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## ATTACK THE CAC

**Gear:** A Common Access Card reader.

**Why:** When Michael Danberry started [MilitaryCAC.com](http://MilitaryCAC.com) in 2007, "there was no real location that a service member could go" to troubleshoot any issues with their personal card reader, he said.

A decade later, and despite Danberry's retirement as an Army Chief Warrant Officer 3 in 2015, his site's still the go to for CAC reader help - uniformed tech support often points troops in his direction.

When the reader first became necessary to accomplish many online tasks, users "all had the illusion that they'd get a CAC reader, plug it in, and it'd magically work," said Danberry, who's now part of the Army Enterprise Service Desk.

The reality: More than 100 pages of information that Danberry's put online, addressing common problems, offering step-by-step solutions, even providing guidance on making your mobile-device reader work.

Danberry doesn't recommend a particular model, but there are dozens of devices listed on his website, and he said he owns at least one version of all of them - he's outlined what works, what doesn't, and where you can buy the gear.

**Price:** Bare-bones models are online for less than \$10. High-end models, including some that serve as wearable lanyards or are no bigger than the CAC itself, are more than triple that amount.

**Online:** [www.MilitaryCAC.com](http://www.MilitaryCAC.com); for more mil-tech solutions, hit [www.milcac.us/tweaks](http://www.milcac.us/tweaks) for guidance on accessing multiple Defense Department platforms, updated regularly by Danberry.