

# TECHNOLOGY FUNNIES/FACTS

- According to NASA, the “basic premise of teleportation is sound,” which means that one day we may actually be able to say, “Beam me up, Scotty!” (Even though Kirk never technically said that exact line during the original run of Star Trek.)
- “Nerds are allowed to love stuff, like jump-up-and-down-in-their-chair-can’t-control-yourself love it.... When people call people call people nerds, mostly what they’re saying is ‘you like stuff.’ Which is just not a good insult at all. Like, ‘you are too enthusiastic about the miracle of human consciousness.’” - John Green
- There is more processing abilities of today’s smartphones than their was to land astronauts on the moon the first time.
- The Dvorak keyboard, officially recognized in 1982 as an alternative keyboard to the QWERTY, can be used with any computer system-or you can even download it for your smartphone. Among other things, the Dvorak keyboard requires you to move your fingers 63% less than the QWERTY system, which fans claim means you can type faster and cuts down pesky finger strain.
- Bitcoin, the first decentralized digital currency, was created by an unknown programmer who went under the name of Satoshi Nakamoto. It was released in 2009 and by 2015, over 100,000 online merchants accept Bitcoin as payment.
- Nintendo was originally founded in 1889 as a playing card company.
- The creator of the computer mouse, Douglas Engelbart, never received any royalties for his creation as his company owned the patent for it. He came up with the design in 1964 (patented in 1970), nearly two decades before it shipped out with the Apple Macintosh. Engelbar’s mouse was actually made out of wood.
- The very first logo for Apple wasn’t the simple design we know today. It featured the scientist, Sir Isaac Newton, sitting underneath a tree with an apple just about to hit his head.



- One of the original reasons solitaire comes with your computer was so people could practice using a “mouse”. Its basic moves were easy ways to help out mystified new computer users.
- To test out some of the new mechanics in the Switch game *The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild*, the development team went back to basics. They developed a completely playable 2-D 8-bit version of the game.
- The font Comic Sans was inspired by the lettering of Dave Gibbons for *Watchmen* (1986), as well as Jon Costanza's lettering in *The Dark Knight Returns* (1986). The font was designed by Vincent Connare and released in 1994 and is not put into millions of PowerPoints every year.
- Can you put these social media sites in order of their release? Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, Pinterest, Facebook.

*Answers: Facebook (2004), Twitter (2006), Pinterest (2008), Instagram (2010), Snapchat (2011)*

- Most of us have an email address that ends with @gmail.com; but before Google launched their Gmail service, the Garfield website offered a free email service that was called G-mail.
- September 7, 1998, the Google company was founded. More than a decade later, September 1, 2009, they received their design patent for Google's iconic look: a webpage with a search field in the middle of it.

- No one uses CD-ROMs anymore, right? Spotify means you don't even need to make that mixed CD for your friend- you can just email a playlist. However, at the height of the CD-ROM boom, 50% of all CDs produced worldwide were for AOL. The company really wanted you to know "You've got mail..."
- Blu-rays got their name because they're read using a blue laser beam, instead of the red laser beam used for DVD's
- Aug. 26th Happy Birthday, Katherine Johnson! She worked at NASA as a "human computer", completing many calculations that allowed astronauts to travel to space.
  - She graduated college at 18
  - In 2015, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest award a civilian can receive
- Apple is known for the iPhone, iPad, the Apple Watch and, probably one day the iSpaceship. But not all their ventures have been successful. In 1986, they introduced a clothing line. It didn't last very long.
- The first email was sent by Ray Tomlinson to himself in 1971. He was using the ARPANET, a precursor to the Internet, and he doesn't remember what the email said.
- Noise-canceling headphones actually make sound waves 180 degrees off from the original sound waves of the noises around you. When the two sound waves meet, they cancel each other out and let you concentrate.
- You may know that the original Space Jam website (1996) is still up and running, but did you know that the same is true for the You've Got Mail site (1998)?
- On July 10, 1962, the Telstar communications satellite was officially launched. You may not have heard of it, but the Telstar satellite was the first to successfully relay television picture signals and phone calls through space.
- It has been said that the number of words written every day on Twitter would be enough to fill a 10-million-page book. #wow #thatsalotofwords #bestseller

- Apple's Siri is voiced by Susan Bennett, a voiceover actress who's worked for companies like AT&T and McDonald's. Jen Taylor, who voices Microsoft's Cortana in the Halo video games as well as on their devices, actually uses an Apple iPhone.
- Do you want to watch every video on Youtube? Well, its going to take you some time. If you're a completionist, you'll need roughly 1000 years to watch them all. Maybe binge on something else!
- In 1970, Gregory Benford wrote a short story called "The Scarred Man" in which a program, called VIRUS, infected a computer. Inspired by this, within five year Michael Crichton and others wrote stories where computers had viruses. So next time your computer becomes infected, you can thank Gregory for giving a name to the program destroying your hard drive. Thanks, Gregory!
- Why is it called a mouse? (The technology, not the animal). It turns out that the inventors just called it that and it stuck. That's better than the original name: "X-Y Position Indicator for a Display System." That is quite a mouthful if you ask me.
  - "Alright, class move your X-Y Position Indicator for a Display System on the Google Chrome icon and open up the Internet." Just doesn't work for me... or anyone else for that matter!
- Put the Nintendo video game consoles in order of their release:
  - Dreamcast, Switch, Game Boy, Nintendo 64, NES
  - *Answer: NES (1983), Game Boy (1989), Nintendo 64 (1996), Dreamcast (1999), Switch (2017)*
- Tetris, the well known Game Boy game released in 1989, was invented 5 years earlier by Russian Alexey Pajitnov. He created the name by combining tetra (Greek numerical prefix for four) and tennis, his favorite sport.
- Mother Computer scolding PC Junior:
  - "Wait till your Data gets home!"
- Where do Computers take their sick pets?
  - The Intervet
- Why did the Apple lose its memory?
  - It had a bad case of the worms

- On April 3, 1973, Martin Cooper, a researcher for Motorola, made the first call from a mobile phone. He called Bell Labs, Motorola's rival, to prove that he had beaten them to it.
- Today there are more than 250 million mobile phone users in the US alone
- Toshiyuki Takahashi, a Japanese gamers, holds the record for hitting a controller button the most times in one second. He hit it 16 times. THAT IS AMAZING!!!
- Albert Einstein said "Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new"
- Leonardo da Vinci came up with an idea for a mechanical knight- aka a Robot! What a brilliant inventor and painter he was
- The word Internet first appeared in 1974 in the "Internet Transmission Control Program booklet as a shortened version of the term internetworking
  - You can go to [howoldistheinter.net](http://howoldistheinter.net) to find out how old the Internet is
- What is a computer's favorite snack?
  - Chips
- Every minute more than 100 hours of video are uploaded to Youtube
- Youtube has over 1 billion users, which is about 1/3 of everybody using the Internet
- Samsung Galaxy S10 will hit store shelves March 10th
- February 11th is Clean Out Your Computer Day!
  - a. Today's the day to go through all those old files and try to decipher what they are, why you saved them and if you really need them. Get rid of the old files and prepare for another year of saved MEMES.
- Changing fonts can save printer ink

- QWERTY was designed to slow you down
- Email existed before the World Wide Web
- There are 6.8 billion people in the world and 4 billion use a mobile phone
- Hewlett Packard, Microsoft and Apple all started in a garage
- 92% of the world's currency is digital
- The very first webcam ever had a very mundane use. In 1991, researchers at Cambridge used a webcam to monitor a coffee pot so they wouldn't have to leave their desks unless it was absolutely necessary.
- Why can't computers play tennis?
  - a. They try to surf the net
- Who chases computer criminals?
  - a. Hacker-Trackers