

# Windows 7, Windows Server 2008 R2 will continue to be unofficially supported for another two years

Back more than two years ago, when Microsoft announced the end of software support for Windows 7 and Windows Server 2008 R2, the company also received a lot of praise for implementing a program called Extended Security Updates. (ESU - roughly translated: Extended Security Update).

ESU allows businesses and organizations with computer systems still running the two operating system platforms mentioned above to continue to receive important and necessary security updates to help ensure system safety against threats. cyber threat.

Although Microsoft has committed to providing the final security update for Windows 7 in January 2023, many businesses still feel uneasy because the operating system transition process for the entire system is clearly not happening at all. Simple and extremely expensive.

Fortunately, a platform called Opatch is emerging as an alternative to Microsoft in keeping older operating systems that have passed the ESU stage such as Windows 7, Windows Server 2008 R2 will continue to be protected. protection from cyber threats, albeit in an unofficial way. Opatch announced this week that it will provide security support plans for Windows 7, as well as Windows Server 2008 R2 devices until at least January 2025.

"We have decided to continue providing security patches for Windows 7 and Windows Server 2008 R2 to protect users against serious vulnerabilities that can be exploited in the wild. The cost will be a fraction of the ESU program from Microsoft".

The screenshot shows the Opatch website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for PATCHES, PRICING, MEDIA, BLOG, CONTACT, SIGN IN, and a BUY NOW button. The main content area features a large image of a person in a blue shirt looking at a forest. Overlaid on this image is the text "No more patching headaches" and "What is Opatch? | How does it work?". To the right of the image, there are two panels showing "Secured by Opatch" for Windows Server 2008 R2 and Windows 7 Professional. Below these panels, it says "Two More Years of Critical Security Patches for Windows 7 and Windows Server 2008 R2" with a BLOG button. The TipsMake logo is visible in the bottom left corner of the screenshot.

Opatch's micropatch patches will be applied directly in the memory of running processes, instead of changing the system's executable file system. So, users basically won't need to restart their computer to complete the update installation process.

If users are using Microsoft's ESU program and want to continue receiving security updates with Opatch, they can simply apply all remaining ESU updates. Then, install Opatch "Free Agent" on Windows 7 or Server 2008 R2 computers and register them to a Opatch account.

In March this year, the Opatch team released an unofficial fix for an old Windows vulnerability. Three months later, they also deployed a patch for a zero-day vulnerability in Microsoft's Microsoft Support Diagnostic Tool. Therefore, the quality of the updates that Opatch provides is a factor you can rest assured about.

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