

Newsletters, IE Browser, Windows Potpourri

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Newsletters

Getting FREE Windows Secrets Newsletter

Why would anyone want to get a Computer Newsletter?

Win XP, VISTA, Win 7, Win 8, 8.1? Very Little Change

Win 10 Software-as-a-Service? Probably

ALAS! NO more FREE Windows Secrets Newsletter, Paid Edition continues

Other Newsletters – PC Pitstop Weekly <http://www.pcpitstop.com/news/nl-200805.asp>

Ask Leo, Wired Magazine, Kim Komando, ZDNet, Computerworld, others

Example(s) of 1st, 2nd New Windows Secrets Newsletter Paid edition

IE Browser “End of Life”

<http://www.computerworld.com/article/3020233/web-browsers/how-to-disable-impending-ie-nag-notice.html?ref=yfp>

How to disable impending IE nag notices

by [Gregg Keizer](#) Jan 7, 2016 Computerworld

Outdated IE editions on Windows 7 will open a new tab with download page to IE11

Next week, Microsoft's Internet Explorer browser (IE) will begin displaying nag notices to users who have not upgraded to the latest available for their operating system.

Users can disable those notices and continue running retired editions without the disruption of the in-browser warnings.

On Jan. 12, [Microsoft](#) will deliver the final security updates for IE8, IE9 and IE10 on Windows 7 Service Pack 1 (SP1) to make good on an [August 2014 announcement](#) that it would shut off patches and other support for those browsers on the OS. Other versions of Windows will also show the nags to users still running older editions of IE: Those running Windows Vista, for example, will see the alert if they are still on IE7, the browser that was originally bundled with the 2006 operating system, or on IE8, the 2009 follow-up.

The code to display the notifications will be bundled with the cumulative security updates slated to release Tuesday for the affected browsers.]

IE Browser “End of Life” (Microsoft)

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/kb/3123303>

The new "End of Life" Upgrade Notification for Internet Explorer

About this update

This article describes a new "End of Life" upgrade notification feature that was delivered in the January 12, 2016, cumulative security update for each of the following Internet Explorer configurations:

- On Windows 7 Service Pack 1 and Windows 7 Service Pack 1 x64 Edition
 - Internet Explorer 10
 - Internet Explorer 9
 - Internet Explorer 8
- On Windows Server 2008 R2 Service Pack 1 and Windows Server 2008 R2 Service Pack 1 x64 Edition
 - Internet Explorer 10
 - Internet Explorer 9
 - Internet Explorer 8

Note For environments in which the migration to Internet Explorer 11 is incomplete, you can disable the notification feature by configuring a registry key. To do this, see the "More information" section.

More information

How to disable the notification feature

To disable the notification feature in Internet Explorer, follow these steps.

IE Browser “End of Life” Alternate Browser(s)

<http://www.zdnet.com/article/the-best-web-browsers-to-replace-obsolete-internet-explorer/#ftag=YHFb1d24ec?ref=yfp>

The best web browser to replace obsolete Internet Explorer is..

by [Steven J. Vaughan-Nichols](#) Jan 13, 2016 for [Networking](#)

IE 8, 9, and 10 just became largely unsupported. What's a Windows user to do? Here are your choices.

On January 12, 2016, the [support clock ran out for Internet Explorer \(IE\) 8, 9 and 10](#). True, there are a few exceptions, IE 9 on Vista and Windows Server 2008, and IE 10 on Windows Server 2012 still live. But for most Windows users the time has come to to switch to a new browser.

< pic On Windows 7, Google Chrome easily beat Firefox, IE 11, and Opera as the best replacement web browser for IE 8, 9, or 10.

Of course, you could stick with a browser that's no longer supported, but sooner or later that way leads to a security disaster. Don't do this!

Instead consider one of the following browsers: [Chrome 49](#), [Firefox 43](#), [IE 11](#), or [Opera 34](#).

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Windows 7,8,10 Hardware Support Issues

<http://www.pcworld.com/article/3024278/windows/you-will-upgrade-to-windows-10-inside-microsofts-strong-arm-upgrade-tactics.html?ref=yfp>

You will upgrade to Windows 10: Inside Microsoft's Strong-Arm Upgrade Tactics

by [Brad Chacos](#) Jan 20, 2016 Senior Editor, [PCWorld](#)

The carrots alone didn't lure 1 billion users, so Microsoft's breaking out the sticks.

Windows 10's [deep stash](#) of [carrots](#) lured a record-breaking numbers of users to the operating system when it launched. But now that adoption's slowing down, Microsoft's breaking out the sticks in its quest to [shift 1 billion users](#) to Windows 10 by July 2018.

Microsoft wielded the latest stick just last week, when it declared that buyers of Intel's new [Skylake](#) processors have to upgrade to Windows 10 in the next 18 months, or forgo all but the most critical security patches—and those will be available to Windows 7 and 8.1 users only if said patches don't "risk the reliability or compatibility" on non-[Skylake](#) systems. Future processors from Intel, AMD, and Qualcomm will *only* be officially supported by Windows 10, not 7 or 8.

That's a bombshell, and the strike came without warning. [Skylake](#) processors have been available for months now, while Microsoft's long-term support for Windows has never been explicitly tied to specific CPU platforms. Making sure new hardware works with old operating systems no doubt consumes valuable time and resources, and hardware and software are intertwined now more than ever before, but aggressively forcing users ([including businesses](#)) to upgrade to Windows 10 before the end of the operating system's initial stated support cycle ends is unprecedented in the Windows world.

This isn't the first stick Microsoft has brandished in its Windows 10 push. Nor will it be the last.

Windows 7,8,10 Hardware Support Issues (cont)

http://www.forbes.com/sites/gordonkelly/2016/01/17/microsoft-windows-7-windows-8-support-cuts/?utm_campaign=yahootix&partner=yahootix&ref=yfp#2715e4857a0b415da9ca7ef2

Microsoft Makes Windows 7 and Windows 8 Support Worse

by Gordon Kelly Jan 17, 2016 Contributor

Think your copy of Windows 7 is supported until 2020? Think your copy of Windows 8 is supported until 2023? You might want to think again because [Microsoft](#) has just announced radical changes to how it will treat users of both operating systems...

Talking on its [Windows Blog](#), Microsoft has announced it will now stop support for installations of Windows 7 or Windows 8 if they are on new or upgraded computers running the latest chips from [Intel](#), AMD or [Qualcomm](#). Specifically these are listed as 'Kaby Lake' (Intel), 'Bristol Ridge' (AMD) and Qualcomm's '8996' (the base for the Snapdragon 820). Between them **these chips will dominate sales of all new desktops, laptops, hybrids and tablets in 2016.**

In fact Microsoft is going even further than this by also refusing to support Windows 7 and Windows 8 on Intel's current generation 'Skylake' processors, with the exception of a "list of specific new Skylake devices". This list includes the [Dell](#) Latitude 12 and XPS 13; HP [EliteBook Folio](#) and G3 and [Lenovo](#) ThinkPad T460s and X1 Carbon. Even then support on those devices will only last 18 months ending on 17 July, 2017.

Yes, you read this right: Microsoft is breaking from [31 years](#) of Windows history by refusing to [honour](#) its promised Windows lifecycles unless users stick to old hardware. Upgrade your existing Windows 7 or Windows 8 computer to these chipsets or buy new hardware and install Windows 7 or Windows 8 on it and the official [Windows Lifecycle dates](#) don't mean a thing.

Windows 7,8,10 Hardware Support Issues (cont)

<http://www.computerworld.com/article/3023533/microsoft-windows/microsoft-support-windows-10-new-hardware-itbwcw.html?ref=yfp>

Suddenly, Microsoft says you can't use Windows 7 & 8.1 on your new PC! Idiots.

by [Richi Jennings](#) Jan 17, 2016 {Opinion }

[{An extremely brave Terry Myerson scoffs at your one-month-old hardware }](#)

Microsoft makes utterly dumb change to its Windows support rules. Completely unexpectedly, older versions of Windows won't get support on the latest hardware.

Yes, you read that right: You won't be able to run Windows 7 or 8.1 on [Skylake CPUs](#) (or later). There's a get-out-of-jail-free card for a while, but this is just the latest irritating Microsoft scheme to get everyone onto Windows 10.

The way it's always been in the past is that enterprises could buy today's hardware, but run their current image on it, only upgrading when it suited their risk profile, and so on. But with this move, Microsoft has changed everything -- and given precisely *zero* warning.

Windows 7,8,10 Hardware Support Issues (cont)

<http://www.zdnet.com/article/new-microsoft-windows-support-changes-what-they-mean-to-business-users/>

New Microsoft Windows support changes: What they mean to Business Users

by [Mary Jo Foley](#) for [All About Microsoft](#) | January 15, 2016

Microsoft is making a change in its Windows support policies that will affect those in the market for new PCs who aren't yet ready to go with Windows 10.

Unlike consumers, more than a few business users who buy (or whose companies buy for them) new PCs may want or need to run an older version of Windows because of company policies, upgrade schedules, legacy application and peripheral compatibility and other various reasons.

But the new word, as of today, is Windows PCs based on newer CPU architectures -- beginning with Intel's 6th-generation Skylake chips -- **will require** Windows 10. There will be a number of predesignated Skylake PCs that will be verified as Windows 7 and 8.1 capable, but Microsoft will guarantee support for these machines only for 18 months -- or until July 17, 2017.

My ZDNet colleague Ed Bott [outlined these support changes](#), which Microsoft disclosed on January 15.

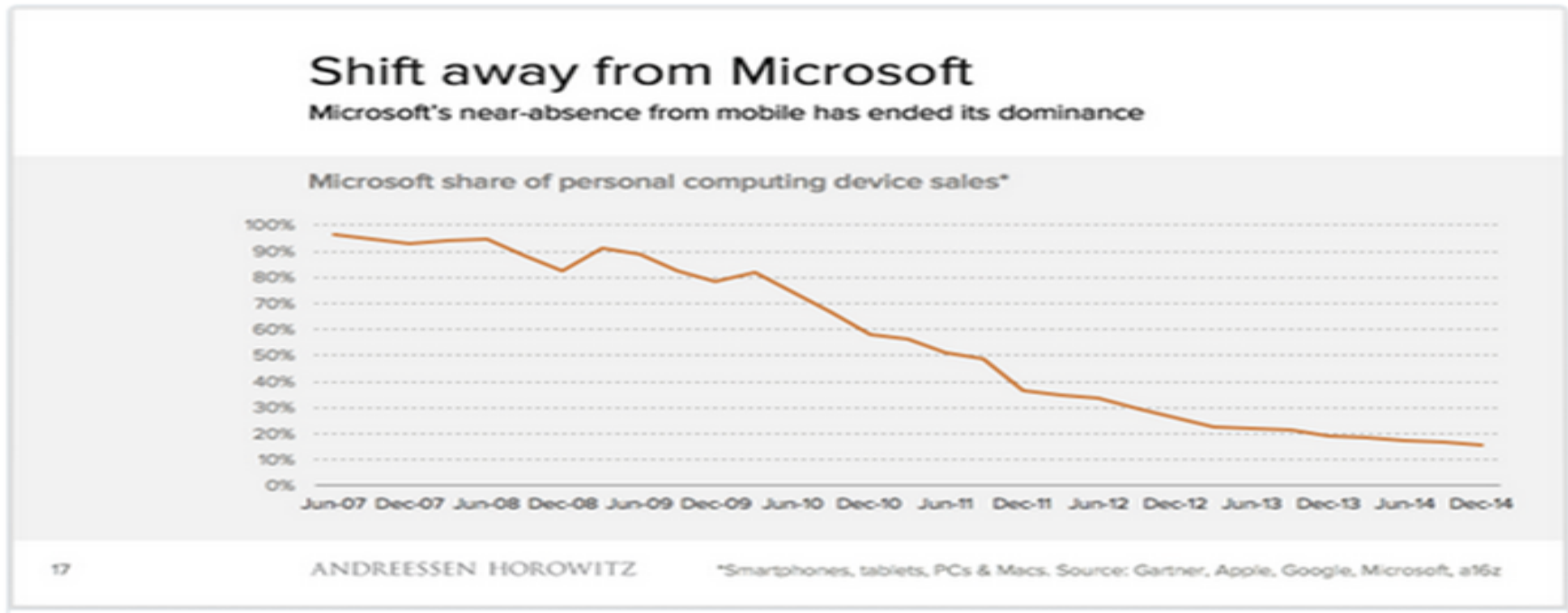
It's not clear to me and others what effect this change will have on businesses moving to Windows 10. I could see some businesses pushing back their timetable to move to Windows 10 until they are ready to migrate users to newer hardware running Windows 10 from the get-go.

I also wonder whether today's new policies will result in fewer sales of new Skylake PCs, at least to business users who have been expecting to be able to downgrade to Windows 7 on these systems and use them for some period of time (longer than mid-2017) before moving to Windows 10. Maybe we'll see a run on enterprises snapping up Broadwell and Haswell PCs that can run Windows 7 and Windows 10 (?).

Why is Microsoft making this change? {please read the article}

Bottom line: Microsoft's message is that while Windows 10 can work on older, new and still-to-come PCs, Windows 7 **isn't guaranteed to do so**. Whether you take that message as "buyer beware" or "[Windows 10 or else,](#)" that's Microsoft's newest guidance.

MS reign ended in the Summer of 2011 attempt to get back with Windows 10



In short, the chart above shows Microsoft's total share of personal computer device sales over time. In June of 2007, the year the first iPhone launched, Microsoft had close to a 100% share of the personal computing market. Four years later, in June of 2011, that share had plummeted to 50%. It's been all downhill from there, as iOS and Android have broadened the reach of web-connected computers while Microsoft's efforts to make it in the smartphone market have fallen flat.

Again, none of this means that Microsoft is irrelevant: Desktop and Laptop computers are hugely important and Windows is still the No. 1 platform on those machines.

But it no longer rules over the tech world and **its reign ended in the summer of 2011.**

{ yes, it had released Win 7 10/22/2009, released Win 8 10/25/2012 }