

When considering upgrading a Windows operating system today, the primary system to which you'll upgrade is Windows 7. You can't buy retail versions of Windows XP or Windows Vista systems anymore, but Windows 7 is available. With that in mind, it's important to understand which operating systems can be upgraded to Windows 7 and which can't.

Two key points to remember are as follows:

- You can upgrade Windows Vista to Windows 7.
- You cannot upgrade Windows XP directly to Windows 7.

If desired, you can upgrade Windows XP to Windows Vista and then upgrade Windows Vista to Windows 7. However, most IT professionals recommend performing a clean install. You'll have to reinstall applications after the install, but you can migrate user data and settings from Windows XP to Windows 7.



Data migration tools

The two tools used to migrate user data and settings are the Windows Easy Transfer tool and the User State Migration Tool. Both are discussed later in this chapter.

Table 5-2 lists the available upgrade paths from earlier versions of Windows. If an upgrade path is not available, you must do a clean installation of Windows 7.

Table 5-2 Windows 7 Upgrade Paths

	Upgrade to Home Premium	Upgrade to Professional	Upgrade to Ultimate
From Windows XP	No	No	No
From Windows Vista Home Premium	Yes	Yes	Yes
From Windows Vista Business	No	Yes	Yes
From Windows Vista Ultimate	No	No	Yes
From 32-bit to 64-bit	No	No	No
From 64-bit to 32-bit	No	No	No

Note that when you're doing an upgrade from Windows Vista to Windows 7, you can upgrade only to a comparable edition or higher. For example, you can upgrade Vista Home Premium to Windows 7 Professional or Ultimate. You cannot upgrade Vista Ultimate to Windows 7 Home Premium because Home Premium is a step down from Ultimate. Likewise, you can't upgrade a consumer version of Windows 7 to a business version (that is, from Windows 7 Ultimate to Windows 7 Enterprise).



Upgrade vs. Upgrade

Upgrade means two different things depending on the context. One is related to the purchase price, and the other is related to how Windows can be installed. Operating systems can be purchased at full retail price or at a reduced upgrade price if a user is running a qualified earlier version. For example, if users are running Windows 2000, XP, or Vista, they can purchase and install the upgrade version of Windows 7 at a reduced cost. The only difference between this version and the full retail version is that this version checks to ensure that users have an earlier version of Windows. If they don't have a qualifying version of Windows, they need to purchase the retail version at full price. However, when doing the installation, they can do an upgrade only from Windows Vista to Windows 7. If they are running Windows 2000 or XP, the actual installation will be a clean install, not an upgrade.

Chapter 5

Laboratory Manual

INSTALLING AND UPGRADING WINDOWS



Laboratory Activities

- 5.01 Installing/Upgrading Considerations
- 5.02 Using Windows Easy Transfer
- 5.03 Upgrading a Windows Operating System
- 5.04 Performing a Clean Installation of Windows 7
- 5.05 Performing a Clean Installation of Windows XP
- 5.06 Post-Installation Tasks: Drivers and Updates

Chapter Analysis and Written Test

Lab Activity 5.02 Using Windows Easy Transfer

You're about to upgrade a client's computer from Windows XP to Windows 7, but the client doesn't want to lose any of her important data. She doesn't have a lot of data to transfer, just a gigabyte or so, but that data is absolutely essential to the operation of her business. Fortunately, you're a savvy tech and you know that Windows Easy Transfer will enable you to back up her documents onto a flash drive and then transfer them to her new OS after it's installed.

Learning Objectives

You'll learn how to use Windows Easy Transfer effectively to back up files and transfer them to a new operating system.

At the end of this lab, you'll be able to

- use Windows Easy Transfer to back up files onto a USB thumb drive
- use Windows Easy Transfer to transfer files onto a new OS installation

Lab Materials and Setup

The materials you need for this lab are

- a PC running Windows XP or Windows Vista
- a PC running Windows 7
- Internet access (optional)
- a USB thumb drive (1 GB or more)

Let's Get the Lab Started

Microsoft's Windows Easy Transfer has made moving data to a new computer as easy as it could be, but it's still a somewhat complicated program. In this lab, you'll learn all the necessary steps you need to take to move a customer's data from one computer to another. If you ever work as a PC tech in a retail store, this sort of information will be vital when trying to convince customers to upgrade their PCs.

Step 1 The first thing you need to do to use Windows Easy Transfer, of course, is to get a copy of Windows Easy Transfer for Windows XP. Microsoft offers Windows Easy Transfer as a free download, so go to www.microsoft.com/downloads and do a search for Easy Transfer to locate the specific version for the OS from which you are upgrading. Click the search result and then download the program to your hard drive. I'd give you the direct link to the download page here, but it's Microsoft's Web site, so it'll probably change in six months. **(Optional Step)- ask your teacher for the installer of Windows Easy Transfer.**

After you've downloaded a copy of Windows Easy Transfer to your XP machine, run it and follow the onscreen prompts to install the program. Once it's installed, run it from the All Programs menu. (It should be listed as Windows Easy Transfer for Windows 7.) The first screen (see Figure 5-2) gives you information about the transfer process, so once you've read all of that, click the Next button.



FIGURE 5-2 Running Windows Easy Transfer.

Step 2 The next screen (see Figure 5-3) offers you several different options from which to choose how you want to transfer the files and settings to your new computer, whether by Easy Transfer Cable (a special USB cable sold by Microsoft), by a network connection (useful if you're transferring between two computers on a local area network), or by an external hard disk or USB flash drive. Since you're using a USB flash drive, a type of removable media, select the third option.

Once you've selected the removable media option, the wizard asks you which computer you are using now (see Figure 5-4). The only option you have is *This is my old computer*. Makes sense, right? You can't use Easy Transfer to migrate to Windows XP, only *from* Windows XP. Click on *This is my old computer*.

On the next screen, you can pick which account's files and settings you want to move to the new Windows 7 computer (see Figure 5-5). After it finishes scanning, choose all of them by selecting the checkboxes and then click Next.

The next page enables you to enter a password to encrypt your data for added security (see Figure 5-6). After adding a password that you can remember, click Save.

Save your Easy Transfer file to your flash drive. Depending on the size of the files belonging to each user account, this can take some time. Once all the files have been saved, Windows Easy Transfer will prompt you. Click Next, and then click Close. It's time to go to the new Windows 7 computer!

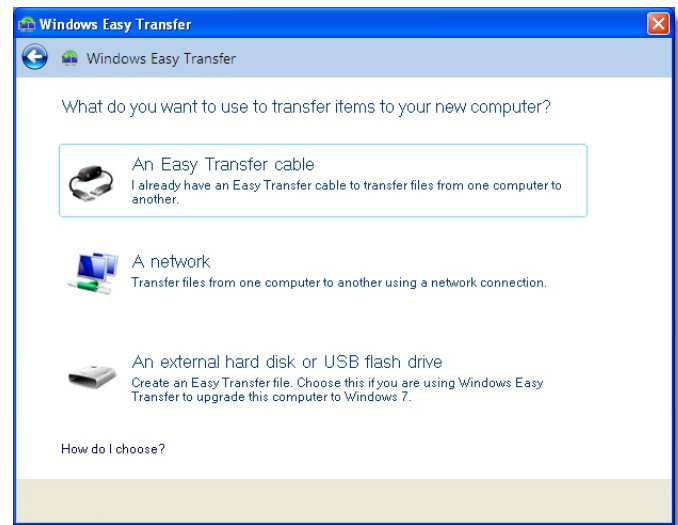


FIGURE 5-3 How do you want to transfer your files?

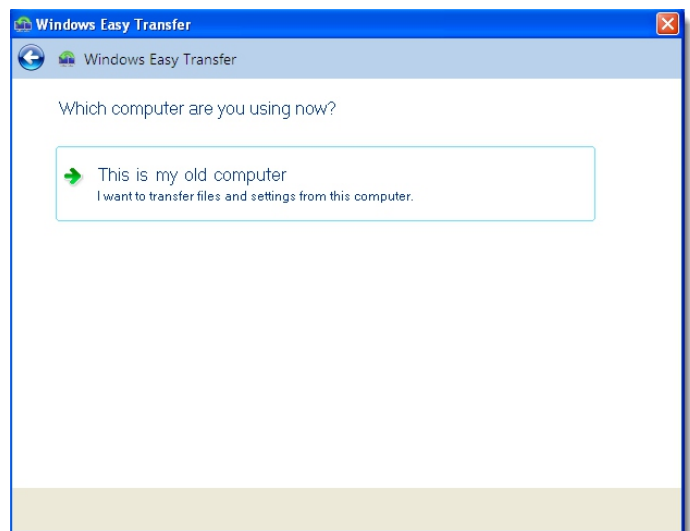


FIGURE 5-4 Which computer are you using now?

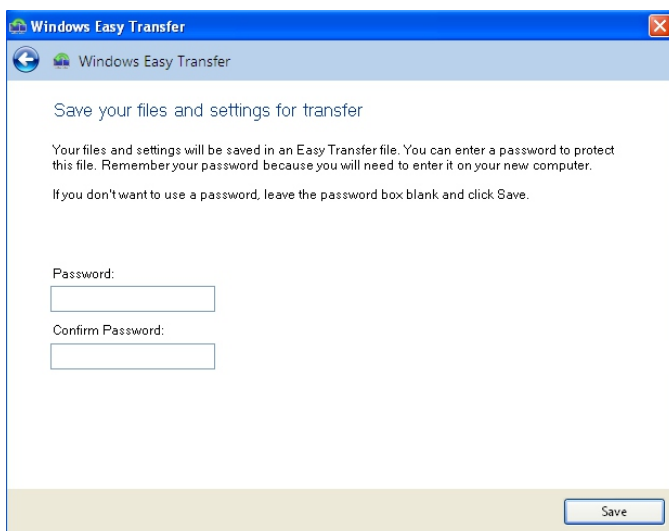


FIGURE 5-6 Password protection

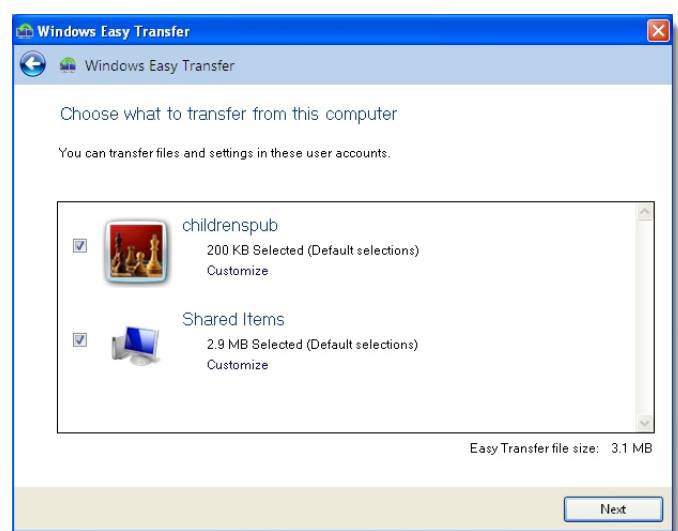


FIGURE 5-5 Choose what to transfer from this computer

Step 3 Once you've transferred all your files onto your USB thumb drive, you can remove the drive and move it to your PC running Windows 7. If you don't have a PC with Windows 7 already installed, skip to Lab Activity 14.04 and then come back when you're finished with it. Once you are on your Windows 7 PC, open Windows Easy Transfer by going to Start | All Programs | Accessories | System Tools | Windows Easy Transfer.

When the wizard starts, you can once more click Next past the welcome screen. The next screen will present you with the same options as before. Your choices are an Easy Transfer Cable, a network, an external device, or a USB flash drive. Since you've backed up the files from the old computer onto a flash drive, select An external hard disk or USB flash drive.

The next screen asks which computer you are using right now. Since you are now on the Windows 7 computer, choose This is my new computer (see Figure 5-7).

Next, the wizard will ask you if Easy Transfer already saved the files from your old computer to an external hard disk or USB drive. Yes it did! Choose the correct path to the file saved on your flash drive and open it.

You will then need to enter the password you created back on the Windows XP computer to access your content. Then click Next.

Windows Easy Transfer will then take a moment to scan the file. Eventually, it will display a screen for you to select which account's files and settings you want to transfer to the new PC. Select all of them if they aren't already selected (see Figure 5-8).

Finally, click the Transfer button, and all of your information from the Windows XP computer will be transferred to the Windows 7 computer.

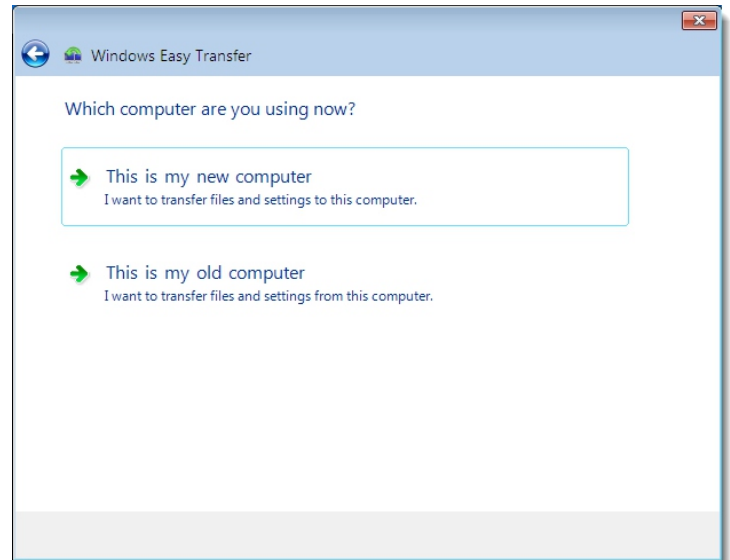


FIGURE 5-7 Choosing This is my new computer

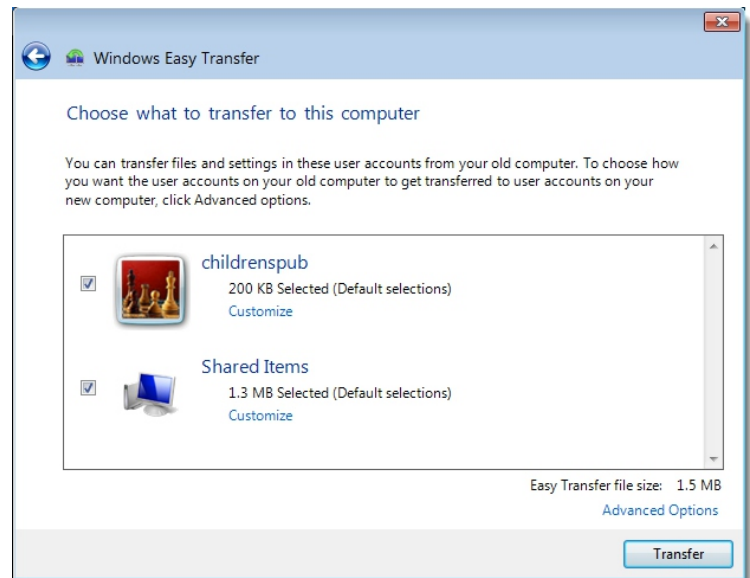


FIGURE 5-8 Choose what to transfer to this computer