Twitter Thread by Loren Brichter



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So it turns out that Google Chrome was making everything on my computer slow *even when it wasn't running*, because it installs something called Keystone which is basically malware.

I made a website because this shouldn't

Wired first reported on how bad Keystone was 11 years ago when they put it into Google Earth (they seem to put it in all their popular downloads).

https://t.co/CZsj9hZ0Qt

The fact that Keystone hides itself in Activity Monitor is bizarre. (The only sign of it was excessive CPU usage of WindowServer which is a system process).

I don't know if Google was doing something nefarious with Keystone, or a third party figured out how to (which Wired warned about). But either way, I'm not inclined to give Google-the-organization the benefit of the doubt (despite the many good people who work on Chrome)...

...since it's been a decade+ and this still hasn't been "fixed".

There is no reason for auto-update software to need to do what Chrome/Keystone was doing. It also has a long history of crashing Macs.

Chrome is bad. There is no reason it should make everything slow *when it's not running* (it shouldn't make everything slow when it is running either). There are other good browsers based on Chromium (Brave, Vivaldi), and Safari is fast & lightweight too.

https://t.co/Twwxir5pwF