

NOTES: Windows 7 Production Computer to Windows 10 – Step by Step

A “Production Computer” is a business computer, or a computer with special software, a special setup, and/or valuable information. Consequently, the upgrade process requires extra precautions.

These notes are for an upgrade and not for a “clean install”.

You should have on hand the hardware to do a full backup of your boot hard drive. Our business uses a docking station, “bare metal” hard drives, and an EZ Swap drawer. A minimum alternative would be top quality external USB hard drives.

Software you should have on hand (or the equivalent):

<https://www.malwarebytes.org/mwb-download/>

<http://www.macrium.com/reflectfree.aspx>

http://www.belarc.com/free_download.html

<https://www.piriform.com/ccleaner/download>

<http://filehippo.com/>

http://www.revouninstaller.com/revo_uninstaller_free_download.html

It is assumed that you have been using GWX Control Panel (or the like) to keep Windows 10 at bay, and that Windows Updates are otherwise up to date.

Let’s get started:

- Ensure your virus scan is up to date
- Run a MalwareBytes scan
- Do a clone, or image file, backup (optional for experienced users with a current complete backup)
- From Control Panel, Programs and Features (or Revo Uninstaller) remove all the programs you have not been using, do not intend to use, or will deal with later if need be.
- Clean up your Desktop and Start Menu
- Clean out your Downloads folder
- Run Belarc and print the results (this is for troubleshooting)

- Use GWX Control Panel monitor to put the Get Windows 10 icon back, then uninstall the GWX Control Panel
- Run CCleaner, cleaner only (or use Disk Cleanup from the C:/ drive Properties)
- Reboot
- Do a clone, or image file, backup (we now use Macrium Reflect Free exclusively)
- Shutdown
- Note – test the backup (ie restore the image or boot the clone), then store it off-site

Now we're ready to convert to Windows 10.

- Check the Get Windows 10 icon to see that your PC is compatible and if the update is ready. You may need to run Windows Update to get the update to Win 10 running
- Be patient while the bits are crunched and moved around
- If the process doesn't work you will be put back to where you started in Win 7, OR you will be damn glad you did the backup!!

The 1st few things to do with Windows 10:

- Most likely you will initially log in with your Win 7 username and password
- Use WinKey + I (the Windows key plus the letter i key) to open the Settings box
- Go to Update & Security, Activation to make sure you are activated
- Go up to Windows Update and Check for updates, install them
- Back out to Settings then select System, About, Device Manager. Ensure you have no yellow ! marks
- Run FileHippo to update your software (warning - might miss some programs)
- Install Classic Shell (<http://www.classicshell.net/>) if you want a Win 7 style Start Menu
- Click the Store icon (suitcase icon, left side of the Taskbar). You will be prompted to log into, or create, your Microsoft Account. I use my email address (Gmail) with a different password for my MS Account. All my Windows devices are linked to this MS Account
- While in the Store, follow these notes <http://www.thewindowsclub.com/check-for-windows-store-app-updates> to update your Windows Store Apps
- Use WinKey + I, select Accounts, Sign-In Options, Pin to setup a 4-digit pin login. This is very convenient BUT DON'T LOSE YOUR MS ACCOUNT PASSWORD.
- Resume your (or start a) regular backup plan

Thurrott's Reference Guide for Windows 10

<https://www.thurrott.com/windows/windows-10/5213/complete-guide-to-windows-10>