**Readying Your Computers For Recycling**

Recycling outdated computers is the most efficient way to upgrade to a new system. After all, allowing retired equipment to collect dust in your home or office, or even discarding it in the trash, contributes to clutter and e-waste, both of which are harmful to the environment.

Make careful to properly prepare your equipment for a new owner before purchasing new equipment and recycling your old computers. Data left on an old computer, after all, might simply be stolen, jeopardising your funds, business, and identity.

Here are some of the simplest ways to recycle your computer while keeping your personal information private.

**Important Files Should Be Back Upped**

You may be done with old computer, but the data on it is still needed to use your new equipment. Before you destroy any data, make sure you transfer crucial files to the following locations:

* A Cloud
* An external hard drive
* USB sticks
* Your new PC

There is no way to restore data once it has been fully erased. So, before calling in an electronics recycling firm, make sure this is your first step.

**Your Programs Must Be Removed**

While keeping paid apps like Microsoft Office on your computer may appear safe and even courteous, the reality is that many of these programmes retain personal information that might be damaging in the wrong hands.

Before you throw away your computer, go through your programmes and uninstall anything that might include personal information such as your name, address, or financial information.

**Remove your computer's authorization**

In some cases, the programmes you need may only be able to run on a limited number of computers at the same time. Make sure you deauthorize your computer as a user before you uninstall any programmes. This helps you avoid any snafus that can force you to pay for a costly software more than once.

**Clear Your History of Browsing**

Others can simply follow your browsing history to sites where you have entered financial information for transactions. Once you've arrived. A cyber burglar can easily obtain your personal information and utilise it for their own benefit.

Protect your finances by deleting your browsing history from all of your computer's browsers. This will eliminate:

* Saved passwords
* Download history
* Private auto-fill form data
* Cached images and files, etc.

**Investigate Data Disposal Services**

The only way to ensure that your sensitive information stays private is to completely destroy your hard disc and data. There is no way back for cyber burglars once a hard disc has been physically destroyed through proper disposal techniques.

However, because improper data deletion is against the law, you should contact a local recycling business that can handle massive data removal projects quickly.

[Recycle Pro](https://www.recyclepro.co.uk/) is accredited, so you can be assured that not only will your data be properly disposed of, but that it will be done in an environmentally conscious manner as well.

Recycle Pro's data removal services can help you properly protect yourself from a data breach.