



CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH 2022

Patch Management

Patching Your Home Computer

The world of technology moves very fast and changes all the time. Software that runs on a computer is also subject to change. In order to keep your computer up to date, you will need to patch the computer.

This document is focused on Windows computers. Apple computers have a similar update system.

Windows Update

When you turn on a computer for the first time and do the windows setup for a new computer, one of the questions is how you will deal with updates.

3 options

- Automatic download and install (recommended)
- Download only
- Manual

Automatic

The Automatic Download and install option makes everything easy. Anytime a new update from Microsoft becomes available, it is automatically downloaded and installed.

After the installation, a popup will appear that will ask if you to restart the computer now. The button is “restart now”. Fortunately you can press the second button “cancel” and continue to work. The updates will not finish installation until a computer restarted.

This can be done at the end of your computer session when you shut down the computer. There will be two new option for the power down. One is “install updates and shut down” and the other is “install updates and restart”

You can choose to just “shut down” without installing the updates, but the installation will not finished until you do.

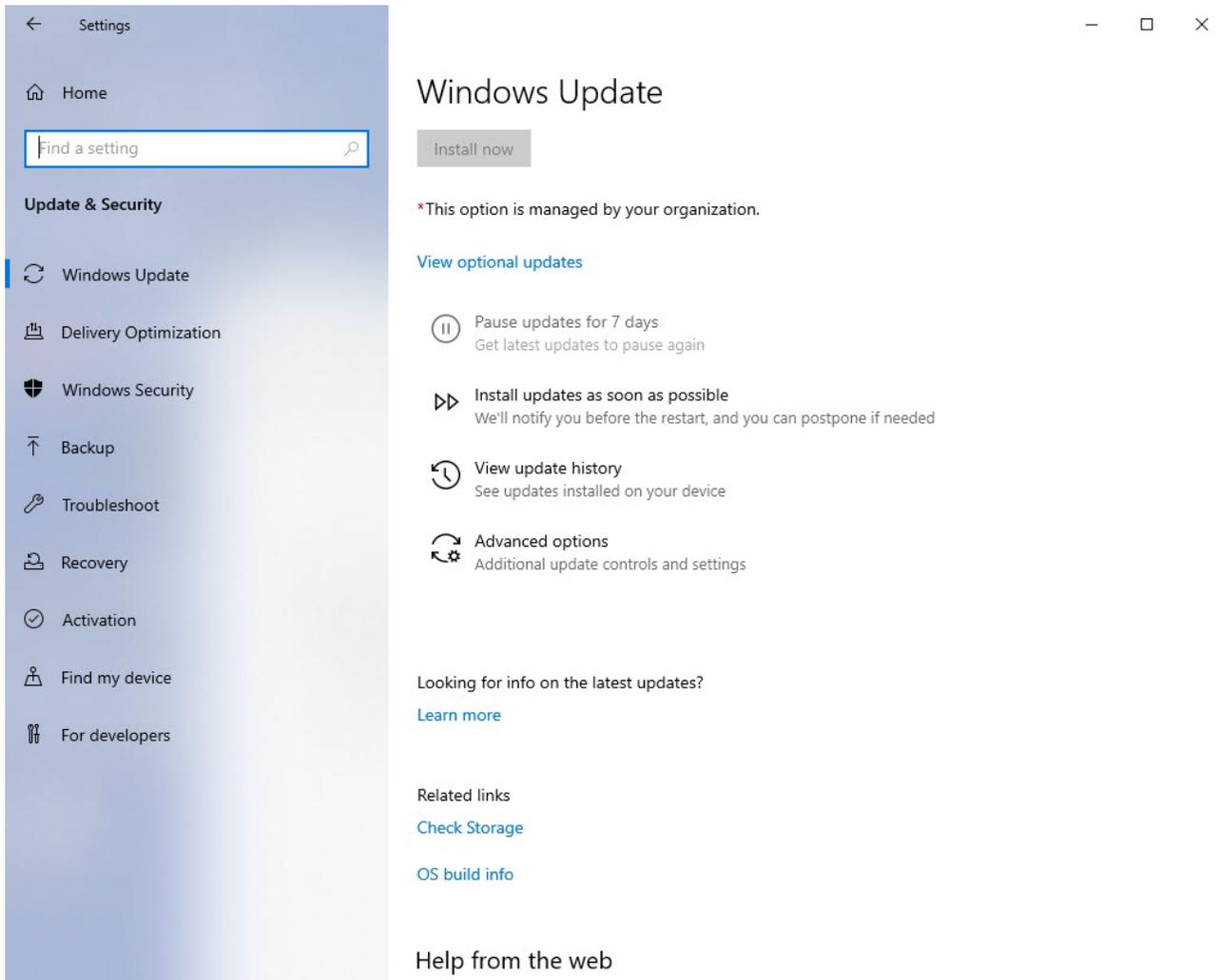
Download only

The download only is an option that will download all update relevant to your computer but will not install them until you press the “install update” button.



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Manual

The manual setting is where computer does not look for updates unless you press “search for updates”. This is not recommended for most computers. However, it can be useful for preventing the download of patches over a very slow internet connection.

By default the setting will be for automatic updates and restart of the computer after installation.

If you wish to change the setting you can go to the windows update page and click on the advanced options to make some changes.



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How to get to the Windows update page for Windows 10

1. Go to the search bar and type "update". This will take you to the Window Update page
2. Or you can Navigate there by going to
 - a. Right-Click Start > Settings > Update & Security > Windows Update

For windows 11 it is the same

Right-click the start button > settings > Windows Update



Advanced Options for both



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Update Options

- Receive Updates for other Microsoft products when you update Windows. [on]
- Download Updates over a metered connections (extra charges may apply) This is for cell phone hot spot connections that have a data limit. [off]
- Restart this device as soon as possible when a restart is required to install and update. Windows will display a notice before the start and the device must be on and plugged in [off]

Update Notifications

- Show a notification when your PC requires a restart to finish updating. [off] This will create the pop up to “restart now” or “cancel”. This is not needed if you turn off your computer at the end of the day and install the updates at shutdown.

Pause Updates

This will allow you to set a date when the computer will automatically check and install updates. Useful if you take a laptop on vacation and don't want the computer to be downloading things.

Software is constantly changing and it is important to keep your computer up to date. Be sure to check your computer setting to see if you are getting the updates you need. Preventative maintenance is much easier than disaster recovery.