H E A D Q U A R T E R S
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Windows 10 End of Support

"End of life" and "end of support refer to the point when technical support and security updates for Windows 10 are no longer provided. After 10 years, this version of Windows will cease to receive free software updates, technical assistance, or security patches through Windows Update. For consumers, this marks the time when Microsoft advises upgrading to the latest version of Windows to ensure access to critical updates and continued online security.

As of 14 October 2025, PCs running Windows 10 will still function, but Microsoft will no longer provide the following:

- Technical support
- Feature updates
- Security updates or fixes

While your Windows 10 PC will continue to function, it will be at greater risk for viruses and malware when Windows 10 reaches end of support. We recommend you transition to a version of Windows that is still supported. If your existing device cannot run Windows 11, a new PC that can run Windows 11 makes for an easy transition and great experience.

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How to prepare for Windows 10 end of support by moving to Windows 11

1. Assess System Compatibility
Use Microsoft's PC Health Check Tool to determine if your current hardware meets the minimum requirements for Windows 11, such as TPM 2.0, Secure Boot, and specific processor models.
Review Microsoft's detailed system requirements to confirm compatibility.

2. Backup Your Data
Before upgrading, back up important files and data using external drives, cloud storage, or backup software.
Verify that your backups are complete and accessible.

3. Evaluate Software and Application Compatibility
Confirm that critical applications and software are compatible with Windows 11.
Contact vendors or developers for updates or patches if necessary.

4. Plan the Upgrade Path
If your system supports it, choose the In-Place Upgrade option to retain files, settings, and applications.
For older or unsupported systems, consider a Clean Installation of Windows 11, which may require purchasing new hardware.

5. Ensure Licensing Compliance
Verify your Windows 10 license and check if it qualifies for a free upgrade to Windows 11.
If a new license is required, purchase a genuine copy of Windows 11 from an authorized source.

6. Update Drivers and Firmware
Update device drivers, BIOS, and firmware to ensure compatibility with Windows 11.
Visit your hardware manufacturer's website for the latest updates.

7. Perform the Upgrade
Follow the steps outlined in Microsoft's Windows 11 upgrade guide.
Ensure your device has a stable internet connection and sufficient power during the installation process.

8. Post-Upgrade Checklist
Verify that all peripherals, applications, and settings function as expected.
Reconfigure system settings and reinstall any applications if needed.

9. Train and Support Users
Familiarize yourself or your team with Windows 11's new features and interface.
Provide training materials or sessions to ensure a smooth transition for end users.

10. Dispose of Outdated Hardware Securely
For systems unable to upgrade, consider secure disposal methods to prevent data leaks.
Explore hardware recycling programs or trade-in options.

CONCLUSION

As Windows 10 reaches its end of support on **October 14, 2025**, transitioning to a modern, supported operating system such as Windows 11 is crucial for maintaining security, performance, and compatibility. Continuing to use an unsupported operating system exposes systems to potential security vulnerabilities, compliance issues, and decreased efficiency.

REFERENCES:
- **https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/end-of-support?msockid=216d448706d165ab38fc574c077c64dc**

- **https://blogs.windows.com/windowsexperience/2024/10/31/how-to-prepare-for-windows-10-end-of-support-by-moving-to-windows-11-today/**