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Mastering "new technology"

Thursday, January 30, 2014

To those in my age group that phrase usually means something computer related. As a technology coordinator in a school district and webmaster of the high school website, I remember the resistance from some of my peers.

I, on the other hand, bought our first computer from Apple in 1981 by mail order. There weren't any computer stores back then. The prevailing wisdom was "why would anyone need a computer at home?" Later on, this morphed into "Why would a teacher (or a student) need a computer?"

The technology I'm talking about isn't new. It's just new to me.
My new gadget is familiar to absolutely everyone, but yesterday was the first time I used one.

My blender broke about 20 years ago and with the kids all married and since I'm not a fan of "smoothies" or anything else requiring blending, I never replaced it.

Two years ago my healthy eating decisions prompted me to seek out new recipes, so I bought a food processor and promptly stored it away in a closet.

One year ago I took it out of the box, washed the parts, put it together and stashed it a kitchen cabinet. At least it was getting closer to the action.

Yesterday, I decided to make a Spark Recipe – black bean hummus. I tried to mash the beans by hand. That was an exercise in futility.

So here I am "pulsing" several times. If you're a fan of "Downton Abbey," think of the reaction of Mrs. Patmore, the cook, as she tried the new electric mixer or marveled at the maid working at the electric sewing machine.

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OK, this thing has value and has earned a position in my kitchen. Of course, cleanup isn't one of my favorite things and this thing requires more care than my hand held masher. I especially like the warning not to grab the sharp blades.

No problem. I've got DH for kitchen cleanup. After nearly 48 years, he's well trained.

For the record: When introducing computer technology to my school colleagues I emphasized that they had no choice except to learn to use it. However, they were the professionals in their subject area and in their classrooms and best equipped to decide how and when to incorporate it into their curriculum. However, they had to make the decision from a position of knowledge and not ignorance.

If we want our students to become life-long learners, we should model that behavior. Finally, nearly 7 years past retirement I'm following my own advice - in my kitchen.

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FANGFACEKITTY

My opinion has almost always been...bring on the technology!
2685 days ago

[v](#)



CD8126238



2690 days ago

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MARYJEANSL

I love it! My mom was/is the same way...her 'new' food processor sat in its box in her cupboard, unused, or used only by her visiting children, for years and years. Last time I visited her (Thanksgiving 2012), I pulled it out of its box (however did it get so filthy, just sitting in a box, for goodness' sake?), washed it, and, lo and behold, it still worked. But oh my, what an archaic model! They certainly don't make them like that anymore.

I like my food processor a lot, but I am with you about the cleaning - what a huge pain!
2690 days ago

[v](#)

LINDAKAY228

I always loved new computers and technology but some things I had a hard time with. Now I'm

[v](#)



trying to learn the Ipad (apple based) when since the early 90s or so I've used windows based programs Wouldn't be quite so hard normally but sin ce my stroke it takes a little more thinking on my part!

2690 days ago

v



BOOKAPHILE

Good for you! Trying new things is exercising for your brain.

2690 days ago

v



DR1939

I helped put in the first billing computer for Gulf Oil in 1959. Then I trained my new male boss. My dad was a cryptography instructor in WWII and told about the computers used in the UK so they weren't a surprise to me when they came out.

2691 days ago

v



HAYBURNER1969

Ha ha! Glad you are finally using it. I love ours so much; it's much easier to clean than the blender was.

You might want to check out this gadget. It comes with a small food processor attachment that we use a lot when we need to chop or mash something small.

I'll show you mine when you come on Monday.

Well, this one is actually nicer than the one I have (it has more attachments than mine and is more expensive). I bought mine years ago.

http://www.amazon.com/Braun-x3000-blender-Professional-MR5555MCA/dp/B002KF2NAI/ref=pd_sxp_grid_pt_0_0

2691 days ago

v



GINIEMIE

I still use my La Machine, the part that Steve didn't kill after the gadget freak bought it for me. I store it in the cupboard, and use a Pampered chef onion chopper most of the time, but yesterday I got it out, I was about ready to make bar cookies for a funeral reception and didn't want to hand crank the old nut chopper. I never made the cookies, the reception after the funeral was canceled due to weather.

I'm resistant to using my laptop-2013 new everything-I don't like the way some of it works. So I stay in my office on the old PC. I guess I should bite the bullet.

Saved by snow in Atlanta!



2691 days ago

v



IFDEEVARUNS2

Cleanup is ALWAYS the problem at my house! I do love my food processor for making hummus. I bought a mini one in hopes I would use it more. I actually do: less to wash.

2691 days ago

v



PHOENIX1949



Since joining SP, I have rediscovered my blender, crockpot, and food processor and sometimes wonder why I let them linger in the 'black hole' for so many years (internal corner of a I-shaped cabinet that is not easy to get to). Now they sit on wire shelving in the utility room next to the kitchen so I can access them easily.

2691 days ago

v



CELIAMINER

Ha haaaaa! My food processor is still in the cupboard, where it has resided for the nearly 14 years we've been in this house, not once seeing the light of day. The instructional VHS video is somewhere. Guess I should use your blog as a challenge to learn how to use the blasted thing. DH meant well when he bought it for me.



2691 days ago

v



TORTOISE110

Keep going, girl, and you will feel like you have your own "assistant" in the kitchen. I use my food processor all the time.

2691 days ago

v

CD14270285

I starting using mine with regularity a few years ago. And yeah, it makes the best hummus!



The one thing I'm slowly learning is that I can make pie crusts and other dough in it--although that's not necessarily a good thing, lol.
2691 days ago



_LINDA



The food processor I got for my Mom is still sitting unused in the basement as is the toaster oven. She still mashes, chops and mixes everything painfully with her arthritic hands. She is strongly resisting getting a cell phone (or carrying one we have) in spite of dangerously slippery dog walking paths (there is nowhere to go that is not icy which is why I am not getting outdoor walks) where she has already fallen with injuries twice and had to be helped home once by passerby. She won't consider getting a computer. Some people just resist change. But so many recipes call for a food processor these days and she loves watching the cooking shows and finding new recipes..
Enjoy the new world of creations you will enter into!
2691 days ago



TERI-RIFIC



LOL. First to get a computer last to use a food processor. I have one - the big kitchen Aid one. I use it mostly to make fake cauliflower mashed "potatoes" (which I love!) I used to have a little "Oscar" food processor and, looking back, that was better and easier to use and easier to clean.
2691 days ago



SUSANNAH31



Blenders do wonderful things, I have found. Like most new technology, I sometimes wonder how we ever did without it.
These days I am learning how to use the many features on my smart phone. I have finally begun using the calendar, and was able to put my little black book away in a drawer.

2691 days ago



MISCHAKEO



I use my cuisinart frequently and am well used to it. I am probably more skilled on that than in the technology department. I have had to learn more technology than I ever wanted to learn in my teaching job. I am now using a promethean board daily and like it.

The cuisinart is very helpful in making humus and in recipes where you are doing lots of slicing! Those blades are sharp and need watching. It helps to rinse the parts right after you use them.
2691 days ago



ONEKIDSMOM



LOL... yep, I kind of introduce "new" in similar ways. The GPS the kids gave me for Christmas 2010 took a while to "take" but eventually came to rely on it in travel & even for a while in tracking workout distances.

But I totally identify with leaving something sitting in a box for a while. Putting it together. And only LATER starting to actually use it.

Enjoy!
2691 days ago



WATERMELLEN



Hope you enjoy all the great foods you can create with your food processor!! Gotta admit, I seldom use mine for slicing/chopping: almost always for pureeing.

Although I have absolutely NO Martha Stewart gene, this is one area of "domesticity" for me I guess . . . but like you I'm more familiar with a computer really!
2691 days ago

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