

TOGGLE

WEEKEND LIVING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

A publication of The Daily Star

TAKE IT EASY



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টেকনোলজিসমৃদ্ধ ফ্রিজে

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বিদ্যুৎ সাশ্রয়
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WALTON
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Inverter
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Maximum Power
Saving

3D MSO
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ECO MODE

Microsoft enters multibillion dollar partnership with OpenAI

Microsoft has officially extended their partnership with OpenAI, the creator of the popular chatbot ChatGPT and the AI art generator DALL-E. In an official blog post by Microsoft, the company has decided to enter a new "multiyear, multibillion dollar investment" with OpenAI to accelerate breakthroughs in AI technology.

As per the blog post, Microsoft plans to use OpenAI's language modelling tools in "consumer and enterprise products", which they say will include Microsoft's Azure OpenAI service - the company's cloud-computing platform.



The integration of OpenAI's technology also likely includes improving Microsoft's signature search engine Bing. A previous report by The Information stated that Microsoft plans to use ChatGPT to improve the automated response system in Outlook and the autocorrect and text-based functions in Word.

The extension of this partnership follows the two company's previous

agreements in 2019 and 2021. Microsoft states that the extension is part of their collaboration to make progress in AI research and "independently commercialise the resulting advanced AI technologies".

It is currently being estimated that Microsoft has thus far invested about \$10 billion into this partnership with OpenAI, which would bring the company's value over \$28 billion.

EDITOR'S NOTE

You've got this

Struggling to get your dream job? Not sure how to apply for that coveted role? Then look no further. This week's Cover Story and Next Step answers all your questions and more. We also talk about some easy ways in which you can keep your Gmail inbox organised while applying for that new job.

On top of that, we have some cool wireless earphone recommendations as well as the latest update on the Mazda MX-30 in this week's edition of Toggle.

Happy reading!

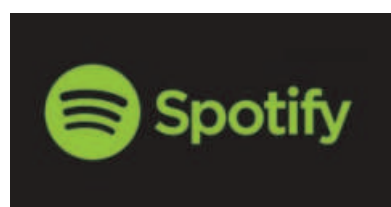
- Tanzid Samad Choudhury
Sub-Editor

Spotify to trim 6% of workforce in latest tech layoffs

Spotify recently said that it plans to cut 6% of its workforce and would take a related charge of up to nearly \$50 million, adding to the massive layoffs in the technology sector in preparation for a possible recession.

The tech industry is facing a demand downturn after two years of pandemic-powered growth during which it had hired aggressively. That has led firms from Meta to Microsoft to shed thousands of jobs.

Spotify's operating expenditure grew at twice the speed of its revenue last year as the audio-streaming company aggressively poured money into its podcast business, which is more attractive for advertisers due to



higher engagement levels.

At the same time, businesses pulled back on ad spending on the platform, mirroring a trend seen at Meta and Google parent Alphabet, as rapid interest rate hikes and the fallout from the Russia-Ukraine war pressured the economy.

Spotify had about 9,800 full-time employees as of September 30.



NASA to test nuclear-powered spacecraft by 2027

NASA will partner with the US military's research and development agency, DARPA, to develop nuclear-powered rockets that could fly astronauts to Mars.

NASA says it could allow spacecraft to travel faster, reduce transit time, and have other benefits such as increased payloads on missions.

Administrator Bill Nelson recently said that the US space agency could develop and demonstrate advanced nuclear thermal propulsion technology as soon as 2027.

A trip to Mars from Earth using the technology could take roughly four months instead of some nine months with a conventional, chemically powered engine, engineers say.

Moreover, NASA successfully tested its new-era Artemis spacecraft last year, the first step toward putting humans back on the moon and then Mars.

NASA believes the agency could be ready to send humans to Mars by the late 2030s.



Global entertainment platform TikTok recently held its Safety Ambassadors Programme in Bangladesh to create awareness around digital safety in the country.

The event featured a star-studded panel discussion including popular educator Ayman Sadiq, national football team captain Jamal Bhuyan, actress Sabnam Faria, Peya Jannatul, content creators Iftekhar Rafsan and Faiza, and model Neel Hurerzahan.

Speaking to a full-house audience, which included Bangladesh's creators community and journalists, the panellists discussed various aspects around digital safety including misinformation, harassment and cyberbullying, while advocating for responsible usage of the internet and safe content creation.

TikTok hosts its Safety Ambassadors Programme in Bangladesh

Brigadier General Nasim Parvez, Director General, System and Services, Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC), also praised TikTok for arranging the event which focused on digital safety through a special video message.

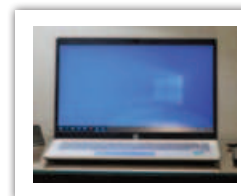
The audience also received tips and guidelines on how they could become better content creators by creating compelling content.

Boasting over 1 billion monthly active users globally, TikTok remains an entertainment platform dedicated to empowering its users.

With the #SaferTogether initiative, TikTok aims to create awareness about how users in Bangladesh can take advantage of the various in-app safety features available on the platform.

Microsoft ceases Windows 10 purchase

Microsoft has officially removed the option to download Windows 10 Home and Pro from February 1, 2023. As such, users are not able to access the download pack with licence keys to activate Windows 10 from the official Microsoft website.



Microsoft has also added that they will officially stop supporting Windows 10 from October 14, 2025, which includes security updates to protect the PC from viruses and spyware.

As such, the option to download the OS is being removed more than two

years before the cease of official support. However, those who have already installed Windows 10 on their devices can continue to use the OS.

Microsoft recommends existing Windows 10 users to shift to Windows 11 instead, which will keep receiving official support from Microsoft.

Windows 10 was launched in July 2015, following the much-criticised Windows 8. It was the first-ever version of the Windows operating system that offered continuous updates and support from Microsoft. Until the launch of Windows 11 in October, 2021, Windows 10 was deemed as the official Windows version by the company.

TOGGLE

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How to land your dream job

Landing your dream job can be a daunting task, but with the right mindset and approach, it is definitely achievable. Whether you're a recent graduate or an experienced professional looking for a new opportunity, the following tips will help you increase your chances of landing your dream job.

Identify your dream job

The first step in landing your dream job is to figure out what it is you truly want.

Once you've identified your dream job, it's important to research the industry and the company you're interested in working for. This will help you understand the current trends and opportunities in the industry, as well as the company culture and values. You should also research the job requirements, qualifications, and responsibilities of the role you're interested in. This will help you tailor your resume and cover letter to the specific job and company.

Network

Networking is an important aspect of landing your dream job. It's a great way to learn about job openings, as well as to learn more about the industry and the company you're interested in. Attend industry events, join professional associations, and reach out to people who work in the industry or at the company you're interested in. These connections may be able to provide you with valuable information, as well as potentially serve as references or even open doors for you.

A way to increase your chances of landing your dream job is to develop a strong online presence. This means creating a professional LinkedIn profile and engaging in online networking, as well as being active on social media platforms that are relevant to your industry. By building a strong online presence, you will be able to reach a wider audience and make connections with people who can help you land your dream job.

Tailor your resume and cover letter

Your resume and cover letter are the first things a hiring manager will see, so it's important to make sure they're tailored to the job and the company. Your resume should highlight your qualifications, skills, and experience that are relevant to the job. Your cover letter should explain how you can contribute to the company and how your skills and experience align with the job requirements. Be sure to proofread your resume and cover letter

multiple times to ensure they're free of errors.

An important aspect to consider when trying to land your dream job is to showcase your skills and experiences in a unique and compelling way. This can be done by creating a portfolio, showcasing your work through an online platform, or by writing a blog or articles in your field of expertise. This will demonstrate your skills and experience in a tangible way, and will also help to set you apart from other applicants.

Prepare for the interview

The interview is your chance to show the hiring manager why you're the best candidate for the job. Be sure to research the company and the job beforehand, so you can speak to how your skills and experience align with the company's values and mission. Also, practice answering common interview questions and be prepared to ask thoughtful questions about the company and the role. Dress professionally and be on time for the interview.

Follow up

After the interview, be sure to follow up with the hiring manager. This can be done by sending a thank-you note or an email, thanking them for the opportunity to interview for the job. This shows that you're still interested in the position and that you're professional.

It's important to remember that landing your dream job is not a one-time event, but rather a continuous process. Even after you land your dream job, you should continue to strive for growth and development, and to set new goals for yourself. This will help you stay motivated and engaged in your work, and will also help you to continue to advance in your career.

Landing your dream job takes time, effort, and a lot of hard work, but it's definitely worth it. Remember, it's not always about the destination, but the journey. Embrace the process and enjoy the experience of pursuing your dream job.

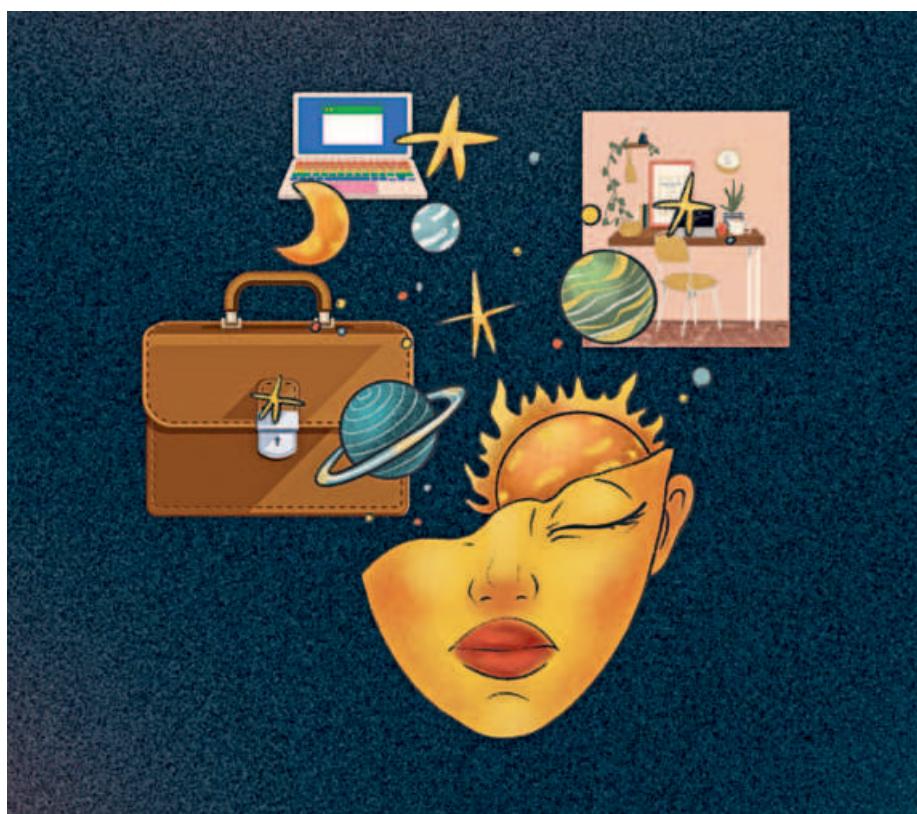


ILLUSTRATION:
ZARIF FAIAZ

This may sound simple, but it can be difficult to identify your dream job if you haven't given it much thought. Take the time to think about your interests, skills, and values. Ask yourself what you're passionate about and what you'd like to do with your life. Once you've identified your dream job, it will be easier to create a plan to achieve it.

Research the industry and the company



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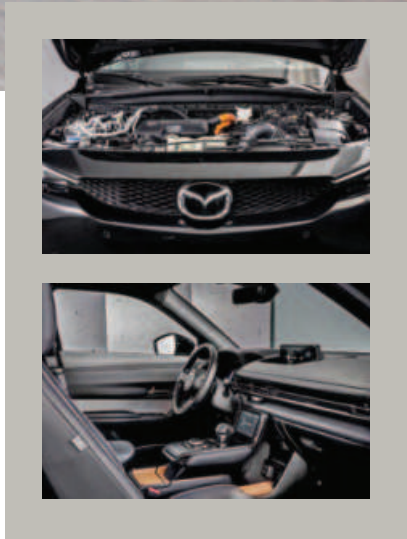
Return of the Rotary 2023 MAZDA MX-30

ARFIN KAZI

After a lot of teasing over the last few months with the possible return of the Rotary engine, Mazda finally unveiled the car at the Brussels car show earlier this year which sadly, did not come out as a sports car as the successor to the RX8, but the petrol mill came in the new MX-30 EV SUV packed as a range extender. Let's take a look at what the brand new 2023 Mazda MX-30 is all about.

The MX-30 in general is an electric midsize SUV based on Mazda's existing CX-30 model. The car was announced in late 2019 at the Tokyo Motor Show as their first iteration in the electric car segment. With 100 miles (near about 160 km) of range from its battery, the Mazda MX-30 fell short of most of its competition which was giving at least double the range and costing less than the Mazda. The MX-30 is an interesting car for the company, from its use of sustainable materials in the interior such as cork, which Mazda claims homage to their early days as a cork manufacturing company before cars were a thing for them. The cluster inside the car is also recycled from some of their existing models, modified to fit the electric nature of the car. Another thing unique to the interior of the MX-30 is the presence of a full-sized 150 W power outlet at the bottom of the centre console,

where you can power a laptop and many more things which can be necessary. Although for Mazda, up until this year, the EV just needed to be out and exist rather than bump sales figures. As the car was only available in California, it was to meet CARB and other federal compliances for green and sustainable carbon footprints for electric vehicles. For 2023, Mazda decided to put out hybrid versions of the car, addressing the poor range that the SUV bears, and decided to put in an 830 cc rotary engine and call it the Mazda MX-30 R-EV Skyactiv, which does not look much different from its full electric sibling. The only notable differences between them being the wheel choices and the distinctive badging with the three-pointed Wankel logo indicating the presence of the engine. The rotary engine in the car, although, has no connection to the wheels, but the



engine sits in front of the car only to produce electricity for the Lithium-ion batteries with a maximum energy capacity of 17.8 kWh - almost half the capacity of what the full EV version bares. The R-EV has also a 50-litre petrol tank for the engine, as well as plug-in capabilities to charge the batteries. It takes about 50 minutes to charge from an AC outlet and can also be fast charged up to 36 W from a DC outlet where it takes about 25 minutes to reach 80%. Aside from the diminished range anxiety, the MX-30 R-EV also has an electric motor. There is greater power but less torque with 170 PS (168 hp or 125 kW) and 260 Nm compared to the MX-30 EV's 145 PS (143 hp or 107 kW) and 271 Nm. The MX-30 is one of the more important SUVs Mazda has put out. Not only it is their first car in the electric vehicle segment, but rather Mazda re-introduced technology which was long lost and overdue with the rotary. It would have been nicer if the engine had an actual connection with turning the wheels, but all we can do is hope, that after the R-EV, we also get a new iteration of the RX series sports car.



ILLUSTRATION: ZARIF FAIAZ

Applying for new jobs? Here's how to take the stress off

Applying for jobs can be a stressful and overwhelming process. It's normal to feel anxious about the outcome, but there are ways to take the stress off and make the process more manageable. Here are some tips for reducing stress when applying for jobs:

Be organised
Create a spreadsheet or document to keep track of the jobs you've applied to, the deadlines, and any follow-up information. This will help you stay on top of your applications and ensure that you don't miss any important deadlines.

Tailor your resume and cover letter
Make sure that your resume and cover letter are tailored to the specific job you're applying for. This will show that you've done your research and are genuinely interested in the position.

Network
Networking is a great way to learn about job opportunities and get your foot in the door. Reach out to friends, family, and professional contacts to see if they know of any open positions or can introduce you to someone in your desired field.

Practise your interview skills
Practice makes perfect when it comes to interviews. Prepare answers to common interview questions and practice with a friend or family member. This will help you feel more confident and relaxed during the actual interview.

Take care of yourself
Applying for new jobs can be draining, so it's important to take care of yourself both

physically and mentally. Make sure you're getting enough sleep, eating well, and engaging in activities that you enjoy.

Be realistic
Applying for jobs can be a time-consuming process, and it's important to be realistic about the number of jobs you can apply to at one time. Don't apply to too many jobs at once, as this can be overwhelming and lead to burnout.

Don't take rejection personally
It's important to remember that rejection is not a reflection of your worth as a person. It's simply part of the process and you should not let it discourage you.

Be patient
The job search process can take time, so be patient. It's important to keep in mind that the right job will come along eventually, so don't give up.

Set a schedule
Having a schedule for job searching can help you stay on track and keep your stress levels in check. Set aside specific times each day or week to focus on job searching, and stick to that schedule as much as possible. This will help you stay organised and focused, and ensure that you're making the most of your time.

Take a break
If you find yourself feeling overwhelmed or stressed out, it may be a good idea to take a break from job searching for a little while. Take some time to relax, engage in activities that you enjoy, and remind yourself that you're doing the best you can.

Look for opportunities in different fields
If you're having trouble finding a job in your desired field, consider looking for opportunities in related fields. This can help you gain valuable experience and skills, and increase your chances of landing a job in your desired field in the future.

Seek support
Job searching can be a lonely process, so it's important to seek out support from friends, family, and professionals. Talk to people who have gone through the job searching process themselves and ask for their advice and support.

Keep a positive attitude
A positive attitude can make all the difference when it comes to job searching. Remind yourself that you have valuable skills and experience, and that you will find a job eventually. Keeping a positive attitude will help you stay motivated and focused, and increase your chances of success.

Don't put too much pressure on yourself
Remember that finding a job is not the only measure of your worth or success. It's important to focus on the process and not the outcome, and to not put too much pressure on yourself to find a job right away.

Be open to different types of jobs
Don't limit yourself to only applying for certain types of jobs or specific roles. Be open to different types of opportunities, even if they're not exactly what you had

in mind. You never know what kind of opportunity might come your way.

Use online resources
There are many online resources available to help with job searching. Use job search engines, online job boards, and professional networking sites to find job opportunities. These resources can be a great way to find jobs that might not be advertised elsewhere.

Learn new skills
Learning new skills can help you stand out to potential employers and increase your chances of getting hired. Consider taking a class or workshop to learn a new skill that is relevant to the job you're applying for.

Stay up-to-date with industry news
Keep up-to-date with the latest industry news and trends. This will help you stay informed and knowledgeable about the field you're interested in, and give you something to talk about during an interview.

Celebrate your successes
Remember to celebrate your successes, no matter how small they may be. Whether it's getting a call back for an interview or landing a new job, it's important to acknowledge and celebrate your accomplishments.

Applying for jobs can be a stressful and overwhelming process, but by following these tips, you can take the stress off and increase your chances of success. With the right mindset and approach, you can land the job of your dreams.

OUR PICKS FOR WIRELESS EARPONES UNDER TK. 20,000

ARFIN KAZI

Earphones have become an irreplaceable part of life for most people. Whether you are commuting to work, waiting for the bus or going on a long trip, having a reliable pair of wireless earphones with you at all times helps the time pass by fast. If you're looking for good quality wireless earphones within an affordable range of Tk. 20,000, check out our recommendations below. Keep in mind that price and availability can vary across stores.



Sony WF1000XM3

Price: Tk. 17,000-19,000/-

Even after the release of the WF100XM4, the XM3 still holds up owing to its long-lasting reliability and impressive sound quality. As far as true wireless earphones go, these ones sport good pass and mid frequencies with enough separation to go about your day-to-day use. These also come with great noise cancellation, adaptive sound and auto play pause as well as support by Google Assistant and Amazon Alexa, which can be activated with the intuitive touch controls present on each side of the earphones. If you're looking for good sound quality on the go, this is a good pair to pick up.

Beats PowerBeats Pro

Price: Tk. 18,000-20,000/-

These earphones came out right after Apple acquired Beats by Dr Dre, with the PowerBeats Pro being made for people on the move. They are run-of-the-mill workout earphones paired with Apple's H1 chip which makes pairing with an iPhone just a matter of opening the box, although it supports Android as well. Sound-wise these earphones pack a good amount of base whilst not making the whole song muddy. These are also IPX4 sweatproof, for which Beats were frowned upon back in the day. These support spatial audio as well and have dedicated buttons to control audio, Siri and calling. The earphones go over the ear for that snug fit and for extra support, and do not tend to come out no matter how hard you shake your head.



Apple AirPods Pro (1st Generation)

Price: Tk. 19,000-20,000/-

The AirPods Pro has been a benchmark when it comes to wireless earphone design, owing to the form factor and how pocketable it has become; kudos to the case design. The AirPods Pro has all the features that are present in most earphones and although the earphones sound good, the main attraction is actually the features. These earphones have industry-standard noise cancelling technology and adaptive transparency mode which allows the sound from the outside world with the help of 6 mics built into the earphones. They are by far one of the more comfortable earphones to wear on a daily basis because they are small and light. As the 2nd generation of the AirPods Pro has come out in 2022, the 1st generation AirPods now sees fat discounts everywhere, whilst retaining all the features and sound quality.



Sennheiser CX Plus

Price: Tk. 17,000-18,500/-

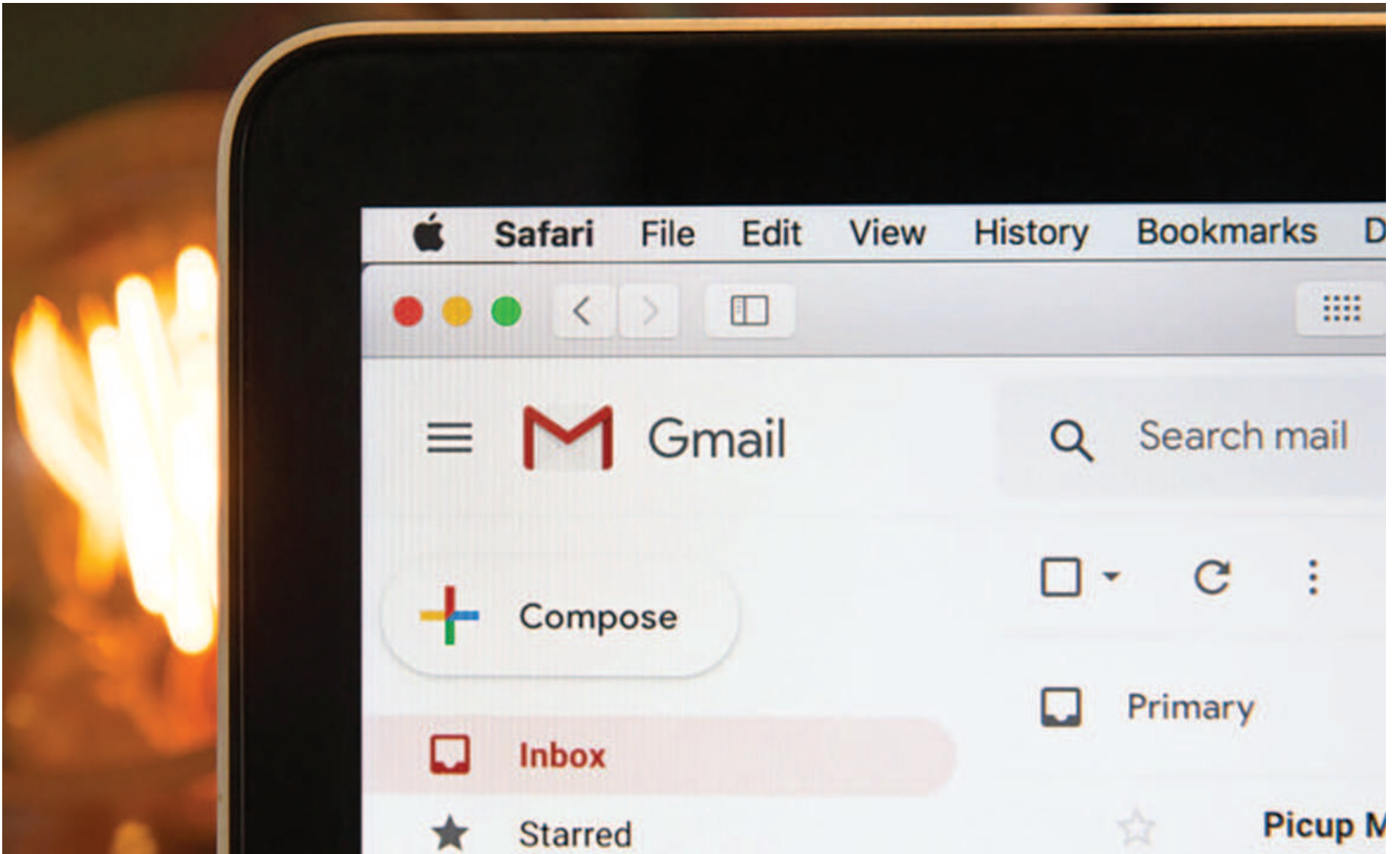
The CX plus comes to be one of the more reliable earphones to get. For the price range, these wireless earphones provide excellent sound quality and noise cancellation. Although the app interface is a touch lacking, it is simple to use and allows you to quickly create your own EQ profile. This is a stable and dependable workout alternative thanks to the IPX4 grade and the wide range of ear tip sizes. Although the battery life is just average, it will more than suffice to last you for a few commutes thanks to the charging case.

Samsung Galaxy Buds2

Price: Tk. 17,500-19,000/-

Since we have mentioned an Apple-friendly option, the Android ecosystem deserves their pair as well. The Galaxy Buds2 comes with major improvements over the 1st generation which was also locally known as the "beans". The Buds2 does a job well done when it comes to everyday use. The buds connect seamlessly with any Android phone and are also backed with an app for EQ control. They have noise cancelling built in but it is not that great, but the sound quality is great on the buds, with clear high ends, some pumped bass and clear mids where the sub-bass does not mask any of it.





5 easy ways to organise your GMAIL INBOX

Chances are, almost everyone you know involved in any kind of academic, social or professional activities, has their own Gmail account. The popularity of this free email service has made it an irreplaceable aspect of our daily communication. However, being so prevalent, Gmail tends to be cluttered with all sorts of emails - whether we want it or not. Here are five easy ways you can better organise your Gmail inbox.

Bulk action

If there's a particular contact or service provider you receive a lot of emails from, you can perform bulk actions to read, unread, delete, archive or report all those emails in one go.

To do this, type the name of that contact or that contact's email address in your Gmail search bar. From there, click the small box right under the 'Mail-Messages-Spaces' buttons. Once you have selected all the desired emails, you can click the option that pops up to read, unread or simply delete the messages in bulk.

If you don't want to delete them, you can also choose to archive those

messages so they leave your inbox but aren't outright deleted. If you want to deal with those emails later, after bulk selecting, select 'Add to tasks' to set a reminder for the future.

Muting emails

Do you have a contact that sends you a lot of emails that you don't want to delete but don't want to take space in your primary inbox? If so, you can mute those emails.

To do this, select the mail and click the three dots in the upper middle section. From there, click 'Mute' and the selected conversation will be muted. You can still check muted conversations by manually looking up the contact's name in your Gmail's search bar.

Block or report contacts

To take a step further than muting, you can downright block the most annoying email senders. Usually, service providers and brands you subscribe to will flood your email with promotions or advertisements.

In such cases, go to the associated mail, click the three dots on the right side, and click 'Block *sender*'. The

sender's name will be shown with the word 'Block' in the action, so you can be sure of which contact you're specifically blocking.

However, if you feel the specific contact is spamming you, you can report for spam by clicking the aforementioned three dots and selecting 'Report spam'.

If you think the mail is suspicious and is attempting to phish you, select 'Report phishing' from the same menu.

Make use of labelling

If you use one Gmail address for multiple purposes, you might get bombarded with a lot of important emails from different contacts. To stop yourself from being overwhelmed, you can label emails to easily sort them.

To do this, on your desktop Gmail, click on 'More' on the left side. At the very end, click 'Create new label'. Name the label and click 'Create'. After doing so, search the email address of whose emails you want to label. Click on any of the mail, click on the three dots on the right and click 'Filter messages like this'.

A new menu will pop up, adjust what you want and click 'Create filter'.

Another new menu will be shown - click 'Apply the label' and the label you want, and tick 'Also apply filter to matching messages'. Click 'Create filter' to finalise. As such, you will get a nifty tag-like label for all emails sent from that specific contact/email address.

Priority inbox

If you want to divide your important emails from the less important ones, you can turn on the priority inbox feature to automatically sort messages. Go to Gmail's settings (the gear icon on the top right), go to 'Inbox', go to 'Inbox type' and click 'Priority inbox'. You will get the option to sort how you want to arrange your read and unread messages, starred messages and any other unmarked messages.

For example, if you want to see more of your starred messages, from the 'Priority inbox' menu you can click 'Show up to' and then '5 items', '10 items', '15 items' etc. to have your primary inbox filled with more of your starred messages. With priority inbox, you can take control of how much or how little you want to see a certain type of email in your main Gmail inbox.



Planning on immigrating abroad? These are the hardest places to settle in

People have been moving from one country to another through the process of immigration for as long as we can remember. In some nations, immigrating is simple. However, the procedure is quite difficult in other nations. Here are 7 countries where immigration is extremely challenging.

Vatican City

The world's smallest sovereign state is Vatican City. With only 800 residents, there are four stringent ways to become a citizen of Vatican City.

The first three ways are to be a Catholic Cardinal residing in Rome or Vatican City, a Holy See diplomat, or someone whose occupation requires staying in Vatican City. Some church officials and members of the Swiss Guard, who protect Vatican City, fall under the third category of people. The last option is to apply directly to the church hierarchy.

However, this method is only applicable to individuals who have been given special authorisation to live in Vatican

City, as well as to the spouses and children of those who are already there. Moreover, a person loses their Vatican City citizenship after they leave the city.

Switzerland

A person must obtain a C permit to be eligible for citizenship to live and work in Switzerland. Citizens of the European Union, the United States, Canada, and several other European nations must have resided continuously in Switzerland for 5 years before applying for a permit. Additionally, individuals from other nations must have lived in Switzerland for at least 10 years before becoming eligible for citizenship. Candidates for citizenship must also demonstrate that they have integrated into Swiss society and pose no threat to national security.

China

According to the People's Republic of China's Nationality Law, foreigners can acquire Chinese citizenship if they have

Chinese relatives, if they reside there permanently, or have any "legal cause" to do so. Moreover, foreign

citizens who have proven themselves by contributing to China's growth are eligible for permanent residency upon their application and approval by the Ministry of Public Security. Citizenship requires long-term residency, but the amount of time is not mentioned in the local rules.

Liechtenstein

It takes at least 30 years of residence in Liechtenstein for a person who was born outside the country to become a citizen. The period is shortened to 5 years if the person is married to a Liechtenstein citizen, and each year counts as two years if the applicant is under the age of 20. After becoming eligible for citizenship, a person must relinquish their citizenship from any other country.

Kuwait

In Kuwait, a person who was born abroad and wants to become a citizen must stay there for at least 20 years. If the individual is either an Arab citizen of another nation or the foreign-born wife of a Kuwaiti man, the time limit is lowered to 15 years. The applicant must also have excellent Arabic language skills and be a Muslim by birth or by conversion. Those who converted to Islam

must be practising the faith for at least five years.

Qatar

People seeking citizenship in Qatar must reside lawfully in the country for at least 25 years without being outside for more than two months in a row. Qatar only grants permanent status to about 100 expats annually and only naturalises about 50 people who were born abroad each year. The Qatari legislation does not categorise naturalised citizens in the same way as Qatari citizens, thus they are not entitled to certain benefits which Qatar-born citizens receive.

Bhutan

In Bhutan, a child will only receive citizenship at birth if both parents are Bhutanese. People having only one Bhutanese parent are required to apply for citizenship after 15 years of residing in the nation. On the other hand, people without Bhutanese parents can apply for citizenship after residing in Bhutan for 20 years. They also need to take an oath of allegiance to the monarch, the nation, and the Bhutanese people to become a permanent citizen. Moreover, citizenship can be revoked if they are heard speaking against the monarch or their nation.

