

(Approx.382 words)

Edge – Microsoft's New Web Browser

By Sandy Berger, COMPU-Kiss

www.compukiss.com

sandy (at) compukiss.com

Yes, Microsoft has finally replaced their old bloated Internet Explorer web browser. The new browser which comes with Windows 10, is called "Edge". This is aptly named because it is much sharper than Internet Explorer. As a matter of fact, it is better in almost every way.

Edge is more secure, faster, and has new rendering engine. One of the best things about Edge is that it's newly designed interface is easy-to-use. Similar to the current Chrome browser, Edge has a cleaner look that makes it easier to use. The Edge address bar is front and center under a "Where to Next?" label. Although this is a bit simplistic, it works.

The Edge has a New Tab page that is quite customizable. It also has a well-designed reading mode that strips away all of the extraneous ads and navigation creating an easy-to-read version of an article. You can also easily save an article for reading in the future.

A Hub icon on the upper toolbar gives you easy access to your favorites, a reading list, your browsing history, and your current downloads. This download area is especially useful making it easier for the average user to find them.

And WOW, you can even write on the screen of a web page to add your own comments. Draw or type on any web page using a mouse or drawing with your finger on a touch-screen .You can draw in several different colors with three different sized pens. You can also highlight in several colors and add a text note. You can even draw a square on the screen to highlight and copy part of the web page. Once you have marked up the web page you can save it and/or share it with friends.

When using Edge you can also use Cortana, Microsoft's voice assistant to issue voice commands. Cortana will answer or will find the correct folder or program for you. It is extremely useful. You can even ask Cortana for more information on any text that you highlight.

In the future, Edge will support browser extensions from Chrome and Firefox and it will keep getting better and better. It is available at no additional cost along with Windows 10.