

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Windows 10 Upgrading Q&A](#)

mrnapolean1 - August 5, 2016, 5:05 pm

Doing a Q&A on upgrading to windows 10. This should answer some questions about upgrading.

Q. When does the free upgrade period end?

A. The free upgrades for Windows 10 started on July 29, 2015 and ended exactly 1 year later on July 29, 2016.

Q. Can I get windows 10?

A. If your machine/Device was upgraded to Windows 10 and it was connected to the internet, that machine had a thing called a Digital Entitlement.

Q. I am seeing this in Settings --> Update and Recovery --> Activation "Windows is activated with a Digital Entitlement"

A. This is a new way for Microsoft to manage Activation. The upgrade process generates a Hardware ID (generally from your CPU and Motherboard) and by doing this, this creates your digital entitlement.

Q. I have Windows Vista or older OS. Can I upgrade?

A. You cannot upgrade directly but you Can upgrade Vista to Windows 7 then to Windows 10. You will need a valid Windows 7 product key though.

Q. I use Assistive Technologies and I missed the deadline Can I upgrade?

A. Absolutely! Microsoft has provided a special upgrade period for customers that uses these technologies. [That upgrade page can be found here.](#)

Q. I have Windows 7 Home Premium Can I upgrade to Windows 10 Pro?

A. No. The upgrade paths are as follows:

Windows 7 Starter and Windows 7 Home Premium Upgrades to Windows 10 Home.

Windows 7 Professional and Windows 7 Ultimate Upgrades to Windows 10 Pro.

Windows 8.1 Upgrades to Windows 10 Home.

Windows 8.1 Pro Upgrades to Windows 10 Pro.

Q. I have Windows 7/8.1 32 bit (x86) Can I upgrade to Windows 10 64 bit (x64)?

A. No. When you upgrade you will be upgraded on the same architecture you where on previously. (Example: Windows 7 Ultimate x86 Upgrades to Windows 10 Pro x86)

Q. I have Windows 8. Can I upgrade?

A. No. You MUST install the free Windows 8.1 update thru the Windows Store first.

Q. What are the System Requirements for Running Windows 10?

A. Here is the Minimum System Requirements to Run Windows 10:

Minimum:

Processor: 1 gigahertz (GHz) or faster with support for PAE, NX, and SSE2

RAM: 1 gigabyte (GB) (32-bit) or 2 GB (64-bit)

Free hard disk space: 16 GB

Graphics card: Microsoft DirectX 9 graphics device with WDDM driver

A Microsoft account and Internet access

General Rule of thumb if it can run Windows 8.1, It can run Windows 10.

Q. I created Media a long time ago and my Windows 10 version is old. Is it updateable?

A. You have two options: Wait for Microsoft to push the new build(s) thru Windows Update or Download the Windows 10 Upgrader. [The Anniversary edition \(Version 1607\) is available here.](#)

Q. I have upgraded and I am now having problems, No display, error messages, corruption, etc. Can I clean install without losing my Free Upgrade status?

A. As long as the Machine has a Digital Entitlement Activation (this can be found here: Settings --> Update and Recovery --> Activation) You CAN clean install Windows 10.

Just backup anything you want and boot from DVD or USB. Follow Windows install as normal and when you get to the screens prompting for a product key, Click on "Skip" or "I Don't have a product key". Once you get installed, install your network driver (if not already installed) and Microsoft will reactivate your machine for you.

Q Help! My Hard Drive crashed Can I Reinstall Windows 10?

A. See above :)

Q. I upgraded and now my games run like shit. Is this fixable?

A. Yes and No. Its going to depend on how old your Graphics card is and weather The Manufacturer has Windows 10 compatible drivers for it. Generally any Nvidia GeForce or ATI Radeon card made in the last 5 years will have drivers that work for Windows 10.

Q. I upgraded and now my screen is all big and Icons are messed up.

A. This is caused by a 1024 x 768 screen resolution from a basic display driver. See solution above :)

Q. I have a Pirated copy/Illegal/not activated Windows 7/8.1 Can I upgrade?

A. Pirated and Illegal copies are not eligible for upgrading. If your windows is legal but not Activated, you must activate Windows prior to upgrading.

Q. I want to clean Install Windows 10 from USB. How to create installation media?

A. Follow the directions on this thread: <https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=5371906>

If I can think of any more Q&As for this thread I will add them.

Have a good day. :)

severos - August 6, 2016, 2:09 am

Those seems useful Q&A, nice share for the community.

As for the upgrading from windows 7 x32 to windows 10 x64, couldn't they do an upgrade to windows 10 x32 then reinstall x64 if they have digital entitlement??? or just backup the activation entries and import them to the new x64 installation?

mrnapolean1 - August 6, 2016, 3:56 am

(Aug 6, 2016 02:09 AM)severos Wrote: [CITE](#) Those seems useful Q&A, nice share for the community.

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I have never tired it but you should be able to use a digital entitlement for both 32 bit and 64 bit version of Windows.

I know normal product keys will transverse between both architectures.