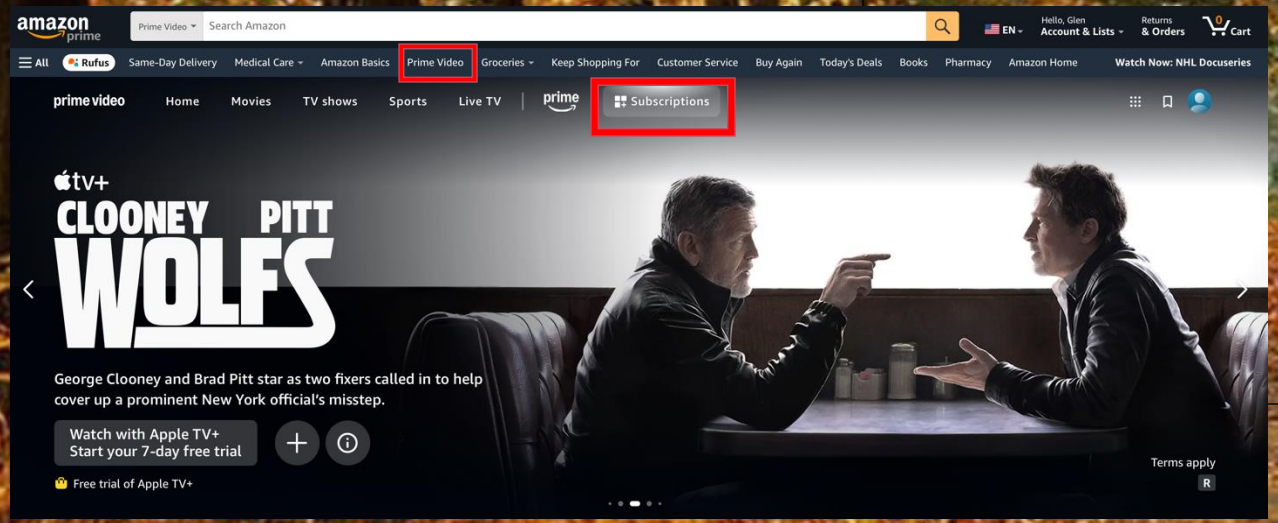
Glen's Goodies

NOVEMBER 2024

Apple TV+ Is Now on Amazon Prime

Apple has made a deal with Amazon that offers Apple TV+ to Amazon Prime Members as an add-on subscription. Add-on subscriptions allow subscribers to put extra streaming services onto their Prime subscription and have everything billed together. If you are an Amazon Prime member, simply click on the "Prime Video" link and then click on "Subscriptions" to see add-on subscription offers. The subscription costs $9.99/month.



Tim Cook admits Vision Pro is not a mass-market Product

In an interesting twist, Tim Cook recently admitted to the Wall Street Journal that the Vision Pro is not a mass-market product due to its price. He said:

> **"At $3,500, it's not a mass-market product," said Cook. "Right now, it’s an early-adopter product. People who want to have tomorrow’s technology today—that's who it's for. Fortunately, there's enough people who are in that camp that it's exciting.”**

https://www.macrumors.com/2024/10/21/tim-cook-admits-truth-about-vision-pro/

Tim Cook admits Vision Pro is not a mass-market Product

"We're perfectly fine with not being first," said Cook. "As it turns out, it takes a while to get it really great. It takes a lot of iteration. It takes worrying about every detail. Sometimes, it takes a little longer to do that. We would rather come out with that kind of product and that kind of contribution to people versus running to get something out first. If we can do both, that's fantastic. But if we can only do one, there's no doubt around here. If you talk to 100 people, 100 of them would tell you: It's about being the best."

Cook said Apple Intelligence makes the experience of using Apple products "profoundly different."

"I think we'll look back and it will be one of these air pockets that happened to get you on a different technology curve," said Cook.

https://www.macrumors.com/2024/10/21/tim-cook-admits-truth-about-vision-pro/

“Apple could soon end production of Vision Pro headset”

“Apple reportedly might end production of the Vision Pro by the end of the year. That doesn’t mean the mixed-reality headset is about to be discontinued, however.

Still, Cupertino apparently now has its focus on the cheaper Vision version that could launch in 2025.

While its bleeding-edge technology draws praise, the $3,500 price remains a drawback.

“Apple has sharply scaled back production of its Vision Pro mixed reality headset since the early summer and could stop making the existing version of the device entirely by year end,” reported The Information on Wednesday.

Multiple reports point to Apple now being hard at work on a more affordable version of the AR headset. To reduce the cost, the upcoming model will allegedly use a lower-resolution display, slower processor, and drop the EyeSight feature.

That might get the cost down to $2,000, a price that Apple supposedly hopes will double demand when the product — perhaps called Vision Air — launches in 2025.”

https://www.cultofmac.com/news/vision-pro-production-rumors-vision-air?_bhlid=e3f9ece1c437af190e3ebf780307814398f28a0f

How to Hide Your Mac's Mouse Cursor

If you're watching a video on your Mac, it's nice to be completely immersed and not have notifications and other distractions. This includes your mouse cursor. I don't want to see notifications, the menu bar, or even the mouse cursor. If you put your Mac into Do Not Disturb you won't see notifications, but that won't get rid of your mouse cursor. There are couple ways to hide the mouse cursor.

1. **Place the cursor anywhere on the video (except for the playback controls) and leave it alone and it should disappear.**

2. **When you're in full-screen mode, if you press most of the keys on your Mac it will make the cursor disappear. Just don't press any keys or it returns.**

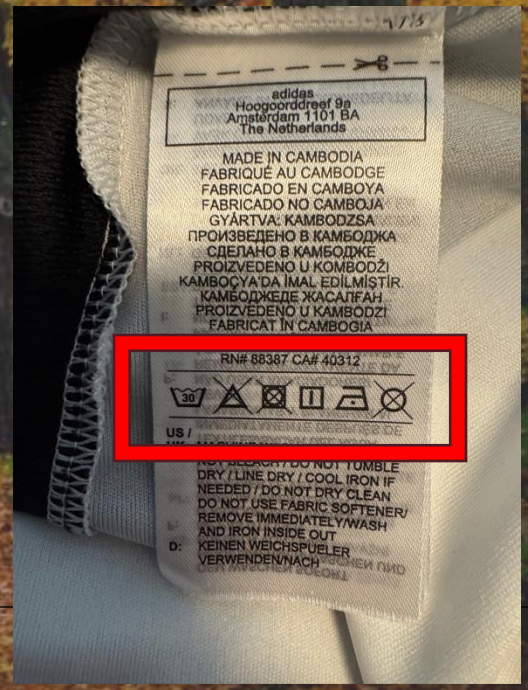
3. **Press "Command" + "."**

4. **Download a program called "Cursorcerer." Cursorcerer is a tool that allows you to hide the Mac's cursor at any time by use of a hotkey.**
   https://doomlaser.com/cursorcerer-hide-your-cursor-at-will/

Use your iPhone Camera to Decipher Laundry Tags and Car Dashboard Symbols

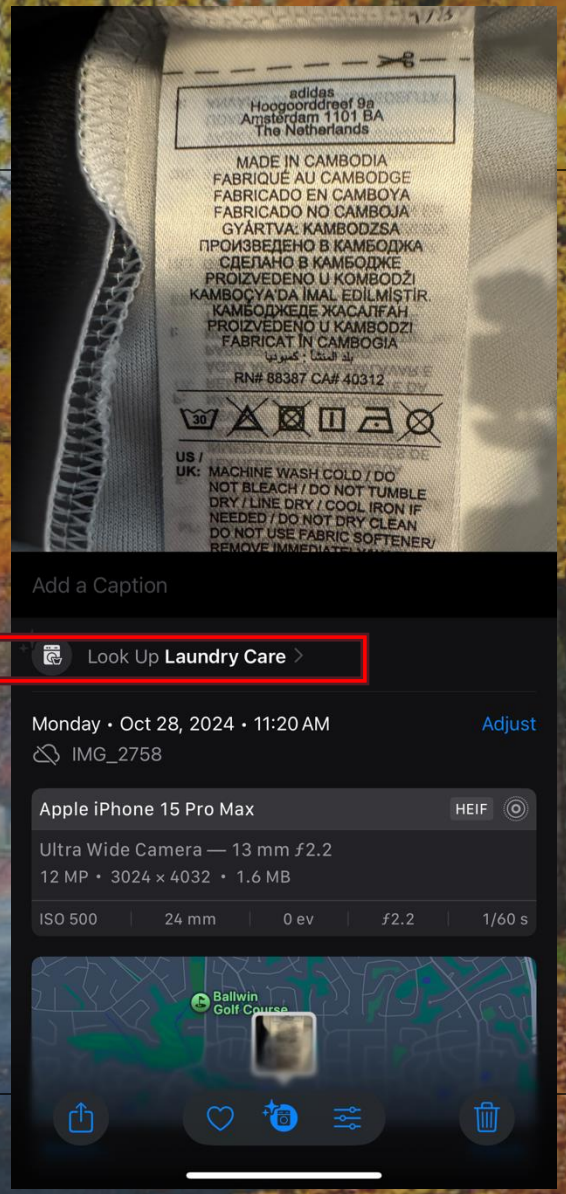
Do you get frustrated trying to figure out what the symbols on clothing tags and car dashboards mean while having to spend time trying to get under the right light to even see the symbols on clothing? Now your iPhone camera can tell you their meaning and you don't have to squint, find good lighting, or get a magnifying glass to see them. Just take a picture and your iPhone will tell you. Here's how to use this feature:

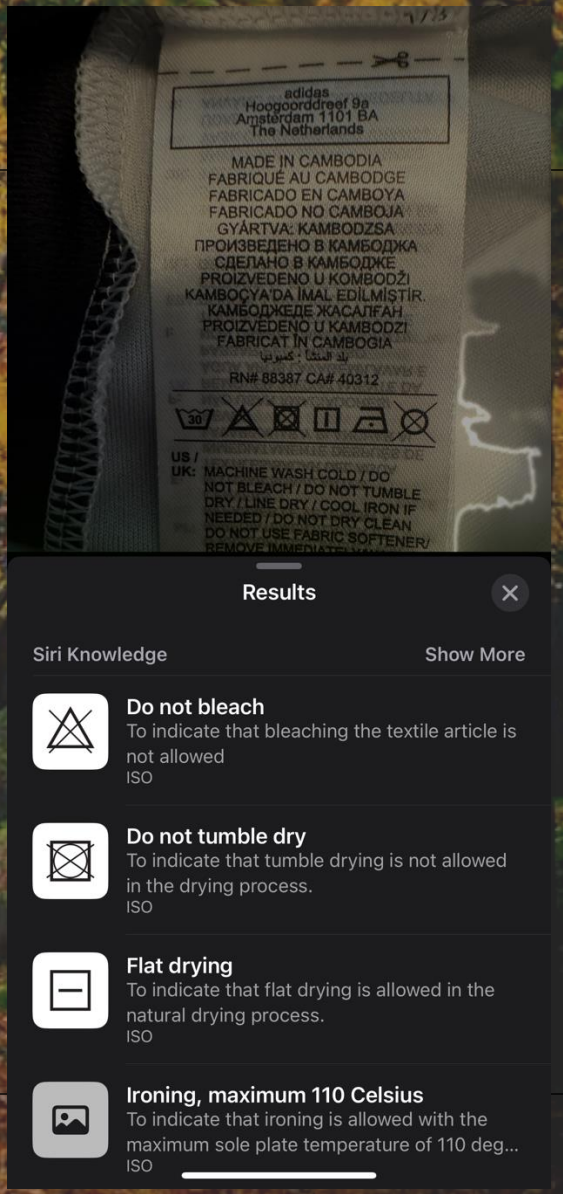
1. Take a picture with your iPhone



Use your iPhone Camera to Decipher Laundry Tags and Car Dashboard Symbols

2. Swipe up on the picture and tap "Look Up Laundry Care" to see meanings of laundry symbols and car icons





Hearing Health

With the new updated systems (iOS 18.1, iPadOS 18.1, MacOS 15.1), Apple's Hearing Health is now available if you have the AirPods Pro 2 headphones. Apple says:

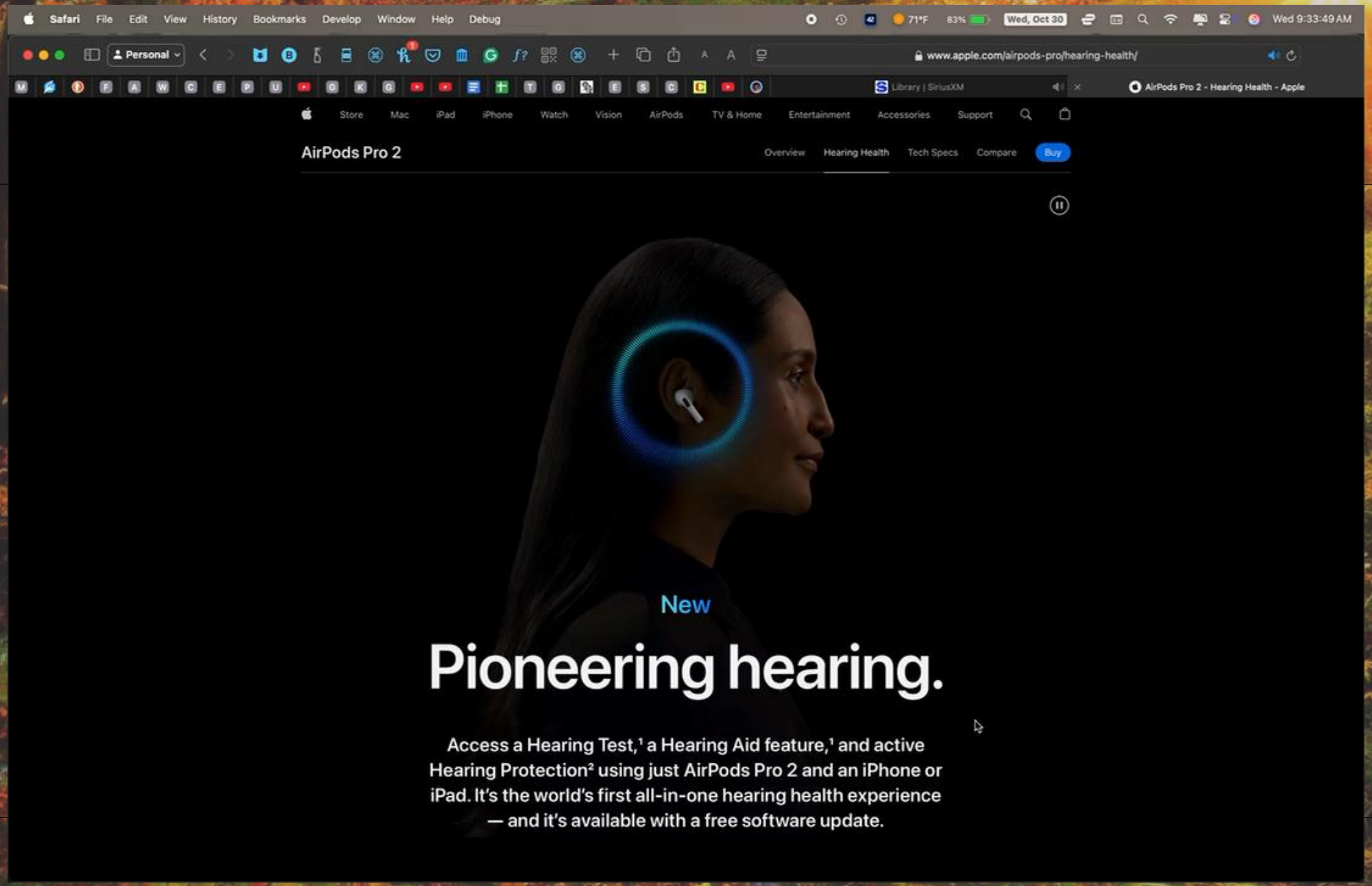
"The Hearing Aid feature has received FDA authorization. The Hearing Test and Hearing Aid features are supported on AirPods Pro 2 with the latest firmware paired with a compatible iPhone or iPad with iOS 18 or iPadOS 18 and later and are intended for people 18 years old or older. The Hearing Aid feature is also supported on a compatible Mac with macOS Sequoia and later."

Once your device is updated, under your AirPods settings you'll see a section for hearing health. Go into there and this is where you will find the option to take a hearing test.

The test takes up to about 10 minutes, and you have to do it in a very quiet room. No one can be talking or making sounds nearby. When the AirPods detect any outside sound, the test will pause. When the noise ends, you can continue.

The first thing the test does is check the seal of the ear tips to make sure you have a good fit for the size of your ears. The actual test has you tap the screen every time you hear beeping tones. It starts with the left ear and then does the right ear. You have to really concentrate because the sounds become very faint. I found that even my breathing with my AirPods in could cause me to miss a slight tone. I can't demonstrate this hear, because it would be pretty boring to watch!

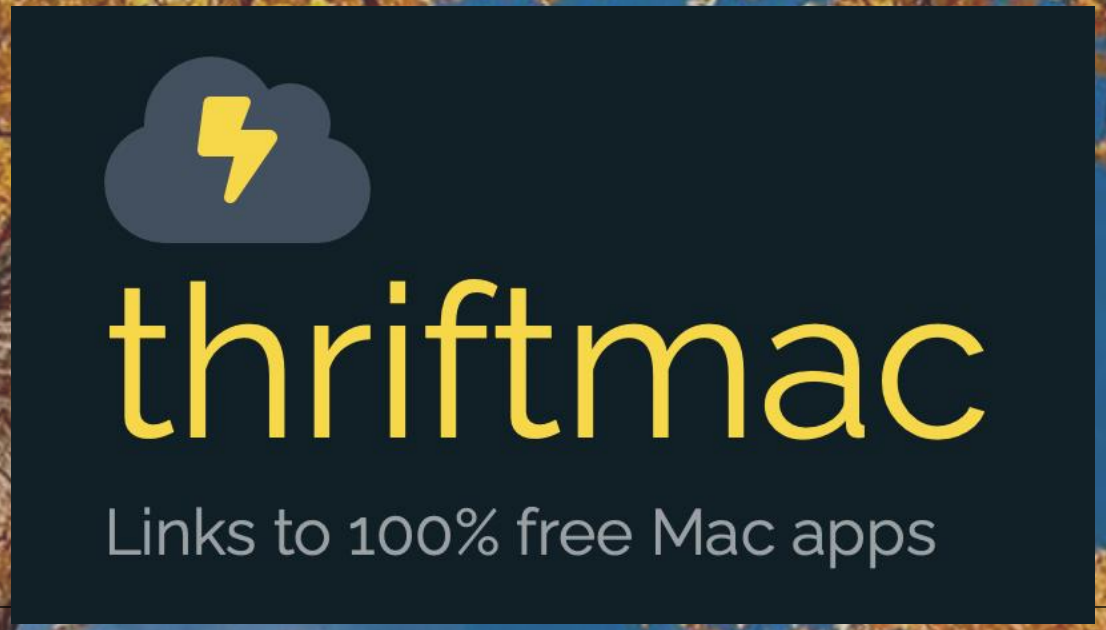
Hearing Health



Thriftmac Software Links

Thriftmac is a cool site that is a repository of links to free Mac software. If you are looking for free software to fill needs you have, this might be the place to find it. According to Thriftmac:

"Thriftmac started with the simple idea that Mac users could use a central place to find free software. The downloads here are meant to be totally free. There are no in-app purchases, no ads, no subscriptions, no trials. Apps are not included unless you can freely download them to your Mac and use all their features without restrictions for as long as you like."



https://www.thriftmac.com

Plugable PS-10CC 10-port USB-C charger

This 10 port USB-C charger by Plugable can handle charging a whole bunch of devices at one time. If you have heavy duty charging needs this might be a solution for you

"The retail price for the Plugable PS-10CC will be $99, but it's available at 40% off to those willing to crowdfund the project. While there's always a cost savings, the disadvantage of crowdfunding is that it requires patience. Plugable expects to ship the PS-10CC in January 2025. Some people refuse to use Kickstarter because they're concerned companies will take their preorder money and disappear. But Plugable is an American company that's supplied Apple and PC accessories for years. That includes the portable display with built-in USB-C hub it launched recently."

Plugable

BACK US ON KICKSTARTER

THE WORLS'D FIRST 10-PORT USBC CHARGER
WITH PATENTED PRIORITY CHARGING
UNDER $100

1Min AI

For those that need/want AI tools but may not be able to use Apple Intelligence there is a nice bundle solution out there for you that gets great reviews. 1Min AI provides users with a number of different AI tools in one bundle.

“Whether you're a copywriter, designer, social media manager, podcaster, small business owner, or just someone who needs AI for different uses, 1minAI is for you. Powered by various AI models, 1minAI offers a diverse range of AI features that can surely help you with whatever you need. Chat with numerous assistants, create images, write blog posts, optimize your website, and much more with ease. Plus, it’s always improving with weekly updates that you'll get through the 1minAI Newsletter and Public Roadmap.”

https://1min.ai

1Min AI

Powered by various AI models

OpenAI · Midjourney · Google AI · stability.ai · ANTHROPIC · Meta · Leonardo.Ai · cohere · MISTRAL AI_

Chat with many assistants

Chat with AI for smart and interactive conversations. Get help with all sorts of questions and tasks, making problem-solving and decision-making super easy. Chat with:

- GPT-4o, GPT-4 Turbo, GPT-4, GPT-3.5 (OpenAI)
- Claude 3 Opus, Claude 3 Sonnet, Claude 3 Haiku, Claude 2.1, Claude Instant 1.2 (Anthropic)
- Gemini Pro 1.5, Gemini Pro 1.0 (GoogleAI)
- Llama 3, Llama 2 (MetaAI)
- MistralAI
- Command (Cohere)

Comprehensive writing tools

- Keyword Research
- Blog Article Generator
- Rewriter
- Content Expander
- Content Shortener
- Paraphraser
- Summarizer
- Grammar Checker
- LinkedIn Comment
- X (Twitter) Comment
- Facebook Comment
- Brand Voice Generator

Advanced image processing and editing capabilities

- Image Generator
- Image to Prompt
- Image Variator
- Background Replacer
- Background Remover
- Text Remover
- Image Upscaler
- Search and Replace
- Image Editor

FREE	PRO	BUSINESS	ENTERPRISE
$0	$6.5/month	$10/month	Custom
No credit card required	Save 20% with Annual Billing	Save 20% with Annual Billing	To Suit Your Needs
Start with FREE plan	Start with FREE plan	Start with FREE plan	Start with FREE plan
All product features	All product features	All product features	All product features
Limited AI features	All AI features	All AI features	All AI features
Basic AI Models	Flagship AI Models	Flagship AI Models	Flagship AI Models
30 days of data storage	Unlimited storage	Unlimited storage	Unlimited storage
Unlimited prompt library	Unlimited prompt library	Unlimited prompt library	Unlimited prompt library
Limited brand voice	Unlimited brand voice	Unlimited brand voice	Unlimited brand voice
Free 450,000 credits/month	Free 450,000 credits/month	Free 450,000 credits/month	Free 450,000 credits/month
Limited AI	1,000,000 credits/month	2,000,000 credits/month	Custom credit amount
Rollover unused credits	First-time upgrade gift	First-time upgrade gift	Unlimited AI for $0.67/million credits
Flexible credit use	Unlimited AI for $0.67/million credits	Unlimited AI for $0.67/million credits	Rollover unused credits
Monthly credits usage example	Rollover unused credits	Rollover unused credits	Flexible credit use
Generate up to 250,000 words	Flexible credit use	Flexible credit use	Unlimited Members
Research up to 600 SEO keywords	Monthly credits usage example	Monthly credits usage example	Members Management
Generate up to 50 images	Generate up to 805,555 words	Generate up to 1,361,111 words	Sharing - Collaboration
Upscale up to 75 images	Research up to 1,933 SEO keywords	Research up to 3,266 SEO keywords	Custom AI models
Remove background up to 7 images	Generate up to 161 images	Generate up to 272 images	Multi-team structure
Text to Speech up to 37,500 characters	Upscale up to 241 images	Upscale up to 408 images	Priority support
Transcribe audio up to 1,500 seconds	Remove background up to 24 images	Remove background up to 40 images	Feature requests
Generate up to 3 video	Text to Speech up to 120,833 characters	Text to Speech up to 204,166 characters	
	Transcribe audio up to 4,833 seconds	Transcribe audio up to 8,166 seconds	
	Generate up to 12 video	Generate up to 20 video	
		10 Members	
		Members Management	
		Sharing - Collaboration	

https://1min.ai

The Unsnatchable iPhone case

“In central London, thieves snatch an iPhone out of someone’s hand every 6 minutes, often via passing moped. The problem is so pervasive someone came up with a new line of comically intimidating iPhone cases as part of an awareness campaign called “The Unsnatchable.”

One case bristles with silver spikes. Another looks like an angry electric eel. A third conveys a curse within. And a fourth takes the form of a gauntlet you wear to clutch the handset in an iron grip.”

https://www.theunsnatchable.com/

The Unsnatchable iPhone case

“The campaign’s taglines promoting the limited-edition iPhone cases encourage beleaguered Londoners, saying, “They can’t steal what they can’t touch” and “The case that leaves phone thieves empty handed.”

So, The Unsnatchable website notes the cases have been “stress tested at the most snatched location in London: Oxford Circus tube station.” But it gives no information about any such test results. And yet one can imagine a thief thinking twice about trying to snatch one.

You might wonder who’s behind this counter-thievery crusade. A creative media company called Joan mounted The Unsnatchable campaign. The iPhone cases done up with “defenses” appear to be real. So, can you get one? Well, they appear to be intended to boost Londoners’ morale, but you can always try. Joan notes “Incredibly limited stock available. Enquire on London@Joancreative.com.”

https://www.theunsnatchable.com/