

- **Identify a system and a piece of software of your choice, i.e. operating system or an application that you are familiar with. Investigate the features of these pieces of software and then compare their features. Where appropriate, use images to demonstrate and explain these software pieces' functionality.**

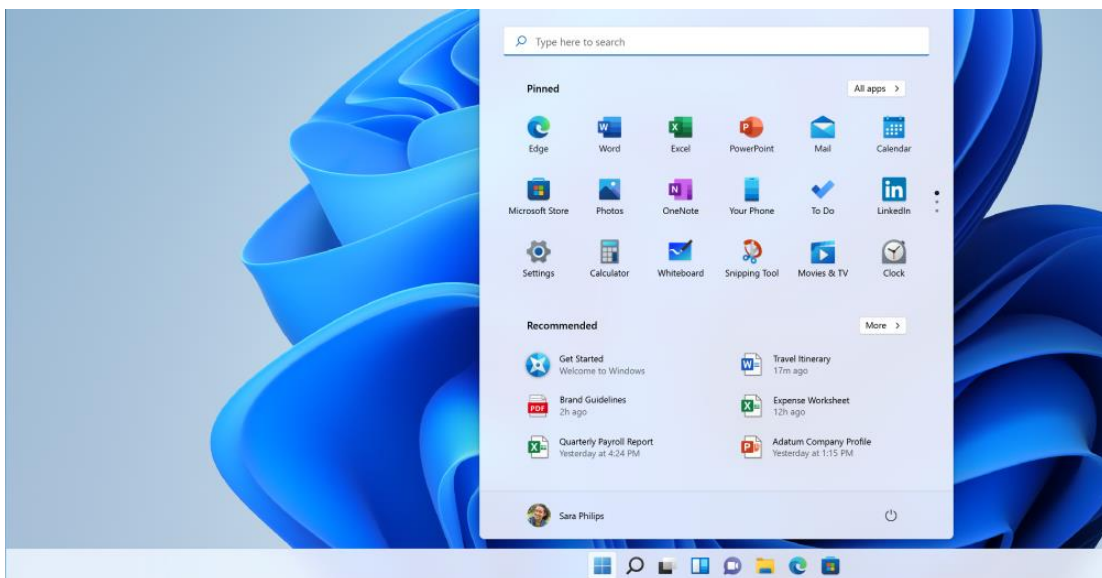
Microsoft Windows is a popular operating system widely used on personal computers and laptops. It has evolved, with each version introducing new features and improvements. For instance, here are an overview of some of the key elements of Microsoft Windows 11 and how they compare across different versions:

- **User Interface (UI):** The user interface is the graphical representation of the operating system that enables users to interact with it. Windows has undergone several UI changes over the years, with the most recent version (Windows 11) introducing a new design language called "Fluent Design." This design language aims to create a more seamless and consistent experience across different devices.
- **Start Menu:** The Start Menu is a central hub that allows users to access their applications, settings, and files. It has also evolved over the years, with Windows 11 introducing a new Start Menu design that is more centred and provides quick access to frequently used applications and documents.
- **Cortana:** Cortana is a virtual assistant that uses natural language processing to answer questions, set reminders, and perform other tasks. It was introduced in Windows 10 and has since been integrated into the search bar in Windows 11.
- **File Explorer:** File Explorer is a file management tool that allows users to navigate and manage their files and folders. It has remained consistent across different versions of Windows, with minor improvements introduced over time.

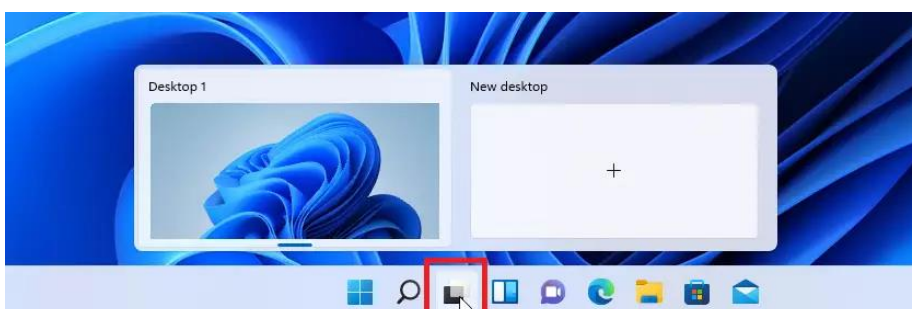
- **Task View:** Task View is a feature that allows users to switch between different open applications and virtual desktops. It was introduced in Windows 10 and refined in Windows 11 to provide a more intuitive and customisable experience.
- **Microsoft Edge:** Microsoft Edge is a web browser developed by Microsoft that replaces Internet Explorer. Speed, security, and privacy improvements have been updated over the years. It also includes features such as Collections, which allows users to save and organise web content.

Here are some screenshots that demonstrate the functionality of some of these features in Windows 11:

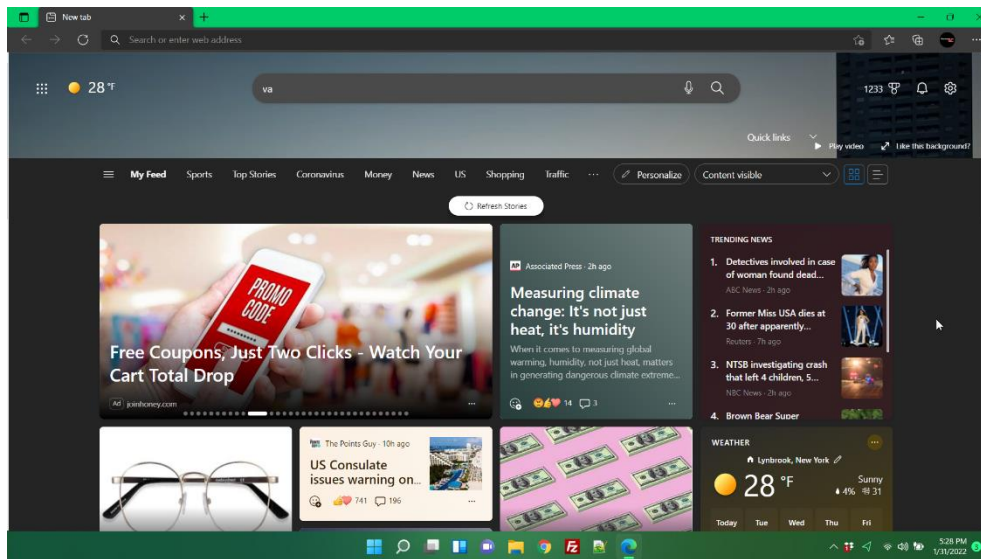
Windows 11 Start Menu:



Windows 11 Task View:



Microsoft Edge in Windows 11:



In comparison to earlier versions of Windows, Windows 11 has a more refined and modern design, with a stronger focus on simplicity and ease of use. It also includes new features such as Snap Layouts, Snap Groups, and Virtual Desktops that make multitasking more efficient. Additionally, Windows 11 includes improvements to security, such as the introduction of Windows Hello for Business and enhanced protection against malware and ransomware attacks.

Microsoft Windows has evolved over the years to provide a more user-friendly and efficient operating system. With each new version, Microsoft introduces new features and improvements that make the user experience better.

Reference:

Brinkhoff, C. and Larsen, P., 2021. *Mastering Microsoft Endpoint Manager: Deploy and manage Windows 10, Windows 11, and Windows 365 on both physical and cloud PCs*.

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Halsey, M., (2022). Making Windows 11 Easier to Use. In *Windows 11 Made Easy: Getting Started and Making It Work for You* (pp. 113-128). Berkeley, CA: Apress.

Halsey, M., (2022). Windows 11 File and Folder Structure in Depth. In *Troubleshooting and Supporting Windows 11: Creating Robust, Reliable, Sustainable, and Secure Systems* (pp. 299-320). Berkeley, CA: Apress.