# Twitter running test to improve image previews

Twitter is running a test with a small subset of iOS and Android users to improve image previews on their platform.

Dantley Davis, Twitter's Chief Design Officer, tweeted that goal of the test is to "give people an accurate preview" of what an image will look like without trial and error.

Currently, the platform automatically crops images on its feed, requiring users to click on the picture to see the full image. The cropping algorithm has been criticised for having alleged baked-in racial bias, prioritizing white faces over darker tones. The algorithm has also been a thorn on the sides of photographers and artists, who prefer to have control over how their image is presented.

In the new system, most single image tweets in normal aspect ratios won't be cropped at all, while wider or taller images will receive crops weighted around the centre.

**CORRIGENDUM**
Shift Magazine issue of February 2020: quick buying guide on page 54, pictures of the Honda Civic Turbo and CRV Turbo has been swapped.

We regret the error.

# Epic Games acquires photogrammetry software maker Capturing Reality

Following their recent string of Unreal Engine asset purchases, Epic Games announced they brought Capturing Reality, a Bratislava-based photogrammetry studio.

The terms of the deal weren't disclosed.

Photogrammetry involves stitching together multiple photos or laser scans of real-life objects to create 3D models. The method can help studio developers create photorealistic assets in a fraction of the time it would take to create a similar 3D asset.

Epic Games hopes to use the Capturing Reality team expertise to help improve their own 3D scans of environments and objects. The company also dropped the price of Capturing Reality's services, dropping the perpetual license fee from $18,000 to $3,750.
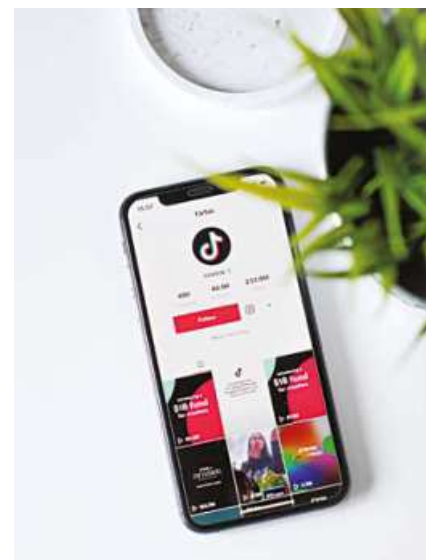
# TikTok rolls out new anti-bullying comment features

TikTok announced it's rolling out new commenting features designed to combat bullying.

Under the new features, creators will be given control over which comments can be posted on their content. By enabling the new "Filter All Comments" feature, creators will get to choose which comments appear on their videos, instead of reactively removing offensive comments.

The company says the goal with the new features is to maintain a supportive, positive environment where people can focus on being creative and finding community.

However, the new features allow creators to censor any comments before they even go live, leaving them free to push any false and harmful information without any kind of pushback from the community. Tiktok has yet to comment about how they are planning to counter this potential abuse.

Another feature TikTok implementing will push users to reconsider posting comments that appear to be bullying or inappropriate. The popup will remind users of TikTok's Community Guidelines and allow users to edit their comments before sharing.

TikTok hopes these "nudges" will help by slowing people down and giving them time to think about what they're saying.

# Chuwi offering brand new laptop at affordable prices

Surovi Enterprise, a distributor of technology products, has introduced affordable laptops from Chuwi.

The Windows 10-enriched Chuwi 'HeroBook Pro' laptop has a 2.6 GHz Intel Celeron processor and 8 GB DDR4 RAM. The display of the laptop with a resolution of 3200 x 1600 k is 13.3 inches. The device weighs 1.8 kg and can be operated for 8 to 9 hours on a single charge.

Surovi Enterprise is giving a one-year brand warranty on the laptop. HeroBook Pro will be available in two versions with 128 GB and 256 GB storage. The low-cost laptop comes with a 256GB version with 128GB EMMC memory and 128GB SSD memory that can be expanded up to one terabyte.

Additionally, the 128 GB version uses the entire EMMC storage. The 128GB version of the Herobook Pro is priced at Tk 26,500 and the 256GB version is priced at Tk 28,900. The laptop can also be purchased in installments from TechPlatoon.