

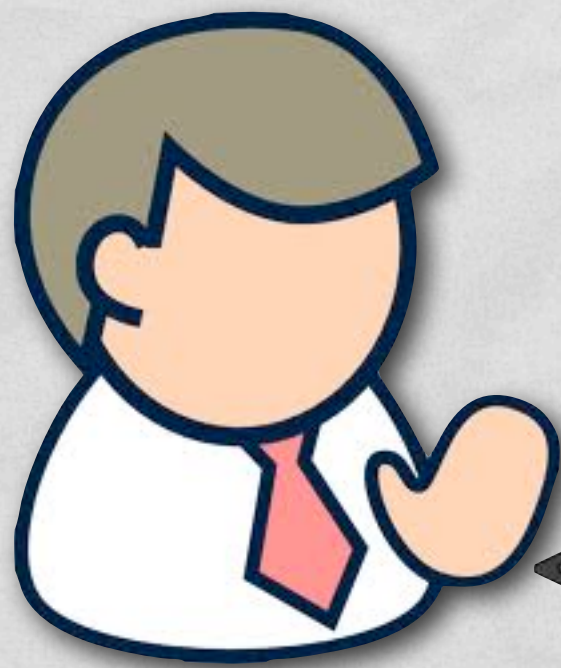


ONLINE COLLABORATION

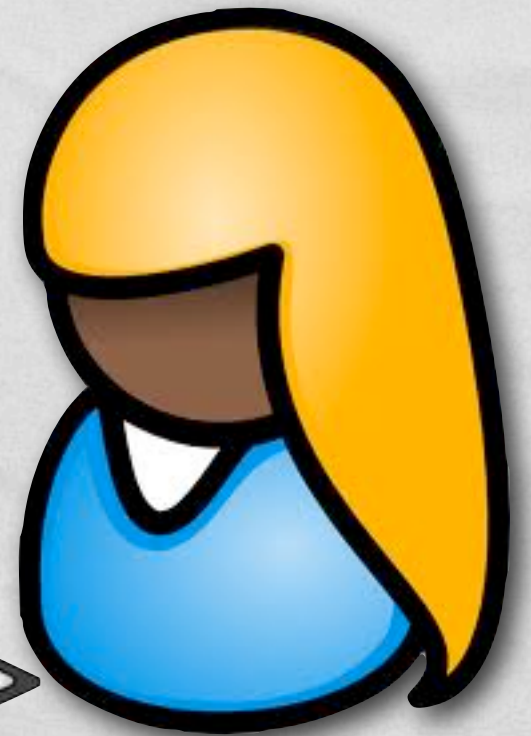
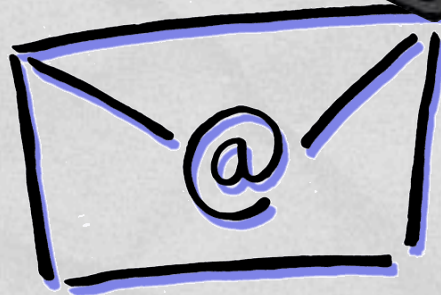
KEITH BRADNAM

A talk for the Davis Community Network, 1st November 2011

OVERVIEW



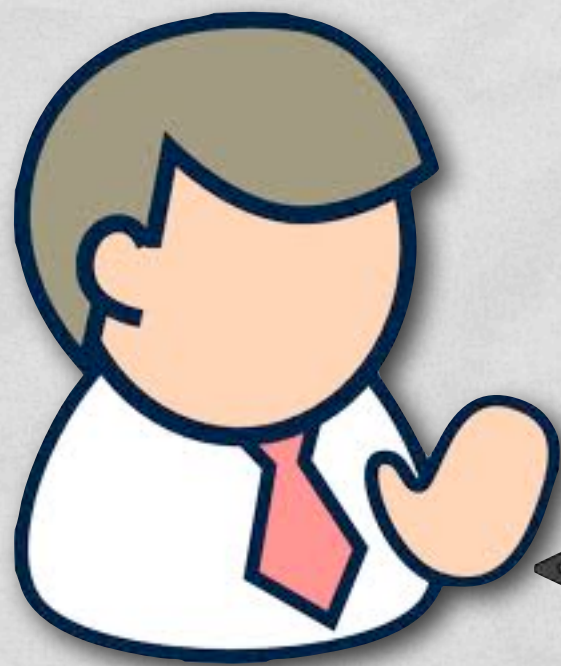
Bob



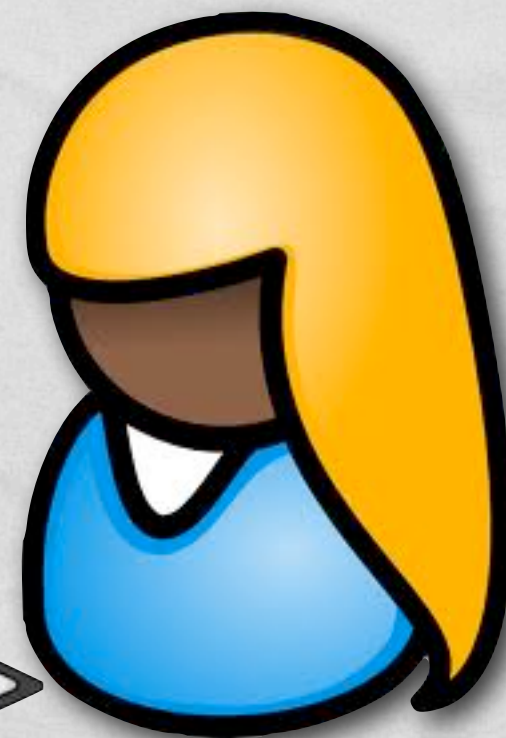
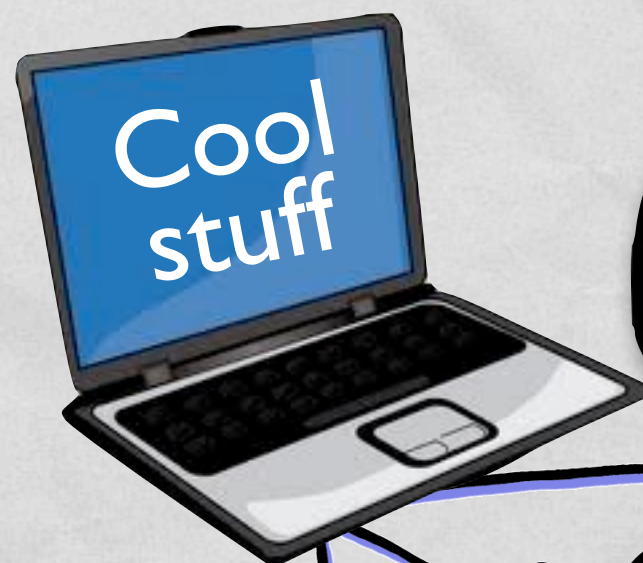
Alice

We often end up using email to share stuff with collaborators. Email is often not the best tool.

OVERVIEW



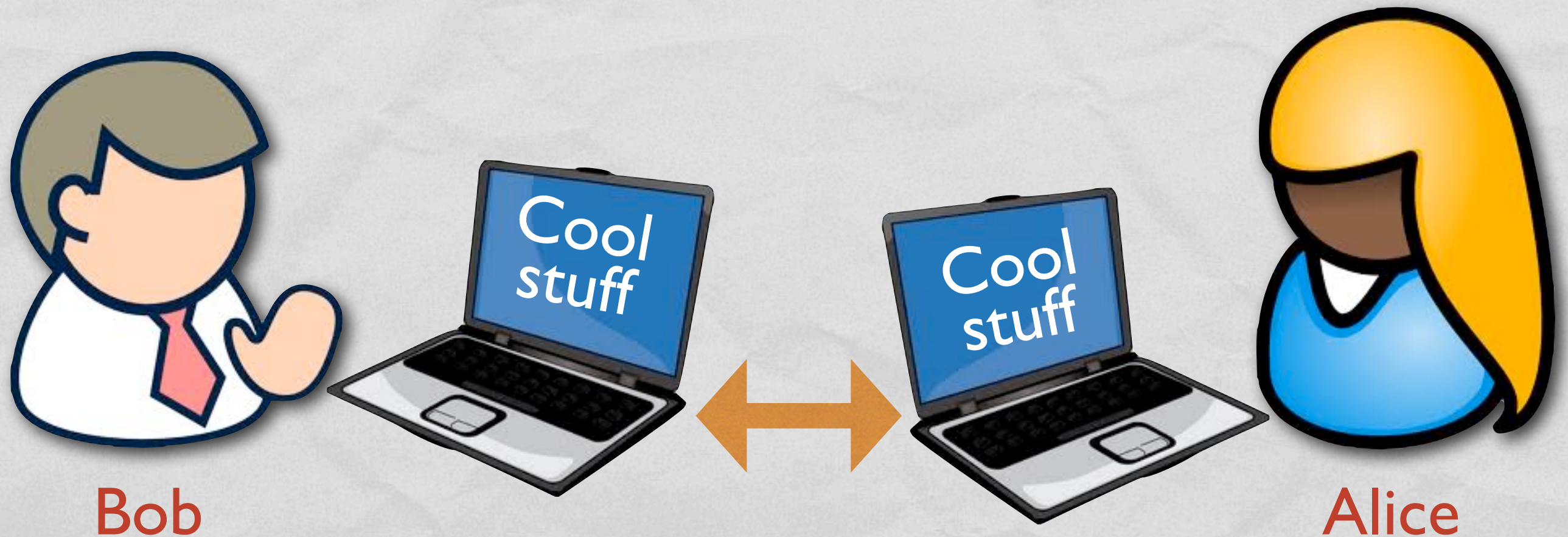
Bob



Alice



OVERVIEW



Ideally we want things to data to magically sync between computers

THIS IS NOT ABOUT...



Microsoft Project Server & Lotus Domino Server are big project management tools that allow you to collaborate online...not the subject of this talk.

THIS IS ABOUT...

- Relatively simple software that:
 - enables you to do ‘stuff’ collaboratively
 - is (mostly) free
 - is (mostly) web based
 - helps you avoid using email to share stuff

5 CAVEATS

I) CHOICE

- There is a LOT of free software out there!
- I haven't used most of it!
- These are *suggestions* of some popular tools

2) SUSTAINABILITY

- Some free software tools have a short shelf life:
 - vanish because they weren't making money
 - get wiped out by competitor
 - get bought out by bigger company

SUSTAINABILITY

Grand Central + Google = Google Voice

Writely + Google = Google Docs

Lala + Apple = RIP

Skype + Microsoft = ???

It can be dangerous to make long term plans!

3) PRICE

- Not all free software remains free
- Some applications keep *basic* functionality for free
- Some software is free on the web but you pay for smartphone apps

4) PLATFORMS

- Are you a Mac or Windows user?
- Will you *always* be a Mac or Windows user?
- Collaboration software is often web-based, but...
 - some companies also release desktop apps
 - some companies release smartphone apps
 - not always for all platforms

5) PRIVACY

- Do you trust another company to handle your data?
- Not too different from trusting email providers
- Check privacy policy from companies

SOME TOOLS TO CONSIDER

BLOGGING

BLOGS

- A great way to share text, pictures, audio, and movies
- Blogs can (usually) be made private:
 - Can create a blog as an internal online newsletter
 - Use to share page layout ideas between colleagues
 - Wedding planning

BLOGS

- Most have similar set of features:
 - use Email to create blog posts
 - iPhone/Android apps
 - scheduled posting
 - allow multiple authors

BLOGGER

- Part of Google
- Free
- Can make money by adding ads



[New post](#)

[Overview](#)

[Posts](#)

[Pages](#)

[Comments](#)

[Stats](#)

[Earnings](#)

[Layout](#)

[Template](#)

[Settings](#)

[Basic](#)

[Posts and comments](#)

[Mobile and email](#)

[Language and
formatting](#)

[Other](#)

Basic

Title

The Molluskan Zodiac [Edit](#)

Description

Divining the future from the mysterious marine life of the world's oceans. The molluskan horoscope is the only horoscope that is based on marine invertebrates
<http://draft.blogger.com> more accurate than traditional Chinese astrology. [Edit](#)

Privacy

List of emails of people to invite, comma separated:

Cancel

OK

Publishing

Blog Address

molluskanzodiac.blogspot.com

[Edit](#)



[redirects](#)

Permissions

Blog Authors



Keith Bradnam

kbradnam@gmail.com

Admin

[+ Add authors](#)

Blog Readers

Anybody [Edit](#)

Most blogs allow you to let multiple people contribute to a site.

[New post](#)

- [Overview](#)
- [Posts](#)
- [Pages](#)
- [Comments](#)
- [Stats](#)
- [Earnings](#)
- [Layout](#)
- [Template](#)
- [Settings](#)

[Basic](#)

[Posts and comments](#)

[Mobile and email](#)

[Language and
formatting](#)

[Other](#)

Basic

Title

The Molluskan Zodiac [Edit](#)

Description

Divining the future from the mysterious marine life of the world's oceans. The molluskan horoscope is the only horoscope that is based on marine invertebrates and has been scientifically calculated to be 1.6x more accurate than traditional western astrology, and 2.4x more accurate than Chinese astrology. [Edit](#)

Privacy

Listed on Blogger. Visible to search engines. [Edit](#)

Publishing

Blog Address

zodiac.keithbradnam.com

[Edit](#)



molluskanzodiac.blogspot.com

redirects

Blog Readers

☒ Anybody

Your blog is open to all readers by default.

☐ Only these readers

You can restrict your blog to only readers you choose. However, these readers will need to log in before reading your blog, adding an extra step. We'll save your readers list for you, so you can switch back at any time.

☐ Only blog authors

Your blog is restricted so that only blog authors can read it. Other visitors to this blog will not be able to read any posts; instead they will get a message stating that this is a private blog.

[Save changes](#)

[Cancel](#)

Also, most blogs allow you to make a blog private to a selected group of authors.

TUMBLR

- Free
- More options for groups
- Can allow 'submissions'
- Can call a number to record audio post

tumblr.

WORDPRESS

- Free (with ads)
- Can pay to remove ads
- Can add 'pages' as well as blog posts
- Other paid upgrades available



POSTEROUS

- Free
- No ads
- Can add 'pages' as well as blog posts
- Posterous 'spaces' offers fine grained control of privacy



UNIX AND PERL FOR BIOLOGISTS

HOME

NEWS

HOW TO GET HELP

EXAMPLE FILES

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

HOME



Image conceived by K. Bradnam and drawn by [Corrie Haffley](#)

This is the website to accompany the [Unix & Perl For Biologists Primer](#) and the 'Unix and Perl to the Rescue' book that were both developed and written by [Keith Bradnam](#) and [Ian Korf](#). You can use this site to [get help](#) with the material covered by the primer and the book, download [example files](#) used in the book, or just find out more [about the authors](#).

Since we first started teaching this material as a graduate student course at [UC Davis](#), we have seen how transformative it can be for a student to learn even a small amount of programming knowledge. Unix and Perl are both great tools for helping making sense of data and the average biologist today has a lot of data to make sense of. Sometimes the world of programming can seem very alien to someone who has never written code before. But just like learning a foreign language, even a little bit of knowledge can go a long way.

Whenever we have taught this material we have tried to not make any assumptions about prior knowledge and have also tried to only teach one new concept at a time. Furthermore, we have tried to

posterous

```
#!/usr/bin/perl
choose strict;
choose warnings;
choose life;
```

KEITH & IAN

This site contains information relating to the [Unix & Perl For Biologists Primer](#) and the 'Unix and Perl to the Rescue!' book that were developed by Keith Bradnam & Ian Korf.

twitter



GET UPDATES

This is your Space ([Edit](#))

[Subscribe via RSS](#)

Blogs like Posterous allow you to make fully-formed websites, with multiple pages. Posterous even allows you to register a web domain when you create your blog.

Posterior Spaces Demo

FILE TRANSFER

DEALING WITH BIG FILES

- Email usually has a limit for attachments (~10–50 MB)
- Photos from digital cameras are large
- Videos are even larger
- Email is not the best tool to transfer large files!

WEBSITE ALTERNATIVES

- There are a LOT of website that will allow you to upload large files for free
- Really LARGE files
- Others can then download them
- Privacy concerns?

WETRANSFER.COM

- Free
- Upload files up to 2GB
- Files stored for 2 weeks
- No account needed



GE.TT

- Free
- Upload files up to 2GB
- Files stored for 3 months
- Account needed
- Provides web links to files



SENDUIT.COM

- Free
- Upload files up to 1 GB
- Files stored for 30 minutes to 1 week
- No account needed
- Provides web links to files

senduit

Sometimes you only want to share files for a limited period of time.

FILEDROPPER.COM

- Free
- Upload files up to 5GB!!!
- No account needed
- Provides web links to files



File Transfer Demo

ONLINE FILE STORAGE



The cloud is the internet. It acts as the intermediary in syncing files (and other data) between multiple computers (and other devices such as smartphones and tablets).



Access to your data 'in the cloud' is often provided through a web browser.

WHY STORE FILES ONLINE?

- Sync between all of your computers & devices
- Online access to files
- Provides a form of backup
- Can *easily share* files with collaborators

3 MAJOR PLAYERS



Dropbox



box.net



SugarSync

All have slightly different features!

BACKUP	SugarSync	Dropbox	MobileMe	Box.net	Carbonite	Mozy
File backup with recovery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Backup any folder on your computer	✓	NO	NO	NO	✓	✓
Real-time upload of changes	✓	✓	NO	NO	NO	NO
Versioning with ability to restore	✓	✓	NO	✓	✓	✓
SYNC WITH MULTIPLE COMPUTERS						
Sync files on multiple computers	✓	✓	Limited	Limited	NO	NO
Select any folder on your computer to sync	✓	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Select which folders to sync across computers	✓	✓	NO	NO	NO	NO
Sync shared folders between people	✓	✓	NO	NO	NO	NO
Upload / Sync via email	✓	NO	NO	✓	NO	NO
Sync folders to mobile devices (iPhone/iPad and Android)	✓	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
REMOTE ACCESS						
Access all files from web browser	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	NO
Simple editing of files through the web (auto download and upload)	✓	NO	NO	✓	NO	NO
SHARING / COLLABORATION						
Send files of any size	✓	NO	✓	✓	NO	NO
Share folders	✓	✓	NO	✓	NO	NO
Share folders with permissions and password	✓	NO	NO	✓	NO	NO
Publishing to Facebook Photos	✓	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO

From SugarSync website

MEDIA







































Auto-creation of photo albums	✓	✓	NO	NO	NO	NO
Share photo albums	✓	✓	✓	NO	NO	NO
Stream music to web browser	✓	Limited	NO	✓	NO	NO
Stream music to iPhone	✓	Limited	✓	NO	NO	NO
Stream music to BlackBerry	✓	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Stream music to Android	✓	✓	NO	NO	NO	NO

MOBILE

iPad	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	NO
iPhone	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	NO
BlackBerry	✓	✓	NO	NO	✓	NO
Windows Mobile	✓	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Android	✓	✓	NO	✓	NO	NO
Symbian	✓	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Mobile website (optimized for the mobile experience)	✓	✓	NO	✓	NO	NO

PLATFORMS

XP, Vista and 7 support	✓	✓	NO	NO	✓	✓
Mac OSX support	✓	✓	✓	NO	✓	✓
Linux support	NO	✓	NO	NO	NO	NO
Platform API	✓	✓	NO	✓	NO	NO
Mobile API	✓	✓	NO	Limited	NO	NO

Compare Plan Features	Personal	Business	Enterprise
Users	1 User	3 to 500	Unlimited 
Web-Storage	5 to 50 GB 	500 GB	Unlimited 
File size limit	25 MB to 1GB 	2 GB	2 GB
File sharing links			
Mobile app access			
Password protected sharing			
Faster uploads			
Enhanced collaboration			
Full-text search			
Download stats tracking			
Sync desktop files			
User administrative console			
Role-based access			
Document version history			
Google Apps integration			
Advanced admin & security controls			
Encrypted storage & transfer			
Full custom branding			
Group-based access			
Add / edit user accounts in bulk			
Salesforce.com integration			
Dedicated support			
ECM Cloud Connect 			
Single Sign-On Support 			
Price	5 GB Free	\$15 per user per month	Call 1-877-729-4269



From box.net website. You want more features, you must pay.

WHY I LIKE DROPBOX

- 2 GB free online storage
- Relatively easy to get more free storage
- Keeps 30 days of history for any file
- Can view most file types on my phone
- Very easy to share folders with other Dropbox users

POTENTIAL ISSUES

- Collaborators may have more online space than you
- Not all data synced to smartphones automatically
- If you become reliant on it, you might end up paying for more storage
- Privacy

Dropbox Demo

ONLINE WRITING

ONLINE WRITING

- Many tools to let you write collaboratively
- Also let you make presentations, use spreadsheets, produce feedback forms
- Most tools track all changes made to a document, and let you collaborate in *real time*
- Most tools can import from Microsoft documents

NOT GOOGLE

- Writeboard
- Zoho (free for personal use)
- Dabbleboard (online whiteboard)
- Adobe Buzzword
- Microsoft Office
- And several more!


GOOGLE DOCS

- For documents, spreadsheets, presentations, tables, forms, and drawings
- Can also upload *any* filetype and store it on web
- Very mature product
- Great for sharing with others
- Offline access if you use Chrome browser



Untitled document

Comments ▾

 Share

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Table Help



1 2 3 4 5 6 7


|

I

Tools like Google Docs offer you about 1% of the features provided by software such as Microsoft Word. Fortunately, this is the 1% of features you actually need and use.

Untitled document ☆

Comments ▾

 Share

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Table Help All changes saved



1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Sharing settings

Who has access



Private - Only the people listed below can access

[Change...](#)



Keith Bradnam (you)

1@gmail.com

Is owner

Add people:

Enter names, email addresses, or groups...


Editors will be allowed to add people and change the permissions. [\[Change\]](#)

Done

Very easy to share content

Untitled document ☆

Comments ▾

 Share

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Table Help All changes saved




1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Sharing settings

Who has access



Private - Only the people listed below can access

[Change...](#)Keith Bradnam (you)  i@gmail.com

Is owner

Add people: [Choose from contacts](#)☒ Notify people via email - [Add message](#)[Share & save](#)[Cancel](#)☐ Send a
☐ Paste
email[Can edit ▾](#)

✓ Can edit

Can comment

Can view

Can let people edit, view, or just comment on your documents.

To be continued...

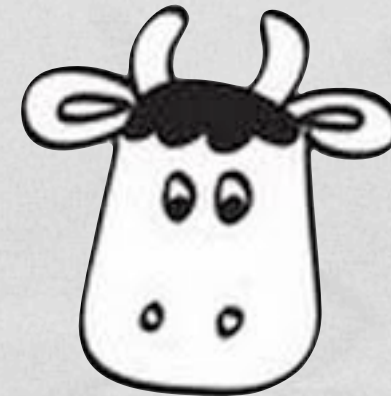
TASK MANAGERS

MANAGING 'TO-DO' ITEMS

- There are 100's of apps/websites that can manage lists of tasks
- Very few of these let you *share* lists
- Not all of them are free

REMEMBER THE MILK

- Free web service
- Paid phone apps
- No desktop app
- Easy to share lists with other users



WUNDERLIST

- Free service
- Web, desktop, and mobile apps
- Desktop apps for Windows, Mac, & Linux
- Can share lists with other users



Relatively new app, available for all platforms, and can share list items.

DIGITAL SCRAPBOOKS

KEEP 'STUFF' IN ONE PLACE

- Some apps act as digital scrapbooks
- Can store: lists, notes, images, bookmarks, audio etc.
- Just use on the web, or sync to desktop/phone etc.
- Can share items/lists with other users

EVERNOTE

- Free web/desktop/mobile service
- Paid upgrade options (no ads)
- Can transcribe text from pictures
- Easy to clip material from webpage
- Store entire webpages
- Well supported service



Expense Reports - 3 - vtreyanderson - Evernote

File Edit View Format Tools Help

Sync Trunk New Note Ink Note All Notes Delete Email Print **Current Monthly Usage**

Viewing 3 notes from Expense Reports

Notebooks

- All notes 3
- Expense Reports 3
- vtreyanderson's notebook 0

Tags

- Dinning 1
- Expense 3
- Expense Reports 0
- 091210 3
- Mileage 1
- Parking 1

Attributes

- Created
- Last Modified
- Contains
- Source

Saved Searches

- No Saved Searches
- Trash 6

Notes by Date Created

- Scomas dinner w/ USA Chemical**
Created: Today 10:31 AM Updated: Today 10:32 AM
Tagged: 091210, Dinning, Expense
- Mileage Start Finish to from Airport.jpg**
Created: Today 10:01 AM Updated: Today 10:01 AM
Tagged: 091210, Expense, Mileage
- Airport parking \$90**
Created: Today 8:55 AM Updated: Today 8:56 AM
Tagged: 091210, Expense, Parking

Scomas dinner w/ USA Chemical Expense R...

091210 X Dinning X Expense X

Click to set source url

SCOMAS
Pier 47, San Francisco, CA 94133
(415) 771-4383
WWW.SCOMAS.COM
*** DINING ROOM ***
Date: Jul09'10 01:42PM
Card Type:
Acct #:
Card Entry: SWIPED
Trans Type: PURCHASE
Auth Code: 00920P
Check: 5779
Table: 31/1
Server: 136 Sal Fila

Subtotal: 61.32
Gratuuity: \$14.00
Total: \$75.32

I agree to pay the above total according to my card issuer

Customer meeting w/ Bob Jones - USA Chemical

EVERNOTE STORE
Evernote T-shirts!

Synchronization complete

Free version of Evernote only allows you to sync so much data per month. Collected notes are placed in 'Notebooks' which can optionally be shared with other Evernote users.

SPRINGPAD

- Free service
- Web and mobile, *no* desktop app
- Slightly different focus to Evernote
- Has web clipper tool like Evernote
- Sharing is all or nothing
- Adds 'value' to your data



Springpad Demo

ICLOUD

ICLOUD

- Replacement for Apple's MobileMe service
- Now free
- For Macs, iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch users
- Can share task lists, calendars, with other iCloud users
- Web apps + desktop + iPhone/iPad
- May let you share files in future



CALLING

CALLING

- Do you easily want to set up conference calls?
- Video conferencing?
- Distinction between phone/video/instant messaging apps is becoming blurred

SKYPE

- Free desktop app
- Now owned by Microsoft
- Free Skype-to-Skype calls
- Easy to set up voice conference calls
- Skype Premium account needed for video



GOOGLE VOICE

- Easy voice-conference calls
- Gmail tools:
 - I-on-I video chat via Gmail
 - Free PC-to-phone calls in USA
- Google+ tools:
 - Google Hangouts allows up to 10 people to video chat



APPLE ICHAT

- Up to 4 people can video chat
- You must have a Mac
- Can chat to Yahoo
- FaceTime



WHAT ELSE?

WHAT HAVE I MISSED?

- Calendar apps
- Scheduling apps
- Many, many, more!
- Whatever you want to do, you can probably do it collaboratively online

SUMMARY

FINAL POINTS

- Try before you buy!
- Spend a week playing with software before you commit to using something
- There are nearly always alternatives to consider
- Remember your privacy

Don't just start using the first app you try!