



## Windows 7 no longer safe – upgrade now



Keeping your firm's software up to date is vital to the security of your practice and the interests of your clients. Windows 7 is 11 years old and Microsoft ceased supporting it on 14 January 2020. The most up to date version is Windows 10.

This means users of Windows 7 will no longer receive security updates, patches or technical support from Microsoft leaving them very vulnerable to cyber-attack. Cyber criminals actively target practitioners using old and unsupported systems – it's like leaving your front door unlocked.

Microsoft recommends you move to Windows 10 even though Windows 7 will continue to operate because it is just not safe.

If you are still running Windows 7 and a subscriber to PEXA, you will not be meeting obligations as set out in the PEXA Subscriber Security Policy.

If you don't know what version of Windows you are running you can follow these [simple instructions](#) to find out.

Other versions of software no longer supported by Windows or Apple include:

- Windows XP and Windows Vista
- Mac OS X: Snow Leopard, Mavericks, Yosemite and El Capitan.

Given the current climate of cyber-crime and increased attacks on law firm technology we also strongly recommend that firms stop using Windows 7 as soon as possible. The [cost of upgrading to Windows 10](#) pales to insignificance when compared with the potential financial consequences of a cyber-attack on your firm.

You should consult your IT professional to assess and upgrade your software and secure your technology overall. See LPLC's [Cyber Security Guide for Lawyers](#) and the other links below for more information.



## Helpful links:

- [Australian Cyber Security Centre: End of support for Microsoft Windows 7](#)
- [PEXA: FAQs Microsoft to cease Windows 7 support by January 2020](#)
- [Insurance Business America: Millions exposed to cyber risk as Microsoft Windows 7 reaches end-of-life.](#)
- [Windows 7 support ended on January 14, 2020](#)



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