

# **Sun City Summerlin Computer Club**

## **A Tour of Windows 11 25H2**

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# Agenda



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# Recent Windows 11 Feature History

- **Windows 11 23H2:**
  - <https://www.windowcentral.com/software-apps/windows-11/windows-11-version-23h2-new-features-release-date-changelog-2023-update>
- **Windows 11 24H2:**
  - <https://www.windowcentral.com/software-apps/windows-11/windows-11-version-24h1-changelog-release-date-features-ai-2024-update>
- **Windows 11 25H2:**
  - <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/whats-new/whats-new-windows-11-version-25h2>

# What's New and Different from Windows 10

- **Windows 11 Start Menu redesigned; default location is in center.**
- **Task bar can't be moved.**
- **“Widgets” now open in a window from the Taskbar.**
- **Snapping and Docking of Windows, including saved layouts.**
- **Most Settings (Control Panel) now re-done as “Fluent Design UI” apps.**
- **Improved support for multiple concurrent Desktops.**
- **Search bar on the task bar has improved.**
- **Microsoft Teams is integrated (superseding Skype).**
- **Internet Explorer 11 is long gone!**
- **Copilot AI is more integrated into the Windows OS.**

# Some Key “Windows 11” Apps

- **Outlook (New) – Supersedes Windows mail.**
  - Supports IMAP4 (default), Hotmail, Outlook.com, Gmail *and* POP3.
  - Uses “Fluent UI” interface – takes some getting used to.
  - MS Outlook (Classic) 2010 & above will also install and run.
  - Mozilla Thunderbird also is compatible.
- **Photos – Viewer / Image Editor / Gallery**
  - Wants you to sign in to your “OneDrive Account”.
  - Accesses web photo accounts (Facebook, ...).
- **Paint – Image Editor now includes AI features.**
- **Notepad – Simple text editor, now multi-tabbed.**
- **Calculator – multi-mode calculator.**
- **ClipChamp – Video Editor.**
- **Media Player – Plays music and videos.**
- **Phone Link – Connects your phone to Windows.**
- **File Explorer (“Computer”).**
  - Ribbon interface is gone; replaced with a multi-level Menu Bar.
  - Functionality not much different than Windows 10.
- **Snipping Tool – Captures images and records videos with sound.**
- **Terminal – Command line interface (supersedes cmd.exe).**

# What's New and Different from Windows 11 24H2

- **Windows 11 25H2 doesn't really add new features to 24H2. It "turns on" features that were already there but *suppressed*.**
  - **Windows 11 Start Menu redesigned again.**
  - **File Explorer can create 7Z and Tar compressed archives.**
  - **Terminal now supports the "sudo" (Super User Do) command.**
  - **Added support for WiFi 7 (requires supporting hardware).**
  - **Copilot AI is more integrated into Windows (See the slide on Copilot+ PCs).**
  - **Customizable Lock Screen (you can configure widgets to run there).**
  - **Refinements to "Dark Mode" (more consistent).**
  - **Internal security enhancements.**
  - **Internal performance enhancements.**

# Windows 11 Settings

- **Winkey+I** brings up the Settings panel to access many settings tools.
  - Can also reach via Start > Settings (gear icon).
  - Includes Control Panel, Network and “Change PC Settings”.
- **Winkey+X** brings up the Desktop Quick Menu, which links to many system management functions.
- Right click on the Desktop background and choose “Personalize” or “Screen Resolution”.
- **Windows 11 “God Mode” Folder**
  - Comprehensive categorized panel of links to change Win 8 settings.
  - On Desktop, right click and choose New > Folder.
  - Name it “God Mode.{ED7BA470-8E54-465E-825C-99712043E01C}”
  - Demo ...

# Windows 11 Hardware Requirements

- <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/windows-11-specifications>
- **Key Minimum Requirements (all *new* Windows 11 PCs meet these):**
  - A 64-bit capable CPU (no 32-bit version of Windows 11) with Intel VT-x or AMD-V.  
*CPU must be on the MS “supported” list.*
  - Hardware or BIOS support for TPM 2.0 (Intel CPUs) or PSP 11.0 (AMD CPUs)
  - Graphics: DirectX 12 compatible GPU with a WDDM 2.0 driver.
  - 1 GHz or faster processor.
  - 4GB RAM.
  - 64GB of available hard disk space.
  - Display: High definition (720p) display that is greater than 9” diagonally, 8 bits per color channel.
- **Tom’s *Recommended* Configuration (2025):**
  - 2.5 GHz or faster dual (or more) core 64-bit CPU *on MS supported list.*
  - 8 GB of RAM or more (16GB is good, 32 GB is good for on-board AI).
  - TPM 2.0 (Intel) or PSP 11.0 (AMD) on CPU or add-on card or in UEFI BIOS.
  - DirectX 12 Graphics Card / Chip with WDDM 2.0 driver.
  - 96 GB free hard disk space on a 512 GB (or more) solid-state C: drive.
  - On a desktop PC, have a separate hard or solid-state drive for storing data.

# Copilot+ PC Hardware Requirements

- **Processor:** A compatible CPU/SoC with an NPU (Neural Processing Unit) capable of 40+ TOPS.
  - This includes the **AMD Ryzen AI 300 series, Intel Core Ultra 200V series, and Qualcomm Snapdragon X series.**
- **Memory:** At least 16 GB of DDR5 or LPDDR5 RAM (32 or 64GB better).
- **Storage:** A minimum of 256 GB SSD or UFS storage (512 GB or 1 TB SSD better).
- **Operating System:** Windows 11 Version 23H2 or newer.
- **Security:** Trusted Platform Module (TPM) version 2.0 and UEFI Secure Boot enabled.
  
- **Some new Windows 11 Features are only available on new Copilot+ and other “eligible” devices.**
  - **“Click to Do”:** select something, right click and invoke Copilot.
  - **“Windows Recall”** captures screen shots of everything you do on your PC, analyzes them and saves the history as a searchable archive.
  - **Enhanced Search** with semantic indexing.
  - **“Live Captions”** converts audio and video into text, translating 44 languages to English.
  
- **Purchase Examples:**
  - <https://www.hp.com/us-en/shop/vwa/desktops/aipc=Copilot-PC>
  - <https://www.hp.com/us-en/shop/vwa/laptops/aipc=AI-PC,Copilot-PC&segm=Home>

# Windows 11 Software Compatibility Issues

- **Hardware / Drivers**
  - Windows 11 *requires* GUID Partition Tables, UEFI BIOS and Secure Boot
  - Also requires a UEFI BIOS (might be out of date on old PCs)
  - Windows 11 is only available as a 64-bit operating system ... Hardware drivers must also be 64-bit and digitally signed.
  - For older devices, 64-bit Win 11 hardware drivers from MS or vendors may not exist.
    - Video and Sound cards, SCSI Disk Controllers and Wireless LAN cards, Printers, faxes and Scanners
- **System Utility / Tool software**
  - Anti-virus and backup programs may need upgrades.
  - FAX, Scan and Print Tools may need upgrades.
- **Application software – Especially OLD programs may not work**
  - Games
  - Graphics applications
  - Video & music editors & players
- All new Windows 11 PCs meet these requirements.
- Microsoft is doing a “staged rollout” of some new Windows 11 25H2 features.
  - Even though your PC is running Windows 11 25H2, some new features may be hidden.
  - Notable is the new Start menu.

# To Upgrade Windows 10 or Not?

- **Windows 11 Home or Pro ships pre-installed on most new PCs.**
  - \$500 to \$900 buys a very nice desktop or laptop PC.
  - For a desktop, recommend you have a 24” wide-screen flat panel.
  - Most new laptops have 1600 x 900 or higher screens, many with touch.
  - Biggest issue is transferring apps, settings and data from an old PC to the new one.
- **If you’re still on Windows 10, Windows 11 isn’t very different and should be an easy upgrade *if your hardware is compatible*.**
- **It is possible to bypass the compatibility checks and install Windows 11 over Windows 10 on “incompatible” hardware.**
  - The Repair SIG has a “special” Windows 11 setup to do the upgrade.
- **Windows 10 Extended Security Updates (ESU) program is available for 1 year.**
  - Enrollment is offered in Windows Update.
  - PC must be on Windows 10 22H2 with all updates installed.
  - User must be logged in to an Administrator account.

# Moving Data, Settings and Programs

- Automatic if you do an in-place *upgrade* over Windows 10.  
Following are for new PCs and clean (from scratch) installs on old PCs.
- Windows 11 has no built in “Easy Transfer Tool”
  - You can manually transfer data files from an old PC to a Windows 11 PC
  - Transfer via an Ethernet LAN or an external USB flash or hard drive
  - You still need to reinstall all your applications.
- Consider Ease US Todo PCTrans Free 12.2
  - <http://www.easeus.com/free-pc-transfer-software/>
  - Claims to be a more complete solution.
  - Moves programs as well as settings and data.
  - Review indicates process is complex.
  - Also offer a paid “Pro” version for \$49.95.
- Computer Club Repair SIG can help you with Upgrade and Migration
  - Can also upgrade an “incompatible Windows 10 to Windows 11 25H2.

# How To Get Windows 11

- **Easiest – Buy a *new* PC.**
  - Windows 11 Home or Pro comes pre-installed.
  - Product activation handled by the hardware vendor.
  - Windows 11 will be tested and verified by the vendor.
  - *Still need to install your other applications and data.*
- **If you're running Windows 10 on compatible hardware, Windows 11 will be offered automatically via Windows Update.**
  - Best to run the Windows 10 PC Health Check app before trying to install the upgrade. Checks your hardware and apps for compatibility.
  - Updates for existing Windows 10 PCs with compatible hardware became available as of Q1 of 2022.
- **Install using setup from [bootable] ISO, DVD or USB flash drive.**
  - <https://www.microsoft.com/software-download/windows11>
- **Persuade (or pay) someone to do Windows 11 Upgrade on your PC**

# Questions And Answers

Windows 11 25H2 - What's New