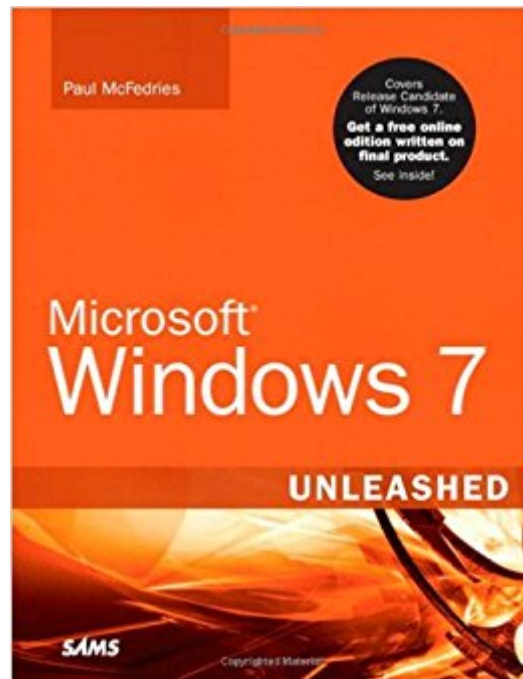


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# Microsoft Windows 7 Unleashed



## Synopsis

Â Â Covers Release Candidate of Windows 7.Â With purchase of this book you will get a free online edition written on final product. See product registration ad in back of book for details. Â Â Microsoft® Windows 7 Unleashed gives IT professionals, serious power users, and true geeks the powerhouse Windows 7 tweaks, hacks, techniques, and insights they need: knowledge that simply can't be found anywhere else. Top Windows expert Paul McFedries dives deep into Windows 7, returning with the most powerful ways to handle everything from networking to administration, security to scripting. Â McFedries begins with advanced customization, covering everything from startup/shutdown to the file system. He introduces new ways to tune Windows 7 performance, police Windows via Group Policies, tweak the Registry, make the most of Windows 7's management tools, and control Windows 7 from the command line. You'll find thorough coverage of securing Windows 7, including detailed guidance on web and email security and hardening both wireless and wired networks. You'll also discover better ways to troubleshoot devices, networks, and startup; add Macs to Windows networks; and automate Windows administration with state-of-the-art scripting techniques. Â This book is packed with expert tips, tricks, and troubleshooting techniques drawn from McFedries's unsurpassed Windows experience. If you want maximum value and performance from your Windows 7 PCs, you won't find a more valuable resource. Â Customize everything about Windows 7: IE8, startup/shutdown, file systems, the Start menu, Taskbar, and more Systematically monitor, tune, and optimize Windows performanceâ including practical techniques for accelerating startup Set up an easy, automated 9-Step maintenance schedule for any Windows 7 PC Unleash Windows 7's power user tools, including Group Policies, the Registry, MMC, and the command line Secure Windows 7 with security settings: auto-lock, Windows Firewall, Windows Defender, parental controls, BitLocker encryption, and more Protect your web privacy with Windows 7's new InPrivate Browsing Solve problems with Windows 7, startup, networking, and hardware Set up reliable Windows 7 networks, and manage them efficiently Safely provide remote access and VPN connectivity Use Windows 7 as a Web server Program the Windows Scripting Host and Windows PowerShell Â ON THE WEB: Free Online Edition! When Microsoft releases the final product, you can get an updated edition of this book absolutely free! All examples and source code presented in this book Â \$49.99 USA / \$59.99 CANz Â

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## Customer Reviews

Before writing my own review, I was very surprised that this book didn't carry a 4+ star overall rating -- it's at least a 4-star book, but only for the right audience. If you are a casual user of Windows -- if you're NOT a "power user" who is interesting in lots of user interface customizations, and if you aren't interested in saving keystrokes or mouse clicks anywhere you can -- then this book wasn't written for you. If you are a casual user who wants more breadth and less depth on Windows 7, I enjoyed reading *Windows 7 Secrets*, a new book by Paul Thurrott. Both "*Windows 7 Secrets*" and "*Windows 7 Unleashed*" are listed on the back cover with a "User Level: Intermediate-Advanced". This book targets that audience, whereas "*Windows 7 Secrets*" is more for casual Windows enthusiasts who want to learn not only something about Windows 7, but also complimentary technologies such as Windows Home Server and Zune. Since this review is for this book -- *Windows 7 Unleashed* -- I'd expect that you are truly an advanced Windows user (or an aspiring advanced Windows user). You don't need introductions, you don't need lots of transitional comparisons to Vista and XP (there are some, but they're limited). Instead, you want a single volume that covers the depth of Windows 7 alone. I liked the author's perspective -- maximizing every performance point possible with Windows 7 -- even though I'm not ardently trying to do that. For me, I wanted to have a book that I could refer to if, say, I needed to know something more about User Access Control or group policies or tuning Windows 7.

This book is essentially for the "save the introductions" audience, offering a wealth of information for those using the RC of Windows 7 and looking forward to the October launch. I've technically reviewed dozens of books covering Windows versions during the past decade, but this is the first

from McFedries. Of particular note is that the author obviously understands his subject thoroughly yet maintains efficiency with the delivery of the technical concepts. Moreover he seems to "get" his audience. There's a great balance here that readers from hobbyist types to IT pros are likely to greatly appreciate. I'm one of many using the RC as a main OS and we now know 7 is more than a polished Vista. As expected, the new features are prominently covered in this book and while I found it slightly customization heavy I'm certain many will enjoy the myriad ways one can personalize everything from startup to IE8. I think the real meat is in learning how to maximize 7s attributes. Of course it's faster, more stable, and more secure and simultaneously less annoying out-of-the-box regarding UAC, but there are powerful and sometimes subtle differences with the OS that McFedries plunges into. First off, security is a broad as well as crucial topic and it's covered here, coincidentally or not, in seven informative chapters. Everything from user and file level to Internet and email (using Live as 7 has no boxed client) security is given due attention. Networking, obviously another huge topic, is well covered at the sub-enterprise level in several key areas including: setup, security, wireless, remote connections, and the new HomeGroup functionality.

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