

# Cheapskate Tech

Glen Maxson

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Temple University

Fall 2020 – Session 1 of 6

[seniortechadvisor.com](http://seniortechadvisor.com)

# Who Am I?



Glen Maxson

[glenmaxson@gmail.com](mailto:glenmaxson@gmail.com), 267-866-7827

<http://www.seniortechadvisor.com>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/glen-maxson-ba66142/>

# Why Are We Here?

- Assumptions:
  - You're interesting in how technology can benefit you
  - Maybe you're thinking about 'investing' in some new devices
- And who doesn't like to save a little \$\$ in the process?

My motto:

Save a little today so you can buy another gadget (on sale) tomorrow

# My most recent 'investment' \$50 + tax

echo show + **blink** mini  
an amazon company

*"Alexa, show me the living room camera."*



Roll over image to zoom in

Echo Show 5 Sandstone with Blink Mini Indoor Smart Security Camera, 1080 HD with Motion Detection

Brand: Amazon

★★★★☆ 148,612 ratings

| 1000+ answered questions

**#1 Best Seller** in Electronics

**Best Deal**

Bundle Price: **\$124.98** ✓ prime

**Prime Savings** ✓ Your price at checkout is **\$49.99**. [Details](#)

**S** Best price: **S+**

Color: **Sandstone**



Configuration: **with \$5 Blink Mini – Prime Members**

And the one before that

\$25 + tax & shipping

## Wyze Band

**\$24.99**

Go beyond your typical activity tracker

ADD TO CART



# What We'll Cover in 6 Weeks

- Overview, plus Shopping tips
- Devices and Apps
- Internet of Things
- Chromebooks
- Linux...

# Who is Rick Broida?

- Rick Broida IS [The Cheapskate](#)

The Cheapskate Rules: 21 Easy Money-Saving Tech Secrets  
Kindle Edition

by Rick Broida (Author)

★★★★☆ 103 customer

Kindle Price: \$2.99  
Your Credits: -\$1.00 Details  
You Pay: **\$1.99**  
+ applicable tax

Read Now

- And another noteworthy title by Rick

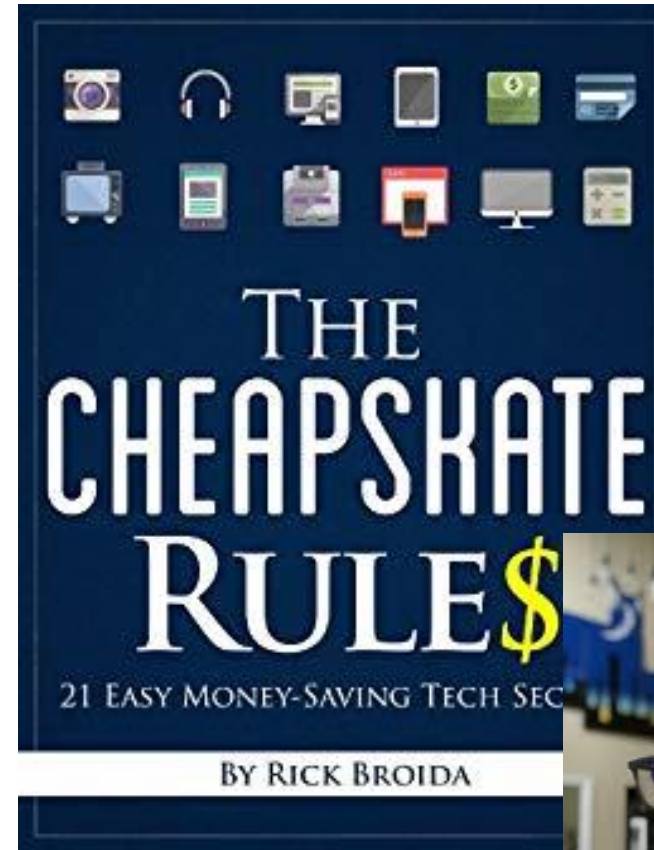
I Was a Middle-Aged Zombie: An unexpected journey into the wild world of escape rooms

by Rick Broida | Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

★★★★☆ 6

Kindle Edition

\$0.00 kindleunlimited



2013

thecheapskaterules@gmail.com



# The Cheapskate

Rick Broida scours the web for great deals on tech.

## FEATURED STORIES



**Friday's best deals start at just \$10 for a no-touch digital thermometer**

BY RICK BROIDA



**Save up to 50% on genuinely great Mixtiles framed photos**

BY RICK BROIDA



**Buy the Nintendo Switch for \$299 and get 10% back from Amazon**

BY RICK BROIDA



# Don't Believe Everything You See

## Koogeek no-touch digital thermometer

\$10 with code KQ6FHDIL

Then an hour later

Nope, no deal here

### Shopping Cart


[Deselect all items](#)

		Price	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<b>No Touch Digital Thermometer Medical Koogeek Infrared Forehead Thermometer for Adults Baby and Kids Touchless Temperature Gun with Fever Alarm LED Display Screen 1Second Accurate Instant Reading</b> #1 Best Seller in Industrial & Scientific In Stock Shipped from: Protected Equipment Gift options not available. <a href="#">Learn more</a> Qty: 1   <a href="#">Delete</a>   <a href="#">Save for later</a>   <a href="#">Compare with similar items</a>	<b>\$45.99</b> <a href="#">Best price</a> <a href="#">Best Deal</a>
Subtotal (1 item): <b>\$45.99</b>			

### Your Items

[Saved for later \(25 items\)](#)

[Buy it again](#)

<input type="checkbox"/>		<b>No Touch Digital Thermometer Medical Koogeek Infrared Forehead Thermometer for Adults Baby and Kids Touchless Temperature Gun with Fever Alarm LED Display Screen 1Second Accurate Instant Reading</b> #1 Best Seller in Industrial & Scientific In Stock Shipped from: Robert Kulesa <a href="#">Delete</a>   <a href="#">Move to Cart</a>   <a href="#">Move to Wish List</a>   <a href="#">Compare with similar items</a>	<b>\$25.99</b> <a href="#">Best Deal</a>
--------------------------	---	---	---

# And I'm Still Not Happy About This One

Last year WalMart advertised this deal

Not only was there no watch available at this price, but each time I checked (from 1 minute after the sale started) the price kept increasing. Bait and switch!

**Apple Watch Series 3: \$129 at Walmart**

You save \$70



Apple

Wow, wow, wow. Back in September I warned against buying the newly discounted Apple Watch Series 3 because I fully expected Black Friday deals. But I expected, oh, \$169 -- which, incidentally, is the upcoming price from Target. *Maybe \$159* somewhere.

But \$129? If you're an iPhone owner, do not. Miss. This. Deal. The Series 3 is an excellent smartwatch, one that originally sold for \$329. I doff my hat to you, Walmart; you beat everybody on this one.

# Amazon Prime Day — starts\* tomorrow (Oct. 13)

- About two-thirds of consumers indicate they plan to shop on Amazon Prime Day, more than either Black Friday or Cyber Monday.
- Experts predict that Amazon Prime Day — not Black Friday — will serve as the early kickoff for the 2020 holiday shopping season this year, generating as much as \$10 billion in total sales during the October event.

\*As usual, there are deals to be had well before the official start date of the 13th

# Black Friday Shopping – Pandemic Style

- **Walmart** is "promising an all-new Black Friday experience" and says it "will spread traditional Black Friday savings throughout the season" with more deals available online.
- **Target** [announced](#) its Deal Days shopping event will start on Oct. 13 and will last through Oct. 14
- **Best Buy** said Thursday it will offer dozens of "Black Friday" deals on Tuesday and Wednesday during the Amazon Prime Day event and Target's Deal Days.



# 'The Cheapskate Rules' Contents

[1. Get a Discount on Almost Everything You Buy](#)

[2. Accept Credit Cards for Free \(ish\)](#)

[3. Make Your Old PC Run Like New](#)

[4. Virus-Proof Your PC for Free](#)

[5. Help Far-Flung Family Members Solve Their Computer Problems, Free and Easy](#)

[6. Get a Free Replacement for Microsoft Office](#)

[7. Save Money on Apple Products. Seriously!](#)

[8. Use Your PC to Record Broadcast TV for Free](#)

[9. Recover a Lost or Stolen PC for Free](#)

[10. Save a Small Fortune on Video Games](#)

[11. Never Pay Another Penny for Music](#)

[12. Make Money with Your Smartphone](#)

[13. Find an Endless Supply of Free Books for Your Kindle or Nook](#)

[15. Get a Huge Supply of Free Cloud Storage](#)

[16. Turn Web Sites into Free Mobile Magazines](#)

[17. Organize Your Life for Free with WorkFlowy](#)

[18. Take College Courses for Free](#)

[19. Lower Your Monthly Smartphone Bill](#)

[20. Add Bluetooth to Any Stereo](#)

[21. Four Surprising Things You Can Get Free from Your Public Library](#)

# 1) Getting discounts (on everything)

- Discover cashback sites:

- Ebates (now [Rakuten](#))
- ~~[Fatwallet](#)~~ (out of business)
- [TopCashBack](#)\*

- How it works:

**\*Ready to buy something?** Search for the store you want to shop with using our search bar, or by browsing our categories or offers below. Then just click through and shop online as normal!



Walmart Cash Back

*Fall Beauty Event: 5 weeks of exclusive offers*

Up to \$10

Cashback

## 2) Accept credit cards

- [Intuit GoPayment](#)
- [PayPal Here](#)
- [Square Register](#)\*

- How it works:



### Just the basics

Tell us about your business so we can serve you better.



### No credit checks

We'll need the last four numbers of your SSN to verify your identity.



### Get your free magstripe reader

When you're done, we'll drop your free Square Reader for magstripe in the mail.

\*Square's transaction fee: **2.6% + 10¢** of the total transaction amount for any of the following payment types:







- [Swiped Magstripe Cards](#)
- [Swiped or Inserted Chip Cards](#)
- [Contactless \(NFC\) Payments](#)
- [Prepaid Gift Cards](#)
- [Point-of-Sale API Swiped or Inserted Payments](#)
- [Swiped Virtual Terminal Payments](#)

## 3a) Make your old PC run like new

- Step 1: Back up everything (which you should be doing anyway)
  - Make a list of everything on the PC that's important to you
  - Get an external hard-drive then copy everything on your list to it

For Windows 10 users -

- Step 2: 'Reset or Refresh' Windows (this can get complicated!)
  - Instructions Here: [Reset or reinstall Windows 10](#)

- Option 1: Select Start  > Settings  > Update & Security  > Recovery. Under Reset this PC, select **Get started**. [Open Recovery settings](#).
- Option 2: Restart your PC to get to the sign-in screen, then press and hold down the **Shift** key while you select the **Power**  icon > **Restart** in the lower-right corner of the screen. After your computer restarts, select **Troubleshoot** > **Reset this PC**.
- Option 3: Select Start , then press and hold down the **Shift** key while you select the **Power**  icon > **Restart** to restart your computer into Recovery Mode. After your computer restarts, select **Troubleshoot** > **Reset this PC**.
- Any of these three options will get you started, but once you're in the process, follow the steps as they are presented to you. If none of the preceding three options work, you can use installation media to [reinstall Windows 10](#).



# 3b) Make your old PC (almost) run like new

- Add memory and an SSD\*
  - Determine what type and how much memory you have installed
    - [How to find how much RAM is installed on a computer](#)
    - [How to find the right memory for your system](#)

- Dell Latitude E5400 example

memory	storage
Slots: 2 (2 banks of 1) Maximum Memory: 4GB <small>*Not to exceed manufacturer supported memory.</small> Standard Memory: 1 or 2GB removable	Storage: SATA 2 - 3Gb/s Drive Interface: SATA Drive Form Factor: 2.5"



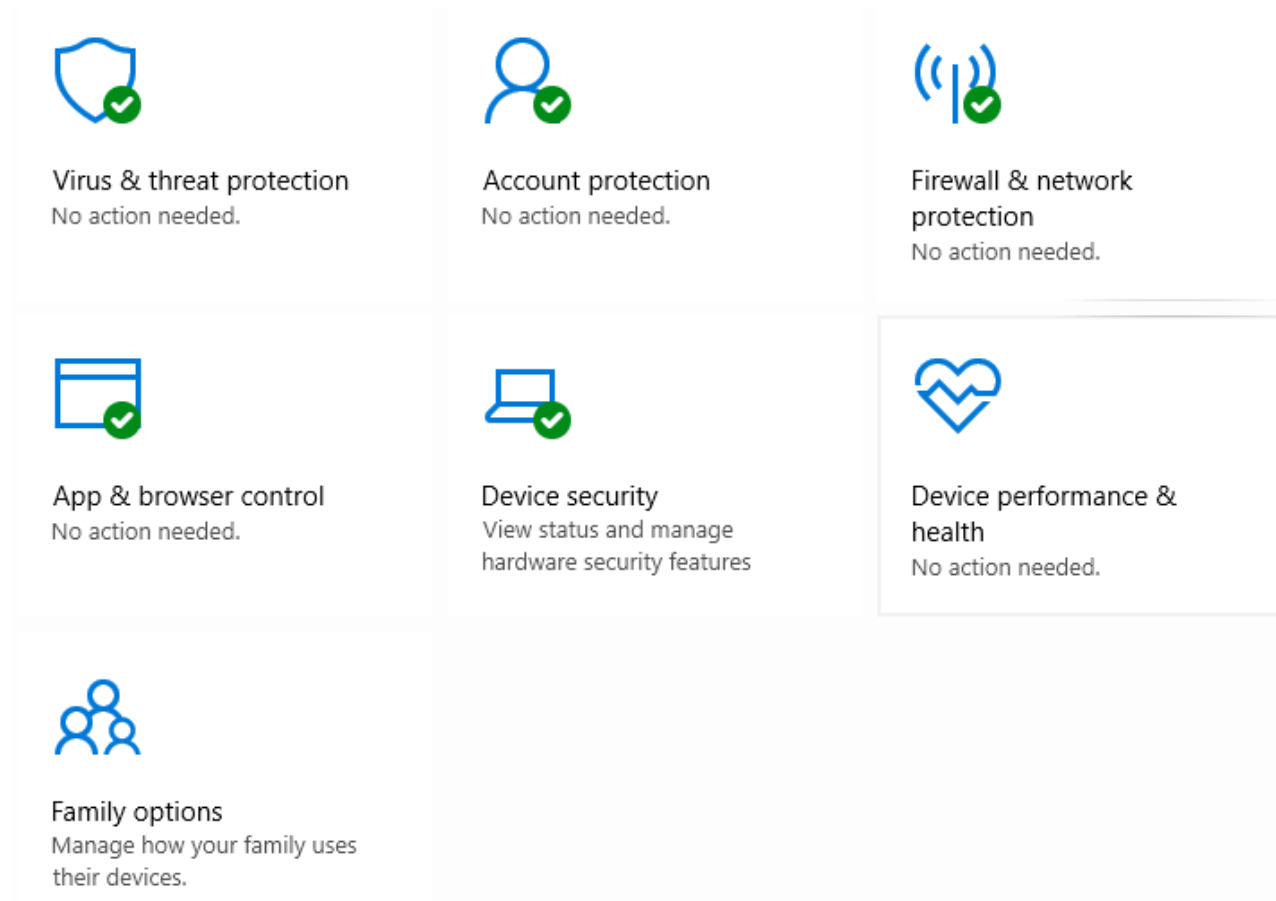
Crucial 2GB DDR2-800 SODIMM  
CT25664AC800 Configuration ID: CT875720  
DDR2 PC2-6400 • CL=6 • UNBUFFERED • NON-ECC • DDR2-800 • 1.8V • 256MEG X 64 •  
★★★★★ 4.8 3311 Reviews

- [Installing Computer Memory](#)
        - And there's always a YouTube video to show you how it's done
        - Ex. [Dell Latitude E5400 Keyboard, RAM and Hard drive replacement](#)
- Replace your 'spinning' hard drive with a solid state drive (SSD)

## 4) Free virus and malware software

- Know how your router firewall works
- Use Window's built-firewall
- Use Gmail (AOL, Xfinity, Yahoo and Outlook.com work well too)
- Use Chrome or Firefox, and an ad-ware blocker ([AdBlock Plus](#))
- Use the [WOT \(Web of Trust\)](#) plug-in to improve 'safe browsing'
- Enable Window's free virus program Windows Defender
- Don't forget to use good old-fashioned common sense when browsing, installing programs or opening e-mails!
- And if that's not good enough, install and run [Malwarebytes](#) if you think there's malware on your PC (also free)

# Windows Defender Security Center (example)





## 5) Free remote access to another PC

- The best known ‘free’ remote access programs
  - [Join.Me](#)
  - [TeamViewer](#) (favorite remote access tool for scammers)
- My current favorite:
  - [Chrome Remote Desktop](#)
  - Instructions to [Access another computer with Chrome Remote Desktop](#)

Set up remote access to your computer

You can set up remote access to your Mac, Windows, or Linux computer.

1. On your computer, open Chrome.
2. In the address bar, type `remotedesktop.google.com/access`.
3. Under “Set up Remote Access,” click Download.
4. Follow the onscreen directions to download and install Chrome Remote Desktop.

- But you can even use [Zoom](#) for remote access ([instructions](#))

# 6) Free Microsoft Office replacement

- Not free – [Office 365 Home](#)
- Free – Office online at [outlook.com](#)
- Top free office suites:
  - [LibreOffice 7.0.2](#)
  - [Apache OpenOffice 4.1.7](#)
  - [WPS Office](#)
  - [FreeOffice](#)

The image displays three Microsoft Office subscription plans side-by-side. The first plan, Microsoft 365 Family, is priced at \$99.99/year and includes premium apps like Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, Outlook, Access, and Publisher, along with premium value services like OneDrive, Skype, and Microsoft Editor. The second plan, Microsoft 365 Personal, is priced at \$69.99/year and includes the same premium apps but lacks the premium value services. The third plan, Office Home & Student 2019, is a one-time purchase of \$149.99 and only includes classic versions of Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, with no premium value services.

Plan Name	Price	Subscription Type	Premium Apps	Premium Value
Microsoft 365 Family	\$99.99 / year	Subscription	Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, Outlook, Access (PC only), Publisher (PC only)	OneDrive, Skype, Microsoft Editor, Microsoft Family Safety
Microsoft 365 Personal	\$69.99 / year	Subscription	Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, Outlook, Access (PC only), Publisher (PC only)	OneDrive, Skype, Microsoft Editor
Office Home & Student 2019	\$149.99	One-time purchase	Word, Excel, PowerPoint	(not included)

## 7a) Save money on Apple products (really?)

- Sign up for a United credit card, get 40k points, buy an iPad with points, cancel card – works, but definitely not recommended!
- Better: buy ‘refurbished’! Just do it – you’ll thank me...
  - Apple ‘refurbished’ products are always ‘good as new’ & include full warranty
  - You’ll need to order on-line, not at your favorite Apple store
  - Check out the deals here: (<https://store.apple.com/us/browse/home/specialdeals>)
- And do you really NEED the latest model? Buy a model a couple years old and save hundreds!

*A word about Apple’s planned obsolescence practices*

*“Apple wants you on a 1- to 2-year purchase cycle for iPods, and a 2- to 3-year purchase cycle for laptops.”*

# 7b) Save money on PC products too

- My favorite refurbished PC shop

## PC Liquidations

Dell OptiPlex 7010 USFF PC | i5-3470S 2.9GHz | 4GB RAM 250GB HDD - Grade A  
SKU 266440OptiPlex 7010 | Refurbished (Grading Guide)



Sale Price **\$249<sup>97</sup>**  
Regular Price ~~\$224.99~~  
You Save **\$75.00**  
Status **10+ In Stock**  
Quantity

ADD TO CART

As low as \$11.54 / Month \*

SELECT OPTIONS

Operating System

Windows 10 Home

Memory

8GB DDR3 (Total) +\$39.99

Primary Storage Drive

256GB Solid State Drive (SSD) +\$59.99

Dell 7010 - Grade A

Dell 7010 - Grade B

Dell 7010 - Grade C

Overview

Specs

Parts

Policies




# 8a) Record broadcast TV on your PC (for free)

- Free TV and DVR
  - [Winegard FlatWave Amped Amplified Digital Indoor HD TV Antenna - 50 Mile Long Range \(Renewed\)](#) - \$28 (not free)
  - [Hauppauge WinTV-DualHD Dual USB 2.0 HD TV Tuner for Windows](#) - \$67 (also not free)
  - [Hauppauge WinTV v8.5](#) – activation code provided with [WinTV-DualHD](#) (above)





## 8b) Broadcast TV & DVR options (not free)

- Assumes you already have Internet access & good download speeds
- [Best live TV streaming services for cord cutters](#)
  - [Sling TV \(\\$30/month\): Best budget live TV streaming service](#)
  - [YouTube TV \(\\$65 – incl. 6 accounts\): Best premium live TV streaming service](#)
  - But my favorite: [Hulu With Live TV](#) (starts at \$40/mth)
  - Also ran:
    - [AT&T TV Now](#)
    - [PlayStation Vue](#)
    - [CBS All Access](#)
    - [Fubo TV](#)
    - [Disney +](#) 
- Don't care about live TV?:
  - [Netflix](#)
  - [Amazon Prime Video](#)
  - [Vudu/Movies Anywhere](#)
  - [Roku Channel](#)
  - [Apple TV Plus](#)

# Big 5 Streaming Services Compared

**BIG FIVE TV STREAMING SERVICES COMPARED**

	Hulu with Live TV	YouTube TV	Sling TV	PlayStation Vue	AT&T TV Now
Base price	\$45/month for 60+ channels	\$50/month for 70+ channels	\$25/month for 30+ channels	\$50/month for 55+ channels	\$50/month for 40+ channels
Free trial	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ABC, CBS, Fox, and NBC channels	Yes, in many markets	Yes, in many markets	FOX and NBC only in select cities	Yes, in many markets	Yes, in many markets
Video on demand from local channels	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Step-up packages with more channels	No	No	Yes, an extra \$5/month each	\$55/month, \$65/month or \$85/month	\$70/month
Simultaneous streams per account	2 (\$15 option for unlimited)	3	1 or 3	5	2 (\$5 option for 3)
Family member/user profiles	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Pause, rewind, fast-forward	Yes	Yes	Yes, except for Disney or ESPN channels	Yes	Yes
Record shows for later (cloud DVR)	Yes	Yes (keep for 9 months)	Yes (\$5 per month, can't record Disney or ESPN channels)	Yes (keep for 28 days)	Yes (20GB, keep for 30 days)
Fast-forward through or skip commercials with cloud DVR	No (Yes with \$15 option)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
DVR show replaced by on-demand version	No	Yes	No	No	No
Video on demand/3-day replay	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Parental controls	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Bandwidth limiter	No	No	Yes	No	No

# 9) Recover a lost/stolen PC for free

- **[Enable “Find My Device” in Windows 10](#)**
  - To enable the device-tracking, open the Start menu or Start screen and select Settings.
  - Navigate to Update & security > Find My Device in the Settings app to find this feature.
  - You’ll need to be using a Microsoft account to enable this. You’ll log into that Microsoft account from a web browser to track the device if you ever lose it.
- **[How to Track, Disable, and Wipe a Lost iPhone, iPad, or Mac](#)**
  - [Apple’s “Find My” services](#) are integrated into iPhones, iPads, and even their Mac computers.
- **[How to Find Your Lost or Stolen Android Phone](#)**
  - [Android’s built-in Android Device Manager](#) allows you to track, lock, and wipe lost Android phones and tablets. You must enable this feature on each Android device you own by launching the Google Settings app, tapping Android Device Manager, and activating it.
- **[How to Setup Your Laptop with Tracking Software in Case You Ever Lose It](#)**
  - [LockitTight](#) - Online Device Tracking
  - [Prey](#) – Simplified endpoint management with automated security and anti-theft

# 10) Save \$\$ on video games (for seniors)

## Casual/Puzzle

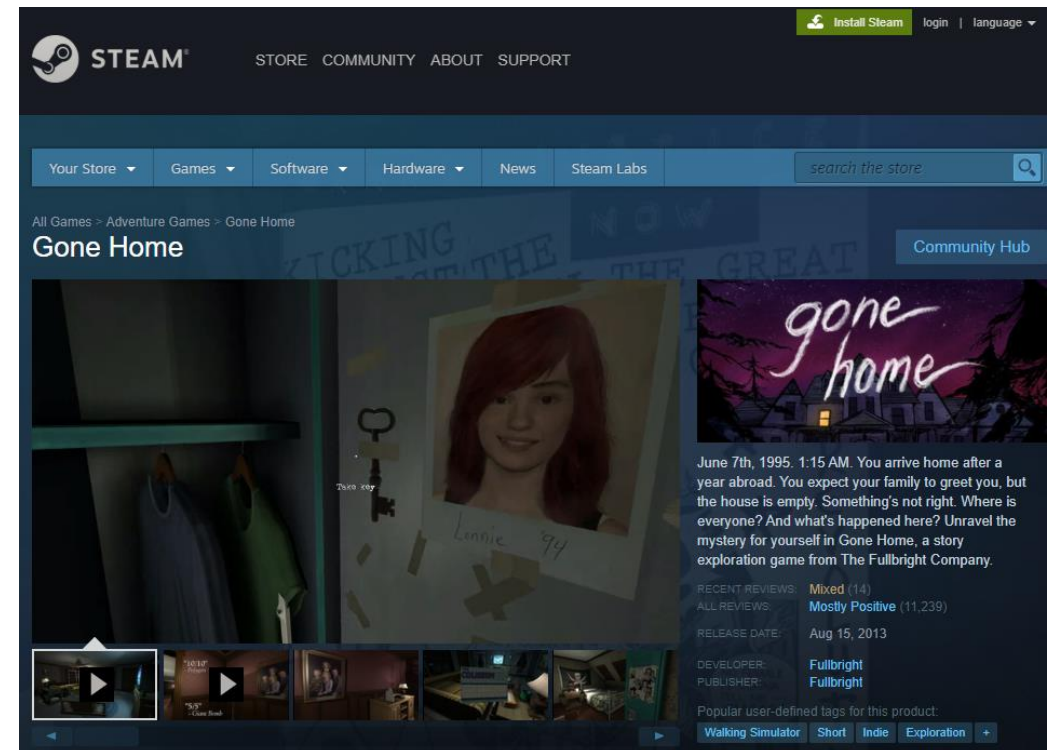
- [Aquaria](#)
- [A Virus Named Tom](#)
- [Bit.Trip Runner 2](#)
- [Bejeweled 3](#)
- [Cogs](#)
- [Crazy Machines 2](#)
- [Element4l](#)
- [English Country Tune](#)
- [Eets Munchies](#)
- [Fractal](#)
- [Hammerfight](#)
- [Little Inferno](#)
- [Night Sky](#)
- [Obulis](#)
- [Peggle](#)
- [Plants VS Zombies](#)
- [Pudding Panic](#)
- [Scribblenauts Unlimited](#)
- [Starseed Pilgrim](#)
- [Thomas Was Alone](#)
- [Windosil](#)
- [Zuma](#)

## Adventure/Puzzle

- [Broken Sword](#)
- [Beat Buddy](#)
- [Dear Esther](#)
- [Gone Home](#)
- [Kentucky Route Zero](#)
- [Limbo](#)
- [Lume](#)
- [Papo & Yo](#)
- [Puzzle Bots](#)
- [Shelter](#)
- [Spirits](#)
- [The Swapper](#)

## Other

- [Braid](#)
- [Closure](#)
- [VVVVVV](#)
- [Chains](#)
- [Faerie Solitaire](#)
- [Broken Sword](#)
- [Broken Age](#)
- [Feeding Frenzy](#)
- [Gone Home](#)



# 10) Save \$\$ on video games (for seniors)

## Casual/Puzzle

- [Aquaria](#)
- [A Virus Named Tom](#)
- [Bit.Trip Runner 2](#)
- [Bejeweled 3](#)
- [Cogs](#)
- [Crazy Machines 2](#)
- [Element4l](#)
- [English Country Tune](#)
- [Eets Munchies](#)
- [Fractal](#)
- [Hammerfight](#)
- [Little Inferno](#)
- [Night Sky](#)
- [Obulis](#)
- [Peggle](#)
- [Plants VS Zombies](#)
- [Pudding Panic](#)
- [Scribblenauts Unlimited](#)
- [Starseed Pilgrim](#)
- [Thomas Was Alone](#)
- [Windosil](#)
- [Zuma](#)

## Adventure/Puzzle

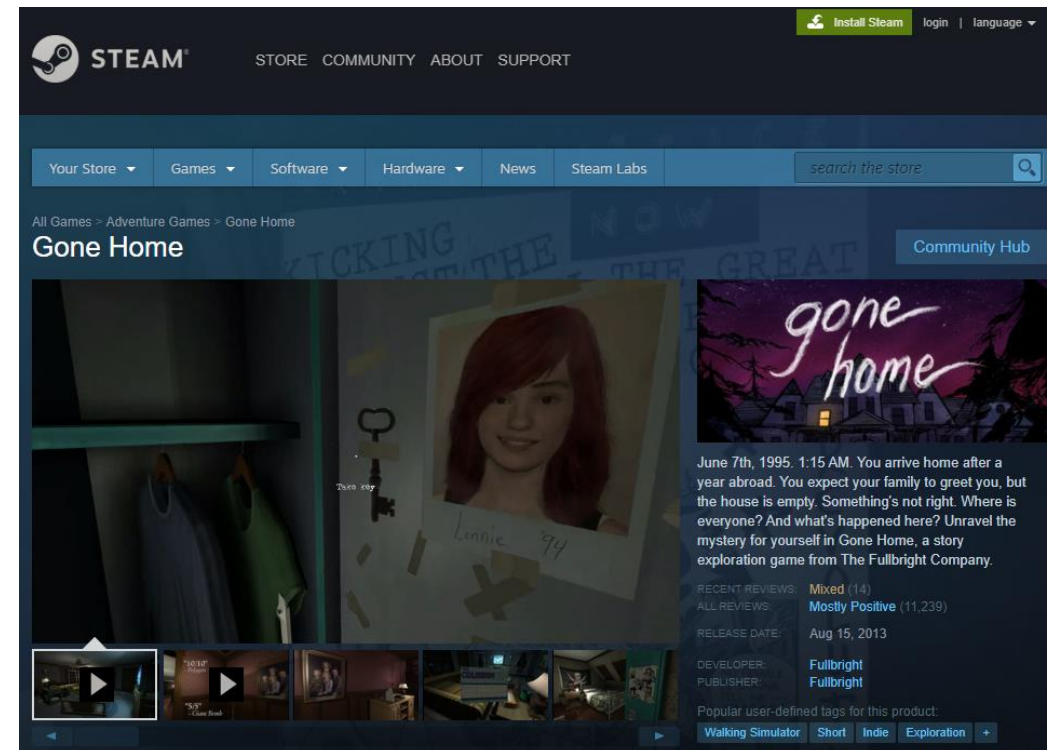
- [Broken Sword](#)
- [Beat Buddy](#)
- [Dear Esther](#)
- [Gone Home](#)
- [Kentucky Route Zero](#)
- [Limbo](#)
- [Lume](#)
- [Papo & Yo](#)
- [Puzzle Bots](#)
- [Shelter](#)
- [Spirits](#)
- [The Swapper](#)

## Other

- [Braid](#)
- [Closure](#)
- [VVVVVV](#)
- [Chains](#)
- [Faerie Solitaire](#)
- [Broken Sword](#)
- [Broken Age](#)
- [Feeding Frenzy](#)
- [Gone Home](#)



Really?  
Moving On...



# 11) Never pay for music (or pay just a little)

- Free Streaming

- My favorite: [Pandora](#) (so why do I pay \$110/year for Premium?)
- ~~[Grooveshark](#)~~ (sorry, they got sued out of existence)
- [Spotify](#) Now with 'explicit content' filters – yeah! (and the new [Family Plan](#))
- There's also [Amazon](#), Apple, Google, YouTube, Hoopla, Napster, iHeart, TuneIn...
- Many streaming sites offer a [download option to play offline](#)

- Free Download (to own)

- [iTunes](#) Store (now DRM-free)
- [Amazon MP3 Store](#)
- [Google Play Music](#), [7digital](#), [eMusic](#), [Napster](#), [Bandcamp](#)...
  - And a word about [DRM-free](#) (and [this](#))
  - Maybe also a word about [FLAC](#) and '[fingerprinting](#)'

# So many choices!

ALL DOWNLOADS STREAMING MUSIC VIDEOS RINGTONES CD+VINYL/ MUSIC DVDS MISC.

ALL HI-RES MUSIC DOWNLOADS

<b>7DIGITAL</b> MP3 download service.	<b>ACOUSTIC SOUNDS</b> Online store offering digital downloads as well as CDs and vinyl records for home delivery.	<b>ACOUSTIC SOUNDS SUPER HIREZ</b> Online store offering high-resolution digital downloads.	<b>AMAZON MP3 STORE</b> Online music store offering 20+ million songs to purchase and play on a Kindle Fire, Android device, iPhone, iPad, iPod, Mac, and PC.
<b>BEATPORT</b> High-definition digital download music retailer specializing in dance music tracks, continuous mixes, and remixes.	<b>CD UNIVERSE</b> Online retailer offering MP3s for download as well as CDs and vinyl for home delivery.	<b>CHRISTIAN BOOK</b> Christian music MP3s for download as well as Christian music CDs for home delivery.	<b>CLASSICAL ARCHIVES</b> Free, 60-second classical music clips and limited full-length classical songs for streaming; classical music MP3s for download; and subscription-based, unlimited streaming of classical songs and albums.
<b>FREGAL MUSIC</b> Free songs for on-demand streaming and download through membership to select public libraries.	<b>GOOGLE PLAY MUSIC</b> Subscription-based, ad-free, unlimited, on-demand streaming of songs and albums plus customized streaming radio.	<b>HDRTRACKS</b> Online store offering high-resolution digital downloads.	<b>IOLDIES</b> Online music store selling music downloads as well as CDs and DVDs for home delivery, targeting the 50+ Baby Boomer market.
<b>ITUNES STORE</b> Download music, videos, ringtones, podcasts, and more.	<b>ONKYO MUSIC</b> Online store offering digital downloads, including in high resolution.	<b>PRESTO CLASSICAL</b> Online store offering high-resolution digital downloads and CDs and music DVDs for home delivery.	<b>PRO STUDIO MASTERS</b> Online store offering digital downloads, including in high resolution.
<b>QOBUZ HI-FI</b> Subscription-based, on-demand Hi-Fi quality streaming service, including offline listening, plus downloads available for purchase in multiple sound qualities.	<b>QOBUZ PREMIUM</b> Subscription-based, on-demand MP3 quality streaming service, including offline listening, plus downloads available for purchase in multiple sound qualities.	<b>QOBUZ STUDIO</b> Subscription-based, on-demand Hi-Res quality streaming service, including offline listening, plus downloads available for purchase in multiple sound qualities.	<b>QOBUZ SUBLIME</b> Subscription-based, on-demand Hi-Res quality streaming service, including offline listening, plus downloads available for purchase in multiple sound qualities (and at a discount in Hi-Res).
<b>SPRINT</b> Store offering songs, ringtones, and ringback tones for Sprint customers.			

ALL DOWNLOADS STREAMING MUSIC VIDEOS RINGTONES CD+VINYL/ MUSIC DVDS MISC.

ALL HI-RES MUSIC STREAMING ON DEMAND PREMIUM INTERNET RADIO

<b>AMAZON MUSIC UNLIMITED</b> Ad-free, unlimited streaming of over two million songs, hundreds of curated playlists, and offline playback with an Amazon Prime subscription.	<b>AMAZON PRIME MUSIC</b> Ad-free, unlimited streaming of over two million songs, hundreds of curated playlists, and offline playback with an Amazon Prime subscription.	<b>APPLE MUSIC</b> Subscription-based, ad-free service for unlimited on-demand streaming of millions of songs and music videos, including mobile access.	<b>CLASSICAL ARCHIVES</b> Free, 60-second classical music clips and limited full-length classical songs for streaming; classical music MP3s for download; and subscription-based, unlimited streaming of classical songs and albums.
<b>DEEZER FREE</b> Stream millions of songs and albums for free.	<b>DEEZER HIFI</b> Subscription-based, on-demand streaming of 40 million tracks and custom playlists via various devices in higher CD-quality sound.	<b>DEEZER PREMIUM</b> Subscription-based, on-demand streaming of 40 million tracks and custom playlists via various devices.	<b>ELECTRIC JUKEBOX'S ROXI</b> Set-top box and remote control for unlimited subscription streaming of tens of millions of tracks through your TV and home speakers along with other entertainment options.
<b>FREGAL MUSIC</b> Free songs for on-demand streaming and download through membership to select public libraries.	<b>GOOGLE PLAY MUSIC</b> Subscription-based, ad-free, unlimited, on-demand streaming of songs and albums plus customized streaming radio.	<b>HOOPLA</b> Free library lending service for streaming music on your computer, phone, or tablet.	<b>IDAGIO</b> Subscription on-demand streaming of over two million classical music tracks in high quality audio on your computer or via the mobile app.
<b>IHEARTRADIO ALL ACCESS</b> Subscription-based live streaming of hundreds of over-the-air radio stations plus unlimited on-demand streaming of millions of songs and more features, including offline listening.	<b>IHEARTRADIO PLUS</b> Subscription-based live streaming of hundreds of over-the-air radio stations from a mobile app, including the ability to customize stations, stream individual songs on demand, save radio songs to playlists, and replay songs from radio.	<b>ITUNES MATCH</b> Subscription storage service that enables streaming of one's personal music collection to remote devices.	<b>MIXCLOUD</b> Free streaming of over 15 million radio shows, DJ mixes, and podcasts.
<b>NAPSTER PREMIER</b> Subscription-based, ad-free, on-demand streaming from mobile, web, and home audio devices, including unlimited downloads for offline playback.	<b>NAPSTER UNRADIO</b> Subscription-based, ad-free, customized streaming radio from mobile or web with the ability to listen to a limited number of favorites on demand and save favorites for offline playback.	<b>NAXOS MUSIC LIBRARY</b> Subscription-based, unlimited streaming of over one million songs in the classical genre and more.	<b>PANDORA PLUS</b> Subscription-based, ad-free streaming of customized stations, including offline access.
<b>PANDORA PREMIUM</b> Subscription, on-demand streaming of millions of songs as well as curated playlists, including offline access.	<b>PLAYSTER</b> Subscription-based, unlimited streaming of millions of songs and other media, including on a portable device.	<b>PRIMEPHONIC PLATINUM</b> Service offering over a million classical music tracks for streaming on demand in high resolution.	<b>PRIMEPHONIC PREMIUM</b> Service offering over a million classical music tracks for streaming on demand in mp3 quality.

ALL DOWNLOADS STREAMING MUSIC VIDEOS RINGTONES CD+VINYL/ MUSIC DVDS MISC.

ALL HI-RES MUSIC STREAMING ON DEMAND PREMIUM INTERNET RADIO

<b>QOBUZ HI-FI</b> Subscription-based, on-demand Hi-Fi quality streaming service, including offline listening, plus downloads available for purchase in multiple sound qualities.	<b>QOBUZ PREMIUM</b> Subscription-based, on-demand MP3 quality streaming service, including offline listening, plus downloads available for purchase in multiple sound qualities.	<b>QOBUZ STUDIO</b> Subscription-based, on-demand Hi-Res quality streaming service, including offline listening, plus downloads available for purchase in multiple sound qualities.	<b>QOBUZ SUBLIME</b> Subscription-based, on-demand Hi-Res quality streaming service, including offline listening, plus downloads available for purchase in multiple sound qualities (and at a discount in Hi-Res).
<b>SLACKER PREMIUM RADIO</b> Subscription-based, ad-free, on-demand streaming of songs as well as customized streaming radio, including access from a mobile device.	<b>SLACKER RADIO PLUS</b> Subscription-based, ad-free, customized streaming radio, including access from a mobile device.	<b>SOUNDCLOUD</b> Stream millions of songs for free.	<b>SOUNDCLOUD GO</b> Subscription-based, ad-free service for streaming millions of songs, including offline access.
<b>SOUNDCLOUD GO+</b> Subscription-based, ad-free service for streaming the full SoundCloud catalog in higher quality audio, including offline access.	<b>SPOTIFY FREE</b> Stream millions of songs and albums for free.	<b>SPOTIFY PREMIUM</b> Subscription-based, ad-free streaming of millions of songs and albums, to a computer or mobile device, including offline listening.	<b>TIDAL HIFI</b> Subscription-based service offering unlimited streaming of high-definition music videos and high-fidelity music, including access to masters-quality albums.
<b>TIDAL PREMIUM</b> Subscription-based service offering unlimited streaming of music and high-definition music videos, including offline access.	<b>TREBEL</b> Ad-supported app that allows on-demand streaming of songs and playlists to your mobile device, including offline.	<b>WEYY</b> Subscription-based service offering on-demand streaming of music, including offline listening, plus magazines for reading.	<b>YOUTUBE</b> Free music videos and audio-only songs, albums, and playlists for on-demand streaming.
<b>YOUTUBE PREMIUM</b> Subscription-based, ad-free music videos and audio-only songs, albums, and playlists for unlimited streaming, offline access, and background play.			

# 12) Make money with your smartphone

- Getting paid to shop
  - [CheckPoints](#)
  - [shopkick](#)
  - [ibotta](#)
- Getting paid to watch
  - [Jingit](#)
  - [swagbucks](#) (and their [mobile app](#))
  - [viggie](#)
- Getting paid to share
  - [Airbnb](#) (rent a room)
  - [ParkingPanda](#) (rent your driveway)
  - And then there's [Foap](#) (sell your photos)




# 13) Find free books for your Kindle\*

- Start with your local [e-library](#) for free books
  - [Libby](#), by (Rakuten) [OverDrive](#)- eBooks and audiobooks
  - [Hoopla](#) – eBooks, music, movies & more
  - [cloudLibrary](#) – eBooks and eAudiobooks
- eBook lending (~~eBookFling, BookLending.com, Lendle~~ – [all gone!](#))
- [Google Play Store](#) – ‘rent’ your eBooks and audiobooks
- What about [BookBub](#), [Open Culture](#), [Gutenberg](#), and many [more](#)\*\*
  - [eReaderIQ](#) for free & discounted Kindle books (check out ‘today’s best deals’)
  - [BookShare](#) for the learning/visually impaired

\*Incl. Kindle device, Kindle app, [Kindle Cloud Reader](#) \*\*[eReader Presigio](#) app recommended for some eBook formats

# And of course, a Kindle device

My favorite:



**Best Seller**

Kindle Paperwhite – Now Waterproof with 2x the Storage  
★★★★☆ ~ 64,271  
\$149<sup>99</sup>  
FREE Delivery for Prime members  
[Add to Cart](#)

---

**Best Seller**

Kindle Paperwhite – Now Waterproof with 2x the Storage – Ad-Supported  
★★★★☆ ~ 64,271  
\$129<sup>99</sup>  
**prime** FREE One-Day  
Get it Tomorrow, Oct 12

---

Certified Refurbished Kindle Paperwhite – Now Waterproof with more than 2x the Storage – Ad-Supported  
★★★★☆ ~ 1,517  
\$109<sup>99</sup>  
**prime** FREE Delivery Tue, Oct 13

But don't buy until tomorrow because these devices will most certainly be discounted

# 14) Get notified when prices drop










- Want to get the best deal?
  - [Honey](#) – [browser extension](#), searches for coupons and discounts
  - Better is [camelcamelcamel](#), a free Amazon price tracker
  - And 9 more from the '[The 10 Best Deal-Tracking Sites](#)'
    - [TechBargains](#)
    - [Offers.com](#)
    - [Slickdeals](#)
    - [Ben's Bargains](#)
    - [Newegg.com](#)
    - [Woot](#)
    - ~~Jet.com~~ (acquired by [Walmart](#) in 2016)
    - [DealNews.com](#)
    - [PriceGrabber](#)

# 15) Get free cloud storage (but why?)

- First, back your PC up with [Carbonite](#), [BackBlaze](#), [iCloud](#) or [SoS](#)
- Then use free cloud storage to backup important files, share photos/documents, stream stuff, & sync devices
  - My favorites:
    - [Google Drive](#) – 15gb free, then \$1.99/mth for 100gb
    - [Microsoft OneDrive](#) – 5gb free, then \$1.99/ mth for 100gb
    - [iCloud](#) – 5gb free, then \$.99/ mth for 50gb
    - [Dropbox](#) – 2gb free, then \$9.99/ mth for 2tb

# Cloud Storage & File Sharing Services ([source](#))

## Compare Specs: Our File Sync & Backup Picks

Our Pick	Rating	Emphasis	File Size Limit	Free Storage
 IDrive >	<b>EDITORS' CHOICE</b> ●●●●○ 4.5 <a href="#">Review</a>	Backup	2GB	5 GB
 SugarSync >	●●●○○ 3.0 <a href="#">Review</a>	Simplicity, Ease of Use	Unlimited	
 Dropbox	●●●●○ 4.0 <a href="#">Review</a>	Simplicity, Ease of Use	2GB	2 GB
 Microsoft OneDrive <small>Free at Microsoft Store</small> >	<b>EDITORS' CHOICE</b> ●●●●● 5.0 <a href="#">Review</a>	Office Apps	15GB	5 GB
 Box (Personal)	●●●●○ 3.5 <a href="#">Review</a>	Business Use, Compatibility	5GB	10 GB
 CertainSafe Digital Safety Deposit Box <small>Free Trial at CertainSafe</small> >	<b>EDITORS' CHOICE</b> ●●●●○ 4.5 <a href="#">Review</a>	Security	2GB	
 Google Drive	<b>EDITORS' CHOICE</b> ●●●●○ 4.5 <a href="#">Review</a>	Full service file storage, sharing, syncing, and collaboration	5TB	15 GB
 SpiderOak ONE >	●●●●○ 3.5 <a href="#">Review</a>	Security	Unlimited	
 Apple iCloud Drive <small>Free at Apple.com</small> >	●●●●○ 3.5 <a href="#">Review</a>	Apple Device Users	15GB	5 GB

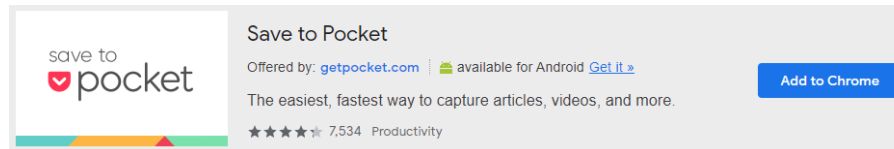
# 16) Turn web sites into free mobile magazines

- Get [pocket](#) – a free app/service that clips Web pages and turns them into perfectly formatted mobile reading material

Welcome to Pocket. You're about to embark on a journey, one where the vast swaths of information you discover online become knowledge. Everywhere you go with Pocket, the words, sounds, and stories that delight, enlighten, and even shape you will be at your fingertips. And you'll be able to consume and organize it all in whatever way works best for you...

- [16 Pocket Tips to Help You Read it Later](#) – minus 12

- Add 'Save to Pocket' [extension](#)



- Use pocket to save content to 'My List', share with friends, stream to Alexa\*
- Delete content when it's no longer needed
- And maybe you want pocket to read to you? It does that too...

\*Alexa uses the Pocket Cast 'skill' to link pocket with Alexa

# 17) Organize your life with WorkFlowy

- [Workflowy](#) – a free, Web-based organizer that makes your brain neater, more orderly, and more productive

• This is all you see when you log in the first time...|

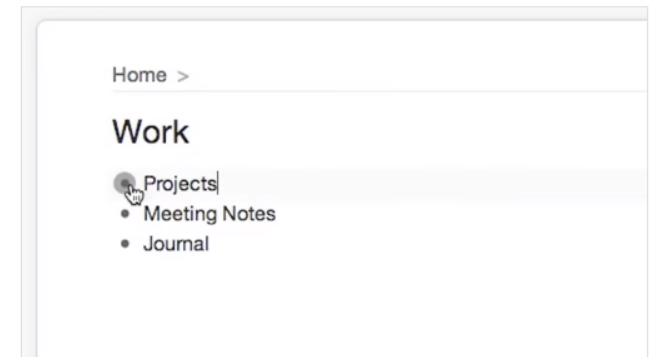
+

Show completed

Search

How-to Commands Support

## Getting started



## Videos

Getting started Basics Zooming Tagging Starring  
Completing Collaboration Search Move Multi-select Delete  
Duplicate Expand & collapse Import & export Indent Print  
Undo Settings

# 18) Take college courses for free (or cheap)

- My favorites aren't free:
  - [Great Courses Plus](#) - \$10/mth\*
  - [Udemy](#) - \$9.99/course\*\*
- But there are MANY options that are:
  - [OERu](#)
  - [EdX](#) – free to learn, pay for certificate
  - [Saylor](#) – Tuition-Free College Credit Courses
  - [Coursera](#) – free to audit courses, but graded assignments and certificates cost
  - [Udemy](#) – some free courses, but most cost something (usually not much)
  - [Harvard Open Courses](#) – nothing free here
  - [Yale Open Courses](#) – enroll in Yale's free courses via the [Coursera](#) Web site
  - [UoPeople](#) – receive an online degree program completely tuition-free
  - [Khan Academy](#) – free, world-class education for anyone, anywhere ([Sal's TedTalk](#), and [this](#))
  - [Academic Earth](#) – not sure about this site, seems like a front-end to paid programs...

\*Sign up for free trial, cancel, then wait – they'll send you an offer you can't refuse \*\*Wait for their sales



# Khan Academy

MATH: PRE-K - 8TH GRADE	MATH: HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE	SCIENCE	ARTS & HUMANITIES	READING & LANGUAGE ARTS
<a href="#">Up to 1st grade (Khan Kids)</a>	<a href="#">Algebra 1</a>	<a href="#">High school biology</a>	<a href="#">US history</a>	<a href="#">Up to 1st grade (Khan Kids)</a>
<a href="#">2nd grade</a>	<a href="#">Geometry</a>	<a href="#">AP®/College Biology</a>	<a href="#">AP®/College US History</a>	<a href="#">2nd grade</a>
<a href="#">3rd grade</a>	<a href="#">Algebra 2</a>	<a href="#">AP®/College Chemistry beta</a>	<a href="#">US government and civics</a>	<a href="#">3rd grade</a>
<a href="#">4th grade</a>	<a href="#">Trigonometry</a>	<a href="#">AP®/College Chemistry</a>	<a href="#">AP®/College US Government &amp; Politics</a>	<a href="#">4th grade</a>
<a href="#">5th grade</a>	<a href="#">Precalculus</a>	<a href="#">High school physics <b>NEW</b></a>	<a href="#">High school civics <b>NEW</b></a>	<a href="#">5th grade</a>
<a href="#">6th grade</a>	<a href="#">Statistics &amp; probability</a>	<a href="#">AP®/College Physics 1</a>	<a href="#">World History Project - Origins <b>NEW</b></a>	<a href="#">6th grade</a>
<a href="#">7th grade</a>	<a href="#">AP®/College Calculus AB</a>	<a href="#">See all Science</a>	<a href="#">World History Project - 1750 <b>NEW</b></a>	<a href="#">7th grade</a>
<a href="#">8th grade</a>	<a href="#">AP®/College Calculus BC</a>	<b>COMPUTING</b>	<a href="#">Art history</a>	<a href="#">8th grade</a>
<a href="#">See all Math</a>	<a href="#">AP®/College Statistics</a>	<a href="#">Computer programming</a>	<a href="#">AP®/College Art History</a>	<a href="#">9th grade</a>
<b>MATH: GET READY COURSES <b>NEW</b></b>	<a href="#">Multivariable calculus</a>	<a href="#">AP®/College Computer Science Principles</a>	<a href="#">See all Arts &amp; Humanities</a>	<a href="#">See all Reading &amp; Language Arts</a>
<a href="#">Get ready for 3rd grade</a>	<a href="#">Differential equations</a>	<a href="#">See all Computing</a>	<b>ECONOMICS</b>	<b>LIFE SKILLS</b>
<a href="#">Get ready for 4th grade</a>	<a href="#">Linear algebra</a>		<a href="#">Macroeconomics</a>	<a href="#">Social &amp; emotional learning (Khan Kids)</a>
<a href="#">Get ready for 5th grade</a>	<a href="#">See all Math</a>		<a href="#">AP®/College Macroeconomics</a>	<a href="#">Careers</a>
<a href="#">Get ready for 6th grade</a>	<b>TEST PREP</b>		<a href="#">Microeconomics</a>	<a href="#">Personal finance</a>
<a href="#">Get ready for 7th grade</a>	<a href="#">SAT</a>		<a href="#">AP®/College Microeconomics</a>	<a href="#">Growth mindset</a>
<a href="#">Get ready for 8th grade</a>	<a href="#">LSAT</a>		<a href="#">See all Economics</a>	<a href="#">See all Life Skills</a>
<a href="#">Get ready for Algebra 1</a>	<a href="#">Praxis Core</a>			
<a href="#">Get ready for Geometry</a>				
<a href="#">Get ready for Algebra 2</a>				
<a href="#">Get ready for Precalculus</a>				

# 19a) Lower your monthly smartphone bill

No more smartphone contacts – ever! [The Best Cheap Cell Phone Plans \(Under \\$40 per Month\)](#)

- [T-Mobile](#) - The best cheap cell phone plan you can get right now
  - **Best Plan:** 2GB | **Monthly Rate:** \$15 | **Parent Network:** T-Mobile
- [Metro by T-Mobile](#) - The best discount carrier overall
  - **Best Plan:** 10GB | **Monthly Rate:** \$40 | **Parent Network:** T-Mobile
- [Republic Wireless](#) - Most flexible cheap cell phone plans
  - **Best Plan:** 2GB | **Monthly Rate:** \$25 | **Parent Network:** Sprint, T-Mobile
- [Visible](#) - The most data for \$40 a month
  - **Best Plan:** Unlimited | **Monthly Rate:** \$40 | **Parent Network:** Verizon
- [Mint Mobile](#) - The best rates if you buy in bulk
  - **Best Plan:** Unlimited data | **Monthly Rate:** \$30 | **Parent Network:** T-Mobile
- [Google Fi](#) - Best cheap cell phone plans for globetrotters
  - **Best Plan:** 2GB | **Monthly Rate:** \$40 | **Parent Network:** Sprint, T-Mobile, US Cellular
- [Boost Mobile](#) - A compelling alternative to Metro by T-Mobile
  - **Best plan:** 10GB | **Monthly Rate:** \$35 | **Parent Network:** T-Mobile
- [Consumer Cellular](#) - **Best cheap cell phone plans for seniors (AARP discount)**
  - **Best Plan:** 3GB | **Monthly Rate:** \$30 | **Parent Network:** AT&T, T-Mobile

# 19b) Lower your monthly land-line bill

- VoiP and Analog Telephone Adapters (ATAs) – what are these?
  - My favorite [ATAs](#) (assumes you have a good Internet service provider)
    - Current favorites: [MagicJack](#) and [ObiHai](#)
    - Previous favorite: [Ooma](#)
    - Not such a great deal: [ZTE Wireless Home Phone Base](#)
    - Also consider [WhatsApp Messenger](#) for international calling



# Tablets and Smartphones

- Operating Systems
  - Two choices: [Android](#) or [Apple](#) (iOS)
  - [Android vs. iOS - Differences That Matter](#)
- Devices
  - Some sites to help you choose:
    - [Best Phones in 2020](#) – Toms Guide
    - [Best Cheap Phones in 2020](#)
    - [Best Cheap Tablets for 2020](#)



\$599 to repair my iPhone! Really? ([source](#))



## 20) Add Bluetooth to your stereo/soundbar

- What's Bluetooth?
  - a [wireless](#) technology for exchanging data between fixed and mobile devices over short distances (uses 2.400 to 2.485 GHz)

- My favorites:

- Soundbar: [Vizio SB3651-E6 36" 5.1 Channel SmartCast](#) (\$200)

- Has Bluetooth and Chromecast\* built in

- [Google Chromecast Audio](#) (\$30)

- [Amazon Echo Input](#) (\$20, not available)

- [TP-Link NFC-Enabled Bluetooth 4.1 Receiver](#) (\$20)

- What's NFC?

- [Amazon Echo Auto](#) (\$50, sale \$20)



Bluetooth



# 21) Other free stuff from your local library



## Live Help

Don't worry about coming in to the library. Our skilled staff members can help with your personal devices and computers over the phone and with remote software.

If you are receiving an error message on cloudLibrary, Flipster, or Hoopla please fill out this form: [buckslib.org/downloadsupport](https://buckslib.org/downloadsupport).

For 24/7 reference questions and research help, try [Chat with a Librarian](#), Pennsylvania's free statewide live chat reference service.

Select a service to schedule an appointment.

[How to Download or Stream Books, Music, and Movies](#) Learn how to use cloudLibrary or Hoopla.

[Guided Tour of a Library Resource](#) We will walk you through one of our many resources such as JobNow for resume help or Lynda.com for learning new skills.

## DIY Links & Downloads

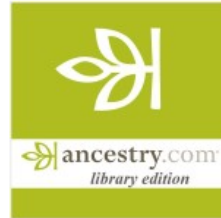
- [Test Your Broadband Speed](#)

Scan for viruses, malware, spyware, and other system weaknesses.

- [Download & Scan for Windows](#)

- [Download & Scan for Mac OS](#)

# 21) Other free stuff from your local library



## Ancestry.com

Trace your family tree. Please note there are some differences between the personal and library editions of Ancestry.com. Access to this resource has been temporarily expanded to library cardholders working remotely, courtesy of ProQuest and its partner Ancestry.



## Brainfuse HelpNow

Study help and live online tutoring available daily from 2pm - 11pm for elementary through college students with a special section for adult learners



## Brainfuse JobNow

Live online coaches for resume and job interview preparation available daily from 2pm - 11pm



## Chat with a Librarian

Chat now with a real librarian for help on any topic. We're open 24/7!



## 21) Other free stuff from your local library



cloudLibrary

eBooks and eAudiobooks



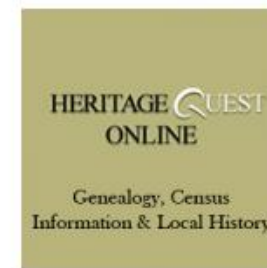
Consumer Reports

Read reviews on thousands of products



Flipster

eMagazines



Heritage Quest

Discover your family history today

# 21) Other free stuff from your local library



## Hoopla

Borrow video, music, eBooks, and eAudiobooks



## Learning Express

Tutorials, skill practice sets, test preparation, and more for high school through adult



## Lynda.com

Online video classes from beginner to expert in business, software, technology, and creative skills



## MorningStar

Comprehensive financial information on stocks, funds, ETF's, and more

# 21) Other free stuff from your local library



## New York Times - Home Use

Access to real time news present day to 1981 and archives available between 1851 - 1922  
Each session will expire after 24 hours



## New York Times - In Library Only

Access to real time news present day to 1981 and archives available between 1851 - 1922



## NewsBank

Access to full text articles from local newspapers including Courier Times, The Intelligencer, Philadelphia Inquirer, and The Morning Call



## NextReads

Wondering what to read next? Get reading recommendations by email. Choose from more than 25 e-newsletters, each focused on a genre or topic, delivered right to your inbox.

## 21) Other free stuff from your local library



Novelist

Book recommendations for all ages



Power Kids

Power Library e-resource portal for children



Statewide online resources

Power Library

This project is made possible in part by Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services and through Library Access

Funds administered by the Office of Commonwealth Libraries, Department of Education, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Tom Wolf, Governor.








These resources are funded by Bucks County Free Library through the support of the Hamilton G. Disbrow Trust: **Brainfuse**, **HelpNow** and **JobNow**, **Consumer Reports**, **Lynda.com**, **Morningstar**, **NewsBank**, and **The New York Times!**

# Plus: Home Security

- Not cheap: [ADT](#) (\$43.57/mth – after setup – 3 yr. contract)
- **[Most Affordable Home Security Systems](#)**
  - [SimpliSafe](#) – Most Affordable Home Security Overall
  - [Abode](#) – Cheapest No Contract Home Security System
  - [Frontpoint](#) – Best Cheap DIY Home Security
  - [Protect America](#) – Best Rural Home Security
  - [Scout](#) – Cheap Home Security System Equipment
  - [Brinks](#) – Easiest to Setup

# Best Home Security Systems

puts SimpliSafe on top again!

	SimpliSafe	Vivint	ADT	Alder Security	Frontpoint	Brinks Home Security	Abode	Protect America	Nest Secure	Ring Alarm
<b>System</b>										
<b>Ranking</b>	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
<b>Ratings</b>	9.8/10 Best Overall	9.4/10 Best Home Automation	9.3/10 Best Pro Install	9.0/10 Best Response Times	8.9/10 Best No Contract	8.6/10 Best for Renters	8.5/10 Best No Monthly Fee	8.2/10 Best Landline Security	8.1/10 Best for Google Home	7.7/10 Best for Alexa
<b>Monthly Plan</b>	\$14.99 and Up	\$29.99 and Up	\$28.95 and Up	\$40.00 and Up	\$34.99 and Up	\$29.00 and Up	\$8.00 and Up	\$19.99 and Up	\$24.99 and Up	\$3.00 and Up
<b>Contract Length</b>	None	42-Months	36-Months	36-Months	None	36-Months	None	36-Months	36-Months	None
<b>Installation Type</b>	DIY	Professional	DIY/Professional	DIY	DIY	DIY	DIY	DIY	DIY	DIY
<b>Package Cost</b>	\$199 and Up	\$599 and Up	\$99 and Up	\$40 and Up	\$130 and Up	\$399 and Up	\$179 and Up	None	\$299 and Up	\$199 and Up
<b>Read Review</b>	<a href="#">SimpliSafe Review</a>	<a href="#">Vivint Review</a>	<a href="#">ADT Review</a>	<a href="#">Alder Security Review</a>	<a href="#">Frontpoint Review</a>	<a href="#">Brinks Home Security Review</a>	<a href="#">Abode Review</a>	<a href="#">Protect America Review</a>	<a href="#">Nest Secure Review</a>	<a href="#">Ring Alarm Review</a>

# Plus: Home Security


- **And the winner is!**

## **SimpliSafe Home Security System**

A Top Choice for an Affordable, No-Contract, DIY Security System

*Last Updated On: August 28, 2019*

Highest Rated



SecureScore™: 9.4 / 10

[View Packages →](#)

With SimpliSafe, there's no monthly fees, installation costs, or contracts required. Their monitoring is very reasonable starting at only \$15/month. If you have a change of heart, you can always cancel and self monitor for free.

- I'm going with these guys when my ADT contract ends!!

# Plus: Home Security

- A couple other options/devices to consider:
  - [Wyze Cam](#) (\$20) + [Wyze Sense](#) Starter Kit (\$20)
  - [Ring Video Doorbell 2](#) (\$140 refurbished)



+

