What are the main differences between Windows 8 and Windows 10?

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Windows 10 contains many all-new features not available in Windows 8

Here's a quick reference overview to help you to understand the key differences between Windows 10, and its predecessor Windows 8...

Feature	Windows 8	Windows 10
Start menu: quick access to common apps and settings		✓
OneDrive built in: access all your files via the cloud	✓	✓
Cortana: a personalised digital assistant		✓
Continuum: easily connect and work between your PC and Windows mobile devices		✓

Multitasking: see all open apps in one view, split your screen, and create multiple desktops	✓

So, you may be wondering: if Windows 8 was the previous version of Microsoft's operating system for PCs... where is Windows 9?

Good question! When Windows announced the release of Windows 10, many people wondered why they skipped straight from Windows 8 to 10 (with no appearance of a Windows 9). Basically, there's no clear or straightforward answer. Over the years, Microsoft and many similar technology companies, haven't always been consistent with their naming and labelling systems for product lines.

In other words: if you were wondering where Windows 9 is... it doesn't exist!

Now that you're familiar with some of the key features of Windows 10, why not have a go at learning how to use the system by giving some of these new features a go for yourself.

Next steps

Getting started with Windows 10

What is Windows 10?

What's new in Windows 10?

How to sign in to Windows 10 using a Microsoft account

How to browse the web in Windows 10: Microsoft Edge basics

An introduction to using Cortana in Windows 10

How to set up email and calendars in Windows 10

How to use and download apps in Windows 10