

Welcome to *TEKTOK*
February 8, 2017

The real secret of happiness is not what you have or what you receive; it's what you share.
~Anonymous

Web Sites

February 8 Kite Flying Day

Find a sunny, public open place, and join in with Kite Flying Day! Take a picnic to the park and get competitive, seeing who can fly the highest, the fastest, and the most intricately!

Today is Kite Flying Day, a great time to go fly a kite. People have enjoyed flying kites for thousands of years. Its an ever popular activity for children, and enjoyed by many adults.

Ben Franklin was perhaps the most well known kite flyer. He flew a kite in a thunderstorm and discovered electricity. He got a charge out of flying kites!

We are amazed that Kite Flying Day is held in the middle of winter. Chances are few people in the northern areas of the country will brave the snow and cold today to go outdoors and fly a kite.

Did you know? Kites were first used by the military in ancient China over 3,000 years ago.

[Smithsonian Education: Art to Zoo- Kiting Up the Sky](#)

This article provides a brief outline on the history of kites as well as information on the forces of kite flight. There are a couple lesson plans included. One lesson directs students in writing kite poems. The other includes instructions for building a working kite.

http://smithsonianeducation.org/educators/lesson_plans/kiting/ATZ_KitingUp_theSky_September1991.pdf

[PBS Teachers: Kites](#)

Compare and contrast different kites while watching kids use the scientific method to learn how a kite's shape affects its performance. [8 min, 55 secs]

<http://pbskids.org/dragonflytv/show/kites.html>

Science Buddies: The Wright Stuff: Using Kites to Study Aerodynamics

If you are interested in aerodynamics, wait for a windy day and go fly a kite. This Science Buddies project gives you many ideas to investigate as experiment with shape, size, and ways to fly the kite. The Science Buddies project ideas are set up consistently beginning with an abstract, objective, and introduction, followed by a section on terms, concepts, and questions, bibliography, list of materials and equipment, experimental procedure, suggestions on how to vary the experiment, plus a focus on the sort of careers this experiment might relate to.

http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/project_ideas/Aero_p008.shtml

Hardware/Software

How to See Battery Time Remaining on MacOS Sierra 10.12.2

Apple has removed the battery time indicator from MacOS Sierra 10.12.2, meaning if you install the update on a MacBook Pro, MacBook, or MacBook Air, you will no longer get a battery life remaining estimate from the battery menu. Given that Mac laptops are inherently mobile and battery dependent, many users like to have a general idea of how much battery time is remaining, even if it's not 100% accurate, and thus are understandably not too enthusiastic about removing such a feature.

We'll show you a few ways to check how much battery life may be remaining on any Mac laptop running the latest MacOS Sierra release, including a more advanced way to restore the old battery menu again.

Use CoconutBattery to See Battery Time Remaining as a Menubar Item

CoconutBattery is an excellent if not ancient tool (seriously, we first covered it a decade ago!) that allows you to track the health and performance of your Mac laptop battery. The more modern versions of CoconutBattery also offer an optional battery menu which you can use to see the battery time remaining on any MacBook, MacBook Pro, or MacBook Air.

Installing and using CoconutBattery for checking battery life remaining is probably the easiest and least hassle method of seeing a battery life estimate on a Mac laptop that has had the feature removed with 10.12.2 update.

Get Coconut Battery [here](#) (free, third party utility)

Once you launch CoconutBattery, go to the apps preferences to enable it to

load on login and to enable the menu bar item, where you will be able to see battery time remaining.

Aside from the battery remaining estimator, CoconutBattery also lets you track battery cycle count and other battery health statistics, it's a genuinely useful Mac utility for laptop users.

Use Activity Monitor to See Battery Time Remaining

Activity Monitor Energy section lets you see what apps are using a lot of battery on a Mac, and it also provides an estimate for how much battery life is remaining.

1. Open Activity Monitor from /Applications/Utilities/
2. Go to the "Energy" tab and wait a few moments, the bottom section will update and offer a "Time Remaining" number

Note this feature may be removed in a future software update since Apple removed the battery life estimator from the menu bar, so enjoy it while it lasts if that is the case.

Restore Battery.menu from a Prior MacOS Release

This one is a bit more advanced and involves mucking around in the system folder. It's also trickier because you must have the Battery.menu file from MacOS 10.12.1 or earlier after you have updated to 10.12.2. If you plan ahead of time, you can simply copy the file yourself from the following location:

/System/Library/CoreServices/Menu Extras/

Locate the "Battery.menu" file from 10.12.1 or earlier and make a copy of it to your desktop or elsewhere easy to find.

After updating to MacOS 10.12.2, you will then restore your just backed up version of "Battery.menu" back into the /Menu Extras/ directory.

You might need to disable SIP to accomplish this process successfully (be sure you enable it again afterwards), or boot into Recovery mode and move/copy the earlier version of Battery.menu after updating. I went with the latter approach, and it works fine.

There are other ways to check battery life remaining on a Mac as well, feel free to leave your own ideas and utilities in the comments. As usual, how accurate the battery life estimates are depends on many factors. Perhaps Apple will

recalculate power use to more accurately reflect battery estimates for MacBook Pro and MacBook users, but until then, use one of the methods detailed here if you're curious. Or just follow the battery percent indicator gauge and watch the clock, that would work too.

Hints/Tips

10 FAVORITE WEBSITES FOR MACOS SIERRA USERS

To learn about all things Macintosh and the macOS Sierra operating system, hop onto the web, check out these sites, and stuff your brain with Mac information:

- [Alltop](#) aggregates information from dozens of great Mac-oriented websites and makes it easy to skim headlines and story summaries. You can even build your own custom version that contains only sites you want to see. Feel free to use the Apple-oriented Alltop page.
- The [Apple support site](#) and Apple support communities are treasure troves of tech notes, software update information, troubleshooting tips, and documentation for most Apple products.
- [Download.com](#), the site formerly known as VersionTracker, is the place to go to find freeware, shareware, and software updates for macOS. If this site doesn't have it, it probably doesn't exist.
- [Macworld](#) describes itself as, "Your best source for all things Apple," and it's not far from the truth. Macworld is especially strong for comparative reviews of Mac and iPhone/iPad products. If you want to find out which inkjet printer or digital camera is the best in its price class, Macworld.com probably has feature comparison charts and real-world test results.
- [The Mac Observer](#) offers insightful opinion pieces in addition to the usual Apple news and product reviews. The quality and depth of the writing at The Mac Observer is superior to most other sites covering the Apple beat.
- [TidBITS](#) bills itself as "Apple news for the rest of us," but there's much more to TidBITS than just the news. You can also find thoughtful commentary, in-depth analysis, and detailed product reviews, written and edited by pros who really know the Apple ecosystem.
- [Six Colors](#) is Jason Snell's latest venture. The former lead editor for Macworld (for over a decade), he and his team provide daily coverage of Apple, other technology companies, and the intersection of technology and culture. It's only been around for a year, but the writing is strong, opinionated, and fun to read.
- [Other World Computing](#) is a favorite maker of accessories and peripherals

for Macs. They have a wide array of storage upgrade kits and memory upgrades that are guaranteed for life.

- [DealMac](#) is the place to shop for deals on Mac stuff. With a motto like “How to go broke saving money,” this site is often the first to find out about sale prices, rebates, and other bargain opportunities on upgrades, software, peripherals, and more.
- [Working Smarter for Mac Users](#) is here, frankly, because one more site was needed to make ten. So visit the home of this productivity-oriented blog and discover the author’s vision of how to use your Mac to work smarter, which means better, faster, or more elegantly.

Riddles You Can Tell in Class

What letter is nine inches long?

Answer: The letter Y (or A, R, or D), it is one-fourth of a yard (9 inches).

Why is the letter E like London?

Answer: Because it is the capital of England.

What 3 letters make a man of a boy?

Answer: a, g, e (age).

This Day in History

Birthdates which occurred on February 9:

1404 Constantine XI Dragases last Byzantine Emperor

1773 William Henry Harrison Virginia, (Whigs) 9th President (March 4–April 4, 1841)

1891 Ronald Colman England, 1947 Academy Award actor (Tale of 2 Cities)

1909 Carmen Miranda [Maria do Carmo Miranda Da Cunha] Marco de Canavezes Portugal, vocalist/actress (Copacabana, Date With Judy)

1914 Ernest Tubb Texas, guitarist/singer (I'm Walking the Floor over You)

1928 Roger Mudd Washington DC, news anchor (CBS Weekend News, NBC Evening News)

1940 Ronnie Claire Edwards Oklahoma City OK, actress (Corabeth–Waltons, 8 Seconds, Sweet Bird of Youth)

1940 Smokey Robinson rocker (& Miracles–Tears of Clown)

1942 Carole King [Klein], Brooklyn NY, pianist/singer (Tapestry)

1943 Joe Pesci Newark NJ, actor (Half Nelson, Goodfellas)

1944 Alice Walker US, novelist (Color Purple, Meridian)

1945 Mia (Maria) Farrow Los Angeles CA, actress (Rosemary's Baby, Purple Rose of Cairo)

1952 Danny White quarterback (Dallas Cowboys)

1960 Peggy A Whitson Mt Ayr IA, PhD/astronaut
1961 John Kruk US baseball 1st baseman (Philadelphia Phillies)
1965 Lennox Lewis London England, Super heavyweight boxer (Olympics–gold–1988)

On This Day:

1775 English Parliament declares Massachusetts colony is in rebellion
1825 House of Representatives elects John Quincy Adams 6th US President
1849 Roman Republic declared
1861 Jefferson Davis & Alexander Stephens elected president & Vice President of CSA
1861 Tennessee votes against secession
1863 Fire extinguisher patented by Alanson Crane
1867 Nebraska becomes 37th US state
1870 Grant signs the bill establishing Federal Meteorological Service
1895 1st intercollegiate basketball game (Minnesota Agricultural beats Hamline, 9–3)
1895 Volleyball invented by W G Morgan in Massachusetts
1900 Dwight Davis established a new tennis trophy, the Davis Cup
1904 Japan declares war on Russia
1926 Teaching theory of evolution forbidden in Atlanta GA schools
1942 Daylight Savings War Time goes into effect in US
1943 Japanese evacuate Guadalcanal, epic battle ends
1943 FDR orders minimal 48 hour work week in war industry
1950 Senator Joseph McCarthy charges State Dept infested with 205 communists
1953 "The Adventures of Superman" TV series premieres in syndication
1959 Coasters's "Charlie Brown" peaks at #2
1963 1st flight of Boeing 727 jet
1964 1st appearance of Beatles on "Ed Sullivan Show" (73.7 million viewers)
1964 GI Joe character created
1971 Quake in San Fernando Valley kills 65 & causes over \$.5 billion damage
1971 Satchel Paige becomes 1st negro–league player elected to baseball HOF
1990 Galileo flies by Venus
1997 Fox cartoon series "Simpsons" airs 167th episode the longest–running animated series in cartoon history
2002 XIX Winter Olympics opens in Salt Lake City UT/Québec City

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