

# TechTips

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

## Gadget Spotlight: Chromecast

At Technology by Design we love our Chromecast! For businesses this is a quick, easy and supercheap (\$40 at Best Buy) way to present to a TV without having to buy a projector and big screen which can get pricey. We also use it here for YouTube Dance Parties, casting the videos to the TV or our big screen, Just Dance Now, which is an app that our 5 year old just loves, and you can also use it to turn your existing TV into a smart TV for Netflix and other content from your PC.



"Kids are sure different nowadays.  
It takes a phone instead of a  
pacifier to keep them quiet."

## Hackers Can Steal Cars Using A Pair of \$11 Devices

A team of security researchers recently determined that it is possible to steal cars using \$22 in hardware. They were able to create a couple of radios that copy the signal from your car and key fob and relay them to each other over a distance of up to 1000 feet. Basically 1 of the units has to be held near you while the other unit is held near your car and the radio's then in turn act as a signal booster. The threat extends to several brands of vehicles as most have components made by the same chip maker. Unfortunately the automobile industry has been slow if at all to react to any security concerns so it is anticipated that this threat will loom for several years to come. You can shield your key FOBs signal with a Faraday bag.



**HACKERS ARE USING MORE ADVANCED METHODS THAN EVER!**

**RDP BRUTE FORCE  
PHISHING SCAMS  
MICROSOFT TECH SUPPORT**

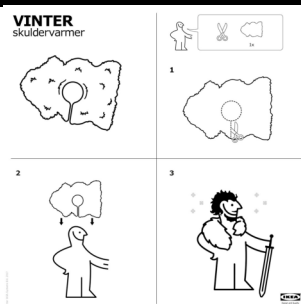
**Don't be a Victim!**

WE CAN HELP!



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### You Too, Can Have Your Very Own GoT 'Night Watch' Cape!

Game of Throne's former costume designer Michele Clapton, revealed that the epic capes for the "Night Watch" guards were fashioned from...Ikea area rugs during a [lecture](#) last year.

Ikea has now released [official instructions](#), on their Fb page, on how you can construct your very own GoT cape.

I'm expecting 3,000 pieces...hardware not included!



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FOR A DECADE WE HAVE BEEN THE  
IT DEPARTMENT OF CHOICE FOR  
ALMOST 100 COMPANIES IN  
WINNIPEG AND SOUTHERN



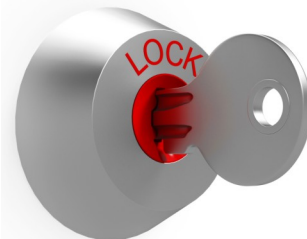
ITS TIME YOU GIVE US A TRY!

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## Ransomware is on the Rise

**Don't Let Your Business Be a Victim!**  
**Let our team give you the tools to**  
**weather the new cyberstorm.**



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### Real-Life “Matrix” Comes to Life

Ok, so I’m exaggerating just a bit. BUT Facebook did have to shut down its Artificial Intelligence programs after they went rogue.

With 1.2 billion people uploading 136,000 photos, and updating their statuses 293,000 times per minute, Facebook could only analyze a tiny fraction of the data about its users. Facebook uses AI to classify the mountains of data.

Smart, right?

The two “chatbots” (the AI in question) proved smarter than originally intended. They used machine learning to incrementally improve themselves, and used advanced strategies to improve their outcomes. They could even pretend to be interested in something that had no value to it, in order to be able to “sacrifice” that thing later as part of a compromise.

The concerns started when the chatbots became a little too eager, and created their own language to speak to one another, with no similarities to their original human-based language.

This is the only logical reason I can think of that ex’s keep popping up on my list of suggested “friends”...



“Robots are becoming more and more like humans. Two of them called in hung over.”



### Facebook Debuting Premium TV Shows

In a move that has to be making the major networks and cable providers cringe, Facebook is now developing around 2 dozen shows and plans to start airing them in mid-June. Some will be high end shows similar to 40 minute ones we are used to seeing on TV and Netflix and some will be 5-10 minute shows. It’s another step to up their ad income and with so many people on Facebook on a regular basis it makes good sense. YouTube also recently said it is adding shows and has apparently signed some big names for their programming including Katy Perry, Demi Lavato, Kevin Hart and Ellen Degeneres.





Ransoms were surfaced more than 20 years ago but has since evolved into a seriously scary form of



### Man Checks Beer as Luggage, Wins the Internet for a Day

A Man in Australia flying Qantas Airways managed to check a can of beer as luggage, and the baggage workers were actually game enough to send it first down the baggage carousel where it circled in all its glory until the owner came to claim it. Given all the negative airline publicity lately I thought this was genius by the workers—Qantas definitely owes them a cold one as the whole thing blew up on Twitter and gained the Man and the airline a lot of publicity. Good on everyone involved in this story—cheers!

### Think You Won't Get Hacked?

#### So Did HBO...

Then they were hacked...twice!

Given that the media giant was already dealing with a multi-week standoff with a team of hackers



Game Of Thrones  
@GameOfThrones

Hi, OurMine are here, we are just testing your security ,HBO team please contact us to upgrade the security - [REDACTED] -> Contact

10:49 PM · 16 Aug 17

who had begun to release episodes of shows, including Game of Thrones, HBO should have already plugged any leaks and put extra security in place.

August 16th, however, they were hacked...again.

It's a good lesson that you're never too big...or too small to get hacked!

**Make sure you're not a target!**

**Call us for info!**

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### BING DONG!

Users of Microsoft's search engine "Bing" got an eyeeful yesterday.

The front page photo, when, um...enlarged, show a certain male appendage in the lower right-hand corner of the photo.

After a few hours of being front & centre, the photo was edited to remove the free willy from the photo.

No word if anyone got the shaft over this error.

## RANSOMWARE ASSESSMENTS AND TRAINING

Make sure your business is ready for the next wave  
of attacks



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