tag
Your I.T.!

TRENDS

Big names introduce new traits.

Dropbox
File Requests

This new addition **allows any person with or without a Dropbox account** to upload a file or image to your personal or professional Dropbox account. All uploaded files or images automatically organize into a pre-established folder. You also have the option to assign deadlines to a File Request (Dropbox gives the example of a teacher receiving homework submissions). To send a File Request to someone, send an email directly through Dropbox or copy the 'Send File Request' link and send it to that person.

Google
Shove

Shove is a questionable new extension offered through Google's web browser, Chrome. This feature gives you the ability to open a new tab in a connected browser (your boss down the hall or a friend one cubicle over). This tab will appear front and center on the screen of your choosing so use caution when shoving a co-worker, family member or friend. To add the extension, visit the Chrome Web Store.

Microsoft 2016
Coauthoring

Coauthoring is by far everyone's favorite feature incorporated within Microsoft 2016. This innovative adaptation of coauthoring rivals that of Google Doc's. See edits as they occur and even work on the same line as another person. You tack a period onto a freshly completed sentence and a co-worker pops in to correct 'their' to 'there.' Also included is a version history, as opposed to an edit history. If an author poorly revises a document, check out the sidebar and find a previous version you would like to return to.

Apple
3D Touch

Within the iPhone 6s is an innovative new interaction called 3D Touch. Apple claims they use the most advanced technology yet to give iPhone users a new dimension and a new experience. Through a combination of measurements, sensors and signals that actively work to identify and respond to finger pressure, a user can dip in and out of activities. Apple calls it 'Peek and Pop.' Peek at new content without leaving your current activity with a subtle tap or fully Pop into content with a firmer, longer touch. 3D Touch also works on the home screen and within a variety of built-in apps to provide quicker, better shortcuts and an enhanced user-experience.

Crowd Hacking: Are you next?

Every year billions of dollars are lost to credit card fraud by everyday hackers who create new, innovative ways to hijack your financial information. With each new method, it becomes simpler for them to hack you and harder for you to protect yourself.

Crowd Hacking is one of the latest techniques to hit the hackerwaves. The objective of Crowd Hacking is to collect your credit card information as you walk through a high-frequency location such as a grocery store or airport.

Hackers modify inexpensive RFID readers and use them to scan the surroundings for any credit cards with an RFID chip. These are credit cards that don't require you to swipe at purchase, but instead wave it near the credit card reader.

The modification applied to the RFID reader allows someone to scan cards from further distances. In some cases, this could be a distance up to 25 feet.

All a hacker has to do is download a payment application on their phone to complete a purchase from a scan. Usually, purchases of $25 or less do not require a signature; therefore, there really is nothing to prevent a hacker from racking up an unlimited amount of $25 charges in a span of one day.

However, there are ways to protect yourself.

On ABC's Shark Tank, cyber security researcher, Chris Gilpin, presented Signal Vault, an extremely simple approach to protecting yourself against this innovative form of identity theft. Using E-Field Technology, two cards placed strategically inside your wallet safeguard your credit cards against RFID scanners. They proactively work to detect any potential scanners and utilize 'white noise' to block any signal transmissions.

Two Sharks decided to back the project including Lori Greiner, a vastly successful household inventor, and Robert Herjavec, a leading pioneer in IT security and technology. Currently, Signal Vault runs a Shark Tank Special on their website—a 2 pack for $24.95.

3D Printing is doing a world of good.

It seems everywhere you turn somebody, somewhere is talking about 3d printing. From selfies and shoes to makeup and couture, this disruptive technology is taking over. But aside from printed replicas of yourself and dresses no one will ever wear, what good is 3d printing doing?

A ton.
Companies, inventors and designers across the globe are capitalizing on 3d printing, using it to build homes, protect the environment and save cancer patients. Here are a few companies doing the world a whole lot of good through 3d printing.

Open Bionics
Open Bionics is in the business of prosthetics and their mission is to bring low-cost prosthetics to millions of hand amputees across the world. Open Bionics recently developed an entire line of prosthetics dedicated to child amputees. With a little help from Disney (and completely free of licensing fees and royalties), a child can choose between Iron Man, Queen Elsa or a Star Wars lightsaber.

Stratasys
This company can print it all, even an organ. Stratasys assists surgeons by creating 3D models of the exact organ they will eventually operate on. In Florida, a Pediatric Cardiovascular Surgeon extensively studied a replica of a young girl's heart that Stratasys printed for him. He was able to visualize the procedure and all the potential hurdles. As a result, he successfully operated on the child, untangling her double aortic arch.

The Goodfellas
You may want to get your translator ready for this one. Goodfellas is the digital creative firm responsible for that video that went viral about a blind mother and her 3D fetus. If you haven't seen it, you can check it out here. You don't have to be a dedicated 3D printing manufacturer to make a difference.

Winsun
This company is making major headway in the construction industry. In fact, last year this China-based company printed 10 homes in less than 24 hours and each home averaged about $5,000. Although the technology itself is expensive, the research and designs that stem from Winsun could potentially help people from all over the world have a structured and safe place to call home.

This Dishwasher Uses No Electricity

How long does it take for your current dishwasher to clean your dishes? Over an hour?

And how much water does it use in the process? Quite a bit?

And how much does it cost in one year? More than it should?

Circo Dishwasher is small enough to sit directly atop your counter, and it vows to eliminate the cost, energy and time spent washing your dishes—whether you use an electric dishwasher or your hands. It will have your bowls and plates spotless in minutes and will use very little water and no electricity in the process.

This dishwasher was designed and created with the future in mind and for a variety of people.

Is your kitchen too small for a dishwasher?

Do you lack the income to buy a new dishwasher?

Are you concerned about saving water and energy?

Do you want clean dishes now and not an hour from now?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then this dishwasher was made for you. To operate, simply remove the bottom insert and fill with water and soap. Slip your dishes into the device, shut the door and crank the wheel. It's as simple as that.

CNET wants to build the ultimate smarthome.

Maybe you have one or two smart gadgets sprawled across your home. Every now and then when you pass by your sophisticated looking thermostat, you giggle with pleasure and bask in the technical genius that is your home.

But that's probably all there is. Your home is a little smart, but calling it a 'genius' is probably going overboard. CNET, on the other hand, does have a genius for a home.

This technology influencer wants to build the ultimate smarthome. Recently, they purchased a four bedroom, four bath home in Louisville to do exactly that. Their home will serve as the hotspot for all things smart. CNET's goal? **They want to accurately and realistically test a variety of smarthome products to show exactly how they work and if** they serve their intended purpose in the process.

This Louisville home is smart in every kind of way, from toothbrushes and infant formula to gardens and kitchen appliances. As you walk from room to room, something connected to the Internet of Things will greet you.

CNET's plans include a wireless charging countertop, robotic vacuums and lawn mowers, climate-controlled blinds, automated sprinklers, a web-connected washer and dryer, color changing light bulbs, and pattern-tracking sleep sensors.

If you're interested in learning more about any of these products, visit CNET's Smarthome page here. On this page, you will find an interactive blueprint of the Louisville home where you can visit the 1st floor, 2nd floor and basement. Click on a room and receive a complete list of every product, as well as a review and the pricing of each item.