

Microsoft Windows 8.1 Update to Launch October 18th

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I know a lot of folks are eager to find out when they will be able to get Windows 8.1. I am excited to share that starting at 12:00am on October 18th in New Zealand (that's 4:00am October 17th in Redmond), Windows 8.1 will begin rolling out worldwide as a free update for consumers on Windows 8 through the Windows Store. Windows 8.1 will also be available at retail and on new devices starting on October 18th by market. So mark your calendars!

Windows 8.1 continues the vision we began with Windows 8 and is an example of our commitment to continuous innovation and improvement for our customers. And Windows 8.1 brings many improvements in areas like personalization, Internet Explorer 11, search which is powered by Bing, built-in apps [including a few new ones](#) [1], an [improved Windows Store experience](#) [2], and [cloud connectivity with SkyDrive](#) [3] (and [much more](#) [4]) that people will enjoy. If you haven't already, you can give many of the new features and improvements in Windows 8.1 a try [with the Windows 8.1 Preview](#) [5]. Business customers can begin testing Windows 8.1 for deployment in their environments [with the Windows 8.1 Enterprise Preview](#) [6].

Now is a great time to buy a Windows 8 device in a range of different form factors like Microsoft Surface, the Acer Iconia W3, the Lenovo Yoga 11s, the Toshiba KIRAbok or the Dell XPS 18 . For students going back to school, we have Windows Chip-in which is a crowdsourcing program to help students and parents purchase a new Windows device for school. And the Windows Store Only at Best Buy store-within-a-store experiences will be launching throughout August and September, just in time for the back-to-school shopping season to check out all the latest Windows devices! If you buy a Windows 8 device today, you can look forward to the new

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features and improvements from Windows 8.1 in October.

It's very exciting to be delivering Windows 8.1 to consumers just before Windows 8 celebrates its 1-year anniversary. You can expect to read more from us on Windows 8.1 leading up to availability on October 18th!

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<http://www.scientificcomputing.com/news/2013/08/microsoft-windows-81-update-launch-october-18th>

Links:

[1]

http://www.bing.com/blogs/site_blogs/b/search/archive/2013/06/26/bingapps.aspx

[2] <http://blogs.windows.com/windows/b/appbuilder/archive/2013/06/27/the-windows-store-for-windows-8-1.aspx>

[3] <http://blogs.windows.com/skydrive/b/skydrive/archive/2013/07/22/have-all-your-skydrive-files-with-you-without-using-all-your-storage-or-bandwidth.aspx>

[4] <http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/p/?LinkId=302189>

[5] <http://blogs.windows.com/windows/b/bloggingwindows/archive/2013/06/26/the-windows-8-1-preview-is-here.aspx>

[6] <http://blogs.windows.com/windows/b/business/archive/2013/07/30/windows-8-1-enterprise-preview-now-available.aspx>