

The Luddite Lounge

Episode 12 Transcript, 05/05/16

www.ludditelounge.com/episode12

You're listening to The Luddite Lounge where we're serving up news, views and how-tos for the digital world we've all come to depend on—whether we like it or not!

This is Episode 12 of the Lounge and is another in the Five Five Tech series, where I discuss 5 items in 5 minutes. You can find show notes with related links at ludditelounge.com/episode12.

Here we go!

Number 1: You'd think that a service that basically lets you do exactly one thing—post 140 characters—would be the simplest one to learn how to use. Unfortunately, since its beginning Twitter has done an incredibly poor job with their interface so it has always seemed a lot more complicated than it really is. One of the issues was how difficult it was to find people to follow that you don't already know but who you might find interesting, which is really the most important thing you can do to get anything out of Twitter.

Well, they've just made it a lot easier to do this in their mobile apps for both iOS and Android devices. They've added what they call a Connect tab (which, of course, isn't actually a tab) that will provide suggestions of who to follow based on who you're already following, who those people are following, tweets you've liked or retweeted, and so on. It also lets you connect to your contacts list to see if any of those people are also on Twitter. These features have actually been available for a long time; they've just been difficult to find.

Unfortunately (again), this “tab” isn't in the same place in iOS and Android apps. On iOS devices, you need to go to your Twitter home feed and click the people icon at the top left of the screen. On Android devices, you need to go to your Twitter home feed and click the menu icon at the top right and select Connect when it expands. You can see screenshots of both of these options in the show notes.

Number 2: Recently several people commented on T4L that my instructions for how to attribute posts and comments on Facebook to your brand page instead of your personal profile weren't correct because the menu options I showed weren't available for them. But I couldn't figure out what the problem was because it was still working for me.

Fortunately, [T4L reader Kat](#) responded to my comment by pointing out how it had changed, which prompted me to do some additional Googling, which turned up some other related information. I haven't had the chance to update the post yet (it's high on my to-do list!) but I've added a link to the new instructions on the Social Media Today website because obviously a lot of people have been affected by this and I don't want you to have to wait to find the answer.

<http://www.socialmediatoday.com/social-networks/facebook-switches-page-management-and-posting-options-what-you-need-know>

P.S. I love when I learn things from my readers... Keep 'em coming!

Number 3: Overall I've been glad that I updated my PC to Windows 10, even though I haven't had a chance to dig all that much into all the new features. But Microsoft has really been annoying me with a lot of things they've been doing, like forcing the update on people who don't want it and changing settings that people have set for which programs to use as defaults for various file types.

<http://www.infoworld.com/article/3043526/microsoft-windows/microsoft-upgraded-users-to-windows-10-without-their-ok.html>

<http://www.businessinsider.com/never-10-stops-windows-10-upgrade-2016-3>

<http://www.infoworld.com/article/3032751/microsoft-windows/windows-10-forced-update-kb-3135173-changes-browser-and-other-defaults.html>

The latest annoyance is their announcement that their Cortana voice assistant will only work with their new Edge Browser and their Bing search engine. Now, I'm not really a voice-assistant aficionado, so it doesn't really affect me. But even if I were, I would stop using Cortana before I would change what browser or search engine I'm using, since they're critical to my work. So if their goal is to increase people's use of Cortana then I would file this particular action under "Dumb Decision."

<http://news.softpedia.com/news/microsoft-bans-google-from-connecting-to-key-windows-10-feature-503605.shtml>

Number 4: The Rio Olympic Games begin exactly three months from today and there will be doubtless lots of ways that technology can help you enjoy them, which I'll report on from time to time. Today's tips are both related to mapping.

If you want to get a look at the venues in advance, you can now see them using Google Maps.

<http://www.engadget.com/2016/05/03/google-maps-inside-rio-olympic-venues/>

And if you're actually planning to go to the event, Apple Maps has now added public transit directions for Rio de Janeiro to help visitors get around the city.

<http://www.ubergizmo.com/2016/05/apple-maps-gets-public-transit-directions-for-rio-de-janeiro-ahead-of-olympics/>

And finally...

Number 5: This Sunday is Mother's Day! If you haven't gotten your Mom a gift yet, Amazon has sales on several of their own gadgets including Kindle e-Readers, Fire tablets, and Fire TV streaming media players. And thanks to their Prime service, you probably still have time to get one of them in time for the big day.

If you want to learn more about these devices, I've got a comprehensive [review/how-to post on T4L for the Fire TV](#) and I just recently posted [a 3-part series on the Fire tablets](#). (Sorry, I've got nothing for the e-Readers.) You can find links to these posts in the show notes.

And that's it for this episode of Five Five Tech. Again, you can find the show notes at ludditelounge.com/episode12.

Thanks for listening! Until next time...