

Windows 7 for Real Estate Agents!

WINDOWS 7 SERIES ARTICLES, EDITION #3

- **How to upgrade Windows 7 to Windows 7 Premium or Ultimate**
 - *How much is that upgrade in the Window? Windows 7 Upgrade Advisor & Windows Anytime Upgrade options*

If you have Windows 7 Premium and at some point decide to upgrade to Professional or Ultimate, you can do this via the Windows 7 operating system disc if your system came with the disc, or from within your Windows 7 you can go to Start, type *Windows Anytime Upgrade* in the search box, and then click on *Windows Anytime Upgrade*.

Upgrade costs:

Premium to Professional: \$90

Premium to Ultimate: \$140

Professional to Ultimate: \$130

If you are considering upgrading your current Vista or XP system to Windows 7, it is my opinion that if your desktop or laptop is over a year old, it is often better to buy a new laptop or desktop with Windows 7. The reason is if you upgrade your current system, you could be carrying over bugs or a pre-existing condition into the new version. On top of that with the cost of a new laptop or desktop with Windows 7 already on less than \$350.00 that is a deal that is hard to pass up.

So if you consider that the Windows 7 software alone costs \$200 on up, this means that with new computer (desktop or laptop) that costs \$350, you would paying only \$150 for the hardware (desktop/laptop)!

Let's not forget that if you were to upgrade XP to Windows 7 on a newer system, the upgrade only allows a clean install, meaning it will NOT preserve your applications and settings, you have to reinstall your applications. Not a perfect scenario.

You can upgrade Vista to Windows 7 (if your hardware is compatible), but let's say you run an upgrade, your computer will still be the same age and if it gives out at some point, you have lost money on Windows 7. The reason I say this is because if you do decide to buy a new computer, those already come with Windows 7 and you are left with that extra copy you bought and no longer need.

The end result of buying a new system instead of upgrading may result in fewer headaches and a better computer as well. It's hard to argue against that unless you have a newer system that

cost you quite a bit of money and that your newer system is capable of being upgraded to Windows 7.

If you already have Windows 7 and are upgrading to another version of Windows 7, you will most likely have compatible hardware because 7 to 7 uses the same hardware.

If you do decide to upgrade your current system, either from Vista to Windows 7 OR Windows 7 to a different version of Windows 7 you will want to run Microsoft's Windows 7 Upgrade Advisor first. You can download this by going to the following link:

- <http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=1b544e90-7659-4bd9-9e51-2497c146af15&displaylang=en>

In the next article, I will cover how to look for basic hardware and version information on Windows 7.