(Approx. 551 words)

Interesting Internet Finds for December

By Steve Costello

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While going through more than 300 RSS feeds, I often run across things I think might be of interest to other user group members.

The following are some more items I found interesting during November 2018.

How To Back Up Your Flickr Photos Before The Free 1TB Plan Ends

https://www.techsupportalert.com/content/how-back-your-flickr-photos-free-1tb-plan-ends.htm

If you are a Flickr user, you know by now that you will be losing the ability to save more than 1000 photos for free in January 2019. This post explains how to back up your photos before then.

Don’t Lose Your Phone: Here’s What Can Happen (and How to Prepare)

https://askleo.com/dont-lose-your-phone-heres-what-can-happen-and-how-to-prepare/

I have never lost my phone, but it can happen. Check out this post from Leo Notenboom to find out what can happen and how to prepare to minimize problems caused by the loss.

Use Dark Mode In Apps On Android To Save Battery Life

https://groovyandroid.com/use-dark-mode-in-apps-on-android-to-save-battery-life-15634/

Did you know that using dark mode in your apps can save battery life? I didn’t know this until I ran across this post. Now I have enabled dark mode everywhere I could and my battery lasts noticeably longer. Give it a try yourself, you can always go back to normal mode if you don’t like it.

Shrink Image File Size with Google Squoosh!

https://www.askdavetaylor.com/shrink-image-file-size-with-google-squoosh/

If you have a web page, a blog, or even a newsletter, chances are you are slowing things down by having images larger than necessary. I have used image editors like GIMP, and IrfanView, to compress images for my blogs and newsletters, but Dave talks about a web browser app from Google in this post that makes things easy. (Note: I have established a routine, so I will continue with the image editors.)

Why You Shouldn’t Trust Free VPNs

https://www.howtogeek.com/396747/why-you-shouldnt-trust-free-vpns/

I know there are others out there that will tell you to use one of the many free VPNs because they are better than nothing. In my opinion, there are plenty of trustworthy paid VPNs out there, you just need to do your research to find one that is best for you. I have one which I pay each year for and one that is a lifetime subscription; both allow 5 connections so all my devices use a VPN.

The Essential Ebook Converter Guide

https://www.makeuseof.com/tag/ebook-converter-guide/

This post explains converting ebooks from one format to the other. I sometimes can only find a book in epub format and my Kindle will not read that so I have to download it and then convert it and upload to my account. If you run into that problem and don’t know how to convert the ebook, check this post out and learn how

The Best Streaming Video Player To Buy Right Now

https://www.theverge.com/this-is-my-next/2018/11/30/18118550/best-streaming-video-player-4k-tv-roku-apple-amazon

Just getting into cord cutting? This post gives the pros and cons of the top streaming video players available now. I use older Roku and Chromecast models for the little streaming I do and they work fine for me on my older HD TVs.

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