10.4.2 Post-Installation Facts

Complete the following tasks following a successful installation of Windows:

- Edit the BIOS/UEFI settings to boot from the hard drive first. This prevents the system from accidentally booting from the optical drive or the USB drive.
- Update device drivers for unrecognized devices. During installation, drivers for many devices are installed from drivers on the installation disc. However, Windows may not include device drivers for all the hardware in the system. Use Device Manager to verify the status of all hardware devices. If necessary, manually download and install drivers for any unknown devices.
- Configure Windows Update and download the latest updates. This may take some time to complete, so plan according in your deployment plan.
- When Windows clients are installed into a Windows domain, verify that they are in the right time zone and are configured to get time from the correct time provider. Use the w32tm command line utility as follows:
    - **w32tm /tz** returns the current time zone settings on the client.
    - **w32tm /query /source** returns the time source being used by the Windows Time service on the client.
    - **w32tm /query /status** returns the status of the Windows Time service on the client.
    - **w32tm /?** displays command line help for other w32tm parameters that can be used for configuring, monitoring, and troubleshooting the Windows Time service on the client.
- After installation, you must activate your copy of Windows. Activation does not send personal information to Microsoft (it isn't the same as registration). Some things to remember about activation are:
    - During activation, the product ID, hardware hash, and the product keys are verified through Microsoft.
    - You can activate over the internet. The system will warn you if your activation is about to expire.
    - If you reinstall Windows, it will need to be activated again.
    - As a best practice, consider not activating Windows until you are sure the system is stable. This allows you to use the system for several days without activation, letting you reinstall if necessary.
    - A significant hardware change, such as upgrading your motherboard, may require Windows to be reactivated. If this is the case, you might need to contact Microsoft to get a reactivation key.
- Configure the Windows Firewall and install anti-malware software. Be sure to update your anti-malware definition files.
- Migrate user configuration settings and data:
    - If you perform an in-place upgrade installation, user settings and data are automatically retained; you do not need to use these tools to transfer files. But you should verify that all installed applications run correctly.
    - If you perform a new installation on the existing system, run the transfer utility *before* performing the installation and save the resulting files to removable media or a network location. Following the installation, run the transfer utility to copy the data into the new installation.
    - If you are moving from an old computer to a new computer, you can transfer files directly between the two computers.
    - Migrating user settings and files does *not* migrate applications on the new computer, nor does it migrate system files such as fonts or drivers.
- Once the installation is complete, install applications and add other Windows features.
- Configure system backups and other data protection methods (such as System Protection and File History).