



White Paper



Microsoft® Windows 7 Upgrade

Headlines and Reality

On October 22, 2009, earlier than originally expected, Microsoft® will release worldwide its newest operating system Windows 7. Unlike the release of Windows Vista, the press and early testers seem to be in agreement that this version of Windows is the best yet.

Public opinion has markedly changed towards Windows recently, and now even the most cautious analysts recommend upgrading to Windows 7 sooner rather than later. Whether you want to benefit from superior performance, improved ease-of-use, or new multimedia functionality, the biggest question is how to “get” to Windows 7. The easiest solution is to buy a new PC with Windows 7 pre-installed. But for many users, their hardware isn’t too old and will run Windows 7 just fine. In fact, one of the major improvements of Windows 7 over Vista is the need for less “horsepower” – a PC that is working just fine with Windows XP or Vista will probably handle Windows 7 without any problems.

That’s why many users will choose to upgrade their PC rather than buy a new one. Data collected suggests that around 70% of computers are still running XP and a majority have PC’s that are Windows 7 compatible – they may not have upgraded to Vista in the past because it required greater hardware resources.

There is one catch, however. **Microsoft does not support upgrading from XP to Windows 7.**

If upgrading from Vista to Windows 7 and if you’re choosing a “like version” (say, Vista Home Premium 32-bit to Windows 7 Home Premium 32-bit), then the upgrade Microsoft provides is smooth, easy and effective.

However, if you choose an “unlike version” of Vista (or any version of XP), you may have a problem. For example, let’s say you have Vista 32-bit and want to add RAM to your PC as part of the upgrade. You need a 64-bit version of Windows 7 to address more than 4 GB of RAM, which means you are upgrading to an “unlike version.” Or perhaps you want to move from Vista Home Premium to Windows 7 Professional. Again, this is an “unlike version.” In these situations (and many more), Microsoft will allow you to install an upgrade version of Windows 7, at the upgrade price, but requires you to do a **“custom” install (not “upgrade”)**. This means you must copy all your data and applications to a safe place (external storage), install Windows 7, and *then reinstall all your applications and copy back all your data.*

There will be many confused and frustrated customers, because out of the 66 upgrade scenarios outlined by Microsoft, **only 14 are supported by Windows 7 as an in-place upgrade.** In reality, there are many other scenarios – even more than Microsoft has outlined, but the big issue will be XP to Windows 7. All of these “unsupported” scenarios require a custom install; no easy upgrade path available from Microsoft.

Again, upgrading your PC to Windows 7? Remember, there is only 14 of the 66 upgrade scenarios detailed by Microsoft are supported by Windows 7 – **and upgrading from XP to Windows 7 is not supported.**

There are many possible upgrade scenarios; in fact, [here's a chart](#).

Upgrading Your PC to Windows 7

Upgrade FROM :		Upgrade TO:					
		Windows 7 Home Premium		Windows 7 Professional		Windows 7 Ultimate	
		32-bit	64-bit	32-bit	64-bit	32-bit	64-bit
Windows XP*		Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install
Windows Vista Starter	32-bit	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install
	64-bit	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install
Windows Vista Home Basic	32-bit	In-Place Upgrade	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	In-Place Upgrade	Custom Install
	64-bit	Custom Install	In-Place Upgrade	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	In-Place Upgrade
Windows Vista Home Premium	32-bit	In-Place Upgrade	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	In-Place Upgrade	Custom Install
	64-bit	Custom Install	In-Place Upgrade	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	In-Place Upgrade
Windows Vista Business	32-bit	Custom Install	Custom Install	In-Place Upgrade	Custom Install	In-Place Upgrade	Custom Install
	64-bit	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	In-Place Upgrade	Custom Install	In-Place Upgrade
Windows Vista Ultimate	32-bit	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	In-Place Upgrade	Custom Install
	64-bit	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	Custom Install	In-Place Upgrade

The Green boxes are for "Normal/ Regular in-place upgrades"

The Blue boxes are why this information paper was written.

Custom Install: A custom (clean) installation gives you the option to either completely replace your current operating system or install Windows on a specific drive or partition that you select. You can also perform a custom installation if your computer does not have an operating system, or if you want to set up a multiboot system on your computer.

In-Place Upgrade: Keeps your files, settings, and programs intact from your current version of Windows.

Windows Easy Transfer and the Windows 7 Upgrade Advisor are useful tools that can assist your upgrade. For more information about these tools and upgrading your PC to Windows 7, please visit: <http://windows.microsoft.com/upgrade>

Additional Notes:

*If you are upgrading from Windows XP, you will need to back up your files and settings, perform a custom (clean) install, and then re-install your existing files, settings, and programs.

To upgrade an earlier operating system than Windows XP (e.g. Windows 95 or Windows 2000) you will need to purchase a full license of Windows 7 and perform a custom installation.

In the EEA/EU (including Croatia and Switzerland) and Korea, Microsoft will ship Windows 7 editions that do not include certain features such as Windows Media Player, and related technologies such as Windows Media Center. Upgrading to these editions will require a custom installation.

Upgrading Windows Vista from one language (e.g. English) to Windows 7 in a different language (e.g. French), requires a custom install.



System Requirements for Windows 7 Upgrade

To be eligible for the offer, you need to be running a genuine copy of the Windows XP or Windows Vista operating systems.

- 1GHz or faster 32-bit (x86) or 64-bit (x64) processor
- 1GB RAM (32-bit) / 2GB RAM (64-bit)
- 16GB available disk space (32-bit) / 20 GB (64-bit)
- DirectX® 9 graphics device with WDDM 1.0 or higher driver
- Windows 7 Upgrade Advisor can help you determine which features and editions of Windows 7 will run on your computer; visit <http://windows.microsoft.com/upgradeadvisor>

Additional Requirements to use Certain Features:

- Internet Access (fees may apply)
- Depending on resolution video playback may require additional memory and advanced graphics hardware
- For some Windows® Media Center functionality a TV tuner and additional hardware may be required
- Windows Touch and Windows Tablet require specific hardware
- HomeGroup requires a network and PCs with Windows 7
- DVD/CD authoring requires a compatible optical drive
- Music and sound require audio output
- Windows XP Mode requires:
 - Additional 1GB of RAM
 - Additional 15GB of available disk space
 - Processor capable of hardware virtualization, with Intel-VT or AMD-V turned on

Which Windows® 7 is Best For You?

	Home Premium	Professional	Ultimate
Make the things you do every day easier with improved desktop navigation.	✓	✓	✓
Start programs faster and more easily, and quickly find the documents you use most often.	✓	✓	✓
Make your web experience faster, easier and safer than ever with Internet Explorer 8.	✓	✓	✓
Watch, pause, rewind, and record TV on your PC.	✓	✓	✓
Easily create a home network and connect your PCs to a printer with HomeGroup.	✓	✓	✓
Run many Windows XP productivity programs in Windows XP Mode.		✓	✓
Connect to company networks easily and more securely with Domain Join.		✓	✓
In addition to full-system Backup and Restore found in all editions, you can back up to a home or business network.		✓	✓
Help protect data on your PC and portable storage devices against loss or theft with BitLocker.			✓
Work in the language of your choice and switch between any of 35 languages.			✓



What You Should Know

If you have any questions, please email or call us.

- Some programs on your old computer may not be compatible with a newer operating system. (They may not install.)
- Files with Digital Rights Management (DRM) such as music files and programs that require keys or serial numbers with a hardware fingerprint may require reactivation.
- Some programs with unique copy protection may need to be reinstalled or reactivated with their original key or serial number.
- Be sure to deactivate programs with online-managed activation (such as various Adobe products and iTunes) before upgrading your operating system.
- Antivirus and Anti-Spyware programs may not be automatically installed on your new operating system. This will require the purchase of a new license in some cases.
- **Specific** hardware drivers will not be moved to your new operating system.
- We do not recommend attempting to migrate from a PC running Windows 7 backward to a PC running Windows XP as doing so may render your system unstable and/or unbootable.
- Windows 7 upgrade software is not included.

The Solutions

We recommend that you upgrade using a “Dual” boot operation system. Both the old and new OS are installed. Your PC boots automatically to the old OS. You re-boot to Windows 7 when you have the time to learn the new OS.

Solution 1. You are up to your waist in deadlines, reports, charts, whatever. Now is not the best time to re-learn Windows and where Microsoft has moved that function you like. You do the work in your old OS and learn Windows 7 at your leisure while you are more relaxed. You can re-install software at your discretion and set it up to Windows 7 without being tired or weary.

Solution 2. Call or email us for more information.

Solution 3. You can upgrade to Windows 7 according to the instructions provided by Microsoft.

Solution 4. Buy a new PC or Laptop with Windows 7 pre-installed.



For Video Information go to: <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windows-7/features/tour.aspx>

For assistance from MyPC2Repair® contact us at:
MyPC2Repair® .
ATTN: Customer Service
P.O. Box 31041
Greenville, SC 29608-1041

Email us at: customerservice@mypc2repair.com or
Phone: 1-888-423-5849

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