Parallels Desktop®
for Upgrading to Windows 7

Quick Start Guide &
End User License Agreement
The Simple, Safe and Successful Way to Upgrade

There are two ways you can use Parallels Desktop for Upgrading to Windows 7. You can either upgrade an existing Windows XP or Vista PC, or you can purchase a new PC that has Windows 7 on it and then move your programs, files and settings to that PC. Before we look at how Parallels Desktop for Upgrading to Windows 7 works for these scenarios, we need to spend a moment on housekeeping.

Before You Begin

Back up your data
It is a common and good practice to keep a back up of your system or at least the files you use most. There are various backup options such as software programs that make backing up a PC simple, or affordable external hard drives that can serve as a suitable backup solution as well. You can even back up your files by simply burning them to a DVD.

Especially when upgrading an operating system, regardless of which scenario you follow, we strongly recommend that you back up your files before beginning. For customers who don’t currently have a backup solution, Parallels Desktop for Upgrading to Windows 7 comes with a free 90-day trial subscription to Acronis® Online BackUp for data backup.

Handling your Anti-virus and other programs
Temporarily turn off your Anti-virus programs and make sure all other open programs are closed. Just remember to turn Anti-virus protection on again when you are done to stay protected!

Plug in your PC(s)
Especially if you have years of programs and files stored on your computer, it will take time to move everything to Windows 7. You don’t want to run out of power in the middle of an upgrade! The
time needed will vary based on the number of programs and files you have, how much RAM is in the PC, and even the method used to move programs and files to a new PC.

Plan enough time
Depending on the number and size of the programs and files you will be moving to Windows 7, the time needed to complete the upgrade will vary. A newer PC with relatively few programs and files may complete the process in a few hours, while a PC with years of files or large media libraries could take overnight. While Parallels Desktop for Upgrading to Windows 7 automates the vast majority of the work, freeing you up to do other things, the time needed to move large amounts of data cannot be completely eliminated. So it’s important to be realistic about how long the upgrade can take and to start the process when you have sufficient time to let all of the programs and files be moved. Please don’t start an upgrade one hour before that big report is due!

Let’s Get Started. Which Way Would You Like to Upgrade?

I’m Upgrading My Current Computer
You have Windows XP or Vista installed on your current machine and want to upgrade the computer to run Windows 7.

1. **Start** – To begin, it is necessary to disable any anti-virus software and close all programs; making sure to back-up files/folders. Then, start Parallels Desktop for Upgrading to Windows 7 software and follow along with the instructions.
2. **Upgrade** – When prompted, insert your Window 7 DVD, type in the activation key and let the Parallels Desktop for Upgrading to Windows 7 go to work! The upgrade process will install Windows 7 and transfer your programs, files and settings automatically.

3. **Enjoy** – The process is automated and will take several hours; when the process is complete, you will see your programs in the Start menu and your documents and files available in the same folder structure. Whenever you’re ready, you can quickly master this new Windows 7 machine with interactive tutorials designed with you in mind.

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**I’m Moving to a New Computer**

You have a new computer with Windows 7 installed and want to transfer your Windows XP or Vista files, programs and settings from your old computer.

1. **Start: Windows XP or Vista Computer** - To begin, it is necessary to disable any anti-virus software and close all open programs; making sure to back-up files/folders. Then, start Parallels Desktop for Upgrading to Windows 7 software and follow along with pop-up instructions. Now, start Parallels Desktop for Upgrading to Windows 7 on your Windows 7 computer. Follow prompts to activate and then choose your migration method.
2. **Move** – There are 3 different ways to transfer your files and programs.

- **USB** – Connect the computers with the Parallels USB cable. In the Windows 7 computer, click in the Migration window to let the Parallels Upgrade Agent go to work! This is generally the fastest way to move to a new computer.

- **Network** – In Windows 7, go to the Migration window, click on Network and select your Windows XP or Vista computer to Start Migration. Upon completion, close the Upgrade Agent window in Windows XP or Vista. **Hint:** If your Windows XP or Vista computer doesn’t automatically show up in the dialogue box, check the screen on your Windows XP or Vista machine. Parallels will show you the name and IP address of that computer and you can then enter it on your Windows 7 machine.

- **External Storage Device** – on the Windows XP/VISTA computer, click Transfer via external storage device. Provide the path to the external storage device and Windows XP/VISTA programs and data will automatically migrate to the external storage device. Connect the storage device to the Windows 7 computer and click “next” and let Parallels Desktop for Upgrading to Windows 7 go to work.

3. **Enjoy** – The process is automated and will take several hours; when you return to your new Windows 7 computer you will find your programs in the Start menu and your documents and files waiting for you. You can quickly master your new Windows 7 machine with interactive tutorials designed with you in mind.
Things to Know After You’ve Moved to Windows 7

Moving Multiple User Accounts
If you share your computer with someone and you have separate user accounts, the user settings for each person need to be set up individually. The person who is logged in and does the upgrade will have their settings automatically set up during the process. When the other user logs in for the first time, Parallels Desktop for Upgrading to Windows 7 will alert them and then automatically move that person’s settings to Windows 7. Please note this may take a few minutes for the configuration to complete.

Troubleshooting
Although Parallels Desktop for Upgrading to Windows 7 makes it significantly easier to upgrade, there are some things that might not work as expected, given the inherent complexity of any operating system upgrade or comprehensive transfer from one PC to another. Don’t worry -- these are simple to fix. The most common issues are:

1. **My program is compatible with Windows 7 but says it needs to be activated.**
   Depending on how the program was designed, it may need to be reactivated after the upgrade. To reactivate it, enter your license key or reactivate it online if the program allows for that.

2. **My program is compatible with Windows 7 but fails to launch.**
   Some programs look for specific, unique identifiers or specific drivers to run properly. Sometimes when upgrading your operating system or moving to a new computer, these identifiers can change. Generally this can be solved by downloading the drivers from the website of the company that makes your program, or reinstalling the program.
Have other questions?

For more tips and tricks and to contact support, please visit www.parallels.com/win7support

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