

# TechTips

Technology news, information and interesting stories.  
Published monthly for Geeks and non-Geeks.



## World Backup Day—March 31st

- 30% of people have never backed up.
- 113 phones are lost or stolen every minute.
- 29% of disasters are caused by accident.
- 1 in 10 computers are infected with viruses each month.

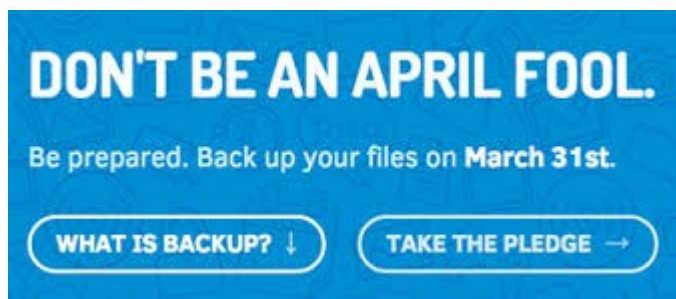
A backup is simply a copy of all your important files (family photos, home videos, emails, pertinent business info). A backup should be stored in a different location than your computer (or on the 'cloud').

### Have you taken the pledge?

*"I solemnly swear to backup my important documents and precious memories on March 31st"*

For more information, go to:

[www.worldbackupday.com](http://www.worldbackupday.com)



## NASA: Home-Ec for Astronauts?

Although the astronauts on board the International Space Station have had green thumbs as of late, the red lettuce they've been growing is not quite enough to make an entire edible meal.

However, a new initiative from NASA's [HUNCH program](#) (High School Students United with NASA to Create Hardware) has the agency taking some culinary advice from some [teenage culinary stars](#) on how to spice up the ISS menu.

For the HUNCH Culinary Challenge, 21 teams of high school chefs from around the United States are competing to create a vegetable entrée that will be both nutritious (300-500 calories, max 300 mg sodium/serving, 8 gm sugar, 3 or more gm fibre). The entrées will be narrowed to 10 finalists who will make and serve their dish in the Center's Space Food Systems Laboratory.

Last year's winner, [Jamaican rice and beans with coconut milk](#), was created by 5 high school students in Hampton, VA. Their entrée is making its way to the ISS this month.



**Your business data  
Is the lifeblood of your company.**

### **Relying on the Luck o' the Irish to Keep Your Data Safe?**

#### **Nobody PLANS to Lose Their Data!**

The amount of data you are collecting and storing is growing all the time.

Imagine the lost revenue, irreplaceable data and information, production loss, and employee downtime if you lost your data. Not to mention loss of sales, customer dissatisfaction, loss of business, and legal ramifications!

Restoring company information without the advantage of backups, could take weeks, months, or years  
...IF it's possible at all!

**With Backups from Technology by Design,  
you can have total peace of mind  
knowing that your business data is safe, and being  
handled by experts.**

**Which means you can focus on your business.**

Without the help of little green men.



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#### **Magic Mic Live in Japan**

Electronics giant Panasonic has unveiled a megaphone that makes communication barriers a thing of the past.

In preparation of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, the electronics giant developed the megaphone that automatically translates what is being spoken into it, from English, Chinese or Korean into the other 2 languages. The translations are then played out through the speaker.

The megaphone is currently being [tried](#) in Japan's Narita International Airport to help staff provide better information to foreign travelers.

The airport agreed to the trial after airport staff struggled to communicate with stranded foreign travelers during 2014's flight disruptions caused by flooding. The 'Megaphoneyaku' converts Japanese into English, Chinese and Korean.

Users can select which language they want the megaphone to translate their words into, by using a touchscreen on top of the device.

This is only 1 of many of [Panasonic products](#) geared towards overcoming communication issues when travelling.

Earlier this year Panasonic unveiled a palm-sized device that can be worn around the neck and automatically translates speech into 10 different languages. The translator connects to the cloud to ensure an accurate translation and Panasonic is hoping to have the device available in time for the Olympic Games in Tokyo in 2020.



## Want Fries With That?

He may regret his night out longer than just the next day. Sam Smith, a gas consultant from Muswell Hill, UK, legally had his name changed to...Bacon Double Cheeseburger.

The 33-year-old officially had his name legally changed after a night in the pub with some friends. Smith, uh Mr. Double Cheeseburger, stated that the Burger King favorite was the first thing that popped into his head when friends convinced him to go ahead with the stunt.

The person formerly known as Smith stated "It was the culmination of probably too many drinks in the pub where there was a conversation about names. ..Bacon Double Cheeseburger was pretty much the first thing that came up. Everyone loves bacon don't they?"

He went on to confirm "it was largely the most ridiculous thing we could think of. My friends were quite supportive of anything that makes me look silly, as good friends are." He also confirmed that he happened to be drinking with the same friends when the paperwork requiring a signature to make the name change official arrived a few weeks after the application was made.

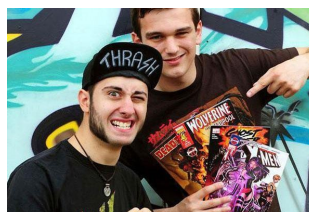
However, while he proudly signs his work emails "B.D. Cheeseburger", he does state that his fiancée is less supportive about the change, and another name change may be required prior to the wedding.

"My fiancée is fairly reluctant about marrying a Cheeseburger. That's something we're discussing a lot. No girl ever dreams of spending her big day marrying a man called Bacon."

You'd think that the story to the left, is a anomaly. In fact, he was one of 85,000 people who changed their names last year. And not all of them for the better...

## Weirdest Name Changes

**Daniel Knox-Hewson:** He wanted to be granted



superhero status. So he did the next-best thing. He changed his name to  
*Emperor Spiderman*  
*Gandalf Wolverine*  
*Skywalker Optimus Prime*  
*Goku Sonic Xavier Ryu Cloud*

*Superman Heman Batman Thrash.*

Not to be out-done, his friend changed his to *Baron Venom Balrog Sabretooth Vader megatron Veeta Robotnik Mageto Bison Sephiroth Lex Luthor Skeletor Joker Grind.*

**Jeff Wilschke:** Wanted to reflect the "interconnectedness of the infinite love in the universe" by changing his name to *Beezow Doo-doo Zopittybop-bop-bop.* Not sure he achieved what he set out to...

**Abi Izzard:** Changed her name to *StopFortnumAndMasonFoieBrasCruelty.com* in order to raise awareness of the force-feeding of geese to make foie gras.

**Luter Divine Knox:** A politician who wanted voters to have a 'none of the above' option on ballots. He had his name legally changed to *None of The Above Knox.* He wasn't elected.

**Tim Price:** Sick of telemarketer phone calls, he changed it to *Tim Ppppppppppprice*, so that they couldn't pronounce it.

**John Rothwell:** Believes he is the reincarnation of King Arthur, he changed his name to something more fitting of his "royal-ness". *King Arthur Uther Pendragon.* He actually wears a crown in his passport picture.







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## TechTips

March 2016

### Latest and Greatest in Mobile Tech Showcased

Tech companies flocked to the [Mobile World Congress](#) in Barcelona at the end of February to showcase the latest & greatest in mobile gadgets to nearly 101,000 attendees from 204 countries and territories.

The 4 day, jam-packed agenda included exhibits by more than 2,200 companies, spanning 9 halls and a dozen outdoor spaces, and keynote speeches by 16 noteworthy speakers including Mark Zuckerberg (CEO and Founder, Facebook), Mark Fields (President & CEO, Ford Motor Company), Patrick Collison (Co-Founder and CEO, Stripe), Dan Schulman (President & CEO, PayPal), just to name a few.

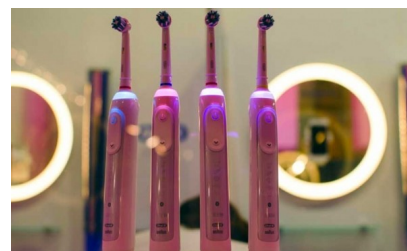
A few of the coolest gadgets:



[DOT](#) Smartwatch with Braille



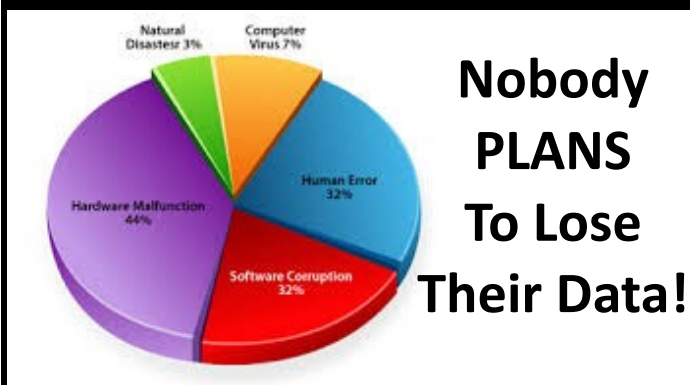
[LG Rolling Bot](#)



[Oral-B Genius](#)

To check out Entrepreneur's top 10 Eye-Catching Gadgets, click [here](#).

## Think You Don't Need BACKUPS?



### What Would You Lose?



**What's Your Data Recovery Plan?**

**Data Protection, Backups & More. Cut Costs & Simplify Management**



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