

## Windows 10 Upgrade -- Should I or Shouldn't I?

By Jim Calloway

Director, OBA Management Assistance Program

Microsoft released Windows 10 on July 29, 2015. So if you want Windows 10, you can install it for free if you are using Windows 7 or 8 and can do so for a year. No need to rush, but I think many of the Windows 8 users will do so this fall. They already have to cope with the new interface and Windows 10 is better than 8. Windows 7 users are probably comfortable and may wait longer. But be sure and calendar mid-July 2016 for "Upgrade to Windows 10." Do not wait until the very last days when every procrastinator in the world will be trying to download and install the upgrade.

Microsoft says they may not release another version of Windows and may keep upgrading Windows 10. So you can wait 11 1/2 months if you wish, but you probably don't want to skip this entirely as we do not know how long Windows 7 and 8 will continue to be supported for certain.

**One note:** If you receive an email telling you that it is time for your Windows 10 upgrade and to "click here to begin," delete that! It is a scam and probably will do something bad to your computer. Microsoft is not sending Windows 10 upgrade emails—and also don't start this when you have a pending deadline. Reports are that it could take over an hour for some users.

But this is mostly good news.

**The reviews of Windows 10 are glowing---extraordinarily so.**

Microsoft Windows 10 review: Microsoft gets it right  
<http://www.cnet.com/products/microsoft-windows-10/>

Techradar Windows 10 review  
<http://www.techradar.com/us/reviews/pc-mac/software/operating-systems/windows-10-1267364/review>

"Our Verdict Feature-wise, Windows 10 is the new Windows 7. It's robust, pleasant to use and free."

Windows 10: The Emotion, The Enthusiasm, And The Energy  
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/ewanspence/2015/08/02/a-personal-windows-10-review/>

Everything You Can Ask Cortana to Do in Windows 10  
<http://lifehacker.com/everything-you-can-ask-cortana-to-do-in-windows-10-1721725525>

7 reasons you should make Microsoft Edge your default browser, and 1 reason you probably won't

<http://thenextweb.com/apps/2015/07/29/7-reasons-you-should-make-microsoft-edge-your-default-browser-and-1-reason-you-probably-wont/>

(Note from JIM- If you are still using Internet Explorer, you most definitely want to make the change.)

Review: Windows 10 reimagines the OS with flexible and functional design  
<http://thenextweb.com/microsoft/2015/07/29/review-windows-10-reimagines-the-os-with-flexible-and-functional-design/>

### **But---sadly-- not so fast**

There is a rising chorus saying Microsoft is overstepping on recording your data under its new privacy policy. So it may be good for the cautious that we have a year to contemplate this.

<http://www.newsweek.com/windows-10-recording-users-every-move-358952>

<http://thenextweb.com/microsoft/2015/07/29/wind-nos/>

Personally, I think you go ahead and do it sooner rather than later and refer to articles like this one to do a custom installation with more privacy controls instead of the default installation:

How to Keep Windows 10 From 'Spying' on You  
<https://www.yahoo.com/tech/how-to-keep-windows-10-from-spying-on-you-125730399429.html?src=rss>

And here is the latest word:

I'm a Privacy Advocate, but I Still Use Windows 10 and Google Now <http://lifehacker.com/im-a-privacy-advocate-but-i-still-use-windows-10-and-g-1723611163> This is a nice and calm explanation. Read this even if you are not going to upgrade for a while, it explains the new "free online" economy well.

Overall it is up to you when to upgrade to Windows 10. But, if you read those glowing reviews, it sounds very, very good.