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"INSIDER TIPS TO MAKE YOUR BUSINESS RUN FASTER, EASIER AND MORE PROFITABLE"

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## 6 TOP CLOUD STORAGE PICKS TO FREE UP YOUR DEVICES

Running out of device space? No worries—cloud storage to the rescue. Here's a quick guide to the six services we love, plus why each one stands out.

#### Why Cloud Storage Rocks

- Instant space boost. Move files off your device in seconds.
- Access anywhere. View docs, photos, and videos on any internet-connected gadget.
- Team-friendly. Share, collaborate, and edit together—no more version mess.

#### Quick Tip: Pick What Fits

NEWSERER

- Solo users: Google Drive or iCloud-easy and familiar.
- Business teams: OneDrive or Box—for tight Office and security control.
- Long-term savers: pCloud -pay once, store forever.

## **OUR FAVORITES AT A GLANCE**

Provider	Free Tier	Standout Feature
Google Drive	15 GB	Deeply integrated with Google Workspace
OneDrive	5 GB	Seamless Office 365 syncing on Windows
Dropbox	2 GB	Simple sharing + great third-party apps
iCloud	5 GB	Built-in for Apple devices
pCloud	10 GB	One-time "lifetime" plans available
Box	10 GB	Enterprise-grade security & workflows

# 10 Easy Ways to Customize Your Desktop

Make your workspace both beautiful and productive with these simple tweaks!

#### 1. Freshen Your Background

• Pick a rotating wallpaper slideshow for daily variety

• Use a clean, minimal image to reduce visual clutter

#### 2. Theme It Up

• Apply light or dark mode across apps

• Download cohesive icon packs (e.g., flat, glyph, or hand-drawn)

#### 3. Tame Your Icons

Group related shortcuts into folders (e.g., "Work," "Fun," "Tools")
Hide seldom-used icons to keep

your main area neat

#### 4. Add Handy Widgets

Weather & calendar at a glance (Rain-meter, Vista-like gadgets)
System monitors (CPU/RAM/Disk) for nerdy peace of mind

#### 5. Multiple Desktops

Create separate "Spaces" for work, personal, and projects
Swipe or keyboard-shortcut to switch contexts instantly

#### 6. Custom Taskbar or Dock

• Pin your top 5 apps for lightningfast access

• Auto-hide the bar to reclaim screen real estate

#### 7. Keyboard Shortcuts

Map your most-used apps/folders to hotkeys (e.g., Win + 1, Win + 2)
Learn built-in OS shortcuts for window snapping and virtual desktops

#### 8. Automate with Scripts

Simple batch files or Automator workflows for repetitive tasks
One-click backups, launches, or "end-of-day" routines

#### 9. Personal Icons & Cursors

Replace folder and drive icons with custom PNGs
Try fun cursor packs—just enough flair without distraction

#### 10. Third-Party Launchers

Use everything from Alfred (macOS) to Launchy (Windows)
Search apps, files, even web bookmarks—without lifting your mouse





## TOP 3 EMERGING GMAIL THREATS

Heads up! Gmail's more secure than ever, but hackers are getting craftier. Here's what you need to know— and fast fixes you can do today.

## **1. AI-POWERED PHISHING**

- Scammers use AI to craft emails that look exactly like your bank, boss, or even your own IT team.
- Fix: Slow down—double-check the sender address and hover over links before clicking.

## 2. ZERO-DAY EXPLOITS

- Hackers find brand-new Gmail vulnerabilities and strike before Google patches them.
- Fix: Keep your browser and extensions updated. Enable automatic security patches.

### 3. QUANTUM COMPUTING RISKS

- Future quantum machines could crack today's encryption—putting passwords and 2FA in jeopardy.
- Fix: Use a passphrase-style password (three unrelated words) and enable hardware security keys.

## QUICK WINS TO LOCK DOWN YOUR INBOX

- Strong Password + 2FA.
- Create a long, unique password and turn on two-factor authentication (use an app, not SMS).
- Security Checkup.
- Visit Google's Security Checkup page quarterly to review devices, apps, and recovery info.
- Unsubscribe & Delete.
- Slash your attack surface: Unsubscribe from newsletters you don't read and delete old accounts.

# WHERE DO DELETED FILES REALLY GO?

- Deleting doesn't mean gone—here's the scoop and how to wipe for good.
- Recycle Bin ≠ Erased. Files stay until you empty the bin (they're just "hidden").
- Free Space, Not Gone Space. Once the bin's empty, your data sits in "free space" until overwritten.
- Recoverable Until Overwritten. Specialized tools can snag "deleted" files if nothing new has replaced them.

#### **Quick Secure Delete:**

1. Use built-in secure-erase (e.g., Windows "cipher /w" or macOS FileVault).

- 2. Try a reputable file-shredder app for one-click wiping.
- 3. Always back up before you purge-then purge with confidence.

### 10 TIPS TO GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR MICROSOFT 365 APPS

With its powerful features and cloudbased services, Microsoft 365 gives businesses a complete way to organize their operations and boost communication:

- Microsoft Teams for communication
- OneDrive for cloud storage
- Power Apps for custom applications

You can optimize your M365 experience by:

- Embracing collaboration tools like Teams
- Customizing your environment with SharePoint
- Leveraging automation with Power Platform
- Staying up-to-date with training
- Partnering with experts for guidance
- Managing email and time effectively
- Utilizing M365 across devices

## 7 NEW AND TRICKY TYPES OF MALWARE TO WATCH OUT FOR

Malware is a huge threat in the digital world. It can cause a lot of damage and cost people a lot of money. As technology advances, so do the tactics used by cybercriminals. Malware keeps getting more complex and harder to detect.

Here are seven new and tricky types that you should know about:

• Polymorphic malware changes its code.

• Fileless malware works in memory without files.

• Advanced ransomware targets networks and steals data.

• Social engineering malware tricks people.

• Rootkit malware hides itself deep in systems.

- Spyware steals sensitive information.
- Trojan malware looks safe but contains bad code.

# **TECHNOLOGY TRIVIA TIME**

Each month you have a chance to win a \$25 Amazon Gift Voucher by being the first person to email us with the answer to our Technology Trivia Question of the Month!

Congratulations to Lorraine Baer for winning last month's Trivia!

The question this month is:

What year was Google Drive launched?

The first person to email me at info@suisc.com with the correct answer gets a \$25 Amazon Gift Card!

Last month's answer was *Bliss* 



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