In this lesson, we're going to talk about upgrading windows, either from different versions or from different editions. Now, when it comes to Windows, there are lots of different ways to upgrade it, but one of the most common that you're going to use is what's known as an in-place upgrade. Now, an in-place upgrade means that the setup program for the new version is going to be launched within your current operating system. So if you're already using Windows 10 on your machine and you want to upgrade to Windows 11, you can actually download and install the upgrade program within Windows 10, and then be able to upgrade directly from within Windows 10 to Windows 11 without losing any of your personal data. Now, before you attempt to do any upgrades, you should always verify if your system meets the minimum requirements for the new operating system you're trying to upgrade to. For example, if you're running Windows 10 on your system, you should use the PC Health Check app to be able to determine if you meet the minimum requirements for Windows 11 before you begin the upgrade process. So if you want to upgrade to Windows 11 from a Windows 10 system, you can simply go into your Settings and then go to Updates and Security, Windows Update and then Check for Updates. When you do this, it will determine if there is a new version of Windows 11 that's ready for you to install from your Windows 10 machine. If there is, it will allow you to install it directly from within the Windows updates inside of the settings of your Windows machine. Now, another way to install Windows 11 on top of Windows 10 is to do what's known as a full upgrade. Now, to perform a full upgrade, you're going to download the Windows 11 installation media and place it onto something like a USB thumb drive. Once you've created the Windows 11 media on that thumb drive, you can then launch the setup program from that thumb drive within Windows 10, and then perform a full upgrade. A full upgrade will keep all your personal files, including your drivers, applications, and Windows settings on the machine, and this is the default type of upgrade when performing an upgrade from installation media. Other options you have include keeping data only. If you do the keep data only upgrade, this will keep all of your personal files, including your drivers, but it will not keep any of your applications or Windows settings. This is useful if you have a system that's been infected with malware, and you'll be able to save your personal data without bringing over the malicious applications or files from that old operating system. The third type of install you can do is what's known as a clean install, and a clean install will install Windows 11 while deleting all of your personal settings, files and folders. This is the type of installation or upgrade that you're going to want to do if you suspect that your computer has become victim of some sort of malicious software, and you really want to ensure that everything is gone, because again, everything will be gone. This will essentially create a brand new Windows 11 machine for you with none of your personal data moving along with you during that upgrade process. Now, in addition from moving from one version of Windows to another, such as going from Windows 10 to Windows 11, you can also do what's known as an edition upgrade. For example, let's say you went to the store and bought a new computer, and it came with Windows 10 Home edition installed by default, but you want to be able to use that in your office environment and be able to connect it to your domain controller instead of using a work group setup. To be able to do this, you have to upgrade out of the Home edition and into something like Windows 10 Pro, or Windows 10 Pro Education, or Windows 10 Education, or Windows 10 Enterprise. Well, from the Home edition, you can only upgrade into Windows 10 Pro, Windows 10 Pro Education, or Windows 10 Education, you cannot upgrade into the Enterprise edition because Windows doesn't support that. If you have a computer that's using Windows 10 Pro, you can upgrade into Windows 10 Pro Education, Windows 10 Education, or Windows 10 Enterprise, if you'd like. Remember, when it comes to an edition upgrade, you're going to be staying within the same version family, such as Windows 10 or Windows 11, but you're moving up in feature sets, going from Windows 10 Home to Windows 10 Pro or Windows 10 Education. On the other hand, if you're doing a version upgrade, you're going to be moving from one version number to the next, such as going from Windows 10 into Windows 11. Now, the final thing to remember is when it comes to moving between versions, it's really easy to upgrade and go from Home to Pro or over to Education, but you can't always downgrade from a higher level into a lower level. For example, if you're using Windows 10 Enterprise edition, you're not able to downgrade that into a Windows 10 Home or Windows 10 Pro installation. This is not supported by Microsoft, and you can only move upwards and not go downwards. If you do go downwards, this is called an edition downgrade, and if it is supported by your variant of Windows, keep in mind that your personal data will be maintained, but all of your applications and settings are going to be removed when you go from a higher edition to a lower edition. For example, Windows 10 Pro, if you have that installed, you can downgrade that into Windows 10 Home, but you're going to lose all of your applications and all of your settings when you do this. So keep that in mind as you think about your upgrade and downgrade pass inside of Windows.