

Tech
Update



Windows Server 2012 End-of-Life: What You Need to Know

Released in October 2012, Windows Server 2012 has entered its tenth year of service and has already reached the “mainstream end date” over three years ago. After October 2023, any business still using the Microsoft server 2012 will no longer receive critical security updates and patches. This means that any data stored on your server will be at a much higher risk of threat from hackers or cyber-attacks.

Therefore, we recommend that you take a proactive approach and update your server operating system well in advance of this support removal.

What Happens After Extended Support Ends?

1) Security & Compliance Risks: Unsupported and unpatched environments are vulnerable to security risks. Especially in healthcare, where security and compliance is required to keep patient records secure and safe. An unsupported operating system will no longer receive any security updates, official patches or bug fixes, so it is incredibly insecure moving forward.

2) Lack of Software Vendor & Hardware Manufacturer Support: The industry software vendors that you are currently using, such as Dentrax and Softdent, will most likely stop supporting their products on Windows Server 2012 for any future releases since most manufacturers stop writing new features for older operating systems. Technology is a puzzle, and all the pieces have to fit together to work. When one piece needs to be upgraded, but it's incompatible with another piece, everything is held back.

What Steps Should I Take?

Microsoft recommends updating to a new server before the end-of-the life date.

How Old Are Your Servers?

It is worth noting that if you are using Windows Server 2012 then there may well be other IT infrastructure that you need to update at the same time. For example, if you are still using Windows 7 workstations, an outdated firewall, need more switches and larger monitors.

The team at HTI are experts when it comes to supporting dental practices with their IT support and infrastructure. Give us a call today to discuss your upgrade options and we'll be happy to provide you with a no-obligation quote!