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Free Windows 10 upgrade ends in July

It hardly seems possible that eight months have passed since Windows 10 was released – how time flies!

Windows 10 was formally launched on July 29, 2015, and is currently available as a free upgrade on every qualified device running Windows 7 (SP1) or Windows 8.1. This free upgrade is a full version of Windows 10 ... it is not an introductory or limited trial version. It is only available online, requiring a 3GB download. The offer was made available for one year, which will end on July 29, 2016.

Microsoft says they will be operating under a “Windows as a service” approach from now on, using automatic online updates. This means that Windows 10 will be the company’s last major OS release – in other words there won’t be a Windows 11, and this should be the last Windows upgrade you’ll ever need to install.

We recommend that you don’t wait until the last minute to take advantage of this offer – see microsoft.com/windows for more information or to get started. (We have not yet been able to find information about pricing after the offer ends.)

If you have questions or need help, please contact us at the office, (559) 781-4123.

Automatic updates in Windows 10

In previous versions, the Control Panel included an item called “Windows Update” where you could select from several options between fully automatic and fully manual.

That item does not exist in the Windows 10 Control Panel, since updates are automatic and run quietly in the background. This ensures that product features and security improvements are always up to date.

To verify that Windows 10 on your computer is current,

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Internet Statistics

- There are approximately 1.4 billion people using the Internet globally.
- 78% of U.S. internet users have broadband.
- It took radio 38 years, television 13 years, and the World Wide Web 4 years to reach 50 million users.
- Domain names are being registered at a rate of more than one million names every month.
- 80% of all email sent is spam.

Source: statisticbrain.com

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see windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-10/update-history-windows-10 for a complete history of updates. Then, on your computer, press the WindowsKey+R, enter **winver**, and compare that the version and build numbers match.

(This verification is not necessary, and once you're satisfied that your automatic updates are working properly you won't need to repeat it.)

Antivirus in Windows 10

Windows Defender is the built-in antivirus protection software included in Windows 10. It is therefore free, it is activated by default, and it is updated automatically.

This is truly a hassle-free protection solution. It is completely non-intrusive, and it is considered to be "pretty darned good" overall.

Fan Mail



"Sergio did a great job installing. I am incredibly happy with your service. I love that if I have any issues I can call your office. Thanks to Abbi for her help too ... job well done!" -US, Nov 2015

For those who are not gamers, who are generally careful about browsing and don't visit off-beat websites, and who don't download questionable software, Defender can be perfectly adequate. It doesn't rank quite as highly as other fee-based security products, but most of the online public are not as exposed to the level of threats as are higher-risk users.

The biggest value in Defender is that it is integrated within the Windows 10 family, so that it gets maintained and updated automatically, along with the operating system, the new Edge browser, and everything else that's part of the new Windows 10 environment.

Remember!!! The new OACYS Bandwidth Prioritization System **eliminates** excess usage surcharges ... tell your friends and neighbors!

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Wireless Plan Types	Speeds (Mbps)		Usage Guideline	Mailboxes	One-Time Fees	
	Download	Upload			Installation	Monthly Service
<i>(Note 1)</i>					<i>All Plans</i>	
RESIDENTIAL						
Basic	1.5M	768K	20GB	5	100.00	49.95
Premium	3M	1.5M	40GB	10	↓	79.95
PremiumPlus	5M	2M	60GB	10		99.95
BUSINESS						
Business	3.5M	3.5M	60GB	20		129.95
Professional	4.5M	4.5M	70GB	25		159.95
Corporate	6M	6M	90GB	30		199.95
Enterprise	8M	8M	120GB	40		249.95
MOUNTAINS						
Yokohl, Balch, Bear Creek, Success Valley <i>(Note 2)</i>						
Alpine, Pierpoint, Nelson	1.5M	768K	20GB	5		69.95

(1) Guidelines are the recommended bandwidth usage per month. There is no charge for excess usage, but prioritization may apply during periods of peak overall usage.
 (2) Add \$10 monthly rural service fee to any Residential or Business plan.

I Didn't Know That!

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