

Southern Districts Computer Users Club Inc

Supporting inexperienced users with local expertise



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Club Web Site <http://sdcuci.com>

Email Address: sdcucinc@gmail.com

MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm, in the Hall at the rear of
St Mary's Catholic Church
Morphett Vale.
(Corner Bains Rd and Main South Rd)

Visitors most welcome.

After three visits, visitors will be requested to become members.

Cost \$3 per person, which includes the Newsletter, plus coffee/tea and biscuits.

Subscriptions for twelve months
Single \$20.

Family membership
\$30.

Novice and experienced computer users will be warmly welcomed



The Yardbroom Report February 2018



The new year has started the way we would like it start – and continue. A very successful and interesting presentation by Cheryl on Movie Maker, followed by a new innovation for the club, a workshop on the same subject.

Cheryl's presentation must have piqued some interest because there was an immediate response to the follow up workshop the next week.

This purpose of the workshop was to enable our members to further explore the features of the free Microsoft software called Movie Maker. MM appears fairly basic but with a bit of knowledge, patience and creative understanding it can really produce top quality movies and slide shows – that is what the attendees of the workshop found out.

Feedback from the attendees indicate that further workshops on suitable subjects will be well received. If you would like to suggest a suitable subject for a presentation and workshop please let any of our committee members know.

Have a great night.

Bad High Memory Usage vs. Good High Memory Usage

Is Windows, Linux, Android, or another operating system using a lot of RAM? Don't panic! Modern operating systems use RAM as a file cache to speed things up. Assuming your computer is performing well, there's nothing to worry about. While it may seem counterintuitive to those of us who remember our computers always being starved for RAM, high RAM usage means your RAM is being put to good use. Empty RAM is wasted RAM.

First of all, high memory usage isn't always a good thing. If your computer seems very slow, then high random access memory (RAM) usage is not a good thing. If your RAM is full, your computer is slow, and its hard drive light is constantly blinking, your computer is swapping to disk. This is a sign that your computer is using your hard disk, which is much slower to access, as an "overflow" for your memory. If this is occurring, it's a clear sign that your computer needs more RAM – or that you need to use less memory-hungry programs. This is definitely a bad thing. However, there's a clear difference between this case, where your computer isn't performing well, and the more common case where your computer seems to be performing just fine, but there's an alarming amount of RAM being used with few programs open.

Disk Caching

Install Windows XP on a computer and you'll probably see it using several hundred megabytes of memory when the system is idle. Install Windows 7 on that same computer and you'll likely see Windows 7 using several gigabytes of memory in the same situation.

So what's going on? Is Windows XP just a lighter, faster operating system? Are modern operating systems bloated and wasteful with memory? Not quite.

RAM is more plentiful than it was when Windows XP was the shiny new operating system, and modern operating systems take advantage of it. Modern operating systems use your computer's RAM as a cache for frequently accessed files and program data. In Windows, this feature is known as SuperFetch, which was introduced in Windows Vista. SuperFetch watches the applications you use and loads commonly-used application files and libraries into your computer's RAM before you need them. When you launch an application, Windows loads the application's files from your RAM instead of reading them from disk, which is a slow process. This speeds up application launching and generally makes your computer faster and more responsive.

This doesn't just apply to Windows. Linux users will also notice that their computer is using a seemingly alarming amount of memory for caching files from your disk, and new Linux users may be concerned when they notice this. Many resource-usage-monitoring programs, such as GNOME System Monitor, hide the memory used by the cache from the user so that users won't have to understand this or be concerned.

Bad High Memory Usage vs. Good High Memory Usage

Browsers and Other Software

The same applies for browsers and other software applications with their own caches. For example, if you notice a web browser like Mozilla Firefox using a large amount of RAM, that's not necessarily a bad thing. If you have a lot of RAM in your computer, it's good that Firefox is using it. By caching web pages you've visited in your RAM, Firefox can speed up web page load times, making using the Back and Forward buttons much faster. For this reason, Firefox automatically determines the ideal cache size based on the amount of RAM in your computer.

Firefox itself may have historically had memory leaks and other problems, but the concept is the same. It doesn't make sense for Mozilla to get Firefox's RAM usage down to the 50 megabytes because modern computers have a lot of RAM Firefox can use to speed up web browsing.

The same applies for other software. Programs with high memory usage may be making good use of your RAM, not wasting it.

Why Empty RAM is Useless

You may be thinking that using RAM as a cache is great, but you don't want these program files and other data taking up your RAM. You'd rather have empty RAM available so that programs will launch instantly and the memory will be used for what you think is best, not what your operating system and programs think is best.

However, this isn't a concern at all. Whether your RAM is full of cached files or completely empty, it's all available for programs that really need it. Cached data in your RAM is marked as low-priority, and it's instantly discarded as soon as the memory is needed for something else.

Because this data can be instantly discarded when necessary, there's no disadvantage to using the RAM for cache. (The one potential disadvantage is users who don't understand what's going on becoming confused.)

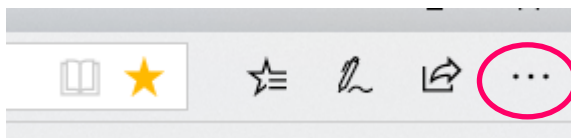
Empty RAM is useless. It's not any faster for the computer to write data to empty RAM, nor does empty RAM use less power. In fact, assuming you're launching a program that may already be present in your RAM's file cache, programs will load much faster when your RAM is used rather than when it's empty.

This is why using a task killer on Android is a bad idea, and it's also why you shouldn't be too concerned if your computer is filling up your RAM. It's also one of the reasons why Windows XP isn't the ideal operating system for today's hardware – while XP's RAM usage may be much lower than Windows 7's, that's not necessarily a good thing if you have a modern computer with a decent amount of RAM.

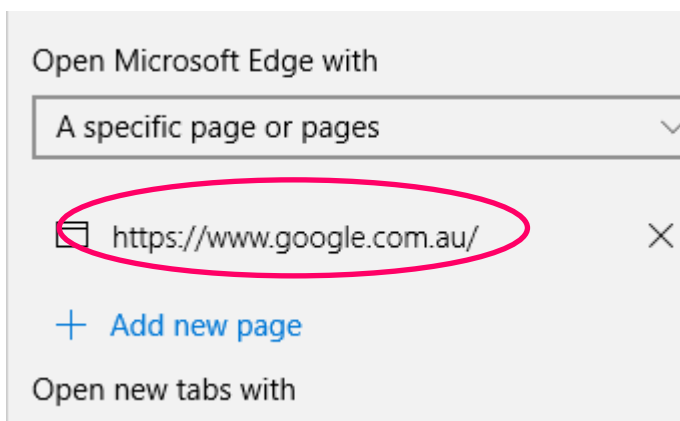
How to Set Homepage on Edge Browser -

Here's how to set it up.

1. . Open Edge.
2. Tap the three-dot menu button on the top right.
3. Select Settings.
4. Check the box for “A Specific Page Or Pages” under the Open With section. ...
5. Click the down arrow at the end of the drop down menu.
6. Pick Custom. ...
7. Enter the URL of the page you wish to add.

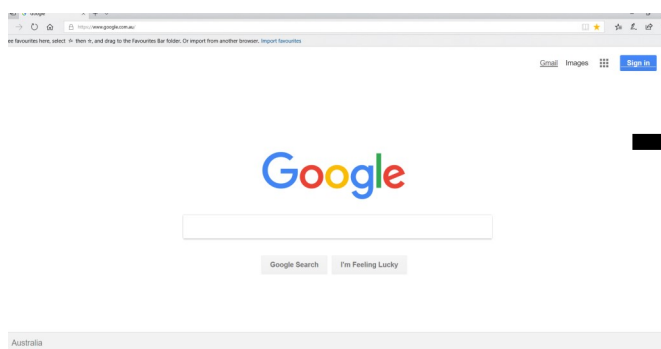


→ Step 2



→ Step 3

→ Step 4



→ My Home Page in Edge

Disclaimer: The information contained herein is of a general nature. Always do your own research and seek advice before proceeding on information you don't understand.

Windows 10 God mode

Are you a power user who wants access to your PC's nitty gritty?

Then "God mode" is for you. Here's how to access it:

Right-click on the desktop > New > Folder.

Re-name the new folder with this bit of code:

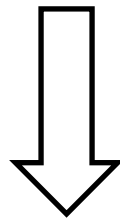
GodMode.{ED7BA470-8E54-465E-825C-99712043E01C}

To enter the "God Mode" window, double-click the folder..

Use this facility with caution !

Below are just a few of the many

commands in God mode.



System (23)

- Adjust the appearance and performance of Windows
- Allow remote access to your computer
- Allow Remote Assistance invitations to be sent from this computer
- Change workgroup name
- Check processor speed
- Configure advanced user profile properties
- Create a recovery drive
- Create a restore point
- Edit environment variables for your account
- Edit the system environment variables
- How to change the size of virtual memory

Administrative Tools (12)

- Create and format hard disk partitions
- Defragment and optimize your drives
- Diagnose your computer's memory problems
- Edit group policy
- Free up disk space by deleting unnecessary files
- Manage computer certificates
- Schedule tasks
- Set up iSCSI initiator
- Set up ODBC data sources (32-bit)
- Set up ODBC data sources (64-bit)
- View event logs
- View local services

WHY RADIO AMATEURS ARE CALLED "HAMS"



Have you ever wondered why radio amateurs are called "HAMS?" Well, it goes like this: The word "HAM" as applied to 1908 was the station CALL of the first amateur wireless stations operated by some amateurs of the Harvard Radio Club. They were ALBERTS **HYMAN**, BOB **ALMY**, and POOGIE **MURRAY**.

At first they called their station "HYMAN-ALMY-MURRAY". Tapping out such a long name in code soon became tiresome and called for a revision. They changed it to "HY-AL-MU," using the first two letters of each of their names. Early in 1901 some confusion resulted between signals from amateur wireless station "HYALMU" and a Mexican ship named "HYALMO." They then decided to use only the first letter of each name, and the station CALL became "HAM."

In the early pioneer days of unregulated radio amateur operators picked their own frequency and call-letters. Then, as now, some amateurs had better signals than commercial stations. The resulting interference came to the attention of congressional committees in Washington and Congress gave much time to proposed legislation designed to critically limit amateur radio activity. In 1911 ALBERT HYMAN chose the controversial WIRELESS REGULATION BILL as the topic for his Thesis at Harvard. His instructor insisted that a copy be sent to Senator DAVID I. WALSH, a member of one of the committees hearing the Bill. The Senator was so impressed with the thesis is that he asked HYMAN to appear before the committee. ALBERT HYMAN took the stand and described how the little station was built and almost cried when he told the crowded committee room that if the BILL went through that they would have to close down the station because they could not afford the license fees and all the other requirements which the BILL imposed on amateur stations.

Congressional debate began on the WIRELESS REGULATION BILL and little station "HAM" became the symbol for all the little amateur stations in the country crying to be saved from the menace and greed of the big commercial stations who didn't want them around. The BILL finally got to the floor of Congress and every speaker talked about the "...poor little station HAM." That's how it all started. You will find the whole story in the Congressional Record.

Nation-wide publicity associated station ""HAM" with amateur radio operators. From that day to this, and probably until the end of time in radio an amateur is a **"HAM."**

BeConnected

“BeConnected” is a recent government initiative to assist older citizens seeking digital knowledge and is the successor to their now finished **“Seniors on Line”** initiative

“Seniors on Line” was available to seniors who were prepared to access this government program to assist in advancing their computer knowledge. This would include things like computer basics, Word PowerPoint, emailing, web browsing etc etc. Participants would visit a local **“Seniors on Line”** hub location to access the tuition.

“Seniors on Line” is now closed but this new program, **“BeConnected”** is available to continue where **“Seniors on Line”** left off. Now, all the tuition is done on-line, direct from the participants computer, tablet or smart phone to the **“BeConnected”** web site.

The easiest way to access this site is by using “Google” and searching for **“BeConnected”**. (no quotes). Alternately one can type into the URL bar: www.beconnected.esafety.gov.au.

Once connected and your user account created (i.e. username, email address and password) then one has access to the tutorial modules.

These include the essentials:

“Get to know your device”: “Getting Started online”: “Safety First”: “More online skills” and “Connecting with others”.

Other tutorial topics due for release soon include: “Managing your data”: “Researching your Family History”: “Going missing gone” .(i.e. how to sell items on line) .

Southern Districts Computer Users Club has become a Network partner to “BeConnected”.

The BeConnected Network is part of the general BeConnected initiative but provides local input to participants seeking additional input to their tutorial.

This means that the general community has access to call on SDCUCI for advice and assistance. We hope this will ultimately direct people to become members of the club ,but not become too arduous for our nominated people.

Pamphlets and other information will be available at the conclusion of the meeting.

Windows 7 games for Windows 10

Windows 7 had a set of nice, beautiful games including the classic card games with new shiny graphics and some great new games from Vista like Chess Titans, Mah-jong Titans and Purple Place. For some reason, Microsoft decided to discontinue these games and offers bloated Modern games from the Store instead. For fans of the original Windows 7 games, here is a simple tutorial to revive them on Windows 10.

To get all **games from Windows 7 working in Windows 10**, you need to do the following:
<https://winaero.com/blog/get-windows-7-games-for-windows-10/>



Get the ZIP archive with Games from the following link: **Download Windows 7 Games for Windows 10, Windows 8 and Windows 8.1.**
Unpack and execute the **Win7GamesForWin10-Setup.exe** file.

From The Editor

As an alternative I have unzipped the file. File size is 150.203 kb

Contact me and I will email it to you parakylia@hotmail.com

Did You Know

The International Space Station is whizzing around the Earth at a speed of approximately 17,200 miles per hour (27,600 kilometres per hour) and, as a result, astronauts on board experience 16 sunrises and 16 sunsets per day as their travel speed zips them around the globe once every 90 minutes or so.

Foolish Tech Predictions



T. Craven,

FCC Commissioner 1961

"There is practically no chance communications space satellites will be used to provide better telephone, telegraph, television, or radio service inside the United States."

Among the companies that would later disagree: DirecTV, DISH Network, Sirius Satellite Radio, and XM Satellite Radio. The FCC is the federal regulatory honcho for radio, television, wire, satellite, and cable communications, though its Web site does say its "jurisdiction covers the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. possessions." Technically, space wasn't part of Craven's charter.



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Windows 10 Tip

Skip the Password Login

Are you the only person who ever—and I mean ever—uses your PC? Then you can probably **skip the password login screen** that appears after every reboot or sometimes even when you come back from the screensaver. To do that, go to the User Accounts control panel by typing "netplwiz" in the search bar.

Select the account, uncheck the box next to "Users must enter a user name and password to use this computer. You'll get a confirmation box that asks you to enter that very password—twice. Click okay when done. Reboot the PC and if it works, it should roll smoothly into the desktop without requesting a password. Don't do this if it's shared PC. And you'll still need to know the password if you're logging into the PC remotely.

(Q) Why did the computer show up at work late?

(A): It had a hard drive

Why are there bumps on the F and J keyboard keys?



The small bumps or ridges found on the F and J keys on a computer keyboard are to help users correctly position their left and right hands without having to look at the keyboard. For example, without looking at your hands, you can feel the correct position of your left index finger on the F and the right index finger on the J by feeling the small bumps on the keys. Once your hands are on the **home row key** position, you should be able to locate the remainder of the keys on the keyboard. Tip: The number 5 on keyboards with a **numeric keypad** also has a bump to help position your hand on the key pad.

Tonight's Topic
Trevor Francis and Lindsay Chuck
CHROMECAST OF SMART PHONE APPS

—

[illegible]

MEETING RULES

We are allowed to use the facilities at the Hall at the rear of St Mary's Catholic Church Morphett Vale. (Corner Bains Road and Main South Road) in return of a small fee plus respect for their property. We ask for your co-operation in respect to the above. While we can not control what our members do away from our club meetings, Piracy of copyright material can not be condoned at our meetings.

IT & COMPUTERS

Shop 6, 76 Beach Road
Christies Beach 8186 2736

(Same block as Woolies on Beach Road)

Contact: Jamie or Ash

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and after sales service?

New Computers

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