

To Renew or Not Renew, That Is the Question

You're prepared, at least mentally, to begin your migration to Windows 10 because you've read *Planning For Your Upgrade To Windows 10*.

Is your hardware ready, though? How you handle your IT (on your own, as needed support, or with a fully managed agreement) will change how you will have to deal with your transition. The following items should help you decide how to prepare your hardware for the Windows 10 migration.

Do It Yourself

If you own all of your own equipment and deal with IT issues in house, then you will want to get started on migrating your devices now. The good news is that Windows 10 is highly compatible with just about every PC out there. If you run into trouble, it's likely a vendor incompatibility issue, not Microsoft, itself, so you'll want to contact them directly. When you have that handled, upgrading from 7 to 10 is as simple as running the ISO file from Microsoft.com, from a USB, or DVD. The bad news is that it will take significant time migrating every PC in your business. You'll also need to deal with a backlog of Microsoft customer service support if you happen to run into any issues. Remember that almost 70% of the world's computers are still running Windows 7. It's almost guaranteed that others will run into issues and need support, as well.

MSP

If you are with a managed service provider, you should be just fine. In fact, you likely already have a plan in place from your most recent business review. Over the course of the next few months, your IT company will ensure software compatibility with all of your line of business applications and contact any necessary vendors and schedule a time with you to come out and run the update once their sure everything will go smoothly. Now, would also be a good time to consider any hardware upgrades that you've been needing. All new PCs will automatically come with Windows 10, alleviating any upgrade issues now or in the next three years or so. The best part of it, you have to do nothing. No downtime for your business, no extra IT work for you, and no worries.

If you're on a full managed services agreement, the upgrade is more than likely covered and any hardware needs will be handled on a new monthly payment plan (HaaS agreement). If you're on a partial agreement or break/fix model, you'll likely be billed for the time required to complete the upgrade. Either way, your IT company will have you completely in hand. Just remember that your service provider will soon be booked solid assisting other clients with this transition. It's important to schedule now so you're not left waiting.

Time to Get a Contract?

If you're reading this blog as someone that had planned to do this upgrade on your own but have now decided that you don't have the time or desire to do so? It's time to contact us. We'll make sure that you're taken care of through Windows 7 end of life and well beyond.