



Welcome to
Windows 7



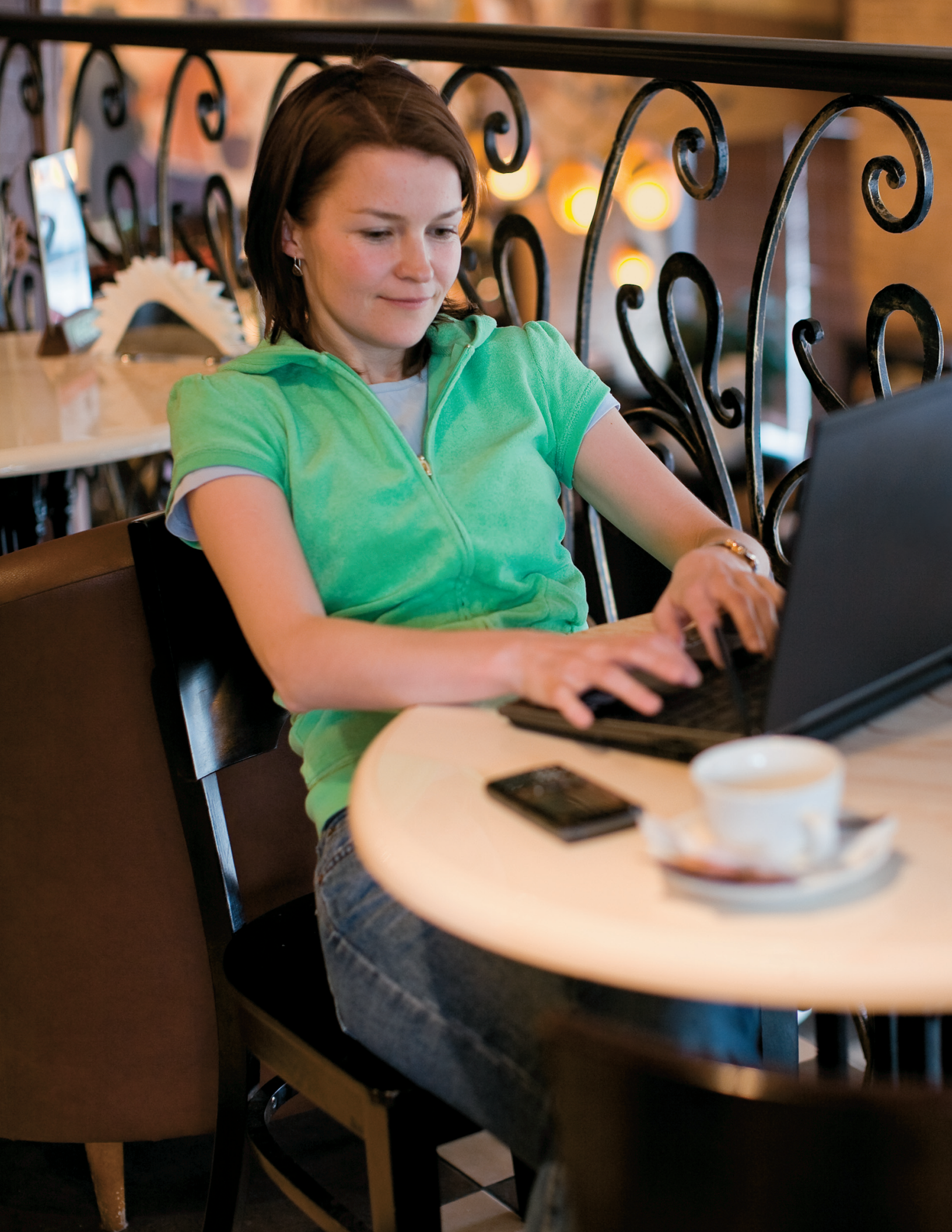
 Windows 7





You told us what you wanted. We listened.
This Windows® 7 Product Guide highlights
the new and improved features that will
help deliver the one thing you said you
wanted the most:

Your PC, simplified.





PCs are an integral part of the daily lives of billions of people around the world. They are used for more functions than anyone could have imagined just a few years ago, and as PCs become more deeply woven into our everyday lives, our expectations keep increasing. With Windows® 7, you told us what you expect from a PC. And we listened.

In Windows 7 we've developed hundreds of little improvements and a few big ones that add up, frankly, to a whole lot less. Less waiting, less clicks, less hassle connecting to devices, less power consumed and less overall complexity.

And with less of what you don't need, your PC running Windows 7 will help you do more by making everyday tasks simpler and easier. Windows 7 is clean and uncluttered, with a streamlined interface that puts the tasks you want to accomplish right at your fingertips. You have more control over where to put the things you use most often. Managing multiple windows is easier. And we've improved search so that you can find the information you want quickly.

We've made it easier to add PCs to your home network, share files between networked PCs, and use and manage other connected devices like cell phones, cameras, and MP3 players. Even browsing the Internet is easier thanks to improvements in Windows Internet Explorer® 8.

You asked for improvements in the basic fundamentals like performance, responsiveness, safety, reliability, and compatibility. We designed Windows 7 to start up, shut down, and resume from sleep quickly so you don't have to wait as long to get stuff done. We've reduced the number of system prompts that can interrupt your day. And you'll have greater control over what your kids can do on the PC. Even better, you'll find innovative ways to safeguard your personal data—all while getting more ways to personalize your PC and make it truly your own.

With Windows 7, we've also made new things possible. You'll find fresh ways to enjoy and share your music, photos, video, and recorded TV when and where you want regardless of how or where it's stored. Windows 7 gives you more ways to access your data and work productively from any location including making it easier to connect to wireless networks. And we've added new ways to interact with your PC through touch-enabled screens.

In the enterprise, the role of the PC is evolving just as quickly as it is in the home. With Windows 7, IT professionals have more ways to help their people get more done—more securely and from more locations—while still maintaining control over increasingly complex computing environments.

Welcome to Windows 7.



Designing Windows 7

More than a billion people use Microsoft® Windows every day. You use it in significant ways, like earning a living. You use it in personally meaningful ways, such as using a webcam to visit with a faraway loved one. And you experience it in small ways, like playing your favorite song or whiling away a few minutes with a game. Though each situation might be different, your satisfaction relies on one thing: that your PC works, plain and simple.

In designing Windows 7, we focused on creating a better experience, regardless of what you do on your PC. And although we've made some architectural changes in Windows 7, we've focused mainly on building upon the platform improvements of the Windows Vista® and Windows Server® 2008 operating systems.

By definition, a great PC experience means seamless operation across all of your hardware, software, and devices. We want to make sure you have a broad choice for the programs and devices you use with your PCs. Today, the Windows Vista Compatibility Center lists more than 10,500 applications and 9,500 devices with a compatible download or driver version. In most cases, the same software and hardware that works on Windows Vista will also work on Windows 7.

Furthermore, we were careful to design Windows 7 so that the investments that our partners and our enterprise customers have made in Windows Vista will continue to deliver great value as they upgrade to Windows 7. We've worked closely with our partners from the earliest planning phase. Before writing code, we talked to original equipment manufacturers, the companies that make PCs. Before defining application programming interfaces, we talked to developers. And before adding support for new devices, we worked with device manufacturers to understand how next-generation hardware could create new scenarios.

Market Trends that Inspired Windows 7

As we planned Windows 7, we took a hard look at how the world of technology is changing and what that means for you. In doing so, we identified some key themes that influenced our engineering design efforts and helped us to focus on where we could deliver the highest value to you.

- **Hardware advances.** Since Tablet PCs with touch screens were introduced more than five years ago, a whole range of new devices has made touch technology more popular. Similarly, the reduced cost of random access memory (RAM) has led many more people to use 64-bit processors. Other advances include solid-state drives (SSDs), faster wireless networking, enhanced Bluetooth connectivity, multicore central processing units (CPUs), and powerful new graphics accelerators.
- **Expanded diversity and sophistication of devices.** The type and range of devices continue to expand. Nearly 1,500 new Plug and Play devices are identified each day, with more than 4 million expected by 2010. At the same time, devices like MP3 players and mobile phones store more information and offer more features than ever before.
- **Growth of mobile computing.** In the United States, portable computers are becoming more prevalent than desktops, and we're seeing a growing variety of them, like small notebook PCs, ultra-mobile PCs, and Tablet PCs.
- **More connection options.** People want to get online easily and stay online using whatever Internet connection is available. Furthermore, people want to be able to access work and home information, no matter where they are.
- **Connecting multiple PCs in the home.** Today, more than half of U.S. households have more than one PC—yet setting up a home network can still be a challenge. For many people, it's even more difficult to manage, find, and share information across multiple PCs.
- **More digital media.** People now have access to more types of digital media than ever, including music, video, TV, photos, and an ever-increasing amount of rich content on the Web. This media needs to be easier to find, use, and share—digital media should be accessible through more devices without any added complexity, regardless of whether people are listening to music on wireless headphones or watching movies on a big-screen TV.
- **A rapidly evolving Web.** Browsing the Web remains the single most popular activity on the PC, with people spending more time—and doing more things—online. They want a Web browsing experience that supports all that the Web has to offer, with everyday tasks and content at their fingertips. They want easier ways to connect with friends and interact with social networks. And they also want protection from hackers, malicious software (malware), and other Internet-based threats.
- **Increased focus on costs.** Although businesses often adopt new operating systems for better security and quantifiable cost savings, application and device compatibility can prevent them from moving forward. IT professionals need to know that adopting new technologies will make running and managing PCs easier, help increase data security, and extend the investments they have already made in existing applications and devices.



Windows 7 Editions

Different people expect different things from their PCs, which is why we offer multiple editions of Windows 7. And because your needs can change over time, we have designed Windows 7 so that you can move up to editions with more features, without giving up the features you already have.

Windows® 7 Enterprise/Windows® 7 Ultimate	Windows 7 Enterprise and Windows 7 Ultimate are no-compromise editions for people who want everything Windows 7 has to offer*.
Windows® 7 Professional	Windows 7 Professional is everything you need for work and home. This business-focused edition is great for small- and medium-sized companies, and people who have networking, backup, and security needs and multiple PCs or servers.
Windows® 7 Home Premium	Windows 7 Home Premium is the best entertainment experience on your PC. This edition provides full functionality on the latest hardware, easy ways to connect, and a visually rich environment.
Windows® 7 Home Basic	Windows 7 Home Basic makes the things you do every day faster and easier. This edition is designed for value PCs in emerging markets.
Windows® 7 Starter	Windows 7 Starter Edition is the entry-level edition for small notebook PCs and other PCs with limited hardware. It makes using your PC simpler.

*Note: Windows 7 Enterprise has the same features as Ultimate, and also includes volume activation capabilities. It is available only to customers with a Software Assurance Agreement.

Windows 7 Starter



Windows 7 Starter makes small notebook PCs and other PCs with limited hardware easier to use because it puts less between you and what you want to do—less waiting, less clicking, and less hassle connecting to networks. Windows 7 Starter is designed to meet basic needs and combines the latest in reliability and responsiveness with the familiarity of Windows. Key features that you will find in the Starter edition include the following::

- Broad application and device compatibility
- Safety, reliability, and responsiveness
- Ability to join a homegroup

Windows 7 Home Basic



Windows 7 Home Basic is an entry-level edition that will be offered in a number of emerging markets to customers with value priced PCs. Windows 7 Home Basic makes it faster and easier to get to the programs and documents you use most often, so you can spend less time looking and more time doing the things you want to do. In addition to the benefits found in Windows 7 Starter, Home Basic includes the following:

- Live thumbnail previews
- Advanced networking support (ad hoc wireless networks and Internet connection sharing)
- Ability to extend your screen across multiple monitors

Windows 7 Home Premium



The best edition for consumers, Windows 7 Home Premium provides the best entertainment experience on your PC. You'll find easy ways to connect to other PCs and devices, all in a visually rich environment that makes everyday use simpler and more engaging. With Home Premium you can create a homegroup to share all of your favorite photos, videos, and music with other networked PCs running Windows 7. And you'll be able to watch shows for free when and where you want with Internet TV on Windows Media® Center.* In addition to the features in Windows 7 Starter and Home Basic, you'll also get the following::

- Advanced window navigation and personalization with several new Microsoft Aero® desktop improvements
- The ability to create a homegroup, so you can easily share files between your networked PCs and devices
- The ability to watch Internet TV and record TV on your PC with Windows Media Center
- Remote Media Streaming and improved support for different media formats

**Note: For some aspects of Windows Media Center functionality, a TV tuner and additional hardware may be required. Internet access is required. Free Internet TV content varies by geography. Some content may require additional fees.*

Windows 7 Professional



Windows 7 Professional has all the features you need for business, along with all the great media and entertainment features of Windows 7 Home Premium. You'll be able to run many Windows XP productivity programs natively in Windows 7 or by using Windows XP Mode*, and recover your data easily with automatic backups to your home or business network. You'll also be able to connect to company networks easily and more securely. In addition to the features in Windows 7 Home Premium, you'll also get the following:

- Domain Join, which gives you the ability to join a managed Windows Server network
- Advanced Backup and Restore to help you back up your entire system to a home or business network, and Encrypted File System to help protect your data
- Windows XP Mode* for running older productivity applications that require Windows XP
- Location Aware Printing, which helps you set different default printers for your home and work networks

**Microsoft recommends 2 GB of memory, and an additional 15 GB of hard disk space per virtual environment, to run Windows XP Mode. Windows XP Mode requires either OEM pre-installation or post-purchase installation of Windows XP Mode (which runs on Windows 7 Professional or Ultimate) and a virtualization technology such as Windows Virtual PC. Windows Virtual PC requires a processor capable of hardware virtualization, with Intel-VT and AMD-V features enabled. Both Windows XP Mode and Windows Virtual PC can be downloaded from www.windows.com/business/downloads. For more information on system requirements, go to www.microsoft.com/virtual-pc.*

Windows 7 Enterprise / Windows 7 Ultimate



Windows 7 Enterprise and Windows 7 Ultimate are the most versatile and powerful editions and are designed to address the needs of both enterprise customers and consumers who want every feature of Windows 7. While the features in these editions are the same, Windows 7 Enterprise includes volume activation capabilities and is only available to customers with a Microsoft Software Assurance Agreement.

Windows 7 Enterprise and Windows 7 Ultimate help make you productive anywhere, enhance security and control, and streamline PC management. They also offer remarkable ease of use with the entertainment features of Home Premium and the business features of Professional, plus the flexibility to work in many different languages. Quite simply, Windows 7 Enterprise and Windows 7 Ultimate include everything Windows 7 has to offer.

In addition to the previously mentioned features, these editions include the following:

- Microsoft BitLocker™ and BitLocker To Go™ drive encryption and data protection on internal and external drives and storage devices
- DirectAccess, which helps give you a more secure connection to your corporate network over the Internet
- Microsoft BranchCache™, which helps provide faster access to content from remote file and Web servers at branch locations
- Microsoft AppLocker™, which helps prevent unauthorized software from running on workers' PCs
- Enterprise Search Scopes, which make it easy to discover and search content on intranet portals
- Multilingual user interface packs, which let you work in any of 35 languages

Windows Anytime Upgrade

Sometimes you want to be able to do more with your PC. That's why we've made it easier for you to move from one edition of Windows to the next. For example, you may have purchased a small notebook PC with Windows 7 Starter but decide soon after that you want to customize your desktop or create a homegroup. With Windows Anytime Upgrade, you can add features to Windows 7 in as few as 10 minutes. Upgrading from one edition of Windows 7 to another with more features is easy and quick, and you'll keep your programs, files, and settings.



SPECIAL NOTE:

In the EEA/EU (including Croatia and Switzerland) and Korea, Microsoft will ship versions of these editions that do not include certain features.

"N" editions (for example, Windows 7 Home Premium N) do not include Windows Media Player and related technologies such as Windows Media Center and Windows DVD Maker (distribution in EEA/EU only).

"KN" editions (for example, Windows 7 Home Premium KN) will not include Windows Media Player and related technologies such as Windows Media Center and Windows DVD Maker (distribution in Korea only).

"K" editions (for example, Windows 7 Home Premium K) are the Korean language versions of the products, which contain links added to the Programs menu that go to Web sites that contain links to download competing media players and instant messaging software (distributed worldwide).

Microsoft Desktop Optimization Pack

Microsoft Desktop Optimization Pack for Software Assurance is a dynamic desktop solution available to Software Assurance customers for use with Windows 7. It helps reduce application deployment costs, enables delivery of applications as services, and allows for better management and control of enterprise desktop environments. Technologies provided in the Microsoft Desktop Optimization Pack include:

- Microsoft Application Virtualization
- Microsoft Asset Inventory Service
- Microsoft Advanced Group Policy Management
- Microsoft Diagnostics and Recovery Toolset
- Microsoft System Center Desktop Error Monitoring
- Microsoft Enterprise Desktop Virtualization

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