

Adobe adds Midjourney-like generative AI tool in Photoshop

Adobe, the leading software company renowned for its Photoshop application, announced the integration of generative artificial intelligence (AI) into the Photoshop software. This development aims to make Photoshop more accessible to untrained users by allowing them to create images from simple text prompts, similar to AI image creation technologies like Midjourney and DALL-E.

Photoshop has been celebrated for its robust tools capable of both



photo editing and graphic design. However, mastering its intricate functionalities often required substantial skill and training. With the inclusion of generative AI,

Adobe is revolutionising the creative landscape by simplifying the image creation process.

During a demo presented to NBC News, Maria Yap, Adobe's Vice President of Digital Imaging, effortlessly placed a dog's portrait into an expansive background using a mere four-word prompt, "spring trees with sunshine." What previously entailed hours of editing was now accomplished within minutes, showcasing the time-saving potential of AI-assisted editing.

Meta hit with a record fine of \$1.3 bln over data privacy breach

Meta, the parent company of Facebook, has been slapped with a staggering \$1.3 billion fine (€1.2 billion) by European Union (EU) data regulators, setting a new record in the realm of data privacy violations. The fine was accompanied by an order to cease the transfer of Facebook user data from EU citizens to the United States.

The ruling, made by Ireland's Data Protection Commission (DPC), underscores concerns that data transfers by Meta expose EU citizens to privacy infringements. In response to the fine, Meta denounced it as "unjustified and unnecessary" in a blog post authored by Meta's president for global affairs, Nick Clegg, and the company's chief legal



officer, Jennifer Newstead.

According to the DPC, the current legal framework for data transfers to the US fails to address the risks posed to the fundamental rights and freedoms of Facebook users in the EU, consequently violating the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This unprecedented fine surpasses the previous record of €746 million imposed on Amazon in 2021 for similar privacy transgressions.

Netflix will now charge US \$7.99 monthly for sharing passwords

Netflix recently expanded its crackdown on users sharing passwords with people beyond their immediate family, as it seeks to bring more revenue to the leading streaming television service by charging US \$7.99 a month for password-sharing. "A Netflix account is for use by one household," the company said in a statement.

Netflix said early this year that more than 100 million households were sharing accounts at the service, thereby impacting its ability to



invest in great new TV and films. As growth at Netflix cooled last year, the Silicon Valley-based streaming giant set out to nudge people watching for free with shared passwords to begin paying for the service without alienating subscribers.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Like no one ever was

The colourful franchise known as Pokémon has been a huge part of my life growing up. Likewise, Bangladesh reaching the apex of competitive Pokémon battling was a long-held dream that came true recently - with the ultimate goal close within our grasp. In this week's Cover Story, we talk about the wild world of competitive Pokémon battling, and the local team that qualified for the 'World Cup of Pokémon'.

As for other pages, we give our impressions on the newly revealed 2024 Acura Integra Type S in Shift, a guide on emotional intelligence in modern workplaces in Next Step, and a list of safety apps you should keep on your phone in Tech Tips.

With that, another weekend rolls in, bringing in better promises for a brighter future.

Shams Rashid Tonmoy
Sub-editor & Feature Writer

boAt products now officially available in Bangladesh

boAt, a reputed audio and wearable brand from India, has signed a national distributor agreement with DX Group to distribute their products in Bangladesh. As such, their products are now officially available in Bangladesh.

DX Group, a Bangladeshi conglomerate, will distribute boAt's range of products across all major markets, including Dhaka, Chattogram, Khulna, Rajshahi, Rangpur, Mymensingh, Sylhet and Barishal. The line-up will include TWS (true wireless) earbuds, smartwatches, neckbands, headphones, speakers, chargers, and more. DX Group will also assist boAt in onboarding local partners, customer acquisition, and expanding its footprint.

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You can now edit messages on WhatsApp

WhatsApp has recently released a new feature that will let users edit sent messages, with a time limit of fifteen minutes since the message was sent. To use this feature, simply long-press the sent message and click the 'Edit' option that pops up.

Any message edited this way will show a marked

'edited' label with it, so any recipients will know that the message has been edited. WhatsApp has also stated that this edit option, like the app's messages, calls and media, is protected by end-to-end encryption. The feature will roll out globally in the coming weeks.

