

# Windows 7: The Operating System Replacing Windows Vista

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## Windows 7 guides

- Microsoft's official guide:  
<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?displaylang=en&FamilyID=b3c68ec2-e726-4830-ac89-31c71d6be5f3>
- Compilation of guides:  
<http://gizmodo.com/5392180/windows-7-guides-the-best-of>
- Mega guide:  
<http://gizmodo.com/5150298/windows-7-the-complete-guide>
- Upgrade chart:  
<http://i.zdnet.com/blogs/windows-upgrade-chart-eb-remake-final3.png?tag=col1;post-1246>  
<http://i.zdnet.com/blogs/windows-upgrade-chart-eb-remake-final3.png?tag=col1;post-1246>
- Upgrade options:  
[http://www.maximumpc.com/article/features/windows\\_7\\_upgrade\\_guide\\_all\\_your\\_questions\\_answered](http://www.maximumpc.com/article/features/windows_7_upgrade_guide_all_your_questions_answered)

Requirements (less RAM and CPU use than Vista, runs nicely on netbooks!):

## Minimum hardware requirements for Windows 7

- Architecture: 32-bit 64-bit
- Processor: 1 GHz 32-bit processor 1 GHz 64-bit processor
- Memory (RAM): 1 to 2 GB of RAM
- Graphics Card: DirectX 9 graphics processor with WDDM driver model 1.0 (for Aero)
- Hard drive free space: 16 GB of available disk space, 20 GB of available disk space
- Optical drive: DVD drive (only to install from DVD/CD Media)

Feature comparison charts: [http://www.winsupersite.com/win7/win7\\_skus\\_compare.asp](http://www.winsupersite.com/win7/win7_skus_compare.asp)

## User interface:

- Similar to Vista with nice improvements
- Improved taskbar—pin items, window preview (hover on thumb to bring to front, jumplist-right click thumb for tasks), show desktop, shutdown button
- interface tweaks—shake, left/right window split, gadgets not in sidebar, themes
- New keyboard shortcuts—Win+T cycles through applications on your taskbar for quick access to programs, and Win+G brings all of your gadgets to the front

Device stage: combines strong included driver support with device window with common tasks to

improve greatly on device manager.

Included .ISO burning

Improved Send To

WordPad supports .DOCX files

WMP 12: improved format support (Divx, H264), "send to" DLNA players,

Media Center: greatly improved guide, new interface eye candy <http://gizmodo.com/5147395/>

Networking: simplified and improved home networking with better file and device availability management, improved wireless

Action Center consolidates security and maintenance in one window

UAC is less intrusive and more easily customizable

improved touch and multi-touch support

"XP mode" in business and ultimate- run XP only programs in a virtual machine

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