



## Newsletter

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## Microsoft Office 365 Public Beta is Here!

On April 18th Microsoft announced that its latest version of cloud computing "Office 365" has now moved to a public beta status.

Office 365 is designed to replace both BPOS and Office Live Small Business. It brings together Microsoft Office, SharePoint Online, Exchange Online, and Lync Online into one cloud service.

Pricing for post beta plans start at \$6 per user per month.

Click here for the [official Microsoft announcement](#).

Dear Maria,

This month's newsletter highlights the Microsoft Office 365 public beta release, the release of Internet Explorer 9.0, and a few Windows 7 tips seen in "77 features from Windows 7".

### → Internet Explorer 9.0

What's the hype? See details at this [CNET Review](#) but the basics promise increased speed and minimalist layout to bring IE back into competition with Firefox and Chrome.

Most people will get the browser offered to them with Windows Updates if they qualify - that is if they have Windows Vista or Windows 7. If you fit into that category and have not seen the update feel free to go directly to the [Microsoft's Official download site](#). Note, however, that IE 9.0 is NOT compatible with XP.

### → 77 features for Windows 7

I found the whitepaper [77 features for Windows 7](#) quite interesting. While it is designed for IT Professionals, I think almost anyone would take a least one useful tip away from the paper.

My favorites are #7 Shake the window to get all windows except this one to minimize, and #54 Shift to and from Explorer and the Command Prompt.

Let me know which tip you find most useful or any other Windows 7 tips you have come across. Email [Maria Barnes](#).

It seems like spring has finally come to the Chicago area after teasing us several times. Now we can get out and enjoy the milder temperatures - that is if it ever stops raining! Perhaps we should consider enjoying the outdoors by walking or biking to work since it costs so much to fill our vehicles up with gas right now..

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