

## TOP STORES #40

The year is closing with quite a lot of news, with a **LOT of speculation on whether we are going to see Windows 12 or Windows 11 24H2** as the first operating system from Microsoft to be infused with AI, and whether it will require the latest CPUs from Intel to work "properly"? More on this below.

**What's more - Windows 10 will reach end of life October 2025, with 3 years of (costly) Extended Support to October 2028.**

Colleagues can join this list by subscribing [here](#).

## Hardware

**AMD is ahead of Intel in the Server business (for now).**

The competition is fierce, and though Intel may be ahead in the endpoint stakes with Meteor Lake, things are not so great for Server CPUs where AMD is for the moment, ahead. Read more [here](#) and [here](#). However, if you are running hardware that is around 4-5 years old, and you are also considering repatriating workloads from the cloud, now is REALLY a good time to start looking at some really amazing on-premise servers in 2024.

## Microsoft

**New Leadership and a new release of Windows**

Whether it will be called Windows 24H2 or Windows 12 or Windows AI, we **are** getting a new operating system in Q2 of 2024.

More details on what to expect broke in an [exclusive story on Windows Central](#) (recommended read), triggering a storm of speculation in all the other news feeds. Of course, Linus Tech had its own humourous take on this [here](#), with [Techradar following up with more detail](#) on the types of features we can expect.

So what will it be?

Windows 24H2 or Windows 12.... right now, we really cannot be sure.... but if you look at the Microsoft Roadmap in terms of support cycles, Windows 12 might only officially become "a thing" in October 2025, right on cue for Windows 10 exiting support at the same time (more on that below) and ready for Intels NEXT generation of CPU technology starting with Panther Lake, marking the start of the "Angstrom Era".

So we may very well see Windows 12, now called Win 11 24H2 in 2024, and Windows 12 in 2025; either way, we are getting a **SERIOUSLY new operating system in 2024** that may only give you full **functionality (in an AI way) with the latest Intel Meteor Lake processors** which will be available in volume from all manufacturers by June in 2024, noting that they will be released at CES 2024.

What will actually happen? Follow the money.....

**Windows 10 support REALLY ends 14 October 2025**

We now know this for sure - because Microsoft has announce the Extended Security Update (ESU) program from Windows 10 from 14 October 2025 to 14 October 2028. **This will be a paid subscription offering that will be available to both consumers and corporate customers.** Read more [here](#).

## Cloud & AI

**New capabilities coming to CoPilot**

In a recent announcement, Microsoft has noted that there are more capabilities coming such as GPT-4 Turbo, updated DELL-E, Bing Deep Search, Compose and ReWrite and other features - [read more here](#),

## Security

**Google Drive files lack protection**

Here is a scary thought - how many of you files have you shared with "anybody with link can access"? [According to this article](#) - MANY!

This is not just a Google problem. Maybe think carefully about what you have been sharing...

**All Windows and Linux machines are vulnerable to a new attack**

You can never ever stop being vigilant and making sure you have the best support possible to watch your back. Here is a new attack that renders practically every protection tool out there useless because it is executed by the UEFI right at the beginning of the boot process. [Read](#)

[more here.](#)

## What's New at FTG

We are taking a break!

### Movies

The release slate is looking pretty bleak right the way through to the end of January with the [Beekeeper](#) - the only other two potentially big releases are [Migration](#) and [Aquaman](#) - both on the 22nd of December.

Now Playing: [Inseparables](#)

Now Playing: [Wonka](#)

Now Playing: [Silent Night](#) (Not silent at all!)

15 December: [Love Actually](#) (20th anniversary)

15 December: [Dream Scenario](#)

15 December: [Dunki](#)

First Technology | Midrand, Johannesburg, GAUTENG 2191 South Africa

[Unsubscribe barry@barry.co.za](mailto:barry@barry.co.za)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [barry@firsttech.co.za](mailto:barry@firsttech.co.za) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!