



Alan German & Chris Taylor

Ottawa PC Users' Group

June 7, 2023



Deals on storage

- Do you have any suggestions for good deals on storage
- I need
 - serious scanned photo storage (TBs)
 - USB drives for moving things

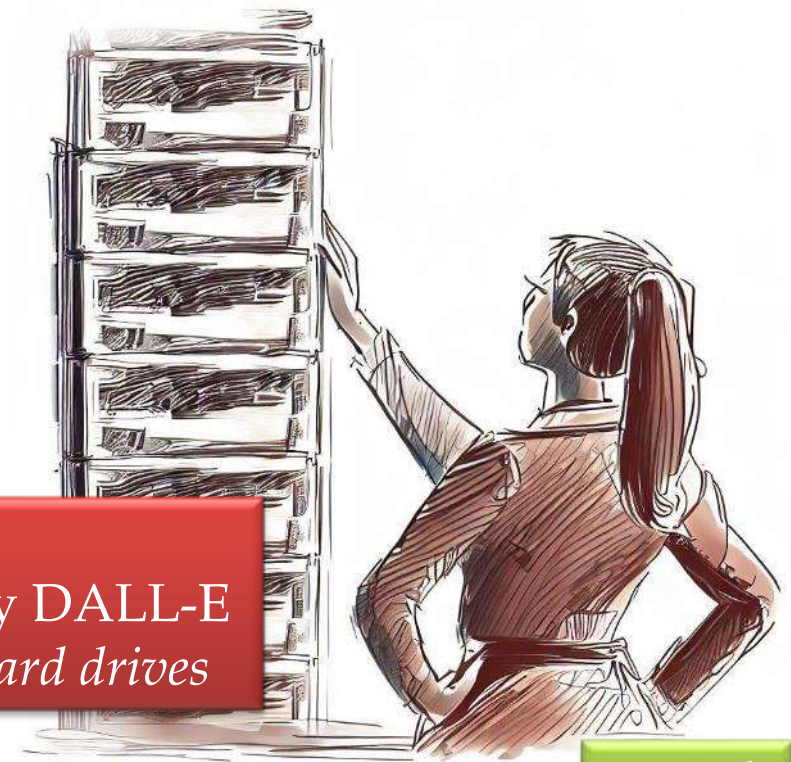
Let's talk about

- Hard Disk Drives (HDDs)
- Solid State Drives (SSDs)
- Flash drives

Very strange aside:

this drawing of a 3-armed woman was generated by DALL-E

- *sketch of a woman looking at a tall stack of external hard drives*



Bea Alt



Considerations

- Speed
 - SSDs faster than HDDs and flash drives
 - flash drives faster than HDDs
- Portability
 - this deck covers external drives
 - if portability is not required, internal drives may be best option
 - flash drives most portable
 - external SSDs next most portable
 - external portable HDDs next most portable
 - don't need separate power supply
 - external desktop HDDs next most portable
 - separate power supply, physically larger than portable drives
- Capacity
 - Max capacity varies by form factor



Typical capacity / pricing

Table is ranked by

- maximum capacity
 - largest maximum capacity at top
- cost per TB
 - lowest cost per TB at top

Form factor	Size range	Cost	Cost per TB
Desktop HDD	5TB - 20 TB	\$150 - \$600	\$30
Portable HDD	1TB - 5TB	\$70 - \$150	\$30 - \$70
SSD	500GB - 4TB	\$90 - \$400	\$100 - \$180
Flash drive	32GB - 512GB	\$10 - \$120	\$240 - \$310

Note: I concentrated on lowest prices for max & min capacity in each form factor

- there are *many* capacities/price points
 - often: sweet spot on cost/TB is in the middle of capacity for any given form factor
- pricing obtained from a *very* quick look at a couple of websites 2023-06-07



Other considerations

- Backup
 - if your information is important, have a backup strategy
 - Security
 - consider encryption for anything sensitive
 - Flash drives
 - notoriously prone to failure
 - *nothing on flash drive that doesn't exist elsewhere*
 - be **very** careful of unrealistically low-prices or high-capacities
 - many fakes (especially on eBay, Temu, Amazon, etc.)
 - Q&A 2022-01-05
 - *Fantastic flash drive prices!*
- https://opcug.ca/qa_recordings/20220105_PowerPoint.pdf



Summary

Desktop HDD

- if you don't need portability or very high speed
- biggest capacity
- lowest cost per TB



Desktop portable HDD

- if you don't need capacity over 5TB or very high speed
- if you want convenience (small size, no power brick)



SSD

- if you want really high speed and/or very small size
- if you don't need capacity over 4TB



Shop the sales

- storage always on sale!

Flash drive

- If you want really easy transfers from one device to another
- If you don't care about reliability
 - *nothing on flash drive that doesn't exist elsewhere*
- If you don't need capacity over 512GB



Share

Password Manager Login

A password manager will:

- Store unique, long, complex passwords for every website on which you have an account
- Passwords are stored securely in an encrypted database (can be – should be! – on your local device)
- One, master password to access the database
- Random password generator
- Store more than passwords (e.g. phone numbers, secret answers to security questions, attached documents or images)
- Autofill/auto-login

Linux web site list

Linux web site list

Router

[Router](#)

Search Engines

[Google!](#)

Special

[CARSP](#)
[Google Sites \(Login\)](#)
[Physicist's Notebook](#)
[Gizmos Freeware Reviews](#)
[YouTube - Explaining Computers](#)
[YouTube - Gary Explains](#)

Custom ROMs

[XDA LineageOS 17.1](#)
[MSe1969 LineageOS 17.1](#)

Linux

[OMG! Ubuntu](#)
[Linux Today](#)
[Full Circle](#)

Q&A

[Ubuntu Forums](#)
[Ask Ubuntu](#)

T100

[Linux on Asus T100](#)

Blogs

[Wordpress.com](#)
[Linux North](#)

Important web sites

[Alan and Carol's Home Page](#)
[Alan's Home Page](#)
[roadsafetyresearch.ca](#)
[rsxinternational.org](#)
[D.J. Dalmotas Consulting Inc.](#)
[Southwestern Collision Analysis](#)

Computing

[OPCUG](#)
[OPCUG Google Groups](#)
[PC Magazine](#)
[PC World](#)

Maintenance

[Toonie Hosting \(Cpanel\)](#)
[Toonie Hosting \(Members Area\)](#)
[WordPress \(OPCUG Admin\)](#)

Login to OPCUG Google Groups



Hi Alan

 alan.german@opcug.ca ▼

Enter your password

☐ Show password

[Forgot password?](#)

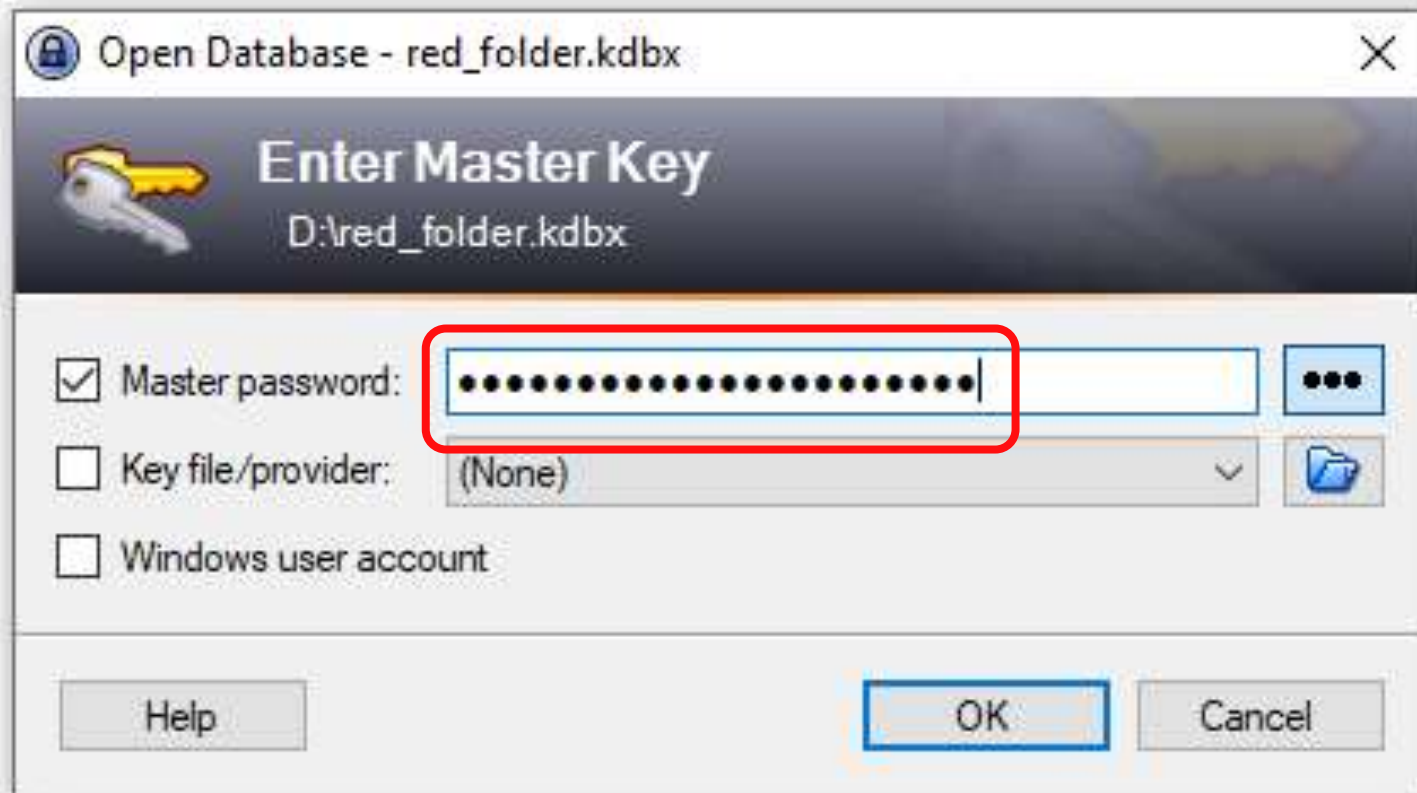
Next

English (United States) ▼

[Help](#)

[Privacy](#)

[Terms](#)



Enter the master password (or phrase)

red_folder.kdbx - KeePass

File Group Entry Find View Tools Help

Search...

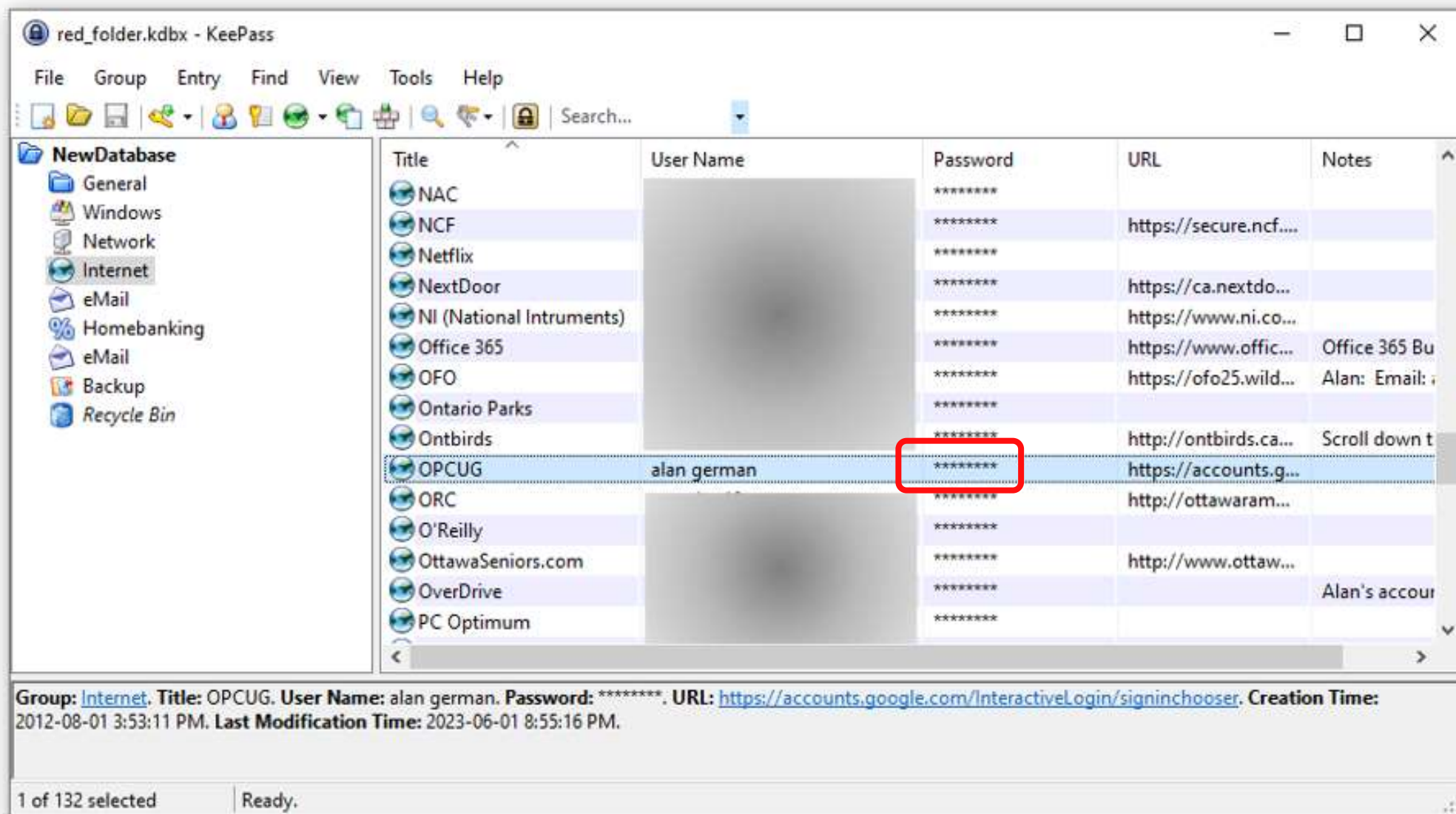
NewDatabase

- General
- Windows
- Network
- Internet
- eMail
- Homebanking
- eMail
- Backup
- Recycle Bin

Title	User Name	Password	URL	Notes
NAC		*****		
NCF		*****	https://secure.ncf...	
Netflix		*****		
NextDoor		*****	https://ca.nextdo...	
NI (National Instruments)		*****	https://www.ni.co...	
Office 365		*****	https://www.offic...	Office 365 Bu
OFO		*****	https://of025.wild...	Alan: Email: ;
Ontario Parks		*****		
Ontobirds		*****	http://ontobirds.ca...	Scroll down t
OPCUG	alan german	*****	https://accounts.g...	
ORC		*****	http://ottawarom...	
O'Reilly		*****		
OttawaSeniors.com		*****	http://www.ottaw...	
OverDrive		*****		Alan's accour
PC Optimum		*****		

Group: Internet. Title: OPCUG. User Name: alan german. Password: *****. URL: <https://accounts.google.com/InteractiveLogin/signinchooser>. Creation Time: 2012-08-01 3:53:11 PM. Last Modification Time: 2023-06-01 8:55:16 PM.

1 of 132 selected Ready.



**Double-click on
the password (Copy)**

Google

Hi Alan

 alan.german@opcug.ca ▼

Enter your password

.....|

☐ Show password

[Forgot password?](#) [Next](#)

**Single-click in the
password field (Paste)**

English (United States) ▼

[Help](#)

[Privacy](#)

[Terms](#)

File Edit View Bookmarks Tools Window Help My groups

My groups +

groups.google.com/my-groups Search DuckDuckGo

Groups

Create group

My groups

Recent groups

All groups

Public groups

Starred conversations

My groups 6 groups 1-6 of 6

	Groups	Join date	Subscription
	OPCUG-Announcements opcug-announcements@googlegroups.com Notice of upcoming meetings of the Ottawa PC Users' Group. Postings are typ...	External Jun 14, 2018	Each email
	OPCUG-BOD opcug-bod@googlegroups.com Ottawa PC Users' Group Board of Directors	External Jun 13, 2018	Each email
	OPCUG-Member-Forum opcug-member-forum@googlegroups.com We are a not-for-profit organization located in Ottawa, Ontario. Our motto is U...	External Jun 13, 2018	Each email
	OPCUG-Newsletter opcug-newsletter@googlegroups.com Joining this group will provide you with a copy (PDF file sent by E-mail) of our ...	External Jun 14, 2018	Each email
	Q&A qanda@opcug.ca An email address anyone can send to	Apr 16, 2020	Each email
	SuggestionBox suggestionbox@opcug.ca An address anyone can email to with suggestions for the BoD. Any board me...	Jan 3, 2019	Each email

Reset 100 %

Logged in !

More conventional website



Member Login

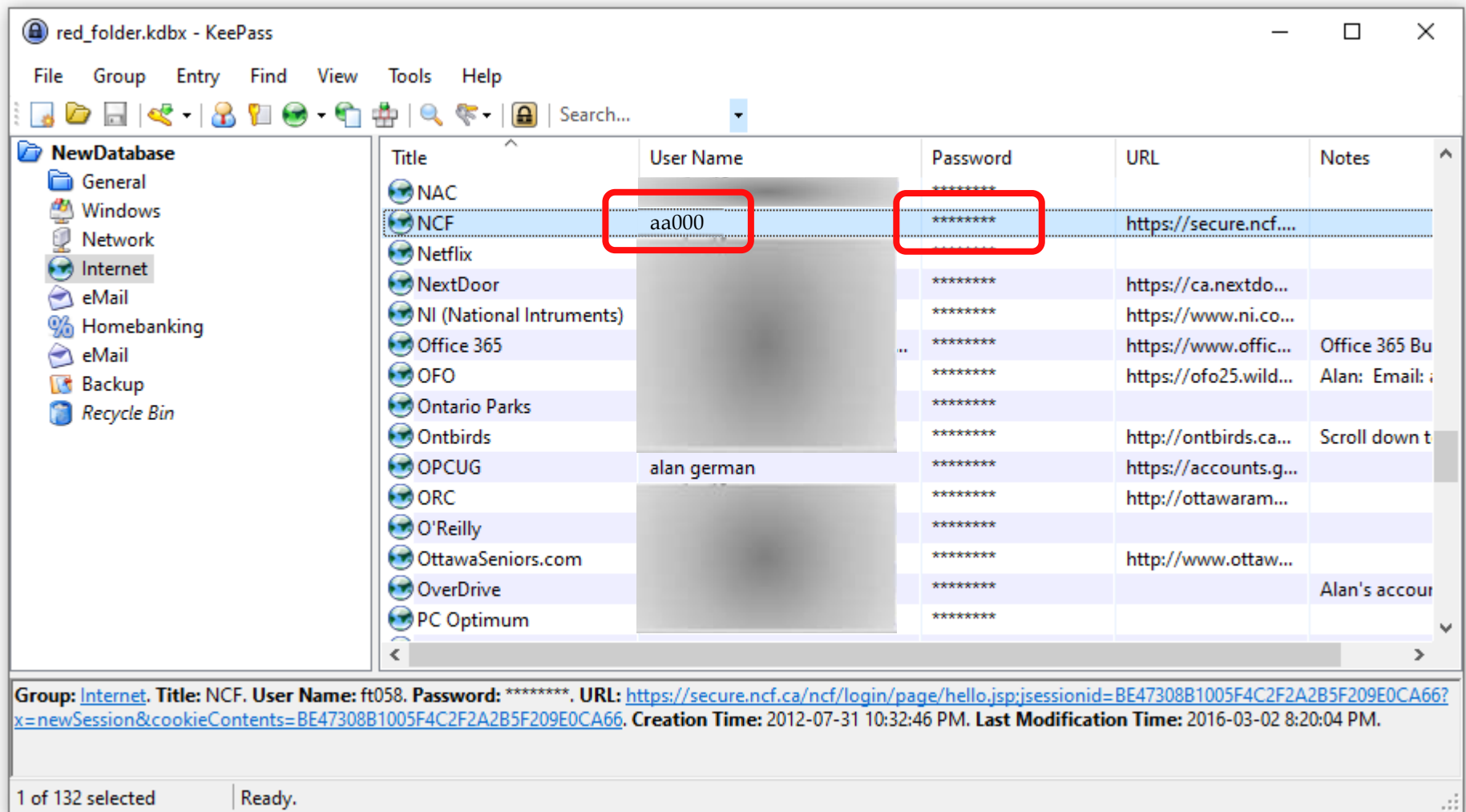
Username

Password [Forgot?](#)

☐ Remember Me

LOGIN

[NEED HELP?](#)



**Copy and paste: (1) User Name
(2) Password**



Member Login

Username

aa000

Password

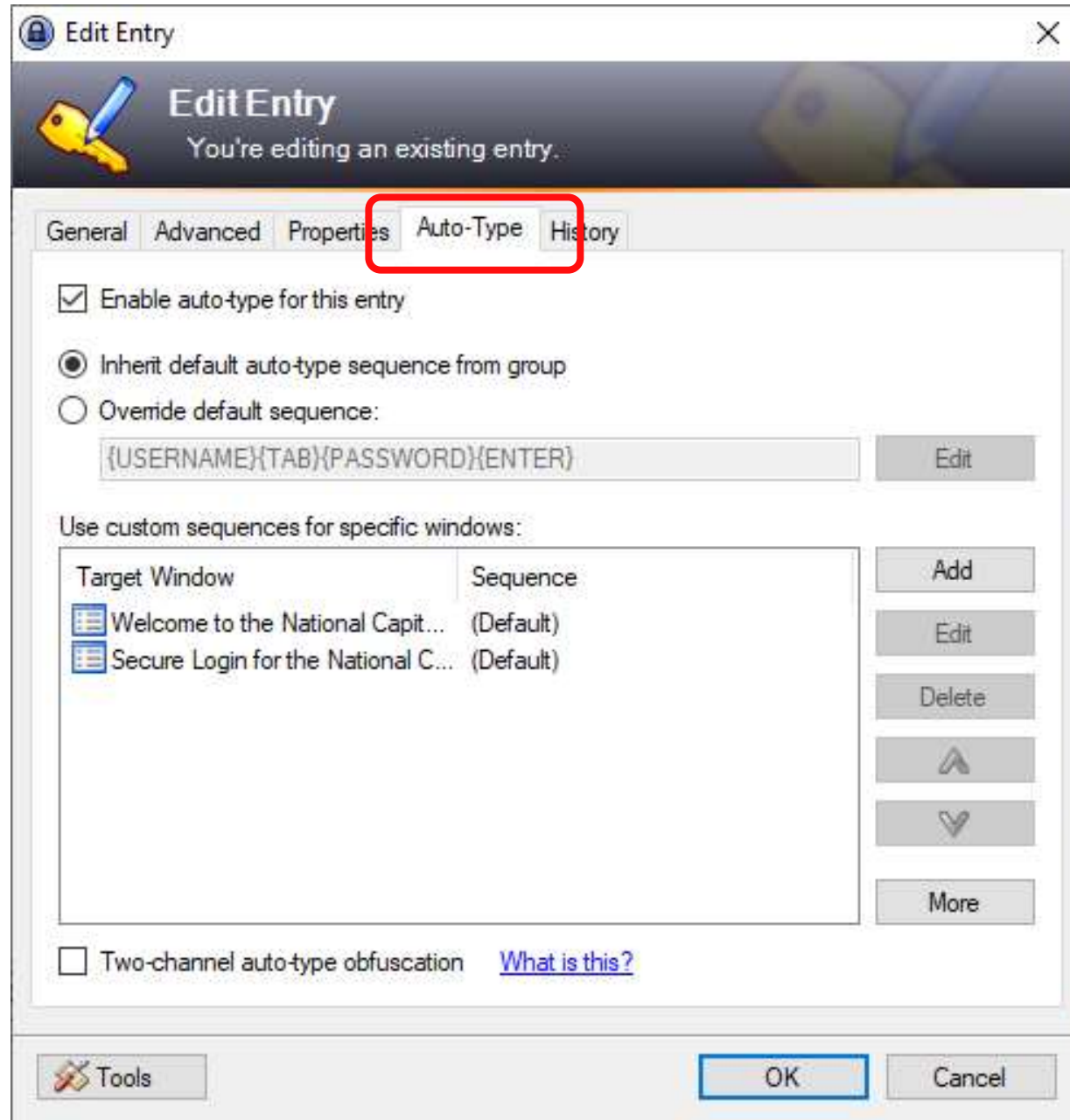
[Forgot?](#)

☐ Remember Me

LOGIN

[NEED HELP?](#)

But – there's an easier way - AutoType!



 Edit Entry





Edit Entry

You're editing an existing entry.

General

Advanced

Properties

Auto-Type

History

☒ Enable auto-type for this entry

☒ Inherit default auto-type sequence from group

☐ Override default sequence:

{USERNAME}{TAB}{PASSWORD}{ENTER}

Edit

Use custom sequences for specific windows:

Target Window	Sequence
 Welcome to the National Capit...	(Default)
 Secure Login for the National C...	(Default)

Add

Edit

Delete

Up

Down

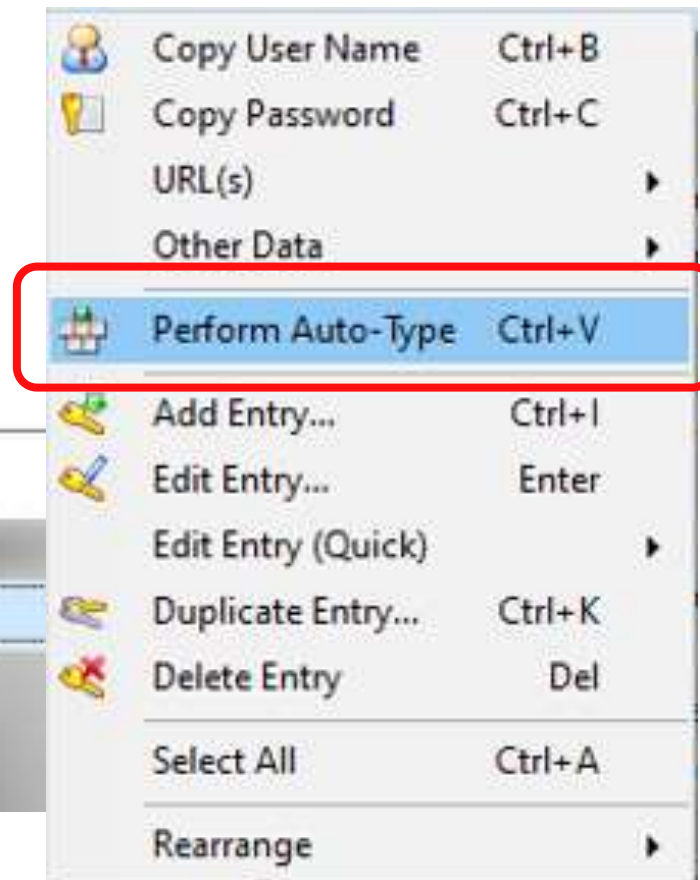
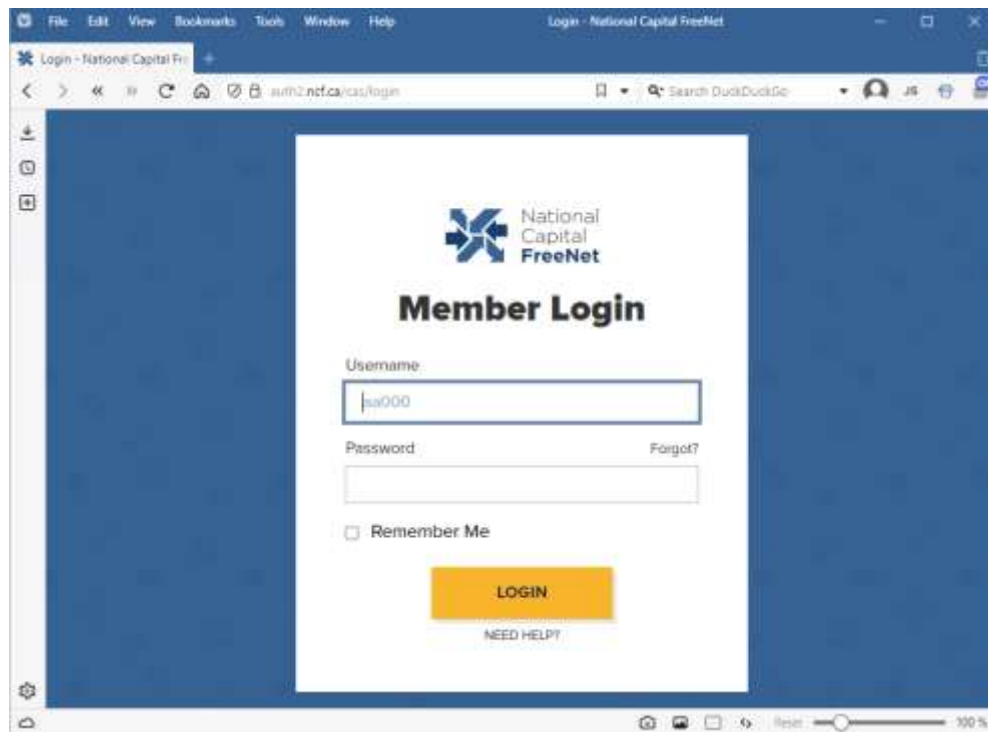
More

☐ Two-channel auto-type obfuscation [What is this?](#)

 Tools

OK

Cancel





Member Login

Username

aa000

Password

[Forgot?](#)



Autofill Username and Password

☐ Remember Me

LOGIN

[NEED HELP?](#)

FileEditViewBookmarksToolsWindowHelp

StartPage - National Capital FreeNet

StartPage - National Capital

<>«»↻🏠🔒www.ncf.ca/en/dashboard🔍Search DuckDuckGo👤JS🖨️🔌Off

⬇️🕒⊕

We have updated our COVID-19 plan, for details, visit [ncf.ca/covid19](https://www.ncf.ca/covid19).

NEWSDONATEPAYSTARTPAGELOGOUTFRANÇAIS

National
Capital
FreeNet

☰

STARTPAGEEMAIL (0)YELLOWMAIL (0)PREFERENCESGROUPS

Thu, June 01 - Ottawa: Mainly Clear, 24.7°C

Welcome Alan (Member ID:

🔍What can we he

SEARCH

ADD/CHANGE

My Web Links

Old StartPage

⚙️

MAY 23, 2023

NCF's Annual General Meeting: June 21-28

×

🌥️https://www.ncf.ca/en🖼️📄↔️Reset🔍100 %

OPCUG Google Groups

Open to Everyone

☐ Groups ↑

	OPCUG-Announcements External opcug-announcements@googlegroups.com Notice of upcoming meetings of the Ottawa PC Users' Group. Postings ...
	OPCUG-Newsletter External opcug-newsletter@googlegroups.com Joining this group will provide you with a copy (PDF file sent by E-mail) ...

Members Only

	OPCUG-Member-Forum External opcug-member-forum@googlegroups.com We are a not-for-profit organization located in Ottawa, Ontario. Our mott...
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<https://opcug.ca/google-groups-how-to/>

OPCUG Google Groups

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☐ Groups ↑

**OPCUG-Announcements** External
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Notice of upcoming meetings of the Ottawa PC Users' Group. Postings ...

**OPCUG-Newsletter** External
opcug-newsletter@googlegroups.com
Joining this group will provide you with a copy (PDF file sent by E-mail) ...

Members Only

<https://opcug.ca/join-or-renew/>

**OPCUG-Member-Forum** External
opcug-member-forum@googlegroups.com
We are a not-for-profit organization located in Ottawa, Ontario. Our mott...

<https://opcug.ca/google-groups-how-to/>

Share



- *You all should already know about*
- VirusTotal
 - great site for checking files and URLs for malicious content
 - scans using ~75 anti-malware engines
 - with latest virus signatures
 - can be accessed from a browser
 - upload files for analysis
 - submit URLs for analysis

<https://virustotal.com/>

Share

VirusTotal Mobile

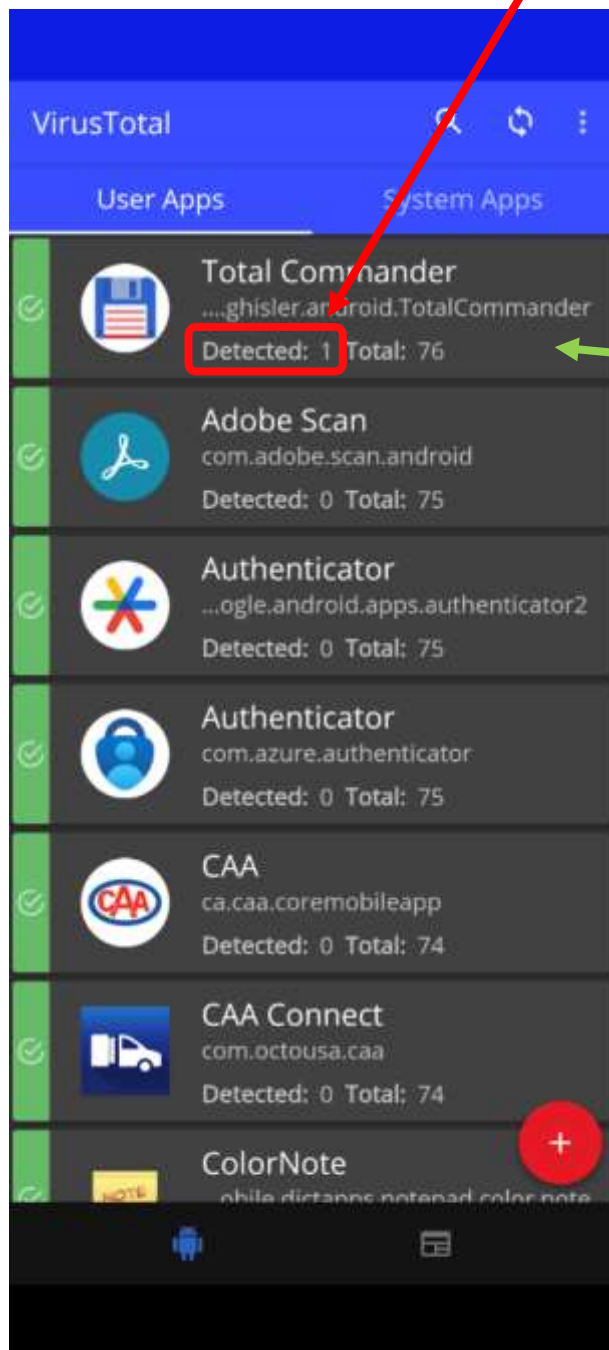


- Scans all apps on your Android phone
 - user apps
 - system apps
- Very quick and efficient
 - already knows about most apps
 - can submit unknown apps for analysis
 - can input URLs for scanning and analysis
 - can submit other files on your phone for scanning and analysis
- **No real-time protection**
 - **must be manually launched for a point-in-time analysis**

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.funnycat.virustotal&hl=en>

"Problematic" apps surfaced at top

- 1 scan engine detected a problem

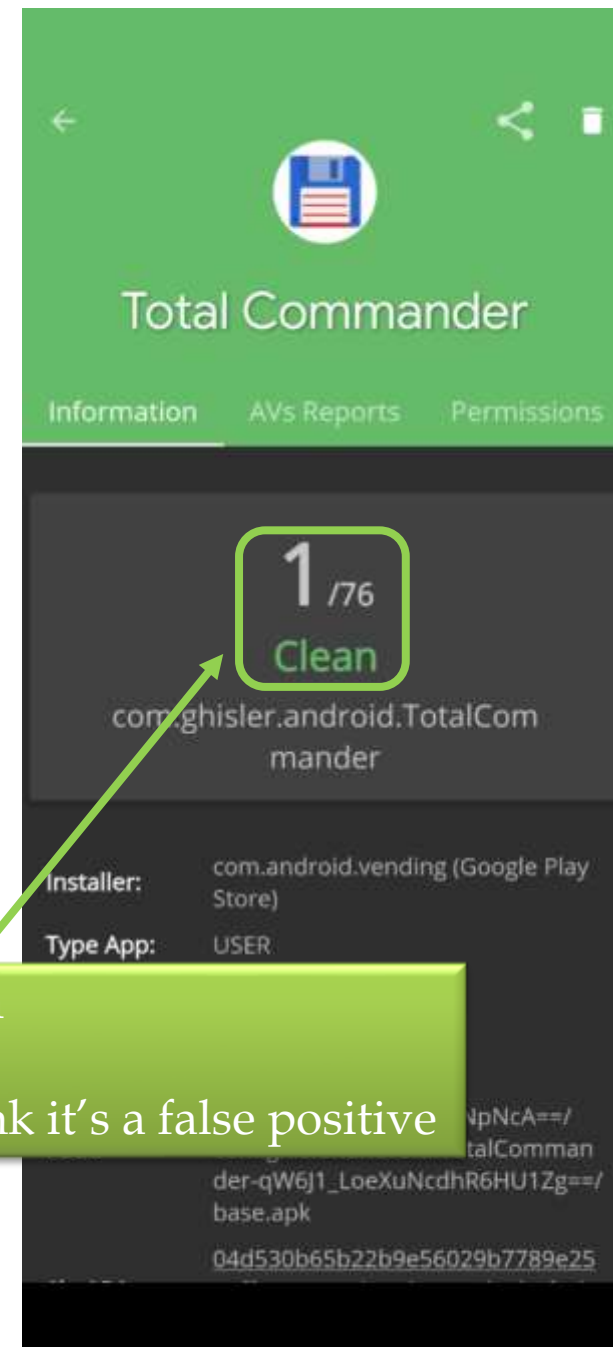


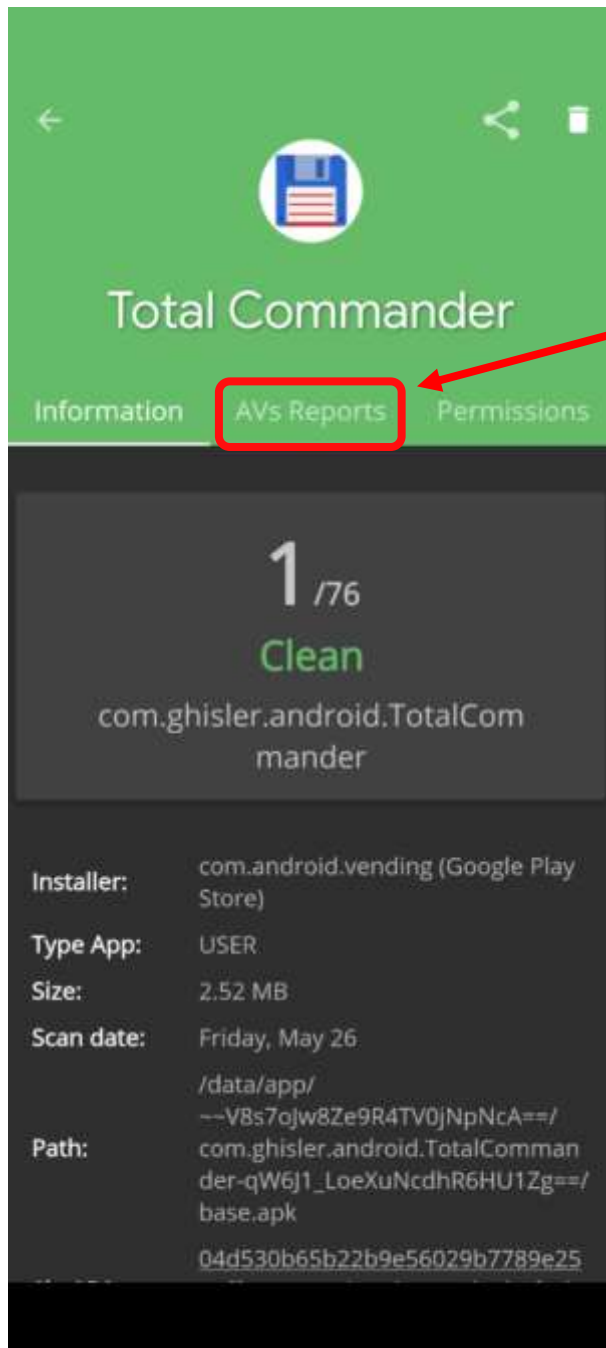
Tap line

Alphabetic list of apps
you have installed

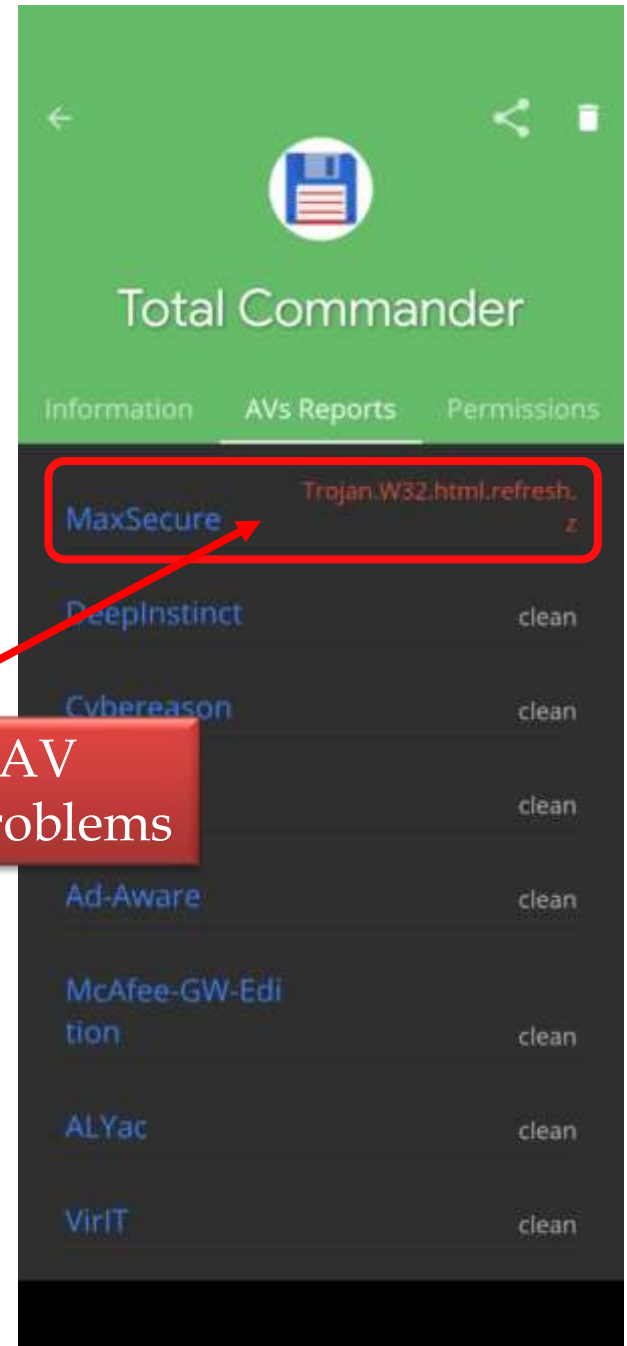
1 engine found problem

- rated *Clean*
- VirusTotal must think it's a false positive

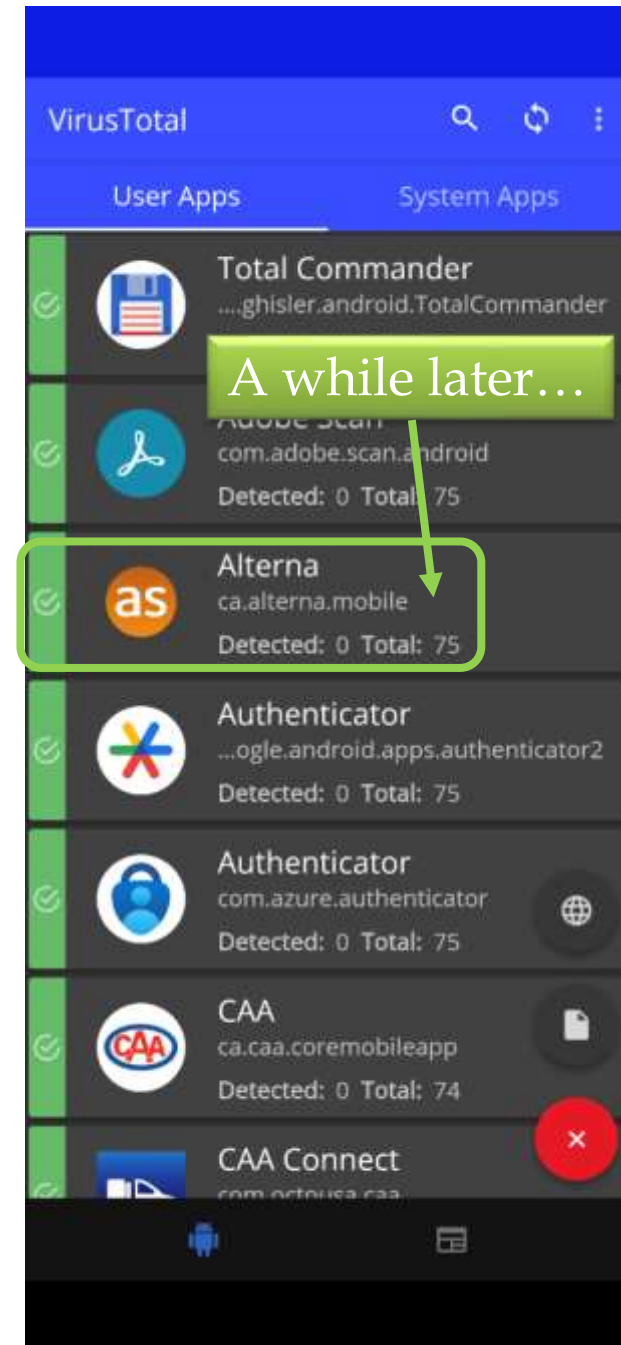
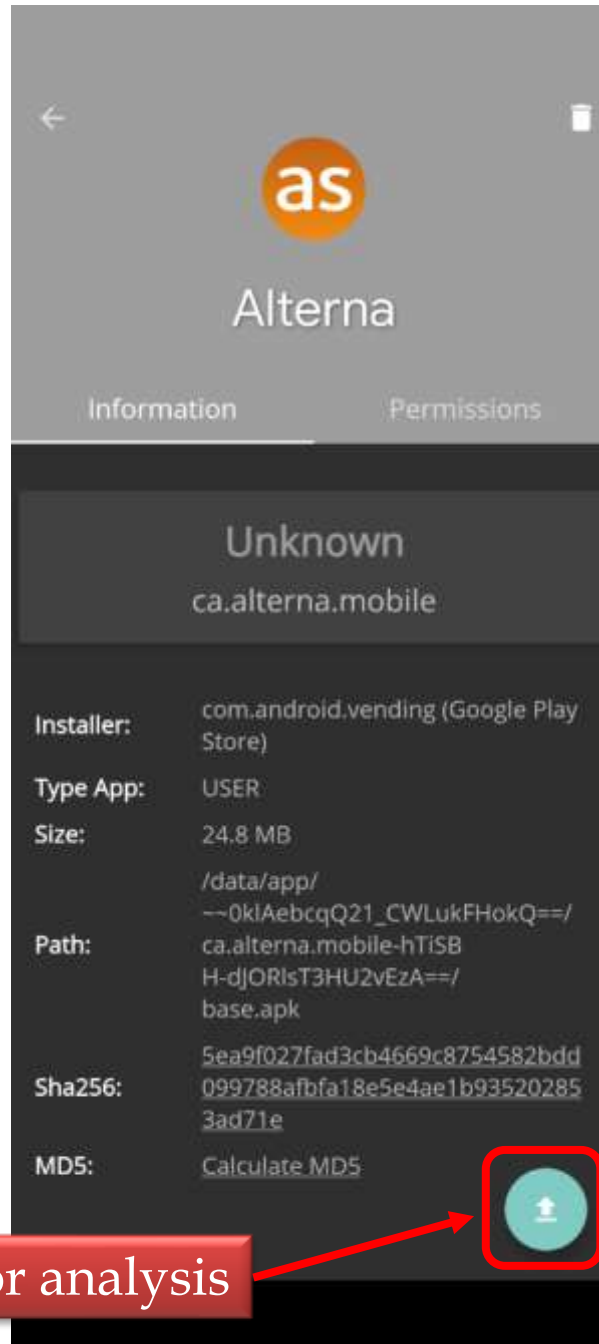
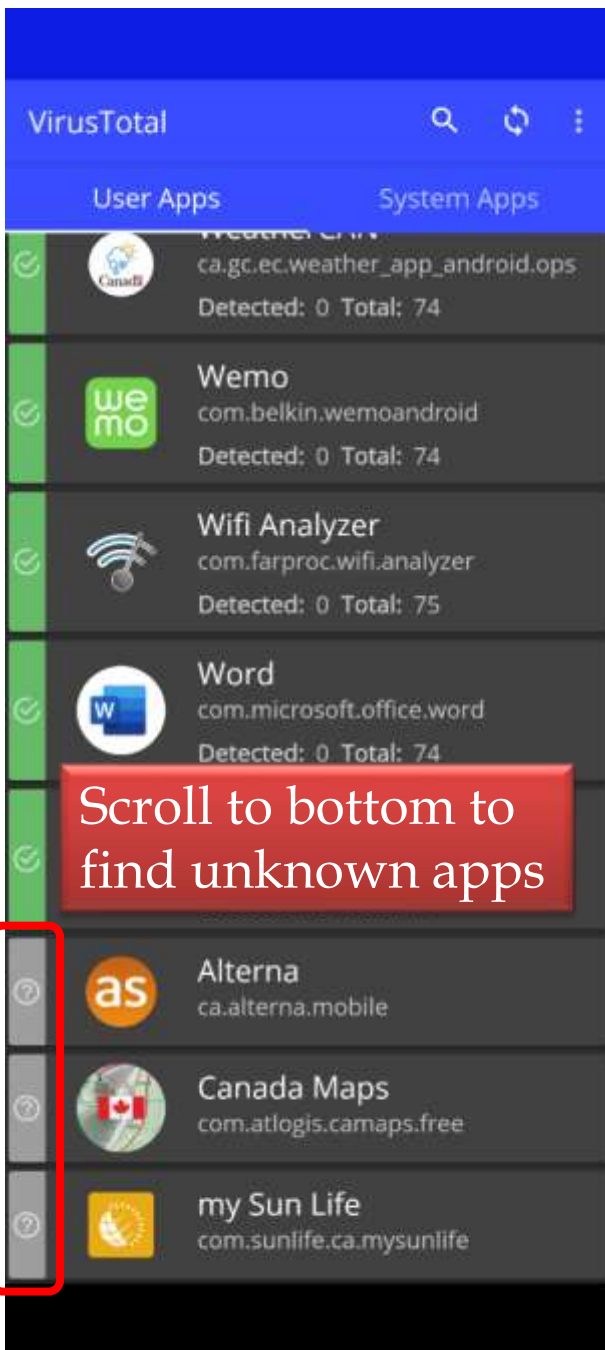


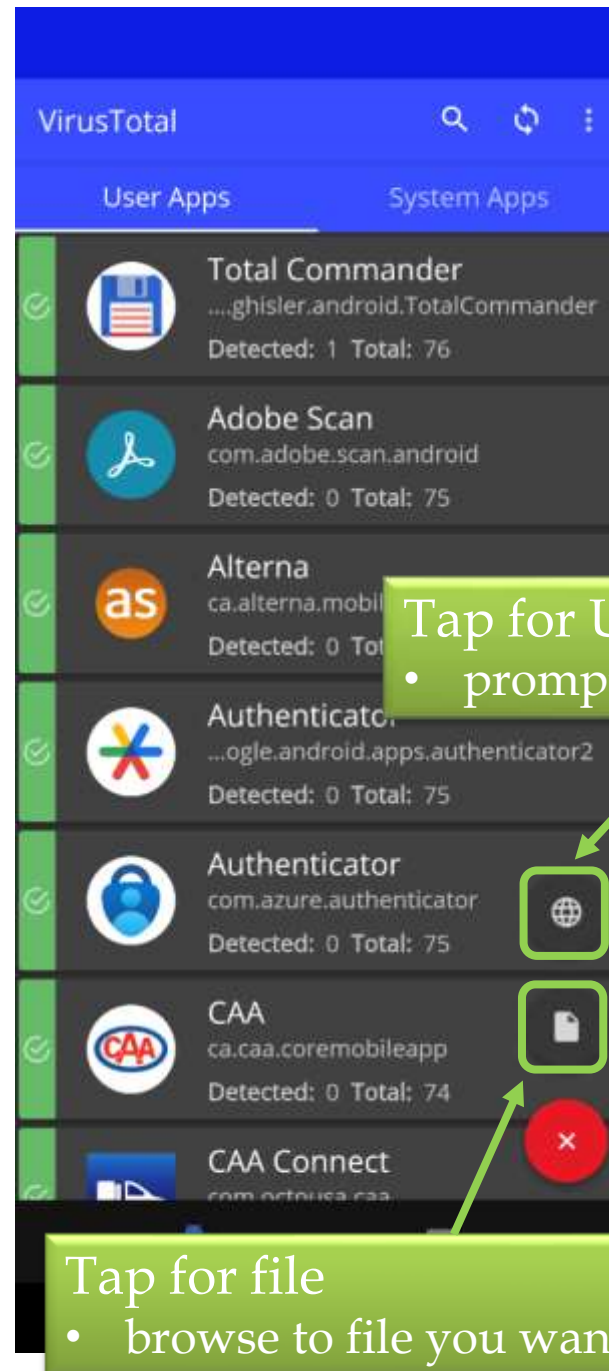
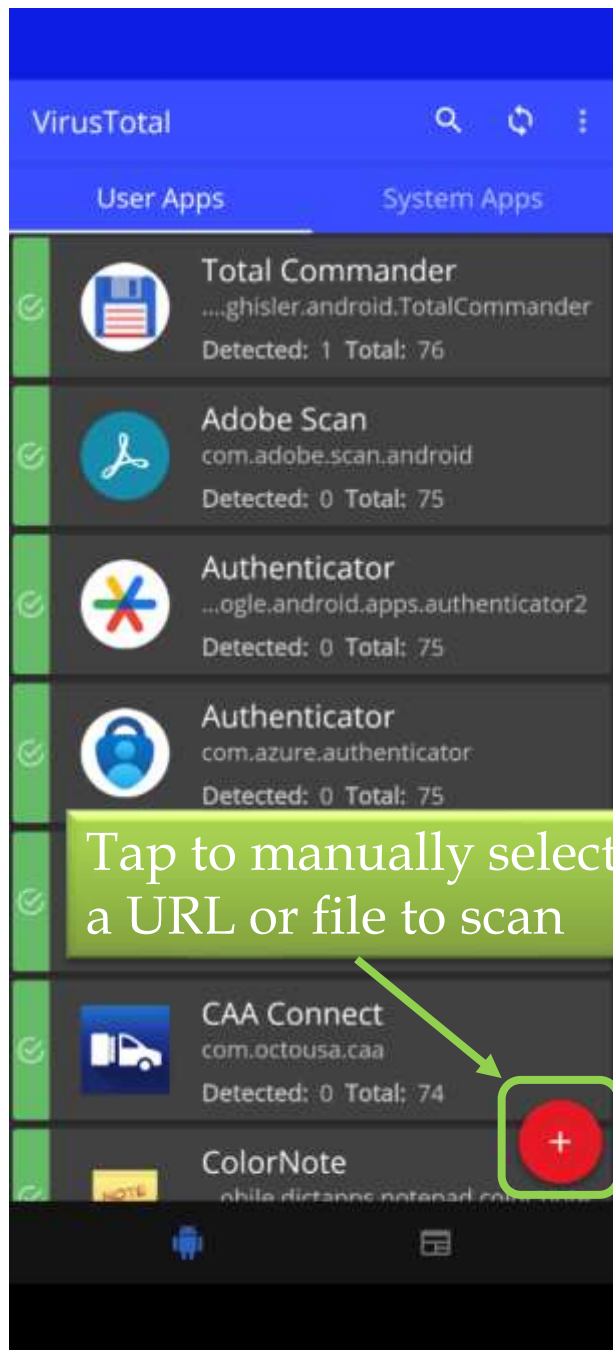


Tap *AV Reports*



Details of which AV engines found problems





Share

Loonie Bits



- Highlighting Canadian sites with information of interest to Canadian consumers
- Can you help fulfill our motto *Users helping users?*
 - do you know of Canadian sites with interesting info?
 - you could speak to the items or just submit the info for inclusion at a future Q&A

Follow Up

CanLyme



- The reason we are interested in ticks at all
- Lyme Disease - their “gift” for us
- Avoidance measures:
- Wear long pants and sleeves
- Walk with a friend
- Watch out for ticks on each other



<https://canlyme.com/>

Cross-Border Shopping



- Help keep the economy chugging along
- A shopping link with a view to the USA
- Tools, tips, and information you need
- Local guides and deals for popular U.S. shopping destinations



<https://www.crossbordershopping.ca/>

Share

Loonie Bits



- Highlighting Canadian sites with information of interest to Canadian consumers
- Can you help fulfill our motto *Users helping users?*
 - do you know of Canadian sites with interesting info?
 - you could speak to the items or just submit the info for inclusion at a future Q&A

Also this week we have...
Tom's Loonie Links!



Red Flag Deals

[DEALS](#)[FORUMS](#)[FLYERS](#)[DEAL ALERTS](#)[NEWS](#)[FINANCIAL TOOLS](#)

Welcome to Canada's Largest Bargain Hunting Community!

If this is your first visit, be sure to check out the [Welcome to RedFlagDeals.com Forum](#). You may have to **register** before you can post. To start viewing messages, select the forum that you want to visit from the selection below.

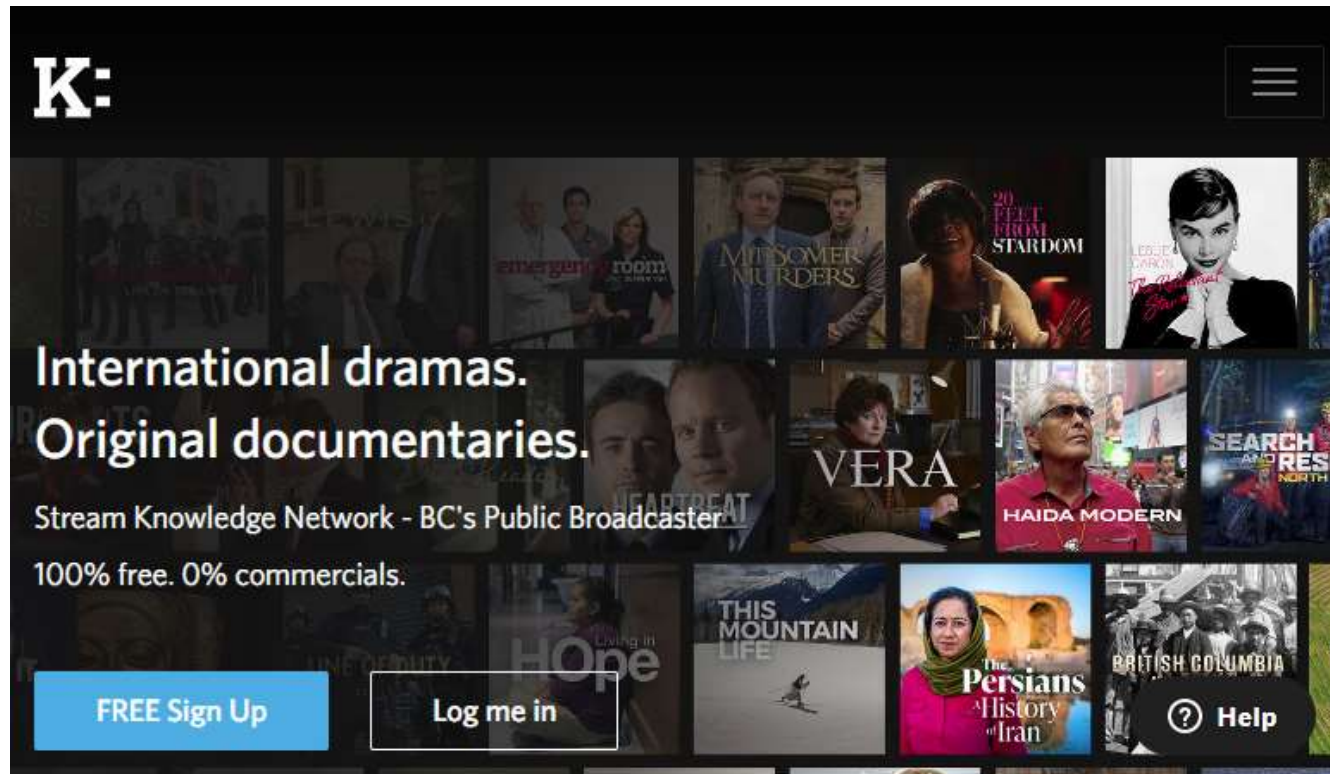
[Register](#)[or Login](#)

- Has a hot deals forum with discussion, and other forums
- Maybe 30 new postings a day
- Can set up Email alerts

Tom Trottier

<https://forums.redflagdeals.com/>

British Columbia's Knowledge Network



- Video dramas & documentaries
- Like TVO

<https://www.Knowledge.ca>

Weather Information



Canada weather map

- Show precipitation
- Zoom in and out

<https://weather.gc.ca/?layers=alert,radar>

Customizable by location and measurements

- Overall map: <https://www.weatherstats.ca/>
- Click on a city: <https://ottawa.weatherstats.ca/>

Stock Tracker



- Check stock level and price of an item in major stores and online by UPC code or name search.

Staples Inventory Checker

Type: SKU

SKU:

Location:

Stores number: K1J 7B7 Gloucester,...

Hide stores with no stock: ☐

Product Search Results

 [Brother TN350 Black Toner Cartridge](#)

SKU: 585456
Price: \$109.99
Stock: 42

<< < 1 > >>

Staples Stores Inventory

#	Address	Distance	Stock
17	1233 Donald Street, Unit 20, Ottawa, ON, K1J 8W3	4.0 km	2
18	235 Montée Paiement, Gatineau, QC J8P 6M7	6.5 km	2

<https://stocktrack.ca/>

ToDo Canada



- Scheduled events and links
- Customizable for city

What's On This Week in Ottawa

Published by To Do Canada On June 4, 2023 2 Responses

ToDo  *Canada*

 More

A look at what's on this week in Ottawa – Events and Activities this Week in Ottawa from — June 5 to 11, 2023.



Candlelight Concerts

 Fever

Open

<https://www.todocanada.ca/whats-week-ottawa/>

MobileSyrup



- News and the latest information on cell plans

Search mobile plans from dozens of providers across the country

Choose from over 50,000 plans from all Canadian carriers



Bell

chatr
MOBILE

COGECO



fido
At your side.

fizz

Freedom
mobile

koodo
Choose Happy

lucky
mobile

Lüm
mobile

rogers
mobile

Load more

MobileSyrup 

<https://www.mobilesyrup.planhub.ca/>



ChatGPT and medical info



- ChatGPT bot flunks gastroenterology exam
 - ChatGPT 4 scored 62% (min passing grade 70%)
 - *You might expect a physician to score 99%, or at least 95%*
 - Arvind J. Trindade, MD, regional director of endoscopy at Northwell Health (Central Region) in New Hyde Park, New York
 - https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/992318_print
- Livin' on the MD edge:
Medical-Level Empathy? Yup, ChatGPT can fake that
 - ChatGPT gave empathetic responses at 10x rate of human doctors (45% vs. 4.6% of the time)
 - https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/991572_print
- WHO Warns Against Bias, Misinformation in Using AI in Healthcare
 - https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/991999_print
- Will AI Perpetuate or Eliminate Health Disparities?
 - https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/992094_print

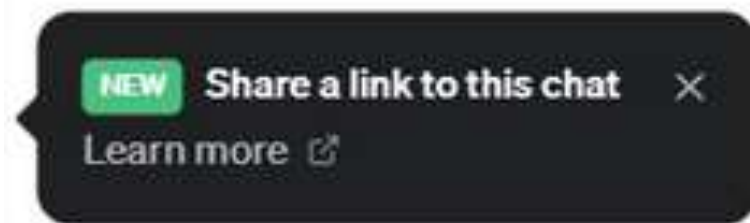


Bob Herres



Share links in ChatGPT

- Shared links are a new feature that allow users to generate a unique URL for a ChatGPT conversation
- Links can then be shared with friends, colleagues, and collaborators
- Shared links offer a new way for users to share their ChatGPT conversations
- Replaces the old and burdensome method of sharing screenshots.



Messages you send after creating your link won't be shared. Anyone with the URL will be able to view the shared chat.



What are the Pros and Cons of Air Fryers?



Air fryers have gained popularity in recent years as a convenient and healthier alternative to traditional deep fryers. Like any appliance, air fryers have their pros and cons. Here are some of the advantages and disadvantages of using air fryers:

Pros of Air Fryers:

1. Healthier Cooking: Air fryers require little to no oil to cook food, making them a healthier option compared to deep frying. They

Pros & Cons of Air Fryers 

May 30, 2023

...

More Info 

 Copy Link



Wisdolia

- Wisdolia is a Google Chrome extension
- It instantly creates Questions, in the form of Question & Answer Flashcards
- It works with any text or website
- It's really only useful when studying for an exam etc..



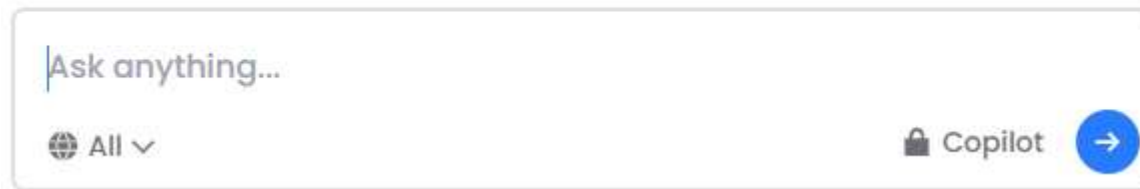
Wisdolia

<https://www.wisdolia.com>



Perplexity AI

- If you haven't tried it, it's worth signing up for
- I signed up with my Google Account



- I believe Perplexity AI uses Chat GPT Version 4
- I think it's free use is "limited"
- I only use it for contemporary searches and prompts

<https://www.perplexity.ai/>

As the cost of the "Allett" s

< > << >> ↺ 🏠 🔒

www.perplexity.ai/search/3a45b8d3-abef-4c1f-855b- 🔍

Search DuckDuckGo JS 🖨️ Off

⬇️ ⌚ +

Perplexity

New Thread Ctrl I

📖 Popular

📁 Your Threads

➡️ Login

Sign Up

 bobherres6492 1 2 Like

🔒

Share

As the cost of the "Allett" slim or thin Men's wallet is now going very high, what other alternatives are there now for Men's wallets that are thin or slim?

PERPLEXITY

There are many alternatives to the "Allett" slim or thin men's wallet. Here are some options from the search results:

1. Recycled materials: Some alternative materials being used include recycled vintage tie fabric, recycled fire-hose, vegan wallets (made without any animal material), vinyl, etc. ¹.
2. Aviator Slim Wallet: This is a great minimalist wallet with useful features and top-notch durability. It is an outstanding alternative to the Ridge wallet ².
3. Mighty Wallet: This is a Tyvek wallet that is surprisingly sturdy-feeling. It is also available in beautiful designs ³.
4. Buffway Minimalist Leather Wallet: This wallet provides a generous 12-month no-questions-asked replacement policy, making it a top

- Let's try to give everyone here a chance to try Perplexity AI, without even signing up!
- If I share a link for my inquiry, it will allow (you) the person who received the link to see my actual inquiry online.
- This is my prompt...

In Canada, which grocery items have seen the biggest price spikes in the last 6 months?

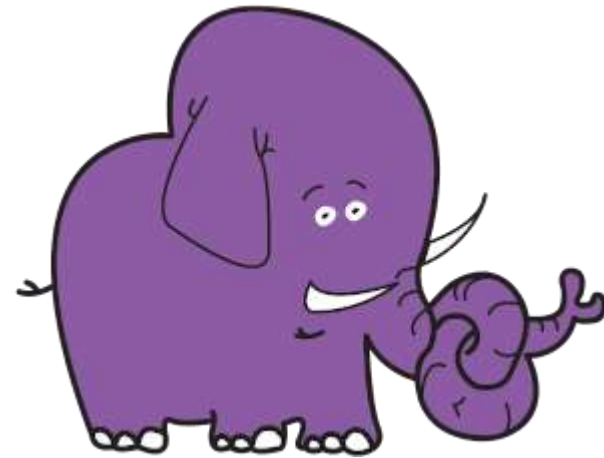
- Shared link:

<https://www.perplexity.ai/search/40fa3b13-d94b-456e-91a9-e62221d455bf?s=c>

- With the link:
 - You will be able to see the entire actual response for this Perplexity AI inquiry.
 - Note that it offers: a detailed answer, plus 9 items, and 5 hot links.
 - You will also be able to select any of the “3 Related” or suggested, follow-up prompts.
- Or, you could ask for your “*Own Follow-up Prompt...*”
- Or, even better than that, if you click on “*New Thread*” at the top left....
 - You will be able to try creating your very own, first, AI prompt, without even signing up!

Don't forget!

- You don't always have to ask a question
- You can give a command
- You can make a request
- Always be detailed and add as much context as possible.





**Any other:
Questions
Comments
Shares?**



**Britannia Park
Trolley/Picnic Station**

June 14, 2023

Last Call !



New this year! If you want to be fed and watered, you must
Register by E-mail to: pizzaparty@opcug.ca



YouTube Tech

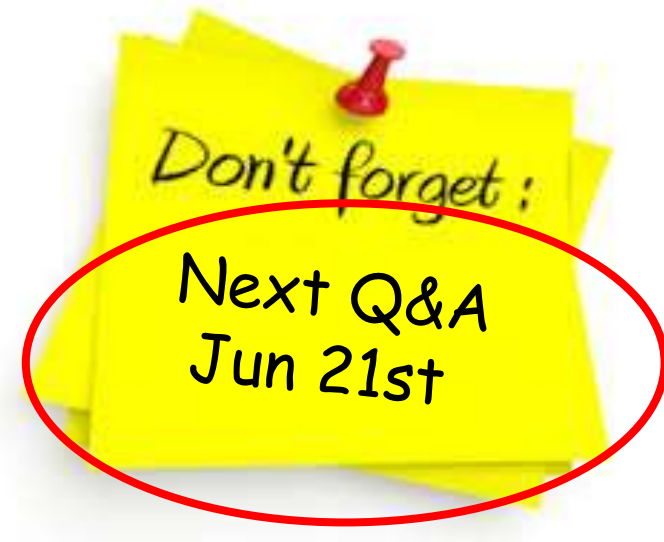


- Some OPCUG members must use YouTube and can identify gems that would be of interest to others
- What YouTube videos or channels would you recommend?
- Restrict suggestions for Q&A to tech items (no cute cats or babies!)
- You have two weeks to provide your suggestions to...

SuggestionBox@opcug.ca



No Q&A on
June 14th
(Pizza-Q !!!)



**Send your questions,
answers, and topics
you wish to share to:**

SuggestionBox@opcug.ca