

NEWS

Do You Really Have to Stop Using Windows 10?

Microsoft has stopped supporting the operating system. If you're still running Windows 10, here are your options.

THE END IS here—at least, it is for Windows 10. Microsoft officially stopped supporting the decade-old operating system on October 14, 2025.

There's one hiccup, though: Even though Windows 11 is a free update, more people still use Windows 10 than Windows 11, according to [statcounter.com](https://www.statcounter.com), a site that tracks operating system usage worldwide. Plenty of people, it seems, either don't want to upgrade to Windows 11 or are using devices that aren't supported. This means millions of people could be using an operating system that's no longer receiving security updates. If you're one of them, it makes sense to learn what happens to your computer now—and what you should do about it. Here's a summary of what's happening with Windows 10 and four options you have to replace it.

Windows 10 Will Keep Working (But It Will Be Less Secure)

Nothing in particular is going to happen after October 14. Your computer will keep working the way it has, and you're unlikely to run into issues. That doesn't mean it's a great idea to keep using Windows 10, though.

That's because the system will no longer receive security updates or patches from Microsoft. This won't matter much until a new Windows exploit is discovered. After that, though, your device will have vulnerabilities that will never be patched. At that point, you will be at increased risk of attacks like ransomware, where a virus encrypts all of your files and scammers demand a payment in order to decrypt them. Continuing to use Windows 10 long-term dramatically increases the odds of these and other attacks.

There are other potential annoyances. Third-party developers, meaning the companies that make the software you use and the games you play, tend to stop providing updates for operating systems that are no longer officially supported. So, if a game adds new features in an update, you might not be able to install it. The same goes for the software you rely on to do your work: Over time, the latest versions of your desktop apps won't run on Windows 10, meaning you'll miss out on features. There's also a security angle. In addition to no longer receiving security updates for your operating system, you'll also eventually stop getting security updates for the tools you use.

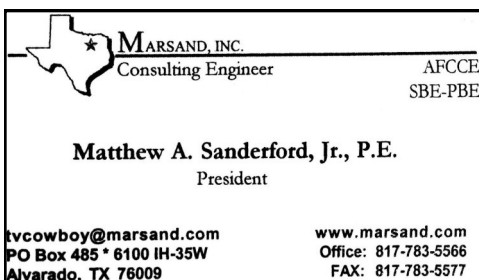
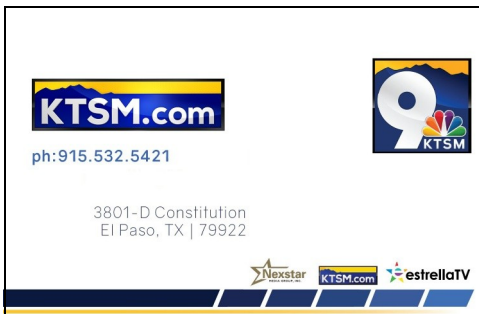
None of this will happen right away on October 14. But you can expect to start hearing about software makers dropping support for Windows 10 later on. It's a good idea, then, to be prepared.

Microsoft has two official recommendations: updating your computer to Windows 11, which is free provided your computer supports it. The other recommendation is to buy a new device, presumably one already running Windows 11. Those aren't your only choices, though. You could replace Windows with another operating system entirely, like ChromeOS or Linux. Let's talk through all four options.

Option 1: Try to Install Windows 11

The simplest thing, for most people, is to upgrade to Windows 11. Yes, this is annoying if you prefer Windows 10, but the good news is that Windows 11 is free, and the irritating AI features are easy to turn off.

KTSM-TV
KVIA-TV
KRWG-TV
KBNA-AM/FM & KAMA-AM
KHEY-AM/FM, KPRR-FM & KTSM-AM/FM
KLAQ-FM, KISS-FM & KROD-AM
KPAS-FM-ALGIE A. FELDER CSBE
KINT98.COM
INTERNET RADIO NETWORK
BURST COMMUNICATIONS INC.- KIRK BASEFSKY
JOHN LACKNESS
ENTRAVISION COMMUNICATIONS
SCMS, INC.-
ABS ADVANCED BROADCAST SERVICES, LLC
KSCE-TV
RF Specialties of Texas
KCOS-TV
KELP-AM
ARNOLD McClatchy.
MARSAND, INC.
Ho Tah Say. LLC



Find out whether your computer supports Windows 11 by opening **Settings**. Head to Settings > Privacy and Security > Windows Update. If your computer is compatible you should see an **Upgrade to Windows 11** option. From there, you can click it to start the update procedure. Note that it's generally a good idea to back up your computer before upgrading your operating system.

If you don't see the option to update, it's likely that your computer doesn't support Windows 11. Microsoft makes an app you can download to check and to get specific recommendations. In some cases you might be able to upgrade a component instead of your whole computer to make it compatible with Windows 11. But what if that's not the case?

Option 2: Buy a New Computer

Microsoft has only one piece of advice to give people whose computer can't run Windows 11: buy a new one. On one hand this isn't unreasonable. The Windows 11 system requirements aren't too onerous. You need 4 GB of memory, 64 GB of storage, a 720p display or higher, and a 1-gigahertz (GHz) processor or faster. Most computers sold in the past decade should hit those marks. On the other hand, there's a good chance the global economy is entering a recession, and computer prices in particular are likely to go up in the United States because of certain political decisions. So you might not have the money to buy a new computer at the moment. What can you do instead? Replace Windows with another operating system, and ideally one that will keep getting security updates. This is going to require some tech skills on your part, but don't worry: It's mostly a matter of following instructions.

Option 3: Turn Your PC Into a Chromebook

Have you ever used a Chromebook? It's just a laptop that can only run Google's Chrome browser. Such devices tend to run well despite typically having substandard components, so it's particularly useful for an older laptop. In the past few years Google launched ChromeOS Flex, which allows you to install ChromeOS on your own device. There's a good chance it can run on your old computer.

SBE CHAPTER 38 OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN

Antonio Castro
SBE member # 11456.
KFOX/COX retired Chief Eng.
800 Arredondo dr.
El Paso, TX 79912
915-584-1220 home
915-525-8507 cell
farahjac@sbcglobal.net

VICE CHAIRMAN

Bruno Cruz
SBE member # 25867
200 E. Alto Mesa
El Paso, TX. 79912
915-757-7898
915-526-1842 cell
Bruno.cruzJR@kfoxtv.com

TREASURER

Walter Hanthorn
SBE member # 18307
KSCE TV
4461 Gen. Maloney
El Paso, TX. 79924
915-269-7583 home
915-532-8588 office

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE:

David Halperin.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Antonio Castro
Warren Reeves

FREQUENCY COORDINATION

COMMITTEE:

Warren Reeves
Owen Smith

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:

Rick Vilardell

WEB SITE COMMITTEE:

Norbert Miles

SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP:

Antonio Castro

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN:

Warren Reeves

NEWSLETTER:

Antonio Castro

EAS CHAIRMAN:

Michael Rivera

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Antonio Castro
Bruno Cruz
Walter Hanthorn



ABS
Advanced Broadcast Services LLC
Providing world class engineering and tower services to the broadcast and telecommunications industries.

David Grice
President

915-308-1227
4774 Villa Hermosa Dr
El Paso TX 79912
www.AdvancedBroadcastServices.com
Dgrice@AdvancedBroadcastServices.com

KPAS-FM
INSPIRATIONAL / GOSPEL RADIO
LISTEN TO 103.1 MHZ. ON YOUR FM DIAL

Christian Radio in Stereo

Algie A. Felder
General Manager

P.O. Box 371010
El Paso, TX 79937
915/851-3382

NM STATE **KRWG**
PUBLIC MEDIA

n p r

KLAQ KROD
95.5FM 600AM

BRAD DUBOW
GENERAL MANAGER

4180 N.Mesa El Paso, Tx 79912
(915) 544-9550

iHeart MEDIA

Walter Alvarez
Market President | El Paso
iHeartMedia

4045 N Mesa Street
El Paso, TX 79902

o 915.351.5473
m 915.201.7627

walteralvarez@iheartmedia.com

EL PASO, TX SBE CHAPTER 38 MEETING MINUTE

DATE 10/14/2025

LOCATION: ANTONIO'S ZOOM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 11:01 AM, BY ANTONIO CASTRO. WE WERE ONLY 12 (TWELVE) ATTENDANTS.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY: MINUTES ON THE SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER ACCEPTED BY DAVID HALPERIN, SECONDED BY MARIO TELLEZ.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER: \$ 1,075.32 IN THE BANK. ACCEPTED BY DAVID GRICE, SECONDED BY NORBERT MILES.

REPORT OF THE CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE: NO REPORT.

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: ELIAS VENTANILLA TO INVITE "TELEMUNDO 48" AS SUSTAINING MEMBER. DAVID SANDERFORD RETURNED IN HONOR OF HIS DAD, MATH SANDERFORD, FORMER "MARSAND"

REPORT OF THE FREQUENCY COORDINATOR COMMITTEE: NO REPORT.

REPORT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: NO REPORT.

REPORT OF THE WEBSITE COMMITTEE: NO REPORT

REPORT OF THE EAS CHAIRMAN: NO REPORT

REPORT OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE: PRESENTATION BY JAMES BLOOMFIELD FROM MNC SOFTYWARE . NOE RODRIGUEZ WILL TALK TO EL PASO WATER FOR GROUP PRESENTATION.

NEW BUSINESS OR ANY ITEMS FOR THE CHAPTER INTEREST: NONE

OTHER: NONE

NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION: NOVEMBER 11, 2025, @ NOON AT THE COMO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT

MEETING ADJOURNED: AT 12:32 PM.



NOVEMBER PROGRAM

THERE WAS A ZOOM MEETING FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER FROM ANTONIO'S.

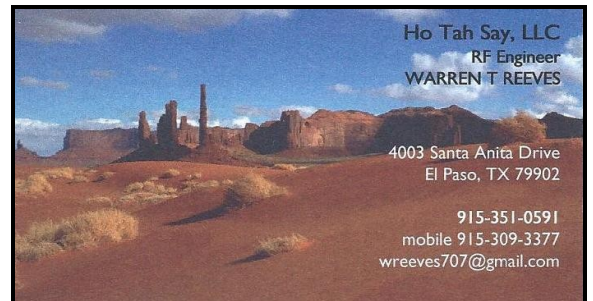
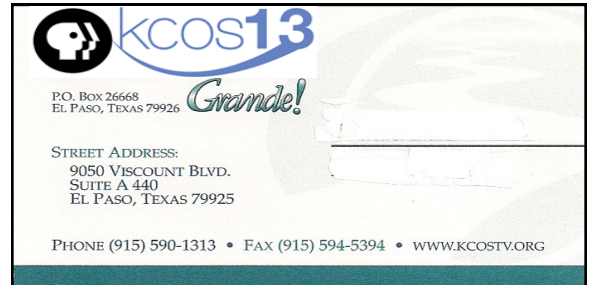
THE PRESENTATION THIS TIME, WAS ABOUT MNC SOFTWARE. EXCELLENT PRESENTATION FROM JAMES BLOOMFIELD

NOW FOR NOVEMBER, WE WILL NOT HAVE ANY PRESENTATION, JUST OUR REGULAR CHAPTER MEETING. AND THIS TIME, WE ARE GOING TO MEET AT THE "COMO'S" ITALIAN RESTAURANT

WHEN: TUESDAY THE 11TH

TIME: LUNCH TIME, NOON, 12:00 PM

SEE YOU THERE !!



There are downsides here. If you rely on a particular piece of Windows software, you won't be able to use it in ChromeOS. You will only be able to run web apps that load in the browser. If you mostly just use the Chrome web browser, though, there's a good chance you won't miss Windows at all.

If you're curious, WIRED has a [handy ChromeOS Flex guide](#), and Google offers [instructions for home installation](#). Basically you need to check if your laptop is supported, put the operating system on a flash drive, and then boot from the flash drive. Note that installing a new operating system will delete everything currently on your computer, so make sure to back up photos and documents before doing this.

Option 4: Embrace Linux

ChromeOS is easy to use, but not everyone can live their entire life in a browser window. If you want to replace Windows with a more feature-filled operating system, it's time to look into Linux. This is a completely free alternative to Windows, and it tends to run better on older devices than Windows.

Linux has a reputation for being fussy, and depending on which version of Linux you decide to use it really can be. But there are versions of Linux that treat ease-of-use as a marquee feature. [Linux Mint](#) is a solid starting point for most people, and it offers [great step-by-step instructions for getting started](#). As with ChromeOS, you will need to download the operating system, load it to a flash drive, then boot from the flash drive, and finally install the operating system (which will delete everything currently on your computer).

If any of this is too much for you to figure out, there's an easier way: Ask all of your friends if any of them are Linux users. If they are, offer to buy them a 12-pack in exchange for helping you set up Linux—I promise you it will get done. They can also teach you the basics and show you how to navigate around your new system.

Because there will be an adjustment. We're talking about a brand-new operating system. If you want to get a few more years out of your computer, though, Linux is probably your best choice, even if it means a bit of a learning curve.

Update: October 14, 12 pm. This story, originally published in May 2025, was updated to reflect that support for Windows 10 has now officially ended.