

Why Aren't You Upgrading to Vista?

Mon Feb 26, 2007 6:13PM EST

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Daily Techno-Babble offers a breathless "[three reasons why Windows Vista is sinking like a rock](#)," and while the story has a point, I don't really think that "limits on how Vista can be used under virtualization" is really the thing about Vista that is scaring away that many would-be users, nor are [Microsoft's DRM provisions](#) on high-definition video much of a big deal *yet*, as few users care about high-def on their PC right now. Don't get me wrong: I think all of these are factors that make Vista a poor OS, but they aren't the primary reason that it's "sinking like a rock."



Given that [Vista sales seem lackluster at best](#), what's the hang-up? I think it's something far more simple than the reasons that DTB offers up.

So what's turning people off of Vista? Here's my take, in order of importance:

- 1) Price. There's no way around this one. Upgrading to Vista doesn't just mean spending up to \$400 on software, but also cash on RAM and video card upgrades, or buying a new PC altogether. If Vista was a \$100 upgrade that anyone could use, it'd be a top seller, I'm sure.
- 2) Nothing new to see here. Love the visual style, but does photo tagging and 3-D window flipping really merit an upgrade?
- 3) It's annoying. I don't know any Vista user who hasn't turned off User Account Control, which nags you with an "Are you sure???" prompt every time you try to do anything beyond run the calculator. Yet UAC is the linchpin of Vista's vaunted new security system. Without it, it's really no different than XP.
- 4) Tons of stuff is incompatible with Vista. An acquaintance of mine got a new PC with Vista preinstalled. Neither her scanner nor her printer had Vista drivers ready. Both peripherals cost several hundred bucks, and now they're essentially paperweights (though the printer, at some unforeseeable time in the future, may work again). Lots of software won't run on Vista, either, but it's the hardware incompatibilities that are daunting. (Update: Looks like the scanner driver's finally ready.)
- 5) It's confusing. Everything that XP could do, Vista can do... only it's buried under a different menu and it has a new name. While average users probably never use many of these settings, power users have found themselves starting from scratch to relearn Windows.
- 6) It's busted. Try connecting to a printer on your network that's hooked up to an XP machine. Or try downloading a file with a third-party application and then accessing it via another PC on the network. I won't go into a list of the [endless bugs and flaws with the design of Vista](#), because I don't really have to: Vista needs a Service Pack already.

That's my take, but I'd love to hear your reasons for being hesitant: Why aren't *you* jumping whole hog into the Vistaverse?

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-
- 1 Posted by [aatw55](#) on Mon Feb 26, 2007 7:03PM EST [Report Abuse](#)
how about big brother's built in spyware? i'm jumping ship to linspire/freespire!
 - 2 Posted by [dellmost](#) on Mon Feb 26, 2007 7:04PM EST [Report Abuse](#)

Vista does have its share of problems now. But it will soon be caught up with its problems, MS will have to put out upgrades due to IT changes daily. This operating system is no difference then 95,98,XP or 2000. Why complaine?? We all know as long as there are dum people who want to try to damage your P.C. there must be changes, all most daily. But all and all since we are now dependent on P.C. for news and comunacation we have to hope for the best. MS is the good guy not the bad guy. So I say good luck to MS we wish you the best, keep the windows down and let us feel the breezzz!!!!!!!

3 Posted by [cfalls37](#) on Mon Feb 26, 2007 7:39PM EST [Report Abuse](#)

what for? I'm happy with my XP, and I promise to stay with it till it craps out, perhaps. John

4 Posted by [motelman444](#) on Mon Feb 26, 2007 8:10PM EST [Report Abuse](#)

i noticed at sams club they had lots of computers on shelves pre loaded with win xp two days later, they had pulled all their old comps and replaced them with units pre loaded with vista. i havent been able to find a new computer with xp on any shelf since hmmm am i to be force fed this new operating system?

5 Posted by [sithslayer12](#) on Mon Feb 26, 2007 9:01PM EST [Report Abuse](#)

And the funny thing is about vista is that even b4 vista was put out there, MS said they would be sending out a SP. so all u brave ppl just wait hope will come.....when MS feels like it

6 Posted by [howardrm](#) on Mon Feb 26, 2007 9:57PM EST [Report Abuse](#)

Because of all the reasons you said and because my next replacement computers will be Macs!

7 Posted by [dmg122884](#) on Tue Feb 27, 2007 1:57AM EST [Report Abuse](#)

Since the main advantage Vista has over XP is its interface, Microsoft really should just create a patch that gives XP users the option of changing XP's appearance to look more like Vista. Of course they will never do this because they want us to have to buy Vista in order to get any of the improvements it offers.

8 Posted by [dehnger2u](#) on Tue Feb 27, 2007 7:18AM EST [Report Abuse](#)

Waiting for stability in it. Remember when XP shipped everyone? 10,000+ Bugs? All the needs we are griping about now are things that XP brought to the table.....count on the same happening with VISTA as the kinks are ironed out....you have to figure that the way we are being FORCED to take the new OS, it will eventually become something we cannot do without...like XP is now! Thanks Chris

9 Posted by [robeko1](#) on Tue Feb 27, 2007 8:17AM EST [Report Abuse](#)

Because LINUX sounds so, so much better. No monopoly. No bullying big brother behind your back. No shoveling down your throat everything you need or not. Then lets protect the innovative companies out there from being sucked up by the mammoth. Almost everything MS has, is a result of others innovation, small little companies gobbled up then destroyed. MS is destroying our innovating technology, locking out everything but itself. That's why I no longer want anything coming from Microsoft.

10 Posted by [don+willmott](#) on Tue Feb 27, 2007 10:28AM EST [Report Abuse](#)

You know the old--and true--saying: Microsoft gets things right on the third try. So I'll be waiting a while and in the meantime will continue to speak softly and kindly to my computer and bacc up regularly and hope it holds out for quite a bit longer.

11 Posted by [shutrbug@sbcglobal.net](#) on Tue Feb 27, 2007 11:04AM EST [Report Abuse](#)

BitLocker would we nice to have, but it's available only on Ultimate and the Enterprise SKUs. So I'm happy with XP for now and will likely move to Linux, running the necessary Windows programs like Photoshop in a virtual machine.

12 Posted by [jpineal_totalscope](#) on Tue Feb 27, 2007 12:08PM EST [Report Abuse](#)

The more I use Vista, the more I realise how poor it is, despite a favourable initial impression due to the fancy graphics. Everything is more difficult and confusing than Windows XP. It makes me realise how good an operating system Windows XP was.

13 Posted by [rogueist](#) on Tue Feb 27, 2007 12:38PM EST [Report Abuse](#)

The way Vista tries to micro manage your video experience and downgrades ALL video performance was the number one issue for me. I deal in high def video all day long. I will stick with XP on the machines that have them, and the office is switching to Linux as we speak. The MACs will stay as they are. I think Microsoft painted themselves into a corner they will never recover from.

14 Posted by [ib4it](#) on Tue Feb 27, 2007 1:13PM EST [Report Abuse](#)

My Dad bought a Compaq with the bios on a partion of the Hard Drive and ME on the other partition. It has been heck for me answering his questions and he has rejected/denied my claim that he has the worst computer with the worst OS ever. I finally have him talked into buying a new computer and.....it looks like he is getting "stuck" again.

15 Posted by [weehummer](#) on Tue Feb 27, 2007 2:16PM EST [Report Abuse](#)

I was urged (using the word loosely) to get XP. Less than a mo went by - it went kapoot! Week later, it returned supposedly fixed. However, It still does strange things and is hard to use and understand. Now why would I want to try that Vista thing. No way. JH

16 Posted by [dave_penn75647](#) on Tue Feb 27, 2007 2:49PM EST [Report Abuse](#)

I think many of us learned our lesson about upgrading too quick from the XP release

17 Posted by [kimathon](#) on Tue Feb 27, 2007 5:10PM EST [Report Abuse](#)

Why pay more money for something that justs looks prettier? You never buy a first model year of any car; do you? Nuff said.

18 Posted by [zacharysite](#) on Tue Feb 27, 2007 5:53PM EST [Report Abuse](#)

If windows keeps this up, Im going to go to Mac or a better OS which is Linux or Unix. These two never crash but you need to know what your doing.

19 Posted by [norton0704](#) on Wed Feb 28, 2007 8:46AM EST [Report Abuse](#)

My experience is telling me not to buy the first edition of any software unless I want to be risky my data. Does MS pay for my lost data, or any fee caused if I have problem with Vista. Of course, every one know answer already. Hence, be patient, after 1 or 1 1/2 year, its not too late to try Vista if we really need. And now, still enjoy our XP. I think the most compatible MS's OS.

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