

Be a Nerd for a Year

12 Months of Tech Tips, Apps and Fun

This handout has almost 200 apps and tools.
Keep it handy all year long to take
tiny steps toward better technology.

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january



1. Let's start the new year tackling our resolutions! Eating better this year? Use Calorie Mama's artificial intelligence capability to snap a picture of your plate to track nutrition. **caloriemama.ai**
2. #NerdyResolution #2: Exercise more. Everybody loves MyFitnessPal and all the related apps, or get going with Couch to 5K by Active. **myfitnesspal.com • active.com/mobile/couch-to-5k-app**
3. #NerdyResolution #3: Spend less money. Create a budget and stick to it with Mint, or let Digit sneakily sock away money you won't miss. **mint.com • digit.co**
4. #NerdyResolution #4: Research says we give up on Resolutions by Jan. 12. Not you! Stay on track with habit-building tools like Habitica and Way of Life. **habitica.com • wayoflifeapp.com**
5. The Third Thursday of Each Quarter is "Get to Know Your Customer" Day. Look up contacts with Crystal for (creepy) insights into their personalities. **crystalknows.com**
6. If you're starting a new year looking for a new job, check out Resume Worded and Zety for help with your resume. **resumeworded.com • zety.com**
7. The last business week in January is Clean Out Your Inbox Week. If you prefer texting to answering emails, try the conversational email tool Spike. **spikenow.com**
8. More Email Help: Check out ProtonMail if privacy and security are the most important characteristics you seek in an email platform. **protonmail.com**
9. Celebrate "National Plan for Vacation Day" (last Tuesday of this month) by exploring destinations with Skyscanner. **skyscanner.com**
10. It's almost Super Bowl time. Don't miss a word of the witty sportscaster banter and color commentary. Point Tunity at the screen and the audio will play on your phone. **tunity.com**

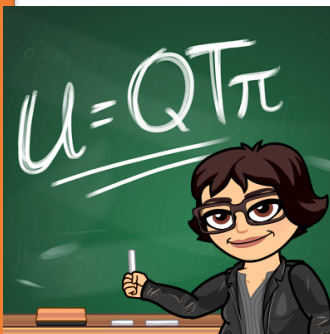
february

1. Don't let the winter weather wreck your travel plans this month. The Dark Sky weather app is unnervingly accurate. The What The Forecast?!! weather app is unnervingly naughty. **darksky.net • nightcatproductions.com/whattheforecast**
2. There is a site for weather nerds. It's called Weathernerds. Because of course it is. **weathernerds.org**
3. Don't let ads and popups ruin your web-surfing experience. Install Adblock Plus to prevent tracking, ads, malware and more. **adblockplus.org**
4. Don't print out all the ads and messy links from a webpage. Print Friendly blocks them out. **printfriendly.com**
5. Enter your email address for your free report! "... nahhh. Use a fake email from EmailOnDeck, Burner Mail or Mailinator. **emailondeck.com • burner.io • mailinator.com**
6. Sites loading s.l.o.w.l.y? Check your internet speed instantly with Fast.com from Netflix. **fast.com**
7. The Great Backyard Bird Count is this month! Use eBird and Merlin Bird ID to identify birds in your area, then report your sightings on the official site. **gbbc.birdcount.org • ebird.org • merlin.allaboutbirds.org**
8. Has your email been hacked? Check it on Have I Been Pwned? **haveibeenpwned.com**
9. Use Signal Private Messenger when you really, really, really don't want anyone to read your messages. **signal.org**
10. Happy Valentine's Day!
Nerdy pickup lines: "You auto-complete me." "This place must have free Wi-Fi because I'm feeling a connection." And my fave... "Talk nerdy to me."
#NerdHumor



march

1. We celebrate National Foreign Language Week in March. Try instant translations with **Google Translate**, **Microsoft Translator** and **iTranslate**. In the Google Play and App Stores
2. Learn a new language with Beelinguapp, Busuu and Duolingo. **beelinguapp.com** • **busuu.com** • **duolingo.com**
3. Now that you can "parlez-vous" a little "français," practice your language skills with Tandem and HelloTalk. **tandem.net** • **hellotalk.com**
4. Asana has won all kinds of awards for project management, and it has a full-featured free version for small groups. **asana.com**



5. March 1 is **Pi Day!**
3.14...159265359... Get it? It's also Einstein's birthday.

6. Get help! You can't do everything alone. Try Fancy Hands for small tasks, Fiverr for help with graphics and Upwork for larger projects. **fancyhands.com** • **fiverr.com** • **upwork.com**
7. Turn off everything for Earth Hour this month. **earthhour.org**
8. Use PaperKarma to unsubscribe from catalogs and other junk mail that blankets your kitchen table. **paperkarma.com**
9. More ways to cut down on unwanted mail: DMAChoice, Catalog Choice and OptOutPrescreen.com. **dmachoice.org** • **catalogchoice.org** • **optoutprescreen.com**
10. Rich Skrenta was 15 when he wrote a "dumb little practical joke" computer program that we now recognize as the first computer virus. Thanks, Rich. Protect your devices with the free antivirus tools from Bitdefender, Avast and AVG. **bitdefender.com** • **avast.com** • **avg.com**

april

1. When's today's soccer game? Cozi lets you see the family calendars and projects.

cozi.com

2. Got milk? Divide up the household shopping tasks with Grocery iQ and Out of Milk.

groceryiq.com • outofmilk.com

3. Your emails are boring. Spice them up with video using BombBomb, Dubb and Loom.

bombbomb.com • dubb.com • loom.com

4. Wave Accounting is perfect for personal and business accounting work -- plus you can use it to track receipts. And it's free. We love free.

waveapps.com

5. April is National Pet First Aid Awareness Month. There's an app for that: Red Cross Pet First Aid.

text "GETPET" to 90999



6. Fonts, fonts and more fonts! Check out Dafont and Font Squirrel for every font you'll ever need. And they're free. We love free.

dafont.com • fontsquirrel.com

7. Identify a mystery font with Matcherator, Identifont and WhatTheFont.

fontspring.com/matcherator • identifont.com • myfonts.com/whatthefont

8. April is National Garden Month. Identify plants in your yard with **PlantSnap** and creepy crawlies with **Picture Insect**.

In the Google Play and App Stores

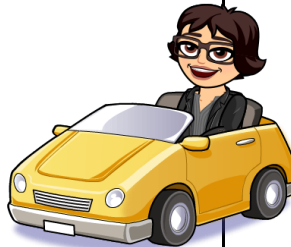
9. Find the time of day and location with best lighting to take better pictures with PhotoPills.

photopills.com

10. The Third Thursday of Each Quarter is "Get to Know Your Customer" Day. Find emails for new contacts with Hunter. **hunter.io**

may

1. The taxi guy says, "Where to?" And you say, "I have no idea" and start searching for the hotel confirmation. Solve that problem today with Triplt or TripCase. **tripit.com • tripcase.com**
2. How many times have you forgotten to note your work mileage? Track trips automatically with Everlance or MileIQ. **everlance.com • mileiq.com**
3. International Noise Awareness Day was last month. Use the SoundPrint app to measure ambient sound in public places and find a quiet workplace to have coffee. **soundprint.co**
4. Bet you'd look great animated! Make your own Bitmoji or create a cartoon with Pixton. **bitmoji.com • pixton.com**
5. There's nothing like a birthday greeting that puts your friend's face on James Brown's animated body. JibJab is the best. **jibjab.com**



6. Surfing: If you don't want anyone to know you're searching for "Sheldon Cooper naked" pictures, use DuckDuckGo for private surfing. And if Google doesn't have the answer, Wolfram|Alpha will. **duckduckgo.com • wolframalpha.com**
7. Let's talk project management. Basecamp is the grandfather of online project management tools, but Freedcamp is free. **basecamp.com • freedcamp.com**
8. Your project management system should have a "Pirate Mode." Try Trello. **trello.com**
9. Notion and Monday.com are both super choices for both project management and office communication. **notion.so • monday.com**
10. Everybody needs a scanner app. Try Genius Scan, Scanbot, Tiny Scanner or TurboScan. **thegrizzlylabs.com/genius-scan • scanbot.io • appxy.com/tinyscan • turboscanapp.com**

june

1. June 2nd is Leave the Office Early Day! Use Slydial to leave a message for your boss. The service lets you call straight to voicemail on mobile phones so the person can't pick up. **slydial.com**
2. Kids out for summer? Keep track of 'em.... We don't like to call Life360 a stalking app, but it tracks your kids wherever they go, so.... **life360.com**
3. Bark offers social media monitoring for your kids to watch for bullying, dangerous activities, suicidal behaviors and more. **bark.us**
4. Qustodio helps families manage screen time and content filters to keep the World Wide Web a safer space. **qustodio.com**
5. You need a VPN (virtual private network). Don't argue with me. Check out ExpressVPN, NordVPN and 1.1.1.1. **expressvpn.com • nordvpn.com • 1.1.1.1.**

6. Mean people suck. Protect your devices from malware and ransomware with Malwarebytes. **malwarebytes.com**
7. Dang it, people! Do something about your passwords! Check out password managers such as LastPass, 1Password or Dashlane. **lastpass.com • 1password.com • dashlane.com**
8. Grab your phone for that walk or run and earn donations for charities with Charity Miles, or log your dog walks with WoofTrax to earn money for pet charities. **charitymiles.org • wooftrax.com**
9. Need a new logo? Use Looka to do it yourself, or hold a contest on 99designs and DesignCrowd. **looka.com • 99designs.com • designcrowd.com**
10. Now that you have a new logo, get a mock-up of your new graphics on coffee mugs, t-shirts and more on Placeit. **placeit.net**



july

1. Nerds will rule the grill this Independence Day when you use Cave Tools BBQ Recipe app **cavetools.com**
2. If you were late to work this morning, download Alarmy tonight. It's the app that annoys you awake. **alar.my**
3. Has your partner accused you of snoring? Prove him wrong with SnoreLab. **snorelab.com**
4. The Third Thursday of Each Quarter is "Get to Know Your Customer" Day. Ask their opinions with a fun survey. **surveyanyplace.com • typeform.com • google.com/forms**
5. How do you pronounce GIF? Remember the correct way with this saying: Choosy Programmers Choose JIF. **#NerdTrivia**



6. Is Google tracking your location? Is your Facebook profile public? Download the Jumbo app to audit and fix privacy settings. **jumboprivacy.com**
7. Feel safer walking alone with Noonlight, a button that alerts authorities of your location in an emergency. **noonlight.com**
8. Travel Tools: CityMaps2Go and HERE WeGo are international maps with transit options and travel insights. **ulmon.com • wego.here.com**
9. Planes, trains and automobiles: Learn about transportation options for travel anywhere with Rome2rio. **rome2rio.com**
10. Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night will keep you from your vacation when you use Weather Route for your travel forecast. **weatherroute.io**

august

1. Image Mania: Turn your images into a social media-worthy mosaic with EasyMoza or Picture Mosaics.
easymoza.com • picturemosaics.com
2. When you need to crop an ex out of the family photo, try GIMP or Pixlr instead of Adobe Photoshop. #FreelsBetter **gimp.org • pixlr.com**
3. Ever take a great picture of your kid that has an exit sign in the background? Upload it to Remove.bg. The background immediately disappears. #Mindblown **remove.bg**
4. Google Photos uses artificial intelligence to find and group to finally organize your photo albums. **google.com/photos**
5. Use ACDSee and Forever to organize and store your photos in albums you can share. Slidebox is a handy photo album organizer for mobile devices.
slidebox.com • acdsee.com • forever.com



6. Grandparents Day is a month away. Surprise your loved ones by scanning old pictures with Photomyne or PhotoScan.
photomyne.com • google.com/photos/scan
7. Don't want to scan all the old photos yourself? DigMyPics will do it for you. **digmypics.com**
8. How many emails does it take to schedule a committee meeting? Simplify group scheduling with WhenIsGood.net and Doodle.
whenisgood.net • doodle.com
9. Your old phone can help others with zero effort from you. Check out BOINC and Folding@Home.
boinc.berkeley.edu • folding.stanford.edu
10. Don't let your old phone sit in the junk drawer. Turn it into a security camera with Alfred.
alfred.camera

september

1. Discover a new brew with the Untappd app on National Beer Lover's Day on Sept. 7th.

untappd.com



2. Not a beer lover? Try Vivino to discover and track your favorite wines, or Wine Picker to figure out great pairings for your meals.

vivino.com • winepicker.co.uk

3. More wine fun! Living Wine Labels uses augmented reality to bring wine labels to life. It's hours of fun at bars.

livingwinelabels.com

4. Transform that JPG into a PDF on the fly with Zamzar. **zamzar.com**

5. The Third Thursday of Each Quarter is "Get to Know Your Customer" Day. Send them a fun hello with Postagram or Felt.

sincerely.com/postagram • feltapp.com

6. Attention, Spreadsheet Nerds! Google Sheets lets you ask for answers to your data questions in natural language. **google.com/sheets**

7. Even Beth Z's NerdWords newsletter includes a tracking pixel to see when and where you open her emails. Ugly Email blocks the tracking in Gmail. **uglyemail.com**

8. Check your kid's math homework by looking at the problem with Photomath -- you STILL don't need to know algebra!

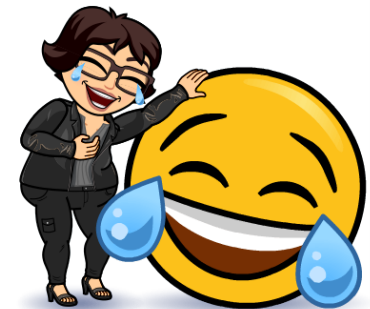
photomath.net

9. Sept. 24th is National Punctuation Day. Grammarly can help you celebrate properly.

grammarly.com

10. What do you say to comfort a grammar nerd? "There, their, they're."

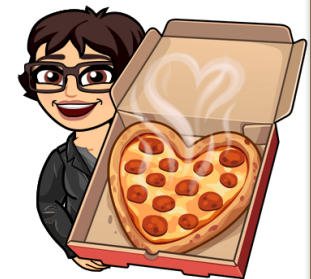
#NerdHumor



october

1. Celebrate Back to the Future Day Oct. 21 or 26, depending if you use the date shown in the original or the first sequel. **#NerdTrivia**
2. Depending on your location, ParkMobile, ParkWhiz and SpotHero can help you find and pay for parking. **parkmobile.io • parkwhiz.com • spothero.com**
3. Before you pull out of that primo parking spot and leave time on the meter, use SpotAngels to let someone else know to come snag it. **spotangels.com**
4. Handwritten notes are the best (but they take too long). Use Handwrytten Notes and Greetings to send real pen-and-ink letters via robotic handwriting machines. **handwrytten.com**
5. For a colorful, artistic touch, send a handwritten card crafted by the artists on Punkpost. **punkpost.co**

6. Let's Automate! Day 1: Use Alexa Skill Blueprints to create your own set of Q&As for caregivers. **blueprints.amazon.com**
7. Set up IFTTT to make your phone ring when you need to get yourself out of a boring meeting. **ifttt.com**
8. IFTTT has a ton of automations, but Zapier has a ton plus a whole lot more. **zapier.com**
9. Apple's Shortcuts help you automate tasks on your phone just by asking **Siri**. Android users, check out Tasker. **tasker.joaoapps.com**
10. We're almost at the end of National Pizza Month! Celebrate by creating an automation between IFTTT and Dominos. **ifthishendominos.com**



november

1. Track money and save it! Scan your receipts on the go with Expensify, Receipts by Wave and Smart Receipts.

expensify.com • waveapps.com • smartreceipts.co

2. Everlance, Stride Tax and Hurdlr all track both mileage and expenses. **everlance.com • stridehealth.com/tax • hurdlr.com**



3. Both the Rakuten and Honey extensions check for coupons and deals every time you go shopping online. Yay money!

rakuten.com • joinhoney.com

4. If your loyalty cards outnumber the keys on your keyring, use the Key Ring app to store them electronically and track savings.

keyringapp.com

5. Save at the gas pump when you use GasBuddy to find the best gas prices. **gasbuddy.com**

6. The third week of November is Geography Awareness Week! Test your geography skills with GeoGuessr. And learn all about the world with National Geographic's MapMaker Interactive. **geoguessr.com •**

mapmaker.nationalgeographic.org

7. Where do your customers live? Upload addresses to BatchGeo or Google My Maps to visualize where your business is.

batchgeo.com • google.com/mymaps

8. It's holiday shipping season. Use Slice to automatically track packages plus keep an eye on price decreases for refunds. **slice.com**

9. You know you're getting a new phone for the holidays. Donate your old one to Secure the Call or Cell Phones for Soldiers.

securethecall.org • cellphonesforsoldiers.com

10. My computer suddenly started belting out "Someone Like You." It's a Dell. **#NerdHumor**

december



1. Turn memories into movies for the holidays. Grab 10 or so pictures and video clips and let Animoto turn them into a cool montage.
animoto.com
2. Adobe Spark Video will let you do quick voice-over movies with stock images and templates.
spark.adobe.com
3. Doodly, PowToon and VideoScribe let you create those cute whiteboard animation videos.
doodly.com • powtoon.com • videoscribe.co
4. Just sit back and let Apple and Google make movies for you. Both platforms take photos and videos from your albums to create cool mashups, videos and collages.
5. That new big screen TV... will it fit on your wall? Use the Moasure app to find out.
moasure.com

6. Holiday travel season... AllergyEats, Find Me Gluten Free and HappyCow will help you find meals for food allergies and preferences.
allergyeats.com • findmeglutenfree.com • happycow.net
7. Find pet-friendly businesses and hotels with BringFido and Petswelcome.
bringfido.com • petswelcome.com
8. Use Hopper to track airfare prices for your trip home for the holidays. Or try Matrix Airfare Search to access Google's super-charged airfare search engine.
hopper.com • matrix.itasoftware.com
9. It's not wasting time if you're learning something, right? Improve your vocabulary on Free Rice to earn donations for charities.
freerice.com
10. Do a kind deed today: Use Be My Eyes to help the visually impaired. **bemyeyes.com**



About Beth Z

Beth Z is an Author, Speaker and Full-Time Nerd

She has written 6 books (and counting!) on tech tools you can use right away to be more productive, efficient and awesome.

Beth Z has spoken to more than 100,000 attendees at events in North America and beyond.

Contact us to bring Beth Z to your event or to purchase her latest books.

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