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Tech Myths You Should Stop Believing

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Like the old wives' tale telling you not to go outside with wet hair or else you'll catch a cold, everyday gadgets come with a lot of bad or dated advice. Most people will be surprised by at least one of these debunked myths, which is why I've listed them below.

Don't be embarrassed if you've been doing these things religiously, because they're widely held beliefs, and many have a grain of truth.

Pull plug when computer freezes

You're doing something on your computer, whether it's an important project, some aimless browsing, or trying to beat your high score on Solitaire, and without warning, everything freezes.

You wiggle the mouse, click the buttons a few times, tap some keys on your keyboard and nothing. Your



21st-century piece of technology is as useless as a pet rock. What do you do next?

Some people think they have to pull the computer's power plug or flip the switch on the power strip. Instead, simply hold the computer's power button for five to 10

seconds, and it will restart with less disruption than a complete power loss.

At this point, you may need to troubleshoot the problem. There are basic steps you can take that don't require an IT degree.

You shouldn't shut down your computer every day.

While some may believe it's harmful to shut down your computer every night, the truth is it's actually good to turn off your computer regularly. It's easy to get into the habit of putting your laptop in sleep mode so you can easily return to it without having to boot up. But, as Lifehacker points out, shutting it down when not in use conserves power and places less stress on its components, which could enable it to last longer.

Leaving your phone plugged in destroys the battery

If you're like most people, you probably leave your phone plugged in overnight long after the battery is fully charged. Some used to say this would hurt your phone's battery life, but in fact, there's no proof that



this damages your phone's battery in any way. Modern smartphones run on lithium-ion batteries, which are smart enough to stop charging when they've reached

Five Details Facebook Asks for You Shouldn't Give

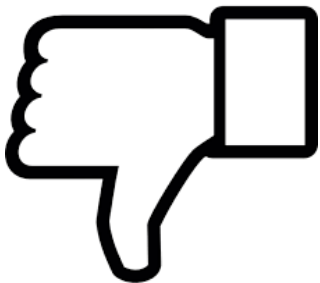
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1. YOUR PHONE NUMBER

It's a good idea to avoid having your home or cellphone numbers on your Facebook page. Prank callers, stalkers and even identity thieves can use this information to ruin your day.

2. YOUR HOME ADDRESS

Almost any person trying to steal your identity, [or rob your house](#), could take advantage of knowing your home address. Be sure that none of that information is visible anywhere on your Facebook profile.



Follow the directions in the last section to get into the "Contact and Basic Info" section of your profile information. Look for "Add your address," and click on the hyperlink, if there's an address there, delete the information. Then click "Save Changes."

3. ANYTHING WORK-RELATED

Try not to leave any information on your Facebook that reveals where you work. You don't just have to worry about identity thieves when it comes to your employment.

If someone from your workplace tries to search for employees on Facebook, then they might find something that they don't like. Similarly, if hackers wanted to figure out who to target if they wanted to break into your workplace's computers, social media would be their first stop.

4. YOUR RELATIONSHIP STATUS

Including your relationship status on your Facebook page just invites awkwardness. The number of "likes"

that you might get from people after you change your status from "married" to "it's complicated" will creep you out.

5. YOUR BIRTHDAY

When you signed up for Facebook, it asked for your birthdate. This is both to confirm that you're older than 13, and so Facebook can remind your friends to wish you a happy birthday.

Computer Humor



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