

10 Amazing Little-Known Facts About Technology

1. QWERTY keyboard was designed to slow down the typing speed.

-People boast about their writing speed on a typewriter or keyboard. It is even a competitive advantage for some jobs to have faster and more accurate typing skills.

2. Water Integrator — a computer that ran on water.

-Vladimir Sergeevich Lukyanov built the world's first computer in 1936 that solved differential equations in partial derivatives. The amazing fact is that the machine was driven by water.

3. The first computer mouse was called 'X-Y Position Indicator for Display Systems'.

-The world's first computer mouse was invented at Stanford Research Institute (SRI) in the 1960s. The equipment was called "X-Y position indicator for displays". Douglas Engelbart and Bill English are credited with the invention of the mouse. The story that Xerox APAC invented the mouse is a myth. Engelbart demoed the mouse first time in 1968 using the Xerox Alto computer. He termed the demo as 'Mother of all demos'.

4. Wikipedia is maintained by thousands of bots.

-Most of today's internet users are aware of what Wikipedia is. It is a vast collection of crowd-sourced information available online. It is common knowledge that the online encyclopedia is created and edited by volunteers.

5. You can visit the world's first webpage even today.

-Tim Berners-Lee, a British scientist working at CERN, invented the World Wide Web in 1989. It took another two years for the world's first website to make its appearance. The first webpage went live in 1991 and was hosted on a NeXT system at CERN.

6. Apple once forayed into the apparel business.

-Today Apple has made its distinguished name in everything they do. Take it the Mac OS, Macbook, iPod, or iPhone. The company always wants to create an isolated echo system and has successfully maintained it that way.

7. Google was up for sale in 1999.

-Larry Page wanted to sell Google to Excite in 1999. The deal was stuck around \$750,000 and 1% of Excite. But then the deal fell apart. Today Google's Market cap is over \$700 billion.

There are two versions of the story around why Excite did not buy Google at that time. As per the then Excite CEO George Bell, he rejected the deal because Larry Page insisted that Excite replace all its search technology with Google's search technology.

8. Amazon.com is not the original name of the website.

-Jeff Bezos tried several different names for his business before he finalized on Amazon. The very first name he registered was Cadabra Inc. After some feedback about the name being too obscure, the entrepreneur decided to change the name to something different.

9. Smoking can void your Apple product warranties.

- Apple has a policy to safeguard its technicians from any toxic work environment. Tobacco tars settled on the systems are considered harmful. Hence, Apple can deny servicing your product even if they are in warranty if they believe that it has come into contact with tobacco smoke.

10. You can code programs using just whitespaces.

-The programming language that makes it possible is called '*Whitespace*'. All it takes to write a program in this language is to use the spaces, tabs, and linefeeds. The interpreter ignores any non-whitespace characters.

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