



Run your business without worrying

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What is the Cloud?



* The cloud is a global network of computer servers that store files and information that can be accessed remotely.



* Password security and multi-factor authentication methods on cloud applications are important to keep cybercriminals at bay.



* Focus on creating complex, unique passwords and use two-factor authentication to protect yourself when using the cloud.

Fun Fact: The Cloud is not something that is new. If you stream movies you are already using the Cloud! The technology behind the Cloud has existed since the 60's.



April 26th is National Dog Day!

This day is meant for us to appreciate the dogs in our lives. This holiday was declared in 2004 and was chosen to be on April 26th due to it being the same day our founding fathers got their first family dog.



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Alex Bleam,
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Keep Your Phone Safer

We all love our mobile devices dearly. Without our phones, we'd be lost, roaming the world with no sense of direction (mostly because we'd have no maps). But for some reason, it's still incredibly easy for us to lose track of our phones. Losing your phone is not just about losing your phone; it's also about losing your data and, potentially, your privacy and financial well-being.

So to avoid all of that, here are a few good tips to keep your phone (and all the data inside it) a little safer.



Phone Finding App: The very first thing you should do after reading this blog is to track down a phone-finding app of your choice. These apps can do it all – locate your missing phone, remote wipe its data, or turn on its peripheral features (like the camera).



Gadget Tracking Gadgets: Another way to track down a missing gadget – or to even make sure you don't leave a device too far behind – is with a gadget designed for that purpose specifically. Like Tile. This gadget connects with an online account or mobile app to give you the exact location of any missing item. Like your phone. All you have to do is attach a Tile to the back of your phone or slip it into its cover, and Tile will do all the work for you.

Passcodes: Even if you do lose your phone and you're prepared enough to have a gadget tracking gadget or a phone-finding app, you're still out of luck if your data is easily accessible; therefore, you must always keep your phone locked. No matter what. Whether you use a pin code, a password, or a fingerprint scan, do something. The harder it is for thieves or any random passerby to get into your phone, the less likely it is that you'll lose any data.



"Sure, it's all fun and games until someone loses an iPhone."

You scored a leadership position. You are now a leader. People expect you to lead them. So, do not let your position of authority and influence go to waste. Use it to grow your business, your people, and your future.

But to do this, you must first train your mind to embrace certain mental habits... and to quickly run away from others...



Multitasking is bad.

Projects, partners, employees – these types of things need and want your undivided attention. Especially when it comes to your employees, if you can express genuine interest and practice unfiltered focus, every piece of whatever it is you are involved in will feel the impact.

Help is good.

This goes in two directions at once. It is okay to ask for help, and it's also okay for you to throw yourself into the thick of things to help your employees out. Humility goes a long way. People will accept, cherish, and appreciate a leader who can admit they don't have everything figured out and a leader who isn't afraid to look like just another member of the team.

Avoidance is bad.

A leader who cannot deal with problems from the beginning will struggle to earn the respect of his or her people. Avoidance of a problem will only lead to more problems. Your employees will resent you, and your business will suffer.

Appreciation is good.

People everywhere respond well to positive reinforcement. And if you fail to show your employees the recognition they deserve, you will pay for it with a bad culture and a high turnover rate. You should never be above telling your staff how good they are at their jobs.

Superiority is bad.

The quickest way to become a horrible leader is to act like you are worth more than your staff. At the end of the day, you put your pants on one leg at a time... just like everyone else does. If you want your staff to respect you and look up to you as a leader, bring your ego back down to their level – because mentally and physically, you are there already.



People like to give technology a bad rap, saying that it keeps people from what really matters—like eye contact and fresh air. However, despite the negative consequences of too much technology, society has still benefited from the power of advanced capabilities. Here are 4 of those benefits that technology provides us.

“Technology must be like oxygen: ubiquitous, necessary and invisible”

Easy Money

Transferring money, budgeting, and purchasing goods has never been easier. Developers have released a slew of apps dedicated to transferring money between friends, coworkers, and family members, making it incredibly less awkward to go to lunch together or to pick up coffee for everyone in the office. Budgeting is simpler, too. Manage your bank account, credit cards, and personal finances with just a few clicks of the mouse. Know where your money is (and is not) and know exactly where you are for the month, the day, all the way down to the minute. Then, turn around and use this budgeting to purchase goods from just about anywhere in the world. Experience things that never could have been experienced before, and stretch your dollar further than you ever thought you could.



Easy Conversations

From phone calls and emailing to texting and video chatting, it is no big deal for the family to gather around the laptop to say goodnight to your parents who live on the other side of the country. Thanks to advanced communication technologies, a whole lot of other things are also “no big deal”—like remote employees, long distance relationships, and intercontinental business meetings.

Easy Traveling

Do you remember what it was like to book a hotel pre-Google? Or to find directions pre-MapQuest? For most people, this is a memory they do not necessarily want to recall. Technology has certainly made traveling a less stressful experience. Compare over a hundred hotel rates on one screen and quickly reroute yourself to account for traffic, freeways, and available gas stations and drive-thru's.



Easy Updates

Interested in knowing what is going on in the world? Technology has made the process of staying up-to-date with the world incredibly easy. Read about it, listen to it, or watch it; the choice is yours. Most popular news outlets maintain a TV channel, live web streaming, and an online written publication, allowing anyone from anywhere to stay fully up to date, throughout the day, minute-by-minute from the kitchen to the car, into the cubical, at the store, and back to the kitchen.



DOG DAY MAD LIBS

Have some fun with our Dog Day Mad Libs. Work with a co-worker or friend and ask them to select a word for each of the speech below. Then, use the word to fill in the blank on the story below.

Body Part: _____ Amusement Park: _____ Emotion: _____
 Article of Clothing: _____ Restaurant: _____ Relative: _____
 Famous Celebrity: _____ Color: _____ Location/Place: _____

Jill was having a really bad day! During lunch, Jill's toddler stuck their _____ (body part) in Jill's soup. Next, Jill left the house, forgetting to put on her _____ (article of clothing). When she got to work, Jill discovered her email was hacked and was sending hundred of messages to _____ (famous celebrity) claiming to have free tickets to _____ (amusement park). During lunch, Jill left her work laptop at _____ (restaurant) and wasn't able to get it back. When she went to her car at the end of the work day, Jill noticed her car was sprayed with _____ (color) glitter. Jill was not having a great day, but then she remembered it was National Dog Day and she became very _____ (emotion). This month always reminded her of her _____ (relative) who always told her to keep her computer cords hidden from the dog or he will be taken to _____ (place) forever.

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