

K² Technologies Monthly Blast

February/March 2014

To Everything, There is a Season

This is true even for software. On April 8, 2014, Microsoft will be ending updates and support for Windows XP. What this means for users – you need to take action (preferably before April 8). Oh, your computer will still work, but Microsoft will no longer provide updates of any kind (including security updates). This will make your computer more vulnerable to viruses or other malware attacks.

Goodbye WinXP and Office 2003

Support for Office 2003 will also end on April 8, 2014. This means if you have Excel 2003, Word 2003, etc. you will not be able to get updates for those programs either. Almost everyone I know (businesses and personal) have already upgraded their Office products, so that isn't a huge issue. Windows XP is another story entirely. If you're using Windows XP at home or for your business, you really need to think about upgrading it and soon. Unfortunately, this isn't a small step as many of the computers still running Windows XP don't have the hardware capabilities to be upgraded. (And by hardware, I mean the actual moving and electrical parts inside the computer).



What happens if you don't upgrade from Windows XP?

Besides the security issues (although if that isn't enough to convince you, I don't know what else will), you won't be able to upgrade to the latest browsers, you'll have to stick with Office 2010 or lower, modern motherboards don't support XP, and have I mentioned the security aspect? It's one thing to have your personal computer being vulnerable, but your whole business? Not so smart.

Upgrading is an exercise in anxiety, and your reluctance is understood (and empathized with). If you have specialized software, you may need to upgrade it along with your operating system. This could be expensive. It will be a lot more expensive in the long run though, if your computer/network gets broken into because of security holes.

What Should I Do?



If you don't know where to start to upgrade, get in touch with your IT people (K² Technologies qualifies as IT people). Using Win XP past April 8 is just asking for trouble. And really, Win XP is more than 10 years old, that's positively ancient in computer years. It's time to put it on the shelf and enjoy the memories, but let's get back to work with new tools.



HP Pro 3500 Microtower PC

\$499 while supplies last

- Windows 7 Professional
- 500 GB hard drive
- 4GB RAM (expandable to 8GB)
- 6 USB ports
- 6.5 x 15.3 x 14.5 inches (W x D x H)
- Intel Core I3 Processor
- DVD Drive
- USB Keyboard
- USB Mouse
- Network accessible



What's not included (but can be purchased):

- Microsoft Office
- Data transfer from old to new computer
- Installation
- Monitor



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October 2013

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Publisher 2010 (9-4)	2 QuickBooks 2011 (9-5)	3 PowerPoint 2010 (9-4)	4 Excel 2010 Advanced (9-4)	5
6	7 Excel 2010 Foundation (1-4)	8 Edit Photos w/PowerPoint (9-11) Excel 2010 Foundation (1-4)	9 Excel 2010 Intermediate (9-12)	10 Excel 2010 Intermediate (9-12)	11 Windows 7 (9-4)	12
13	14 Project 2010 (1-4)	15 Excel 2010 Foundation (9-12) Project 2010 (1-4)	16 Excel 2010 Foundation (9-12)	17 Taming Your Email (9-12)	18 Excel 2010 Intermediate (9-4)	19
20	21 Office 2007 Basics (9-4)	22 Windows 8 (9-4)	23 HTML 5 (9-4)	24 Excel 2010 Foundation (9-4)	25 PowerPoint Plus (9-12:30)	26
27	28 Publisher 2010 (9-4)	29 Office 2010 Basics (9-4)	30 PowerPoint 2010 (9-12) QuickBooks 2011 (1-4:30)	31 PowerPoint 2010 (9-12) QuickBooks 2011 (1-4:30)	Nov 1 Excel 2010 Advanced (9-4)	Nov 2