

**Science Translations**

Established 1990



**PC Updater  
News**

---

## Autumn News Roundup



## Windows 22H2, Arriving Soon

Both Windows 10 and 11 will have a new feature edition arriving soon, possibly as early as September 20th. If the naming pattern from previous updates continues, it will probably be '22H2' for '2022 second half.' As these new updates arrive, older updates will stop receiving security updates; each is supported for only one year. Version 21H2 is current right now, and OK to use until June 13, 2023. Version 21H1 is going to stop receiving patches after the December Patch Tuesday: December 13th, 2022.

My current recommendation is to run Windows 21H2, in either Windows 11 or Windows 10. Let 22H2 wait a few months.

For Windows 10, the update will be mostly a roll-up of the last year of patches. Here are some of the new features for Windows 11 in 22H2:

- App folders in the Start menu
- New gestures for touch users
- New Task Manager
- Tabs in File Explorer, probably arriving later.

More on the new features here:

<https://www.windowscentral.com/windows-11-version-22h2>

So it's time to check what version of Windows is on each of your computers. Do that by tapping the Start button (Windows logo key), typing 'winver', and running that program from the search results. The Windows version will show on the second line.



If the version is 21H2, there's nothing to do right now. If it's anything older than 21H2, click Start, type 'update', and run Windows Updates manually. In some cases, there will be a link on the updates page to install a feature update. These are generally safe, but might take up to 20 minutes to install and reboot. Always close ALL programs before installing updates. Or call for help; if I have remote access software pre-installed, I can tell which computers need an

update without logging in, and I will be in touch if I see old Windows versions that are nearing the end of security updates.



## Install Windows 11?

I've had a few questions lately on whether or not to take the free upgrade to Windows 11. Windows 10 will offer an upgrade to 11 for free if the computer is from around 2019 or newer. There's a list of specific hardware that it works on, but Windows will deal with that on the newer computers, or call me and I can run a quick inventory program that will identify if Windows 11 can be installed as an upgrade. On older computers, I can install Windows 11 as a wipe and reinstall (usually best on computers without a lot of software), or use some technician registry tricks to install without the full wipe. The upgrades on older computers will be bench work only, as I have to do backups and multiple steps that run a long time unattended.

Should you upgrade? I'm running in Windows11 every day. It has about as many issues as Windows 10, but they're minor at this point. I'm still annoyed that the volume control can't be on every monitor, only the main monitor. I do like the look of it. It's at least as fast as Windows 10. Overall, if it's available as an upgrade installation and you don't have any software that would be an issue, yes, install it. If the computer is older than 6 years, no, it's not worthwhile; you can use Windows 10 with security patches up to the end of 2025, and then it's far past time for new hardware.

---

## QuickBooks in Windows 11

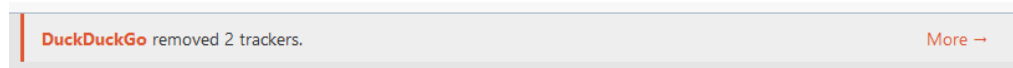
Anyone running QuickBooks older than the 2021 product may have problems in Windows 11 because most QuickBooks versions run an embedded copy of the obsolete Internet Explorer in order to do just about anything that requires phoning home to Intuit: Merchant Services, Payroll and Withholding, and so on. Only the 2022 product is officially listed as 'supporting Windows 11.'

The 2023 version of QuickBooks Desktop will be available September 20th. It has increased pricing, at \$549 for 1 year, 1 user, no discounts expected, before payroll and other services, which also have price increases. It's been widely and incorrectly reported that QB Desktop is gone. That's wrong—in the USA and Canada, the Desktop product is available for 2023, by subscription ONLY. In the United Kingdom, Desktop is discontinued, and the replacement is QuickBooks Online.

---

## Privacy Update

Privacy online changes, constantly. My August newsletter started the topic of online privacy. There's already an update. DuckDuckGo has started a free email forwarder service, that strips trackers out of emails, and then delivers them to your usual email address with a small entry at the top identifying what trackers it removed, and what "insecure" links it converted to "secure." That means switching links beginning with 'http://' to 'https://'



A word to the wise, as someone who has been through these email service launches before; if you think you might want a \_\_\_@duck.com email forwarder address, get it NOW, because in a few weeks, the only names available will all end in numbers. Grab your names early.

The Duck.com forwarders are free, but require signing up through their DuckDuckGo browser app, currently available only on Android and Apple devices. They're not asking for any information other than where to send your mail. The page says there's a wait list, but I saw no delay; signup was

immediate—that may not be the case later on.

Instructions for the @Duck.com forwarder signup are here:  
<https://spreadprivacy.com/introducing-email-protection-beta/>

---



## <https://> Does Not Mean Safe

The entire computer industry is acronym crazy. Web page addresses start with either http or https. http is HyperText Transfer Protocol. HyperText is a document which can contain links. https is 'HTTP over Secure Sockets Layer.' 'Secure Sockets Layer' means that the pages with links are encrypted so that they cannot be intercepted and read or changed as they pass through the internet.

Reminder: The internet is a redundant relay of messages in every direction. If you view a web page, it does not arrive in one file and then display; it can be dozens of files, sent separately, and re-assembled in your browser software. So all that stuff passes through at least six and sometimes twenty different forwarders on the internet. If any of them are rogue, or government-monitored, they can read the content of the message, and it is the S in https that means those packets were not deciphered or tampered with in-transit.

Calling https 'safe' is a basic security error: https, as compared to http, does not mean safe—it means encrypted. There's a substantial difference, and the description of that as either safe or secure confuses "safe" with "private." Web page links that use https are encrypted, so their contents cannot be read in-transit as they travel across the internet. That's important, because that



includes the contents of web forms that may include credit card numbers and medical information, and because when you view a web page, you want to know that it was not tampered with on the way to you, so that when you click a 'send' button, the information you're sending is going to the correct web server, and not some 'man-in-the-middle' intercept server.

However, it is not 'safe' to assume that a web page address that starts with 'https' is non-criminal, legit, or safe to visit. Bad sites use https, too. Be alert and watch what you're clicking on, always.



*Copyright © 2022 Science Translations, All rights reserved.*

You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website or by discussion with me.

**For computer help, call 410-871-2877**  
**Missed a newsletter? [Back Issues](#)**

**Mailing address:**  
Science Translations  
PO Box 1735  
Westminster, MD 21158-5735