to implement a backup plan for their actual backup. Here are our 3 tips to creating a robust strategy.

1. Disconnect your backup data

Make sure you backup to a media that can be physically removed from your computer and stored offline. Whilst this is less convenient than permanently leaving it attached, it is good habit to form for a couple of reasons. Firstly it moves the backup out of harm's way from physical damage, theft or if a virus ever infects your PC.

2. Store your backup in multiple locations

In addition to having an onsite local backup, we recommend creating an offsite backup. The Cloud is an excellent offsite backup where data is stored virtually and therefore protected from physical damage and malware. You can also have a physical offsite backup, ideally in a fireproof store like a safety deposit box, or in a different country. Second, if you store it in a safe place (ideally fireproof and offsite) it is protected to some extent from natural disasters and physical damage. If you have backups in multiple locations, the risk of losing all the data is minimised.

3. Backup multiple versions

The most effective way to safeguard your backup is to maintain more than one copy of your data. We have already mentioned the benefits of having a Cloud backup. A step to further safeguard your data would be creating additional physical backups i.e. to another UBS, external drive, DVD – again, ideally stored in multiple locations.

If you need some additional advice on which creating a robust backup strategy, or need help with actually setting it up, get in touch with us on 81138682 and we can arrange for a Tekkie Specialist to assist.

THE APP ZONE

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

TRIP IT

Love travelling yet find the logistics of managing multiple flights, cars, hotels and other plans a nightmare to keep track of? If so, Trip It is the app for you.

What it does: Keeps all your travel details in one place, including flight schedule, maps, directions, hotel confirmations, weather, sight-seeing plans, and more..

Why we love it: It will not keep you super organised and sane whilst travelling but it is free too!



TOUCH COPY

Touch Copy is the 'must have'

tool for anyone who has lost their iTunes content either by replacing their computer or due to data corruption.

What it does: If your music, photos, apps and videos are still available on a device, TouchCopy can retrieve these and safely restore them into your iTunes Library.

Why we love it: It's free and with just a few clicks it will save your content – not just music – everything will be restored: playlists, videos, apps, iBooks, contacts, calendars, notes, messages and emails.



Case Study: Data Organisation

Restore some order into your digital world!

Tablets and mobile devices have transformed the way we interact and work with technology. We are able to create documents on the move, take great quality pictures on both cameras and smart phones and download music to various devices. Managing all the data has become increasingly tricky and often confusing. Documents, photos, videos and music are stored across multiple devices and user accounts. With a lack of a throughout filing system, storage can become chaotic with the desktop full of random data. We get a lot of requests for us to bring order to customers' data storage and help them develop good

data management practices to stay organised.

When we work with customers we need to carefully plan out the structure for their data. This is a highly personal thing and will depend on how individuals use their devices and personal preferences. We can give logical guidance and then do the actual data migration.

The fundamental objective is to have one central location where everything resides. This involves consolidation of music and photo libraries and documents - getting all the data from your phone, camera, tablet and computer. From there we work meticulously to delete any duplicates. In the case of iTunes libraries, we are able to obtain any missing album covers and

artist/ song information.

Once all the data is in a central location, we can then move the data into the agreed file structure, separating out Documents, Videos, Music, Photos etc. and then creating sub folders for example, per year/ subject / topic etc. it is also beneficial to do this per user.

Finally, yet most importantly, we ensure that everything is backed up (more than once ;-)).

*If you are feeling a bit bewildered at the state of your data organisation (or lack of?), give us a call on **81138682** and we can arrange for a Tekkie Specialist to help you out.*

TEKKIE HELP'S Q&A TECHNOLOGY TIPS

Q: What is AppleTV?

A: It's fair to say that AppleTV is a little bit confusing at first glance. The first thing to understand is that it's not, as its name would suggest, a TV made by Apple! It is actually Apple's own media player, and it is pretty much as simple as that. What's a media player? It's a device that plugs into your TV and allows you to watch films, movies, music videos, home videos, photos and other media from your computer or other devices.

Q: What can AppleTV do?

A: AppleTV enables you to:

1. Buy/ rent movies and TV shows from the extensive Apple library.

2. Play music and films from your own iTunes library.
3. Provides access to content from Netflix, Hulu etc. In Singapore this is restricted unless you have MyRepublic broadband, a VPN router or a special fix on the device (which we can do).
4. Display your photos on your TV.
5. Mirrors anything on the screen of your Apple device via AirPlay.



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