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Software (Apps) Upgrades

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Software – those programs and apps that you use every day – almost every one of them will require you to upgrade or download a newer version sooner or later. Some apps get updated very frequently, especially the more popular ones. In this article we hope to soothe your fears and give you some helpful tips when doing your upgrades. You are, hopefully, happily using your device when you get a notice on Windows (lower right corner notification area of your desktop screen) or on your iPad or iPhone (a red circle appears on your “App Store” icon with a number) that updates are waiting for you to download. Almost always you will want to download them – that is, perform the update – soon.

Updates contain “fixes” to the software that the owners of that software would like to make available to you, so that’s a good thing. I also believe that updates also contain new advertising that will display while you are using the app. So, it is a mixed blessing, but you still should install the update anyway.

If you are NOT getting these notices to update, your device may have the option turned on which “auto-updates” your apps for you. Many people may wish to turn on this option.

In Windows 10, you can use the search bar in the bottom left to search for “Windows Update Settings,” when there, select “Advanced Options” and then look to make sure that “Automatic” is selected.

For iOS devices (iPad, iPhone) tap the Settings icon on your home screen, then scroll down to and select “iTunes & App Store”. Scroll down to “AUTOMATIC DOWNLOADS” which then lists the things you may select from – the “Updates” button/slide should be green to have your updates downloaded automatically.

To install updates on your iPad or iPhone, touch the App Store icon and then touch “Updates” at the bottom of the screen. You will see a list (one or more) of the updates that are needed. You can touch each “update” box to do each one individually or you can touch the “update all” box to do them all. A blue circle will fill in gradually to show you the update is being installed.

To install an update in Windows, just click in the notification box that appears and follow the instructions. What I find much easier for me is to use the free utility program/app Glary Utilities. Running Glary Utilities will tell you what needs to be updated on your Windows computer and will allow you to download each update, one at a time. Glary

prevents you from searching for the right website and hoping you are downloading the correct update.

Applying updates as they become available is a good idea. Someday maybe they will have an update to my brain that I can download, wouldn't that be nice?