OLLI

Transitions in Retirement

BOB NEWCOMB

2/25/17

DESKTOPS, LAPTOPS AND TABLETS, OH MY!

1

MY STUFF

- Middle Years
 - Apple IIGS 1986 (Personal graphics and sound)
 - Various PCs 1986 2006 (Work)
 - Various PCs 1989 2006 (Personal to work with Work)
 - Palm PDAs 1999 2007

MY STUFF

- Early Days
 - Apple][Plus 1979 (Work to experiment)
 - ▶ TRS-80 clone 1981 (Work to use visicalc)
 - ▶ Apple][e 1983 (Personal my first computer)
 - ▶ IBM 5150 1983 (Work to use Lotus 1-2-3)
 - ▶ IBM PC AT 1984 (Work It had a Hard Drive)

2

MY STUFF

- Post Retirement Years
 - > Apple iMac G5 2006 (to escape Windows
 - ▶ iPhones 2007 Present
 - Apple iMac 27" 2009 -Present
 - ▶ iPads 2010 Present
 - MacBook 2015 Present (my first laptop)

HOW DO YOU APPROACH A DECISION ON WHAT TO BUY?

- Your History
- Your Expertise
- What are your needs?
- What support do you have?
- ▶ What is your willingness to change and learn?
- What is available?
 - ▶ How well do the available devices fit your situation
- > Can you afford it?

5

HOW DO YOU APPROACH A DECISION ON WHAT TO BUY?

- Your Expertise
 - I know what I am doing
 - I kind of know my way around
 - I'm Ok but.....
 - Huh?

HOW DO YOU APPROACH A DECISION ON WHAT TO BUY?

- Your History
 - What have you owned?
 - ▶ How did you like them?
 - Would you repeat the experience
 - Happily
 - Reluctantly
 - ▶ No way!

6

HOW DO YOU APPROACH A DECISION ON WHAT TO BUY?

- What are your needs?
 - ▶ Why are you looking at something new?
 - What are the problems in using your current devices?
 - Do you know what you want to be able to do on a new device?
 - Definite needs or casual wants
 - Desire and lust

HOW DO YOU APPROACH A DECISION ON WHAT TO BUY?

- What support do you have?
 - Degree of self reliance
 - I can do it or find out how with minimal outside support
 - I can do some but need help fairly often
 - I need regular help
 - Here is the device, please fix it

9

HOW DO YOU APPROACH A DECISION ON WHAT TO BUY?

- Willingness to change and learn
 - ▶ How adventurous are you?
 - I want something new!
 - I can try something new if I have help available

11

▶ Let's not talk about change!

HOW DO YOU APPROACH A DECISION ON WHAT TO BUY?

- What support do you have?
 - Where do you find your help?
 - > Friends and family give good support
 - When I am in trouble I get minor a little help from friends and family
 - ▶ They can fix it but it's a mystery to me
 - I must depend upon hot line, genius bar, Geek Squad etc.

10

CHOOSING

- ▶ The era of buying a computer and then figuring how to use it is, should be <u>over</u>.
 - > We have many more options than ever before
 - ▶ The task is to fit the tool to the needs
 - Sometimes the biggest dilemma is what brand or model to choose.

12

In what environment do I want to live?

CHOOSING

- Fitting the device to your needs is important
 - Size (weight, screen readability, keyboard size)
 - Portability
 - ▶ Ease of input (keyboard, mouse, touch, stylus)
 - Power and speed to do what you need

13

CATEGORIES

- Laptops
 - > sizes from luggable to quite small and light
 - More expensive for equivalent power and capacity than desktops
 - ▶ Compromises on features compared to desktops

15

- Portable
- Battery life varies

CATEGORIES

- Desktops
 - ▶ Larger machines (some exceptions)
 - Range
 - from smallish with limited power and capacity
 - > to Huge with massive power and capacity
 - ▶ Choose your monitor size
 - ▶ Highly Customizable
 - User range from power users to those who don't need portability

14

CATEGORIES

- Chromebooks
 - Laptop running Linux based Chrome OS
 - Uses Google Chrome with an integrated media-player
 - Uses Web apps from the Chrome Web Store
 - Designed to be used when on the Internet
 - Very little storage and a lower power CPU

CATEGORIES

- Chromebooks
 - Battery life is generally very good
 - ▶ Some newer Chromebooks will run Android apps
 - ▶ Generally lower cost but some exceed \$1000
 - Very popular in schools
 - Growing market

17

CATEGORIES

- Tablets
 - ▶ Longer replacement cycle than expected
 - Rapid initial growth with significant but shrinking sales
 - Large App market (millions of apps available)
 - mostly inexpensive or free
 - Touchscreen and virtual keyboards can be difficult for some people

19

CATEGORIES

- ▶ Tablets
 - Outgrowth of smartphones
 - Much larger screens
 - ▶ Touchscreen interface but can use keyboards
 - Run Mobile device OS (Android, iOS)
 - Energy Efficient CPUs (non-Intel based)

18

CATEGORIES

- Laptop/tablet hybrid
 - Microsoft Surface is the typical example
 - ▶ Touchscreen Windows PC
 - Uses Windows 10
 - detachable keyboard to convert to tablet
 - Surface Book is a larger laptop with a detachable screen

CATEGORIES

- ▶ Tablet/laptop
 - ▶ Really the iPad Pro line
 - > Optional attachable keyboard & pencil
 - ▶ Higher end apps for art, photo editing and office apps
 - ▶ Runs all iPad apps

CATEGORIES

- Specialty devices
 - Book readers
 - Home assistants

21

CATEGORIES

- Smartphones
 - Various screen sizes
 - ▶ 4' to 5.5"
 - ▶ 6" + (Phablet)

22

CATEGORIES

- Smartphones
 - Market still growing but at a reduced pace
 - Market is huge
 - Millions of apps make them versatile
 - Are they big enough to show or do what you need?
 - ▶ Convenience compromise

ENVIRONMENT AS IT RELATES TO THE CLOUD

- > All on the cloud
 - Google's Approach
 - All Software & Data is on Google's server
 - ▶ Web software such as Docs, Sheets, Photos etc.
 - > 15GB free storage
 - If Google apps meet your needs this is a good approach (be aware of privacy issues)

25

ENVIRONMENT AS IT RELATES TO THE CLOUD

- Data is saved in the cloud
 - Apple's iCloud
 - Evolved over last few years
 - Programs and apps are on local devices (some exceptions)
 - If you choose to save data in iCloud, it is saved to a folder named for your program or app
 - All files are automatically saved
 - You can use any device to access your files and can jump from device to device

27

ENVIRONMENT AS IT RELATES TO THE CLOUD

- Data is saved in the cloud
 - Many services use this approach
 - Dropbox is a good example
 - You save files in a Dropbox folder
 - It is synchronized with their servers and any device linked to your Dropbox account
 - > All software is on your local device

26

ENVIRONMENT AS IT RELATES TO THE CLOUD

- Data is saved in the cloud
 - Microsoft
 - Initially tried to have Office 365 as cloud based for data and software
 - Evolved to local software and One Drive for cloud saved data
 - Once saved, a file is saved automatically
 - OLLI note (your student login may get Office 365 for free)

ENVIRONMENT AS IT RELATES TO THE CLOUD

- Data is saved in the cloud
 - Adobe has options for both approaches.
 - Adobe's emphasis is now on leased software

ENVIRONMENT AS IT RELATES TO THE CLOUD

- I only trust myself (No Cloud Thank You)
 - Very conservative
 - You don't trust keeping data on someone else's computer
 - Google is not an option
 - Software and data is kept on your computer(s)

29

30

ENVIRONMENT AS IT RELATES TO THE CLOUD

- I only trust myself (No Cloud Thank You)
 - ▶ There are options to have multiple devices and sync data
 - ▶ Transfer files via
 - WiFi
 - Wired transfers
 - External Hard Drive
 - Thumb drive
 - SD card

YOUR BUDGET

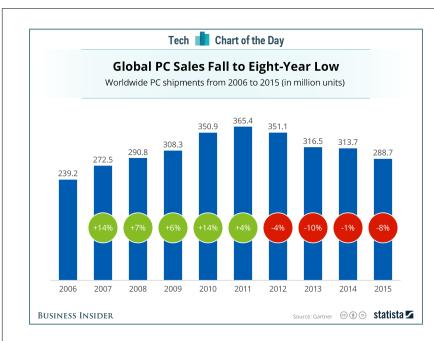
- > Prices down from days of old
- Beware of cheap
- Smartphones
 - 2 year contracts going away
 - Rent to buy
 - Buy outright

YOUR BUDGET

- ▶ Tablets, desktops and laptops must buy outright
- Premium price for brands who do you trust
- ▶ How long can you use your new device?

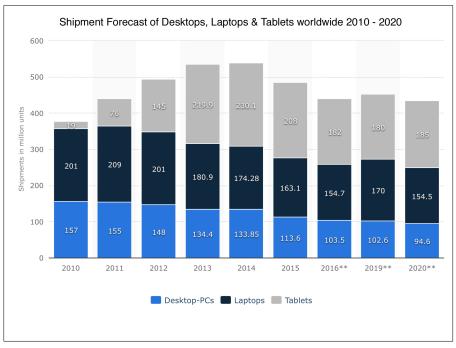
MARKET GRAPHS

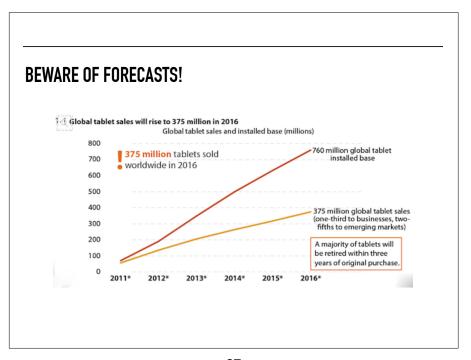
33

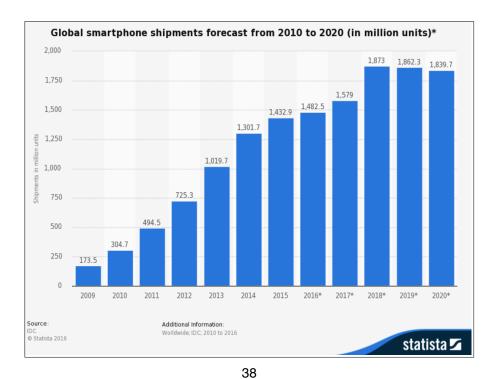


35

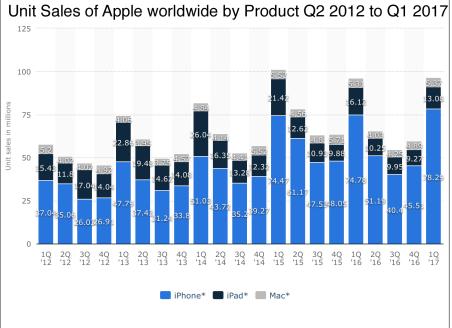
34







37



39

WHAT IS GOING ON

- Computers and mobile devices last longer than before
- Improvements in CPUs have slowed
 - With the exception of smartphone CPUs
- User's needs are not growing as rapidly
 - Except to store all those photo we take

- Markets being saturated?
- No new killer apps

SO, WHAT DO WE DO?

EXAMPLE(S)

41

CONSIDER

- What are your circumstances?
- Think out of the box
 - Don't necessarily buy based upon tradition
- Can I do things differently?
- Will a smaller device work?
- Do I really need a desktop?

BACK TO AN OLD SLIDE

HOW DO YOU APPROACH A DECISION ON WHAT TO BUY?

- Your History
- Your Expertise
- What are your needs?
- What support do you have?
- ▶ What is your willingness to change and learn?
- What is available?
 - ▶ How well do the available devices fit your situation
- ▶ Can you afford it?

42

CONSIDER

- Do I really need a laptop?
- Will an iPad or other tablet work?
- Can I use a smartphone and a book reader?
- Will a Chromebook and a smartphone work?
- Do not underestimate the need for support!

PICK YOUR DEVICE

- What Category of device do you need?
- What brands and models fit your needs?
- Does it fit your:
 - Expertise?
 - Needs?
 - Support System?
 - ▶ Will it work for you?
 - ▶ Can you afford it?