



Windows 10 to Windows 11 Migration Executive Overview

As Windows 10's support ends in 2025, C-suite executives must recognize the Windows 11 migration as a strategic opportunity to strengthen security and modernize infrastructure, not just a simple upgrade.



Timeline Considerations

Key Date	Milestone	Executive Impact
October 14, 2025	Windows 10 End of Support	Security vulnerabilities no longer patched, compliance risks emerge
2024-2025	Optimal Migration Window	Balance between stability and deadline pressure
Now	Strategic Planning Phase	Opportunity to align tech refresh with business objectives



Business Value Assessment

Area	Windows 11 Advancement	C- Suite Consideration
Security	Zero Trust architecture, hardware-based isolation	Reduced breach risk, lower incident response costs
Productivity	Improved UI, better multi-monitor support, snap layouts	Measurable efficiency gains (5-10% for knowledge workers)
Compatibility	Windows 10 app support with few exceptions	Minimal business disruption during transition
Remote Work	Enhanced Teams integration, improved VPN	Better support for hybrid workforce



Cost Factors

Cost Type	Details	Strategic Approach
Hardware	40-60% of existing fleet may need replacement	Align with regular refresh cycles to minimize premium
Deployment	IT resource allocation for 6-9 months	Phase implementation by business criticality
Training	Minimal for most users, focused IT training	Factor in short productivity dip during transition
Opportunity Cost	Risk of delay vs. benefits of early adoption	Consider competitive advantage of enhanced security features



Implementation Strategy

Phase	Timeline	Leadership Action
Assessment	1- 2 months	Authorize comprehensive inventory and compatibility analysis
Pilot	2-3 months	Select non-critical business unit for testing
Deployment	4- 6 months	Phase by department; prioritize customer-facing operations last
Optimization	Ongoing	Regular review of productivity metrics and ROI analysis



Key Risk Mitigation

Risk	Mitigation Strategy	Executive Oversight
Hardware Costs	Lease arrangements, staged procurement	CFO review of financing options
Business Disruption	Weekend deployments, department-specific timing	CIO reports on deployment metrics
Technical Issues	Robust pilot phase, dedicated support teams	Weekly escalation reports during rollout
User Resistance	Executive sponsorship, focus on benefits	Clear communication plan from C-suite