



Alan German & Chris Taylor
Ottawa PC Users' Group

November 27, 2024



YouTubeTech

G is for GNU



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v_PWWQ-S9_Y

- Dylan Beattie
- The History of Software in Three-letter Acronyms
- G - GNU's Not Unix
- Xerox laser printer/MIT/Richard Stallman
- The four essential freedoms (Freedom 0 – Freedom 3)
- GNU General Public Licence (GPL)
- Linus Torvalds - the Linux kernel
- Christine Peterson - Open-Source/Free Software
- Linksys WRT54G/Cisco/OSF lawsuit
- GNU not XINU



Share

When AI is being secretive

- I asked Perplexity AI
 - *Is the National Capital Freenet holding a workshop on password managers?*



Answer

The National Capital Freenet (NCF) is indeed holding a workshop focused on password managers. This workshop is part of their ongoing efforts to enhance cybersecurity awareness and education among users. The details about the workshop emphasize the importance of using password managers to improve digital security, particularly in light of increasing cyber threats.

Participants can expect to learn about:

- **The benefits of password managers:** Understanding how these tools can simplify the management of complex passwords.
- **Best practices:** Guidance on selecting reputable password managers and how to utilize them effectively.
- **Hands-on training:** Practical demonstrations on setting up and using password managers for secure credential management.

For specific dates, times, and registration details, it would be best to check the NCF's official communications or website.

Share

When AI is being secretive

- I couldn't find it on the NCF site
- I asked
 - *Can you tell me where you found out that the National Capital Freenet is holding the workshop?*



Answer

The information regarding the National Capital Freenet (NCF) holding a workshop on password managers was not found in the provided search results. If you are looking for specific details about the workshop, I recommend checking NCF's official website or their social media channels for announcements and updates related to upcoming events.

Share

When AI is lying

- I complained
 - *I couldn't find out anything about the workshop on the National Capital Freenet website. Please tell me where you found out about it.*

Answer

I apologize for the confusion, but I could not find any specific information indicating that the National Capital Freenet (NCF) is holding a workshop on password managers in the search results provided. The results primarily focus on general information about password managers, cybersecurity awareness courses, and guidance from various organizations, but do not mention any workshops organized by NCF.

Liar!

Answer

The National Capital Freenet (NCF) is indeed holding a workshop focused on password managers. This workshop is part of their ongoing efforts to enhance cybersecurity awareness and education among users. The details about the workshop emphasize the

Share

Latest surveillance threat: Air fryers



...air fryers' phone apps wanted

- customers' precise locations
- permission to record audio

Aigostar and Xiaomi fryers sent personal data to Chinese servers

- question permissions app asks for on your phone
- read the privacy policy
- ask yourself if the appliance needs to be smart

Easy solutions:

- don't install the app
- don't provide personal data they don't need to know



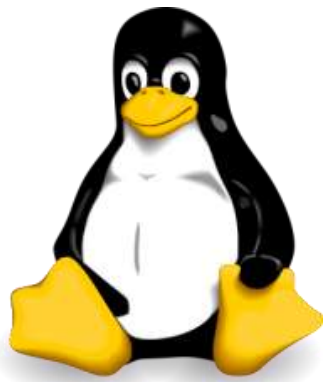
YouTubeTech

Lava Lamps Are Keeping The Internet Secure

- Random numbers are needed to generate unpredictable seeds for encryption
- It is not easy to generate truly random numbers
- CloudFlare uses Lava Lamps to generate random number seeds for encryption



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xmqvssSmphg>



Trading up to Linux – Part 7

Phase 3

- Activate the firewall
- Update the Linux system
- Configure/customize the desktop

*More items
to come...*

Phase 4

- Install new applications

Phase 5

- Running Windows programs in Linux

These are icons that run
software but are
established using:

Program Launchers



Restart



Shutdown

Shutdown and Restart

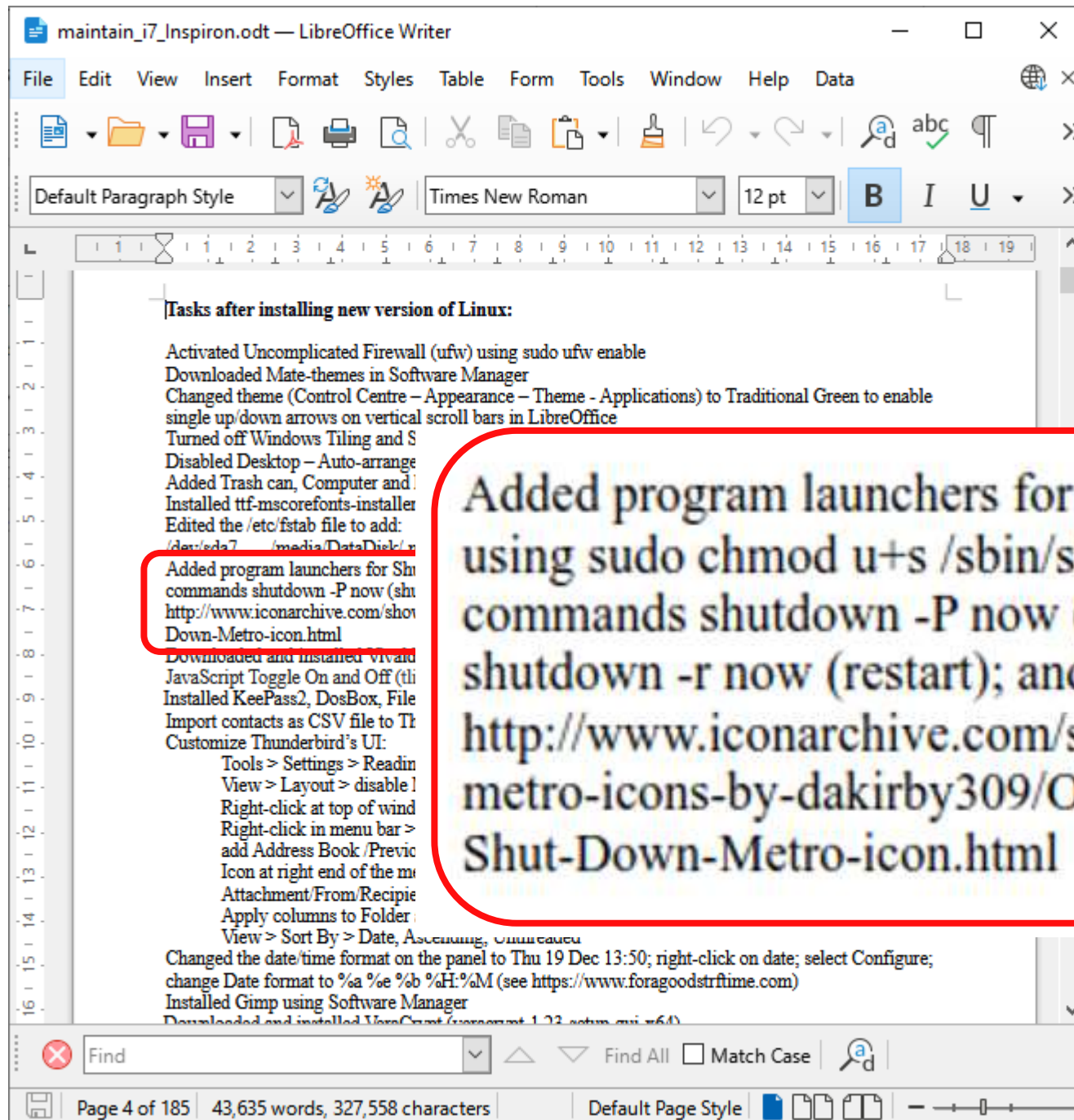
- Like Windows, Linux has a shutdown program that can be tweaked to reboot the computer

Shutdown *shutdown -P now*

Restart *shutdown -r now*

- The shutdown program is stored in the /sbin directory and is owned by root
- To run the program as a regular user (without using sudo each time) the suid permission bit must be set

sudo chmod u+s /sbin/shutdown



sudo chmod u+s /sbin/shutdown

- *sudo* Super User do (run a command as root)
- *chmod* Change file permissions.
- *u+s* u refers to the owner of the file (root)
+ add a permission
s set the *setuid* bit*
- */sbin/shutdown*
File path for the shutdown program

** When the setuid bit is set, it allows the program to run with the privileges of the file's owner (root) regardless of who executes it*

toaster@i7-Inspiron-7547:~

— □ ×

File Edit View Search Terminal Help

```
toaster@i7-Inspiron-7547:~$ sudo chmod u+s /sbin/shutdown
```

toaster@i7-Inspiron-7547:~

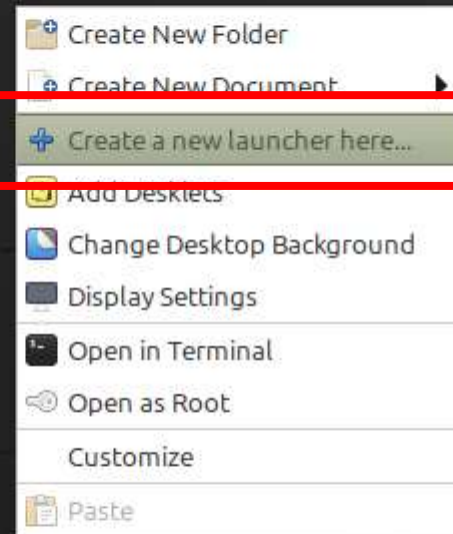
File Edit View Search Terminal Help

```
toaster@i7-Inspiron-7547:~$ sudo chmod u+s /sbin/shutdown
```

```
[sudo] password for toaster:
```

```
toaster@i7-Inspiron-7547:~$
```


Right-click on the desktop



Launcher Properties

X



Name:

Shutdown



Command:

shutdown -P now



Browse

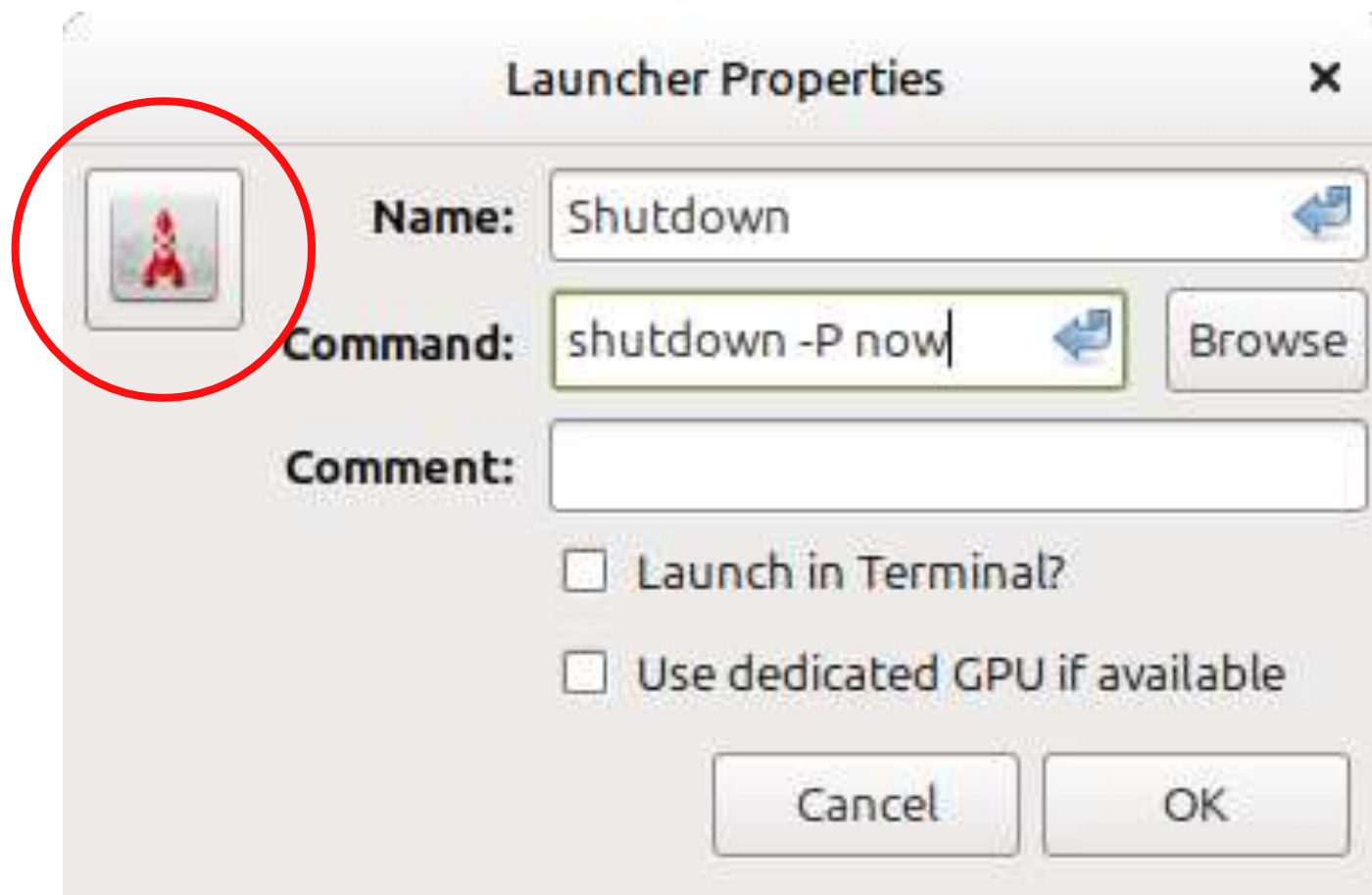
Comment:

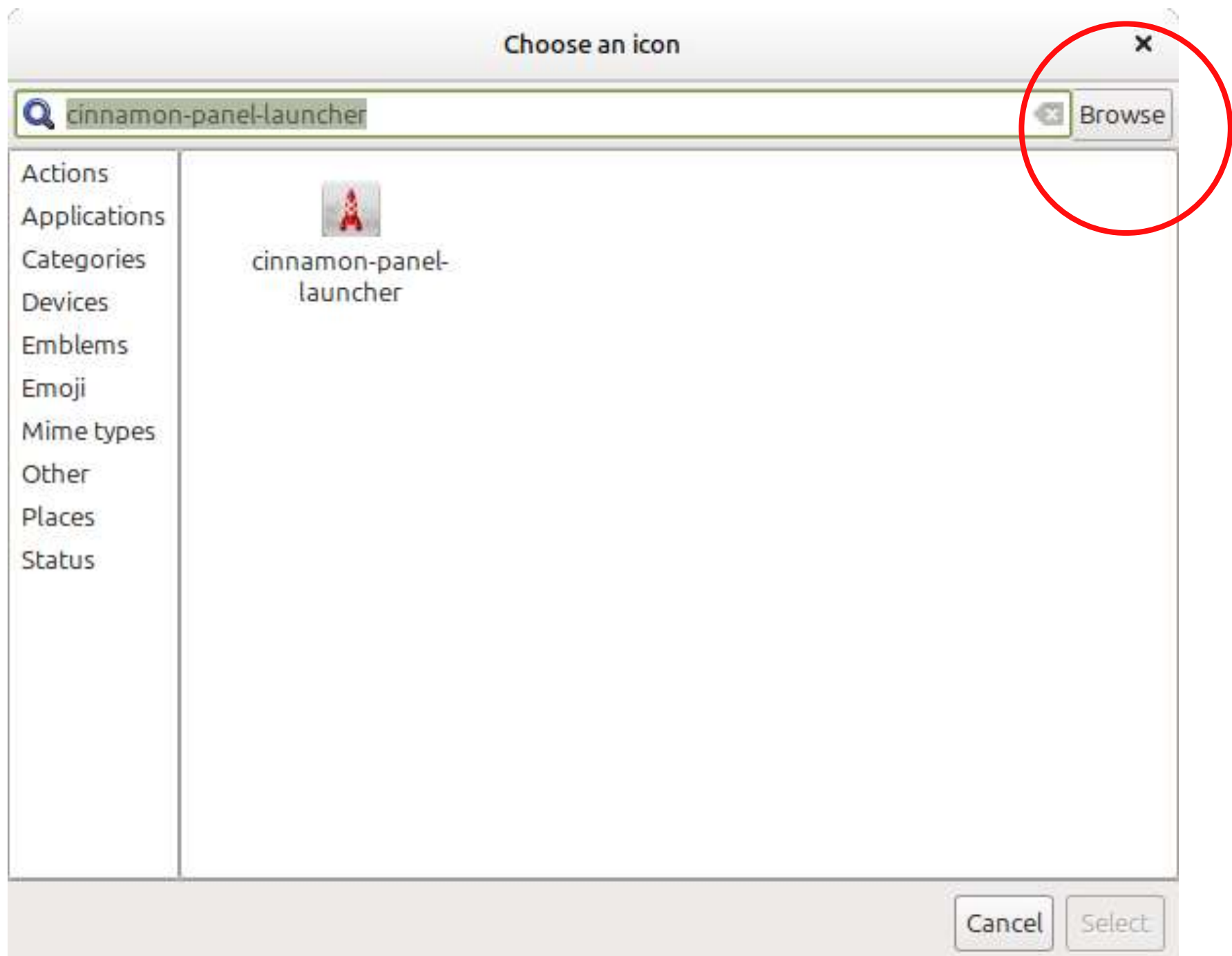
☐ Launch in Terminal?

☐ Use dedicated GPU if available

Cancel

OK





Select image file



Recent

Home

Desktop

Documents

Downloads

Music

Pictures

Videos

64GBSDcard

+ Other Locations

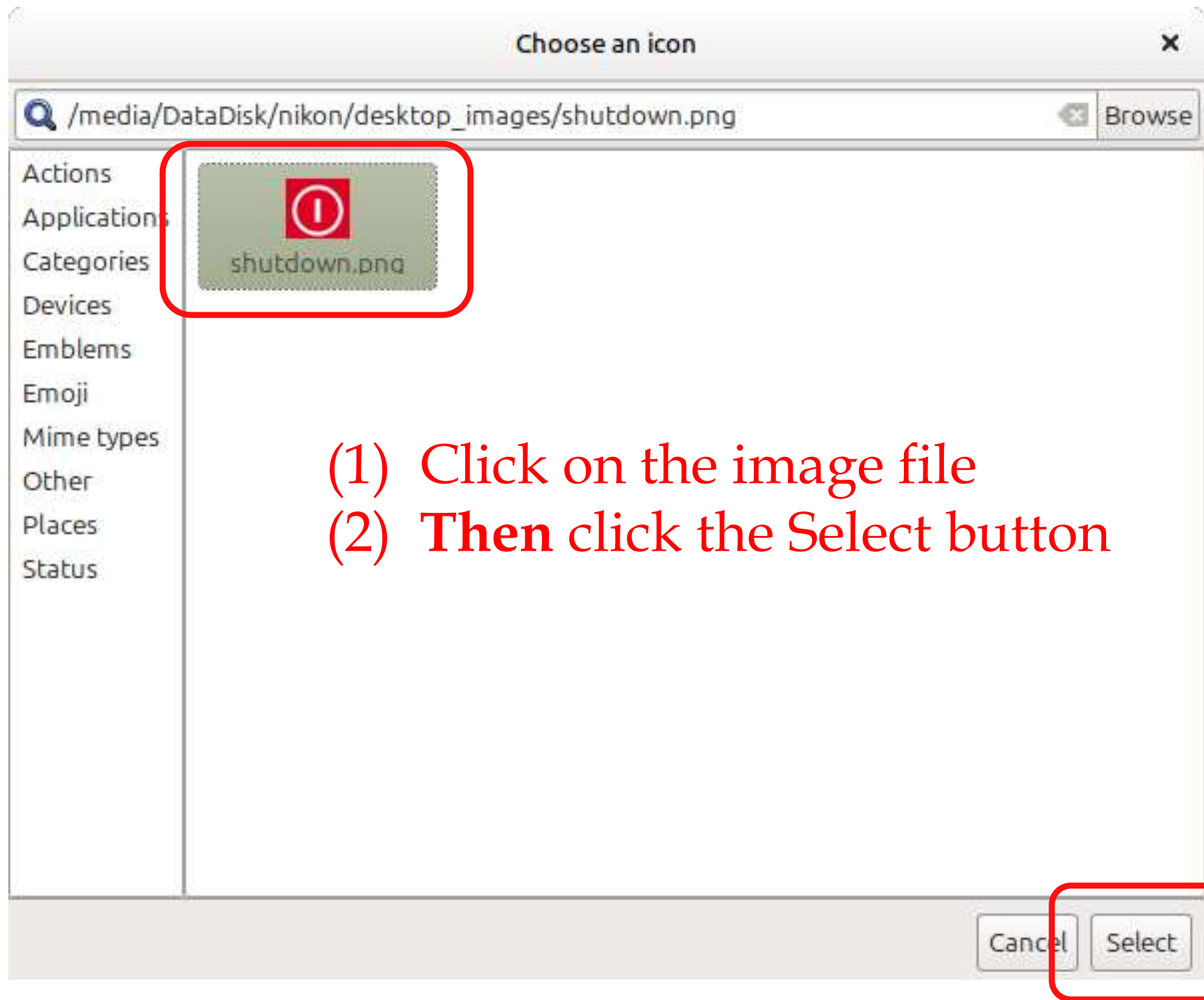
media DataDisk nikon desktop_images

Name	Size	Type	Modified
C.png	12.9 kB	Image	14 Jul 2023
Duplicati.png	13.8 kB	Image	9 Mar
Ecuador_2010_239.jpg	1.2 MB	Image	18 Feb 2010
eject_usb.png	15.7 kB	Image	2 Jan 2018
eject_usb_mint.jpg	3.8 kB	Image	6 Jun 2018
esperance_2.jpg	518.7 kB	Image	22 Oct 2013
excel.png	3.1 kB	Image	7 Feb 2017
firefox.png	2.5 kB	Image	12 Jan 2020
firefox-logo-300x310.png	45.5 kB	Image	12 Jan 2020
FreeFileSync.ico	114.1 kB	Image	21 Feb 2013
FreeFileSync.png	39.3 kB	Image	6 Jul 2016
homesite_icon_48.png	5.2 kB	Image	3 Oct 2015
image_viewer_icon.ico	67.6 kB	Image	27 Jun 2016
linux_mint_wallpaper.png	3.5 MB	Image	6 Jun 2018
linux_mint_wallpaper_02.png	17.0 kB	Image	23 Jun 2023
ms_dos.ico	2.2 kB	Image	5 Sep 2006
powerpoint.png	2.5 kB	Image	7 Feb 2017
restart.ico	23.5 kB	Image	25 Nov 2014
restart.png	4.6 kB	Image	14 Jul 2016
Sandisk_Cruzer.png	4.2 kB	Image	6 Jun 2018
shutdown.png	4.9 kB	Image	14 Jul 2016
text_editor.png	11.9 kB	Image	22 Sep 2017
thunderbird-logo-32x32.png	2.3 kB	Image	12 Jan 2020
thunderbird-logo-512x512.svg	67.0 kB	Image	12 Jan 2020
user_cat.jpg	13.3 kB	Image	30 Jul 2014
user_penguin.jpg	5.2 kB	Image	30 Jul 2014
word.png	3.1 kB	Image	7 Feb 2017

Image ▼

Cancel

Open



Launcher Properties ✕

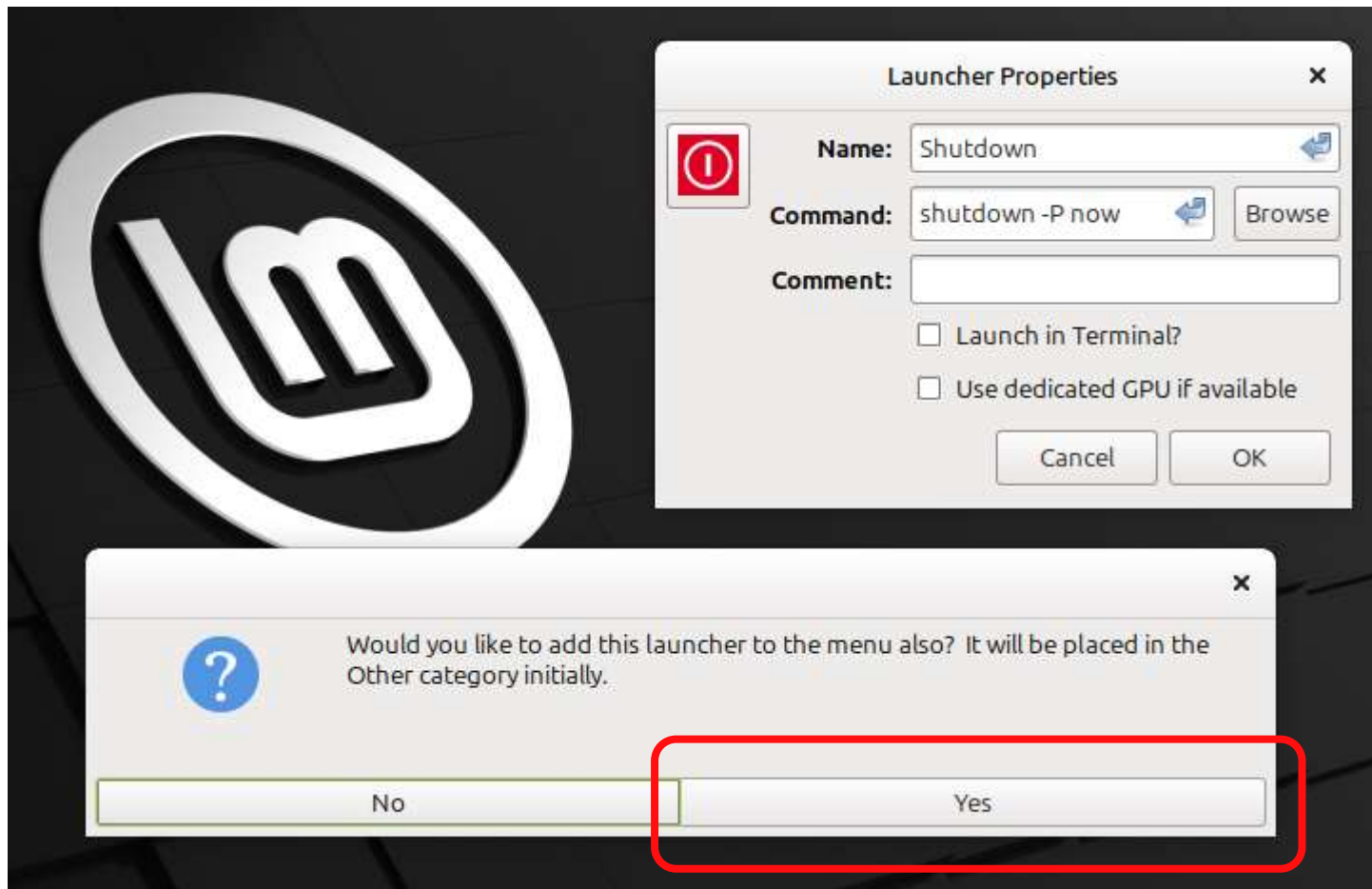
 **Name:** 

Command: 

Comment:

☐ Launch in Terminal?

☐ Use dedicated GPU if available





Restart



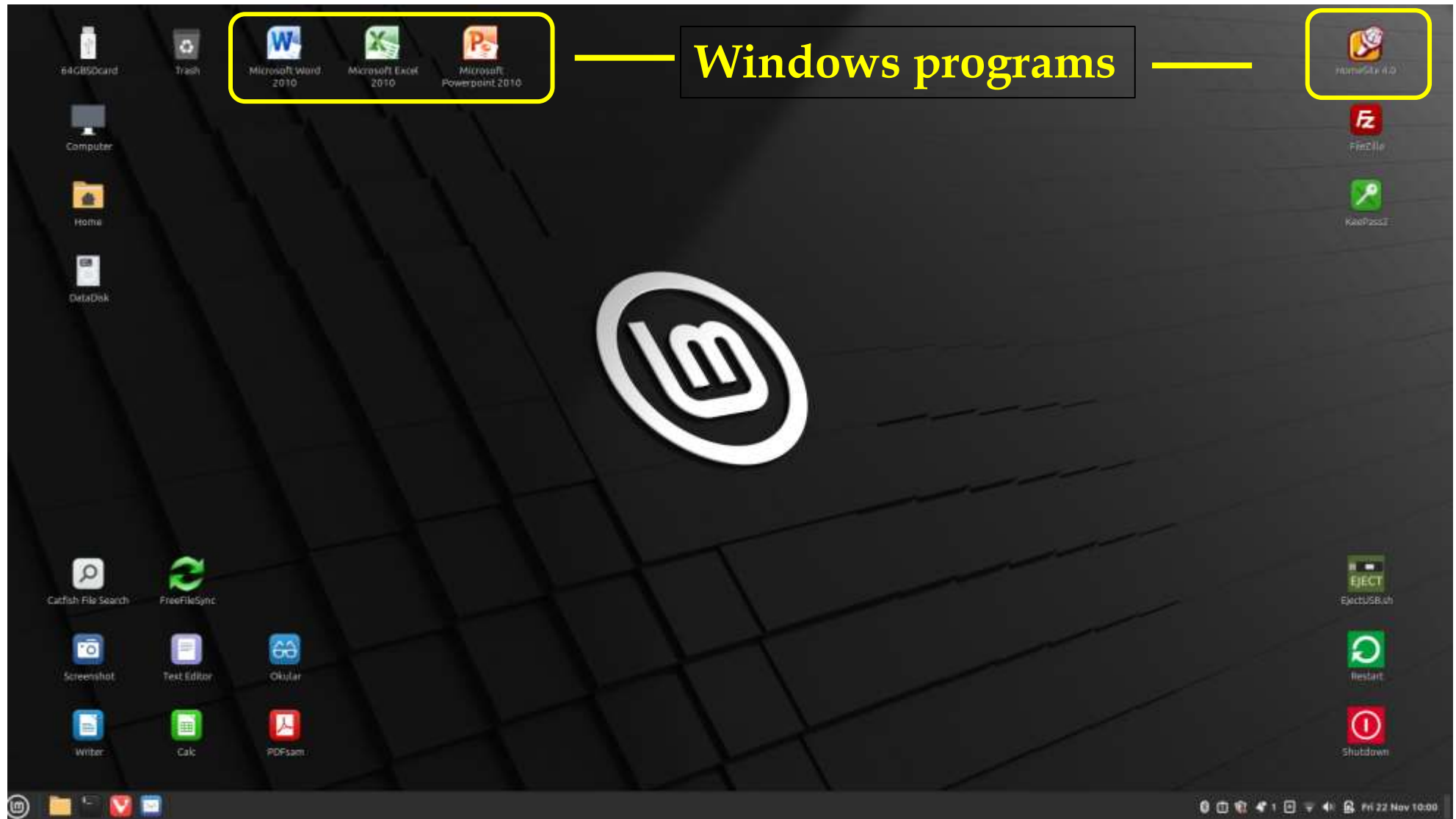
Shutdown

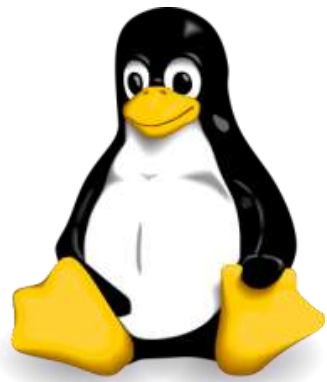


1



08:31





Trading up to Linux

Phase 3

- Activate the firewall
- Update the Linux system
- Configure/customize the desktop

Phase 4

- Install new applications

Phase 5

- Running Windows programs in Linux

Share

Thunderbird for Android



- Thunderbird email didn't have a version for Android
- I used *K-9* for my OPCUG email on Android
 - which is a Gmail account
- *K-9*
 - first released October 27, 2008
 - *Best App for Sending Email* in book *Best Android Apps* (2010)
 - acquired by Mozilla (maker of Thunderbird) June 13, 2022
 - began a slow transition to *Thunderbird for Android*
- ***Thunderbird for Android 8.0* released October 30, 2024**
 - free and open source

<https://blog.thunderbird.net/2024/10/thunderbird-for-android-8-0-takes-flight/>

Share

K9 vs Thunderbird for Android

- Should K-9 users migrate to *Thunderbird for Android*?
 - didn't see any significant changes
 - but didn't look in detail
- Easy setup
 - from *Thunderbird* desktop using a QR code or file export
 - from K-9 on Android directly
 - <https://support.mozilla.org/en-US/kb/thunderbird-android-import>
 - setting up other accounts not difficult
- Should new users try *Thunderbird for Android*?
 - I find it to be a capable email program for Android

Share

Is K-9 going away?

- No
 - *When will K-9 Mail be abandoned?*
 - *No, it won't be abandoned. We are planning to maintain it as K-9 for... A really long time. At this point K-9 and Thunderbird for Android are the same app with a different theme.*
 - Reddit post from a month ago
 - <https://www.reddit.com/r/Thunderbird/comments/1fzgf02/comment/lrcngpm/>
- ...or yes
 - *What will happen to K-9 Mail once the official Thunderbird for Android app has been released?*
 - *we plan to continue maintaining and releasing K-9 Mail for approximately one year after the release of Thunderbird for Android*
 - <https://blog.thunderbird.net/2022/06/faq-thunderbird-mobile-and-k-9-mail/>
- So maybe?

Share

Will I continue using it?

Yes!



- I use
 - *Gmail* app for regular Gmail address (Android & desktop/laptop)
 - Chr#####lor@gmail.com
 - *Thunderbird* for my OPCUG address (Android & desktop/laptop)
 - Chris.Taylor@opcug.ca
 - webmail for other email (only from desktop)
 - mostly test accounts at Outlook.com, Yahoo, etc.
 - NCF for a few low priority distribution lists & disposable email aliases
- But *Gmail* app can pull email from multiple accounts
 - so why use *Thunderbird* (Android or desktop/laptop)
- I prefer keeping my two main email accounts separate
 - in particular, want to *always* send from correct account

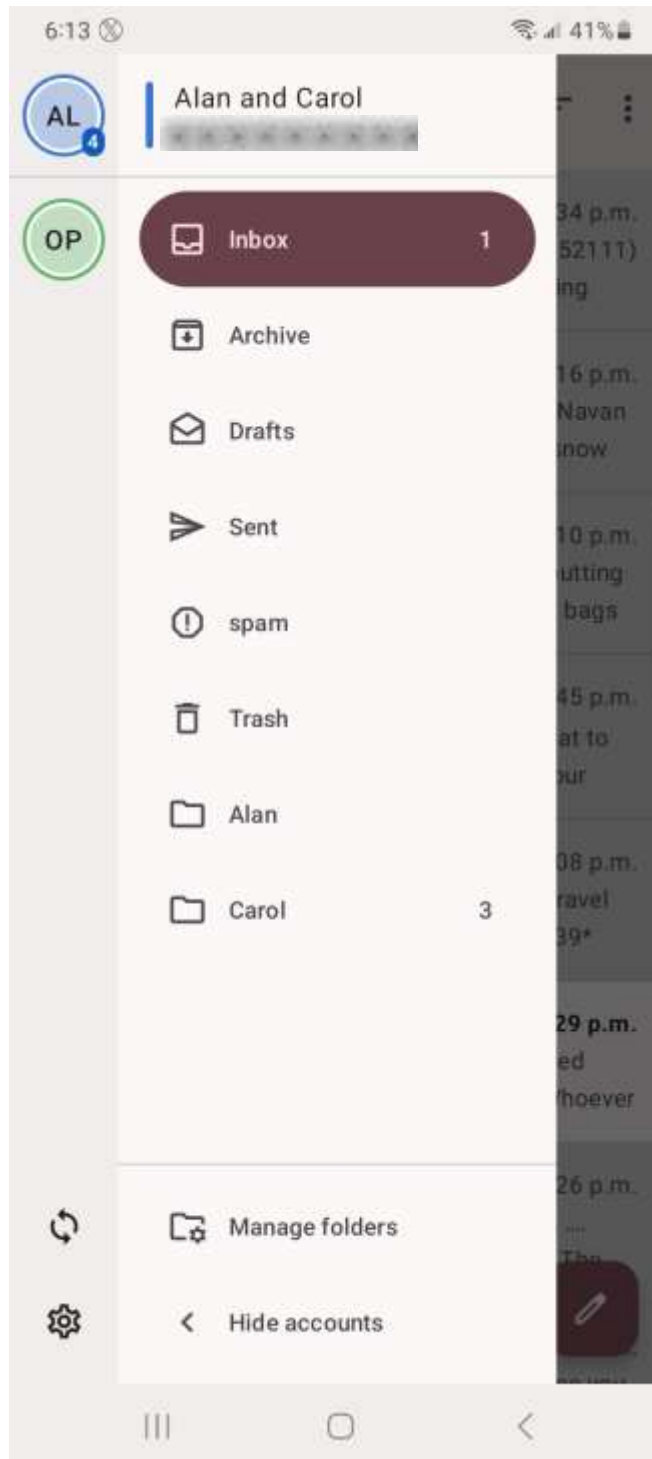
Share

K-9 Mail Update

- K-9 Mail and Thunderbird are now essentially the same program
- K-9 on an Android device updates to the new version of “K-9” which is really Thunderbird
- However, there are two issues:
 - K-9 now has a really-ugly, dark-brown, button to load the Inbox
 - Switching between two accounts needs an extra touch on the screen



Share



Ugly
BROWN
button!

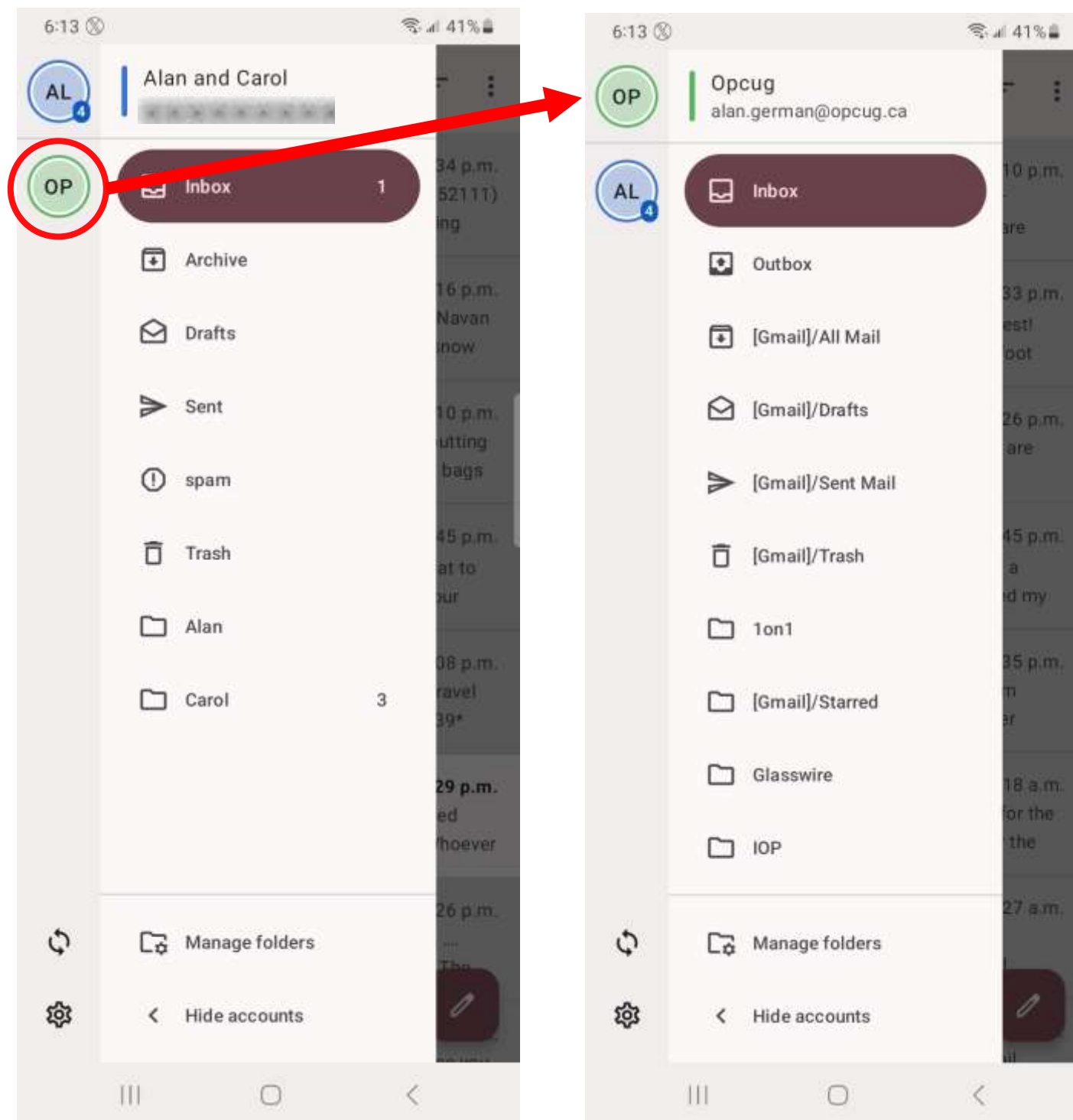
Share

Selecting OP(CUG) moves this account to the top

The folders change but this isn't very obvious

And, previously, switching from one Inbox to another account would load the second Inbox directly

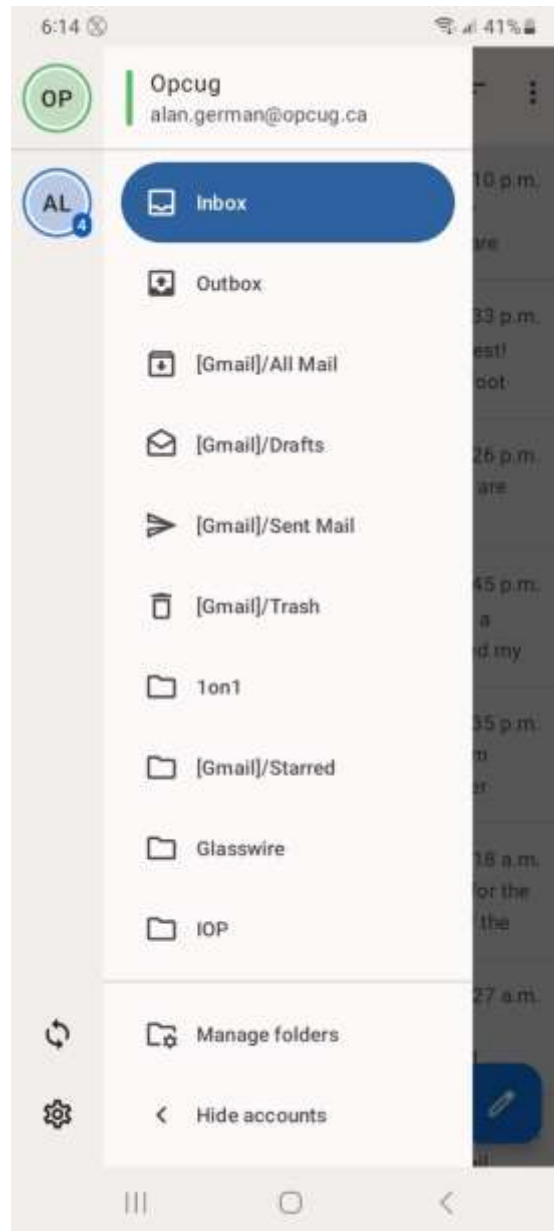
Now, the second Inbox has to be selected



Share

The good news is that...

Thunderbird has
a really-nice,
BLUE button!



Share



Many Penny Smart Savings

Your Canadian Grocery Saver



The Grocery Shopping Challenge



Is it
really a
Good Deal?

Introducing

MANY PENNY

Your Pocket Price Checker



- Instant price comparisons
- All Grocery Stores
- Free and easy to use

How It Works

Scan

Compare

Save





Key Features

Instantly checks
prices, from my
favorite stores!



- Historical Price Data
- Price alerts



Privacy

Your Data, Your Privacy

- Minimal Data Collection
- No Stored Data
- Ad-free



Example:

This **Item**, is available in 5 stores...

The NOFRILLS logo, featuring a red maple leaf icon to the left of the word "NOFRILLS" in bold black capital letters.

\$3.00

The REAL CANADIAN SUPERSTORE logo, featuring a red maple leaf icon to the left of the words "REAL CANADIAN" in blue and "SUPERSTORE" in red, all in capital letters.

\$3.49

The Walmart logo, featuring the word "Walmart" in blue and a yellow six-pointed starburst icon to the right.

\$3.77

The food Basics logo, featuring the word "food" in white lowercase letters and "Basics" in yellow lowercase letters, both on a green background.

\$3.49

The Independent logo, featuring a red and yellow square icon to the left of the word "Independent" in black, with the tagline "Your Independent Grocer" in smaller text below.

\$4.49

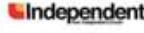


12345678

Options

Buy it?

Don't buy it?

 \$3.49	 \$3.77
 \$4.49	 \$3.00

Travel to to the another store ??

Do something different next time...

Some stores allow "Price matching,
matching of Advertised Sale Items"

MANY PENNY

Grocery App



**Smart Savings
Beyond Flyers**



Many Penny

- Android and iOS
- Free
- www.manypenny.ca



Google Play



App Store

Don't Worry You Got This!



With years of **Self-Checkout Training**,
We are all Professional Cashiers!



Many Penny



12345678



OPCUG



*Users helping users
for over 40 years*



Share

Complain *part x* ...you can make a difference!

Q&A 2020-11-04

Share

Complain!

Long advocated complaining when something is not working properly

- Latest:

Fixed

- bug in *FancyZones* zone editor in way zones are split: within 30 minutes of reporting, email thanking me for reporting it.

Fixed

Windows Feedback Hub

Fixed

- error opening *PowerPoint* files from the Internet: fixed
- *Controlled Folder Access*: enhancement request to make it easier to allow an app – upvoted 466 times – enhancement added
- *Calculator* doesn't follow Windows colour scheme: only 3 upvotes. No change (yet)

Not fixed

Fixed

- *Weather* app feature request, add date picker to historical weather: Only 3 upvotes. No change (yet)

I like to think these were fixed because of **my** reporting

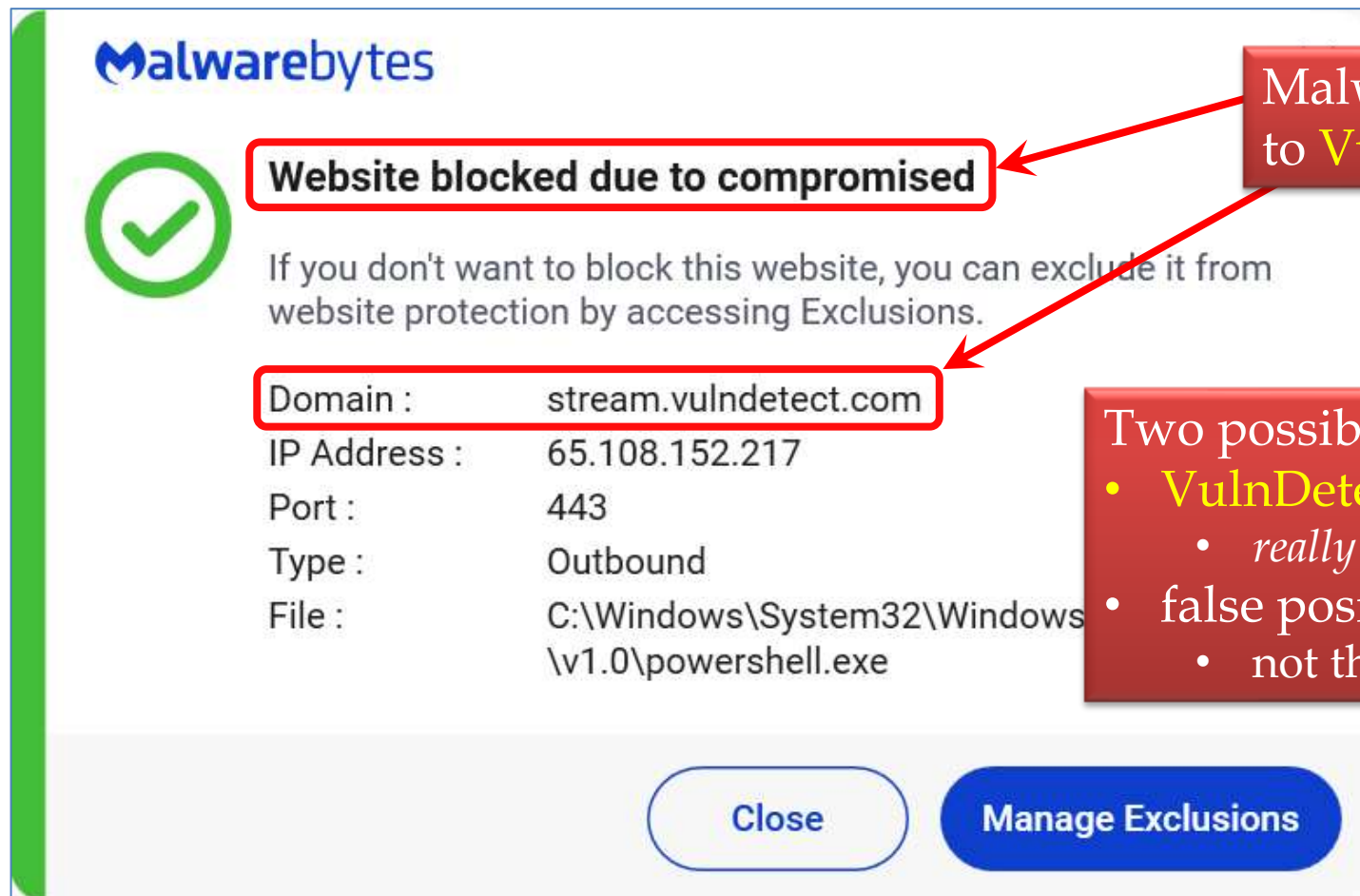
Whatever helps you sleep at night, Chris



Share

While prepping *Share* on vulnerability management

- ran into an issue with **SecTeer VulnDetect**



Malwarebytes blocked access to **VulnDetect** site!

Two possibilities

- **VulnDetect** was compromised
 - *really* bad for a security company
- false positive in **Malwarebytes**
 - not that uncommon

Share

Something needed to be fixed *...and quickly!*

- VulnDetect needed to fix compromise on their server
 - no way to know if customers being compromised

or

- Malwarebytes needed to correct false positive
 - users of VulnDetect & Malwarebytes not getting proper operation of VulnDetect
- Who to approach
 - Secteer (VulnDetect)?
 - Malwarebytes?
 - both?
- I thought it more likely a false positive in Malwarebytes
 - *hope* a security company protects their online services!

Share

Reporting at Malwarebytes

- Malwarebytes has forum for reporting issues
 - <https://forums.malwarebytes.com/>
- Couple of minutes searching & found:
 - *False positives > Website blocking*
 - read post pinned at top: *Please read before posting a possible FP*

ChrisTaylor Posted yesterday at 07:25 AM ID:1671289

I did look at the post regarding what to do before reporting here. I don't think the logs of a local scan will help. Instead I am including the pop-up from Malwarebytes

VulnDetect is a vulnerability manager from SecTeer, so I **really** hope this is a false positive!

What is shown in the pop-up

Website blocked due to compromised

If you don't want to block this website, you can exclude it from website protection by accessing Exclusions.

Domain : stream.vulndetect.com

IP Address: 65.108.152.217

Port : 443

Type : Outbound

File : C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe

...43 minutes later

JPopovic Posted yesterday at 08:08 AM Staff ID:1671292

The block will be removed.

Thank you!

Staff

3.6k 1,111

Jovan Popovic
Web Protection Researcher

Malwarebytes Staff

fixed because of my reporting



Share

Insidious problem

A product you use includes an open-source component

- vulnerability found in open-source component
- open-source component fixed

The product you use doesn't update their product to include **fixed** open-source component



Can **you** update the insecure component?

- maybe not...*probably not*

What **can** you do?

- complain!

Customer
Complaints

Share

Complaining can work!

VulnDetect-vulnerability in OpenVPN.exe

- obviously installed by TunnelBear

OpenVPN (2.6) OpenVPN INC 2.6.10 **Insecure**

Recommended version: 2.6.12 **Ok**

By: OpenVPN INC

Based on: C:\Program Files (x86)\TunnelBear\Bins\x64\openvpn.exe

Detected Architecture: x64

OpenVPN (2.6) OpenVPN INC 2.6.10 **Insecure**

Recommended version: 2.6.12 **Ok**

By: OpenVPN INC

Based on: C:\Program Files (x86)\TunnelBear\Bins\x86\openvpn.exe

Detected Architecture: x86

Reported to TunnelBear

From TunnelBear <support@tunnelbear.zendesk.com>

To Chris Taylor <chris.taylor@opcug.ca> 8:13 a.m.

Reply to TunnelBear <support+id2R62PD-66GEV@tunnelbear.zendesk.com>

Subject **Your support request has been received by a Bear!**

- Please type your reply above this line -

Your support request has been received and is being reviewed by our Support Bears. (397402)

Please bear with us, we will do our best to **respond to all inquiries within 48 hours**. While you wait for a response, [check out our Help Section](#) for solutions to common problems and questions.

Checked TunnelBear updates

- using latest version

Settings

Map SplitBear Settings

General Connection SplitBear Account

✓ You're using the latest version of TunnelBear.

Free TunnelBear
chris.taylor@opcug.ca

1999 MB remaining

Upgrade TunnelBear

Manage account

Version 4.9.10 **Check for updates** Send report

Response in under 13 hrs

From TunnelBear <support@tunnelbear.zendesk.com>

To Chris Taylor <chris.taylor@opcug.ca> 9:05 p.m.

Subject **[TunnelBear] Re: [TB] I am up to date on TunnelBear (4.9.10). I us**

CubCake Bear (TunnelBear)
Nov 26, 2024, 21:05 EST

Thanks for 'bearing' with me while I asked the correct people. Looks like they are in the process of **updating this in the next release**, that said, we are on a release freeze at the moment (you know trying no to break anything before the end of the year).

Let me know if you have any further questions!

CubCake Bear

Support Bear

fixed because of **my** reporting



Share

Follow-up to come?

VulnDetect-vulnerability in 7z.exe

- obviously installed by NVIDIA

7-Zip	Igor Pavlov	22.01	Insecure
Recommended version: 24.08 Ok  			
By: Igor Pavlov			
Based on: C:\ProgramData\NVIDIA Corporation\Downloader\latest\NvApp\7z.exe			
Detected Architecture: x64			
Open product homepage			

7-Zip	Igor Pavlov	22.01	Insecure
Recommended version: 24.08 Ok  			
By: Igor Pavlov			
Based on: C:\Users\All Users\Application Data\NVIDIA Corporation\Downloader\latest\NvApp\7z.exe			
Detected Architecture: x64			
Open product homepage			

Updated to latest NVIDIA drivers

- released 2 weeks ago
- same version of 7z.exe

Reported to NVIDIA

- waiting for response

From: Nvidia Customer Care <nvhhelp@nvidia.com> 
To: chris.taylor@opcug.ca 
Reply to: Nvidia Customer Care <nvidia@mailac.custhelp.com> 
Subject: **7z.exe installed by NVIDIA has a security vulnerability I use SecTeer...** [Incident: 241126]

7:10 a.m.



Your question has been received. You should expect a response from us within 24 hours.
To update your question with additional information, reply to this email or [click here](#)

Subject
7z.exe installed by NVIDIA has a security vulnerability I use SecTeer...

Question Reference # 241126
Date Created: 11/26/2024 04:10 AM
Status: New



**Any other:
Questions
Comments
Shares?**

One-on-One Remote Assistance



**One-on-One
Remote Assistance**
(members only) *

- The details of our **One-on-one remote assistance programme** are posted at:
- If you need help on any computer-related issue, send a request for assistance to:

<https://opcug.ca/one-on-one-remote-assistance/>

1on1request@opcug.ca

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



OPCUG PRESENTATIONS AT THE OTTAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY

How to Buy a PC

Chris Taylor

Rosemount, Thursday Nov 28, 2024 at 6:00pm

How to Secure a Home Wireless Network

Chris Taylor

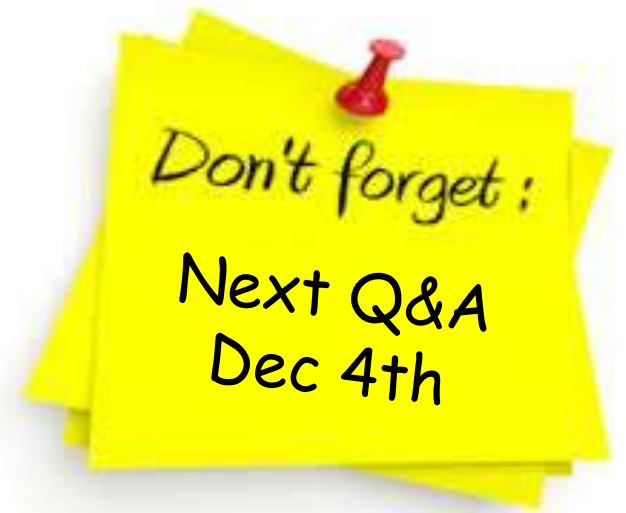
Centennial, Monday Dec 2, 2024 at 6:00pm

Whoa, Backup! Effective Strategies for Keeping Your Computer Files Safe

Chris Taylor

Cumberland. Saturday Dec 7, 2024 at 2:00pm

<https://bibliottawalibrary.ca/en/program?text=pc+users>



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

SuggestionBox@opcug.ca

** Questions, comments, and shares can be anonymous if requested*