

Significant Bits




Journal of Brisbug PC User Group Inc.

Brisbug



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17 August 2025

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Meeting Timetable

Mitchelton Library Helios Parade Mitchelton

9:30am	Q&A	John Tacey
11pm	A Bit on backup.	Keith
	Lunch -- GM - Report to the Club	Keith
1:00pm	Linux workshop	Fred / Keith All

If you have a question that may need a bit of a look up, let me know before the meeting



Significant Bits

Journal of Brisbug PC User Group Inc.

SIGNIFICANT BITS

the Journal of
BRISBUG PC USER GROUP INC.
*A Computer Club for users of
PC-type computers*
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CLUB NOTICES

Notice is given for the
Club's AGM to be held on the
21st of September

All positions are open for
nomination
Nomination forms will be in
the August edition of the
magazine or from the
Secretary.

CLUB INFORMATION LINES

Info Line (07) 3353 3121

The Members' Web Page

Meeting Days

17 August 2025
21 September 2025
19 October 2025
16 November 2025
21 December 2025
19 January 2026

Submission Deadline

Friday 5 September 2025

Please use e-mail if possible

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Hi All,

Well we are coming up for our AGM and will need to elect a committee for the next year.

Nomination are needed for the following positions, President; Secretary; Treasurer. Minimum requirement to maintain our incorporation.

We are also approaching the Windows 10 cut off from support. So some decisions maybe needed on your approach after then.

A first step may be to bite the bullet and see how Linux works for you using the existing hardware. You can save off your Windows 10 setup and programmes using Macrium Reflect or similar and keep the file so you can restore it if you want to change back.

AI is insidious with its inclusion in just about all apps whether we like it or not. What has been your experience with AI?

See you at the meeting

Keith

**PLEASE PAY YOUR
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL VIA
DIRECT FUNDS TRANSFER**

**Brisbug PC User Group
Inc**

BSB No: 034-083

Account No: 185711

**Remember to enter your name
and membership number in the
comment field**

Reports

Presentation and Education

Presentation:

Morning 11am. A bit on backup.

After Afternoon 1pm: Linux Work Shop

Membership Report - Gary Woodforth

We had 10 members at the July meeting.

Treasurer's Report

July 2025

Opening Balance at 1/7/25	2047.86
Income	00.00
Total Income	00.00
	00.00
Expenses	
Renewal of Domain name	0.00
Total Expenses	0.00
Month's	0.00
Balance at 31/6/25	2047.86

Ross Skyring

BRISBUG PC USERS GROUP INC

NOMINATION

Nominations are called for the following positions comprising the Committee of Management of the Brisbug PC Users Group Inc. for financial year 2025/2026.

President

Secretary

Treasurer

- ❖ Nominations must be on the Nomination Form available from this Newsletter (Page 14) or from the Secretary.
- ❖ Nominations must be lodged with the Secretary at least 14 days prior to the AGM.
- ❖ The nomination Form is on page 19 of this magazine.



Q&A – July Meeting

John was absent so we were left to our own resources. A Fair bit of discussion but my memory precluded the level John applies.

I recalled two topics that took a bit of time.

Seagate Back up external drive.

This proved to be a challenge, as the drive brought in have no apparent back up programme and did not show stored backup already done, nor accessible.

It was strange as I expected to see a programme that allowed the selection of method and the selection of data to be backedup.

The drive apparently was running to some form of auto backup. In part, it reminded me of Apples back that run all the time doing hourly and monthly backups that allowed you to see the data and to select a particular time and see the data.

It would allow you to be messing up a file “live” to the point it was no good. With the backup you could go back to an earlier save i.e. an hour before and then use that file to replace the ore jus corrupted.

So it was suggested that the member make sure he had a good copy of the data backed up (may be just that it was on the normal storage) and then reformat the external drive and either download Seagate backup software or use another application.

This developed into a discussion on backup that may be a topic for the future.

It was suggested: Seagate app; AOMEI Backupper; Karen’ Replicator for a simple app, and Free File Sync.

Here we are talking about essential saving your data. It will not safe the windows install or set up. The do that you will need a programme that will create an image of the disk than can be used to restore the existing drive or and new one i.e Macrium Reflect.

Let me know if you want to do a session on back up.

Online Mail applications

I come across a lot of confusion with emails and user understanding what they are using for their mail and if it is via an app on their computer or online.

You will need an application that allows you to send and receive your email.

First we need to have an email address i.e. president@brisbug.asn.au this is akin to your house address and it is used to locate you to receive mail and to send mail so the receivers know the return address.

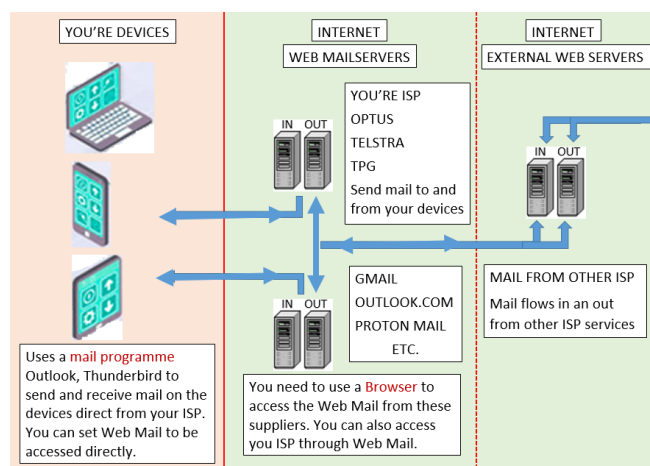
When you sign up for an internet connection you will get an email address i.e. Telstra account will have an email address for you tom&jerry@bigpond.com you

can pick the first part the name but Telstra sets the domain name (the last part).

Most operating systems (OS) will include an app for mail. Windows has mail app, Apple has mail app or you can source another I use Thunderbird there are many. These are apps on your computer.

You then add in your mail account details to allow the apps to check and receive your mail from the Telstra server and likewise send mail from your computer via the Telstra server. If you have an online account, such as gmail.com you can also send and receive via that server from your computer.

You can use an online system to do all your email needs. These are remove systems that you access via a Browser on a computer accessing the online service and login into your account. These online systems will allow you to open mail accounts and will provide you with a mail application to send and receive mail when you login to your account.



Two points. Microsoft causes confusion by the use of outlook as a name in mail systems.

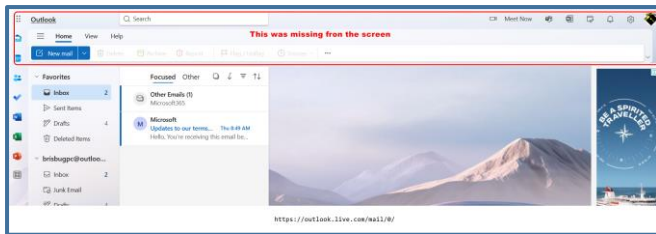
Its default mail app in Windows is called Outlook. It has a mail app as a part of MS Office called Outlook and finally it online mail system also called Outlook. Users need to separate them as they do the same thing but in different places. I have found a number that specifically get confused using the Windows mail and the MS Office mail as they are both on the computer and sometime have both doing mail operations.

Users need to get it sorted in their minds.

An issue with online system

The on line screen was not showing the top bar with the user tools. This was strange but caused the member to not be able to use the online screen. this caused a bit of head scratching as the attempts to fix it were frustrated by not being able to get to setting and such to make changes.

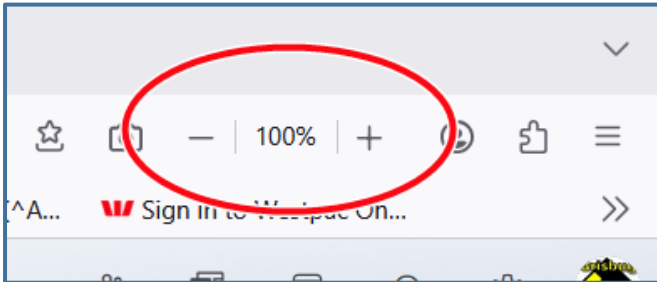
The screen shot below shows the open screen on line. The top part was missing.



We did some trouble shooting and had no success.

On the verge of finishing with no answer, it was found to be simple, the zoom or magnification was too big and pushed the edges of the apps boundaries off screen.

A simple change of the browsers zoom level fix it and the full app screen was visible.



Reduce the magnification did the fix.

Keith

John's Jots

Q&A - July meeting

Nothing to report as I was not at the meeting.

Gleanings from e-newsletters and other sources.

Reviews

I Let AIs Handle My 'Deep Research': Some Got Lost, One Was a Clear Winner

By Lance Whitney Jul 02, 2025

OpenAI, Google, Perplexity, and xAi offer deep research modes that surf the web for you. I put them to the test with the same topic; here's how they fared and how to try it yourself.

<https://au.pcmag.com/ai/111868/i-let-ais-handle-my-deep-research-some-got-lost-one-was-a-clear-winner>

Malwarebytes vs. Norton: Which Antivirus Titan Comes Out on Top?

By Neil J. Rubenking July 31, 2025

Malwarebytes earned its stripes cleaning up already-infected PCs, and Norton has been defending systems since the DOS days. Which one leads the charge in 2025? I've tested both and am here to tell you.

https://www.pcmag.com/comparisons/malwarebytes-vs-norton-which-antivirus-titan-comes-out-on-top?utm_source=email&utm_campaign=labreport&zdee=gAAAAABjNL8ST42l80nl07cPB3qfRUi6ntgUgOTESELeSDIZFhs8z4qnm0Ls_AknqwLVhZpQWW_lidjicVkJNa0SBZ5eIt2gM0-Tu64aKwciwXzXGx5QU6ZfE%3D&lctg=24359534815#

Bitdefender vs. Malwarebytes: Which Antivirus Offers Better Protection?

By Neil J. Rubenking July 30, 2025

Malwarebytes is best known for its free malware cleanup tool, but its full-featured antivirus software is also worth considering. Here, I compare it with Editors' Choice winner Bitdefender to show you how they compare in features, performance, price, and more.

https://www.pcmag.com/comparisons/bitdefender-vs-malwarebytes-which-antivirus-offers-better-protection?utm_source=email&utm_campaign=securitywatch&zdee=gAAAAABjNL8ST42l80nl07cPB3qfRUi6ntgUgOTESELeSDIZFhs8z4qnm0Ls_AknqwLVhZpQWW_lidjicVkJNa0SBZ5eIt2gM0-Tu64aKwciwXzXGx5QU6ZfE%3D&lctg=24359534815#

New Releases

Glary Utilities 6

License: Freeware

Release Date:

File Name: Glary_Utilities_v 6.29.0.33 .exe

File Size: 27.03 MB

Platform: Windows 8, 7, 2000, XP, Vista. 32/64bit version.

Publisher: Glarysoft Ltd

Languages: 44 Languages [Help Translate]

URL: <http://www.glaryutilities.com/>

Release Notes:

Optimized Disk Cleaner: added support for 'Corel VideoStudio Pro x9' and 'SketchUp Make 2014'

Optimized Tracks Eraser: added support for 'Corel VideoStudio Pro x9' and 'SketchUp Make 2014'

Optimized Software Update: optimized the version comparison algorithm, and increase the comparison speed by 30%

Optimized Empty Folders Finder: add folder delete validation to prevent accidentally deletion of non-empty folder

Minor GUI improvements

Minor bug fixes

Glary Utilities is a freeware with registry and disk cleaning, privacy protection, performance accelerator and amazing multifunctional tools. It can fix dogged registry errors, wipe off clutters, optimise Internet speed, safeguard confidential files and maintain maximum performance.

It is designed for both novice and professionals. User-friendly interface shows clear & detailed directions. For novice, all work can be done with just 1 or 2 clicks, while for professionals, abundant options are available.

Key features:

Optimise, clean and boost the speed of your Windows.

Protect your privacy and security.
Block spyware, trojans, adware, etc.
Fix certain application errors.
Simple, fast and user friendly interface.
For private use only.

URL: <http://www.glaryutilities.com/>

Google Chrome (32bit) 139.0.7258.67

License: Free

File name: ChromeSetup.exe

File Size: 116.89 MB

O/S: Windows

Publisher: Google

URL: <https://www.google.com/chrome/>

Inkscape (32bit)

License: Freeware

File name: Inkscape_(32bit)_v 1.4.2 .msi

File Size: 143.50 MB O/S: Windows

Publisher: inkscape.org

URL:

https://www.filepuma.com/download/inkscape_32bit_0.92.4-21328/download/

Java Runtime Environment (32bit)

License: Freeware

Filename:

Java_Runtime_Environment_(32bit)_v8.0.4610.11.exe

File Size: 36.00 MB

O/S: Windows

Publisher: Oracle

URL: <http://www.java.com/>

Keepass

License: Freeware

File name: Keepass-2.59-Setup.exe

File Size: 4.15 MB O/S: Linux, Windows

Publisher: Dominik Reichl

URL: <https://keepass.info/>

LibreOffice

License: Freeware

File name: LibreOffice_25.2.55_Win_x86.msi

File Size: 331 MB

O/S: Windows

Publisher: The Document Foundation Comments:
Contains the functions:-

Writer

PDF

Presentation

Spreadsheet

URL:https://mirror.freedif.org/TDF/libreoffice/stable/6.2.0/win/x86/LibreOffice_24.84.4_Win_x86.msi

Mozilla Firefox

License: Freeware

File name: Mozilla_Firefox (32bit)_v140.0.3.exe
Update

File Size: 67.50 MB O/S: Windows 7 to 11

Publisher: Mozilla Corporation

Comments:-

To force a manual update:-

Menu Button > ? Button > 'About Firefox'

URL: <https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/>

Mozilla Thunderbird

License: Freeware

File name: Thunderbird Setup 141.0 (GB).exe

File Size: 67.37 MB O/S: Windows XP SP2 to 10

Publisher: Mozilla Corporation

URL: <http://www.mozilla.org/en-GB/thunderbird/>

NotePad++ (32bit)

License: Freeware

File name: NotePad_v8.8.3.exe

File Size: 6.37 MB

O/S: Windows

Publisher: Notepad++

URL: <https://notepad-plus-plus.org/>

Want more? See the New Releases list:

<http://ct.com.com/>

Tips etc.

Was Your Info Stolen in a Data Breach? Take These Steps Now

By Neil J. Rubenking

You can't stop companies from being careless with your data, but you can help make sure criminals don't get anything useful when it's stolen. Here's what actually happens in a data breach, and how you can limit its impact.

<https://au.pcmag.com/password-managers/98584/what-really-happens-in-a-data-breach-and-what-you-can-do-about-it>

This Password Manager Caught Some of Its Own Employees Not Using Its Product

By Rob Pegoraro Aug 02, 2025

Dashlane documents this in-house exercise to make more people (as in, potential corporate customers) aware of it. 'In practice, they're not all doing it the right way,' its CTO tells us.

<https://au.pcmag.com/it-security/112406/this-password-manager-caught-some-if-its-own-employees-not-using-its-product>

Swipe Right for a Cyberattack: Dating Sites, EV Chargers, and Sex Toys

By Alan Henry Aug 02, 2025

This week's security news was dire. Here's what you might have missed, from bedroom breaches to garage fires.

<https://au.pcmag.com/security/112418/swipe-right-for-a-cyberattack-dating-sites-ev-chargers-and-sex-toys>

Your ChatGPT Convos Aren't Private: 9 Ways You Should Never Use Chatbots

By Ruben Circelli Updated July 30, 2025

Here's how using AI in the wrong situations could cost you money, job opportunities, and ultimately, your peace of mind.

https://www.pcmag.com/opinions/your-chatgpt-convos-arent-private-ways-you-should-never-use-chatbots?utm_source=email&utm_campaign=whatsnewnow&zdee=gAAAAABjNL8ST42I80nl07cPB3qfRUi6ntgUgOTESELeSDIZFhs8z4qnmoLs_AknqwLVhZpQWW_IdjicVkNAoSBZ5eIt2gM0-Tu64aKwciwXzXGx5QU6ZfE%3D&lctg=24359534815#

Your Info Is on the Dark Web: Use These 4 Tips to Protect Yourself

By Kim Key Apr 02, 2025

Let's be real: Your data has probably been exposed in a breach. I spoke to security experts for their best tips on minimizing the chances of having that data used against you.

<https://au.pcmag.com/security/110367/your-info-is-on-the-dark-web-use-these-4-tips-to-protect-yourself>

Black Hat 2025 Forecast: AI Mayhem, EV Intrusions, and Hacker Innovations

By Neil J. Rubenking Aug 01, 2025

Hackers and security researchers will make the annual pilgrimage to the Black Hat security conference in Las Vegas next week. Here's a preview of some of the most insightful and unsettling sessions we're planning to attend.

<https://au.pcmag.com/security/112403/black-hat-2025-forecast-ai-mayhem-ev-intrusions-and-hacker-innovations>

Amazon Is Loaded With Fake Reviews. Here Are My Tricks for Finding the Real Ones

By Jason Cohen Jun 09, 2025

Now that tools like Fakespot are gone, I use these tips to identify untrustworthy reviews and avoid wasting my money.

<https://au.pcmag.com/shopping/87133/how-to-spot-a-fake-review-on-amazon>

Cyber Spill: 5 Security Lessons We Can Learn From the Tea Hack

By Kim Key Aug 01, 2025

In the wake of the Tea breach, in which thousands of IDs and photos were stolen from the women-only dating safety site that required photo ID, consider these security lessons whenever you download a new app or sign up for a new service.

<https://au.pcmag.com/security/112393/cyber-spill-5-security-lessons-we-can-learn-from-the-tea-hack>

How to Manage Your Amazon Kindle Devices and Content

By Lance Whitney Jun 01, 2024

Are you juggling a lot of Kindle devices, ebooks, and other types of content through Amazon? Here's how to keep your books and devices in order.

<https://au.pcmag.com/ebook-readers/93404/how-to-manage-your-amazon-kindle-devices-and-content>

Linux Just Hit a Big Milestone in the Desktop OS Race

By Will McCurdy Jul 20, 2025

The open-source favorite has scored record adoption among US desktop users, following a just over 5% dip in Windows popularity since December 2024.

<https://au.pcmag.com/operating-systems/112187/linux-just-hit-a-big-milestone-in-the-desktop-os-race>

Microsoft Is Killing Its ChromeOS Rival

By James Peckham Aug 02, 2025

Support for Windows 11 SE, the low-cost OS designed for schools, is set to end in October 2026.

<https://au.pcmag.com/operating-systems/112413/microsoft-is-killing-its-chromeos-rival>

Reddit Wants to Replace Google as Your 'Go-To Search Engine'

By Jibin Joseph Aug 02, 2025

Around 60 million users visit Reddit daily for answers, drawn in by real responses from humans, not AI, says CEO Steve Huffman.

<https://au.pcmag.com/ai/112409/reddit-wants-to-replace-google-as-your-go-to-search-engine>

Last Call: Microsoft Will Delete Your Passwords Tomorrow. Do This Now

By Kim Key Updated July 31, 2025

Starting tomorrow, Microsoft Authenticator will delete your passwords and move them to Edge. It will store passkeys, though. If you haven't backed them up and moved to a password manager, here's how to do it.

https://www.pcmag.com/articles/microsoft-deletes-passwords-aug-1?utm_source=email&utm_campaign=securitywatch&zdee=gAAAAABjNL8ST42I80nl07cPB3qfRUi6ntgUgOTESELeSDIZFhs8z4qnmoLs_AknqwLVhZpQWW_IdjicVkNAoSBZ5eIt2gM0-Tu64aKwciwXzXGx5QU6ZfE%3D&lctg=24359534815#

Proton Takes on Google, Microsoft Again With a New 2FA Security App

By James Peckham Aug 01, 2025

Proton adds a new two-factor authentication app to its suite of privacy-led tools alongside its email, password manager, VPN, and more. Proton Authenticator is free to use.

<https://au.pcmag.com/it-security/112384/proton-takes-on-google-microsoft-again-with-a-new-2fa-security-app>

Proton Takes on Google, Microsoft Again With a New 2FA Security App

By James Peckham Aug 01, 2025

Proton adds a new two-factor authentication app to its suite of privacy-led tools alongside its email, password manager, VPN, and more. Proton Authenticator is free to use.

<https://au.pcmag.com/it-security/112384/proton-takes-on-google-microsoft-again-with-a-new-2fa-security-app>

Dropbox Is Closing Down Its Password Manager Next Month

By James Peckham Jul 30, 2025

Dropbox Passwords is going through a phased shutdown. Logins will be deleted in October.

<https://au.pcmag.com/password-managers/112371/dropbox-is-closing-down-its-password-manager-next-month>

Passkeys Are the Future of Account Security: What They Are, and Why You Need Them

By Kim Key Jul 25, 2025

Passkeys deliver protection that puts passwords in the dust. We have the details on how they work, where to set them up, and how they keep your accounts safe.

<https://au.pcmag.com/password-managers/98421/passwordless-authentication-what-it-is-and-why-you-need-it-asap>

New Microsoft Edge Copilot Mode Gives AI More Control Over Your PC

By James Peckham Jul 31, 2025

Microsoft's AI assistant can take control, offer suggestions, and find shortcuts to your queries.

<https://au.pcmag.com/ai/112353/microsoft-revs-up-the-ai-browser-wars-how-to-try-copilot-mode-in-edge>

Last Chance to Save Your Old Samsung Account: Log In Or It Might Get Deleted

By James Peckham

Samsung plans to delete logins to protect the data of users who haven't returned to their accounts in the last 24 months.

James Peckham Jul 31, 2025

<https://au.pcmag.com/mobile-phones/112291/got-an-inactive-samsung-account-log-in-now-or-it-might-get-deleted>

Here Endeth John's Jots

APCUG ARTICLES

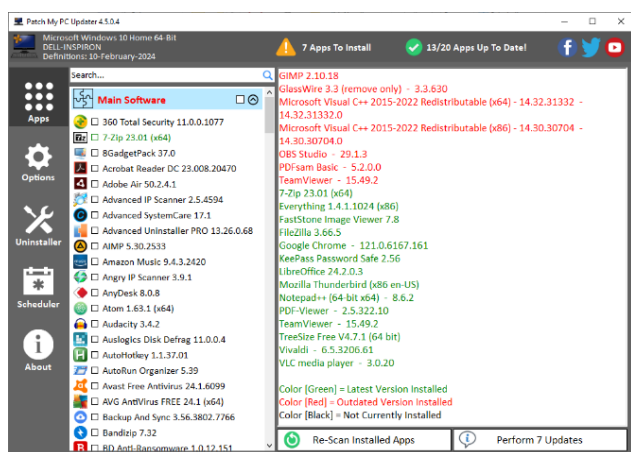
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Patching My PC with Patch My PC

by Alan German, Treasurer Ottawa PC Users' Group, Ontario, Canada <https://opcug.ca>
Editor: brigitttelord@opcug.ca

With the demise of both Secunia's Personal Security Inspector (PSI) and Software Update Monitor (SUMo), I have been looking for an alternative vulnerability scanner or at least an update manager to help keep my applications up to date. My preferred option is open-source software or freeware; however, almost all the relevant scanners are commercial products. One program I tried recently is Patch My PC Home Updater, the freeware version of a commercial offering. While the free package is somewhat limited regarding the specific applications that are supported, many of the programs I frequently use are included in the list.

Patch My PC can be downloaded from the developer's website using the file PatchMyPC.exe. It's portable software, and no installation is required. So, it's sufficient to run the executable, which then scans the computer's system drive and reports on the status of the supported applications that it finds.



The user interface is pretty easy to understand. By default, the Apps icon in the left sidebar is enabled, and the list of applications is displayed. The left window lists all the supported applications. If an application is installed, the colour of the listing indicates its status. For

example, 7-Zip Version 23.01 has been installed, and this is the current release of this utility. The right window displays any issues that have been identified. The applications listed in red are outdated and should be updated, while no action is required for those listed in green, which are currently available.

Note that PatchMyPC only looks at version numbers and determines if any package has a newer version available. So, it is not a vulnerability scanner. Some of the software updates may well include patches for vulnerabilities, while others may be just feature updates. Nevertheless, bringing all the listed applications up to date will ensure that at least these packages will receive any available vulnerability patches.

You can start updating the listed

Downloading: PDFSam Basic 5.2.2 (80.85 MB)
PDFSam Basic 5.2.2 Downloaded Successfully

Silently install PDFSam Basic 5.2.2
Install Successful for PDFSam Basic 5.2.2

Downloading: TeamViewer 15.50.5 (69.58 MB)
TeamViewer 15.50.5 Downloaded Successfully

Silently install TeamViewer 15.50.5
Install Successful for TeamViewer 15.50.5

Patch My PC Update Complete 2/10/2024 5:30:15 PM

applications in red by simply pressing the button labeled *Perform 7 Updates*. PatchMyPC then downloads and "silently" installs the updated software. A progress report indicating successful downloads and installations is displayed in the right window.

A log file named PatchMyPC.log, stored in the folder where the PatchMyPC program is located, provides more details of the update process.

Interestingly, following the updates to my system, the header row in PatchMyPC indicated *19/20 Apps Up to Date*. The log entry showed the reason as *"Skipping install for GlassWire 3.3.664 based on user input not to close GlassWire.exe."* I imagine this was a result of the "silent" update where I was not prompted to close GlassWire so that the update could proceed.

PatchMyPC has many customization features based on the categories listed as icons down the

left sidebar. The Options tab includes customization for downloading software, changing the display, and managing the update process and the log file. The Uninstaller tab allows installed programs to be removed, while the Scheduler tab allows specification of the timing and frequency for running PatchMyPC automatically. It's also worth noting that, under the Apps tab, clicking the checkbox for any application in the list in the left window causes this application to be marked for installation the next time the software is updated.

So, PatchMyPC isn't an actual vulnerability scanner but a handy tool for keeping various installed applications up to date and making this process extremely easy.

Patch My PC Home Updater
 Patch My PC, LLC
<https://patchmypc.com/home-updater>

Printing your photos

By Lynda Buske

Published in Ottawa PC News (Month Year)
 Ottawa PC Users' Group, Ontario, Canada

<https://opcug.ca>

Editor: brigittelord@opcug.ca

Despite our digital world, it is really nice sometimes to print a photo that you can stick on your fridge, display on your wall, or even frame and give as a gift. The main thing to remember is that the print size for a digital image may be limited.

All digital cameras and cell phones have sufficient megapixels to provide the resolution for a 4x6 or 5x7 photo enlargement. Many would have enough for much larger prints (e.g., 8x10 or 11x14). However, cropping in post-production will reduce your image dimensions.

The best starting point is determining what a good quality home or commercial printer will provide. In most instances, the gold standard is 300 dpi (dots per inch), which you can equate to 300 pixels. That means if you want to print an 8x10, the long side of your image would ideally be at least 3000 pixels (10x300). For 16x20, you would

probably like the long side to have around 6000 pixels.

The table below provides a rough guideline for the maximum print size of good quality that you can expect based on the number of megapixels your camera has.

Camera resolution	File size at high resolution (pixels)	Max print size at 330 dpi
2 megapixels	1200 x 1600	4 x 5
3 megapixels	1536 x 2048	5 x 7
	2448 x 3264	8x 10
8 megapixels	2592 x 3888	8 x 14
	2800 x 4000	8 x 14
10 megapixels	3264 x 4920	11 x 14
	3744 x 5616	12 x 18
12 megapixels	4000 x 6000	16 x 20
16 megapixels		
21 megapixels		
24 megapixels		

If you have a 24MP camera, your images will probably be 6000x4000 pixels. This means you can do a lot of cropping before going under the 3000-pixel threshold. If you shoot with a 12 MP camera and then crop your images significantly, you may not be able to print an 8x10. However, if your cropped image dimension is still around 1200x1600, based on the chart above, you could print a 4x6. Some older cell phones have only 5 or 6 megapixels, so be careful when deciding what size to print. Unfortunately, many family pictures we want to treasure are taken at social events with cell phones, so get close to minimize the need to

crop. Unless you are sure your cell phone has an optical zoom on the camera, don't "zoom" with the finger spread as that is just cropping and hence losing resolution. Even if cell phones tout 20MP or 100MPs, almost all only output 12MP due to pixel binning

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pixel_binning].

The easiest way to see your image's dimensions in the Windows environment is to go to *File Explorer* and right-click on the photo. Then click on *Properties*, select the detail tab, and find the dimensions below.

One final consideration when making prints is the viewing distance. If you print a 4x6, there is a good chance it will be held in your hand or an album and, hence, very close to your discerning eye. If, on the other hand, you make an 11x14 print for your wall, it may never be viewed at less than a few feet, and therefore the resolution does not have to be as good.

You may have to experiment as to which image dimensions produce an adequate enlargement for your viewing needs and which printing service provides the quality you want. I recommend printing one 8x10 as a test before committing to a company. When submitting digital photos online, many services will warn you if the resolution is not adequate for the print size you requested.

I have found the quality of prints at Shutterfly and Photobook Canada to be very good, but there are significant delivery fees. On the other hand, Staples has the quality but no delivery fees if you pick it up at the store. However, it takes five business days. If you want a quick turnaround of 4x6 prints, a place like Walmart is probably all you need.

Rescuezilla – A Flexible Backup Solution

By Alan German, Treasurer

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For several years, my disk imaging backup program of choice has been Macrium Reflect Free Edition; however, recently, Macrium's developers announced that the free version is to be

discontinued. Security updates will be provided until January 1, 2024, after which, although the program can still be used, no new features or support will be provided. Consequently, this seems to be a good time to seek out an alternative backup solution for the long term.

The other aspect of this issue is my growing preference for Linux over Windows, especially given that none of my computers will support Windows 11, and the end-of-life date for Windows 10 is October 2025. However, my previous experiences with disk imaging programs for Linux have found these lacking the flexibility and ease of use offered by their Windows counterparts.

For example, Clonezilla has an old-style, text-based interface that is somewhat complex and difficult to navigate. The program can create a backup using either its *save disk* or *saveparts* feature. *Savedisk* allows the entire disk to be restored but will not restore single partitions. In contrast, *save parts* will restore one or more partitions but will not restore the master boot record or the partition table and so can't be used to restore the entire disk. Clearly, this is not very helpful when it comes to flexibility in restoring disks and/or partitions.

But now, there is a new kid on the block – *Rescuezilla* – that offers a user-friendly, graphical user interface, clearly-defined icons and menus for specific tasks, and the flexibility to save and restore both disks and partitions.



Rescuezilla can be downloaded as an ISO file (the current version is *rescuezilla-2.4.1-64bit.jammy.iso*) that can be used to create a bootable USB flash drive. As the "jammy" portion of the file name indicates, the USB boots into a version of Ubuntu Linux; however, this operating

system is initially hidden from the end user as Rescuezilla loads in full-screen mode.

The main menu provides *Backup* and *Restore* options, in addition to icons for *Clone*, *Verify Image*, and *Image Explorer*. The latter option is a work in progress and is intended to allow mounting a disk partition directly from the backup image in order to extract individual files and folders. However, for our present purposes we will just consider the main two options for *Backup* and *Restore*.

Selecting *Backup* launches a wizard that steps through the required process. Firstly, the source drive that is to be backed up is selected from a menu of available disks. *Back* and *Next* buttons on the individual screens allow easy navigation. The subsequent screen, *Step 2: Select Partitions to Save*, allows selection of the partitions that are to be included in the backup. Windows users should note that since we are using a Linux system, no drive letters are used. Rather, the partitions are listed with drive and partition numbers, the size of the drive, the file system, and any partition label.



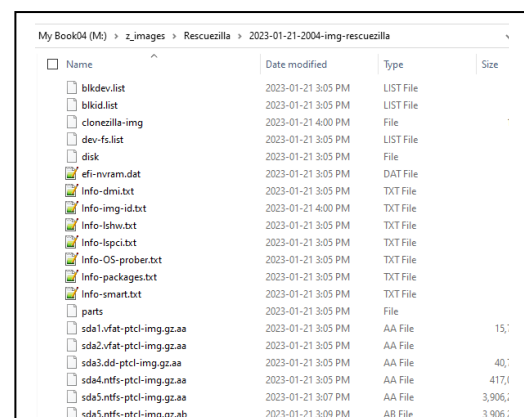
If not all the partitions are to be backed up (or restored), it's clearly important to be able to identify the desired partition using the information that is displayed. For example, the screenshot shows the partitions for a disk that dual boots Windows 10 and Linux. The Windows partition (Drive C:), Partition 5, is labeled as Windows 10, while the Linux partition, Partition 9, is using the ext4 file system.

By default, all of the available partitions are checked and so, to make a full disk image backup, we just have to press the *Next* button. The subsequent screen allows selection of the destination drive on which the disk image is to be stored. This is followed by a similar screen that selects a folder on the destination drive as the storage location. Once again, a Linux protocol specifies a mount point as */mnt/backup*. This can be refined by using the *Browse* button to point to a specific folder on the destination drive, e.g., */mnt/backup/z_images/Rescuezilla*.

The next screen provides a default name for the backup image (e.g., *2023-01-21-2004-img-rescuezilla*), allows this name to be customized, and displays an option to include descriptive text. This is followed by a screen on which the compression algorithm and level can be specified. These can readily be left at their default settings of gzip and 6, respectively.

The final screen provides a summary of settings selected, including the source drive and the partitions to be backed up. Clicking on *Next* starts the backup process, which then runs unattended.

The resulting image takes the form of a folder with multiple files that are clearly a mix of administrative information and segments of compressed partitions (e.g., *sda5.ntfs-ptcl-img.gz.aa*, ...*gz.ab*, ...*gz.ac*). In my baseline test, the overall file compression was approximately 60%.



Restoring from a backup image is essentially the reverse of the backup process. The image file on the backup disk is identified; the partition(s) to be restored and the disk on which the partition(s) is to be restored are selected. I tried a number of

restorations, including just my dedicated data drive, which I could verify against a file-by-file backup stored on a USB flash drive. I also restored the Linux operating system partition and swap area (Partitions 9 and 10), and the entire drive. In each of the latter cases, success was confirmed by the fact that the disk subsequently booted normally into both Linux and Windows via the GRUB boot menu.

For me, these tests have confirmed that *Rescuezilla* is a viable backup-restore solution for my system. For Linux users, the processes and nomenclature will be straightforward. Windows users will perhaps need to pay attention to the listings of disks, partitions, and folders, as the designations (e.g., mount points) are quite different between Linux and Windows. However, that being said, the fact that *Rescuezilla* functions as a live-USB provides a ready-made backup option for both operating systems and can be used even if the PC refuses to boot normally from the hard drive.

Rescuezilla (Open source)

Version 2.4.1

<https://rescuezilla.com>

Does the Control Panel still exist?

By Phil Sorrentino, Secretary & Newsletter Contributor Sun City Center Computer Club

<https://sccccomputerclub.org/>

Good question. When Settings appeared in Windows 8 in 2012, it looked like Microsoft may have been laying the groundwork for moving most of the Control Panel features over to Settings. That may be true, but here we are, eleven years later, and the Control Panel still exists. The control panel exists along with the settings in Windows 10 and 11, though the organization of each changes slightly compared to Windows 10 and 11.



So, how did we get here? Just a little history. Our very old friend Control Panel has been part of Microsoft Windows since version 1.0. Each

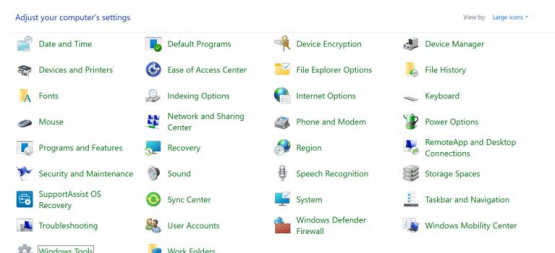
of the early versions introduced new Applets (small software applications). Being much younger, the Settings App was first released with Windows 8. In Windows 8, the “PC Settings” App was designed as a simplified area optimized for touchscreen devices. It included a small portion of Control Panel functionality on a two-panel full-screen interface. Windows 8.1 improved the Settings App by including capabilities previously part of the Control Panel and providing a redesigned organization. It also added a small “Control Panel” link at the bottom of the left panel to allow users to open the Control Panel. Unfortunately, that helpful link did not remain in later generations of Settings. (However, you can always get to the Control Panel by typing “Control” into the search bar in the taskbar.) Settings categories change with each generation released. In the first generation Settings App, the categories were: PC and Devices, Accounts, OneDrive, Search and Apps, Privacy, Network, Time and Language, Ease of Access, Update and Recovery, and finally Activate Windows (which shows up only if Windows isn’t activated).

The second generation of the Settings App was included with all releases of Windows 10, 2016, 2019, and 2022. It included more capabilities that were previously parts of the Control Panel. Windows Update, part of the Control Panel before Windows 10, was now exclusively a part of Settings. This second version brought some changes to the categories. It contained the following: System, Devices, Phone, Network & Internet, Personalization, Apps, Accounts, Time & Language, Gaming, Ease of Access, Search, Cortana, Privacy, Update & Security and finally Mixed Reality (but only if a connected device meets HoloLens requirements).

The third generation of the Settings App is found in Windows 11. This version has been significantly redesigned with a new layout and updated icons. (A persistent navigation sidebar has also been added, providing links to various settings capabilities within the App.) The Windows 11 Settings App now contains the

following categories: System, Bluetooth & Devices, Network & Internet, Personalization, Apps, Accounts, Time & Language, Gaming, Accessibility, Privacy & Security, and Windows Update.

The control panel is not apparent or easily found on Windows 10 or 11. If you don't have the Control Panel icon on your desktop, you can use the Search bar on the taskbar to find it. (Though it doesn't seem obvious or intuitive, in either Windows 10 & 11, if you want to put the Control Panel icon on your desktop, go to Settings-Personalization-Themes, select "Desktop icon settings," and then check the box next to Control Panel and click Apply.) Control Panel seems to be relegated to the background in Windows 10 and 11. Though there are some differences, once you get to the Control Panel in either version, it seems to work just about the same.



Windows 11 Control Panel

"Settings" is much more prominent than Control Panel on Windows 10 and 11. On Windows 10, Settings is immediately available after the Start button is left-clicked. (See the gear icon?) If you right-click the start button, you will also see an entry for "Settings" in the menu. Either method gets you to the same Settings App. On Windows 11, the Settings (gear) icon is probably in the Pinned area of the start menu. If you don't see it there after you left-click the start button, it might be on a second-level display of the Pinned icons. If there are two dots on the right side of the display of icons, click the smaller one (or the arrow that appears when you hover over the dot). That will reveal another group of "Pinned" icons. If it is there, you are set. If it is not

present, click "All apps >" and you will see it in the "All apps" alphabetical list. Right-click Settings and click "Pin to start," it will be easier to find the next time you need it. You can also click "More" and then "Pin to taskbar" to pin it to the taskbar if you expect to use it often. (You will also notice "App settings" next to a gear icon. This will take you to the "Apps – Installed Apps – Settings" screen, which provides some general control over apps.)

On Windows 11, no matter how you get to the Settings App, the persistent navigation sidebar controls the action. The left panel is the Navigation panel, and the right panel presents the capabilities selected in the navigation panel. Initially, "Settings" starts with "System" in the navigation panel, and the System capabilities are shown in the right panel. Choosing a capability by clicking on a capability in the right panel gets you to the capabilities presented on the next screen. After you reach a capabilities screen, clicking the <- arrow next to "Settings" at the top left corner will get you back to the Settings screen. (This "back arrow" is used throughout the Settings App to get you back to the previous screen.)

So, for now, at least, the Control Panel is still an integral part of Windows 10 and 11, though it seems that without the Search bar, it might not be easy to find. Maybe, as time passes and we get updates, more Control Panel capabilities will be moved into Settings. Control Panel may eventually disappear, but only Microsoft knows what the future holds for Control Panel.

BRISBUG PC USER GROUP INC
4 Bacall Place Stafford Heights , QLD 4053
NOMINATION FORM

Please return completed form to "The General Secretary" at the above address

NOMINEE I,hereby accept nomination to serve on the Management Committee of **BRISBUG PC USER GROUP INC** for the term commencing from the next Annual General Meeting of that group and ending at the Annual General of the following year. I understand that this nomination will only be valid if I am a "fully paid-up" financial member of BRISBUG (as defined in its Constitution) PRIOR to the official commencement of the Annual General Meeting, at which the vote for election to the position for which I am nominating is taken.

POSITION FOR WHICH I AM BEING NOMINATED

NOMINEE'S SIGNATUREDATE

NOMINATOR

I, hereby nominate the above-named for election to the requested position on the Management Committee of BRISBUG for the term indicated. I acknowledge this nomination will be void if it is found that I am not a "fully paid-up" financial member of BRISBUG as at the closing date for acceptance of written nominations in accordance with the BRISBUG constitution.

NOMINATOR'S SIGNATUREDATE

SECONDER

I, hereby second the above nomination for election to the requested position on the Management Committee of BRISBUG for the term indicated. I acknowledge this nomination will be void if it is found that I am not a "fully paid-up" financial member of BRISBUG as at the closing date for acceptance of written nominations in accordance with the BRISBUG constitution.

SECONDER'S SIGNATURE..... DATE

NOTE: Persons nominating for a position who have not had their membership formally accepted at a BRISBUG Management Committee Meeting shall be deemed to have had their application for membership formally accepted should they be elected to the position for which they have nominated.

OFFICE USE ONLY

MEMBERSHIP STATUS NAME	MEMBERSHIP NO	FEES PAID TO	RECEIPT NO
NOMINEE			
NOMINATOR			
SECONDER			