

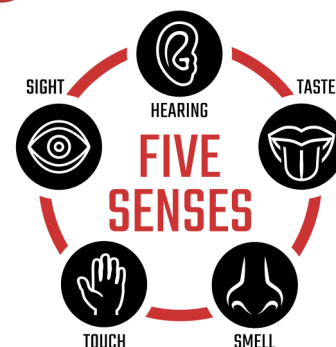
"IT" Makes Sense

The 5 Senses of Information Technology

The very first computing machines from the late 1800s were created to do simple number tabulation. Today, handheld and portable computers, tablets and cellphones go innumerable steps further. They facilitate communication as well as entertain. Going forward these devices are rapidly becoming replacements for human interaction—not just between humans but between one individual and the real world. In fact, computers and devices have and will continue to help us rely on, use, and sometimes even replace our five senses. Here is a quick overview:

1. **Sight** – We have come a long way from the visuals many will recall from the Pong Video Game. The concept of GUI (Graphical User Interface) advanced quickly because it facilitated users relying on sight, our dominant sense. As GUIs improved over time, it allowed 3-D and ultra 4KHD video graphics—all coming to devices in the near future. Virtual reality in sight makes the experience even more real and augmented reality (adding on to that visual) makes the sense of sight ever more heightened.
2. **Touch** – The first computer keyboards might be the first machines to electronically transfer thoughts from human hands to digital space, and the mouse followed soon thereafter. Apple's touch-screen advancements let your fingers do the walking; and in fact, move from touch as a direction pointer towards haptic perception which relies on touch to communicate—where you actually "feel" interaction. Fitbit and Apple Watch are pioneers of this rapidly advancing technology. The next technology wave will be touch simply as movement (choosing options with a wave of your hand in the air). Your device will react to the movement, understand it, and take the action you desire.
3. **Sound** – By the late 1960s, technology advances enabled computing devices to understand basic spoken words. Dictation software grew, and speech-to-text was the next technology wave. Over the last five years, the age of the digital assistant (e.g., Alexa, Siri) has become common place. Now you can dial a phone with a voice command via Bluetooth or directly to the device even if the device is not in your hand.
4. **Smell** – True multi-sensory computing is the new vanguard. Virtual and augmented reality applications will send signals to our brain to facilitate or trick or replicate our sense of smell. It is called digital scent. We will become more fully immersed as this technology improves. The future means that scent cartridges capable of creating thousands of smells will be included in devices where the sense of smell is important. In a few years as you watch on your tablet a beach scene from a movie, you will see the waves, feel the sand, hear the dialogue, and smell the salty air.

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Hot Topics

August 5 & 19

WEBINAR SERIES

10-Minute Tech Talk:

Teams Revisited:

Rev Up Your Teams Experience

www.it-radix.com/webinar

Join us for the first two sessions of our webinar series.

Starts @ 3:10pm sharp

August 9

National Book Lovers Day

Add to your summer reading list. Contact us for a free copy of Cathy's new book:

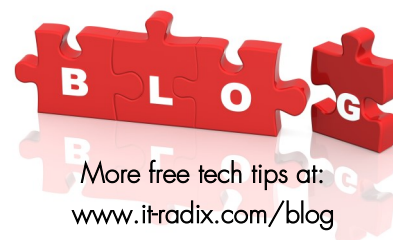
YOU Are the #1 Target

Office 2010 EOL

Office 2010 will reach its end of life on October 13.

No time like the present to make plans to migrate to Office 365 before it's too late.

If you would rather receive our newsletter via email, sign up on our website or send an email to resource@it-radix.com





The 5 Senses of IT

(Continued from page 1)

5. **Taste** – This is where you are probably starting to get skeptical but come along for the ride. Many are skeptical, but the advent of 3-D printing technology means that computer-created food items is on the horizon. Never say never! After all, who would have thought just 10 short years ago that every friendly disagreement about who starred in a movie could be resolved immediately by verbally asking a small, handheld device?

Bonus 6th Sense — Style

We can thank Steve Jobs for how style has become important to computing devices and, in fact, can separate one brand from another. Today, an Apple Watch has become a fashion statement!

As we peer into the future, it's evident that the focus of technology will be on increasingly advanced user interfaces—bringing all six senses into a fully immersed user experience. IT Radix is excited for what the future holds. Come along for the ride with us!

Proudly folded & stuffed by Central Park School

Introducing... Robin Gilfillan

If you ever called into our office in the late afternoon, you most likely had the privilege of talking to one of our newest employees Robin Gilfillan. Robin's smiling face radiates through the phone and she prides herself on having the 6th sense of humor! We at the office affectionately agree that she also has the "gift of gab" 😊 and some of the best stories!

Robin came to IT Radix with over 34 years of a wide variety of customer service experiences. Most recently, she worked as an Assistant Community Manager for a property management company where she especially enjoyed meeting a variety of people and helping them find homes. Some of her earlier career was spent at the American Cancer Society supporting patient and family services and managing their programs and volunteers. Wig fittings were her favorite part of the job—encouraging women to try a different hair color/style and helping them feel better about themselves brought her much joy. Similarly, she enjoyed working at Comfort Care Hospice, providing end-of-life comfort and support to patients and their families. Can you tell Robin is passionate about helping people?

As an IT Services Consultant at IT Radix, Robin excels at sales and relationship building. She's on the phone the majority of the day reaching out to area businesses and offering solutions to their company's IT needs. Robin is very relatable and she's great at making people feel comfortable and at ease. Robin shares that she "looks forward to getting to know each and every one of our current and prospective clients."

Robin's favorite quote:

"Go become one of who the world is not worthy;
grace will go with you and joy will follow you home"

– Unknown

Robin is a native to New Jersey, born in New Brunswick. She currently lives in her childhood home with her two fur babies, Bindi and Tucker. She is getting ready for her next big adventure and planning to move this year. Robin has so many fond, funny memories spent in this home taking care of her father that she started writing a memoir of their escapades which she plans to title, *Riding Shotgun*. When not working, packing or writing, Robin enjoys spending time outdoors—especially near a lake—hiking, kayaking and wine tasting.

Robin's personal philosophy: I strive to bring humor into everything I do.

The Buzz

Our Clients Speak Out!

"IT Radix has been a partner in our business for 10+ years. Their client service in addressing immediate needs is second to none and our team couldn't be happier to work with such a wonderful group of professionals. We rely on their responsiveness not only during regular hours but also after hours and on weekends. We look forward to many more years of partnership."

Maria Filipe, Director of Finance – The Westfield Group

The Westfield Group is a full-service agency offering medical communications, training, meeting management and incentive programs focused in the pharmaceutical, biotech and life science industries. We strive to be the best solution partner for our valued clients by challenging both conventional thinking and what success looks like ensuring that every engagement is exceptional.



Shady Business

See the BIG Picture

Many people find it difficult to see small text on their computer screens. Some people fix this issue by making the text bigger or by enlarging the screen itself. However, the problem with those options is that they're not real fixes—after changing the text size, one will need to change it back. Also, enlarging the screen can often make text and pictures blurry which are not easy on the eyes. However, Microsoft has a magnification feature that erases these problems.

Microsoft's **Magnifier** is a simple and easy-to-use tool that helps zoom in on your screen without sacrificing the quality of what you are seeing. This tool is unique because there are three different setting options: "Views," "Lens" and "Docked."

Views: Enlarges your entire screen so you can see everything larger than it is. This is great if you have a lot of things on your screen that need enlargement.

Lens: Acts as a magnifying glass. There is a small rectangle that shows up on your screen that moves with your mouse. When you hover over something on your screen, it will magnify it into that little lens. This is great if there is just a small portion of text that you need enlarged.

Docked: Takes up the top portion of your screen and enlarges the area around your cursor. This is best used when typing in a Word document or Excel spreadsheet as it follows the movement of the cursor as you type, so you do not need to keep fiddling with the mouse itself to stay on the words you need enlarged.

Overall, this tool is exceptional for those who need a little extra help—whether you want to see items better or reduce eyestrain caused by tiny text. Don't take our word for it; try it out for yourself! Need help getting started? Give us a call!

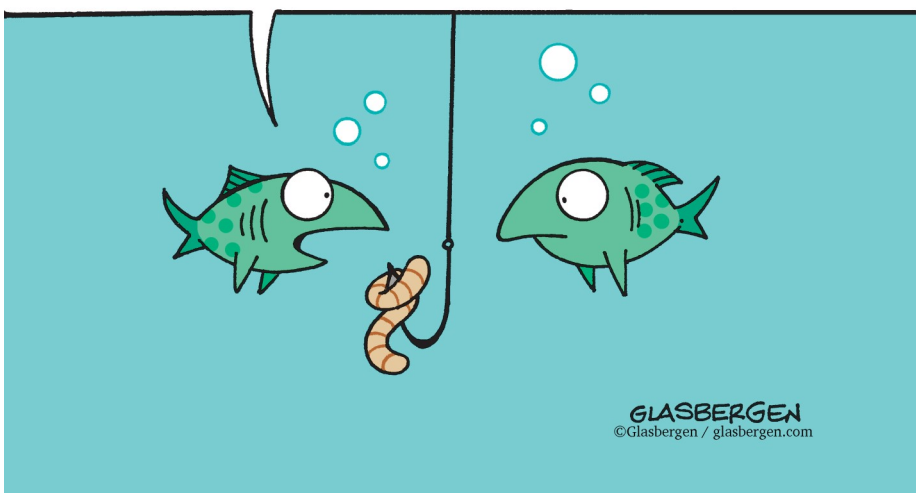
The use of eye protection dates back to pre-historic time when Inuits created the first-known sunglasses by flattening walrus ivory with narrow slits to block the sun's rays and prevent snow blindness. The Roman emperor Nero used polished green gemstones to prevent the glare during gladiator matches, and 12th century Chinese judges wore smoky quartz lenses to cover their eyes and conceal their facial expressions when questioning witnesses.

Eye protection was only available to the wealthy until 1929 when Sam Foster sold inexpensive, mass-produced frames made specifically to protect people's eyes from the sun on the beaches of the Atlantic City Boardwalk. Around this time, sunglasses also became widely popular among actresses wanting to hide from the paparazzi.

In 1936, Edwin H. Land invented polarized lenses that not only reduce glare but also made images appear sharper and clearer. To test whether you have the real deal, hold the sunglasses up against a television or computer screen and see if the lenses become clear when turning them sideways.

Before catching some rays this summer, make sure to protect your sight!

**I'M THINKING ABOUT GOING ONLINE,
BUT I HEARD IT CAN BE DANGEROUS!**



Welcome!

A warm welcome to our newest Management and Support clients:

APW Company
Crothers Consulting
NJ Elder Law Center at Goldberg
Law Group
Third Pole Therapeutics

Remember, **IT Radix** is here to service all of your technology needs!



Cathy

From the desk of Cathy Coloff

As we move into August through the “Dog Days of Summer,” I’m grateful to be able to enjoy the time outside even if it’s hot and sometimes sticky. If you’re like me, the COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to change our summer plans; and as a result, I’ve been doing things around my home. My backyard container garden has never looked better, my she-shed renovation is progressing nicely, and I’ve been sorting through Alex’s stuff and passing along toys, books and clothes that still have life in them. I’ve enjoyed reading and hearing about some of the positive side-effects of the quarantine restrictions on our environment—such as better air quality in our metro area, cleaner water, and the return of dolphins and whales to our local waters. As we figure out how best to move forward, I hope that we’re able to keep some of these benefits intact.

We’re fortunate to have a family vacation home in Vermont which has enjoyed some of the lowest infections rates of the country. Being in Vermont, no matter the time of year, helps me relax and think. Sometimes, I just sit and listens to the sounds of the woods around me—bird calls, the wind rustling through the trees, or the rain pinging off the metal roof. I know many thrive on the movement and activity of the city but surprisingly, despite my ADHD tendencies, I’m not one of them. In the meantime, I’m going to continue to figure out how to compost our food scraps effectively both at home and in Vermont (required by law) without attracting the critters and reduce at least my own family’s carbon footprint in this wonderful world we live in. I hope you and your loved ones are safe and healthy and are enjoying our beautiful summer too.

SPECIAL OFFER

Book a meeting* with IT Radix during the months of **July**, **August** and **September** to learn how to turn your home quarters into your new HQ and receive a free Work-From-Home Starter Kit—from cookies to webcam covers.

“Nothing revives the past so completely as a smell that was once associated with it.”

— Vladimir Nabokov

tech TIP

Beware of Copycats

Bookmark websites accessed frequently to avoid scams from copycat sites AND implement MFA now! Why? You do not want to share your credentials with anyone! Hackers put up websites that look almost exactly like real websites to fool you into getting that information.

For example, the website “officeppe dot com” takes you to a website that looks exactly like Microsoft’s website. In fact, every link on the page takes you to Microsoft except for the “Sign In” button. The “Sign In” button captures your Office 365 login credentials when you enter them on subsequent sign in screens.

Contact IT Radix for more tips on staying safe online!

Take Advantage of Multiple Monitors

When thinking of a PC with a multiple-monitor setup, it is easy to visualize TV shows and movies with the computer hacker in front of screens full of numbers and code. However, the use of multiple monitors has become far more common in the workplace and is something that many people swear by.

Multiple monitors offer advantages in many different industries, provided they are used to complement your workflow. One obvious advantage is being able to see multiple windows simultaneously, giving the user the ability to input data into a spreadsheet or database without switching between tabs to refer to data. If it is important to keep an eye on an email chain or a chat with coworkers, then leaving one screen dedicated to communication allows regular work to be continued. Multiple monitors are a great addition to anyone’s desk space. Having the ability to spread out many of the programs that are required to do your jobs decreases screen clutter and, in turn, can make your brain feel less overwhelmed with what is in front of you. Multiple monitors are especially useful when working remotely as they provide flexibility during video calls and virtual presentations, allowing users to take notes or keep an eye on their inbox while being actively involved in their meeting. Portable monitors are available now making this more feasible for use both at the office and at home.

Let IT Radix help you determine how to best lay out your office and utilize multiple monitors to improve your overall work experience.