

## Computer Tips

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### Michael's Computer Services

#### Last days for Windows XP ...

In only a few days, on April 9, 2014, Microsoft are discontinuing all support of their veteran operating system, Windows XP. This means that Microsoft are essentially wiping their hands of this version of Windows.

No doubt a lot of questions are running through your head right now. "Will my XP computer still turn on?" "What will happen to my data?" "Can I still use Windows XP after April?"

Well, there is good news and there is bad news. The good news is, yes, your computer will still turn on after April 9, and yes, your data will be available after that date.

However, the bad news is that after April 9, you will be vulnerable to viruses and hackers. Because Microsoft are removing all support for Windows XP, you will no longer receive any Windows updates. This will leave any security holes in Windows XP unpatched, and hackers will be able to take advantage of this, and potentially gain access to your private information.

Further to this, after April 9, your internet provider, and antivirus software provider may not be able to support you. We have confirmation from some antivirus providers, that they will provide support for XP for up to 12 months from April 9. However, with your internet provider, if you make a call to your provider with an issue, when you mention you are running Windows XP, they may not be able to help you. You may even lose access to the internet in some cases, depending on how you connect.

#### So what should you do?

We are recommending all computers that are currently running Windows XP, be upgraded to run Windows 7. Windows 7 is stable, and has the best support for the programs you ran on Windows XP. However, because Windows 7 is a larger operating system than XP, some older computers will need to be upgraded to support Windows 7.

If you are running Windows XP on a laptop, in most cases you will need to get a new laptop, as the components in a laptop cannot be easily upgraded.

To get your computer upgraded, or for more information on upgrading, come in with your computer to see us, or call us on 4171 0981, or send us an email at [info@mcsit.com.au](mailto:info@mcsit.com.au)



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