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## TEKKIE HELP NEWS

### TEKKIE FLEET OF CARS

We are very proud of our expanding fleet of vehicles. Our Tekkie Specialists are now fully equipped with any possible tools and gadgets they need to do a great job. Keep a look out on the roads of Singapore for our fleet of cars and vans and give us a wave!

### TRAINING SESSIONS

We are delighted to be partnering with Woolf Works Co-Working Space to provide essential IT training to support new start-up businesses. Topics we will be covering include: Setting up websites, Google Apps, CRM systems and Google Analytics.

We will also be providing training on Photo Management with Noodle Photography.

Watch this space for dates and details after the Summer break!



## This issue

Room to Grow: Data Storage Solutions  
The Ultimate Tech Travel Survival Kit  
Setting up a business  
Overview of 2.5G and 5G wireless

## Room to Grow: Data storage solutions

*Running out of space on your computer? Here are some options to consider.*

Thanks to the wide availability of high-speed broadband, digital cameras and media download sites, we are storing more data than ever before. Whilst it was only a few years ago that an 80GB hard drive was more than adequate, nowadays we're often struggling to find space to save our data. Here we are going to discuss different options for you to consider when you are running out of space.

### A full hard drive

If you find your computer is not performing well and you have a lot of data, it quite possible that your computer is running out of hard drive space. On a Mac you may even be getting Startup Disk Full error messages. Furthermore, if your disk is more than 80-90% full then you run the risk of the operating system becoming corrupt or files being overwritten. If your computer is getting too full, what not to do is move your data, especially your photo or music library, to a single external drive. This is because you will only have one copy of the data and if for any reason the disk goes faulty (we can assure you that they do!), then your data will need to be professionally data recovered which is costly and not always 100% successful. Moving your photos to Cloud applications like Drop Box (if this is the single copy) is also not a robust plan as there is no backup copy. With the Cloud, there is a risk of you being locked out of your account if you forget your password, forget to pay or your email account is shut down. There is also a risk that your cloud account may be hacked and your data deleted.

### What next?

So what can you do if you are running out of space?

You could put your data onto an external drive with a copy in the cloud, as it is imperative that you have it stored in geographically different locations. The issue with moving data off your computer is that the data is then not readily accessible and also it becomes quite time consuming and messy managing the copies of your data, unless you have the right equipment and processes.

### The ultimate solution

A more eloquent solution would be to have a storage device which is attached to your network. Such a device is referred to as a NAS (network attached storage) and they have an extremely large storage capacity, typically ranging from 3TB up to over 12TB for home use. Over and above providing more storage space, a NAS server has a number of key functionalities which really make it an attractive option:

- **Communal Storage** – any devices on your network can access and store data on the NAS providing they have the right access rights. With a NAS, you won't face the issue of lack of space on any of your computers. This also makes sharing files easy.
- **Disk resilience** – a NAS is made up of 2 or more hard drives which can be configured in such away so that in the event that one disk fails, no data is lost.
- **Backup solution** – data on your devices can be automatically backed up to the NAS.
- **Access data remotely** – providing you have internet connection, you are able to access the

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data on your NAS, from anywhere in the world. Stringent security prevents any unauthorised access.

- **Different user accounts** – you are able to set up different user accounts on the NAS, each with their own passwords and access rights.
- **Cloud synchronisation** – data on the NAS can be synced with cloud storage to provide a geographically diverse backup.

In our opinion, these key advantages make a NAS the ultimate solution to lack of space issues. There are a number of different NAS servers on the market with

varying storage capacity and functionality. Synology is the brand we highly recommend and we are one of the main dealers of Synology in Singapore.

They are an investment and prices start at around \$850 ranging up to \$2,000. You should remember that purchasing a NAS server can often be on a par with, or even cheaper than, purchasing multiple storage drives for a set of computers or vast amounts of data. Some of the Synology NAS servers have features such as a “Download Station” to allow you to download and store films, music etc. using torrent sites, a “Photo Station” and “Audio Station” to enable you to browse your photos and listen to your music remotely.

*Tekkie Help is an authorised retailer of Synology NAS servers. Call us now on **81138682** to request a price list, book a private demo or to discuss your general storage requirements in more detail.*

## 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

#### 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. We love the [Griffin Crayola MyPhones](#) 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?



#### 3. Headphone splitter

If you have a couple of kids wanting to watch the same movie, a great gadget that prevents fighting and keeps the peace 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 USB cable with you!

## THE APP ZONE

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

### STARWALK

Everyone loves to stare up at the starry sky on a clear night.

With StarWalk you can see what is up there whether it is cloudy or clear.

**What it does:** Point it to the sky and get a real-time view of celestial bodies so you can see what is out there beyond earth

**Why we love it:** You can easily identify the constellations and there is even an option to go back in time and see how the formations have changed.



### SINGAPORE GP

F1 season is Almost here again! This great app is your perfect event pocket bible.

**What it does:** It provides comprehensive information about the on track and off track activities, latest results, maps, entertainment and news.

**Why we love it:** It's free and a handy resource to help you get the most out of your F1 experience.



# Setting up a business? We can help!

## Let us handle your IT so you can focus on growing your company

Setting up a business is exciting but it can often be quite daunting. We can help take some of the pressure off and assist with the technical side of things. Here is how we can help:

### Domain Registration

Your domain name is your website address on the Internet. There are a number of companies you can register your domain name with, all offering different packages depending on the number of visits you expect your site to have. We can help you choose the right package for your needs and select a reputable hosting company.

### Building a website

We have the expertise in house to

develop a website for your business. If you have your creative concept already, we can make it go live and build any custom functionality for your site

### Setting up your business email

Your new business will require dedicated email accounts and these will need to be hosted by a company. We can assist with setting up your email, as well as migrating all of your old emails from other accounts. Google Apps for Business is a great email provider as has many other useful functions such as the ability to send bulk emails and store customer data (CRM system).

### Setting up your IT systems

Choosing the right equipment is essential. We can provide sound advice

on what you need, from printers and computers to storage and point of sale equipment. We can also set up all of the equipment, configure user PCs and optimise your wireless network.

### Ongoing IT support

Without a dedicated IT person in your company, when equipment goes faulty or your network is down, it can have a negative impact on your business operations. Tekkie Help is here to provide that support without having to recruit a full time IT employee. We can either come on an ad hoc basis or we can provide dedicated monthly support plans with priority call out.

## TEKKIE HELP'S Q&A TECHNOLOGY TIPS

### Q: What is the difference between 2G and 5G wireless?

A: You may have noticed that when you look to see what wireless connections are available that your home network has two listings – 2.5Ghz and 5Ghz. This is because some routers are capable of transmitting on two radio frequency bandwidths - 2.4Ghz and 5Ghz - hence creating multiple wifi networks. The 5Ghz frequency band is a newer radio standard and sends / receives data much faster than 2.4Ghz. So the difference between the 2.5Ghz and 5Ghz is that the 5Ghz is faster. However, the higher frequency means that the signal is not so good at travelling through walls, floors and other solid building

structures. Whilst the 2.4Ghz is slower, the signal can propagate around buildings better.

### Q: Should I connect to 2.5Ghz or 5Ghz?

When you are close to a router and there are no obstructions, you should connect to the 5Ghz network, and when further away where the signal is weaker use 2.4Ghz. If you are experiencing slow Internet speeds, you are most likely connected to the wrong network. Remember to connect to the 5Ghz network if you are in the same room as the router and the 2.5Ghz if there are walls between you and the router.

For more information, call us on 81138682

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