

# COMPUTER GURU — by Don Benjamin

The Donald and Nancy Light Technology and Literacy Lab Programs  
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## What's New in Windows 11

*Windows 11 is Microsoft's latest version of its ubiquitous operating system. Here are some of its new features. Read on...*

Microsoft spent a lot of time making Windows 11 easier to use than its predecessor, including improvements to the operating system's look and feel and new features to help you manage your work and keep you safe from malware.

### Improved Security

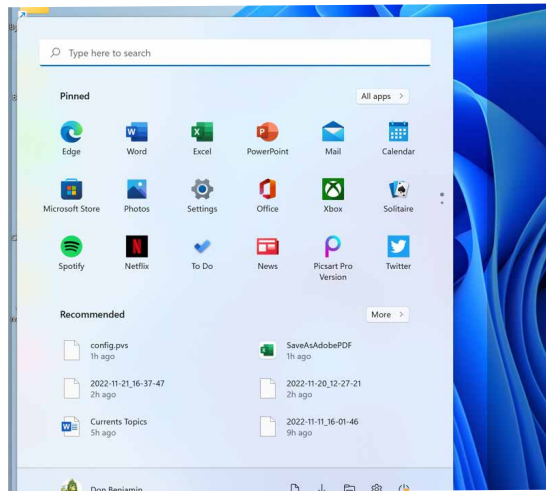
Windows 11's built-in "Smart App Control" offers more protection from malware—both new and emerging threats—by blocking malicious or untrusted applications. This alone is an excellent reason to upgrade from Windows 10.

However, these new security features require a special microchip called the "Trusted Platform Module Version 2.0." Most computers purchased within the last five years include this hardware, but older ones may not and will need to remain on Windows 10, which Microsoft plans to support until 2025.

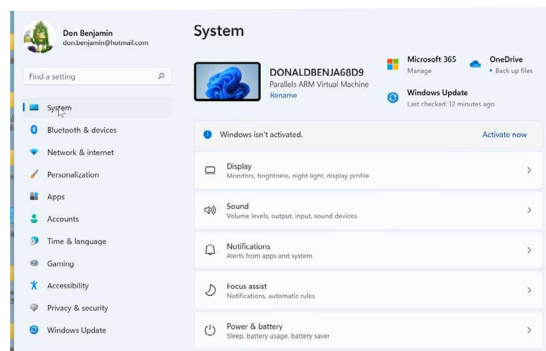
### Look and Feel

The Windows 11 user interface (the parts you see) uses rounded window corners and pleasing colors that I like. Of course, this is my subjective opinion, but it's obvious Microsoft paid attention to aesthetics. You can change your desktop background and underlying colors to suit your taste.

But Windows 11 isn't simply about "form over function."



*The Windows 11 Start menu is easier to navigate*



*The Windows 11 Settings window is cleaner and easier to find what you're looking for.*



*Windows "snap layout" bar lets you quickly arrange multiple windows on your desktop.*

In addition to its attractive new look, Microsoft also remodeled many menus and dialog windows to make them easier to navigate and appear more consistent throughout the operating system.

For example, the Settings menu is easier to navigate and includes a search bar to help you find your tweak.

### Window Control

The new Windows 11 "snap layout" feature makes arranging app windows easier. For example, when you hover your cursor over the Full-Screen box, a window opens that offers different desktop layout options. This is especially helpful when you want to keep open windows—say, your browser and Word document—side by side.

### It's Faster

Finally, Windows 11 is snappier on lower-end computers than Windows 10. I noticed a significant improvement in responsiveness on my low-end Microsoft Surface tablet when I upgraded.

### If You Need Help

If you need help navigating Windows 11, just click the tech request button at <https://princetonsenior.wufoo.com/forms/technology-assistance-request/>.