

8 Steps to Windows 11 Readiness



Milestone One:

Assess Your Current Environment

Timeline: Timeline: **1-2 Weeks**

- Identify all hardware that is currently running Windows 10 throughout your organization.
- Identify which devices are Windows 11 eligible



Milestone Two:

Plan for Upgrades

Timeline: Timeline:

Intermediate 1-2 Weeks

- Test Windows 11 on a small set of Windows 11-eligible devices to identify any potential compatibility issues with your software or processes
- Budget for replacing devices that are not eligible for Windows 11



Milestone Three:

Review Software and Applications

Timeline: Timeline:

Intermediate 2-4 weeks

- Ensure all critical applications used in your business will work on Windows 11
- Update or replace any software that is no longer supported or incompatible
- Evaluate whether transitioning some systems to cloud-based solutions (including Microsoft 365) could reduce dependency on local hardware



Milestone Four:

Develop a Migration Timeline

Timeline: Timeline:

Intermediate 1-2 Weeks

- Identify any machines and departments that should be prioritized, as well as those that will require additional time and resources
- Work backwards from October 2025 to make sure all systems are transitioned in advance of Windows 10's EOS date



Milestone Five:

Backup and Security

Timeline: Timeline:

Intermediate 1-2 Weeks

- Before upgrading any device, ensure all critical data is backed up to avoid loss
- Install interim security patches until upgrades are complete



Milestone Six:

Provide Any Needed Training

Timeline: Timeline:

Intermediate 2-3 weeks

- Train employees on any changes to the user interface or workflow that Windows 11 may introduce
- Make sure your IT team is equipped to handle the transition



Milestone Seven:

Plan for Contingencies

Timeline: Timeline:

Intermediate to Advanced 2-3 weeks

Isolate any systems that must remain on Windows 10 temporarily



Milestone Eight:

Make the Journey in Stages

Timeline: Timeline:

Intermediate to Advanced 2-3 weeks

- Implement Windows 11 in stages across departments to isolate any unforeseen issues
- Allow flexibility for some users to remain on Windows
- 10 during any critical project timelines



Pro tip: If any of these milestones are too difficult or time-consuming for your in-house staff, we can provide as much or as little help as you need!