

## No. 203. Keep That XP Going a Bit Longer

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Support for XP ended last April, which means that, although you can still use your machine, Microsoft will install no security or other updates. That can leave you exposed to a bunch of bad stuff. Many folks just plug along anyway, since XP still fits like an old shoe. On the other hand, if you have more than one machine at home on your network, that puts them all at risk. So, what to do? Here are the major problems that most are facing.

- Your old XP machine just is not powerful enough to handle Windows 7 or higher.
- You simply like XP and don't want to upgrade even though your machine will handle it.
- You just don't want to put out the cash for a new Operating System at this time.

The (at least temporary) answer to all of these comes from a journalist (and computer guru) from Germany named Martin Brinkmann. It consists of a patch that will allow you to download and install all updates until 9Apr2019, over four more years. The patch converts your XP machine into a Point-of-Sale ready computer, now known as Windows Embedded industry, which Windows continues to support and supply security updates for. This works for all 32-bit copies of XP but **not** 64-bit.

First, for safety, back up your important files. Make copies of any critical files (your creations) and take the copies off the machine. That means copy them to a floppy, a CD or DVD, or copy them to another hard drive, either outboard or on another machine on your network.

Next, copy the text shown below in the box (not the box, just the characters in the box). To do this, highlight just the text characters and then right-click and select COPY. Go to the desktop, right click an empty spot and select NEW. Then select TEXT DOCUMENT. A new document will appear called NEW TEXT DOCUMENT.TXT. Open it – it will be empty. Put the cursor at the top, right click, and select COPY. Just the words below in the box will appear. Save the document as XP.REG.

Now you are back on the desktop. Ready? Double click the document (XP.REG) on your desktop. About one second later, the system will inform you that the patch has been added to your Registry. You are done with the modification.

Now, go to Windows Update and have it look for updates for your machine. There will be many. Let it download and install them all. Do this several times, and include the CUSTOM option to pick up any patches that are unique to your computer. Make sure your Automatic Updates are turned on, your antivirus program is running and updated, and you are home free, now and in the future (to 2019).

**Windows Registry Editor Version 5.00**

**[HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SYSTEM\WPA\PosReady]**  
**"Installed"=dword:00000001**

Having a problem creating the XP.REG file? Let me know and I will send you a zipped copy. Happy computing!