WIRED for the FUTURE TECHNOLOGY INSIDER

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Your monthly newsletter, written for humans not geeks

Here's why **you should stick to work-specific tools**

When it comes to communicating with your team, it can be tempting to stick with what's familiar. Apps like WhatsApp or Facebook Messenger are quick and easy to use. And everyone already has them on their phones, right?

But while these tools are great for sharing vacation photos or planning a get-together, they're not the best choice for work-related conversations. In fact, they could cause serious problems for your business.

You and your team often share information that's sensitive – customer details, employee records, or even financial data. Sharing this kind of information over apps that aren't designed for business use can be risky. Many of these apps don't have the advanced security measures needed to protect your business from threats like malware (malicious software designed to steal or damage your data).

If this happens on a personal app which doesn't have the right security in place, your business could end up facing serious consequences. Losing access to important accounts or having private data leaked, for example.

Using business-specific communication tools, like Microsoft Teams, isn't just about security, it's also about keeping things organized. It lets you set up separate channels for different projects, share files securely, and even integrates with other apps you might be using. That means your team spends less time scrolling through endless chat threads and more time getting things done.

Personal apps can quickly get messy. Important messages get buried under GIFs and memes, and it becomes all too easy to accidentally share the wrong file - or worse, send something confidential to someone outside the company.

Switching to a proper business communication tool isn't difficult, and it's one of the best ways to protect your company's information while keeping your team running smoothly.

Need help getting started with the right tools for your business? Get in touch.

DID YOU KNOW...

Windows 11 is getting a new battery indicator?

Microsoft is finally fixing one of Windows 11's more frustrating features: The battery indicator.

The current version is small, hard to read, and inconsistent, especially when charging. But in the latest Windows 11 preview there's a new design. It's larger and now uses colors to show its status: Green when charging and yellow when energy saver mode is on. This is a big step up from the current version, which only uses icons. For now, the update is only on the taskbar, but the lock screen version will likely follow soon.

Business Premium
is your next smart move

Running a business comes with challenges you might not expect, like phishing emails, stolen devices, or ex-employees still accessing your systems.

While Microsoft 365 Business Standard is a great package for getting work done, it doesn't offer the advanced security and management tools needed to handle these risks.

That's where Microsoft 365 Business Premium comes in.

Business Premium gives you everything you love about Business Standard – apps like Word and Excel, email hosting, Microsoft Teams, and OneDrive for cloud storage. And it adds powerful features to keep your business secure and efficient.

Take cyber threats, for example. Phishing emails, designed to trick you into clicking dangerous links, can install malware (malicious software) that locks your files or steals sensitive data. With Business Premium, Microsoft Defender for Business scans for these threats and stops them in their tracks. It's like having a 24/7 security guard for your data.

Device management is another big advantage. If an employee loses their laptop, Business Premium's Microsoft Intune lets you remotely erase company data, protecting your sensitive information. You can also set policies to ensure every device connected to your business is secure.

And then there's protecting your confidential information. Business Premium uses Purview Information Protection to label sensitive files and control who can access them. Even if an email gets forwarded outside your company, the protections stay in place, safeguarding your data wherever it goes.

These tools aren't just nice to have, they're essential for modern businesses facing growing cyber security threats. The added cost is a small investment for the confidence that your team, data, and reputation are protected.

Upgrading to Business Premium can help prepare your business for the future. If you're ready to take that step, it's worth every penny. We can help you get started – get in touch.

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NEW TO MICROSOFT

File Explorer will remember your open tabs

There are some great updates coming to File Explorer in Windows 11. The coolest new feature is that File Explorer can now restore all your open tabs after a restart, just like a web browser does.

It's currently being tested with Windows Insiders, but we'd love to see a rollout soon.

Q: Where do I start using AI in my business?

A: Trying out Copilot is a great starting place. It works alongside many of your Microsoft apps to make things easier. We can help – get in touch.

Q: How do I stop my team using their personal phones for work tasks?

A: Educate them on the dangers of doing so and explain the consequences for them if they keep doing it.

Q: Should I restrict access to business files for certain employees?

A: The most secure thing is to allow employees only to access files relevant to their role. Microsoft 365 Business Premium comes with tools to help.

This is how you can get in touch with us:

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