

THE NetworkGuy

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The Power of Optimism

You've heard it before: Attitude is everything. It shapes how you perceive the world and how you respond to any given situation. So, what should we do when life is hard or seems impossible? How can we change that? According to Elon Musk, the answer to those questions is optimism.

Elon Musk's advice for young people:

"Err on the side of optimism. Be optimistic about the future. It's better to err on the side of being optimistic and wrong, than pessimistic and right. Your quality of life will be much better. I would urge people to be excited about the future. I'm excited about the future. I'm confident the future will not be boring. It's going to be very interesting and I think it's like, most likely to be great, I'd advise people to learn as much as possible, read a lot of books, try a lot of things."

What if you err on the side of optimism and you're wrong? It's still better to live with hope than skepticism. The future belongs to those who are brave enough to imagine it better. Learn as much as you can, live as well as you can, and believe that good things are on the horizon.

The Network Guy Quiz Challenge

PenTeleData is giving one lucky winner a \$150 Amazon Gift Card. Just visit www.ptd.net/quiz by **October 31, 2026** to answer the contest question. We will select a winner at random from all correct entries. **Good Luck!**

Click the Quiz Challenge link and and choose which tech fact is always true.

Learn from The Network Guy

What is the difference between IMAP and POP3 for email?

The Network Guy:

IMAP keeps your emails stored on the cloud server, syncing your inbox actions across multiple devices. POP3 downloads the emails to a single physical device.



Things That Make You Go Hmmm...

Netflix started in 1997 after co-founder Reed Hastings got charged a \$40 late fee for a VHS copy of Apollo 13.

Netflix mailed its very last red DVD envelope on September 29, 2023, ending a 25-year run that began before streaming existed.

Netflix popularized dropping entire seasons at once rather than weekly releases, turning “binge-watching” into a global cultural verb.

Early skeptics nicknamed Hulu “Clown Co” in 2007 because industry experts doubted a joint venture between rival networks (NBC and Fox) could survive.

Unlike Netflix’s full season drops, Hulu built its reputation on letting users watch traditional network TV episodes the exact day after they aired live.

The name Hulu comes from two Mandarin Chinese words—hùlù (gourd) and hùlì (interactive recording)—meaning an interactive container of precious things.

Netflix’s recommendation algorithm does more than just suggest what to watch next. According to Forbes, the technology saves users an estimated 160 hours of browsing time per year.

Network Fun Fact

A single optical fiber is often thinner than a human hair, yet it can carry more information than a thick copper cable the size of your arm. Inside laser pulses of light represent your emails, videos, and calls.

PenTeleData is Proud to Serve Adamstown, PA

Adamstown, PA was originally home to a Native American village. On July 4, 1761, William Addams laid out a town site in the valley, an area he discovered while on a surveying trip. He set up a grist mill before selling building lots in the new town of Addamsbury. The town became incorporated on April 2, 1850.

Adamstown is situated on the edge of a valley next to a ridge. The streets heading north of Main Street go up, sometimes steeply. The springs in the area attracted settlers and its location between Reading and Lancaster made it a natural stop for travelers, but this small town was not a major hub. Much of the early growth in the area was directed to other towns directly served by the railroad.

Since the main road through Adamstown is Route 272, not its main street, most passing motorists only see an Adamstown welcome sign near a pool, a restaurant/brewery, some antiques shops and a drive-in ice cream and hamburger stand. Still, one block north there is a town complete with historic houses, parks, and businesses.

Adamstown is home to the oldest hatmaker in the United States, Bollman Hat Co.; the state’s first microbrewery, Stoudt’s; and Good’s Potato Chips. It is also widely known as Antiques Capital, USA. The title dates to 1962, when antiques dealer, Charles Weik, began holding flea markets at Shupp’s Grove. The venture was a hit and locals took notice. They began selling the stuff they had stored in their attics. Antique dealers found the venture so lucrative that they began to buy real estate along the main highway, Route 272, to set up permanent shops.



Tech Myth Buster

MYTH:

Closing apps on a mobile device boosts performance.

FACT:

Modern operating systems manage background tasks efficiently and force-closing apps may even consume more resources. Instead, focus on uninstalling unused apps and updating software regularly for optimal device performance.

Patriotic Fun Fact

Borrowing from European traditions, Americans began to dress up in costumes and go house to house asking for food or money, a practice that eventually became today’s Halloween tradition. In America, the phrase “trick or treat” first appeared in print in 1927, though the practice wasn’t widespread until after World War II, when the Depression Era sugar rationing ended. The post-war baby boom, suburban expansion, and growing middle class created ideal conditions for trick-or-treating to flourish. By the 1950s, it had become the central Halloween activity for American children.