



TECH TIPS

VISIT OUR WEBSITE/BLOG: www.itthatworks.ca

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/TechnologybyDesign](https://www.facebook.com/TechnologybyDesign)

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER: @techbyd

Email: marketing@tbyd.ca

Phone: 204-800-3166

Gifts for Geeks

The holiday season is upon us, and the search for the elusive gift for 'the geek who has everything' is on. Here are some suggestions for the geek in your life:



1. Make that CD slot useful again. The [Mountek nGroove Universal CD Slot Mount for Cell Phones](#), is geeky and practical.



2. Tired of the 'Sisters are Forever' from Frozen? Give your geeky sis the [Star Wars version](#) instead!



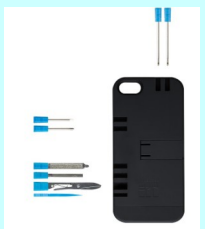
3. Give the photo-geek in your life, the gift of cinematic, sweeping shots on-the-go, with the smooth rolling wheels of the [iStabilizer dolly](#) for smartphones.



4. For the Post-It junkie in your life—the [Boogie Board LCD Writing Tablet](#) Create lists, notes (even doodles).



5. The [Zepp Golf 3D Swing Analyzer](#) attaches to a golf glove, and lets him/her geek out by analyzing their swing in 3D from an iPhone, iPad or iPod touch.



6. Let your inner MacGyver out with this swiss army knife in a phone case. The [IN1 Multitool Utility Case](#) comes with screwdrivers, tweezers, scissors, toothpick etc.

It's even TSA-approved.

Cyber-Criminals Do Not Holiday

Cybercriminals keep track of holidays too. However, they're not interested in the turkey-induced sleep or family get-togethers that most people look forward to (or not). They capitalize on the holiday spirit, and the public's enthusiasm to "buy...buy...buy!". They send fake emails to lure them to sites chocked with malware that enables them to steal passwords and personal information. Cyber-Criminals are prepared, and have scam campaigns planned and ready to roll starting TODAY, for the rest of the year.

These malware campaigns are not discriminatory—they target home and office computers with equal enthusiasm. Roughly 1 billion fake emails are sent EACH DAY. Clicking on the links in the emails are most likely to give you bugs that no amount of antibiotics will get rid of.

Below are Anti-Virus Tips from McAfee.com:

1. Do not open any files attached to an email from an unknown, suspicious, or untrustworthy source.
2. Do not open any files attached to an email unless you know what it is, even if it appears to come from a friend, or someone you know.
3. Do not open any files attached to an email if the subject line is questionable or unexpected.
4. Delete chain emails and junk email. Do not forward or reply to any of them. These types of email are considered spam—unsolicited, intrusive messages that clog up the inboxes and networks.
5. Do not download any files from strangers.
6. Exercise caution when downloading files from the internet. Ensure that the source is a legitimate and reputable one. Verify that an anti-virus program checks the files on the download site.
7. Update your anti-virus software regularly.
8. Back up your files on a regular basis. If a virus destroys your files, at least you can replace them with your backup copy. You should store your backup copy in a separate location from your work files, one that is preferably not on your computer.
9. When in doubt, always err on the side of caution and do not open, download, or execute any files or email attachments. Not executing is the more important point. Check with your product vendors for updates for your operating system, webbrowser, and email. Some operating systems are no longer supported, and are security risks—update your computer and it's software!

Remember: Think before you click

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your network security,

Call Technology by Design at 204-800-3166

or email helpdesk@tbyd.ca

www.itthatworks.ca

Cards Against Humanity's Silent Protest

Black Friday and Cyber Monday. The days that exude consumerism. Days where people are scrambling to get deals...on anything.

Cards Against Humanity is a card game, in their own words "the party game for horrible people". The anti-establishment business is made up of 8 friends in their mid-20's, who would prefer their game be bought out of paper bags than sold on the shelves of Target or Walmart.

On Black Friday, instead of the usual "limited edition", Cards Against Humanity sold zero cards. They still sold out.

How? It's perhaps better explained in their own terms. "To help you experience the ultimate saving on Cards Against Humanity this Black Friday, we've removed the game from our store, making it impossible to purchase." Then it linked to their online store. Where, for 1 day only, it was selling 1 item. Bull sh*t. No really, bull sh*t. Sterilized cow poop. Nicely packaged. For \$6.

They sold out.

One consumer's reaction:

"Oh my God I f*#@!d up so bad.

I saw the Cards Against Humanity "Bullsh*t" sale yesterday and bought it thinking it was an expansion pack.

It's literally bull sh*t. They are sending cow poop to my house and I have no clue how I'm going to explain this to my parents."

Sh*t happens!



Password



PasswordBox
Keeps Your Passwords
(and information) Safe &
Secure!

Do you have 20 different passwords, and have so much difficulty that they're written on sticky notes all over your monitor? Or do you have the same password for all the different sites you visit? Either method leaves you, and your information, at huge security risk!

Now "PasswordBox" provides you a way of keeping your computer network, and your information/data, safe & secure.

PasswordBox is a virtual safety deposit box using the same encryption methods as the U.S. government, and only you have the master password to unlock it!

PasswordBox automatically saves your usernames and passwords for each site as you surf the internet. Next time you visit one of those sites, just click on the site, and you're automatically logged in!

It also allows you to share your usernames and passwords with friends or family, as you need. It also allows you to have a "beneficiary" of your passwords, should you pass away. This preserves your "digital legacy" and allows your family access to your important financial sites when they need it.

In the 18 months since inception, PasswordBox went from 8 full-time employees, to an impressive 44. They have won many awards and accolades. In fact, PasswordBox was so impressive, Intel bought the company.

So far, PasswordBox is available as-is, and Intel is offering all new and existing customers a premium subscription at no cost—that is, until the release of a new product from Intel Security. In the mean time, you have access to all of the PasswordBox features and storage space.

Want more information? Check out their website at: passwordbox.com.

How 4 Mexican Immigrant Kids Beat MIT In Their Own Game

Carl Hayden Community High School in West Phoenix. Not the backdrop that you expect in a story about 4 teens that beat MIT in their own robot competition. Garbage litters the streets. Security guards, two squad cars, and a handful of cops watch kids enter into the school. The school offers “Anger Management” classes.



However, as the sign that greets you, “The Pride’s on The Inside”. 4 students built a cheap but astoundingly functional underwater robot capable of recording sonar pings and retrieving objects 50 feet below the surface. All 4 of the kids are undocumented Mexican immigrants who immigrated to the U.S. through tunnels or hidden in the backseat of cars. They live in sheds and rooms without electricity. But over 3 days, these 4 underprivileged immigrant teens, proved they are among the smartest teens in the U.S.

The teachers entered the club in the expert-level Explorer class, not the beginner Ranger class, because they felt that losing to college kids in the Explorer division held more honour than losing to high schoolers. The teachers figured the kids would lose the competition, they just wanted the kids to learn hope.

In just 4 months these teens had to build a robot, and pay for transportation to get to the Santa Barbara contest, build a robot, and learn how to pilot it. All with the \$800 donated from local businesses. They did more than that. In a storage room the teachers commandeered for the underwater ROV (Remotely Operated Vehicle) club, the kids built a robot that could survey a sunken mock-up of a submarine. The name of their robot: Stinky.

The kids were intimidated when they arrived in Santa Barbara—the team from Cambridge had 12 members: 6 ocean-engineering students, 4 mechanical engineers, and 2 computer science majors. Their budget: \$11,000.

With some glitches before the contest (a small leak plugged with a tampon), they navigated the underwater course perfectly, and had placed 3rd out of 11 in the 7 underwater exercises. Only MIT and Cape Fear Community College had done better. The overall winner was determined by a combination of those results, and the results of an engineering review (verbal evaluation of each team by professionals in underwater engineering).

A spontaneous prize was awarded to honour special achievement, a judge’s special prize. The Carl Hayden team won this, but figured this was a condescending pat on the back, a conciliation prize of sorts. However, “Stinky” swept all the awards that everyone had showed up to win: Design Elegance, Technical Report, and Overall Winner. The teens’ first question: “Can we go to Hooters?”

10 years later the teachers are hoping the kids will go to college. But the kids are undocumented, which means they don’t qualify for federal loans, and even though they’ve lived in Arizona for 11 years, they would have to pay out-of-state tuition fees which are triple the regular fees. The 2 older kids are hanging sheetrock and filing papers now that they’ve graduated. The 2 younger ones are juniors in high school. The likelihood of them being able to afford to go to college is slim-to-none.

The silver lining? “Spare Parts”, a movie chronicling the boys’ amazing story, starring George Lopez and Carlos PenaVega opens in January. Joshua Davis is publishing a book by the same title.

TechTip Postcard

Insider Tips and Secrets to Get The MOST Out of Your Computer

Over 100 Famous Hollywood Actresses' Secret Naked Smartphone "Selfies" Stolen By Hackers And Brandished All Over The Internet.

Could YOU Be Their Next Hacking Victim?

As you probably read, earlier this year over 100 celebrities (including *Hunger Games* star Jennifer Lawrence, swimsuit model Kate Upton and many more) recently had naked and explicit photos hacked from their iCloud accounts and published online. The hackers aggressively attempted to blackmail many others, threatening to post their pictures online.

While it's very easy to dismiss these hacks as a publicity attempt targeting only the rich and famous, it's scary to think of all the data we have in our businesses that we would never want in the hands of any criminal.

Small Business Are Actually A Cybercriminal's Favorite Target

Why? Because small business owners are not prepared and make it easier on criminals. One of the biggest issues facing small business owners in the fight against cybercrime is the lack of a cybersecurity plan. While 83% lack a formal plan, over 69% lack even an informal one. And over half of small business owners believe that cybercrime will never affect them.

Cyber-attacks cost SMBs an average of \$188,242 each incident, and nearly two-thirds of the businesses affected are out of business within 6 months (2011 Symantec/NCSA Study). A separate study by Verizon showed that over 80% of small-business cybercrime victims were vulnerable because of insufficient network security (wireless and password issues ranked highest). With secure networks and no formal plan to combat them, we make it easy on the criminals.

Fight Back Against Cybercriminals With This Free Report: "What Every Business Owner MUST Know To Protect Against Online Identity Theft"

This free report outlines in plain, non-technical language common mistakes that many small business owners make with their computer and network security that put their personal information and identity at risk of being stolen.

Download this FREE REPORT today online at:

<http://tinyurl.com/tbyd01>

