

Windows 8

Windows Desktop Offerings Available through Volume Licensing

The following offerings are available for purchase through [Microsoft Volume Licensing](#):

Product	Description
Windows 8 Pro Upgrade	<p>Windows 8 Pro is for small and medium sized businesses and delivers new levels of productivity, security, and mobility, all without sacrificing performance or choice. It provides enhanced features that help to easily connect to company networks, access files on the go, encrypt data, and more. Windows 8 Pro is built for business and compatible with life.</p> <p>Note: Windows 8 Pro is sold through Volume Licensing as an upgrade only and requires that you have a full qualifying operating system already licensed. Refer to the Microsoft Volume Licensing Product List to verify qualifying operating systems.</p>
Windows 8 Enterprise	Windows 8 Enterprise edition is available through Software Assurance for Windows and includes all the capabilities of Windows 8 Pro, plus premium features designed to meet the mobility, productivity, security and manageability, and virtualization needs of today's large businesses.
Software Assurance (SA) for Windows	Software Assurance provides the greatest flexibility how you use Windows. It includes access to Windows 8 Enterprise, new version rights, flexible use rights, and a set of tools, technologies, and training to help you get the most from your Windows investment.
Windows Virtual Desktop Access (VDA) Subscription License	<p>The Windows VDA subscription license provides the right to access virtual Windows desktop environments from devices that are not covered by Software Assurance for Windows, such as thin clients.</p> <p>Note: VDA Rights are also included as a benefit of Software Assurance for Windows.</p>
Add-On Offerings for SA or VDA	Microsoft Desktop Optimization Pack (MDOP) MDOP helps manage Windows features, simplify deployments through virtualization, and restore user productivity after a system issue
	Windows Companion Subscription License (CSL) The Windows CSL enables Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) scenarios and provides businesses more flexibility to run Windows across multiple devices for employees.

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Software Assurance Benefits for Windows 8

Software Assurance includes a core set of benefits to help improve workforce productivity, streamline software deployment, and reduce costs.

Software Assurance also provides the greatest flexibility for how you use Windows as it includes access to enterprise offerings and use rights not available through other licensing programs. Software Assurance for Windows is the path to enabling people's flexible work styles by providing access to Windows in a variety of ways across devices.

You may separately license devices that do not have or are not eligible for Software Assurance for Windows (such as thin clients), with a Windows Virtual Desktop Access (VDA) subscription to access to these benefits.

See below for a comparison of Software Assurance for Windows and the Windows VDA subscription.

Software Assurance for Windows	Typical device	Windows VDA subscription
PC	Typical device	Thin client
Yes	Qualifying OS required	No
Yes	Local install rights	No

Note: For a list of qualifying operating systems (OS), see the [Microsoft Product List](#)

Key Benefits provided with Software Assurance for Windows and Windows VDA subscription

Note: "Licensed device" refers any device covered by either Software Assurance for Windows or a Windows VDA subscription.

	Benefit	Description
Access to Enterprise Offerings	New Version Rights	With New Version Rights, you have access to new releases of Windows on any licensed device as soon as they are released for no additional cost.
	Windows 8 Enterprise Edition	Windows 8 Enterprise edition includes all the capabilities of Windows 8 Pro, plus premium features designed to meet the mobility, productivity, security, manageability, and virtualization needs of today's large businesses.
	Microsoft Desktop Optimization Pack (MDOP)	MDOP is an <u>optional subscription add-on</u> that enables businesses to virtualize the operating system applications, and the user experience; manage Windows features, and restore user productivity after a system issue.
	Windows Thin PC	Windows Thin PC is a smaller footprint version of Windows 7 that enables organizations to repurpose existing PCs as thin clients, thereby reducing the need for new thin client hardware. This benefit only applies to devices licensed with Software Assurance for Windows.

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Flexible Use Rights

Windows Virtual Desktop Access (VDA) Rights	<i>Access Windows in a variety of ways across devices.</i> Windows VDA Rights enable users to access virtual instances of Windows in a variety of user scenarios.
Windows To Go Use Rights	<i>Travel light without sacrificing productivity using Windows To Go.</i> Windows To Go is a fully manageable corporate desktop running Windows 8 Enterprise edition on a bootable USB stick. This use right allows Windows To Go to be run on any licensed device.
Roaming Use Rights	<i>Enable work from home and on the road scenarios through Roaming Use Rights.</i> Roaming Use Rights allow the primary user any licensed device to access a virtual instance of Windows running in the datacenter (VDI) or Windows To Go from non-corporate devices such as personally-owned or hotel business center PCs while away from the office.
Windows Companion Subscription License (CSL)	<i>Enable bring your own device (BYOD) scenarios with flexibility for running corporate desktops using personally owned companion devices at work.</i> The Windows CSL is an <u>optional subscription add-on</u> which grants the primary user of a licensed device the rights to access a corporate desktop through either a VDI or Windows To Go on up to four devices capable of leveraging these technologies. Devices eligible for licensed use include any type of personally owned device as well as corporate owned non-x86 devices.
Windows RT Companion VDA Rights	<i>Extend productivity to Windows RT tablets with Virtual Desktop Access.</i> Windows RT Companion VDA Rights allow the primary user of a licensed device, rights to access a corporate desktop through a VDI from a corporate-owned companion Windows RT device with no additional Windows license required.
Enterprise Sideloading of Windows 8 Apps	<i>Deploy custom Windows 8 apps directly to corporate devices without using the Windows Store.</i> Receive the necessary use rights required to enable deployment of touch-centric Windows 8 apps directly to devices within an organization as opposed to being installed through the public Windows Store.

Customers with Software Assurance for Windows or Windows VDA also have access to the following benefits:

- ▶ TechNet benefits through Software Assurance
- ▶ Extended Hotfix support
- ▶ 24x7 Problem resolution support
- ▶ Enterprise Source Licensing Program
- ▶ E-Learning
- ▶ Training Vouchers
- ▶ Spread Payments

Note: The rights above apply only to Windows and license requirements for other software still apply. Benefit eligibility varies by Volume Licensing program and products. Refer to the [Microsoft Volume Licensing Product List](#) to verify eligibility by program and products.

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Windows 8 Enterprise

Windows 8 Enterprise features include all the capabilities that customers get with Windows 8 Pro, plus premium features designed to provide the mobile productivity, security, manageability, and virtualization needs of today's businesses. Windows 8 Enterprise is available to customers with Software Assurance for Windows or Windows VDA subscription.

Customers with Windows 8 Enterprise can take advantage of the following features, not available in Windows 8 Pro:

	Feature	Description
	DirectAccess	Allows remote users to seamlessly access resources inside a corporate network without having to launch a separate VPN
	BranchCache	Allows users' PCs to cache files, websites, and other content from central servers, so content is not repeatedly downloaded across the wide area network (WAN).
	AppLocker	Enables IT to specify what software is allowed to run on a user's PCs through centrally managed but flexible Group Policies.
	Virtual desktop infrastructure (VDI) enhancements	Enhancements in Microsoft RemoteFX and Windows Server 2012, provide users with a rich desktop experience with the ability to play 3D graphics, use USB peripherals and use touch-enabled devices across any type of network (LAN or WAN) for VDI scenarios.
	Enterprise Sideload for Windows 8 Apps	As Enterprise Sideload is enabled as a feature in Windows 8 Enterprise, customers running this edition on domain-joined PCs can easily manage the direct deployment of touch-centric Windows 8 apps to these devices without going through the Windows Store.

Learn more about Windows 8 Enterprise at <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/enterprise>.

Microsoft Desktop Optimization Pack

Microsoft Desktop Optimization Pack (MDOP) is a suite of technologies that helps enterprise customers take advantage of desktop virtualization, better manage Windows devices, and deliver advanced system restore capabilities.

It is available to Software Assurance customers as an add-on subscription license. Customers can access MDOP and any additions for as long as their MDOP subscription is active. The MDOP suite includes the following technologies:

- ▶ Microsoft User Experience Virtualization (UE-V)
- ▶ Microsoft Application Virtualization (App-V)
- ▶ Microsoft Enterprise Desktop Virtualization (MED-V)
- ▶ Microsoft Advanced Group Policy Management (AGPM)
- ▶ Microsoft BitLocker Administration and Monitoring (MBAM)
- ▶ Microsoft Diagnostics and Recovery Toolset (DaRT)

Learn more about MDOP at <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/enterprise/products/mdop.aspx>.

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