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Windows Vista & QuickBooks Financial Software – the Official Word

Windows Vista to Be More Broadly Released in January 2007.

As widely reported in the industry press, Windows Vista was shipped to large corporate users several weeks ago and is expected to be released more broadly through retail and other outlets by the end of January.

You Do Not Need Windows Vista to Run QuickBooks 2007.

QuickBooks 2007 and Enterprise Solutions 7.0 **do not require** Windows Vista to operate. QuickBooks 2007 runs on Windows Vista, Windows XP (SP2 or later strongly recommended), and Windows 2000 SP3 or later (SP4 or later strongly recommended). ([See other system requirements here](#) - <http://www.quickbooks.com/Helpcenter/DoSearch.aspx?kbID=319478> .)

QuickBooks 2006 and Earlier Are Not Supported on Windows Vista.

This is the rub for anyone who is trying to balance their desire to take advantage of Windows Vista and continue to run 2006 and prior versions of QuickBooks. In addition to QuickBooks 2006 and earlier versions, other software programs could very well not work with Windows Vista either.

Prudence Suggested for QuickBooks Users.

Windows Vista holds much promise for significant improvements in security and functionality. However, Intuit suggests the decision to upgrade to Windows Vista be approached carefully, for two reasons:

- Potential reliability issues often associated with the initial release of operating systems.
- Intuit will not be able to support QuickBooks 2006 and earlier on Windows Vista.

Decisions for You as to Windows Vista.....

If You Maintain Multiple Versions of QuickBooks.

Some QuickBooks users maintain multiple versions of QuickBooks software to support multiple companies. If this describes you, we realize that the introduction of Windows Vista creates additional challenges for you, especially if you want to start using Windows Vista soon. This is because only QuickBooks 2007 (and related products) works with Windows Vista.

QuickBooks 2006 and Earlier.

QuickBooks 2006 and prior versions were developed on pre-Vista technology and will not run properly on Windows Vista.

Third Party Solutions.

Intuit is looking at the third party solutions that Microsoft has suggested could be used to deal with issues of backwards compatibility. These solutions attempt to emulate the earlier Windows environments. However, **Intuit is still testing these solutions** and is not yet ready to give on a stamp of approval.

Two-Machine Approach.

This means that as of today, if you want to begin using Windows Vista in 2007 and still support earlier versions of QuickBooks, the only viable recommendation is to maintain one computer for pre-2007 QuickBooks files on Windows XP or Windows 2000 and keep QuickBooks 2007 on the Windows Vista machine. We recognize that this approach may not be feasible for some.

Stay Tuned.

Intuit will soon be announcing more Web-based resources on Windows Vista for you. And we hope that they will be able to respond definitively on the usability of third-party solutions.

Installing Windows Vista or Purchasing New Computer Pre-Installed with Windows Vista.

Currently the most important advice that we can give to you is that if you replace your existing operating system with Windows Vista, or if you replace your current computers with new computers running on Windows Vista, you should upgrade to QuickBooks 2007.

Currently the only existing alternative is the one noted above: To run separate computers (one for Windows Vista and one for the pre-Vista operating system). With a dual system approach, the prior versions of QuickBooks and other programs will remain supported on a pre-Vista operating system, while other applications, such as QuickBooks 2007, are run in the Windows Vista environment.

Microsoft Discusses Windows Vista.

Visit the Microsoft "Get Ready for Windows Vista" site for more information -

<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsvista/getready/default.mspx>