TBCS
Tampa Bay Computer Society

Why I recommend a Chromebook

Stew Bottorf, Tampa Bay Computer Society

2016 Tech News

NPD: Chromebooks outsell Windows laptops

For businesses, tablets are on the decline and laptops are rising once again. And Chromebooks aren't just for consumers looking for cheap laptops.

Falling PC sales: From bad to worse

Sunday, 24 April 2016, 4:06 pm
Article: Digitl

Global PC sales were down 9.6 percent year-on-year during the first quarter of 2016 according to Gartner. Total sales for the quarter were a shade under 65 million. This was the first quarter with less than 65 million units sold since 2007. In contrast, sales in the same quarter of 2013 were a little over 76 million.

Your next corporate computer might be a Chromebook

If you're a System Administrator, an IT decision maker, or a C-level executive, you need to give the humble Chromebook some real consideration as the new corporate workstation standard.

By Ken Hess for Consumerization: BYOD | March 18, 2014 -- 12:00 GMT (05:00 PDT) | Topic: Mobility

2016 Tech News

MENU FORTUNE SUBSCRIBE

NEWS | POPULAR | VIDEOS | FORTUNE 500

- Why Google Is Winning the Race for American Schools DECEMBER 10, 2015
- It Looks Like America's CEOs Got a Bump in Pay Last Year 1:53 PM EDT
- Everyone Loses In Uber's $100 Million Payout, Except the Lawyers 1:53 PM EDT
- Bitcoin Exchange Bitstamp Wins EU Approval 1:50 PM EDT
- This Billionaire Activist Wants

Why Google Is Winning the Race for American Schools

by Kif Leswing @kifleswing DECEMBER 10, 2015, 2:25 PM EDT

BE CHROME READY

Chromebooks in Education & Organizations

Google Chromebooks have revolutionized the way schools and organizations create, collaborate and communicate with easily-deployable, secure technology that allows accessibility from anywhere.

Getting prepared might be tricky, so we'll help you get equipped.

chromebook

WHY CHROMEBOOKS?

Designed for users functioning in a mobile and interactive environment, Google Chromebo give you access to all the rich resources of the web. Unlike traditional notebooks, Chromebooks are engineered to store files and documents on the web, enabling faster bo times, lightning speed web browsing, instant updates and automatically backed up files.

Without the massive internal hard drive, Chromebooks not only deliver extended battery but will help safeguard your most important of files. These devices feature built-in virus

OME » CLASSROOM

CT 23 2015

CLASSROOM

Google Education Gains Momentum: 50M App Users, 10M Chromebook Users

Chromebooks and Google Apps are on a winning streak within

CONNECT IT

OUR EXPERT BLOG SERIES HELPS BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY

ADVERTISEMENT

Latest Articles

Chrome OS hardware:

- Chromebook
- Chromebox
- Chromebase
- Chromebit

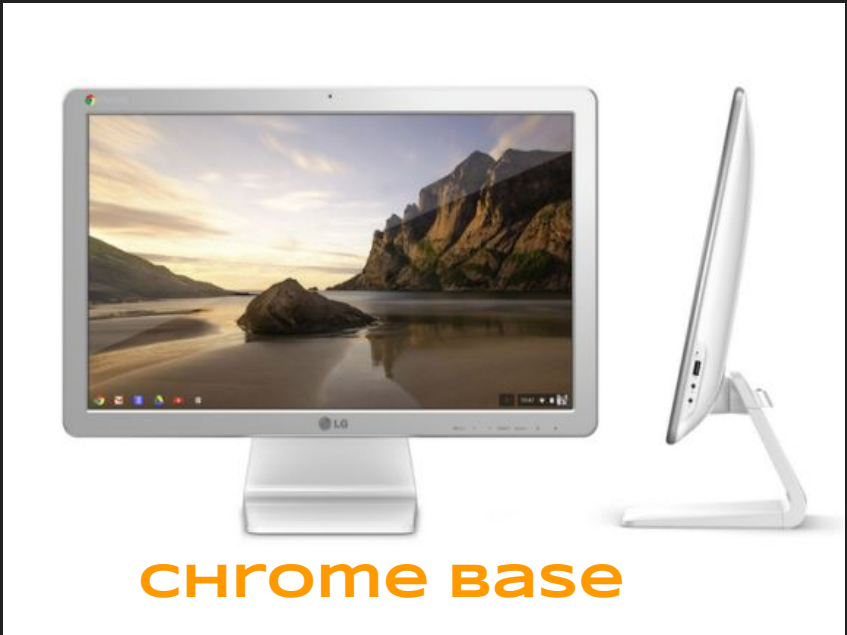
The classic Chromebook

Made by most all hardware makers

$150 > $400

$1500

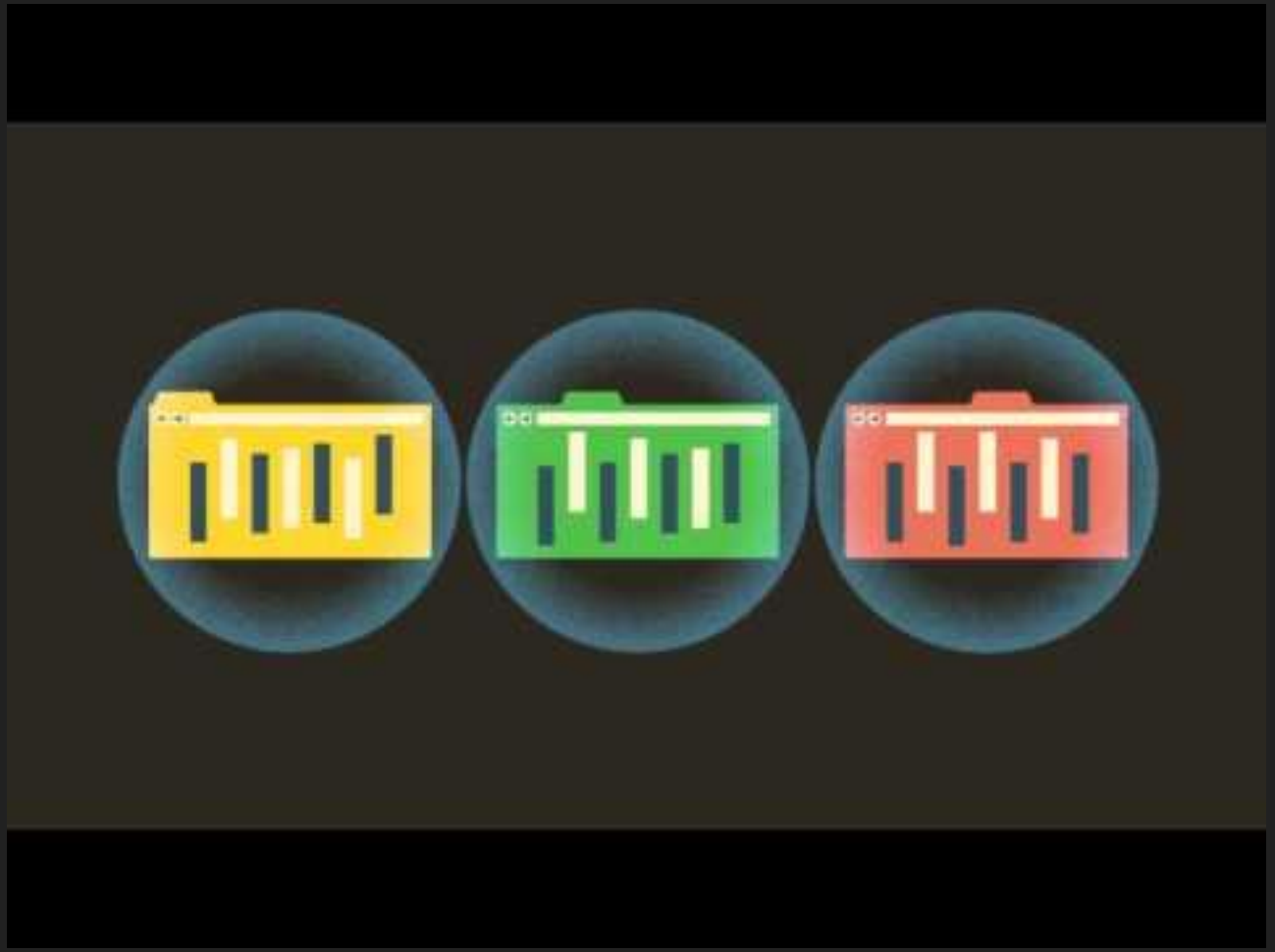
Chromebox / Chromebase



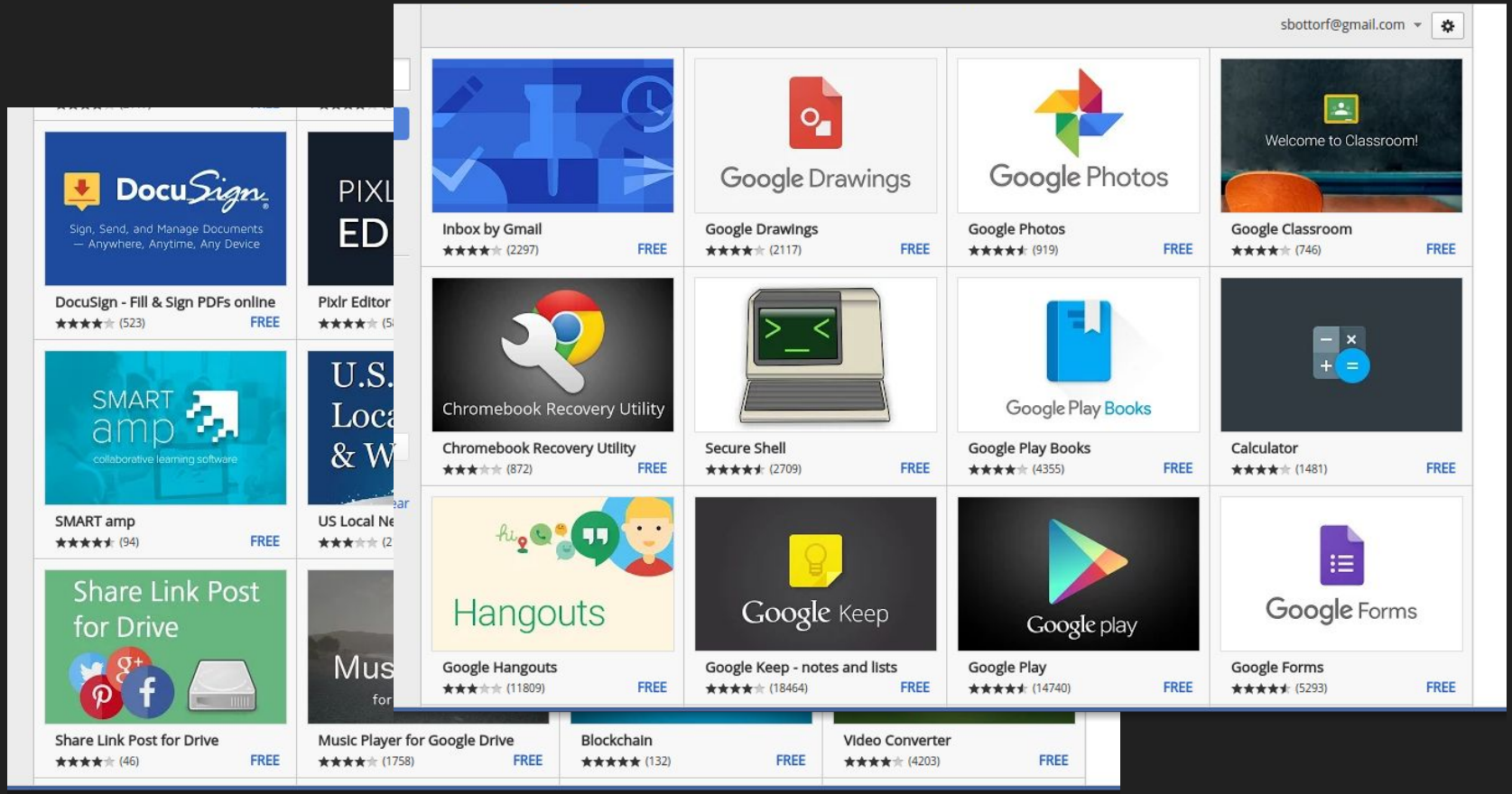
Chromebit

Chrome OS advantages:

- stateless operating system
- low purchase cost
- fast boot speed
- extended battery life
- automatic updates
- no antivirus software



APPS @ Chrome Webstore



Google Cloud Storage

15 GB
Online storage

(space may be used to store anything)

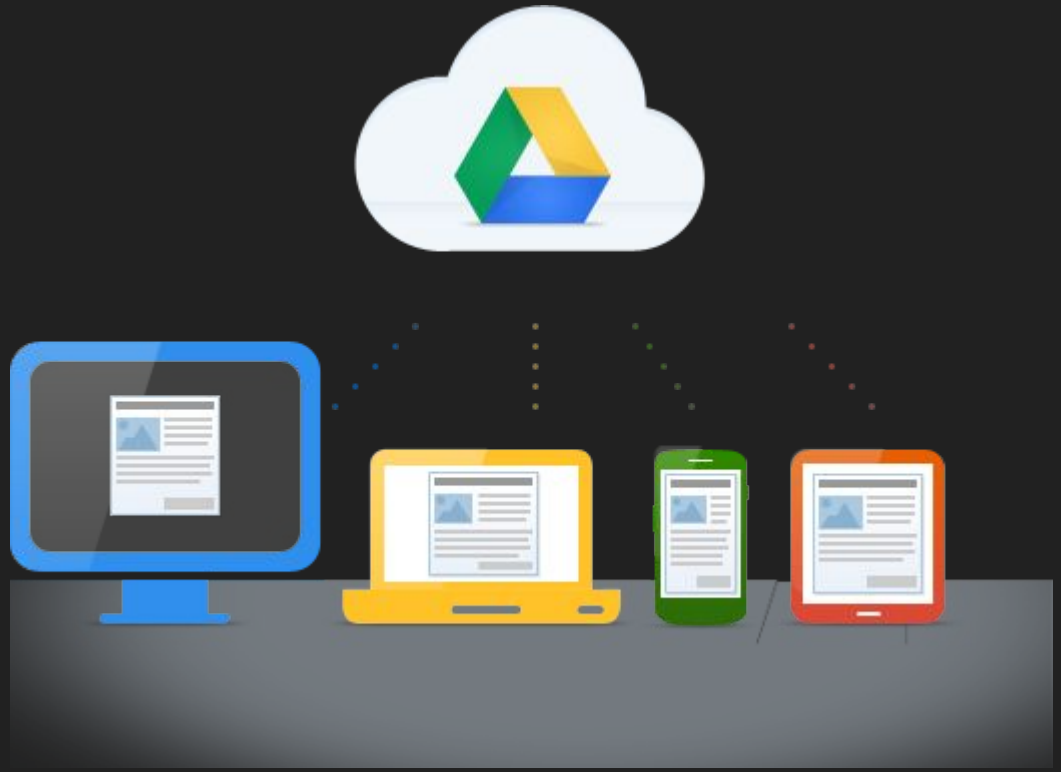
pre-configured with three sharing options (view, comment. edit)

Google Drive

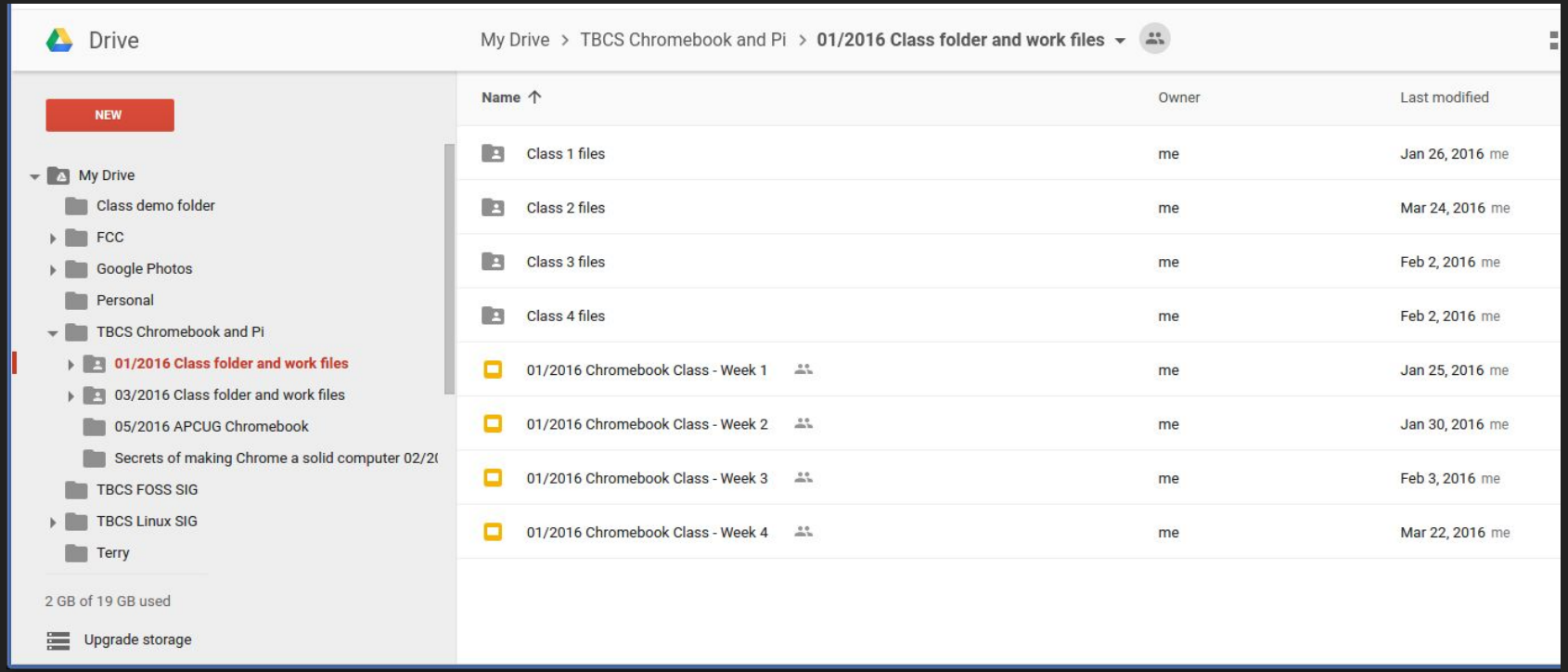
DOCs: Word Processor
Sheets: Spreadsheets
Slides: Presentations

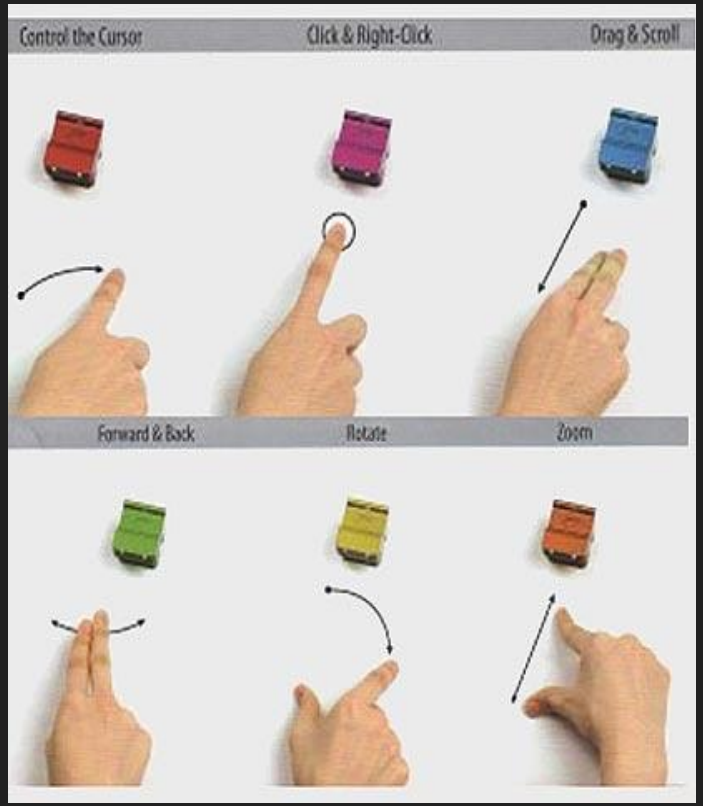
Saves in its own format
Download in MS format
or as PDF files
Import MS Office files

Files created with Google Drive do not count against your 15GB of online storage

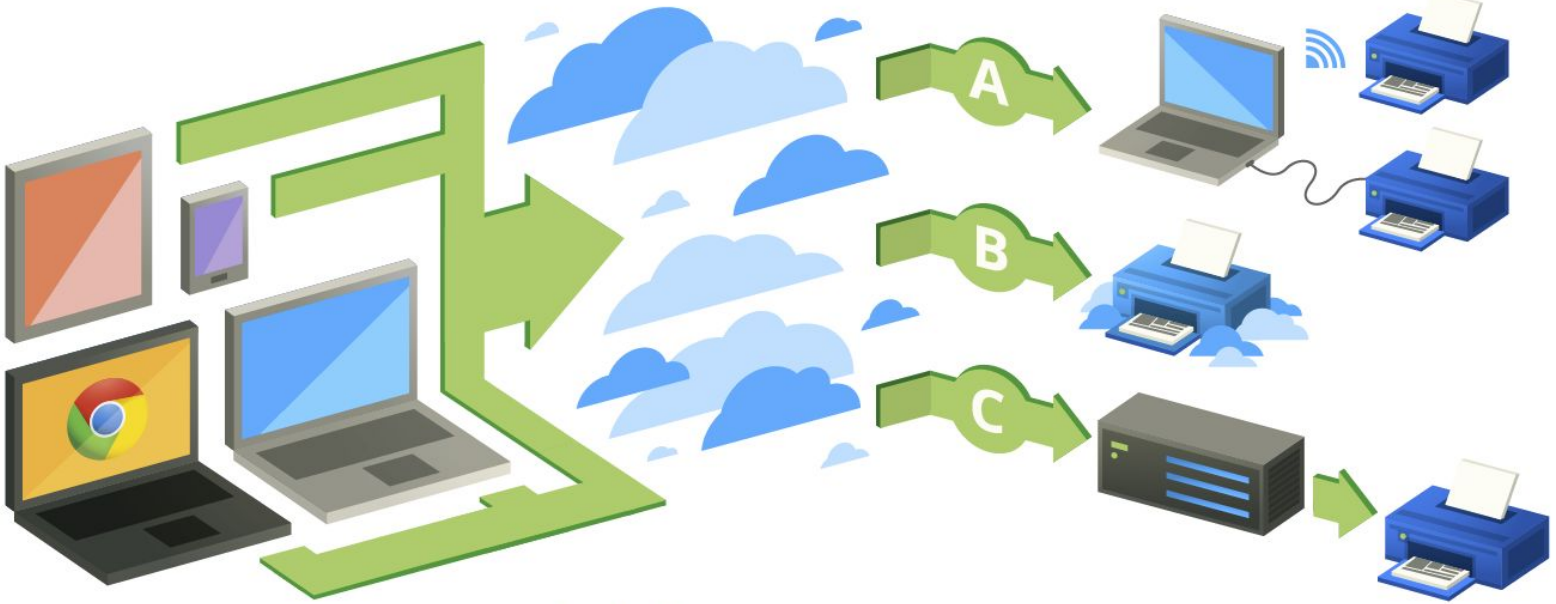


Google Drive File manager





Personally I use a mouse over the gesture pad



Google Cloud Print

In two recent Chromebook classes we installed some basic apps from the Chrome Store:

GMail Offline (edit offline, then sync online)

Google Calendar (edit offline, then sync online)

COG (a simple system hardware viewer)

We successfully used:
Google Voice Recognition in Google Docs

Remember Voice Recognition is different than Google Voice (phone) or Google Talk (messaging)

(For personal security I normally keep the mike off and never control the Chromebook or search via voice).

At another session we concentrated on Google Drive:

Google Docs: create and edit a document

Google Sheets: create and edit a simple spreadsheet

Google Slides: create and edit a presentation

imported Microsoft Office files

exported Google files as Microsoft Office or PDF files

demoed Google Drive Sharing (view, comment. edit)

added 2GB Dropbox storage

added uBlock Origin to improve browser page loading

added Chrome Remote Access

suggested: XMarks and LastPass

Setup and demoed Google Cloud Printing to a Windows computer with a legacy parallel-port HP Laser Printer.

Chromebook's Special Keys

Keyboard Shortcuts

CTL + alt + ?

will give you a pop-up box listing all keyboard shortcuts.

https://support.google.com/chromebook/answer/1047364?hl=en

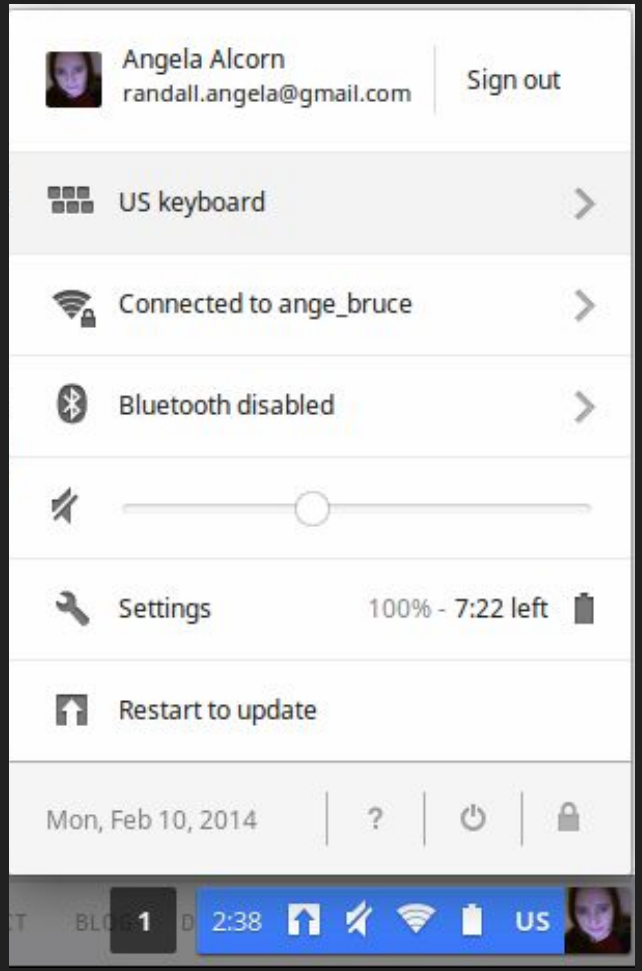
No native Chrome app. Skype has issues with some Chromebook audio hardware using two different Android tweaks (ARC).

Google Hangouts gives superior results but requires a Google Plus account.

Unfortunately, at this time Zoom does not support Chromebooks.

What's in the Chromebook tray?

1. notifications
2. network connection
3. bluetooth
4. video monitor (mirror / extend)
5. audio volume
6. settings
7. battery health
8. time / calendar
9. picture / sign out
10. help (?)
11. updates are ready to install
12. shutdown
13. lock



What can I do if something goes wrong?

- reset

- power wash
  - this option removes all personal data from Chromebook
  - use power wash before selling a Chromebook

- format and recovery
  - identify and download a new ChromeOS

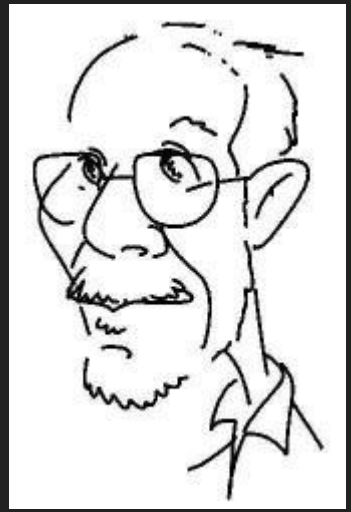
ChromeOS look-a-likes:

- Chromium OS
  - Neverware CloudReady
  - Nayu-OS
  - Version for the Raspberry Pi
- Linux
  - ~~Chromixium~~ (CUB)
  - Gallium OS
  - Crouton

I avoid recommending Chromebooks for:

- Hard-core Mac Users
- Windows or Office Experts
- Photographers / Photoshop Users
- QuickBooks Users
- Gamers
- and maybe YOU ?

Questions ?



"Why I recommend a Chromebook"

- Presentation Share: https://goo.gl/TIvsoV
- Presentation PDF: https://goo.gl/Ij9ZnS
- A complete plan for a 4 week Chromebook Class (free: adapt for your club) https://goo.gl/SLGNIi

Stew Bottorf - sbottorf@gmail.com
Host the FOSS, Linux and Chromebook SIGs

Tampa Bay Computer Society, Clearwater, FL

TBCS Tampa Bay Computer Society

apcug An International Association of Technology & Computer User Groups