



Windows XP End-of-Sales

Transitioning to Windows Vista from Windows XP



Windows XP End-Of-Sales

If you buy PCs preinstalled with Windows XP, you should know that Microsoft will discontinue selling Windows XP to their sales channel. In industry terms this is called "End-Of-Sales" (EOS) and for local PC manufacturers, the Windows XP EOS date is January 31, 2009.* You may still see copies of Windows XP, or computers preloaded with it, for months to come as we work through our existing inventory. And although sales of Windows XP will be discontinued, Microsoft will continue to provide Extended Support for Windows XP until April 2014.



Windows Vista®—Why It's a Better Option

With Windows Vista, it's about connecting to the people you care about. It's about managing everything from photos to finances. It's about being online without worrying about identity theft or threats. It's a whole new way of using a PC.

Windows Vista versus Windows XP:

- Windows Vista offers the latest and greatest technology that continues to be updated and enhanced. Windows XP is an older and less current operating system.
- Windows Vista is a superior product that has far more features and functionality than Windows XP.
- If you still need Windows XP for compatibility reasons, you can acquire Windows Vista, and then exercise Windows Vista downgrade rights to Windows XP. When you are ready to upgrade to Windows Vista, you already own the license.



Risk of Counterfeit

With the sales of genuine Windows XP soon reaching an end, be aware of an increase in counterfeit copies. Protect yourself from the risks and costs associated with counterfeit software which include:

- More critical system failures
- Data loss
- Higher chance of viruses, tampered files, and other malicious software

Make sure you acquire your PCs preinstalled with **genuine** Windows software. This provides you with the safest, most cost-effective, and most reliable computing experience available.

Now is the time to make the move to Windows Vista. Please contact us for more details!

Feature Guide Use this helpful guide to discover more about Windows Vista SKU's and determine which SKU offers which feature.	Windows XP	Windows Vista Home Premium	Windows Vista Business	Windows Vista Ultimate
Windows Defender Firewall for incoming and outgoing traffic to protect against external spyware threats	●		●	●
Complete PC Backup and Restore Schedule automatic backups of everything on your computer, when and where you want			○	○
Windows BitLocker Drive Encryption Lock down access to the entire hard drive if your computer is lost or stolen				○
Shadow Copy Recover files that you deleted or accidentally changed, even if you never backed up your PC			○	○
Self Healing Windows Vista includes new technologies that can automatically identify problems and repair them		○	○	○
User Account Control Standard users can now do common operating system tasks on their own		○	○	○
Instant Search Find and launch almost anything on your computer much faster than ever before		○	○	○
Windows Media Center Enjoy your entire digital entertainment library on your computer or your TV		○		○
Windows Fax and Scan Save time and cut costs by faxing and scanning with just one click			○	○
Windows ReadyBoost™ Use a USB thumb drive to improve performance without having to add additional RAM		○	○	○
Domain Join Connect to networks and network resources quickly, easily and more securely	●		●	●
Remote PC Work from where and when it's convenient, with remote log in to your business PCs	●		●	●
Windows Mobility Center Modify your mobile computer settings from one place		○	○	○
Network and Sharing Center Check your connection status, view your network visually, and troubleshoot connection problems		○	○	○
Windows Meeting Space Share documents wirelessly, even when you're not connected to a wireless network		○	○	○
Key: ● Feature Included ○ New in Windows Vista ● Improved in Windows Vista				

Resources

Windows XP EOS Information

www.microsoft.com/windows/products/windowsxp/future.mspx

Compare Windows Vista to Windows XP

<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/products/windowsvista/buyorupgrade/comparewindowsxp.mspx>

Windows Life-Cycle Support

<http://support.microsoft.com/lifecycle>

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Is Windows Vista compatible with my other devices and hardware?

A. Windows Vista with Service Pack 1 (SP1) brought to life customer improvements in application and hardware compatibility and addressed important performance and reliability concerns. Today, Windows Vista supports nearly 77,000 hardware products, which is double the number supported at the launch of Windows Vista. Over 2,700 software programs are now certified to work on Windows Vista, including 98 of the top 100 consumer applications. Please visit <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/compatibility/> for more information on Windows Vista compatibility.

Q. How do I ensure I'm buying genuine Windows software?

A. Only buy from reputable, trustworthy resellers, and look out for prices that are "too good to be true". When buying a new PC, request that the PC be preinstalled with only genuine Windows software.

Q. Will there be an increase in the availability of counterfeit Windows XP?

A. As the supply of genuine Windows XP diminishes, it is likely that there will be an increase in counterfeit Windows XP, which is why it's essential to purchase only from reputable resellers. It is important to understand that acquiring counterfeit software can put your PC at risk for viruses, malware, and other vulnerabilities. Don't risk it; make sure to request genuine Microsoft software.

Q. What if I need support for Windows XP?

A. While Windows XP will no longer be offered for sale after the EOS date, Microsoft will continue to offer Extended Support for Windows XP until April, 2014. Extended Support delivers free security updates to all Windows customers. Customers can also pay for support on a per-incident basis. Please visit <http://support.microsoft.com/lifecycle> for further information on the Microsoft Support Lifecycle.

Q. What if I am interested in acquiring Windows Vista but continuing to use Windows XP via downgrade rights?

A. Before you decide to downgrade, make sure you have considered the following facts:

- Windows Vista can access information on servers currently using Windows XP Professional
- Applications currently running on Windows XP Professional can also run on Windows Vista
- Windows Vista offers new features, including:
 - More connection options with Windows Mobility Center
 - Improved safety and security with Windows Defender, and the Backup and Restore Center
 - Enhanced efficiencies with Instant Search

If you are still interested in downgrading, we can provide you with more information. Downgrade rights provide a great way for you to continue to use Windows XP and then upgrade to Windows Vista when you are ready, at no additional cost.

Q. Which OEM versions are eligible to downgrade from Windows Vista to Windows XP?

A. Customers with a preinstalled OEM version of Windows Vista Ultimate or Windows Vista Business are eligible to downgrade to Windows XP Professional, Windows XP Professional x64 Edition, or Windows XP Tablet PC Edition.