

# Bowie Seniors Computer Club

## Meeting Minutes for March 2, 2017

President Carl Bulger opened the meeting at 12:35. He displayed and offered the “free stuff” brought in by members (nothing noteworthy).

Irv Salzberg gave a presentation on “blockchains” leading with a TED TALK entitled “How the blockchain will radically transform the economy” narrated by Bettina Warburg. Ms. Warburg’s video explained that blockchains serve to reduce uncertainty. After the TED TALK Irv informed us of his knowledge of blockchains and his bitcoin account. See handout

Irv explained how he was using MIRACAST technology (WiFi Direct peer to peer thus access to a WiFi network is not needed) to cast the TED TALK video from his Samsung smart phone to the classroom TV screen.

Following Irv’s presentation, Carl provided a follow-up discussion about his laptop hard drive failure experience and the servicing he received from “Annapolis Geeks”. Carl was very pleased with the Annapolis Geek’s work.

Dan Lee and Bob Blum spoke about Verizon’s plans to transition verizon.net email accounts to AOL. See handout

Dan Lee described his experience of resolving a slow laptop problem. The problem was being caused by the Chrome Browser letting the laptop run too many Chrome windows. See handout

Bob Blum inquired as to whether any members present had experience with WSUS (Windows Server Update Services) being used to facilitate Windows updating.

Dave Hackenberg noted that the Senior Center’s Excel spreadsheet course starts Tuesday. Dave also noted that volunteers are needed at the center on Tuesdays and Thursdays to assist with computer classes.

3/2/2017  
handout

## All you need to know about blockchain, explained simply



It's a crowd-managed distributed secure database. Does that help?

Image: REUTERS/Benoit Tessier

Written by

Rosamond Hutt, Formative Content

Friday 17 June 2016

Many people know it as the technology behind Bitcoin, but blockchain's potential uses extend far beyond digital currencies.

Its admirers include [Bill Gates and Richard Branson](#), and banks and insurers are falling over one another to be the first to work out how to use it.

So what exactly is blockchain, and why are Wall Street and Silicon Valley so excited about it?

**What is blockchain?**



Currently, most people use a trusted middleman such as a bank to make a transaction. But blockchain allows consumers and suppliers to connect directly, removing the need for a third party.

Using cryptography to keep exchanges secure, blockchain provides a decentralized database, or “digital ledger”, of transactions that everyone on the network can see. This network is essentially a chain of computers that must all approve an exchange before it can be verified and recorded.

### **What is blockchain?**



### **How does it work in practice?**

In the case of Bitcoin, blockchain stores the details of every transaction of the digital currency, and the technology stops the same Bitcoin being spent more than once.



## How a blockchain works

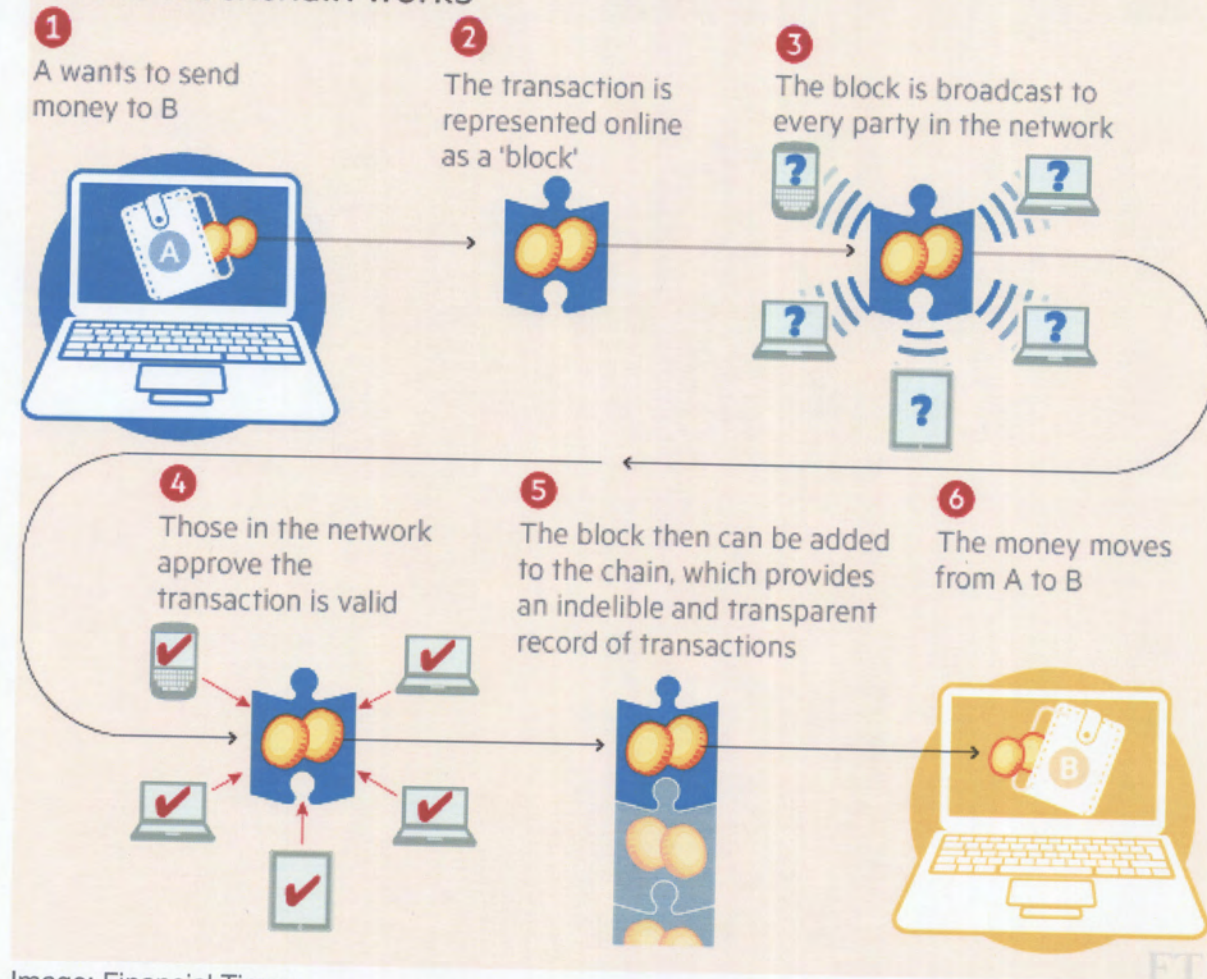


Image: Financial Times

### Why is it so revolutionary?

The technology can work for almost every type of transaction involving value, including money, goods and property. Its potential uses are almost limitless: from collecting taxes to enabling migrants to send money back to family in countries where banking is difficult.

Blockchain could also help to reduce fraud because every transaction would be recorded and distributed on a public ledger for anyone to see.

### Who is using it?

In theory, if blockchain goes mainstream, anyone with access to the internet would be able to use it to make transactions.



Currently only a very small proportion of global GDP (around 0.025%, or \$20 billion) is held in the blockchain, according to a [survey](#) by the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council.

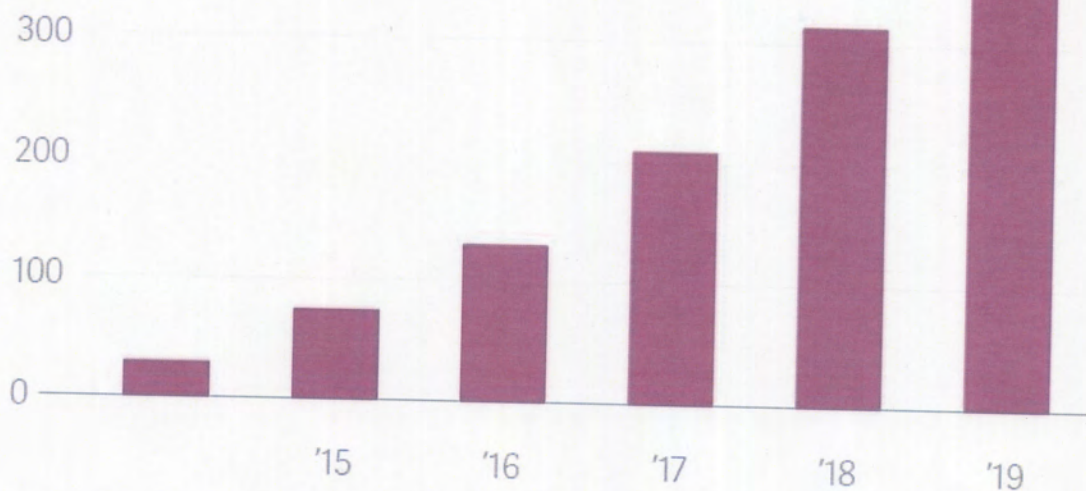
But the Forum's research suggests this will increase significantly in the next decade, as banks, insurers and tech firms see the technology as a way to speed up settlements and cut costs.

Companies racing to adapt blockchain include [UBS](#), [Microsoft](#), IBM and PwC. The [Bank of Canada is also experimenting](#) with the technology.

A report from financial technology consultant Aite [estimated that banks spent \\$75 million](#) last year on blockchain. And Silicon Valley venture capitalists are also queuing up to back it.

Estimated bank spending on blockchain tech

\$400 million



ATLAS | Data: Aite Group

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Image: Quartz

### Have you read?

[This is how blockchain will change your life](#)

[Will blockchain change the world?](#)

[What's the future of blockchain?](#)

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Written by

[Rosamond Hutt](#), Formative Content

The views expressed in this article are those of the author alone and not the World Economic Forum.

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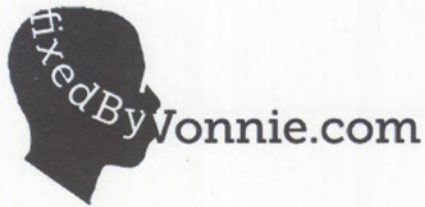
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## Windows Clean Up (2 Mins)

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## Why do I see multiple chrome.exe processes in the Task Manager?

Posted on [September 4, 2013](#) by [vonnie](#) — 15 Comments

Chrome is generally a fast browser and even when it starts to feel sluggish there are a [bunch of things you can do to speed it up](#). But have you ever looked at the Task Manager and noticed *dozens of chrome.exe processes running even though you only have one browser window open?*

Also, have you ever felt like Chrome spawns a new chrome.exe process every time you open a new tab? Aren't all these processes slowing down your computer? Why does Chrome open all these processes anyway?

In this article I'll explain Chrome's obscure multi-process architecture and show you one trick to get a handle on all those maverick chrome.exe instances.

## Help, I'm inundated with processes!

If you haven't already done so, fire up Google Chrome open four pages in four new tabs then press **Ctrl + Shift + Esc** to view the process list in [Task Manager](#).



<https://www.learnedhacker.com/store/myFw2WW4>

## Windows Clean Up (2 Mins)

Fast & Easy - Make PC Run Like New. Takes Just 2 Minutes! (Recommended)

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Image Name	CPU	CPU Time	Memory (Private)	Base Pri	Description
AcroRd32.exe ...	00	0:00:05	15,520 K	Normal	Adobe Reader
AcroRd32.exe ...	00	0:00:14	56,396 K	Normal	Adobe Reader
avgtray.exe *32	00	0:00:11	2,148 K	Normal	AVG Tray Monitor
BTTray.exe	00	0:00:00	8,656 K	Normal	Bluetooth Tray Application
chrome.exe *32	00	0:00:04	21,292 K	Below Normal	Google Chrome
chrome.exe *32	00	0:00:00	13,832 K	Normal	Google Chrome
chrome.exe *32	00	0:00:03	20,252 K	Below Normal	Google Chrome
chrome.exe *32	00	0:01:35	91,152 K	Normal	Google Chrome
chrome.exe *32	00	0:00:04	64,700 K	Normal	Google Chrome
chrome.exe *32	00	0:00:00	10,040 K	Normal	Google Chrome
chrome.exe *32	00	0:00:00	9,132 K	Normal	Google Chrome
chrome.exe *32	00	0:00:08	42,232 K	Normal	Google Chrome
concentr.exe *32	00	0:00:00	2,868 K	Normal	Citrix online plug-in connect...

☐ Show processes from all users End Process

How many processes do you see? I'm counting eight chrome.exe processes on my computer yours may vary but it will almost undoubtedly be an integer greater than the number of open tabs.

This is what's going on:

The Chromium team designed Google Chrome so that it puts web applications and plugin's into distinct processes which are separate from the Chrome application itself. Part of the rationale behind this driven by *performance* and the other half was a function of *security*.

## Performance

If all tabs were locale to single process then when the rendering engine in in one web app crashed it would bring down *the entire browser*; all the apps, tabs and plug-ins would die too.

By spinning off multiple processes the browser functions more like an operating system that can isolate web apps from each other so that the browser doesn't lockup because of one unruly web site.

## Security

Any web pages that exploit vulnerabilities in the rendering engine have the potential to gain complete control of your computer. By running web apps independently the Chromium team was able to restrict processes to isolated *sandboxes* that limit the damage wrought by any exploits.

## Managing all those processes

Task	Memory	CPU	Network	Process ID	FPS
Browser	150,004K	2	0	7320	N/A
Tab: slashdot submission "you are not allowed ...	33,644K	0	0	4716	0
Tab: http://slashdot.org/?source=autorefresh is...	14,736K	0	0	6824	0
Tab: Newegg.com - Computer Parts, Laptops, ...	41,288K	0	0	11012	0
Tab: Error 502 (Server Error)!!!	8,328K	0	0	10644	0
Extension: Feedly	13,660K	0	0	9636	N/A
GPU Process	65,844K	0	N/A	7584	N/A

Stats for nerds End process

## Recent Posts

- [How to become a hacker](#) February 10, 2017
- [How to SSH into the BASH Ubuntu instance built into Windows 10](#) January 9, 2017
- [3 things to do when text message forwarding isn't working on your iPhone](#) January 2, 2017
- [Quick Update](#) October 28, 2016
- [How to undo a Firefox Restore/Refresh/Reset](#) July 25, 2016
- [Say what's up to PowerShell 5 \(Part 27/27\)](#) April 21, 2016
- [Say what's up to PowerShell 5 \(Part 26/27\)](#) April 19, 2016

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To get a grip on all your processes you should use the built in *Chrome Task Manager* by pressing **Shift + Esc** inside Chrome or right clicking the Chrome title bar and choosing **Task Manager**.

This will give you deeper insight into each of the chrome.exe processes you see in the *Windows Task Manager*.

Generally speaking you'll see one task for each chrome.exe process along with stats such as memory, CPU and network activity. If you need more information just right click in the window to select from 17 different categories.

You can see everything from Javascript Memory to the CSS cache, but unless you're a web developer you probably won't have a need for anything other than the *Memory* and *CPU* columns.

Using the Chrome Task Manager lets you find the biggest offenders and click **End Process** to speed your browser up again.

## How it works

Chrome spawns a new chrome.exe process for *each unique domain* you have open in your tabs. In addition, there's always a task for the Browser itself.

So for example, in general, if you have **5** tabs open, **3** for cnn.com and **2** for yahoo.com then you should see **3** tab processes in the *Chrome Task Manager* and **3** chrome.exe processes in the *Windows Task Manager*. (This assumes you don't have any plug-ins running because they would need their own processes too):

- 1 for the Chrome browser itself
- 1 for the cnn.com domain
- 1 for the yahoo.com domain

After Chrome kicks off about 20 chrome.exe processes it starts re-using existing processes to keep the browser from screeching to a halt.

Charlie Reis of the Chromium team posted a [pretty good explanation of how Google Chrome manages multiple processes](#) and why the Chrome decided to adopt this architecture.

## The Bottom Line

There are three kinds of chrome.exe processes:

1. Browser
2. Renders
3. Plug-ins

The *Browser* consumes *exactly one process* and is responsible for managing everything in the browser. The *Renders* basically displays the web pages. All the juicy HTML5, CSS3, jQuery and Web 2.0 goodness is handled by the renders. Also each plugin gets it's own processes so if something like Adobe Flash crashes it doesn't destroy the entire browser.

- ✓ Task
- ✓ Profile
- ✓ Memory
  - Shared memory
  - Private memory
- ✓ CPU
- ✓ Network
- ✓ Process ID
  - GDI Handles
  - USER Handles
  - Image cache
  - Script cache
- ✓ CSS cache
- ✓ FPS
  - GPU Memory
  - SQLite memory
  - JavaScript memory

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The next time you see a bunch of chrome.exe processes in the Windows Task Manager, just press **Shift + Esc** in Chrome to see which processes are eating most of your memory and **End Task**.



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[Join the discussion...](#)**Dave McFarland** • 2 years ago

I do not have Google Chrome on my PC; however, I continue to see multiple chrome.exe entries in Task Manager and it is slowing down my PC. How do I get rid of this chrome.exe?

9 ^ | v • Reply • Share &gt;

**MariusDejess** • 3 years ago

Many instances of chrome process in windows task manager slow down the computer. With firefox there is only one process, and even though the memory used in this one instance of firefox process accumulates to a great amount, it does not slow down the computer at all.

Can google people adopt the system of firefox on this matter of one process? Find out how firefox does it, using only one instance of process, and even though the memory used has accumulated a lot, it does not slow down the computer.

Please contact me, mdejess@gmail.com

7 ^ | v • Reply • Share &gt;

**Vonnie Hudson** Mod → **MariusDejess** • 3 years ago

Thanks Marius, can you elaborate?

3 ^ | v • Reply • Share &gt;

**Dave Rotheson** • 3 years ago

ill elaborate. Firefox uses one instance in task manager, yet when web applets crash, it doesnt crash all of Firefox (like the writer of this article claims would be the case). In reality, Chrome is tracking your web interaction and feeding that info to Google to increase their marketing and ad revenue. Those multiple instances are designed for that purpose, and that purpose alone. Dont let this guy or google kid yourself.

6 ^ | v • Reply • Share &gt;

**PhasmaFelis** → **Dave Rotheson** • 3 years ago

"when web applets crash, it doesnt crash all of Firefox"

Oh, it certainly does. Not always, and Mozilla has steadily improved stability, but almost every time Firefox crashes, that's why.

"In reality, Chrome is tracking your web interaction and feeding that info to Google"

Of course they are, but they could do that just fine with a single process. The multi-process model has nothing to do with Google web tracking.

2 ^ | v • Reply • Share &gt;

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**The Washington Post**

**The Switch**

# Why AOL — yes, AOL — could get a new crop of customers

**By Hayley Tsukayama** February 23

Do you use a Verizon email account? Pretty soon, that could be an AOL account.

Verizon has, since last week, been notifying customers that it is giving up control of 4.5 million customer email accounts and will be migrating those accounts to AOL — a move that may give some flashbacks to the 1990s. (Those free CDs, we presume, are not coming back.)

Customers have 30 days to choose one of three options before they lose access to their accounts: Head over to AOL, transfer their email to another provider or leave their accounts alone to be deleted.

Verizon users who choose the AOL option will still be able to keep their existing addresses, which will carry the “verizon.net” ending. They will, however, have to let Verizon know that they want to hang on to their addresses and log in through AOL's system from now on, the email said.

Why the change? According to an information page on Verizon's website, the firm said it realized there are “more capable email platforms out there” — including AOL Mail, which has been owned by Verizon since 2015.

Migrating from Verizon to AOL will be easy. Users interested in keeping their email addresses don't have to do much. Verizon will migrate the contacts, calendars, email and other information to AOL for them.

For those who aren't interested in moving to AOL, things get a little more complicated.



According to Verizon's guide page, users interested in migrating their accounts elsewhere should follow the instructions for importing mail and other information provided by whatever email provider they choose.

## **The Switch newsletter**

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The day's top stories on the world of tech.


Users can find instructions on how to transfer their email and contacts into other accounts from the online help forums for services such as Google's Gmail or Microsoft's Outlook.

After that, they can leave their Verizon accounts alone; the company will erase data from those accounts after six months of inactivity, said Verizon spokesman Raymond McConville. The company estimates that 2.3 million of its 4.5 million email accounts are active — meaning they have been used in the past 30 days.

AOL reported a major breach of its email in 2014, which affected 2 percent of its customers, an estimated 500,000 users. AOL did not immediately respond to a request for comment on how it has improved its security since the breach. But the company learned from its mistakes, said John Levine, an email infrastructure consultant and author of “The Internet for Dummies.”

AOL's mail program may not have a modern aesthetic, he said, but consumers can consider its capabilities and security on par with major competitors such as Outlook and Gmail. “If I were a Verizon user, going to AOL might be a pain,” he said. “But, functionally, it will be fine.”

*An earlier version of this post incorrectly said that Verizon users would have to change their email addresses if they switch Internet service providers. This version has been corrected.*

Hayley Tsukayama covers consumer technology for The Washington Post.  Follow @htsuka

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AOL Mail for Verizon Customers — Feb 21, 2017

## Verizon Move to AOL Mail - FAQs



Find answers to commonly asked questions about the move from Verizon email to AOL Mail for Verizon customers.

To learn more, review the FAQs below.

### FAQs

#### – Why is Verizon providing me with an AOL Mail account?

Starting February 2017, Verizon will no longer provide verizon.net email service. Instead they will focus on providing their internet, TV and phone customers the best experience possible. Verizon has teamed up with AOL to provide verizon.net email customers with AOL Mail, an enhanced email experience.

#### + What is included with my free verizon.net AOL Mail account?

#### + How much does this cost?

#### – Will my email address and password change?

You will use your verizon.net email address, including @verizon.net, as your user name for AOL Mail.

When you register with AOL Mail, you will be prompted to create a new password for your account. This new password will be used to log in to your new AOL Mail account. Your Verizon password will stay the same and will not be impacted by this change.



- + What will happen to my verizon.net email sub-accounts?**
- + What will happen if I have email aliases created on my verizon.net email account?**
- + Will the change to my email account impact my other Verizon services?**
- + Do I need to back up my verizon.net email before it gets moved to AOL?**
- What will happen if I decide to take no action to move my verizon.net email?**

If you do not take action to move your verizon.net email in the 30 day period after your notification, you will no longer be able to send or receive email using your verizon.net email address. In addition, you will lose access to your current contacts, calendar(s) and email. After 90 days of inactivity, Verizon will delete your account. Doing so helps Verizon reduce their server storage needs and electrical consumption.

- + How do I start the process of moving my verizon.net email address to AOL Mail?**
- + What email address do I use to log in to AOL Mail?**
- + How will I know if my account was successfully migrated to AOL Mail?**
- + Once I sign up for AOL Mail, is there a delay in receiving my email?**
- + Can I still access and use my email on the Verizon site while it is getting moved over to AOL?**

- + How do I access and log in to AOL Mail after my email becomes available on AOL.com?**
- + Does AOL have a mobile email app?**
- + Can I use a third party email program such as Outlook or Thunderbird, to access my verizon.net email with AOL Mail?**
- + How do I get support during the move of my email to AOL?**
- + How do I get support for my Verizon account or services?**