

Why Do Apps & Software Nag Me To Update & Should I Listen?

In a word, YES. These notifications can be inconvenient, especially when apps pester you with them while you're busy, but keeping your installed applications updated is important for a variety of reasons – especially security.

Why Update?

Having the latest versions of your applications is important for a variety of reasons:

- **Security:** New versions often fix security vulnerabilities in older versions of software. For example, if you're running an older version of Internet Explorer and haven't installed the latest updates for it from Windows Update, your version of Internet Explorer may be insecure. If you visit a malicious website, that website could compromise your system and install malicious software – for example, software that logs your online banking information or credit card numbers and sends it to an unscrupulous person over the Internet.
- **Stability:** New versions of software also fix other, non-security-related bugs. For example, a new version could solve crashes you may be experiencing or make a feature work properly.
- **Features:** Major new versions of software generally add new features you can take advantage of. For example, updating the Mozilla Firefox browser to a new major release will give you newer browser features.
- **Performance:** New versions of software can also increase the software's performance – for example, if you're still using Internet Explorer 6, you'll see a big web-browsing speed increase if you update to Internet Explorer 9.

If you're not sure about an update do a little research. For example, if you're not running Windows 8, you may not need to update to Internet Explorer 10. IE9 is all you need for now with Windows 7. IE10 will work in Windows 7 but it was designed for Windows 8.

Updates although sometimes a bit of a pain are good for your machine and YOU!!

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