



Microsoft Fixed Lifecycle vs. Microsoft Modern Lifecycle

What EVERY GP User Needs to Know



Modern Lifecycle at a Glance



- ▶ Three Updates Per Year—Mid-Year, October, and Year-End.
- ▶ No more five- and ten-year support schedules.
- ▶ Releases no longer have an expiration date. If your company stays current*, you continue to get support until Microsoft announces the end of the product.

* More on this on page 5.

Modern and Fixed Lifecycles Compared

Modern

- Products under the modern lifecycle may follow a more rapid release cadence.
- Each year you are guaranteed at minimum:
 1. Feature update in October, meaning a larger update that includes new features for our customers.
 2. Year end updates in November (U.S.)
December (Canada)
 3. Mid-Year update (typically June/July timeframe) depending on regulatory changes for the year
- No Mainstream support or Extended Support for another 5 years
- Customers encouraged to apply at least 1 update each year to stay current

Fixed

- Both are policies established to help customers understand what to expect with regards to their software's lifespan and update cycles.
- Security updates are provided for supported services at no charge. Some are applied by Microsoft; others may require customer action.
- Customers are given an explicit notification period before they must upgrade or experience a degradation/interruption in their service.
- Each new release receives 10 years of support (a minimum of five years Mainstream Support followed by five years Extended Support)
- In order to have full access to updates and support, you must keep your system on mainstream support.

Modern Lifecycle FAQs

- ▶ To stay current you must take at least one of the 3 updates from each year. For example, if you want access to the 2021 releases, you need to take at least one update from 2020.

What does it mean to stay current?

Each year at least 3 updates will be released on the following schedule:

June/July
Security and
regulatory updates

October
Larger feature update

November/December
Year end updates

Plus, hotfixes, quality fixes, and security updates will be pushed out throughout the year, as needed.

When will updates be released and what will they include?

- ▶ No, you'll remain on the Fixed Lifecycle until you upgrade to the Dynamics GP October 2019 release (or later).

I'm still using GP 2018 (or earlier), am I subject to the modern lifecycle?

Here are a few helpful web links.

- ▶ <https://community.dynamics.com/gp/b/dynamicsgp/posts/what-does-modern-lifecycle-mean-for-microsoft-dynamics-gp>
- ▶ <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/hub/4095338/microsoft-lifecycle-policy>
- ▶ <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/17140/lifecycle-faq-general-policy-questions>
- ▶ <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/30881/modern-lifecycle-policy>

Where can I find more information on this change?