

Operating System Security & Privacy

There are many operating systems & they have full control over your device. If an OS is compromised, you are at the top of the vulnerability risk list.

- No operating system is perfect.
- All OSes around us have pros & cons.
- More security features are found in Linux & its derivatives.
- But in mobile, iOS is better for security as it is a restricted system. Android is open as compared to iOS in letting users take control of what they do.

★ All secure operating systems have serious critical security vulnerabilities.

→ Microsoft, because of its market share, is more researched about & hence more vulnerabilities are found.

→ As of 2018, 81.73% people used Microsoft whereas only 1.66% used Linux. macOS has come to recognition from then.

Windows 10

→ This is an operating system that uses many cloud-based features to learn about you.

→ Eg. Cortana, their voice assistant, stores ALL of your data in the name of personalization.

→ Microsoft privacy statement clearly states that they collect your data & can share it with third-party applications.

→ In exchange of good features, personal data is traded.

★ You can find many online tools that can fix privacy issues in Win10. They can disable tracking easily. It's good to choose open-source tools so that you can validate it.

- ★ With every major update, privacy settings are set to default.
 - ★ Currently in Windows 11 (as of 2025), in privacy settings:
 - Apps show you personalized ads -- NO
 - Let websites provide locally relevant content by accessing my language list -- NO
 - Turn off location for privacy, if not needed anywhere else.
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