

Problems With WinDoze?

By **Alexander Baron** - Aug 16, 2015



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WinDoze 10, sorry, *Windows 10*, is now upon us; if you haven't been upgraded yet, you soon will, don't forget, it's free. Free may mean good, but does it mean better? Let's not bother with all the fancy new stuff like *Cortana*; computers follow the Pareto principle or so-called 80/20 rule, ie 80% of users will use only 20% of the machine's or software's features. At least, that used to be the case, but software is often so complex now that most people will use only a tiny fraction of what is on offer. That being said, just because you never use a particular program doesn't mean it will never affect you.

Even an astologer could have predicted there would be problems with the new interface, and sure enough there have been some **worrying reports** including vulnerability to crooks and others who want to hijack or simply trash your machine just because they can.

Then there are problems which if not malign are not exactly benign either. One of these that has affected some users is a reboot loop, which is said to be caused by a bad entry in

the registry.

Fixes for these and other problems are said now to be available. If you have problem you think may be specific to your particular machine, check out the [Microsoft support desk](#), but updates should download automatically, and these will include fixes, so be sure to instal them, especially security fixes.

Talking about one machine in particular, I have suffered several freezes that require reboots. The new interface doesn't appear to like my iPlayer much. I have also been unable so far to use my favourite DOS program. Before you say "What's DOS?" – yes, I've heard that before – it is what is now alluded to as the command prompt. Whenever I try to start the *WordStar 6* batch file I receive a message to the effect that a device attached to the system is not functioning. I am then given the choice of closing or closing! Hopefully something will be done about this sooner rather than later, although some people are complaining not about bugs but invasions of privacy. According to [correspondent Manish Singh](#), disabling *Cortana* does not stop Microsoft filching your private information, presumably to sell on to other companies who will then target you with advertisements. There is probably no way around this, but we shouldn't be too bothered about it.

One more problem with this same machine, for some bizarre reason, when I turn it on in the morning, the clock is seven and a half hours fast. Bizarre or what?

With the above caveats, the upgrade has been reasonably smooth. Finally, just as there was no *Windows 9*, so there will be no *Windows 11*, which means the interface in front of you at the moment is likely to be recognisably the same ten years and more from now. Having said that, don't count on it, it isn't that long since we were using floppy disks and limited to 8 digit file names with a 3 digit extension, that's for those of you old enough to remember DOS.