

President's Corner: Windows 10 Creators Update

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Introduction

An important update was released for Windows 10 in April, 2017. The Windows 10 Creators Update contains many new features, new apps, and expanded support for multimedia—graphics editing, video creation, gaming, and virtual reality. It may be installed to a licensed Windows 10 computer via Windows Update. Users may also download the update and install it via DVD or USB drive. (See the links at the end of this article for more information.)

What's New

New features enhance the user's experience in working on Windows 10 devices. The Timeline features allows the user to review files, apps, and sites worked on hours, days, or months in the past. (This sounds to me like Shadow Copy on steroids.) The user may also work on a document or app on one device and then continue working on a different Windows 10 device. The user can even copy and paste between devices.

Media improvements include Story Remix for creating videos from photos and video clips. Paint 3D supports creating and modifying 3D images, including the creation of 3D images from 2D images. 3D images may also be added to photos taken with a front-facing camera. Support for the Mixed Reality headset and motion controllers is integrated for virtual reality apps. Gaming enhancements include the ability to beam a game to other devices, and to dedicate more computer resources for improved gaming performance.

Microsoft Edge has gained new features. The Tab Preview Bar allows the user to glance at a visual preview of currently open tabs, scroll through them, and switch between tabs. Tabs may also be set aside--clearing the browser window for other web pages--and then be restored at a later time.

The Windows Store now includes ebooks, including New York Times Bestsellers. When reading a book, the user may customize the font sizes, layouts, and themes. Cortana integration allows for pulling in information from the web. Read Aloud and text spacing options provide for easier reading for users with special needs.

Cortana now includes music playback control. Windows Ink supports drawing on pictures and photos in the Photos app. The Maps app supports drawing on 2D and 3D maps. Groove supports uploading music from the PC to OneDrive; and the creation of playlists for Windows, Xbox, Android, iOS, and Sonos. The Movies and TV app supports 360-degree videos as well as 4K and HD video.

Security features in Windows Defender have been improved. A single dashboard display provides for controlling security options for anti-virus protection, firewall, network, and performance and health. Dynamic Lock allows a PC to be paired with an iPhone, Android, or Windows Phone, so as to lock the PC when the user walks away.

Skype now includes SMS relay for Windows Phone, a translator for calls to mobile phones and

landlines, and collaboration features for sharing screens, photos, videos, documents, and files up to 300 MB in size.

Useful Links

Upcoming Features:

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/upcoming-features>

What's new in the Windows 10 Creators Update:

<https://blogs.windows.com/windowsexperience/2017/04/11/whats-new-in-the-windows-10-creators-update/>

Skype Preview in Latest Version of Windows 10:

<https://blogs.skype.com/news/2017/04/11/skype-preview-evolves-in-the-latest-version-of-windows-10/>

Download Windows 10 Creators Update:

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/software-download/windows10>