

Significant Bits

Journal of Brisbug PC User Group Inc.



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Page	Article	Author	Position	Club
3	From the President's CPU	Keith Catts	President	
5-8	Johns Jots	Q&A bits	Keith	
9-11	APCUG Articles		Editor	APCUG

Meeting Timetable

Mitchelton Library Helios Parade Mitchelton

9:30am	Q&A	Keith
11pm	Libra Write	Keith
	Lunch -- GM - Report to the Club	Keith
1:00pm	Linux workshop	Fred / Keith All

If you have a question that may need a bit of a look up, let me know before the meeting



Significant Bits

Journal of Brisbug PC User Group Inc.

SIGNIFICANT BITS

the Journal of
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*A Computer Club for users of
PC-type computers*
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CLUB NOTICES

AGM will be held on the 20th
September and include
submission of the Financial Report
for the 2026 year.
Nomination for office bearers will
be open from 24th of July and will
close on the 21st of July.

CLUB INFORMATION LINES

Info Line (07) 3353 3121

The Members' Web Page

Meeting Days

16 August 2026
20 September 2026
18 October 2026
15 November 2026
20 December 2026

Magazine

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Please use e-mail if possible

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Hi All,

Good to be back at the Mitchelton Library. Bit of an issue with the security disarming and the arming the room as the system did not work as proposed and the room and doors could not be secured at the end of the meeting. Thanks to Eric, I had some company while waiting for assistance to turn up. That happened some 2 hours after the meeting finished.

Guess I will be really checking it out for the July meeting.

Windows 26h2 is on its way.

Microsoft has extended the free Windows security update for Windows 10. Check your update and look for a link to enrol. It is is not there have a look in the magazine for a way to force the request. Get you Windows 10 updated to 22H2 first, if not already there.

All for now.

Cheers

Keith

PLEASE · PAY · YOUR ·
MEMBERSHIP · RENEWAL · VIA ·
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Reports

Presentation and Education

9L30am: Q&A

11am Presentation: Libra Office Write.

Lunch and Club Report following.

12:30pm: Linux Work Shop.

Membership Report - Gary Woodforth

We had 10 members attended the June meeting.

Treasurer's Report

June 2026

Opening Balance at 1/6/26 1925.65

Income

New Member 0.0

Total Income 0.0

Expenses

0.00

Total Expenses

Month's loss or gain **0.00**

Balance at 30/6/26 1925.65

Eric Maronese

Treasurer

Opening Balance and Closing Balance for Month

Balance brought forward from 30 June 2025			\$2,047.86
Month	Open Balance	Closing Balance	
1/07/2025	\$2,047.86	\$2,047.86	
1/08/2025	\$2,047.86	\$2,047.86	
1/09/2025	\$2,047.86	\$1,979.76	
1/10/2025	\$1,979.76	\$1,961.76	
1/11/2025	\$1,961.76	\$1,981.76	
1/12/2025	\$1,981.76	\$2,003.46	
1/01/2026	\$2,003.46	\$2,053.46	
1/02/2026	\$2,053.46	\$2,053.46	
1/03/2026	\$2,053.46	\$2,083.46	
1/04/2026	\$2,083.46	\$2,083.46	
1/05/2026	\$2,083.46	\$1,925.65	
1/06/2026	\$1,925.65	\$1,925.65	

This table from the records shows the monthly balances for our 2026 financial year.

Keith



Q&A - June meeting

I have been advised not to drive for 6 months, so will not be at a meeting until October.

In John's absence I tried to fill in and remember at least a couple of the items discussed

Copy Photos from a Samsung Phone to your Computer.

You can always transfer files the old-fashioned way: using a USB cable. You can use the same cable that came with your Galaxy phone.

1. Unlock your phone, and then connect it to a computer using the USB cable.
2. On the phone, a notification about the USB connection may appear; swipe down from the top of the screen to open the Notification panel, and then tap the notification. Select the option for **MTP** or **Transferring files**.

3. Open the **Action Centre** or **Notification Centre** on your computer's taskbar to view the File Explorer window, and then select your desired option.

Note: You can also open the File Explorer program, and then select the name of your phone in the side menu.

4. From here, you can go into your phone's files and drag and drop them into your computer. You can also move files from the computer into the phone's storage.

You can drag and drop up to 100 files at a time, of any type. However, moving entire folders is not supported, and no single file can be larger than 512MB. The size of the content will be adjusted to 1MB if "metered data" is used. For text files, the size will be limited to 128KB or less, and images will be resized to 1MB or less. You can also transfer content using [Smart Switch](#) or [DeX for PC](#).

Or

Share files through Link to Windows

After you've [set up the Link to Windows feature](#), you can sync your phone's most recent photos or videos to your PC and then save them. The [Phone Link app](#) will display up to 2,000 recent photos and videos.

1. Open the **Phone Link** app, and select **Photos**.
2. To do more with a particular photo, select it and then choose from the options at the top.

3. Select **Open** to view the photo and make edits, **Copy** to create a duplicate, **Save as** to save it to your PC, **Share** to send it to another device, or **Delete** to remove the photo from Phone Link and your phone.

4. As you take more photos on your phone, the Phone Link app will remove older photo previews from your PC. It never changes or deletes any photos on the phone itself.

Linux File Names.

Linux file names are Case Sensitive and that may cause some incompatibility with Windows files.

Windows 11, version 26H2, is on its way.

Microsoft has confirmed that Windows 11 version 26H2 is the next annual update and is already available to Windows Insiders. The company says the release continues its focus on a predictable, low-disruption update experience, especially for IT teams and organizations managing large PC fleets.

The update builds on the same servicing model used in recent Windows 11 releases, aiming to make upgrades feel closer to routine maintenance than major operating system overhauls. Rather than a full operating system replacement, Windows 11 26H2 is delivered as a small enablement package (eKB) for supported devices.

Microsoft explains that this approach works because multiple Windows 11 versions share a common servicing branch, including the same source code base, security updates, and compatibility validation.

As a result, features are already present in the system and are simply activated when the update is installed. In practice, that means the installation is designed to be fast, with minimal disruption and no need for full reimaging on devices already running recent versions like Windows 11 24H2 or 25H2.

Microsoft's Extended Security Updates program will deliver security update through to Oct 27, but only for version 22H2 devices.

So you need to get you Windows 10 updated to that version.

Microsoft's Extended Security (ESU) Updates program will provide protection for a limited time.

The security patches for Windows 10 covers critical security patches only; it does not offer new features, design updates, or technical support.

The ESU program for consumers is already available to Windows but is now extended to Oct 27.

Extended Security Updates for Windows 10:

For individuals: An enrolment wizard will be available through notifications and in Settings, making it easy to enrol in ESU directly from your personal Windows 10 PC.

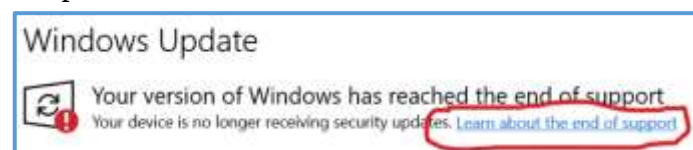


<https://blogs.windows.com/windowsexperience/2025/06/24/stay-secure-with-windows-11-copilot-pcs-and-windows-365-before-support-ends-for-windows-10/>

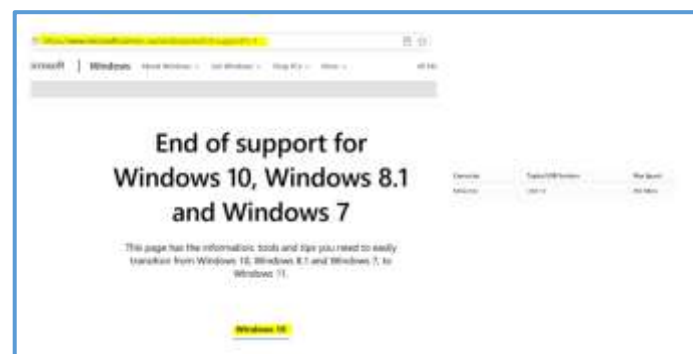
You should get a link in settings update that take you through enrolling for the update extension.

If you do not get the link you can force it by the following process.

In update look for this;



Click on learn about....



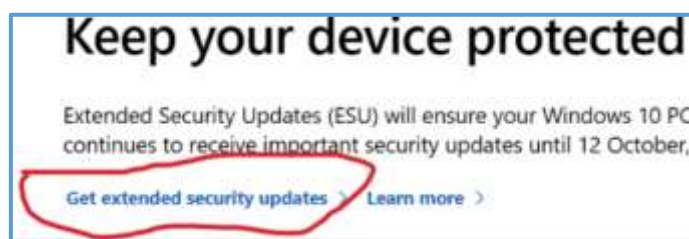
That will open this screen in your browser.

You will need to scroll down through all the info to get to this part of the data.



Now click on Get extended security updates.

Here is an enlarged part of the above.



This will bring up the enrolment screens.

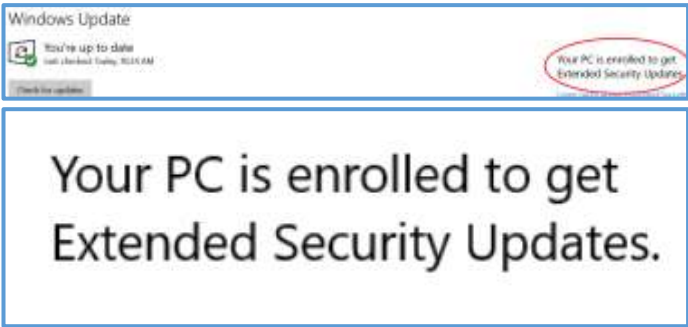


This is the enrol screen and you click next.

You may get a screen asking you to log into your account.

Do that and the next screen will allow you to enrol, click the button at the bottom to confirm.

Open settings update and you will see this to show you are enrolled.



You will now have security updated. Till October 2027.

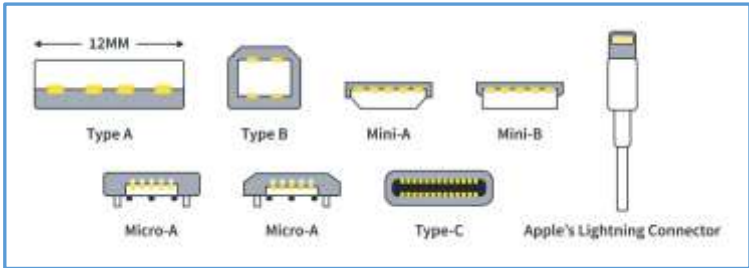
Keith

A question was about the types of USB connectors. A bit of info on the various USB types and the transmission speeds.

The following images show the variety of types and the “shell” shape

USB CABLE AND CONNECTOR COMPARISON CHART

Connector Type	Physical Appearance (Male & Female)	Reversibility	Data Speed (Max)	Common Uses & Devices	Power Delivery
USB-A		Non-reversible	USB 2.0 or 3.0/3.1	On computers, power bricks, older peripherals	
USB-B		Non-reversible	USB 2.0 or 3.0	On printers, scanners, external hard drives	
Mini USB		Non-reversible	USB 2.0	Common on older cameras, GPS, MP3 players	
Micro USB		Non-reversible	USB 2.0 (sometimes 3.0 for specific models)	Ubiquitous use on older smartphones, tablets, external speakers, and charging cables	
USB-C		Full reversibility (plug it in either way)	Very high speed (USB 3.1, 3.2, USB4, Thunderbolt)	Supports for Power Delivery (PD) capabilities to wirelessly charge laptops for more mobile	Modern use on almost all new smartphones, tablets, laptops, and peripherals



Type	Type-A	Type-B	Type-C	Mini-A	Mini-B	Mini-AB	Micro-A	Micro-B	Micro-AB
Connector (Male)	2.0	2.0	—	2.0	2.0	—	2.0	2.0	—
	3.2	3.2	—	—	—	—	—	3.2	—
Connector (Female)	2.0	2.0	—	2.0	2.0	—	2.0	2.0	—
	3.2	3.2	—	—	—	—	—	3.2	—
Usage	Laptop	Scanner, Printer, etc.	Laptop, Conference Table	—	Old Peripherals	—	—	Conference Table	—

Important Things to Know.

USB Type-C does not guarantee high speed. A USB-C cable might support only USB 2.0 (480 Mbps), 5 Gbps, 10 Gbps, 20 Gbps, 40 Gbps, or 80 Gbps.

The connector and the speed are different things. For example, a USB-C cable can be slower than an older USB Type-A cable if it only supports USB 2.0. Power capability is also separate from data speed. Some USB-C cables can carry up to 240 W of power, while others only support charging at much lower power levels.

Quick Reference

Connector	Reversible	Still Common?	Highest Possible Speed
USB Type-A			20 Gbps
USB Type-B		Limited	10 Gbps
Mini USB		Rare	480 Mbps
Micro USB		Declining	5 Gbps (Micro USB 3.0 only)
USB Type-C		Most common	80 Gbps (USB4 Version 2.0)
Apple Lightning		Being phased out	480 Mbps (most devices)

A useful rule of thumb is: the connector shape tells you what plugs in, while the USB version tells you how fast it can transfer data.

Connector Type	Typical Appearance	First Introduced	Maximum Data Speed	Common Uses
USB Type-A	Rectangular	USB 1.0 (1996)	Depends on USB version (up to 20 Gbps)	PCs, laptops, chargers, flash drives
USB Type-B	Nearly square	USB 1.0	Up to 10 Gbps	Printers, scanners, audio interfaces
Mini USB Type-B	Small trapezoid	USB 2.0	480 Mbps	Older cameras, GPS units
Micro USB Type-B	Very thin	USB 2.0	480 Mbps	Older Android phones, power banks
Micro USB Type-E	Wide double connector	USB 3.0	5 Gbps	External hard drives
USB Type-C	Small reversible oval	USB 3.1	Up to 80 Gbps (USB4 Version 2.0)	Modern laptops, phones, tablets, SSDs
Apple Lightning	Skirt reversible	2012	USB 2.0 (480 Mbps), some iPad Pro supported USB 3 speeds with adapters	Older iPhones, iPads, accessories

USB-C vs Thunderbolt		
Feature	USB-C	Thunderbolt
Connector Shape	USB-C	USB-C (TB3/4/5)
Maximum Speed	Up to 80 Gbps (USB4 v2)	80 Gbps (20 Gbps display boost on TB5)
External Displays	Depends on device	Guaranteed high-performance display support
External GPUs	Limited	Supported on Thunderbolt 3 and 4 (subject to OS/device support)
PCI Express Data	Usually no	Yes
Daisy Chaining	Usually no	Yes (up to 6 devices)
Docking Stations	Basic to advanced	Full-featured professional docks

Device	USB-C Cable	Thunderbolt Cable
USB-C device	✔ Yes	✔ Yes
Thunderbolt device	⚠ May work with reduced features	✔ Full features
Thunderbolt dock	⚠ Often limited	✔ Full speed and features
USB charger	✔ Yes	✔ Yes

Cable Markings

Manufacturers often print symbols on the cable ends:

- ⚡ = Thunderbolt
- 20 = 20 Gbps
- 40 = 40 Gbps
- 80 = 80 Gbps (Thunderbolt 5 or USB4 Version 2.0)
- 240W = Supports up to 240 W charging
- 100W = Supports up to 100 W charging

Key Point

All modern Thunderbolt (3, 4, and 5) ports use the USB-C connector, but not every USB-C port supports Thunderbolt. The connector is the same, but the electronics and capabilities behind the port are different.

A fair bit of this is ChatGPT so check any specific part you want to rely on.

Be careful when buying USB-C cables as some are only charging cables, to say charge a mobile phone, and do not transfer data.

It is very difficult to find out what cables on sale will carry data. Many sales people do not know.

Keith

APCUG ARTICLES

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WINDOWS 11'S PREDICTIVE TEXT IS THE HIDDEN TYPING TOOL I NEVER KNEW I NEEDED.

Written by

Zunaid Ali,
How-To Geek contributor producing how-to articles since 2018.

Using text suggestions when writing on a physical keyboard? Is that even a thing? That was my exact thought until I started using it myself. What started as a curious experiment ended up being a daily convenience. Predictive text hasn't transformed the way I write, nor has it magically doubled my productivity. What it has done is make everyday typing feel just a little smoother, and that's been enough to convince me it's worth keeping enabled. I happened to come across the setting while exploring Windows 11's typing options. More out of curiosity than anything else, I decided to enable predictive text and give it a fair shot. I fully expected to turn it back off after a day or two. Read more at

<https://www.howtogeek.com/windows-11s-predictive-text-is-the-hidden-typing-tool-i-never-knew-i-needed/>

40+ HIDDEN GOOGLE MAPS SETTINGS THAT EVERY USER SHOULD BE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF.

Written by Elyse Betters Picaro, Senior Contributing Editor, ZDNet

Google Maps can help plan your entire trip for you and beyond if you're hip to all these time-saving shortcuts. Read more at

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/google-maps-settings-features-tips-tricks/>

THIS OVERLOOKED WINDOWS FEATURE HELPED ME AUTOMATE MY ENTIRE MORNING ROUTINE.

Written by Arol Wright, How-To-Geek contributor since 2022.

Task Scheduler is a built-in Windows utility that lets you automate the execution of programs, scripts, and system tasks based on triggers you define. It's been part of Windows since the NT era, though most users never open it because it's tucked away under administrative tools rather than front and center in Settings. You can launch it by typing "Task Scheduler" into the Start menu search bar, and it opens to a fairly utilitarian interface that lists existing tasks, both those you create and those Windows itself uses for background maintenance, like updates and disk cleanup. Read more at

<https://www.howtogeek.com/this-overlooked-windows-feature-helped-me-automate-my-entire-morning-routine/>

MY LAPTOP NEEDED A BOOST – MOST WINDOWS MACHINES DO.

Written by Brandon Miniman, Staff Writer, MakeUseOf
Microsoft knows Windows needs help, which is why it introduced a feature called Low Latency Profile (LLP) as part of the 2026 Patch Tuesday update (KB5094126). LLP will make Windows noticeably faster. What does Windows low-latency profile do, [I enabled Windows 11's hidden speed boost and every app opened noticeably faster](#)

I ALWAYS CHANGE THESE 7 PHONE PRIVACY SETTINGS ON EVERY NEW DEVICE (iOS, Android, or niche OS) – HERE'S WHY.

Written by Charlie Osborne, Contributing Writer, ZDNet.

Your phone holds a lot of personal information, from where you go to who you talk to every day, and smartphone permissions can quietly invade your privacy. You should review your app permissions to help prevent data exposure. Check these permissions first, then audit them regularly. <https://www.zdnet.com/article/phone-privacy-settings-to-disable-review-avoid-exposing-data/>

I LEARNED THE HARD WAY THAT CLOUD SYNC ISN'T A BACKUP.

Written by Oluwadamilade Afolabi, MakeUseOf contributor since 2022. A folder went missing from my laptop, and I did the usual panic routine. I opened File Explorer several times, searched OneDrive, blamed Windows indexing, and then accepted the obvious. I had deleted the parent folder myself while cleaning up a synced directory. OneDrive then did exactly what it was designed to do. It synced that deletion to the cloud and pushed the same empty reality to my other devices. I recovered some files from the Recycle Bin, but not cleanly. A few drafts had already been overwritten, and the restore became a reconstruction job rather than a quick undo. That was when I understood that "my files are synced" and "my files are safe" are not the same sentence. Read more at [I learned the hard way that cloud sync isn't a backup.](#)

I USED A THERMAL CAMERA ON MY PHONE AND FOUND OUT WHY MY BILLS WERE SO HIGH by

Brandon Miniman, MakeUseOf – My house is drafty when the cold wind of winter begins blowing here in Philadelphia, starting in November. These drafts cause us to turn up the heat, use more hot water, and, overall, incur higher energy costs as we use more natural gas to power our heating appliances. What if

I told you that in addition to optimizing your thermostat and fixing cold spots, there's a phone accessory that you can buy that uses infrared to "see" temperature and that lets you walk around your house and find every air leak, so that you can take steps to seal out cold air? Using this method, I've drastically reduced the draftiness in my house, and as a result, I've been able to turn down my thermostat and use less heat. Read more at.

[I used a thermal camera on my phone and found out why my bills were so high](#)

GIVE YOUR PC A FRESH START: NEW FREE TOOLS TO BOOST YOUR PC'S SPEED, SECURITY, AND PEACE OF MIND

by Tjitske de Vries, Malwarebytes – If you ever have the feeling your computer is dragging its feet, or shows odd behaviour, you're not alone. In some cases, the culprit is indeed malware, but often it's something more mundane. Over time, baggage accumulates, much like a toddler's backpack after a day in the forest. Too many apps starting up at once, Windows settings not tuned for your needs, or even a firewall that's too confusing to manage. That's why Malwarebytes launched Tools, a new set of free features designed to give your Windows PC a breath of fresh air.

Give your PC a fresh start: New free tools to boost your PC's speed, security, and peace of mind | Malwarebytes

7 MICROSOFT POWERTOYS FEATURES YOU SHOULD BE USING ON WINDOWS 11 by Adam Davidson, groovyPost –

Windows 11 is packed with valuable features. It includes a powerful snipping tool for taking screenshots or screen recordings, a native clipboard tool that lets you paste items from your clipboard history, and a helpful Snap Layouts feature to quickly and easily rearrange your windows. However, the free Microsoft PowerToys app offers even more powerful features, available to download from the Microsoft Store. Here are some of the best PowerToys features to use.

[7 Microsoft PowerToys features you should be using on Windows 11](#)

HOW TO CREATE ENCRYPTED STORAGE VAULTS ON WINDOWS WITH VERACRYPT by Faisal Rasool, How-To Geek – The safest way to secure your data on Windows is by keeping it in encrypted vaults. You can create hidden, password-protected virtual drives. Put your data in there, access it when you need to, and then hide the virtual drives again. This is

everything you need to know to create and use super secure storage vaults on Windows. Learn how Veracrypt works here:

[How to create hidden, password-protected virtual drives using VeraCrypt](#)

10 WINDOWS FILE EXPLORER TIPS EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW by Karrar Haider, MakeTechEasier –

The File Explorer in Windows is quite powerful and feature-filled. Learn about 10 helpful File Explorer tips you can use to make File Explorer better here:

[10 Windows File Explorer Tips Everyone Should Know – Make Tech Easier](#)

PLEASE STOP USING REGISTRY CLEANERS, THEY'RE HARMING YOUR PC by Nick Lesie, How-To Geek –

The Windows Registry is basically a long list of settings. It specifies which options are enabled in Windows, what values some settings take (like whether Windows is in light or dark mode), where programs or assets can be found, and countless other details. Read more at

[Please stop using registry cleaners, they're harming your PC](#)

5 ANDROID FEATURES THAT GOOGLE QUIETLY ABANDONED by Oluwademilade Afolabi, MakeUseOf –

For a platform that prides itself on flexibility and experimentation, Android has a long history of trying bold ideas. Some stuck around and evolved. Others didn't exactly fail, but they faded away without much explanation, joining the list of phone features that no longer exist. What makes these losses sting is that many of these features were quite good. People used them. I miss them. And in some cases, nothing truly replaced them.

[5 Android features that Google quietly abandoned](#)

CLEARING COOKIES IS USELESS — HERE'S THE REAL WAY TO STOP TRACKING by Gavin Phillips, MakeUseOf –

For years, clearing your browser cookies felt like a small but meaningful privacy reset. You'd nuke your data, reload a site, and feel like you'd shaken off the trackers following you around the web. That advice used to make sense. Today, it's simply not enough as a single privacy protection. Modern tracking has moved on. Cookies are just one part of how websites identify you, serve you ads, and track you around the internet. So, while removing cookies doesn't really create problems, if you want to reduce online tracking, you need to stop chasing cookies and start

limiting the data your browser leaks in the first place.

Read more at

[Clearing cookies is useless — here's the real way to stop tracking](#)

YOUR COMPUTER IS GETTING AN “ASSISTANT” WHETHER YOU ASKED FOR ONE OR NOT WINDOWS PCS

Microsoft is busy rebuilding **Windows 11** around AI. The Copilot assistant is becoming the main way they want you to interact with your PC. New “AI PCs” have special chips called NPUs (Neural Processing Units) that let the computer run AI features right on the device.

What that means for you: You'll be able to:

Ask your PC (in everyday language) to find files, summarize documents, or rewrite something you're typing.

Get writing help in Word, Outlook, and other Microsoft 365 apps, including some features that work even if the internet is down on newer machines.

The system will be more “context aware,” meaning it can see what's on your screen and offer help based on that.

In other words, your PC will start acting more like a chatty assistant and less like a big filing cabinet.