

Should You Upgrade to Windows 8?

Windows 8 is the new version of the Windows operating system, just released last month. It introduces a major redesign to the operating system, focusing on improving user experience. This is a fundamental shift in the way Windows works.

Every PC that can run Windows 7 can run Windows 8, but is it the operating system for you? Let's look at the major changes:

1. The Start Screen

Though the Start Button is removed, the old desktop—basically everything you would see in Windows 7—is still there, with its taskbar and folders and windows. But now there's a new layer of the OS that's built around information and visually driven "tiles" that display things like messages, the weather, sports scores, or photos.

2. Task Manager

The Task Manager in Windows 8 has been completely overhauled. It's easier-to-use, slicker, and more feature-packed than ever. It now manages startup programs, shows your IP address, and displays slick resource usage graphs. The new color-coding highlights the processes using the most system resources, so you can see them at a glance.

3. Built-In Apps

The update includes several built-in apps like People, Mail, Photos, and Messaging to help with all your essential tasks and work together for a single, streamlined experience. There are also many new apps available in the Windows Store, which is similar to the Apple Store.

Windows 8 is a huge step up, both in features and presentation. It makes desktop computing portable by unifying the operating system across a multitude of devices. The user interface works best with touch enabled devices like smartphones, tablets and all-in-one PCs, so if you own these devices, it might be best to consider upgrading now.