

"WINDOWS.." OPERATING SYSTEM NUMBERING

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Tu **COMPUTER**
CSon
SOCIETY



An International
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SUMMARY

Here is our explanation of Microsoft's product numbering system that is used for the Windows.. line of operating systems.

TOPICS

- Entire Product Number of a Specific Copy Of Windows..
- Determining the Entire Product Number of Windows..
- Determining the Partial Product Number of Windows..
- Conundrum for the term "version"
- Appendix: Windows Insider

ENTIRE PRODUCT NUMBER OF A SPECIFIC
COPY OF "WINDOWS.."

- "**CurrentMajorVersion**" number

DOT

FOLLOWED BY

"**CurrentMinorVersion**" number

DOT

FOLLOWED BY

"**CurrentBuild**" number

DOT

FOLLOWED BY

"**UBR**"

ENTIRE PRODUCT NUMBER OF A SPECIFIC

COPY OF "WINDOWS.." (continued)

- "**CurrentMajorVersion**" number

(= "NT version major number)

DOT & FOLLOWED BY

"**CurrentMinorVersion**" number

(= "NT version minor number")

DOT & FOLLOWED BY

"**CurrentBuild**" number (5 digit number)

DOT & FOLLOWED BY

"**UBR**" (3 or 4 digit number)

= "Update Build Revision" number

= "Minor Build number" = "Cumulative

Update number" ⁶

DETERMINING THE ENTIRE PRODUCT NUMBER

- `cmd -c ver`
Enter key
from inside a Powershell window
or a command prompt window
shows the entire product number
as the "version"

DETERMINING THE ENTIRE PRODUCT NUMBER (continued)

- cmd
Enter key
from inside a Command Prompt window
or a search field
or from inside a Powershell window
shows the entire product number
as the "version"

DETERMINING THE ENTIRE PRODUCT NUMBER (continued)

- ver

Enter key

from inside a Command Prompt window shows the entire product number

However "ver" does not work inside a "Powershell" window

and "Powershell" is the default

command line window in "Windows 11"

"Windows 10", "Windows 8", "Windows

8.1", and "Windows 7".

DETERMINING A PARTIAL PRODUCT NUMBER

- systeminfo

Enter key

from inside a Command Prompt window or a Powershell window

shows the "OS Version" as

"CurrentMajorVersion" number

DOT

"CurrentMinorVersion" number

DOT

"CurrentBuild" number

DOT

but does not show the UBR

DETERMINING A PARTIAL PRODUCT NUMBER (continued)

- 6-month or "Feature Updates" or "Out of sequence updates" change both the "CurrentBuild" number and the "Update Build Revision" number

DETERMINING A PARTIAL PRODUCT NUMBER (continued)

- Monthly cumulative updates on "Patch Tuesdays" usually only change the 3-digit or 4 digit "Revision Number" value
- Some monthly cumulative updates change both the "CurrentBuild" and the "UpdateBuildRevision" number

DETERMINING A PARTIAL PRODUCT NUMBER (continued)

- In Windows 10, the winver command which can be run from a Search box, a Powershell window, or a "Command Prompt" window shows the "OS Build" as **"CurrentBuild"** number, then a dot, and then the **"Update Build Revision"** number as
XXXXX.XXX
or
XXXXX.XXXX

DETERMINING A PARTIAL PRODUCT NUMBER (continued)

- In Windows 10, however the winver command also shows the "Version" as a 4-character "Windows..version" number such as 1903, 1909, 2004, 20H2, 21H1, or 21H2

as explained at

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Windows_10_version_history

DETERMINING A PARTIAL PRODUCT NUMBER (continued)

- In Windows 11, the winver command also shows the current "Windows 11 Version" as
21H2

DETERMINING A PARTIAL PRODUCT NUMBER (continued)

- If you run
msinfo32
Enter key
from a Run box, a Powershell window or a
Command Prompt Windows, then shows the
"Version" as "**CurrentMajorVersion**" number
DOT
"**CurrentMinorVersion**" number
DOT
"**CurrentBuild**" number
but does not show the UBR

DETERMINING THE PARTIAL PRODUCT NUMBER (continued)

- Microsoft calls the first two numbers "Operating System Version" as shown at

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/win32/sysinfo/operating-system-version>

However "Operating System Version" does not distinguish between "Windows 10" and "Windows 11".

"version" USAGE CONUNDRUM

- **REMEMBER:**

Microsoft uses the term "version in various situations so you have to be careful find out exactly what is meant when you see the word "version" in Microsoft's technical documentation or inside the "Windows.." operating system









STORAGE LOCATION IN THE WINDOWS "REGISTRY"

- Run box or cmd window or Powershell window
- regedit
- Enter key
- Computer\HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\WindowsNT\CurrentVersion

- ▼ CurrentVersion
 - > Accessibility
 - > AdaptiveDisplayBrightness
 - > AeDebug
 - > AppCompatFlags
 - ASR
 - > Audit
 - > BackgroundModel
 - > ClipSVC
 - Compatibility32
 - > Console
 - Containers
 - > CorruptedFileRecovery
 - DefaultProductKey
 - DefaultProductKey2
 - > DeviceDisplayObjects
 - > DiskDiagnostics
 - drivers.desc
 - Drivers32
 - > EFS
 - Event Viewer
 - Font Drivers
 - Font Management
 - FontDPI
 - FontIntensityCorrection
 - > FontLink
 - > FontMapper
 - FontMapperFamilyFallback
 - Fonts

Name	Type	Data
CompositionEditionID	REG_SZ	Enterprise
CurrentBuild	REG_SZ	22000
CurrentBuildNumber	REG_SZ	22000
CurrentMajorVersionNumber	REG_DWORD	0x0000000a (10)
CurrentMinorVersionNumber	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
CurrentType	REG_SZ	Multiprocessor Free
CurrentVersion	REG_SZ	6.3
DigitalProductId	REG_BINARY	a4 00 00 00 03 00 00 00
DigitalProductId4	REG_BINARY	f8 04 00 00 04 00 00 00
DisplayVersion	REG_SZ	21H2
EditionID	REG_SZ	Professional
EditionSubManufacturer	REG_SZ	
EditionSubstring	REG_SZ	
EditionSubVersion	REG_SZ	
InstallationType	REG_SZ	Client
InstallDate	REG_DWORD	0x60e8e6a1 (1625876)
InstallTime	REG_QWORD	0x1d77520b0c76797
PathName	REG_SZ	C:\Windows
PendingInstall	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
ProductId	REG_SZ	00330-80000-00000-A
ProductName	REG_SZ	Windows 10 Pro
RegisteredOrganization	REG_SZ	
RegisteredOwner	REG_SZ	testuser
Releaseld	REG_SZ	2009
SoftwareType	REG_SZ	System
SystemRoot	REG_SZ	C:\WINDOWS
UBR	REG_DWORD	0x000000c2 (194)

osoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion

Name	Type	Data
 CompositionEditionID	REG_SZ	Enterprise
 CurrentBuild	REG_SZ	22000
 CurrentBuildNumber	REG_SZ	22000
 CurrentMajorVersionNumber	REG_DWORD	0x0000000a (10)
 CurrentMinorVersionNumber	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
 CurrentType	REG_SZ	Multiprocessor F
 CurrentVersion	REG_SZ	6.3
 DigitalProductId	REG_BINARY	a4 00 00 00 03 00

REG_SZ	REG_SZ	2000
ab SoftwareType	REG_SZ	System
ab SystemRoot	REG_SZ	C:\WINDOWS
011 110 UBR	REG_DWORD	0x000000c2 (194)

APPENDIX: WINDOWS INSIDER CHANNELS

- <https://www.anoopcnaair.com/windows-11-version-numbers-build-numbers-major/>

