Windows 10 Upgrade path

As you might have been aware of Windows 10 public release on 29th Jul 2015 and many of you might actually want to upgrade to it however you must keep certain things in mind before upgrading. You might have noticed Windows 10 notification on your system tray area if you are on Windows OS.

Not everyone will start receiving Windows 10 updates on 29th as Microsoft have earlier announced this month that it would be rolling out Windows 10 in waves, "slowly scaling up" during which they want to see how things are going. The first adopters of Windows 10 will be all testers who have been testing it since Oct 2014 and will start receiving updates on 29th July. After that, people who have gone through the Windows 10 reservation process will begin to receive the ability to update to the new OS. When the rollout hits public, Windows 10 will download to your computers before you're presented with the option to update. In case you had already received an email confirming your reservation you will get it right on day one.

Even this may disappoint users who want to directly jump to new OS right on day one, but the logic is to have a smooth and sensible update process. Microsoft says that it has found the "vast majority" of systems running Windows 7 and 8 to be fully compatible with Windows 10. Windows 10 Pro's availability will also begin on July 29th. Windows 10 Enterprise and Windows 10 Education will be available on 1st August, 2015.

Windows 10 comes with intelligent updates over internet, where it downloads updates from shared resources in your network instead of individual PC requesting downloads from update center unlike the previous Windows version.

Should I Upgrade?

For the next year, any Windows 7 or 8/8.1 computer, tablet, and smartphone gets a free Windows 10 upgrade. Since this is the "*Last version on Windows*" Microsoft wants everybody on the same operating system and hence willing to take a financial hit. Post this major release it will be delivered as a service bringing new innovations and updates in an ongoing manner, with continuous value for our consumer and business customers. Upgrade process could take time (avg 1hr-3hr) depending on your hardware configuration and software installed. It is highly recommended to have proper hardware drivers installed on your current system as conflicting drivers may cause issues on new OS as most of the manufactures are yet to release updated drivers. Windows 8 users should definitely consider moving to Windows 10. At any moment if you are not happy with Windows 10 you can always downgrade to your previous OS. Make sure you have enough free hard disk space on your system drive for the upgrade & downgrade process (20GB or more).

What's new in Windows 10

For Businesses, Windows 10 means a lot. This version of Windows has plenty of features for enterprise, including a customized store and protection for corporate data. Mobile Device Management will be able to be used for all devices. Further Windows 10 has been designed for internet powered devices. The Internet of Things (IoT) brings together devices, sensors, cloud, data and your imagination. With introduction to such devices, it aims to interact with the real world. Such devices will be used to bring service transformation in Wearables, heath care, transportation, Banking Technologies, Home Automation, Building & Cities.

An average user will find little newer stuff, but will notice major changes in User Interface and App performance. The most noticeable change is the new Start Menu (similar to old start menu). A new Snap Assist feature also helps users' work out which way is best to snap apps to. You can snap windows into new screens and tile Windows. The best thing is "Continum" - an on-the-fly mode for 2 in 1 devices that can automatically change mode if it detects there is suddenly no keyboard attached. So, for example, a back button appears to help you navigate the Desktop with touch if the keyboard is removed. Other major change, even though it doesn't benefit the majority of Windows users - is that Windows apps will now be universal and run across PC, tablet, phone and even Xbox One.
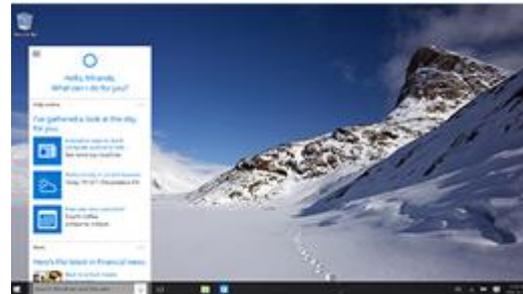
Get Started app

The Get Started app comes pre-installed with Windows 10. It contains all the information you need to take advantage of the new features and be productive right out of the gate.

Cortana

Your truly personal digital assistant, Cortana helps you get more done no matter what device you're on. By learning about you over time, Cortana becomes more useful every day.

Microsoft Edge

Use Microsoft Edge to get on the web right away. You can write directly on a webpage and easily share your mark-ups with others, and read distraction-free with the reading view.

Microsoft Support

If you need help with Windows 10, support is easy to find. Just use the search box to get a quick answer, a step-by-step tutorial, or a connection to a real person through our Contact Support app.

Virtual Desktop

Manage your personal and office work in different desktop. Give you more desktop space to group related windows. It helps you quickly locate and switch to any window or group of windows.Keeps you in control of the degree of separation between your grouped windows

Better Settings

Windows 10 has unified settings menu, with a clean design and simple options, and there's also the new Action Center, which provides more toggles for switching on or off WiFi and other settings. Notifications will also pop up in this space, which will be synced across devices

*Windows 10 logo is part of Microsoft Windows Family