# Windows XP: Safe computing on a familiar operating system

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#### Introduction

- What does "unsupported" mean?
- Securing the Operating System
- Internet Browser Selection
- Device Driver Compatibility



## Windows XP Support Ends

- Mainstream support ended April 14, 2009
  - Non-security hot-fixes (updates) discontinued
- Extended support ends April 8, 2014
  - No longer receive software updates
  - Microsoft paid support ends.
- Note: Extended support for Vista ends in 2017.



# Securing Windows XP

- Install latest service packs & critical updates
  - Last service pack = SP3
  - Critical Updates
- Enable Windows Firewall
- Replace Windows Defender with Microsoft Security Essentials
  - Free real-time anti-virus detection and protection
  - MSE WILL receive updates on XP.
- User Accounts
  - Create and use non-admin accounts for day-to-day activities
  - Password protect admin accounts



## Internet Browser Selection

- Internet Explorer 8 (not recommended)
  - Latest is IE 11
- Mozilla Firefox
  - Windows XP SP3 is still supported.
  - Latest version is 27
- Google Chrome
  - Windows XP SP2 and later are still supported.
  - Latest version is 33



# **Device Driver Compatibility**

- New devices may not have drivers for Windows XP
- Every driver is based on a specific driver model
  - Device specific
  - Operating System specific
- Only use drivers offered directly by device manufacturer.
- Some Vista drivers may work but are not 'supported' by Microsoft nor the device vendor.



# Office 2003 Support Ends

- Mainstream support ended April 14, 2009
  - Non-security hot-fixes (updates) discontinued
- Extended support ends April 8, 2014
  - No longer receive software updates
  - Microsoft paid support ends.



### Issues with Office 2003

- Can not be installed on Windows 8
- Uses old document format (.doc, .xls, ppt)
  - Office 2007 & later use an XML document format (.docx, .xlsx, pptx)
  - To view/edit Office 2007 & later documents download and install:
    - Microsoft Office Compatibility Pack for Word, Excel & PowerPoint

