



TECH FREEDOM

GUIDE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



The tech side of running a business can be confusing and scary - especially if you come from a non-"techy" background like we do.

Over the years we've tried out HUNDREDS of different products and services, from email providers to camera equipment to marketing courses.

Some were great...and some were awful.

We've put together this guide to save you hundreds of hours of time and frustration. What follows is a list of only products and services we use and recommend.

Now, you can stop worrying about the tech side of things and start working on what really matters - creating a location independent lifestyle that allows you to travel, live, and work from anywhere in the world!

Cheers,

Jason and Trav, founders of [Location Indie](http://www.locationindie.com)





TRAVEL ACCESSORIES

Macbook Air 13"

I used to have a Macbook Pro, but it just got too bulky for traveling. The Air is the perfect blend of size and performance.

Monster 2 Go Outlet

Handy multi-plug and USB outlet

Travel Smart All In One Adapter/Converter

Been using the same one for years all over the world and it still works perfectly.

Seagate Slim Plus Portable External Hard Drive (2 TB)

Never travel anywhere without an external backup. We backup to the cloud (dropbox and/or google drive) and an external hard drive. This one can't be beat, I travel with at least two of them.

Kindle Paperwhite

I don't go anywhere without this thing. To be able to travel with hundreds of books makes this item indispensable. If you are one of those "I only read real books" people I beg you to give this a try so you can decompress your brain at night AND NOT go on the internet!

JBL Micro Wireless Ultra Portable Speaker

Are you a music lover? A blend of affordability and quality make this a great way to listen to music on the road.



BUILDING A WEBSITE

BlueHost

If you're thinking of starting a website, you'll need to have a host. I've tried others, and BlueHost has been my favorite. There's a reason it's one of the most popular, and it's because it's cheaper and better than most of the other name brand hosts.

WordPress

Something like 80% of the entire internet runs on WordPress (*ok, I looked it up, it's actually 50%, which is still crazy*). People use WordPress because it's free, relatively easy to use, and with because so many people are using it, is always having new plugins, themes, and customization options.

Themes

There are loads of places online to buy premium themes. Here are a few places to try:

[Elegant Themes](#)

[Theme Forest](#)

[WooThemes](#)

Some of the most popular themes used by professional bloggers are:

[Thesis](#)

[Genesis](#)

[Headway](#)

Aweber

My email delivery service of choice. If you've got a website, then you should definitely start an email list. And if you are starting an email list, I'd recommend Aweber. Prices start out very cheap (and go up as you get more subscribers) and Aweber allows you to completely customize every aspect of your emails.

Leadpages

Want to make customized opt in pages, sales pages, webinar pages, or any other type of page but have no idea how to actually do that? Well, Leadpages has you covered. Use one of their hundreds of templates and create something in no time. Plus, most membership levels include Lead Digits, a must have for any podcasters.

xenforo

If you want to start a forum for a community site you run, this is a robust platform that is powerful and fairly easy to set up.

WORDPRESS PLUGINS

Yoast SEO

People are always talking about SEO this and SEO that. With one simple and FREE plugin you can achieve 90% of your desired SEO results in 5% of the time. That plugin is Yoast, and it rocks. Get it, use it when you write a post, and unless you want to fall down the rabbit hole of SEO, forget about the rest.

Backup Buddy Plugin

Another free Wordpress plugin that will be a lifesaver when your website (inevitably) crashes. Even tech idiots like ourselves can figure out Backup Buddy - it requires you hitting one button. Just don't forget to use it regularly (*runs to use backup buddy*).

Pretty Link

Does just what it says, allows you to make ugly URL's look...pretty.

SumoMe

Makes it easy to begin collecting email addresses and building your list. The plugin has a bunch of other great tools. Free and paid options.

Akismet

You need this to manage spam.



PODCASTING

Libsyn

I use Libsyn to host my podcasts. I've never had an issue with Libsyn, and their customer service is great!

SoundCloud

I also use SoundCloud to host my podcasts. Why? Because Soundcloud is great for embedding your podcast in social media channels like Facebook and Twitter so that people can listen right from there.

Microphone: [Audio Technica ATR-2100](#)

BY FAR the best microphone for the price on the market. Allows you to use at as a USB mic and plug in to your computer or with an XLR cable in to a mixer or digital recorder. I can't recommend this enough.

Digital Recorder: [Tascam DR-40](#)

My biggest splurge so far, this digital recorder is super light and it's what I use to record with when I'm in the same room as guest.

Digital Recorder: [Roland R-05](#)

This recorded is smaller than the Tascam DR-40 and captures excellent audio which is why I love. The only downside is you can't plug a mic in directly.

Call Recorder: [ECamm Call Recorder](#)

The program I use to record Skype interviews. I've never had any issues in the year and a half I've used it.

Garageband (free with mac) or [Audacity](#)

For direct to computer recording.

Lead Digits:

This is incredibly useful tool that allows listeners to opt into an email list simply by texting a word (that you determine) to a 5 digit number. Lead Digits is part of the [Lead Pages](#) service which we use to set up landing pages, sales pages and more. I couldn't run my online business without it.

Pocketcasts

A great way to subscribe and listen to your favorite podcasts. There is both a web player, and mobile apps for both Android and iPhone that will allow you to listen no matter where you are. Playback syncs between devices to make it easy!



VIDEO

Parrot Teleprompter

If you're shooting longer form videos - like teaching or sales videos - having a teleprompter is a LIFESAVER. How do we know? Because it took us five hours to shoot one video without a teleprompter and three hours to shoot the remaining three with a teleprompter. This lightweight and portable teleprompter fits on any DSLR camera (get the right ring size) and uses your smartphone or tablet to show the script. It's genius!

Canon EOS Rebel SL1

The smallest and lightest DSLR on the market, this camera is perfect for traveling. Takes super high quality pictures (like the ones you see on this site) but is much smaller than most comparable cameras.

Rode VideoMic Pro Shotgun Mic

This mic is convenient if you don't want to bother with recording audio separately and matching it up with the video later. Video without great audio isn't good video. You'll need to experiment to figure out the best settings and optimal distance for you to record.

Rode smart LavalierMic

Plug into your iPhone to record quality audio to match with your video.

Final Cut Pro X

A beefed up version of iMovie, Final Cut Pro X is for people ready to graduate to the big leagues. There is definitely a learning curve, but it's not near as steep as other video editing software, especially if you're familiar with iMovie already.

iMovie

The best free tool for video editing out there. If you're not ready to invest money in video editing software - and honestly, you probably don't need to unless you're really going pro - iMovie is a great option. Only downside is that it's only available for Mac.

Camtasia

A bit pricey, but one of the best video editing programs for PCs. Powerful and easy to use.

Cowboy Studio Lighting

If you have a home office or studio where you are shooting videos, one of the easiest things you can do to make your videos go from amateur to professional looking is get a decent set of lighting. And by decent, I don't mean expensive. This set is less than \$75 and is all you need to make your videos POP!

AudioJungle.net.

They have a free music file you can download each month, or buy what you need at a reasonable price.

Wistia

If you are sharing private videos or want to see some statics like how long people watched, and others then wistia is your jam.



Scrivener

A must-have for any writer, especially book authors. It also works well for writing blog post drafts and many other things. Incredibly versatile and practical piece of software, worth the learning curve!



DESIGN

Canva

Free to use, it makes any design project (book cover, marketing materials, Facebook cover photos, presentations, etc., etc) very easy.

Photoshop & Lightroom CC

The most versatile of the Creative Cloud subscriptions, this package will get you the basics that you need as a digital nomad. Complete with Photoshop and Lightroom, you'll be able to work on any graphics you may need for your website, and have all the tools you need to easily edit your photos!

Picmonkey

We use this all the time to create nice looking collages - it's free but some of the paid options are tempting us to upgrade.

Mac Pages - Free with any mac, this program is underrated and is my go to for a lot of things from manipulating images to creating nice PDF's.

Unsplash

Free and beautiful stock photos you can use for anything. The downside is that many people use it, therefore you see the same images around the web. Our recommendation: Use, but use sparingly.



PRODUCTIVITY

Headspace

If you're interested in meditation, but didn't know where to start, this is definitely something to check out. Guided meditations lead you through several practical lessons, and includes an entire library of meditations on things like productivity, focus, happiness, and more!

RescueTime

tracks your computer use so you know where your time is going. The basic version is great and totally free, or you can buy the pro version for super detailed tracking.

LastPass

Secure password management. Create unique, strong passwords between all the different websites you use, and access them all, across all your devices, with LastPass. No more wasted time resetting your passwords because you can't remember them, or worse, using the same password for every single website!

Strides

a simple app to help you track any of your goals and habits.

News Feed Eradicator for Facebook

If you ever try to log into Facebook to update your business page and end up being sucked into your newsfeed for the next 45 minutes, install this Chrome browser extension and you'll save hours of time every week.

Momentum

Turn the home page of your chrome browser into a page that will help you maintain your focus. Write down your goal for the day and your to-do list, and each time you open your browser you'll be reminded of your priority for the day.

Howler Timer We love to hear it howl!



PROJECT MANAGEMENT/ COMMUNICATION/ SCHEDULING

Asana

If you've got projects that you're working on with a team, this is a great system to use to delegate, assign tasks, and keep everything up to date in one place. Takes a little bit of time to get used to, but makes life 100x easier. Plus, it's free!

Slack

The easiest communication tool out there. Think email and text messaging, all wrapped up in nice package. Try it once, and you won't go back.

ScheduleOnce

Our calendar and scheduling system of choice. You set your availability, people pick their time slots, and ScheduleOnce auto update when people sign up and change based on time zones, as well as sync with your Google calendar if you want. No more sending five emails back and forth to nail down a time.

Skype

From recording podcasts to catching up with friends, we couldn't live without skype!

T-Mobile Cellphone Plan (USA only)

Great international plan, includes unlimited texting and data abroad.

Todoist

a task management program that works well on any device. Track your to-dos by category and priority. Install the Gmail extension which allows you to turn your emails into to-do items!



TRAVEL LOGISTICS

TripIt

Easily organize your travel plans in one place. Helps keep you organized when you're on the move!



MARKETING

Jeff Walkers Product Launch Formula

Want to learn how to run a six or seven figure online product launch? Read this book. Seriously, just read it.

Webinar Jam

We've run many webinar and q & a's using webinar jam. It's a fantastic service.

Google hangouts and hangouts on air

Use this to hold webinars and casual get togethers.

Survey Monkey

To serve your customers you need to understand them. That's where this powerful survey solution comes in.

A blue-themed graphic featuring a collage of people's faces, speech bubbles, and a circular arrangement of smaller faces, all set against a dark blue background.

SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGEMENT

Edgar

Recycles your best social media content automatically.

A close-up, slightly blurred image of various mobile application icons for file storage and sharing, including Evernote, Dropbox, and Google Drive, on a dark background.

STORAGE/SHARING FILES

Google Everything (Drive, Docs, Sheets, Forms Gmail for business)

If you've got Gmail (and why wouldn't you?), then Google Drive is the easiest way to save, store and share files. There are a lot of options out there, but Google Drive finds the sweet spot between being well priced and easy to use. Google docs and sheets are great places to collab while Forms is the perfect free solution for everything from surveys to data collection.

Dropbox

Dropbox is another good, and popular, option. Between Google Drive or Dropbox, it really is a toss up, and you can't go wrong with either.

Evernote

save your notes, articles you find online, photos, recipes, and just about anything you can possibly think of, and access them from any device. Light users can get by with the free version, or upgrade to Evernote Premium for added storage and features. Install the Evernote Web Clipper extension on your Chrome browser to easily save blog posts and articles you read online.

Backblaze

Easily backup your computer to the cloud. If your computer crashes or gets lost or stolen during your adventures, your precious pictures and files will still be safe!



HELPERS/VIRTUAL ASSISTANTS

Fiverr

An excellent place to find people for many different projects you might need help with, from design, to audio and video editing, to transcription and much else. Gigs start at just \$5 for simple projects.

Upwork

Another place where we've hired people for everything from podcast editing to transcription and research.

Zirtual

They'll hook you up with a college educated VA. Used them for a few months and had a great experience.



FINANCE

Hours Keeper

an app for tracking work hours, when you work on an hourly basis, and creating invoices for clients.

Toggl

Another work tracking app that works in your web browser or on your phone and syncs between the two instantly. Great for tracking multiple projects.

YNAB

You Need A Budget. Great budgeting program with mobile apps to easily set a budget and track your spending. You can set up separate budgets for personal and business spending.

Quickbooks

For tracking business expenses and spending it's an incredible solution. With the online subscription you can access your account from anywhere.



COMMERCE

Send Owl

Use to sell digital products, manage customer subscriptions and more.

Paypal

Remote banking!

Sam Cart

Payment collection service with sexy check out pages.

Gumroad

Incredibly useful place to sell digital products and free to use (they take a cut from your sales).



EMAIL AND OUTREACH

Rapportive

A Gmail extension to see information about your contacts right inside Gmail.

Sidekick by Hubspot

A Gmail extension to help you see who opens your e-mails.

LinkedIn

Networking tool for professionals.



ONLINE BUSINESS WEBSITES TO FOLLOW

Social Triggers

Derek has a brash style which doesn't resonate with everyone but his content is top notch. You should sign up to his email list just to study his copywriting. Go ahead and try NOT to click on those links in his emails, he makes it damn near impossible. The dude knows how to draw you in.

Smart Passive Income

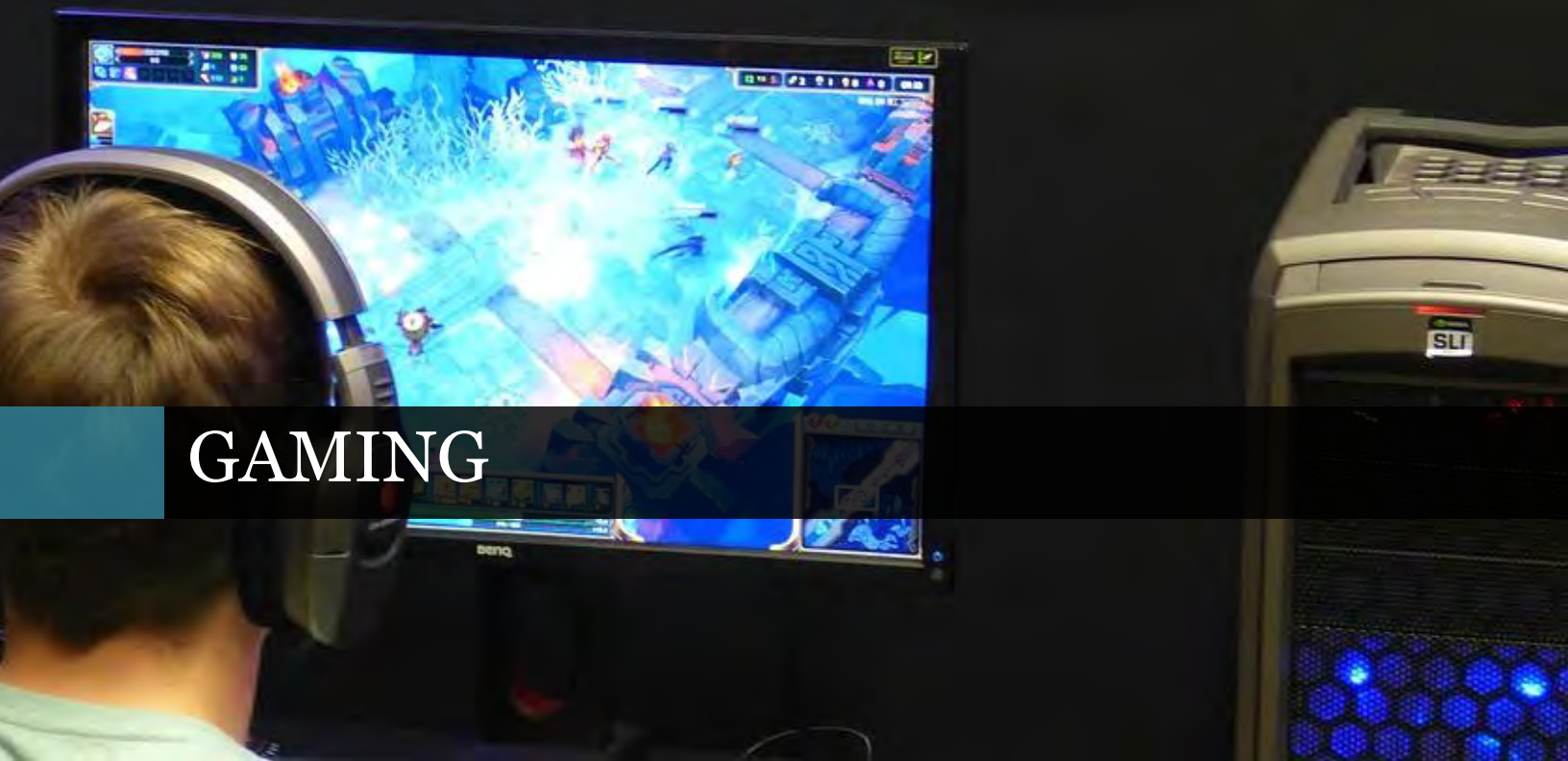
Pat has been an online business "crash test dummy" for years and shares his wins and failures in an open, honest and educational way. If you want to get a self study degree in online business just listen to his podcast.

Videofruit

An up and comer, Bryan is doing some interesting stuff and is one to keep an eye on.

Money Lab

Our buddy Matt just launched this real time online biz experimental site. Follow along in real time to watch him fly or flop.



GAMING

Steam

If you're a gamer, and don't know what to do when you go on the road, Steam will be your best friend. Almost all the games available for PC are available through the steam store, and the client is easy to use!

DS4 Tool –

If you like to game with a controller, but still want to pack light, you can use this program to play any game that supports controllers with a Dualshock 4. They're small, and very light, and the best part is you can connect it to your computer with the same cord you use to charge your Kindle or Android phone!