Involuntary Windows 10 Upgrades

Hello, all

Ever since January there have been rumors and complaints about Microsoft tricking or forcing Windows users into upgrading to Windows 10 from Windows 7 or 8.1 when they were not ready to do so (or had no intentions of doing so). That drumbeat has intensified in the past month, with a number of tech articles about this subject. Based on the latest information I have seen there seems to be a considerable amount of truth to these accusations. In particular, Microsoft is now apparently treating Windows 10 as just another recommended Windows update; thus, if you have Windows Update in Win 7 or Win 8.1 set to automatically install recommended updates, your computer is likely to install Windows 10 without even asking for your permission.

Here's a personal example...... We have a Windows 7 desktop that is about five years old. After reading about this latest Microsoft tactic, I checked our old computer to see if It had been upgraded automatically. When I found that it had not, I then clicked on the "Get Win 10" icon on the taskbar to see if there were any pertinent messages. Sure enough, I found a message stating that our computer could not be upgraded to Win 10 because the on-board Nvidia graphics circuitry is not compatible with Windows 10. It was readily apparent that Microsoft had in fact tried to upgrade our computer (without asking us), and were only stymied because of an old hardware component in the computer.

PCWorld online has just published an article that discusses the latest news about this situation, cautions against disabling automatic Windows updates and offers some alternative suggestions about how you can protect yourself against an involuntary Win 10 upgrade. The many comment posts add some further information and suggestions. Here is a link to that article:

Fearing forced Windows 10 upgrades, users are disabling critical updates instead



FYI.

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