

Wondering About Windows Vista?

Microsoft hasn't released a major update to its Windows operating system product line since Windows XP was released in October of 2001. With the release of Windows Vista, Microsoft has promised to revolutionize the way you use your computer for home and business applications. Windows Vista includes a number of new features such as improved security, optimized desktop organization, redesigned user interface, and improved mobility for laptops.

Should I Upgrade to Windows Vista?

Three simple questions will help you to make this decision:

- Do my applications run on Vista?
- Does my hardware support Vista?
- Can I or my IT department support Vista?

If you can answer yes to all of these questions then the time may be right for you to upgrade to Vista. Just be sure to learn as much as possible and make an informed decision before putting Vista on your system(s)!

Do my applications run on Vista?

Many applications that worked under Windows XP will continue to install and function under Vista, some will require updates from their vendors (which may or may not be available yet), and some will simply not work.

Does my hardware support Vista?

You can review Microsoft's guidance for the recommended hardware requirements for computers to use Vista at:

<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/products/windowsvista/editions/systemrequirements.aspx>

To test your current hardware for compatibility with Vista, it may also be useful to install and run the Windows Vista Upgrade Advisor found at:

<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/products/windowsvista/buyorupgrade/upgradeadvisor.aspx>

Can I or my IT department support Vista?

The Information Technology Department and the IT Help Desk are planning support for Windows Vista to be in place by the Fall 2007 semester. Check back for additional details as they emerge as a result of our testing and evaluation efforts.