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Time for Software Upgrades

Windows 10 April Update, AKA '1803'W

The April Feature Update for Windows 10 has now reached around half of Windows 10 systems, by my count. You can check what version of Windows 10 you are running by running Winver from the Windows search box. '1803' just means 2018, March. These feature updates are on a semi-annual schedule, so the previous update was '1709'.



These feature updates are large, including several gigabytes of downloads. They're generally slow as well, but Microsoft has worked to reduce the time that each computer is unusable during the pale-blue screens of 'Updating...' messages, and on most computers, this patch takes around 20 minutes for that big reboot, down from around 40 for last Autumn's update. If your system missed some of the big feature updates, it can still go directly from any Windows 10 version to version 1803 as one update. So far, this update has caused only minor glitches, mostly fixable with a setting change, so if Windows asks you to schedule a reboot, set it for after-hours; it's ready.

Here's a Windows Blog writeup, with video clips, showing the new features in the April 2018 update:

<https://blogs.windows.com/windowsexperience/2018/04/30/whats-new-in-the-windows-10-april-2018-update/>

Timeline



Think of Timeline in the April update as a directory of what documents you have worked on in the last day or two. It's easy to use, just click the Timeline icon; it's positioned in the task bar, just to the right of the



search box, before the 'pinned' icons for your programs. Timeline will display a list and preview of recent documents and windows. Exit it by clicking a document, or pressing Escape ('Esc') on your keyboard, or clicking anywhere that isn't a document.

Focus Assist

This is a new setting to silence social media notifications in Windows. Usually, I just answer 'NO!!' every time a web site asks to send notifications, and especially not using Microsoft Edge, as it would be sliding in alerts to the bottom-right corner of your screen all day. The new 'focus alert' feature is mis-named. It should be called, "Shut up, Windows!". Recommended!

In settings, go to 'Focus Assist Settings' and choose when Windows can not interrupt you. There are some fine controls for power users, under the heading 'Customize your priority list', and these can allow you to choose the type and source (contacts or programs) that can display a message.

WordPerfect X9

There's a new version of WordPerfect, now at level X9 (or 19). So far, it's available for download, only, directly from Corel, or from [Amazon](#), but the boxed version should be available by the end of June. Corel has upgrade pricing, but ONLY for previous purchasers of WordPerfect Standard or Pro, not Student or other versions.

I've worked with X9 only a little so far, just for writing the updates to Graphcat 6.5 (below), and it behaved well, but the choice of whether to upgrade probably depends on how old your current version of WordPerfect is. There's a feature comparison by product versions X5 through X9, showing what versions have what new features, here:

https://www.wordperfect.com/static/wpo/product_content/wordperfect/x9/wpox9-version-matrix-en.pdf

It's important to note that the 'Home & Student' version does not import PDF files for editing. There's a list of what Home & Student, Standard, and Pro versions will do, here:

https://www.wordperfect.com/static/wpo/product_content/wordperfect/x9/wpox9-family-comparison-chart-en.pdf

Graphcat 6.5

Of course, with a new version of WordPerfect, I have released a new version of Graphcat, so that photo albums and clip art catalogs can be created easily, in an editable set of pages. The new version 6.5 of Graphcat supports WordPerfect 10 through X9, and the setup program will detect what version (or multiple versions) of WordPerfect are on your system, and setup Graphcat for each of them.

Graphcat creates catalogs of images, automatically.

Images in c:\Graphcat**

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ALARM



AUTO08



BARREL



BIGMAN1



CONFESS



DANCER07



DELIVERY



FAT03



MARSHBOY



NEWPET



PROFESOR



READING



ROBBER



SHADOW02



STAND10



TIMELOSS

Upgrades to Graphcat from all previous versions are available at half-price; ask me for a discount coupon before ordering online. New purchases of Graphcat Photo Cataloger are \$20, online at <https://www.graphcat.com>

Contact

Address all editorial and unsubscribe requests to:
 Jerry Stern, Editor, Science Translations, P.O. Box 1735, Westminster MD 21158

Phone (410) 871-2877

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