

OPCUG

Users helping users
for over 40 years

Alan German & Chris Taylor

Ottawa PC Users' Group

October 28, 2026



Vibe coding competition feedback

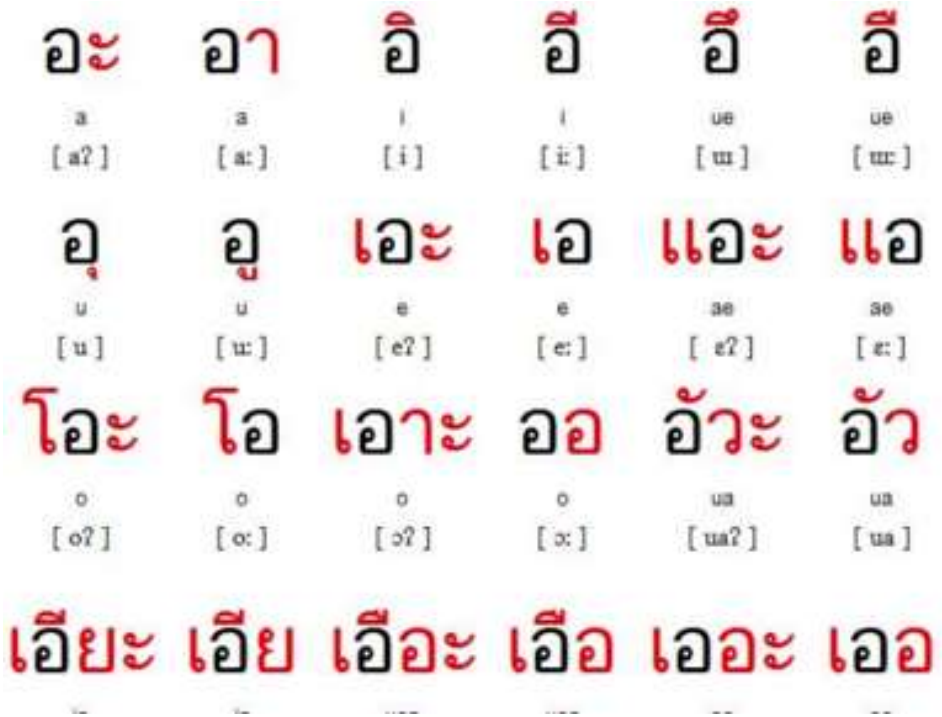


- Received a request for feedback
  - what worked well?
  - what didn't work so well?
  - other feedback
- If you would like to send feedback, please send an email to:
  - meetings@opcug.ca
  - be sure to identify presentation or presenter the comments refer to
    - Creating an IPTV Platform, Jeff Dubois
    - Vibe Coding Monitors, Steve Parker
    - Automating MailStore Home Archiving, Chris Taylor
    - Where?, Tom Trottier
- Emails to that address will only be seen by Alan German
  - he will forward comments to the contestants anonymously



Thai glyphs

What software can produce Thai characters with diacritical marks in red while the main character is black?



Serge-Érik Theriault



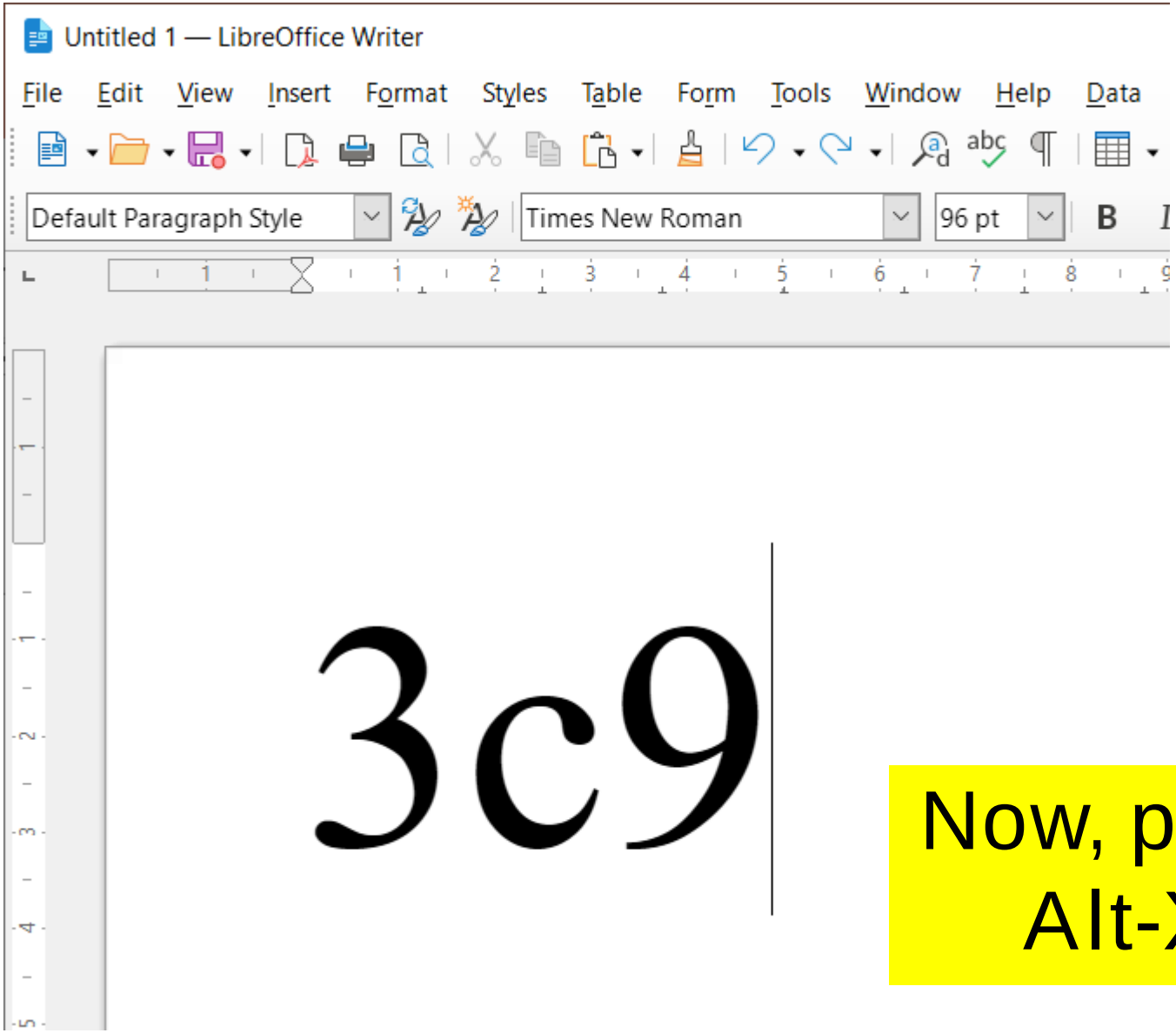
LibreOffice Writer

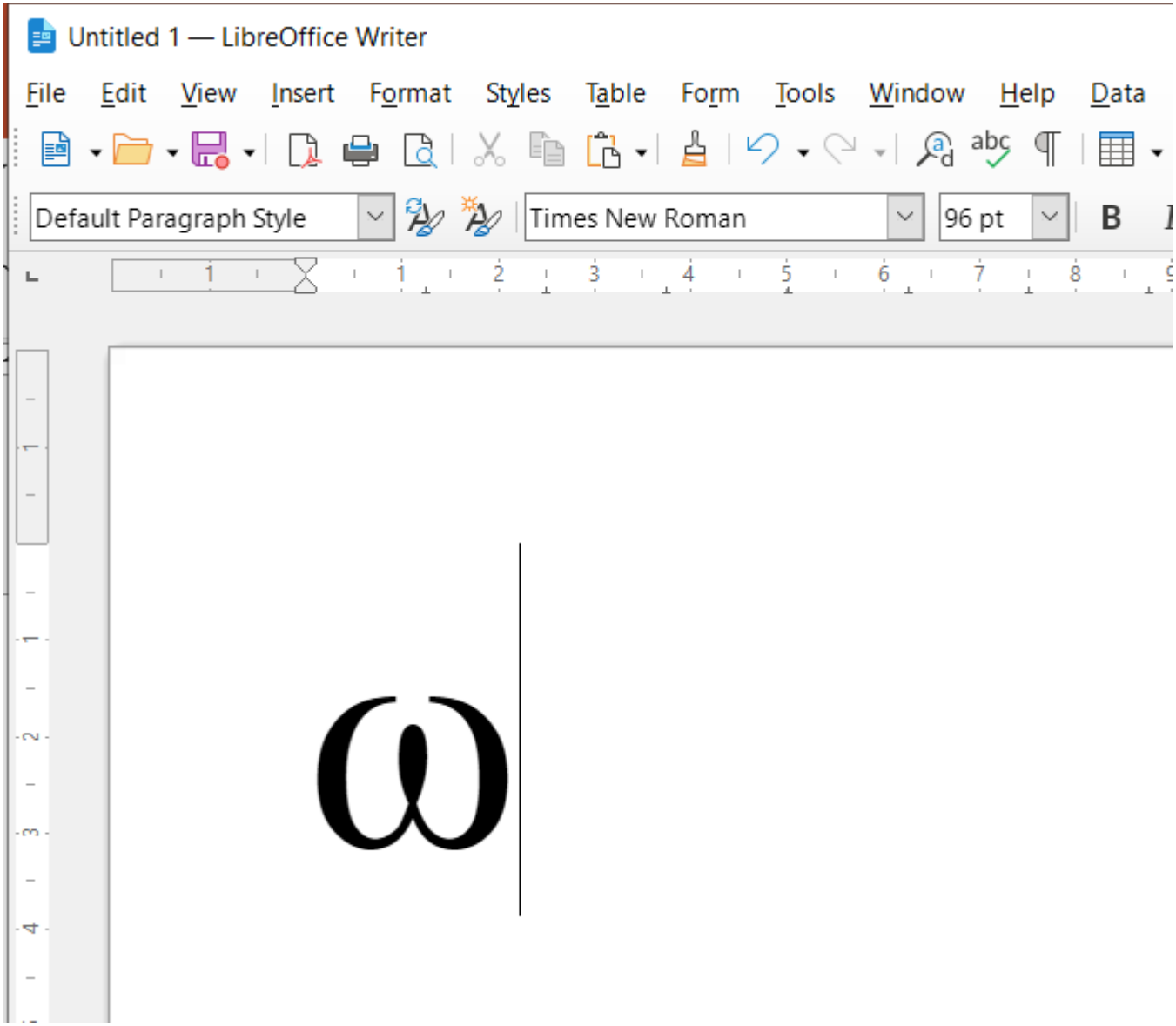


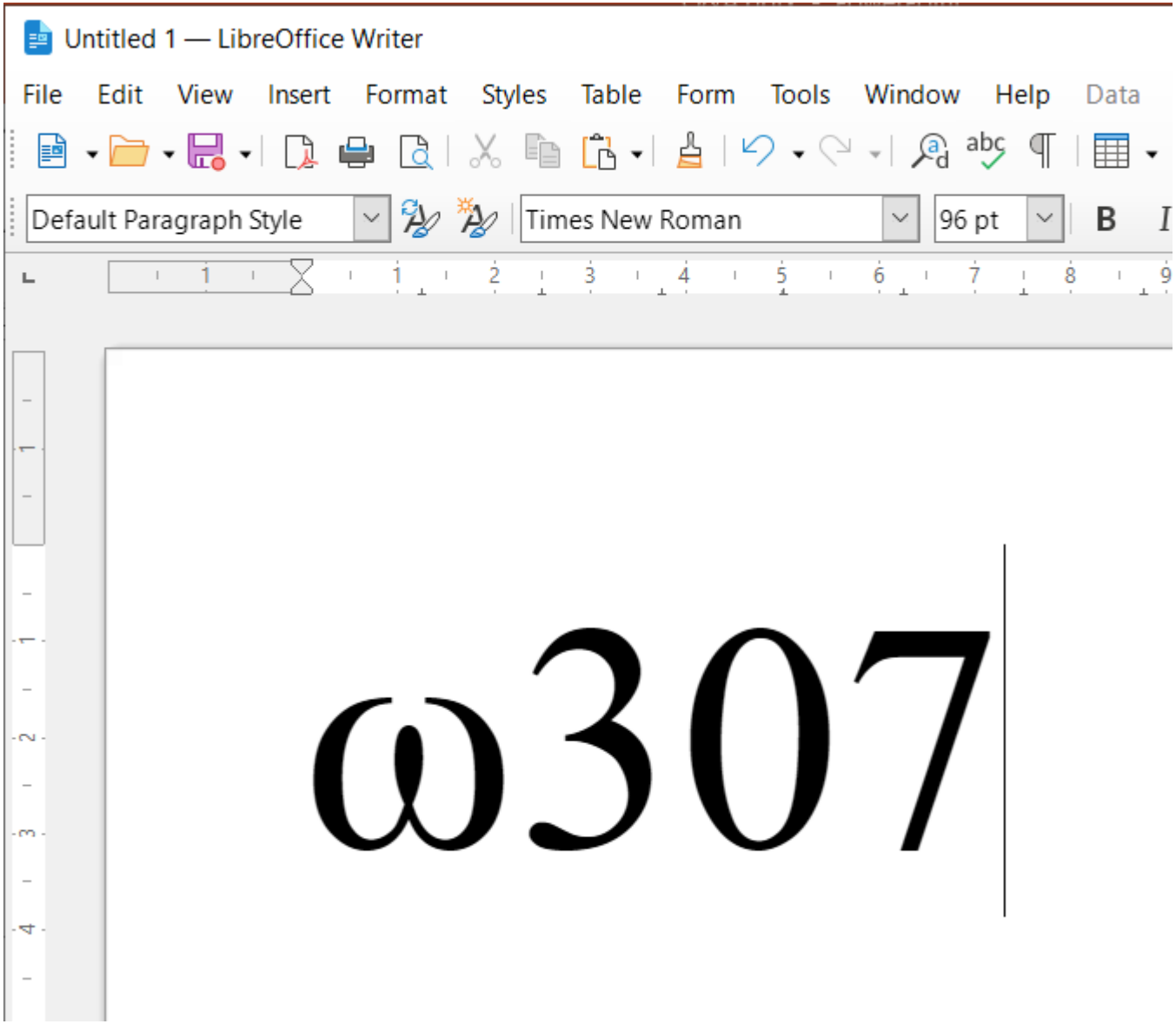
1. Type the Unicode U+3c9 (or just 3c9)
2. Press Alt+X
3. Type the Unicode U+307 (or just 307)
4. Change the font colour of U+307 to red
5. Press Alt+X
6. If not overlapping, change the font, for example to Noto Sans

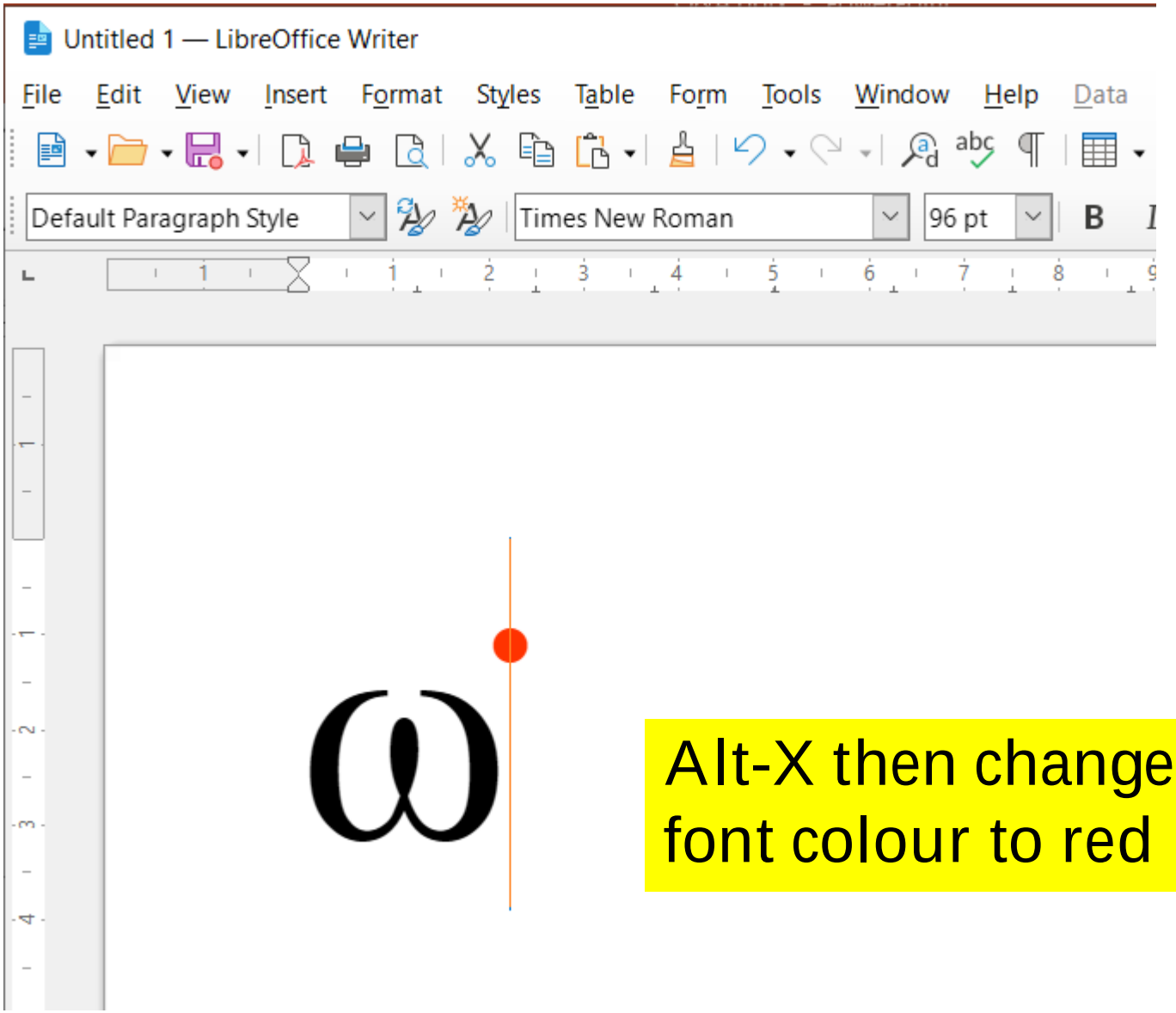
https://ask.libreoffice.org/t/combination-of-two-characters/130024

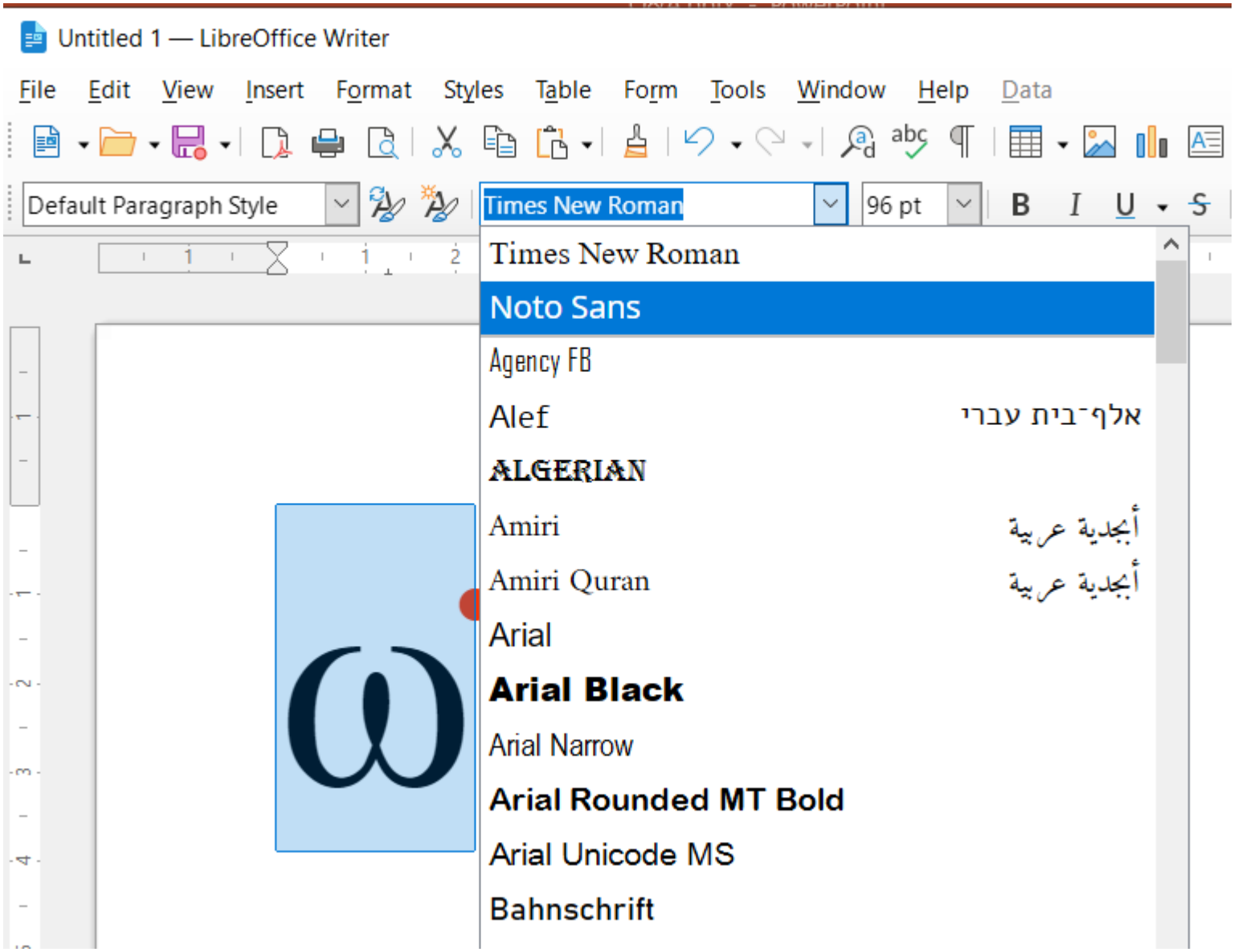
Jocelyn Doire

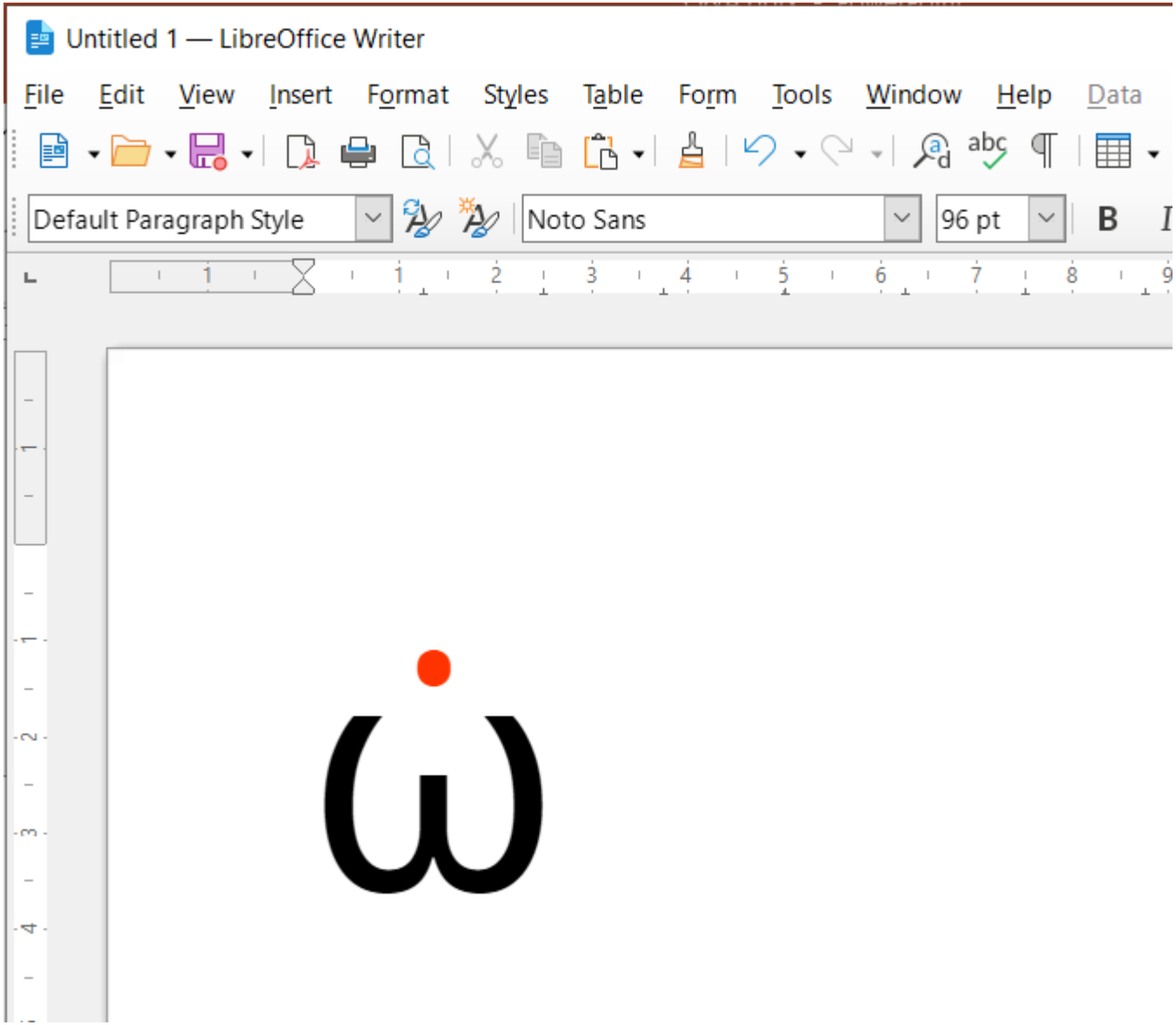

Untitled 1 — LibreOffice Writer
File Edit View Insert Format Styles Table Form Tools Window Help Data
Default Paragraph Style
Times New Roman
96 pt
B
3c9
Now, press
Alt-X


Untitled 1 — LibreOffice Writer
File Edit View Insert Format Styles Table Form Tools Window Help Data
Default Paragraph Style
Times New Roman
96 pt
B
ω


Untitled 1 — LibreOffice Writer
File Edit View Insert Format Styles Table Form Tools Window Help Data
Default Paragraph Style
Times New Roman
96 pt
B
ω307


Untitled 1 — LibreOffice Writer
File Edit View Insert Format Styles Table Form Tools Window Help Data
Default Paragraph Style
Times New Roman
96 pt
B
ω
Alt-X then change font colour to red


Untitled 1 — LibreOffice Writer
File Edit View Insert Format Styles Table Form Tools Window Help Data
Default Paragraph Style
Times New Roman
96 pt
Times New Roman
Noto Sans
Agency FB
Alef
אלף-בית עברי
ALGERIAN
Amiri
أبجدية عربية
Amiri Quran
أبجدية عربية
Arial
Arial Black
Arial Narrow
Arial Rounded MT Bold
Arial Unicode MS
Bahnschrift
ω


Untitled 1 — LibreOffice Writer
File Edit View Insert Format Styles Table Form Tools Window Help Data
Default Paragraph Style
Noto Sans
96 pt
B
ω

Character Sets

The most know set of characters had a number between 0 and 255 (8 bits), encoded in a table called ASCII Chart.

As computers expanded all over the world, the table had to expand to cover other languages, so in 1988 the Unicode was created with over 172 000 entries.

ASCII	Sym	ASCII	Sym	ASCII	Sym	ASCII	Sym	ASCII	Sym	ASCII	Sym	ASCII	Sym	ASCII	Sym
0	null	32	space	64	@	96	`	128	€	160		192	À	224	à
1	soh	33	!	65	A	97	a	129		161	¡	193	Á	225	á
2	stx	34	"	66	B	98	b	130	‚	162	¢	194	Â	226	â
3	etx	35	#	67	C	99	c	131	ƒ	163	£	195	Ã	227	ã
4	eoh	36	$	68	D	100	d	132	„	164	¤	196	Ä	228	ä
5	enq	37	%	69	E	101	e	133	…	165	¥	197	Å	229	å
6	ack	38	&	70	F	102	f	134	†	166	¦	198	Æ	230	æ
7	bel	39	'	71	G	103	g	135	‡	167	§	199	Ç	231	ç
8	bs	40	(	72	H	104	h	136	ˆ	168	¨	200	È	232	è
9	tab	41	)	73	I	105	i	137	‰	169	©	201	É	233	é
10	lf	42	*	74	J	106	j	138	Š	170	ª	202	Ê	234	ê
11	vt	43	+	75	K	107	k	139	‹	171	«	203	Ë	235	ë
12	ff	44	,	76	L	108	l	140	Œ	172	¬	204	Ì	236	ì
13	co	45	-	77	M	109	m	141		173	-	205	Í	237	í
14	sr	46	.	78	N	110	n	142	Ž	174	®	206	Î	238	î
15	si	47	/	79	O	111	o	143		175	¯	207	Ï	239	ï
16	dle	48	0	80	P	112	p	144		176	°	208	Đ	240	ð
17	cdc1	49	1	81	Q	113	q	145	‘	177	±	209	Ñ	241	ñ
18	dc2	50	2	82	R	114	r	146	’	178	²	210	Ò	242	ò
19	dc3	51	3	83	S	115	s	147	“	179	³	211	Ó	243	ó
20	dc4	52	4	84	T	116	t	148	”	180	´	212	Ô	244	ô
21	nak	53	5	85	U	117	u	149	•	181	µ	213	Õ	245	õ
22	syn	54	6	86	V	118	v	150	–	182	¶	214	Ö	246	ö
23	etb	55	7	87	W	119	w	151	—	183	·	215	×	247	÷
24	can	56	8	88	X	120	x	152	˜	184	¸	216	Ø	248	ø
25	em	57	9	89	Y	121	y	153	™	185	¹	217	Ù	249	ù
26	sub	58	:	90	Z	122	z	154	š	186	º	218	Ú	250	ú
27	esc	59	;	91	[	123	{	155	›	187	»	219	Û	251	û
28	fs	60	<	92	\	124	|	156	œ	188	¼	220	Ü	252	ü
29	gs	61	=	93	]	125	}	157		189	½	221	Ý	253	ý
30	rs	62	>	94	^	126	~	158	ž	190	¾	222	Þ	254	þ
31	us	63	?	95	_	127		159	Ÿ	191	¿	223	ß	255	ÿ

thepcmanwebsite.com thepcmanwebsite.com

Diacritical Mark: French, Spanish

A diacritical mark (or diacritic) is a glyph, symbol, or sign added to a letter to change its pronunciation, indicate stress, or distinguish between similar words.

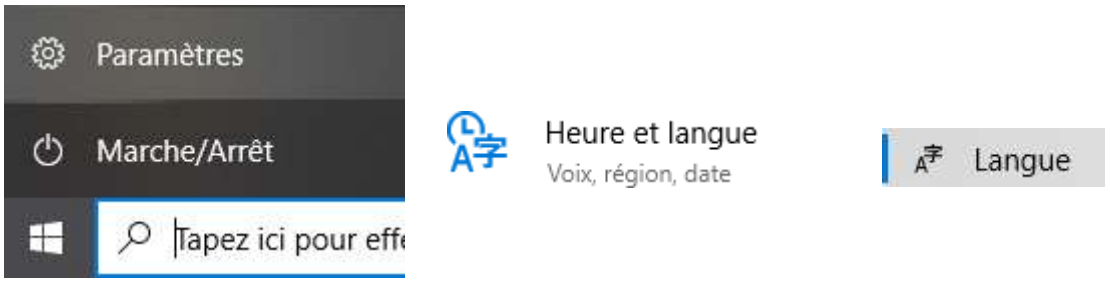
Common Types of Diacritical Marks:

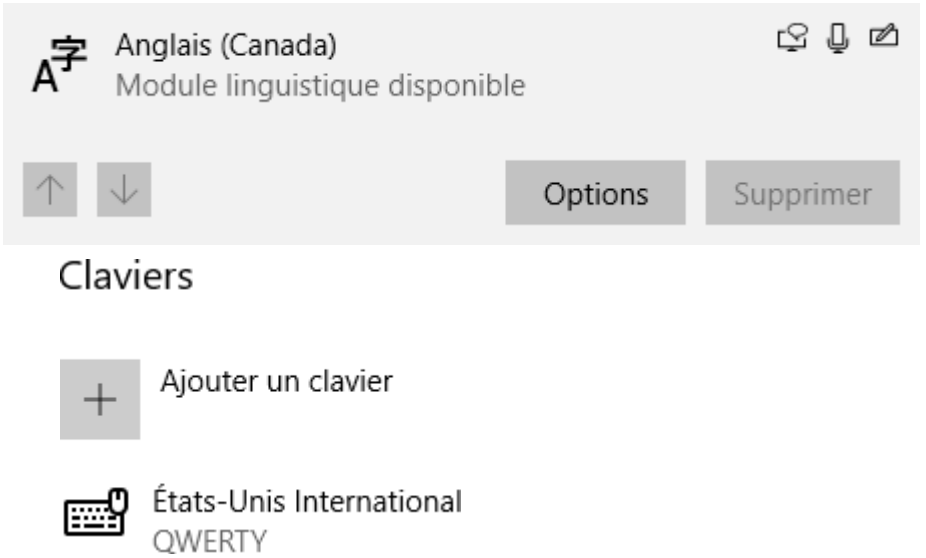
- Acute Accent (´): Rises or shifts stress and pitch (e.g., café, exposé).
- Grave Accent (`): Indicates an unaccented syllable or changes vowel sound (e.g., vis-à-vis).
- Circumflex (^): Points upward to show vowel length, contraction, or historical letter loss (e.g., château).
- Tilde (~): A squiggle marking nasalization or a blended sound (e.g., ñ in jalapeño, or nasal vowels in Portuguese).
- Cedilla (¸): A hook under a consonant to change its sound, such as turning hard c into a soft /s/ (e.g., façade).
- Diaeresis / Umlaut (¨): Two dots above a vowel; as a diaeresis, it splits two vowels into separate syllables (e.g., naïve), and as an umlaut, it modifies a German vowel sound (e.g., über).

US International Keyboard

A convenient way to enter accented French characters on a regular keyboard is to enable the US International keyboard.

To install it, go to Settings, Time & language, Language & region, Options, Add a keyboard, US International keyboard







US International Keyboard



http://kbdlayout.info/KBDUSX/

US International Keyboard

Once the US International Keyboard is selected, several characters require two key strokes to enter them, for example, to enter the following characters:

- é (acute e), as in été: press ' (single quote) then e
- è (grave e): press ` then e
- ê (circumflex e): press ^ (shift 6) then e
- ñ (tilde n): press ~ (shift `) then n

To enter the character by itself, press twice the key, for example, l'apostrophe: l ' ' apostrophe

Most fonts include all the French and spanish characters.

Share

Blip

- Transfer files between computers and other devices directly over the Internet
- Send large files, photos, videos or entire folders
- Avoids using intermediate cloud storage (e.g. Google Drive, Dropbox)
- Free for personal use with no file size limits
- Transfers are end-to-end encrypted
- Cross-platform (Windows, Linux, Android, and Apple devices)

Blip

https://blip.net/

Jeff Dubois

Share

3 Simple Tricks to Create a Password You'll Never Forget

3 Simple Tricks to Create a Password You'll Never Forget (and Hackers Can't Touch)

Forget painful gibberish like &!pR8B>5. Here's how to build a single, bulletproof master password using Shakespeare, random words, and simple padding.

OUR EXPERT



Neil J. Rubenking

Principal Writer, Security

Neil has covered cybersecurity for decades, testing the latest security apps against real-world threats to help you find the best protection.

https://www.pcmag.com/explainers/3-simple-tricks-to-create-password-youll-never-forget-hackers-cant-touch

YouTubeTech

Encrypting Your Data



Encrypting Your Data

ExplainingComputers

1.19M subscribers

Join

Subscribe

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FNhbXc2Yzk

What external drive to get?

YouTubeTech

- Leo Notenboom explains what to look for in an external drive, including:
  - size
  - technology choices
    - interface
    - Solid State Drive (SSD) vs. Hard Drive (HD)
    - power
  - brand choice
  - check recent reviews
- Bottom line:
  - *get one and start backing up!*



ASK LEO! Since 2003! by Leo Notenboom

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reIHO6Wp-Q8

Share

SynthID AI Detector

- SynthID
  - created by Google DeepMind
- Imperceptible watermarking for
  - images:
    - JPG, JPEG, PNG, BMP, WEBP, AVIF, HEIC, HEIF, TIFF, TIF, GIF
  - video:
    - MP4, MOV, WEBM
  - audio:
    - WAV, MP3, OGG, FLAC, AAC, M4A
- Indicates if AI was used to create or modify the file
- Google uses SynthID across its AI models & products
  - Nano Banana, Veo, Lyria, Gemini, Flow, ProducerAI, & Vids
- Supported by OpenAI, Nvidia, and Kakao
- Apple announced plans to adopt SynthID

Share

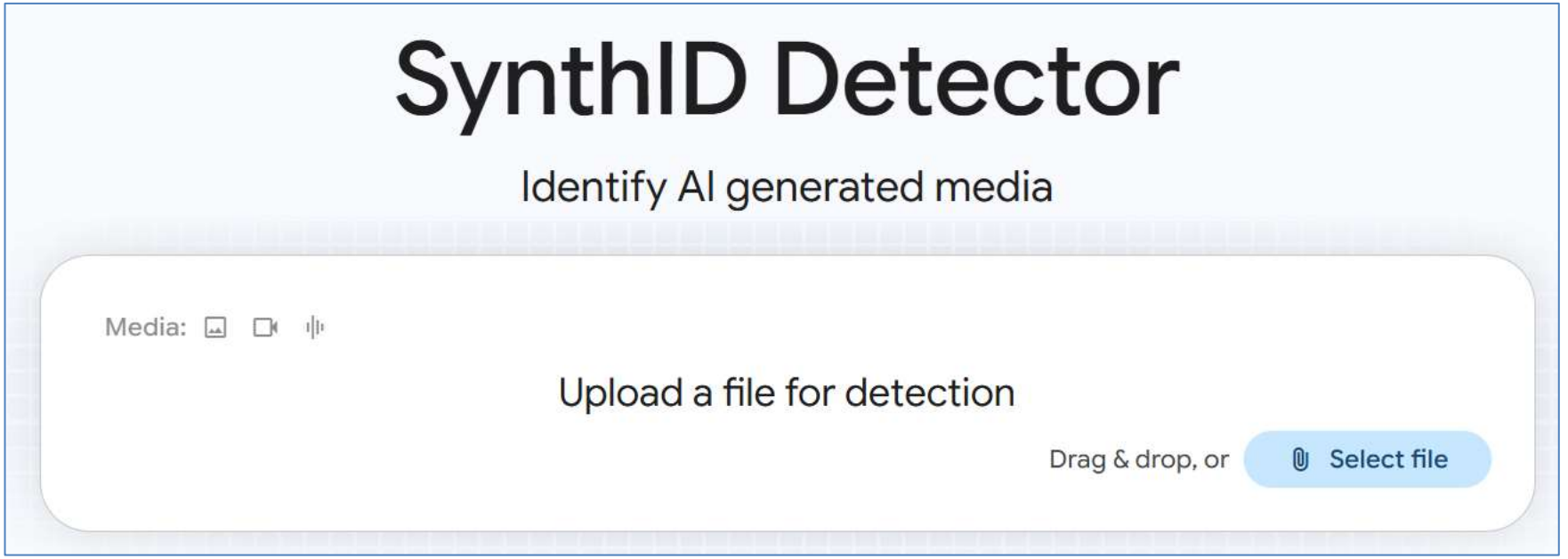
Limitations of SynthID AI Detector

- Depends on whether tool used to create or modify the media embeds a compatible watermark.
- Content without SynthID may go undetected
  - even if generated by AI
- Other verification services have similar constraints
  - OpenAI operates its own detector
    - checks for OpenAI watermarks

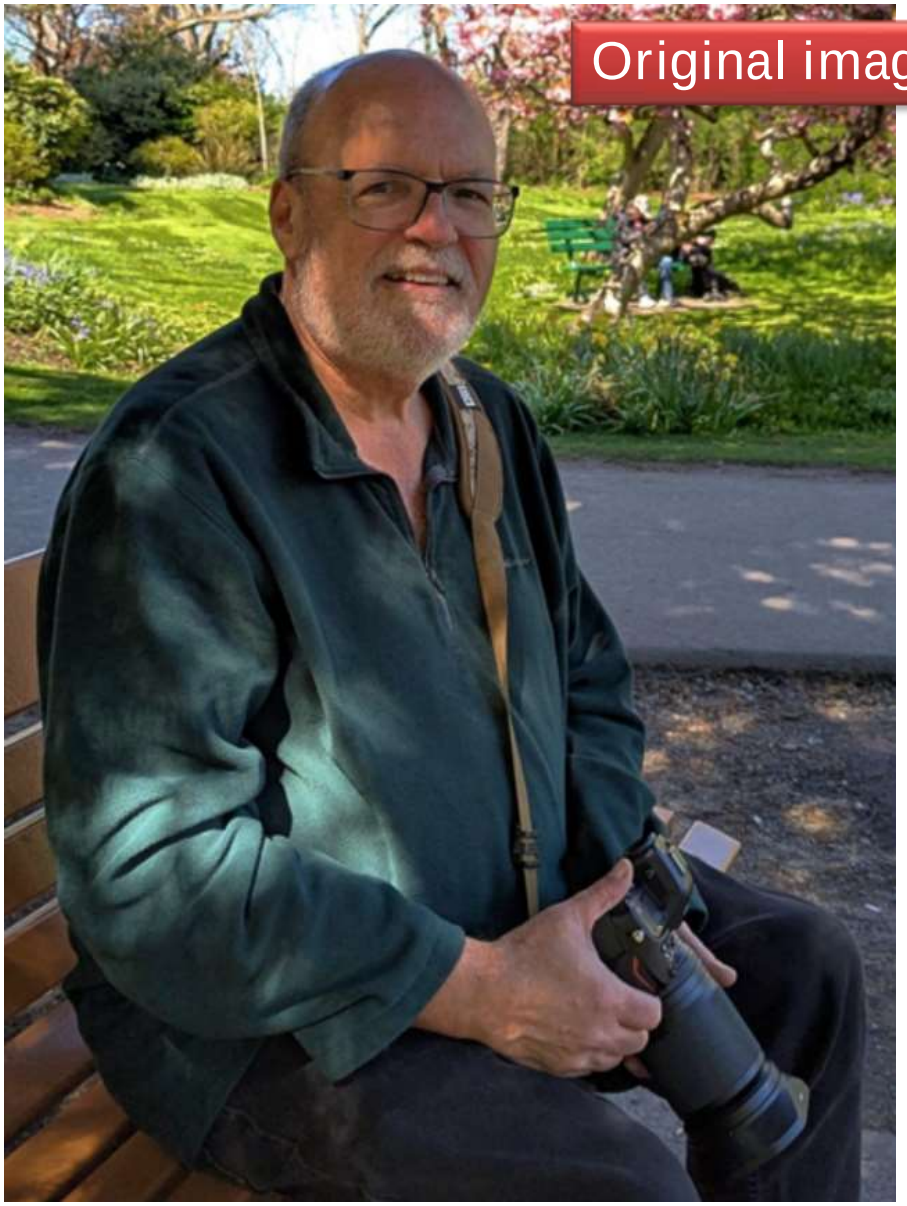
Share

SynthID AI Detector

- Google's *SynthID AI Detector* available now to all
  - previously available only to selected journalists, media professionals, and researchers for testing

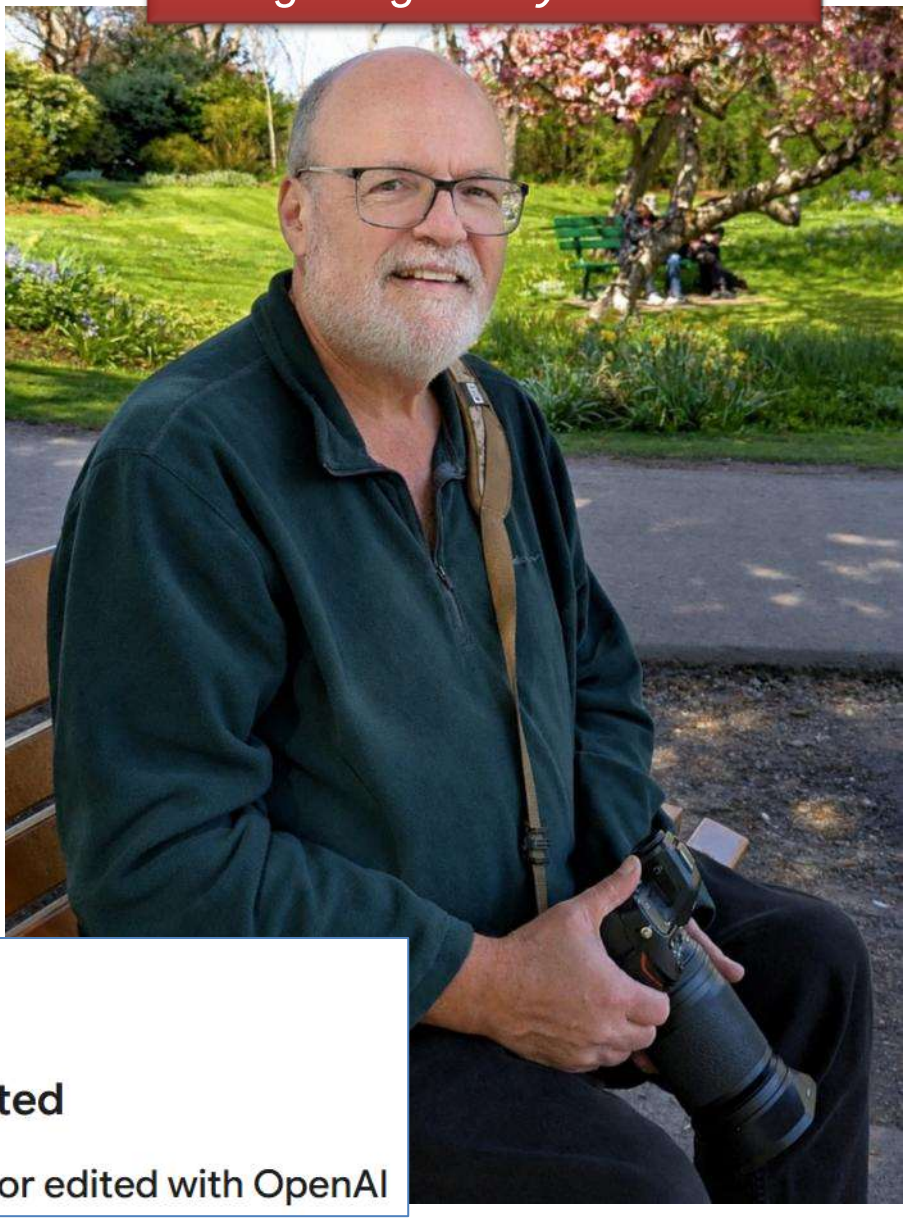


https://synthid.com/



Original image

Told ChatGPT: *Even out the lighting on my face*



+ OpenAI

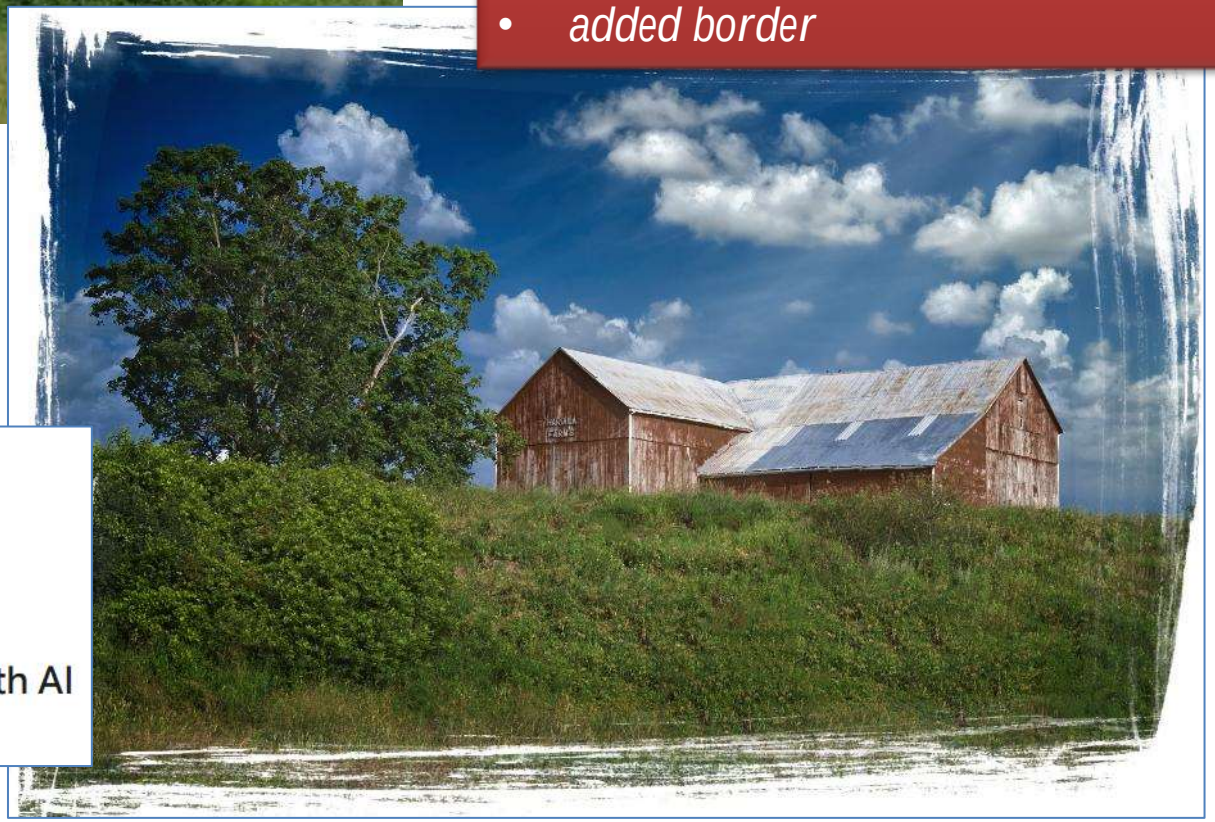
SynthID was detected

This media was made or edited with OpenAI



Extensively edited in ON1 Photo RAW

- *sky replaced*
- *removed vents on barn*
- *changed colour of barn to brown*
- *removed big bush in front*
- *added border*



SynthID was not detected

It is unlikely that this media was made with AI from a SynthID partner



Original image



Told Gemini: *Repair the photo*

+ Google

SynthID was detected

This media was made or edited with Google AI

Took *screenshot* of repaired photo

- Submitted to *SynthID AI Detector*

+ Google

SynthID was detected

This media was made or edited with Google AI

YouTubeTech

Adobe Charged Him to Cancel. So He Rebuilt Adobe



Adobe Charged Him to Cancel. So He Rebuilt Adobe.

Rough Cut Pete
6.34K subscribers

Subscribe

21K

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pTAZtrsU-84

YouTubeTech

I've Never Been This Amazed and This Appalled at the Same Time - Free Office & Adobe Clones Out Now!



I've Never Been This Amazed and This Appalled at the Same Time - Free Office & Adobe Clones Out Now!

Gary Explains
353K subscribers
Join
Subscribe

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iFWUXPCxkj8

YouTubeTech

I Tested AI Cloning... and It's Way Worse Than You Think!



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KC31K-CUC5Y

Share

ArtCraft Software Clones

- Clones of Adobe products
- PhotoShop, Premiere, Acrobat, etc.
- Free and open-source
- Windows, Linux and macOS
- Generated by AI (Claude)
- Brandon Thomas

  Atlanta-based software engineer and filmmaker





https://getartcraft.com

Thirteen apps.
One craft.

Image editing, vector illustration, video, photography, PDFs, motion graphics, page layout, interface design, word processing, audio, presentations, CAD and spreadsheets. Native, open-source apps from the ArtCraft team, built in Rust and free to use.

DOWNLOAD LAUNCHER | JOIN THE DISCORD | BROWSE ON GITHUB

Thirteen apps.
One craft.

Image editing, vector illustration, video, photography, PDFs, motion graphics, page layout, interface design, word processing, audio, presentations, CAD and spreadsheets. Native, open-source apps from the ArtCraft team, built in Rust and free to use.

DOWNLOAD LAUNCHER | JOIN THE DISCORD | BROWSE ON GITHUB

Microsoft Office Clone !!!



11 DeckCraft

Fast, dynamic slide presentations, in pure Rust.

Slide masters, themes, 150+ vector shapes, transitions, animations and presenter view in a native app that opens and saves presentation files. No subscription, no cloud.

Q&A.pptx - PowerPoint

Alan German AG

File Home Insert Draw Design Transitions Animations Slide Show Record Review View Help Tell me Share

Normal Outline View Slide Sorter Notes Page Reading View — Presentation Views

Slide Master Handout Master Notes Master — Master Views

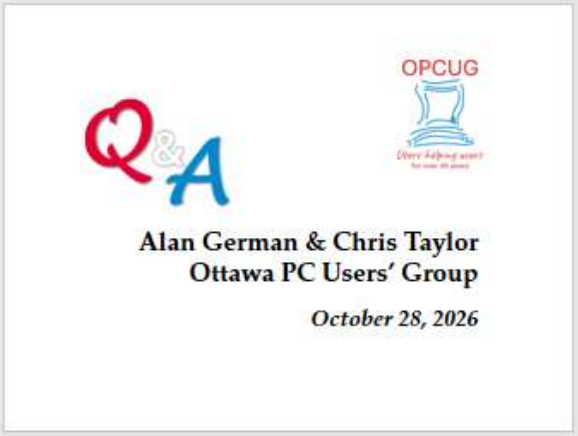
Ruler Gridlines Guides Notes — Show

Zoom Fit to Window — Zoom

Color Grayscale Black and White — Color/Grayscale

New Window Switch Windows — Window

Macros — Macros



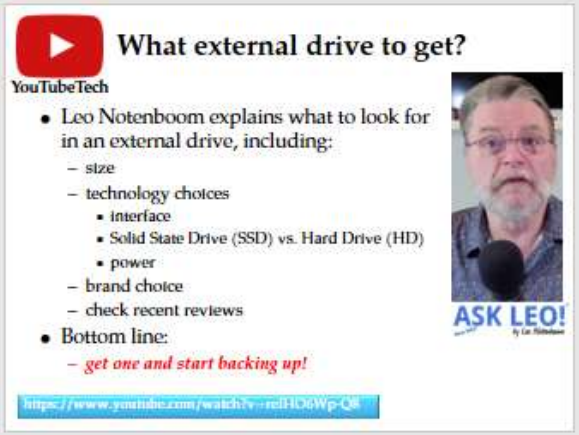
1



2



PowerPoint on Windows



4

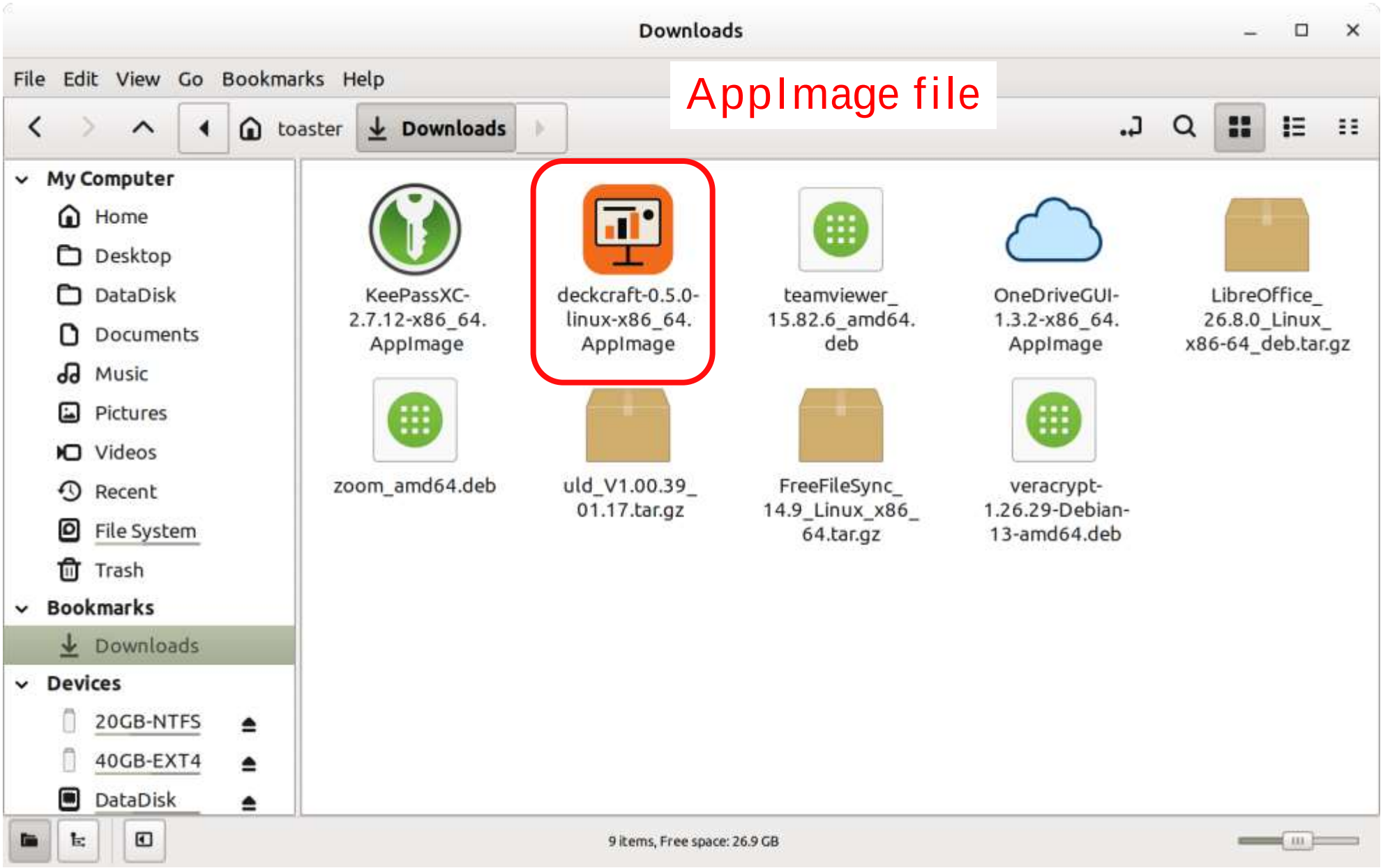


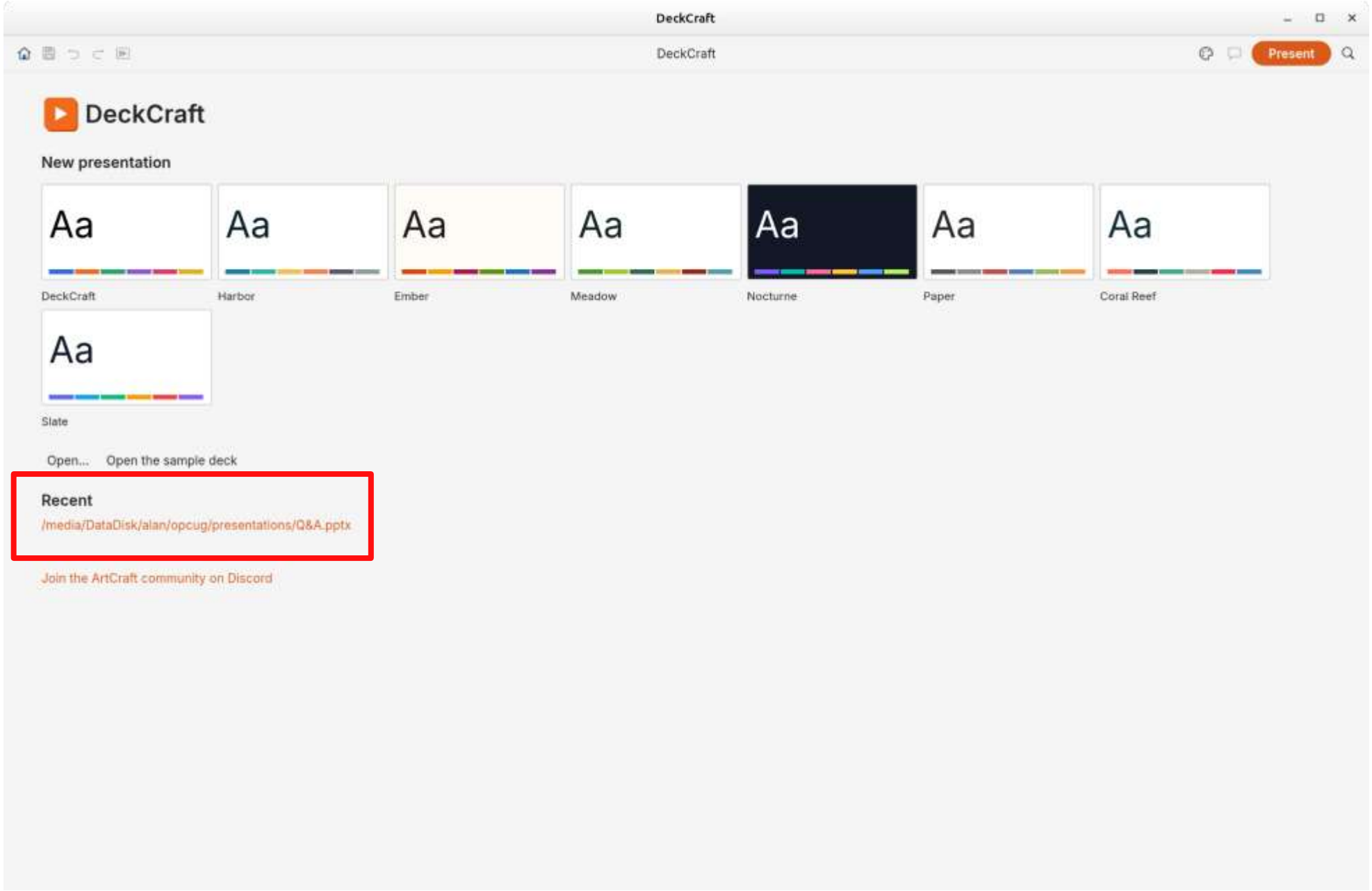
5

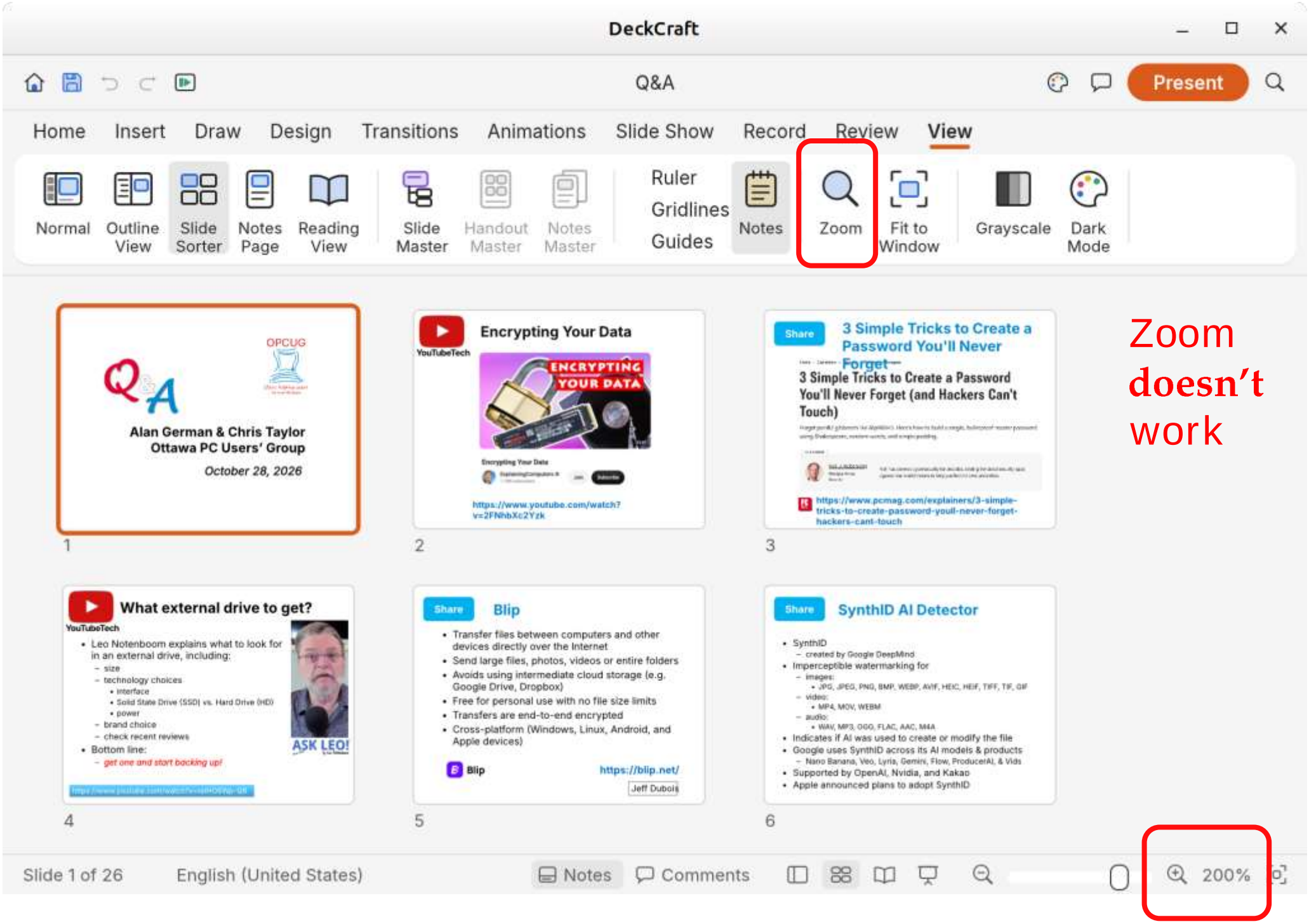


6

Slide 19 of 26 English (Canada) Accessibility: Investigate 100%


Downloads
File Edit View Go Bookmarks Help
AppImage file
toaster
Downloads
My Computer
Home
Desktop
DataDisk
Documents
Music
Pictures
Videos
Recent
File System
Trash
Bookmarks
Downloads
Devices
20GB-NTFS
40GB-EXT4
DataDisk
KeePassXC-2.7.12-x86_64.AppImage
deckcraft-0.5.0-linux-x86_64.AppImage
teamviewer_15.82.6_amd64.deb
OneDriveGUI-1.3.2-x86_64.AppImage
LibreOffice_26.8.0_Linux_x86-64_deb.tar.gz
zoom_amd64.deb
uld_V1.00.39_01.17.tar.gz
FreeFileSync_14.9_Linux_x86_64.tar.gz
veracrypt-1.26.29-Debian-13-amd64.deb
9 items, Free space: 26.9 GB


DeckCraft
DeckCraft
Present
DeckCraft
New presentation
Aa
DeckCraft
Harbor
Ember
Meadow
Nocturne
Paper
Coral Reef
Slate
Open...
Open the sample deck
Recent
/media/DataDisk/alan/opcug/presentations/Q&A.pptx
Join the ArtCraft community on Discord


DeckCraft
Q&A
Present
Home
Insert
Draw
Design
Transitions
Animations
Slide Show
Record
Review
View
Normal
Outline View
Slide Sorter
Notes Page
Reading View
Slide Master
Handout Master
Notes Master
Ruler
Gridlines
Guides
Notes
Zoom
Fit to Window
Grayscale
Dark Mode
Q&A
OPCUG
Alan German & Chris Taylor
Ottawa PC Users' Group
October 28, 2026
1
Encrypting Your Data
YouTubeTech
ENCRYPTING YOUR DATA
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FNhbXc2Yzk
2
Share
3 Simple Tricks to Create a Password You'll Never Forget
3 Simple Tricks to Create a Password You'll Never Forget (and Hackers Can't Touch)
https://www.pcmag.com/explainers/3-simple-tricks-to-create-password-youll-never-forget-hackers-cant-touch
3
Zoom doesn't work
What external drive to get?
YouTubeTech
Leo Notenboom explains what to look for in an external drive, including:
size
technology choices
interface
Solid State Drive (SSD) vs. Hard Drive (HD)
power
brand choice
check recent reviews
Bottom line:
get one and start backing up!
ASK LEO!
4
Share
Blip
Transfer files between computers and other devices directly over the Internet
Send large files, photos, videos or entire folders
Avoids using intermediate cloud storage (e.g. Google Drive, Dropbox)
Free for personal use with no file size limits
Transfers are end-to-end encrypted
Cross-platform (Windows, Linux, Android, and Apple devices)
Blip
https://blip.net/
Jeff Dubois
5
Share
SynthID AI Detector
SynthID
created by Google DeepMind
Imperceptible watermarking for
images:
JPG, JPEG, PNG, BMP, WEBP, AVIF, HEIC, HEIF, TIFF, TIF, GIF
video:
MP4, MOV, WEBM
audio:
WAV, MP3, OGG, FLAC, AAC, M4A
Indicates if AI was used to create or modify the file
Google uses SynthID across its AI models & products
Nano Banana, Veo, Lyria, Gemini, Flow, ProducerAI, & Vids
Supported by OpenAI, Nvidia, and Kakao
Apple announced plans to adopt SynthID
6
Slide 1 of 26
English (United States)
Notes
Comments
200%

DeckCraft

Q&A

Present

Home Insert Draw Design Transitions Animations Slide Show Record Review View

Paste Cut Copy Format New Slide Layout Reset Section Picture Shapes Text Box Arrange Quic Style

1



2



3



4



Encrypting Your Data

YouTubeTech



Encrypting Your Data

ExplainingComputers
1.19M subscribers

Join Subscribe

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FNhbXc2Yzk

Click to add notes

Slide 2 of 26 English (United States) Notes Comments 83%

DeckCraft

Q&A

Present

Home Insert Draw Design Transitions Animations Slide Show Record Review View Shape Format

Cut Copy Format Paste

New Slide Layout Reset Section

TeX Gyre Pagella 40

DeckCraft on Linux

1

Q&A

OPCUG

Alan German & Chris Taylor
Ottawa PC Users' Group
October 28, 2026

2

Encrypting Your Data

YouTubeTech

ENCRYPTING YOUR DATA

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FNhbXc2Yzk

3

Share

3 Simple Tricks to Create a Password You'll Never Forget

3 Simple Tricks to Create a Password You'll Never Forget (and Hackers Can't Touch)

https://www.pcmag.com/explainers/3-simple-tricks-to-create-password-youll-never-forget-hackers-cant-touch

4

What external drive to get?

YouTubeTech

- Leo Notenboom explains what to look for in an external drive, including:
  - size
  - technology choices
    - interface
    - Solid State Drive (SSD) vs. Hard Drive (HD)
    - power

YouTubeTech

Encrypting Your Data



Encrypting Your Data

ExplainingComputers
1.19M subscribers

Join Subscribe

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FNhbXc2Yzk

Click to add notes

Slide 2 of 26 English (United States)

Notes Comments

83%

Q&A.pptx - PowerPoint

Alan German AG

File Home Insert Draw Design Transitions Animations Slide Show Record Review View Help Shape Format Tell me Share

Paste New Slide Clipboard Slides

TeX Gyre Pagella (Headir 40 Font Paragraph Add-ins

PowerPoint on Windows

2 3 4 5 6 7 8

YouTubeTech

Encrypting Your Data



Encrypting Your Data

ExplainingComputers

1.19M subscribers

Join Subscribe

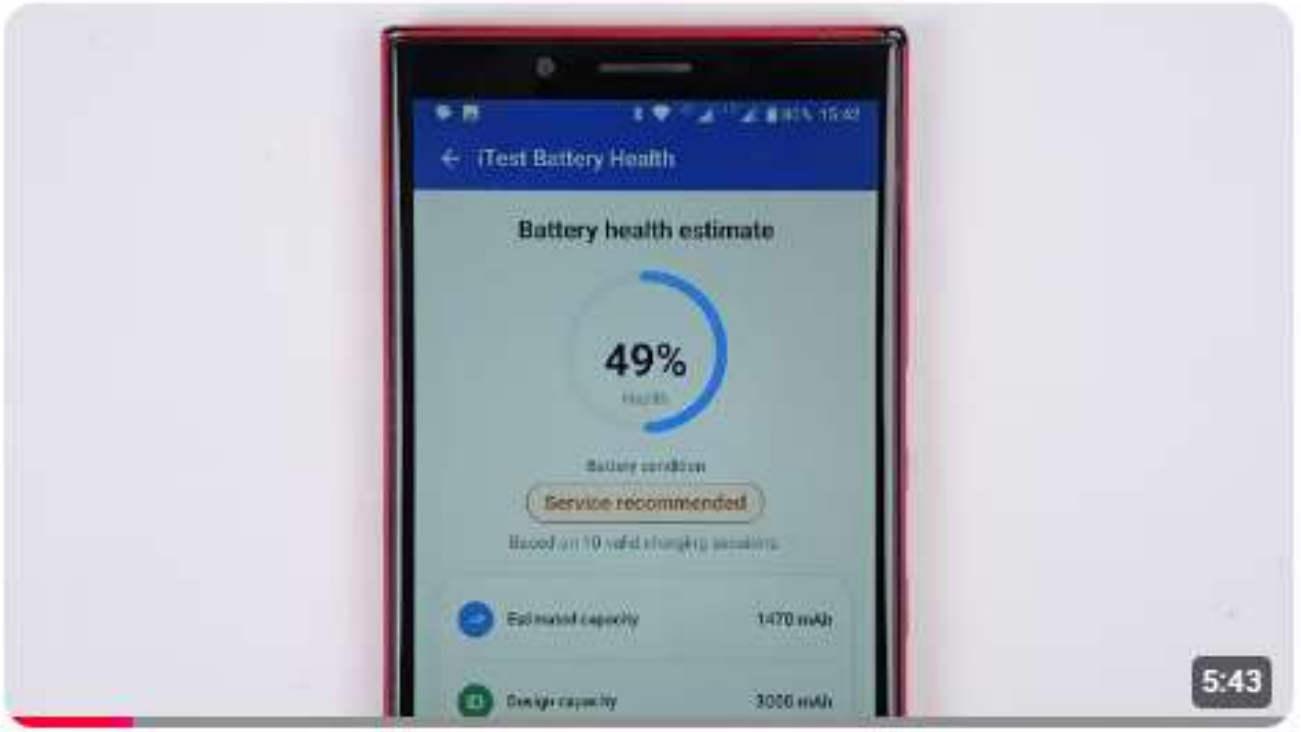
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FNhbXc2Yzk

Slide 2 of 26 English (United States) Notes Comments 60%

> **Important**
>
> **Status:** ArtCraft Launcher is new and in early alpha. Expect rough edges, and please file issues (include your OS, which app you were installing and the launcher's log file) or tell us on Discord.

YouTubeTech

How I Brought Battery Health to Android



How I Brought Battery Health to Android.

Hugh Jeffreys
1M subscribers
Subscribe
3.6K

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H891TzszxN4

- Hugh Jeffreys is a Youtuber known for his repair work.
- He has also created a couple apps for Android device management.
- His latest effort is an Android version of Apple's battery health report as detailed in this video.
- The time it takes time for the app to gather data is only 3 charge cycles so that isn't too long.
- And it isn't free - $1.39 - if you have that kind of money to flash around!



Stewart Bruce

Share

What's slowing down my PC?

- We have talked about all these utilities at Q&A
  - good reminder of tools for finding performance-sucking problems
- Crystal DiskInfo
  - is my drive healthy?
- AppControl
  - which apps should be allowed to run?
- WinDirStat
  - what's filling the drive?
- Autoruns
  - what's launching when Windows starts?
- What tools do you use (free or not!) to track down and address performance problems?
  - why not think about doing a share at a future Q&A?

https://www.xda-developers.com/free-windows-tools-i-use-to-find-whats-slowing-down-my-pc/

Share

Better Business Bureau 2025 Scam Tracker Report

INSTITUTE for MARKETPLACE TRUST

- 3,251,807 unique visitors to BBB Scam Tracker
- 41.3% said BBB Scam Tracker helped avoid losing money
- $38,968,380
  - est. amount people avoided losing thanks to BBB Scam Tracker
- Use the *BBB Scam Tracker* to:
  - report a scam
  - search scams
  - protect yourself and others

https://www.bbb.org/scamtracker
https://bbbmarketplacetrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Risk-Report-2025-US.pdf

Share

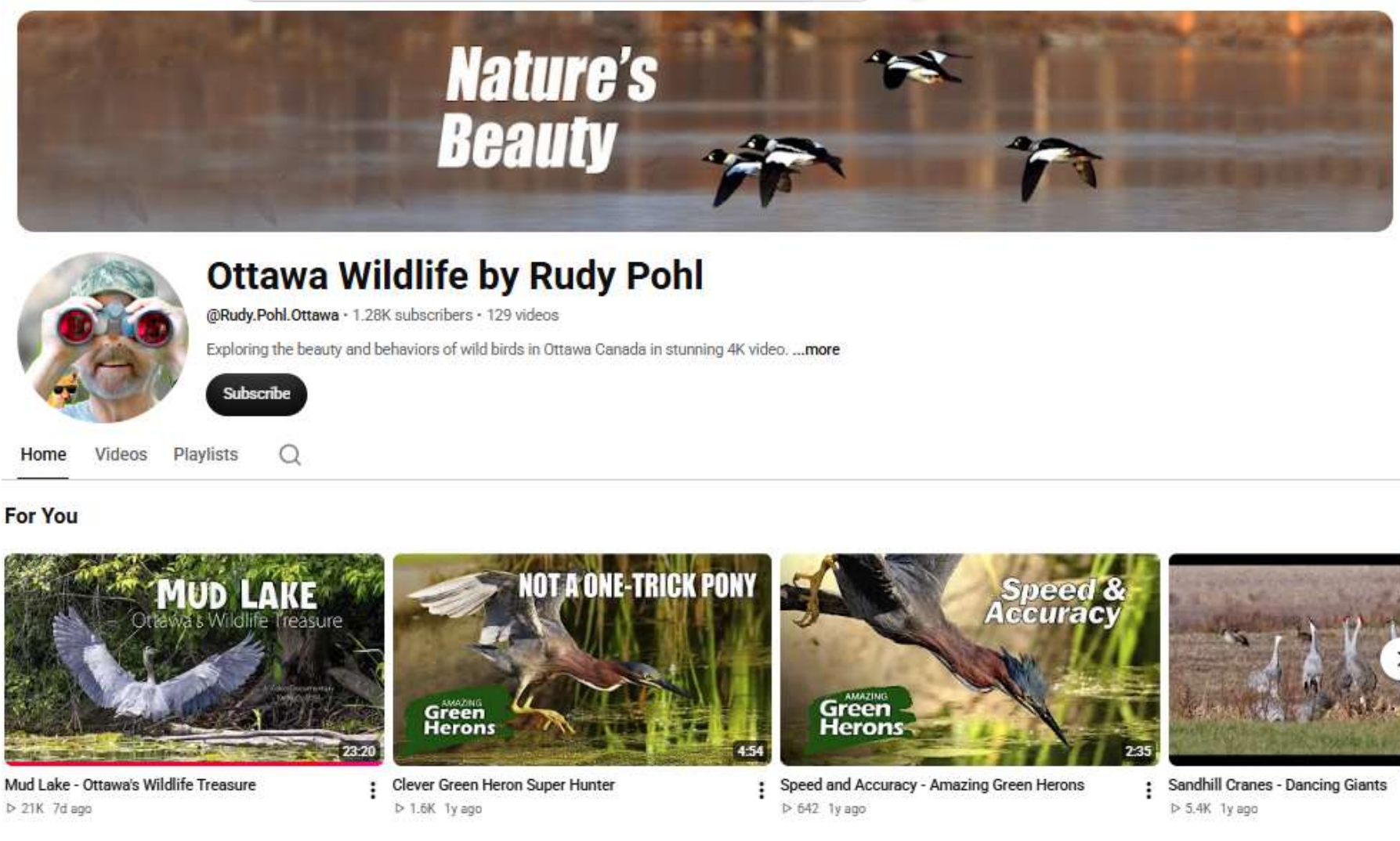
Some info in report

- Riskiest scams
- Age breakdowns for susceptibility, median losses, etc.
- Top platforms used in scams
- New tactics used by scammers
- Impacts on Canadian consumers
  - & other specific audiences
- AI and scams
- Nonfinancial impacts of scams
- Tips for avoiding scams

YouTubeTech

Nature's Beauty

Loonie Links



https://www.youtube.com/@Rudy.Pohl.Ottawa





Any other:

Questions

Comments

Shares?



Smartphone Basics

We can (probably) help but, what is that you need to know about smartphones?

SuggestionBox@opcug.ca

Share

Your idea for a share goes here!





Artificial Intelligence (AI): fun and useful tips

Chris Taylor

Centennial, Friday Oct 30, 2026 at 2:00 pm

Protecting your PC

Chris Taylor

Emerald Plaza, Monday Nov 9, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Restoring old photos

Lynda Buske

Centrepointe, Saturday Nov 21, 2026 at 2:00 pm

All presentations are drop-in

No registration required

https://opcug.ca/mec-category/opl-presentations/

November Meeting

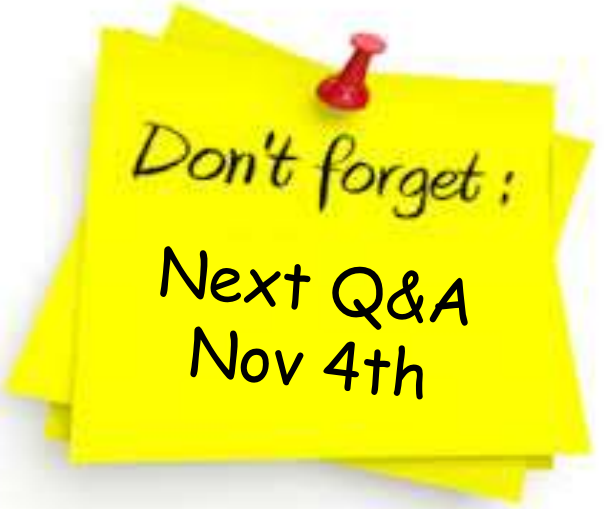
Getting better results with your Genealogical Searches

Sue Mueller
Computer Users of Erie

November 11, 2026
7:30 pm







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

SuggestionBox@opcug.ca