

# NEWS JOURNAL

“Members Helping Members”

December 2023

(since 1983)

Volume 40, Issue 08

## Why You Need to Keep Your Browser Updated

By Kurt Jefferson, Editor,  
Central Kentucky Computer Society

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[lextown2@gmail.com](mailto:lextown2@gmail.com)

When was the last time you updated your web browser? If it's been longer than a few weeks, you should check to see if an update is waiting to be installed.

Statista, a website tracking browser usage, reports:

- 73% of Microsoft Edge users
- 35% of Firefox users
- 23% of Safari users

A How-To-Geek [article](#) published in June 2021\* explains why you need to use the latest version of your web browser:

### Browser Updates Protect You

Browsers are continually updated for security reasons. However, outdated browsers contain opportunities for hackers to attempt to load malicious content onto your computer without your permission.

Updates patch these “openings” and block potential breaches so that the bad guys cannot install a large variety of viruses, malicious software, adware, and other crud on your machine.

If you visit an infected website, your outdated browser may not protect what's sometimes called “drive-by downloads.” These are incidents where malicious software automatically installs on your Mac, Windows, or Linux machine without you knowing it.

How-To-Geek [explains](#) how to update Chrome, Firefox, Safari, and Edge on desktop machines and LCACE

how to update your mobile browsers on iOS and Android devices.

If you're unsure if your web browser is update-to-date, you can visit [WhatIsMyBrowser?](#) to find out. That website also provides plenty of other details about your web browser, including whether cookies are enabled, JavaScript is enabled, and other details such as your local IP address and Internet Service Provider.

\*See also How-To-Geek. John Bogna (June 2023)

<https://www.howtogeek.com/892396/which-browser->



[offers-the-best-privacy-protection/](#)

# Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts

c/o Group Ambassador

“J.J.” Johnson

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*The LCACE News Journal* is published eleven times annually. Members are encouraged to submit contributions which will be acknowledged in this newsletter. Send articles to [editor@lcace.org](mailto:editor@lcace.org) Permission is granted to reproduce any or all parts of this newsletter in other User Group publications, provided that credit is given to LCACE and the individual author (s). Logo designed on an Atari Stacy Laptop in 1989 by Dwight Johnson Jr.

## **Membership**

LCACE membership is open to all individuals and families interested in personal computing. Annual dues are \$20.00 per individual/family. Applications for membership may be obtained at the monthly meeting, by request on the club hotline, and are now available on our web site at <http://www.lcace.org>.

## **Meetings**

LCACE meetings are usually held on Saturdays at the Grayslake Area Public Library, 100 Library Lane, Grayslake, Illinois. The meeting room opens at noon and the formal meeting begins at 12:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public. Bring a friend!

## **Newsletter Submissions**

Club members are welcome to submit classified ads, reviews, tips and other articles for publication, to our newsletter editor in Microsoft Word format (.doc). **Publication deadline is the 20th of the month for all ads and articles.** Please do not use tabs or special formatting.

## **Newsletter Advertising**

Ad rates per issue: Full page - \$25, Half page - \$15, Quarter page - \$10, Business Card - \$5. Discounts are available on advance purchase of multiple issues. Please send camera-ready copy and payment to the club address by the 15th of the month preceding publication. For more information on ad pricing, please call our Hotline. Ads are **FREE** to all paid members.

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# From the Corner

*J. J. Johnson*

*President Emeritus*



The November meeting went very well. We had an exceptionally good turnout for our second meeting at the Grayslake Heritage Center. Again, I would like to thank Lester for his help setting up the audio visual although we had a few problems with the audio for our zoom attendees.

Because of Mike's absence, I had to take helm of the meeting which I hope was not too long or too boring. Hopefully, I got the point across that the club is all about communication, and what I mean by communication is that we need **FEEDBACK** from the members to let us know what you want from the club. Without your feedback, our program chair just randomly picks videos or presentations that he hopes will be of interest to you, realizing that we are all seniors, and this innovative technology is something that we need to be aware of. Therefore, we try to do our best to keep you informed of what is new, and what may be relevant to you.

I hope everyone enjoyed our APCUG video presentation on "Apple Air Tags and Tiles" by John Krout. This is just one of the hundreds of videos that I have preserved from

my APCUG video library. I also presented a list of other presentations that I have given at the Waukegan Senior Center from AARP Senior Planet. And there seemed to be some interest in having these presentations at our future meetings.

I would like to thank our volunteers who help set up the meeting every month. A special thanks go out to Linda and Liz for the coffee and treats, and a big thanks to Cynthia for the **GREAT JOB** she is doing with the newsletter. She keeps a page reserved each month for your articles.

The club has a lot to offer, and it is all about "**Members Helping Members.**" Every month I look forward to hearing what new questions the members ask. Most of the time I just enjoy coming to the meetings for the camaraderie. Especially, when Liz brings Fred to the meeting. Some of you I have known for quite a long time and a few of you may be new to the club. All of you have joined the club for assorted reasons, but I enjoy seeing you.

If you attend the holiday party again, I will enjoy seeing you there. If not I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.





# My New Toy vs. My Old Toy

The Advantages of the iPad Air 5-10.9in. over the iPad Pro 4-10.5in.

*From Mike McEnergy*

*President L.C.A.C.E.*



When it comes to choosing the perfect tablet, Apple offers a wide range of options to cater to different needs and preferences. In this article, I will be focusing on two popular models: the iPad Air 5 10.9 and the iPad Pro 5 10.5. While both are exceptional devices, the iPad Air 5 10.9 brings some distinct advantages that make it a strong contender for those seeking a versatile and powerful tablet experience. Let's dive into the details.

## Design and Display

The iPad Air 5 10.9 features a more modern design, with slimmer bezels around the display when compared to the iPad Pro 4 10.5. This results in a larger screen-to-body ratio, allowing for a more immersive viewing experience. Additionally, the iPad Air 5 10.9 comes with a 10.9-inch Liquid Retina display, providing vibrant colors and excellent clarity, which gives it an

edge over the 10.5-inch Retina display of [the iPad Pro 4](#).

## Processing Power

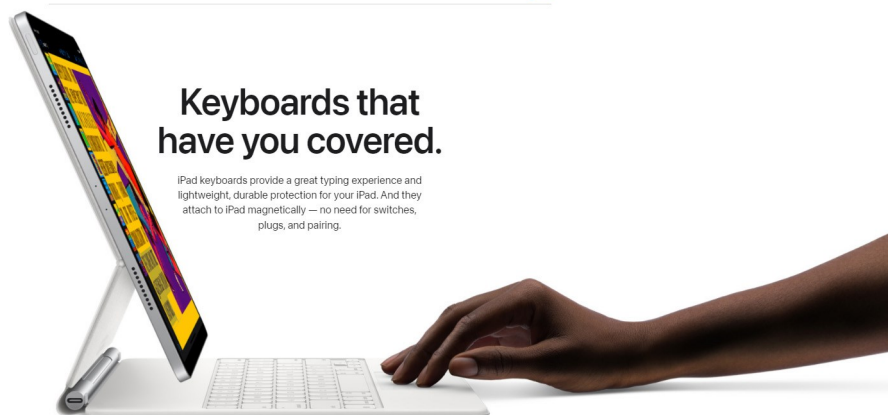
Under the hood, the iPad Air 5 10.9 is equipped with Apple's latest A14 Bionic chip, which delivers exceptional performance and power efficiency. This chip outperforms the A10X Fusion chip found in the iPad Pro 4 10.5, providing faster processing speeds and better overall performance. Whether you're multitasking, editing videos, or playing graphics-intensive games, the iPad Air 5 10.9 ensures a smooth and lag-free experience.

## Apple Pencil and Magic Keyboard Support

One of the notable advantages of the iPad Air 5 10.9 is its compatibility with the 2nd generation Apple Pencil and the Magic Keyboard. These accessories greatly enhance productivity, creativity, and overall usability. The Apple Pencil allows for precise and natural writing, drawing,

Keyboards for iPad

Show



### Keyboards that have you covered.

iPad keyboards provide a great typing experience and lightweight, durable protection for your iPad. And they attach to iPad magnetically — no need for switches, plugs, and pairing.

and note-taking experiences, while the Magic Keyboard adds a full-sized keyboard and trackpad, effectively transforming the iPad Air 5 10.9 into a laptop-like device. Unfortunately, the iPad Pro 4 10.5 lacks support for these accessories.

## Camera System

The iPad Air 5 10.9 comes with an upgraded camera system, featuring a 12-megapixel rear camera and a 7-megapixel front-facing camera. This setup allows for high-resolution photos and videos, as well as improved video calls and FaceTime sessions. On the other hand, the iPad Pro 4 10.5 sports a 12-megapixel rear camera but only has a 7-megapixel front-facing camera. Therefore, if photography or video calling is important to you, the iPad Air 5 10.9 offers a better camera experience.

## Conclusion

While both the iPad Air 5 10.9 and the iPad Pro 4 10.5 are powerful tablets, the former offers several advantages that make it a compelling choice over the latter. Its sleek design, larger and more vibrant display, faster processors, and compatibility with the latest Apple Pencil and Magic Keyboard all contribute to an enhanced user-experience. Whether you're a student, professional, or creative individual, the iPad Air 5 10.9 provides the versatility and performance needed to excel in various tasks.



**iPad Face/Off**

*In this issue Clip Art is Credited to: Images by Freepik  
(Pages 3, 5, 9)*



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[Mastering Microsoft 365 Defender](#)

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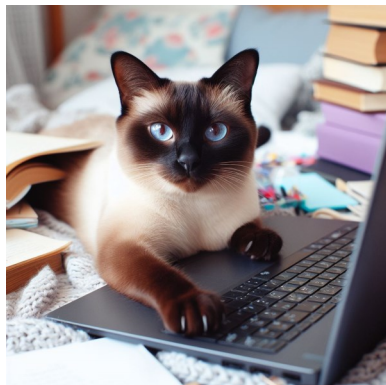
Sue

Jean

# Anker 737 Power Bank Review

## Huge Capacity to Keep Devices Running

*By Jasmine Blue D’Katz*



I have several power banks, and although I recently purchased the Anker multi-port charger, I decided to add another power bank to my arsenal of chargers to carry in my portable video studio. The Anker 737 Power Bank is a portable charger that boasts a massive 24,000mAh capacity and supports 140W Power Delivery (PD) 3.1. This means that it can quickly charge even the most demanding devices, such as laptops, tablets, and smartphones.

The Anker 737 Power Bank is a sleek and stylish device that is made from high-quality materials. It is also quite compact, making it easy to carry with you on the go. The power bank has a built-in LCD screen that displays the remaining battery level, output power, and input power. This helpful feature allows me to track how much power I have left and how much power my device is drawing.

## Features

The Anker 737 Power Bank has several features that make it a great choice for anyone looking for a portable charger. These features include:

- ⇒ 24,000mAh capacity
- ⇒ 140W Power Delivery (PD) 3.1
- ⇒ Two USB-C ports
- ⇒ One USB-A port
- ⇒ Built-in LCD screen

## Performance

The Anker 737 Power Bank is a high-performance device that quickly charges even the most demanding devices. In my tests, I was able to fully charge an iPad Pro Max from 0% to 100% in just under an hour. I was also able to charge my HP Spectre laptop from 0% to 50% in just over an hour. This has given me extended use of my devices while traveling or on an assignment.

## Multi-Protect Safety System

As for safety, the power bank is equipped with Anker's Multi-Protect safety system, which protects your devices from overcharging, short circuits, and other hazards.

This was not a cheap purchase but is a premium product that comes with a premium price tag. However, I believe that the price is justified given the power bank's high capacity, fast



charging speeds, and safety features.

Overall, the Anker 737 Power Bank is an excellent portable charger that is perfect for anyone who needs to keep their devices charged on the go. It is a powerful, versatile, and safe device that is well worth the price.

### Pros:

- Massive 24,000mAh capacity
- Supports 140W Power Delivery (PD) 3.1
- Fast charging speeds
- Two USB-C ports and one USB-A port
- Built-in LCD screen
- Multi-Protect safety system.
- Compact and stylish design

### Cons:

- Expensive
- Can be a bit heavy
- Overall Rating: 4.5 out of 5 stars

### Video

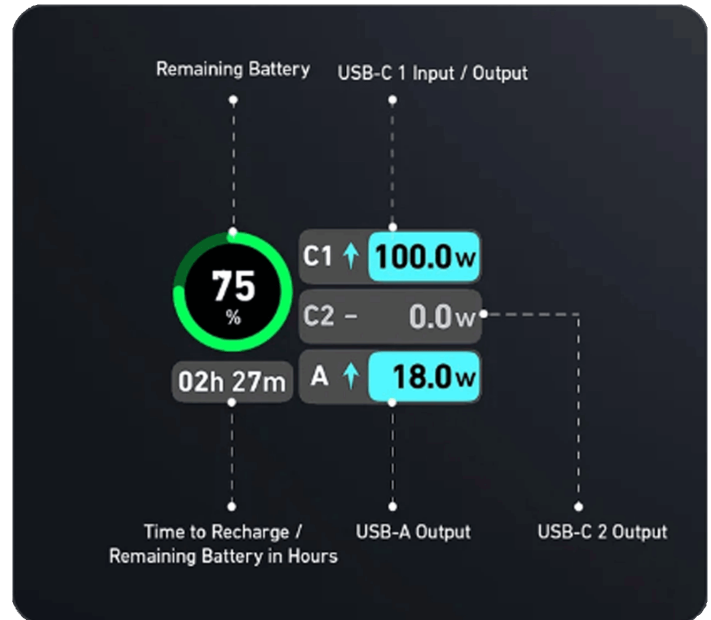
### Pricing:

- Mfr: Anker.com
- Price: \$159.99
- Price: \$91.99 (Amazon)



### Anker 737 Charger (GaNPrime 120W)

Built-in LCD screen displays the remaining battery level, output power, and input power





# Fitbit Charge 6:

## Comprehensive Analysis of Fitbit's Latest Fitness Tracker

By Randy D.

I've been a Fitbit smartwatch user for several years. Recently, my wife decided to get one after joining an exercise class at the senior center, to keep track of her activities. She had observed others with Apple Watches and other tracking devices, but she didn't want to spend that kind of money on a fitness device.

In the realm of fitness trackers, Fitbit has established itself as a frontrunner, consistently delivering innovative and feature-rich devices that cater to a wide range of health and fitness enthusiasts. The latest iteration, the Fitbit Charge 6, builds upon the successes of its predecessors, offering a refined design, enhanced features, and seamless integration with Google services.

### Design and Comfort

Fitbit Charge 6 retains the sleek and stylish design that has become synonymous with Fitbit trackers. Its lightweight and comfortable construction makes it suitable for both everyday wear and strenuous workouts. The tracker's vibrant **AMOLED** display is easily readable even in bright sunlight, and the silicone straps are available in a variety of colors to complement any style.

### Enhanced Health and Fitness Tracking

The Charge 6 boasts an impressive suite of health and fitness tracking capabilities, providing users with comprehensive insights into their overall well-being. It accurately monitors heart rate, steps taken, calories burned, sleep quality, and stress levels. The tracker also features an ECG app to detect potential heart rhythm irregularities and an EDA sensor to measure stress response.

### New Integrations and Features



The Charge 6 introduces several exciting new features, including:

- Google Maps integration:** Receive turn-by-turn directions directly on your wrist.
- Google Wallet support:** Make contactless payments using your tracker.
- YouTube Music controls:** Easily manage music playback without reaching for your phone.
- Enhanced exercise tracking:** Access all 40 exercise modes directly on the device.
- Heart rate broadcasting:** Connect your tracker to compatible fitness equipment to view your heart rate data on the screen.

### Benefits and Advantages

The Fitbit Charge 6 offers numerous benefits for health-conscious individuals:

- Comprehensive health insights:** Gain a deeper understanding of your overall health and fitness through detailed tracking of various metrics.
- Improved exercise performance:** Optimize your workouts with real-time feedback and insights into your exercise intensity and duration.
- Enhanced sleep quality:** Track your sleep patterns and receive personalized tips to improve your sleep habits.
- Stress management guidance:** Monitor your stress levels and receive personalized recommendations to manage stress effectively.
- Convenient contactless payments:** Make quick and easy payments with the integrated Google Wallet feature.





## Pros and Cons

### Pros:

- Elegant and comfortable design
- Comprehensive health and fitness tracking
- New Google integrations, including Google Maps and Google Wallet
- Enhanced exercise tracking with all 40 modes available on-device
- Heart rate broadcasting compatibility
- Long battery life

### Cons:

- Lack of fall detection feature
- Occasional Bluetooth connectivity issues
- Limited music storage capacity

## Price and Availability

The Fitbit Charge 6 is available for \$149.95 (\$99.99 on Black Friday) in various colors, including black, graphite, and rose gold. It can be purchased directly from Fitbit's website, major retailers, and online marketplaces.

## Conclusion

The Fitbit Charge 6 emerges as a compelling option for those seeking a comprehensive and stylish fitness tracker. Its enhanced features, seamless Google integrations, and comfortable design make it a valuable tool for tracking health and fitness goals. While a few minor drawbacks exist, such as the absence of fall detection and occasional Bluetooth connectivity issues, the Charge 6's overall benefits far outweigh these limitations.

For individuals seeking a versatile fitness tracker that provides accurate health and fitness insights, the Fitbit Charge 6 is a worthwhile investment. Its user-friendly interface, comprehensive tracking capabilities, and innovative features make it an excellent choice for those committed to achieving their health and fitness

aspirations.

## Specs

<https://www.fitbit.com/global/us/products/trackers/charge6>



## Shopping

<https://www.fitbit.com/global/us/home>

## Simplify your life with these smartphone apps

Visit [play.google.com](http://play.google.com) or open your iTunes application and search within the App Store to download these.

App name	How it works
Flashlight	Turns your screen into a flashlight
Google Maps	Provides maps and directions using GPS
Dragon Dictation*	Lets you send texts and emails without typing
GasBuddy	Finds cheap fuel in your area
FaceTime*	Allows video chats with friends and family
Triplt	Organizes flights, hotel reservations, and more
Laser Level	Helps hang pictures straight
Lose It	Lets you create and follow a diet plan
RedLaser	Compares prices by scanning bar codes while you shop
The Weather Channel	Keeps up with local weather
iPharmacy Drug Guide & Pill ID	Identifies your pills and finds lowest drug prices
Tip Calculator	Computes your tip and splits the bill among friends



\*iPhone only

## Members Helping Members

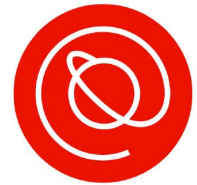
*Just think you could have submitted a paragraph or two that would help your fellow Members*



**Ctrl+ click white arrow to go to our YouTube site**



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Senior Planet from AARP is a nonprofit that helps older adults use technology to learn digital skills, stay active, and meet new friends.

 [www.seniorplanet.org](http://www.seniorplanet.org)

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# Cool Tech For The Person Who Has Everything

*By Rand D*

Most of us have at least one loved one whose heart is shop for. Maybe It is because they insist that they have everything they need already or perhaps they simply have this discerning taste. To get a jump start on your holiday shopping consider these five functional and fun gifts ideas that promise to impress even the most challenging gift recipient.

**Portable power:** Whether your loved one is a world traveler, tailgater, beach bum, remote worker, or hot death ger, the new M 150 portable power station from the Duracell will be a game changer. Unlocking portable power so they can work and have fun from anywhere karma it offers 150 watts of power and multiple USB ports for laptops, phones, tablets, or other small electronics. It is chic, sleek design features a dimmable ring light and tiltable device holder with wireless charging capabilities. The tiltable lid, users cannot position their phone at an ideal and flattering angle to take videos conference calls and watching or recording videos.

It also features an integrated compartment that can safely store accessories like earbuds, adapters, and dongles, in his own ultra-modern charging clock that has a low enough profile to stylishly live on a bedside table or a kitchen counter. Best of all, it weighs under 2 pounds, making it convenient accessory to toss into everyday bag, packing a carry-on, take any car, or use in and around the house.

Intelligent, on one finger. Tracking biometric does not need to be clunky her come at the cost of fashion. Consider gifting your Wellness seeking loved ones a smart ring. Worn just like a regular decorative ring, these compact devices provide valuable insight into the user's health, tracking measures like temperature, heart rate, daily activity, and recovery, sleep quality, menstrual cycles and even stress. Look for a water resistant, dura-



ble option that is built to withstand the elements, especially if your gift recipient runs, bikes or hikes. If they are a fashionista, that is no problem, as many of these models are designed to be as sleek as a wedding band.

**A better read:** well not technically tech, blue light blocking glasses are a technical adjacent gift that will help your recipient enjoy their devices without experiencing disruptive sleep cycles and damage to their eyes. And fortunately, hip bands have horn in on the market creating options that are established as they are functional. The best models have scratch resistant and shatterproof lenses and offer both UV and blue light protection.

**A brighter smile:** Some up to days electric toothbrushes connect to apps to provide real time feedback for optional brushing time and pressure and has the ability to be customized based on a user's specific dental care needs. To make your gift truly stand out, consider a model that features LED whitening technology for a 2IN1 GIF that promotes great dental health and a brighter smile at the same time.

A gift that keeps on giving: undecided? A tech gadget subscription service would deliver a box of fun new gifts monthly or quarterly for as long as you choose and might include everything from a drone to a digital photo frame.

For a person whose seamlessly has everything, gift shops can be a puzzle. Fortunately, great tech now on store shelves can help you crack the code.



2024

zoom

Joining a Meeting

January 13 & February 10

### Computer Services

**Desktops,  
Laptops,  
All-in-Ones  
and more**



During our October Zoom meeting the following two computer services were mentioned.

#### White Box Computers

They say they are the place for all your computer repairs & upgrades at nearly half the prices of the competition.

<https://whiteboxcomputers.org>

847-833-9324

#### ZYTEK Services

Has been around for over 30 years and offers the best in fast, friendly, high-quality, fair price computer service solutions

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**December**

*David J. Glish, MCS*

*Linda E. Busch*

*Linda Rohlfing*



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