

Mankato Computer Technology University

The End of Windows 10

What You'll Learn:

Windows 10 End-of-Life: What it means and how it affects security and functionality.

Impact on Your Device: What happens after support ends and risks of staying on Windows 10.

Upgrading to Windows 11: System requirements, upgrade process, and new features.

Alternative Options: What to do if your device isn't compatible with Windows 11.

Q&A Session: Get expert answers to your questions about Windows 10 and 11.

The End of Windows 10

- Stay informed about Microsoft's official support timeline.
- Ensure your device remains secure and up-to-date.
- Microsoft has announced that Windows 10 will reach its end of support on October 14, 2025.
- After this date, Microsoft will no longer provide security updates, bug fixes, or technical support for Windows 10.

What This Means for Users:

•No More Security Updates – Your PC may become vulnerable to viruses and cyber threats.

•No New Features – Microsoft will not release new functionalities for Windows 10.

•Limited Software Support – Over time, third-party apps and drivers may stop being updated for Windows 10.

What Are Your Options?

•**Upgrade to Windows 11** – If your PC meets the system requirements, you can upgrade for free.

•Continue Using Windows 10 (Not Recommended) – You can still use it, but without security updates, it may become risky.

•Consider Alternative Operating Systems – Linux distributions or purchasing a new PC with Windows 11 preinstalled.

•Extended Support Options (For Businesses) – Microsoft may offer paid extended support for enterprise customers.

System Requirements:



- Processor: 1 GHz or faster, 64-bit compatible
- **RAM:** 4GB or more
- **Storage:** 64GB or more
- **TPM 2.0**: Required for security
- **Graphics Card:** DirectX 12 compatible
- Display: 720p, 9" or larger screen

How to Check If Your Device Is Eligible for Windows 11

- Microsoft has specific system requirements for Windows 11. Here's how you can check if your PC is compatible:
- Method 1: Use the PC Health Check Tool (Recommended)
- Download the PC Health Check app from Microsoft:
 - ► Go to Microsoft's official PC Health Check page
 - Click Download PC Health Check App
- Install and open the app.
- Click "Check now" under the Introducing Windows 11 section.
- ▶ The tool will tell you if your PC meets the requirements.

Method 2: Manually Check System Requirements

To check these manually:	
Processor & RAM:	• Press Windows + R, type dxdiag , and press Enter.
TPM 2.0 Check:	 Press Windows + R, type tpm.msc, and press Enter. If TPM 2.0 is enabled, you'll see "The TPM is ready for use".
Secure Boot Check:	 Open System Information (Windows + R, type msinfo32, and press Enter). Look for Secure Boot State; it should say "On".

What If My PC Isn't Compatible?

If your PC doesn't meet the requirements, you have a few options: Enable TPM 2.0 & Secure Boot in BIOS (many modern PCs have this disabled by default).

Upgrade hardware (e.g., more RAM, new CPU, or storage).

Continue using Windows 10 until **October 14, 2025** (but consider security risks afterward).

Switch to an alternative OS, such as Linux, if upgrading isn't an option.



What is Windows 11

- Windows 11 is Microsoft's latest operating system, released in October 2021 as the successor to Windows 10.
- It features a redesigned user interface, improved performance, and new productivity tools.

Key Features of Windows 11:

•**Revamped UI** – A fresh, centered Start Menu, rounded corners, and a more modern design.

•Enhanced Performance – Faster boot times, better energy efficiency, and improved multitasking.

•Snap Layouts & Snap Groups – Advanced window management for better multitasking.

•Virtual Desktops – Easily switch between different desktop setups for work, gaming, or personal use.

•Microsoft Teams Integration – Chat and call directly from the taskbar.

•Better Gaming Performance – Features like Auto HDR, Direct Storage, and improved Xbox integration.

•Android App Support – Run Android apps via the Amazon Appstore (limited availability).

•Widgets Panel – Customizable widgets for news, weather, and more.

•Enhanced Security – TPM 2.0 requirement for better security features like Windows Hello and Secure Boot.

Windows 11

Microsoft's latest operating system, designed to enhance performance, security, and productivity. It features a fresh new design, improved gaming capabilities, and better multitasking tools. Here's everything you need to know!

- Modern User Interface
- Centered **Start Menu** with a minimalist design.
- Rounded corners, glass-like transparency, and fluid animations.
- Dark mode and customizable themes.



- Improved Productivity & Multitasking
- Snap Layouts & Snap Groups -Easily organize multiple windows.
- Virtual Desktops Create separate desktops for work, gaming, or personal use.
- New File Explorer More modern UI with better performance.



- Better Performance & Security
- Faster boot times and improved energy efficiency.
- **TPM 2.0 & Secure Boot** required for enhanced security.
- Automatic updates in the background for minimal disruption.



- ► Gaming Enhancements 🎮
- Auto HDR Improves lighting and colors in older games.
- **Direct Storage** Faster game loading times.
- Xbox Game Pass Integration -Play a vast library of games.



- Android App Support
- Run Android apps via the Amazon Appstore (limited availability).
- Side-load APKs for additional flexibility.



Microsoft Teams Integration

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Chat and call directly from the **taskbar** for quick access.



- Widgets Panel
- Personalized feed with news, weather, calendar, and more.

How to Upgrade to Windows 11

- Option 1: Windows Update (If Compatible)
- 1. Open Settings > Update & Security > Windows Update.
- 2. Click Check for updates.
- 3. If eligible, download and install Windows 11.
- Option 2: Installation Assistant
- 1. Download the Windows 11 Installation Assistant from Microsoft.
- 2. Run the tool and follow the instructions.
- Option 3: Clean Install (ISO Method)
- 1. Download the Windows 11 ISO from Microsoft.
- 2. Create a bootable USB using **Rufus or the** Media Creation Tool.
- 3. Boot from USB and install Windows 11.



- What Happens If My PC Doesn't Meet the Requirements?
- You can install Windows 11 using unofficial methods, but Microsoft may block updates.
- Upgrading hardware (RAM, CPU, TPM) may help.



- Can I Downgrade Back to Windows 10?
- Yes, within **10 days** after upgrading.
- After 10 days, a clean installation is required.



- Is Windows 11 Free?
- Yes, for Windows 10 users with a **genuine license**.

How Long Will Windows 10 Be Supported?

Windows 10 support ends on October 14, 2025.

Final Thoughts

Windows 11 brings a fresh design, better gaming performance, and improved security. If your PC meets the requirements, it's worth upgrading!