GARDENING. Thanks and a tip of the hat to JP for sending in the article that confirms that the grocery store variety of poppies are the good ones. From the Sept/Oct 1982 "Survive" at page 54. "Note that growing opium is illegal. The poppy seeds that are sold for baking are those of two seed-rich varieties of opium poppy. These seeds are not always dead, and, if the seeds are fresh, plants may germinate from some..."

BANKING. It's widely known that the Swiss bankers are giving up their American depositors when the IRS or DEA wants information. On the other hand, the Cayman Islands are thought by many to be cool. However, I've recently heard that Cayman banks are okay, that is, until one goes to withdraw the money. If they lose you as a depositor, they may blow the whistle.

SURVEILLANCE. When police are doing surveillance on an automobile, they may drill a small pin-hole in a rear tail light lens. This makes the tailed car easy to spot and follow in traffic at night. When the tailed car's brake light goes on, a bright white light is visible for some distance. Also, a large mark may be painted on the tailed car's roof for daylight surveillance, i.e., with fluorescent paint that is almost invisible except when seen through special lenses. The mark on the roof makes the car easily identifiable from the air. Upon close inspection the invisible paint and pin hole in lens can be detected. And a fields-strength meter check will reveal any hidden radio transmitters (beepers).

TECHNICOLOR DREAMS. A dose of 1,000 micrograms of vitamin B-12 fifteen minutes or less before you go to sleep intensifies colors in dreams. It works about half the time. Tolerance to this color effect develops rapidly, so it's best not to do it every night or to take B-12 supplements in the day.

FRESH GARBAGE. Ever run across any meth that smelled like roses? I may speculate that the flowery aroma is due to the product being cut with "Fruit Fresh", a grocery store item that comes in powder form and is used to keep fruits & veggies fresh.

QUESTION. Some fantastic computer info has appeared in TAP recently, especially in regard to banking. The terminal end of making the deposit is well explained; however, one question remains -- how does one go about picking up 500,000 in hundred dollar bills safely?

TAP ROOM 603 147 W. 42 ST. NEW YORK 10036

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Video Voodoo
by Fred Steinbeck

Well, it seems that we phreaks have gotten our hands into everything else, so why not that popular recreation, video games? "Why not?" is the question. The answer is, "We have..."

Pac-Man

This trick isn't exactly new, but it's interesting none the less. On some Midway video games, including Pac-Man, a small flaw in the coin totalizer allows free games. How? Take a small but weighty object such as a "D" size battery or pocket knife, and give the machine a sharp rap between the coin deposit and coin return slots. If you have done it correctly, you will get one free credit. Do it more, and get more... There's no law of diminishing returns here! However, some machines have been fitted with a "tilt" switch in that area, so, ya win some, ya lose some.

Junior Donkey Kong

Agent NDS tells me of a free game trick on the new machine Jr. Donkey Kong. It seems that if one were to take a flattened straw and insert it in about 3 inches along the right-hand crack between the cash box and machine about 2 to 3 inches down from the top crack between the cash box and the machine, and wiggle the straw up and down, one would rack up some credits. I have not tried this, but it sounds plausible. He further reports that some machines have something installed so that the straw is blocked and cannot be pushed in. Thanks, NDS!

Stringing

A method which works on many machines in called stringing. It is one of the most simple things imaginable. Just take a quarter (or a token, if you have a place like that around). Machines which take tokens have lower tolerances and are easier to fool, and either tape or glue a piece of thread (or dental floss, which works better) about 2 feet long to it.

Got that? Now, go to your favorite, crowded arcade and put the quad in. But not all the way. Just lower it down slowly until you hear (or feel) it hit the totalizer mechanism. Then jiggle it up and down. Each time you hit the trigger inside, you'll get a credit. On some machines, notably Exidy's Venture, you can get up to 40 credits at a time if you're good. Like all phreaking arts, this takes practice, but it's well worth the time to learn it.

Rumors

I hear tell of an interesting bug (pronounced "feature") in Atari's Tempest machine. It seems that if you die at a certain level (27th, I believe) when the last two digits of your score are "60", you get something like 40 credits automatically. Sounds like bullshit to me, but if anybody knows anything about this, or wants to experiment, send the information or results to TAP!
vise (or tr that vice?) and use coning caw to out around the nilicon. The carbon sice were phased out in the sixties.

Tho ceme *oplien to the eernieca, Don't worry sbout the coil apound the rpiece, 't reenn to rerve no purpore rince the mio rnd rotece, The mic ir macy. Clanp the ret in *crble becomes *lmort flat. Turn the cvhble 90%end cut in the rie plrce, thur untendin~ the kink you put in the crhle, one naecr im » :turdy pair of wire cutters. Defeating the cadle you ofor, It ir 'ert to orter uncer only two or three nemer, pey-fore henclor "or their wic and errpiece.

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Call Without Coins

One of the most useful pieces of equipment Bell has introduced is the changeless Bell phone. For those of you that have never seen one it looks like a pay phone except it is smaller, looks like your favorite color (if) and does not accept coins.

These phones are made to be used by people owning Bell System credit cards. The reason this is so helpful is that they are distributed at the point of sale. If you have a Bell credit card you can simply slide the card into the slot and it will dial your number.

Some people use them to make long distance calls while other use it to make free calls to their friends. This could be especially useful if you have a credit card that gives you free long distance calls.

Looking at the design, it appears that the phone has been designed for people who do not want to carry a wallet. With the card slot and the ability to dial directly from the card, this seems to be a good solution for those who do not want to carry a wallet.

The phone also has a small screen that displays the current service fee and the amount of credit remaining on the card. This is helpful because it allows you to keep track of your credit and pay for your calls when you reach a low balance.

Overall, the changeless Bell phone seems to be a good solution for those who do not want to carry a wallet or prefer not to use coins. It offers a convenient way to make calls and track credit usage.
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