

Licensing Microsoft Windows 8.1

Volume Licensing

EDITIONS AND AVAILABILITY

		main options for business users		
Volume Licensing (VL)			Windows 8.1 Pro	Windows 8.1 Enterprise
Full Packaged Product (FPP)		Windows 8.1	Windows 8.1 Pro	
OEM (PC Preinstall)	Windows RT 8.1	Windows 8.1	Windows 8.1 Pro	

Windows RT 8.1 is for devices powered by ARM-processors. It shares communality and code with Windows 8.1 and provides a consistent Windows experience. Windows RT 8.1 is ideal for consumers, but also has a place in the business world where users can use it to access a VDI desktop.

BUYING WINDOWS 8.1

Through Volume Licensing

- ▶ Upgrade license for Windows 8.1 Pro or Windows 8.1 Enterprise
- ▶ Qualifying operating system required

Through OEM

- ▶ Preinstalled on a new computer
- ▶ The software "lives and dies" on that machine
- ▶ Full version, non-transferrable license
- ▶ New license required if motherboard is changed

SOFTWARE ASSURANCE

Windows 8.1 Enterprise may be purchased with or without Software Assurance. When purchased with SA, Windows 8.1 Enterprise provides additional benefits:

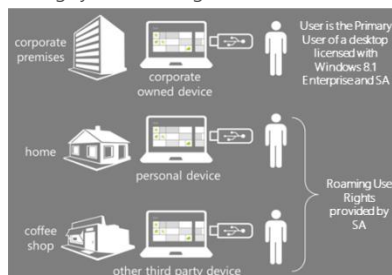
- More licensing rights:
 - VDA rights**
 - Windows RT Companion VDA rights**
 - Windows To Go Use Rights
 - Roaming Use Rights
- Purchasing options:
 - MDOP (Microsoft Desktop Optimization Pack)
 - Windows SA per User Add-on USL**

** covered in the "Licensing Microsoft Virtualization Technologies" handout in this series

WINDOWS TO GO

For organizations who have purchased Windows 8.1 Enterprise with SA, Windows To Go enables the creation of a Windows To Go desktop that can be booted from a USB stick on PCs, regardless of the operating system running on the PC. Windows To Go desktops can use the same image enterprises use for their desktop PCs and laptops and can be managed the same way.

When end-users are provided with the bootable USB stick, they are able to use their Windows 8.1 desktop on corporate devices, as well as personal devices and other third party devices when outside the corporate firewall.



FEATURE COMPARISON

	Windows 8.1 Enterprise	Windows 8.1 Pro	Windows 8.1	Windows RT 8.1
Start Screen, Live Tiles, Windows 8.1 Apps	✓	✓	✓	✓
Installation of x86/64 and desktop applications	✓	✓	✓	
Exchange ActiveSync	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mobile broadband	✓	✓	✓	✓
BitLocker and BitLocker To Go	✓	✓		
BitLocker-based Device Encryption			✓	✓
Client Hyper-V	✓	✓		
Domain Join and Group Policy	✓	✓		
Enterprise Sideload*	✓	✓		
DirectAccess	✓			
BranchCache	✓			
AppLocker	✓			

ENTERPRISE SIDeloading

New for Windows 8, Enterprise Sideload is the process of installing custom Windows Apps directly to a device without going through the public Windows Store.

- ▶ *Enterprise Sideload is enabled as a feature for domain joined PCs running Windows 8.1 Pro or Enterprise editions acquired through a Volume Licensing program
- ▶ *Windows RT 8.1, and non-domain joined Windows 8.1 Pro/Enterprise devices can be enabled for Enterprise Sideload via a Product Key obtained by acquiring Enterprise Sideload Rights
- ▶ EA, Select Plus and EES customers are granted Enterprise Sideload Rights
- ▶ Other customers may purchase Enterprise Sideload Rights for \$100 through Open to cover an unlimited number of devices

WINDOWS 8.1 DOWNGRADE RIGHTS

Can downgrade to:	FPP	OEM	Volume Licensing	
			Pro	Enterprise
Windows 8 Enterprise	-	-	-	✓
Windows 8 Pro	-	-	✓	✓
Windows 7 Enterprise	-	-	-	✓
Windows 7 Professional	-	✓	✓	✓
Windows Vista Enterprise	-	-	-	✓
Windows Vista Business	-	✓	✓	✓
Windows XP Professional	-	-	✓	✓
Windows 2000 Professional	-	-	✓	✓
Windows 95 / 98 / NT	-	-	✓	✓

PRODUCT ACTIVATION

Every copy of Windows 8.1 must be activated with a valid product key. Licenses bought through FPP and OEM can be activated via the Internet or telephone. There are three ways which organizations with Volume Licensing agreements can activate Windows 8.1:

A **Multiple Activation Key (MAK)** is a volume license key that is used for one-time activation with activation services that are hosted by Microsoft. This method is useful for smaller organizations, and for computers which are infrequently connected to the organization's network.

Key Management Service (KMS) activation is done against a service hosted within an organization, enabling organizations to activate systems within their network, eliminating the need for individual computers to connect to Microsoft.

Active Directory-based Activation is a role service that allows organizations to use Active Directory Domain Services (ADDS) to simplify the task of maintaining volume activation services for a network.

Further Microsoft Licensing handouts and exams:
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