Support for Windows 10 ends on 14 October 2025.

Almost all versions are affected, including:

Windows 10 Home | Windows 10 Pro | Windows 10 Enterprise | Windows 10 Education | Windows 10 IoT Enterprise

What must companies do now?

✓ **Check which version of Windows you are using:**

- Here's how to find out: Press the Windows key + R, type 'winver' and press Enter to open the 'About Windows' window.

✓ **Upgrade to Windows 11:**

- Check that your hardware meets the requirements for Windows 11.
- Start the upgrade via Settings → Update & Security → Windows Update.
- The workarounds suggested in the media for using Windows 11 on 'older hardware' by making additional entries in the registry database are temporarily possible and understandable for a transition phase (hardware not yet written off), but are expressly not recommended. For private users, this is less critical than for businesses, so please refer to point 2, as many businesses already have numerous web-based applications and there are often versions for alternative operating systems.

✓ **Check alternative operating systems:**

- If you do not want to or cannot switch to Windows 11, you should consider alternatives such as Linux.

✓ **Back up user data and settings before installation:**

- Before upgrading or switching, create a complete backup of all data (external hard drive or cloud).

✓ **Extended Security Updates (ESU) as a transition:**

- If an immediate switch is not possible, you can obtain security updates through the ESU programme until 2028. However, this should only be a temporary solution; create a strict migration plan.

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