

## Patrick Crispen's Completely Updated Collection of Truly Useful— and Not So Useful—Websites and Web 2.0 Tools

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### A Google a Day

<http://agoogleaday.com/>

Think you're a Google master? Put your mad skillz to the test with Google's daily search quiz. Google asks a question and you find the answer. The site even uses something called "Deja Google" to force you to use a "time machine" that searches the Internet as it existed before that day's question was posted.

### MiceAge

<http://miceage.micechat.com/>

Are you a big fan of Disney theme parks? MiceAge is for you! Each day Al Lutz and a team of columnists provide exhaustingly detailed posts about what's happening in Orlando, Anaheim, and elsewhere in the Holy Rodent Empire.

### The Colour Clock

<http://thecolourclock.co.uk/>

Created by British digital designer (hence the spelling of the word "colour"), the colour clock converts your computer's current time into a constantly-changing, hexadecimal color (HH=red, MM=green, SS=blue). The clock is also available as a downloadable screensaver.

### LodgeNet Mobile

<http://www.lodgenetmobile.com/>

LodgeNet, the company behind the interactive televisions in most American hotel rooms, has a free iOS or Android app that lets you control your room's television from your mobile device. This is a great way to see an up-to-date channel guide or to scare the living hell out the maid or an unsuspecting colleague.

### Popplet

<http://popplet.com/>

Popplet is a free, cloud-based brainstorming and mind-mapping tool that lets you visually collaborate with others. Think of it as a big pinboard onto which you post popples – containers that hold text, drawings, multimedia, etc. Popplet's (lab) timewarp tool makes this a phenomenal tool for evaluating contributions to team projects as well.

### GRC Password Haystacks Calculator

<https://www.grc.com/haystack.htm>

We all know that longer passwords are better, but can you explain why? Security guru Steve Gibson has created a nifty calculator that tells you how long it would take someone to "brute force" hack a particular password.

### Zombo.com

<http://zombo.com/>

An oldie but still a goodie. Zombo remains the greatest website in the world. You can do anything at zombocom. Anything at all. The only limit is yourself. [Inside joke: The only things zombocom does are welcome you and repeatedly extol the virtues of zombocom.]

### Lifehacker

<http://blog.lifehacker.com/>

Part of Gawker Media's growing portfolio of blogs, Lifehacker focuses on "tips, tricks, and downloads for getting things done" like getting free Dropbox space, making a to-do list doable, and saving money on your monthly expenses.



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### **Chefs Feed**

<http://www.chefsfeed.com/>

Chef's Feed is an iOS or Android app where highly-respected professional chefs (like Eric Ripert, Thomas Keller, and Mario Batali) do the yelping, letting you know their favorite dishes in a particular major US city.

### **Camelcamelcamel**

<http://camelcamelcamel.com/>

Camelcamelcamel provides free Amazon price drop alerts and Amazon price history charts, helping you buy when the price is right. Related sites include camelcamper (for Backcountry.com), camelbuy (for Best Buy), and camelegg (for Newegg).

### **Badger Badger Badger**

<http://www.badgerbadgerbadger.com/>

Internet law requires that you must visit Badger Badger Badger after you visit Camelcamelcamel.

### **Speedtest.net**

<http://speedtest.net/>

Slow connection? Are you getting the bandwidth you paid for? Click the green "Begin Test" button on this Flash-enabled web page to test your download and upload speeds. Also available as an app.

### **GetHuman**

<http://gethuman.com/>

Hate the touch-tone labyrinth most 800 telephone numbers make you go through before you can speak to a real, live human being? This constantly updated website tells you which buttons to push and even what your estimated hold time will be.

### **GameTrailers**

<http://gametrailers.com/>

The site's lengthy video reviews provide an in-depth analysis of the story, design, gameplay, and presentation for every major video game on the market.

### **RSA Animates**

<http://comment.rsablogs.org.uk/videos/>

Using a stunning visual synthesis technique from Cognitive Media, the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA) has posted a handful of animated, educational videos that rival what you would see at TED.

### **Wolfram Alpha**

<http://wolframalpha.com/>

Rather than being a search engine, Wolfram Alpha is a natural language "computational knowledge engine." Enter a question or calculation and Wolfram Alpha will compute the answer. And in the case of algebraic equations, it will even show you the steps.

### **Hipmunk**

<http://hipmunk.com/>

Launched in August 2010, Hipmunk is (another) online travel agent site. What makes it different is that it uses an "agony" algorithm to rank flights by price, stops, and duration and then displays the best flights on an easy-to-read Gantt chart.

### **SeatGuru**

<http://seatguru.com/>

Now owned by TripAdvisor, SeatGuru provides color-coded seat maps—including a color-coded system to identify the better and worse seats—for practically every commercial airline and flight number. Hold your mouse over a particular seat to see a review as well as a list of that seat's amenities.

### **Krebs on Security**

<http://www.krebsonsecurity.com/>

Written by former Washington Post computer security reporter Brian Krebs, this new blog is a daily must-read for anyone who wants the latest security news and investigative security reports.



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