

Bits of Bytes

Newsletter of the Pikes Peak Computer Application Society, Colorado Springs, CO

Volume XLV

September 2025

Issue 9



Created by ChatGPT

Meeting Minutes

by Greg Lenihan,
P*PCompAS Secretary

President Paul Godfrey and Vice President Cary Quinn waltzed in around 9:03 am to start the membership meeting. The meeting minutes from last month were approved. Greg Lenihan brought doughnuts and made coffee.

OFFICER REPORTS

VP Cary Quinn has been sick, so there isn't a prepared presentation for this month.

Treasurer Toni Logan said we had \$1501.60 in savings, \$36.47 in checking, for a total of \$1538.07. Toni discovered after paying our bill to the church, that she paid herself back twice. She fixed the problem.

Membership Chair Ann Titus had nothing to report.

Librarian Paul Godfrey had nothing to report.

Newsletter editor Greg Lenihan said the deadline for the September newsletter was 16 August.

Discord Admin John Pearce says our Discord server is doing fine. It would be nice if there were more participation.

Hospitality Chair Toni Logan sent a card to Joe Nuvolini after his recent surgery.

APCUG Rep/Webmaster Joe Nuvolini was not in attendance for

Next P*PCompAS meeting: **Saturday, 6 September 2025**

No presentation topic has been announced.

his report.

BOD Chair John Pearce had nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Cary Quinn says he is still looking into creating a YouTube account as a place for our club to post videos of our meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

Greg Lenihan asked if it was okay to let non-members join our Discord. The consensus was that opening up our Discord might give our club more visibility.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next social breakfast meeting will be on Saturday, 16 August, at the Golden Corral, starting at 8:00 am.

Our next membership meeting is on Saturday, 6 September 2025.

AROUND THE ROOM

John Linder says his Windows 10 computer slowed down so much about a month ago, he could barely use it. He deleted a bunch of stuff, but after an update, the problem cleared up a lot. It was mentioned again that support for Windows 10 ends in October, but there are several ways to extend support (paying \$30, backing up to OneDrive, and cashing in Reward points – see rewards.bing.com).

Greg Lenihan says after a recent Windows 11 update, it took him through a bunch of setup screens, and he skipped through

most of them. One was a OneDrive screen to back up folders, and he accidentally clicked on it. There was no Back button, so he could not get out of it. Now he periodically gets a pop up that wants him to finish his OneDrive setup. (He has everything turned off for OneDrive, but still gets the pop up).

Toni Logan gave up on her Epson printer wi-fi and bought an HP. The HP does everything she needs. John Linder says he stopped using his HP printer when they stopped him from using print cartridges from other manufacturers. He uses a black and white Brother printer and likes it.

Cary Quinn had to fax some documents and found out that FedEx Express let him do that (something like 59 cents a page).

Ann Titus and John Pearce use EaseUS ToDo as their backup program. The newsletter article also mentioned Macrium Reflect, but it requires money. You can find a free version of Macrium Reflect but it will

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P*PCompAS

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Editor: Greg Lenihan
Librarian: Paul Godfrey
Membership: Ann Titus

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Audio: A.J. Whelen
Hospitality: Antoinette Logan
Programs: Cary Quinn
Publicity: Vacant
Nominating: Vacant

Board of Directors

John Pearce
Bob Logan
David George
Greg Lenihan
Joe Nuvolini



President Paul Godfrey presiding over the August membership meeting. A few members are in the background attending via Zoom.



Members physically attending the August 2025 meeting.



Digerati at the August breakfast

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P*PCompAS welcomes any comments, letters, or articles from members and non-members alike. Please send any articles to the editor (see last page for address). The editor reserves the right to reject, postpone, or edit for space, style, grammar, and clarity of any material submitted.

How the Heck Do QR Codes Work, Anyway?

by Bertel King, reprinted with permission from [HowToGeek.com](https://www.howtogeek.com)

Original article at <https://www.howtogeek.com/how-the-heck-do-qr-codes-work-anyway/>



QR codes are pixelated black and white squares that perform magic when we point the cameras on our phones at them—but what's going on that makes this little spell possible?

What's Inside a QR Code?

QR codes are akin to the kind of barcodes you see scanned at the checkout line in a store. Masahiro Hara, working for the Japanese company Denso Wave, invented QR codes in 1994. Tasked with streamlining the process of labeling automotive parts, Hara was inspired by the black and white patterns in the strategy game Go.

QR codes can communicate more data than barcodes. While complex automotive parts required a barcode on each individual component, a single QR code could list all the included parts, reducing the number of codes that needed to be printed.

In a barcode, the thickness and spacing between lines translates into information. A barcode can only communicate up to twenty alphanumeric characters, and they can only be scanned vertically or horizontally. QR codes communicate via squares rather than lines. Unlike the bars in a barcode, the squares in a QR code also communicate their position, allowing them to be scanned from any angle and enabling them to communicate longer strings of

information. QR codes aren't limited to alphanumeric characters, either. They can also encode information in binary and kanji.

Advantages of QR codes over barcodes:

QR codes have spread across the globe, because they offer much more than conventional barcodes.

- QR codes can store longer strings of information, exceeding the 20-character limit of barcodes.
- Barcodes are limited to alphanumeric characters, whereas QR codes can also include binary and kanji.
- QR codes can be scanned from any direction. Barcodes have to be scanned vertically or horizontally. The frustration of this can be felt every time you go through a self-checkout line.
- QR codes transfer information more quickly, meaning they can be scanned faster and in more rapid succession.

What Are QR Codes Commonly Used For?



As you already know, QR codes are no longer confined to the automotive industry. QR codes are a quick way to share a lengthy URL pointing to a website, so they've appeared everywhere, from slips of paper that ship alongside products in place

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Meeting Minutes (Cont. from page 1)

not have updates. John makes sure he has a backup before installing any updates.

John Linder asked when buying a new computer, which chip (Intel or AMD) should he buy? Cary said

either is fine for normal computing. If you are interested in gaming, then look at the AMD.

PRESENTATION

We watched two topics from the most recent Tech for Senior

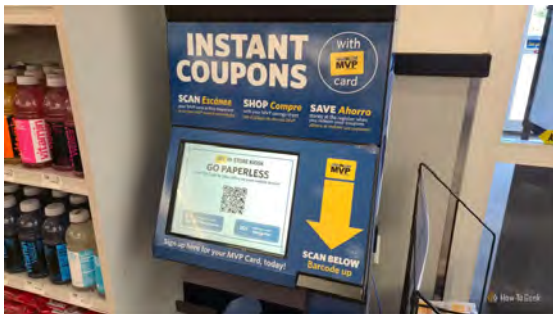
episode. One was "Life Saving Emergency Features on Your Smartphone" and the other was "Voice Assistants." ☺

QR Codes (Cont. from page 3)

of instruction manuals to inside restaurants as a way to replace paper menus and pay for things digitally.

QR codes now provide ways for devices to communicate with each other. You can [generate a QR code to share a Wi-Fi hotspot](#) with someone, saving you both the pain of typing in lengthy passwords. Matter-compatible smart devices use QR codes to communicate their unique setup code needed to add the device to your smart home network. Netflix lets you turn your phone into a game controller by scanning a QR code.

QR codes communicate tracking information when shipping products, and they appear on signage as a way to point pedestrians toward a video or a website with more information. Airlines now provide QR codes inside mobile apps that passengers can present when boarding a plane. QR codes have also replaced tickets for concerts and theater events. Some grocery stores use QR codes as a way to provide customers with coupons.



QR codes are increasingly being used in more diverse and complicated ways. Since 2016, India has used QR codes (through a system known as BharatQR) to make payments from one bank account or credit card to another. The system works with all RuPay cards along with Mastercard, Visa, and American Express. Unlike tap-to-pay, it doesn't require phones to have specialized hardware like NFC chips, making it a system accessible to virtually anyone with a phone.

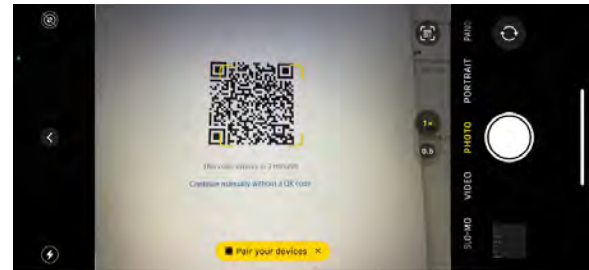
How to Scan a QR Code

QR codes once required their own standalone app, but those are only necessary now if using a particularly old phone or you're looking for additional features. That's because QR code scanning is now baked directly into the camera apps that ship on modern phones.

To scan a QR code:

1. Open your phone's camera app.
2. Point the camera at a QR code.
3. Tap the resulting URL or information that appears in a small pop-up.

If the string of information is a website, tapping the URL will immediately open the website in your default browser. If the encoded information is not a URL, tapping the pop-up will copy the text for you to paste elsewhere.



Sometimes apps will open the camera for you. For example, when adding a Matter device, your smart home app will often launch the camera in order for you to scan the QR code within the app you're in.

QR codes aren't without their downsides. Since QR codes can lead to virtually anything, there are now [malicious QR codes you need to avoid](#). Phishing can even take place via QR code, a [scam known as quishing](#).

That doesn't mean you should fear QR codes. This is a technology you can put to good use like any other, and the possibilities are genuinely endless. You can even [stick QR codes on boxes to organize your home](#), if you're so inclined. ☺

ESU Updates (Continued from page 9)

will also continue to provide Security Intelligence Updates for Microsoft Defender Antivirus through at least October 2028.

This means that, while Windows itself will no longer get fixes for most security issues, the [anti-malware](#) software will continue to get database updates, allowing it to detect current threats through 2028.

Should you buy ESU?

Maybe.

I've long said that [you can continue to use Windows 10 safely](#) after the end of support *as long as you pay attention* to what you're doing and take responsibility for [maintaining proper security](#). On the other hand, \$30 doesn't seem a horrific price for an extended warranty to increase your protection for an additional year. ☺

Nybbles and Bits

By John Pearce, P*PCompAS

It is official!! Comcast (Xfinity, if you prefer) is transferring their e-mail service to Yahoo Mail. The notice from Comcast is at <https://www.xfinity.com/support/articles/yahoo-email-migration-overview>. The notice says transfers will start in June 2025 and continue through 2026 however Comcast waited until July to post the notice.

There are currently six people on the P*PCompAS membership list with comcast.net e-mail addresses. With just six people, there is little reason to write a really long, detailed article. I would strongly suggest reading the migration overview (link above) and look in the FAQ's section for the subheading on tips to ensure a smooth transition.

That section has information about e-mails with attachments

totaling more than 25 MB, problems if your mailbox has over 4,100 folders, or if you have more than 10,000 contacts. Additionally, if you use filters to get rid of junk mail (like I do) or forward your mail (like I do), filter and forwarding settings will not be transferred.

If you read your e-mail using a web browser, you may use the URL <https://mail.yahoo.com>. You will also need to use your complete e-mail address e.g., bobbyjoe@comcast.net when you log in. If you use either IMAP or POP for your e-mail, you will need to change the server names and port numbers for Yahoo Mail. Check Yahoo Mail help (links below) for the proper values. The good news is Yahoo Mail free storage is 20 GB versus the Comcast limit of 10 GB.

Links to Yahoo Mail help for IMAP and POP e-mail settings:

<https://help.yahoo.com/kb/imap-server-settings-yahoo-mail-sln4075.html>

<https://help.yahoo.com/kb/SLN4724.html>

For extra credit reading:

1. More Comcast explanation about the transfer (ignore the Sign in button). <https://www.xfinity.com/email>

2. A view of the change from an outside source.

<https://www.spamresource.com/2025/07/yahoo-mail-to-absorb-comcast-subscriber.html>

3. The transition from the e-mail sender viewpoint <https://moosend.com/blog/comcast-to-yahoo-transition/> ☺

[TIP] 50 Free Online Research Tools

By Bob Rankin, <http://askbobrankin.com>, published through the APCUG

Depending on what you're trying to find, the Web can be a gold mine, a cesspool, or both. So how can you find answers to your questions, and the helpful, authoritative information you need? Check out my list of over 50 of the best free online reference and research tools. Read on...

Free Online Search (and Research) Tools

There are plenty of websites with dubious experts, opinionated blowhards, and others who would lead you in a particular direction that benefits them more than you. So where do you turn when you have a problem and you need to find reliable answers from true experts, researchers, and the recognized leaders in a particular area?

I've got a list of websites that I have personally found to meet those criteria. Some are newcomers, but most of them have been around for over a decade (or two), proving their worth by their longevity. Check out my long list of FREE online reference tools, covering more than a dozen areas of expertise.



Artificial (and Human) Intelligence Tools

Artificial Intelligence is popping up everywhere you look. Tools like [ChatGPT](#), [Google Gemini](#), and [Microsoft](#)

[Copilot](#), and [Perplexity](#) let you pose natural language questions on almost any topic, and will generate human-like responses. In addition to answering questions, these tools can write complete articles, tell jokes, or generate computer code.

Just for fun, I asked ChatGPT to write a 5000-word essay on the pros and cons of feeding squirrels in urban settings. It whined a bit, but got the job done. When I asked for a list of the first 100 prime numbers, it dutifully complied, and even offered a quick trick for checking whether a number is prime without testing every divisor.

Gemini happily churned out a Fortran program to generate the Fibonacci Sequence. It

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Research Tools (Cont. from page 5)

was able to convert that code to Python, C++, or Javascript. Perplexity gave me a formatted table showing the current MLB home run leaders, along with their batting averages. I asked for the same in HTML format, and it obliged, with the option to add CSS styling to make the table look nicer.

A year ago, ChatGPT and Gemini both refused to tell me a blonde joke, but now they've loosened up and offer some that fall in the "playful, harmless zone." AI systems will generally steer clear of topics related to anything mean-spirited, illegal, adult content, medical diagnoses and investment advice.

[Wolfram Alpha](#), which bills itself as a computational engine, has been around for over a decade. It can solve mathematical equations, has knowledge of chemistry and physics, and will generate answers related to finance, nutrition, linguistics, and many other topics.

[Quora](#) relies on humans to answer questions. Users can ask questions and get answers (or opinions) from people who identify as experts on a given topic.

General Reference Tools



In a library, if you don't know where to look for a reference book, you go to the Reference Librarian. On the Internet, if you don't know where to look for answers, you go to [RefDesk.com](#). At first glance, the sheer amount of useful links on the 1995-themed Refdesk home page can be overwhelming. But it's really quite well organized, useful and up to date. I recommend that you click the dropdown next to REFERENCE DESK at the top right, and select an option from the list.

[Encyclopedia.com](#) gives you credible answers from published reference works. Enter your search words and it will search multiple encyclopedias, dictionaries and thesauruses. (Thesauri? Thesaurus Rex?)

The [Britannica Online Encyclopedia](#) is another very credible source. Today the home page highlights Julia Child and "The French Chef", the first program aired on PBS. Who knows what tomorrow will bring?

At [Dictionary.com](#), you can look up a word in either a dictionary or Roget's Thesaurus (to find synonyms and antonyms). The site also offers Word Facts 101, the Word of the Day, daily crosswords & word search puzzles, and a huge list of links to other online dictionaries, including hundreds of non-English ones.

At the [Infoplease Homework Center](#), students will find useful information by subject area, develop better writing, note-taking and study skills, and search through previous questions and answers from other students.

[WordReference](#) offers free online translation dictionaries. Enter a word and it will first translate it into Spanish, French, Italian, German or Russian, then it will display the dictionary definition for that word in the chosen language.

[Grammarly](#) will help you improve your writing by checking grammar and spelling.

[Duolingo](#) will help you learn a new language. Spanish, French, German, Italian and Japanese are among the many options.

The [Internet Archive](#) has been building a digital library of Internet sites and other "cultural artifacts" since 1996. You can search through 700 billion web pages, 40 million books, 15 million audio recordings and live concerts, 8 million videos, 4 million images and over 800,000 software programs. Of special interest is the [Wayback Machine](#), which has snapshots showing how many websites looked in years past. (Take a look at [AskBobRankin.com from June 2005](#).)

Need a synonym, antonym, or related word? Try this [RhymeZone](#).

The [Farmers' Almanac](#) is filled with entertaining short stories, good cooking, fun, facts, forecasts, timely household tips, calendars for fishing and of course gardening. "Guessing the future since 1818."

The [CIA World Factbook](#), published by the United States Central Intelligence Agency, has data on almost every country in the world, including maps, background, geography, people, government, economy, and military.

Medical Questions

[WebMD](#) is one of the leading medical reference websites. This authoritative website contains thousands of articles on medical conditions, diseases and how to stay healthy.



The Mayo Clinic's [Symptom Checker](#) prompts you to choose a symptom, enter related factors, and view possible causes. (I heard one comedian refer to this as YouProbablyHaveCancer.org)

[MedlinePlus](#) is a service of the National Library of Medicine (NLM), the world's largest medical library. You'll find information on health,

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Research Tools (Cont. from page 6)

wellness, disorders, prescription drugs, over-the-counter medicines, supplements, and articles about diseases, symptoms, tests, and treatments.



Business and Financial Research

[Hoover's Online](#) provides company capsules and profiles that give comprehensive company, industry, and market intelligence to investors and business professionals. (Insert vacuum cleaner joke here.)

[EDGAR](#) - The SEC requires public companies to file registration statements, periodic reports, and other forms electronically through EDGAR. Now you can access and download this information for free.

[Zack's Investment Research](#) has tools that enable individuals to research, select and track their investments more effectively. Company news, profiles, stock prices and more.



Weather

In addition to local weather maps and forecasts for thousands of cities around the world, [The Weather Channel](#) website offers many other useful features such as the free Desktop Weather software for Windows, Inbox Weather (e-mails you the forecast daily) Pollen Reports, Air Quality Forecast, and the Interstate Forecast planner.

For the weather junkies, [Weather Underground](#) has everything you'd expect from a weather site, including yesterday's forecast.

Check the [BBC Weather Centre](#) for weather forecasts for the UK and cities around the world.



Movies

The [Internet Movie Database](#) (IMDB) lets you search for a movie or video by its title, and tells you everything you could ever want to know about that movie and its actors.

Ever wonder if a movie is appropriate for your family? [Common Sense Media](#) has detailed reviews and age-based recommendations for movies and TV shows.

[Rotten Tomatoes](#) is a site for both casual movie-goers and film buffs alike. Millions each month use Rotten Tomatoes as a dependable resource and objective coverage of movies and videos. With more than 100,000 titles and

360,000 review links in its ever-growing database, Rotten Tomatoes offers a fun and informative way to discover the critical reaction on movies from the nation's top print and online film critics, neatly summarized via the TomatoMeter.

Music and Lyrics Research

Try [Lyrics.com](#) if you want a searchable database of song lyrics covering many different genres.

[Kiss This Guy](#) is a website devoted to misheard or misunderstood lyrics. Finally, you can find out why Manfred Mann had a boulder on his shoulder in the song "Blinded by the Light."



US Government



Visit [Congress.gov](#) and find up-to-date information on who's really saying what on Capitol Hill. This site, formerly known as THOMAS, is a service of the U.S. Congress to make legislative information publicly available. It contains full text of legislation (both House and Senate bills searchable by keyword or by bill number) and full text of the Congressional Record. No spin, bias, or sound bytes here... Just the raw data from which you can draw your own conclusions.

[USA.gov](#) is the U.S. government's official web portal, a guide to finding government info and websites on a wide variety of topics, including Benefits and Grants, Consumer Guides, Environment, Energy, and Agriculture, Health and Nutrition, Money and Taxes, Public Safety and Law, Science and Technology, and Voting and Elections.

Language Translation

[Google Translate](#) does computer-assisted translations from English to Spanish, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian -- and back again, sort of. In addition to entering or pasting your own text, you can select a document to translate. Supported formats include txt, rtf, doc, pdf, ppt, and xls. Over 100 languages are supported, and it does a pretty good job of figuring out what the input language is, when you're not sure of the starting point. You can click an icon to hear the phrase spoken in the target language,



Microsoft's [Bing Translator](#) is a similar service, covering about 60 languages.

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*Research Tools (Cont. from page 7)***Maps, Topography and Astronomy**

[Google Maps](#) will help you find your way from point A to point B, providing detailed turn-by-turn directions. [Google Earth](#) lets you virtually fly to any point on Earth and view streets, houses, buildings, and terrain, from satellite imagery. The built-in Google Sky component lets you zoom out into outer space to view planets, stars, constellations and galaxies.

Microsoft's [WorldWide Telescope](#) turns your computer into a telescope. This jaw-droppingly cool tool blends images and data from ground and space-based telescopes to allow for seamless panning and zooming across the night sky. You can also take guided tours, narrated by astronomers, featuring interesting places in the sky.

[CitySearch](#) helps you explore city life, from Las Vegas hotels to New York restaurants, Chicago events to Seattle coffee houses. Find recommendations, ratings, reviews, tips and more.

Genealogy

[Cyndi's List](#) is a comprehensive index to over 100,000 genealogical resources on the Internet. You'll find a list of links that point you to genealogical research resources in many different countries, all categorized & cross-referenced. It's like a "card catalog" to the genealogical collection in the immense library that is the Internet. Over 1000 new links are added each month!

Find more genealogy resources in my article [Genealogy Research Online](#).

Air Travel

Are you meeting a friend at the airport? Track a flight, with this graphical real-time monitor that shows the flight path on a map, along with the aircraft's altitude, speed and estimated arrival time. Try the [FlightAware Flight Tracker](#).

[Google Flights](#) uses a unique calendar-based approach to help you figure out which departure day would save you the most money. Google Flights will also tell you the average legroom, and if Wi-Fi, in-seat power and on-demand video are available on your flight. An Android app will check the current price of your "saved itinerary" at any time, and if the price drops dramatically Google will send you an email alert. Google

Flights provides you with direct links and phone numbers to the airline(s) so you can book and pay for the flight without involving a middleman markup.

My article [Here's How to Get The Lowest Airfares Online](#) will point you to some additional online search tools, and more tips and tools for flyers. Read on...

Miscellaneous Research Tools

BIBLE SEARCH - [Bible Gateway](#) is a tool for reading and searching the Bible online, covering over 100 languages and translations. It provides advanced searching capabilities, which allow readers to find and compare passages based on keywords, phrases, or scripture reference.

FINANCIAL AID - [FinAid](#) is the most comprehensive collection of information about student financial aid on the web. FinAid is free and has a stellar reputation in the educational community as the best Web site of its kind. Make it your first stop on the Web when looking for ways to finance an education.

HOUSE VALUES - [Zillow.com](#) offers free automated house valuations on more than 80 million homes across the United States. You can see the estimated value of your house, your neighbor's house, or just about any other home in the country -- whether it's for sale or not. Zillow pulls information from public real estate records, tax rolls and other sources to compute a house value. Zillow also offers a forum where you can chat with pros, as well as other home buyers and sellers.

PEOPLE FINDERS - Need to find someone's phone number, address, or other personal info? Check out [FastPeopleSearch](#) and search my name, phone number, or address. In the past I've recommended WhitePages.com, but I've found this site offers more information, fewer ads, and doesn't constantly try to sell "premium" services.

SPECIALIZED GOOGLE SEARCHES - Just visit Google and type in a phone number, stock symbol, or Fedex tracking number, and see what happens. Learn more about Google's secret search tools in my article [Here's How to Strengthen Your Google Fu](#). ☺

Should You Sign Up for Extended Security Updates (ESU) for Windows 10? ***That's a definite maybe.***

By Leo A. Notenboom, <https://newsletter.askleo.com/>; published under the Creative Commons License

I'll review the security protection for Windows 10 beyond its official end-of-support date: what it means, pros and cons, and what we know about how to get it -- perhaps even for free.

Let's look at what's happening, what this offer may be good for, and whether I think it's worth it.

In Short

Extended Security Updates for Windows 10

Microsoft will offer an extra year of paid security updates past the October 2025 end-of-support date. This Extended Security Updates (ESU) option for Windows 10 Home and Pro users will cost \$30. While this adds protection, users can safely continue using Windows 10 with vigilant security practices. Microsoft Defender updates will continue until 2028.

Past end-of-[free]-support support

Microsoft's published end-of-support date is not changing. On October 14, 2025, Microsoft will [stop supporting Windows 10](#). That means no more feature updates, [bug](#) fixes, or, perhaps most concerning, security updates (with one important distinction regarding Microsoft Defender that I'll discuss below).

In the past, *corporate* customers have had the option to sign up for Extended Security Updates, meaning that for some (large) amount of money, they continue to receive security-related updates after the end-of-support date. There were still no feature updates or bug fixes other than those relating to identified security issues, and even then, presumably only those of significant enough impact.

Extended Security Updates For Windows 10

For the first time, Microsoft is making the Extended Security Updates (ESU) program available to consumers who use Home and Pro editions.

From Microsoft's [How to prepare for Windows 10 end of support by moving to Windows 11 today](#) article: *And for the first time ever, we're introducing an ESU program for personal use as well. The ESU program for consumers will be a one-year option available for \$30. Program enrollment will be available closer to the end of support in 2025.*

For \$30, you get one year of security updates beyond the October 14, 2025, cutoff date. One year. After that, you're once again on your own.

I think of the ESU as buying an extended warranty for your car. For an additional fee, you're getting one year of additional protection. You may never need it, but if you do, it's there.

Getting the ESU

For individuals: An enrollment wizard will be available through notifications and in Settings, making it easy to enroll in ESU directly from your personal Windows 10 PC. Through the enrollment wizard, you'll be able to choose from three options:

Use Windows [Backup](#) to sync your settings to the [cloud](#) at no additional cost.

Redeem 1,000 Microsoft Rewards points—at no additional cost.

Pay \$30 USD (local pricing may vary).

The first one is, to me, a complete non-starter. Windows Backup is not the backup you think it is, and it involves the horrific OneDrive backup "feature". To me, this is clearly a ploy to get more people to put more data in OneDrive and pay for more space when they run out.

For people in countries where the Microsoft Rewards program is enabled, redeeming 1000 points might work best. These points are easy to accumulate (just use Bing search for a long enough). You may already have more than you realize. I checked rewards.bing.com (signed in with my Microsoft account, of course) and discovered that for reasons unknown, I have over 5,000 points. Yay? Or, of course, you can pay the \$30 fee. As of now, it's a one-time fee covering only one year. (Educational and other programs may have the option to extend further; pricing is likely to increase each year.) But the answer to the most common question is clear: "An enrollment wizard will be available through notifications and in Settings." So keep your eyes peeled for that if you're on Windows 10.

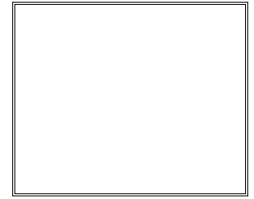
Windows Security

Support for Windows 10 security issues ends on either October 14, 2025, or a year later if you sign up for ESU.

Windows Security — more specifically, Microsoft Defender, the anti-virus software running on your Windows 10 machine — is on a different schedule. Again, quoting the original Microsoft post: *Microsoft*

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P*PCompAS Newsletter
Greg Lenihan, Editor
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Coming Events:

Next Membership Meeting: 6 September beginning at 9 am (see directions below)

Next Breakfast Meeting: 20 September @ 8:00 am, Golden Corral, 1970 Waynoka Road

Newsletter Deadline: 20 September

Check out our Web page at: <http://ppcompas.apcug.org>

