

Microsoft Office 2007 and Word 2007 compatibility

The latest version of MS Office is 2007 and for some reason MS has decided to change the default format (extension) of documents from .doc (as it has been for years) to .docx


Those who have MS Office 2003 and previous versions of Word will not be able to open files with a .docx extension. All the Office 2003 and previous versions have used the file extension .doc. The reason Microsoft has decided to do this is controversial and open to interpretation. There are MS converters that will enable older versions to open .docx files (available from MS after a product validation), but for now, here is a better idea. Change the way your 2007 version saves its files to the more universal .doc file extension type.

Currently a full set of instructions on how to change your Office/Word 2007 default settings to fit in with the rest of the world (save as .doc) is listed here:

<http://www.uwo.ca/its/doc/hdi/docprep/ChangingtheDefaultSaveAs.htm>

For those of you who are semi-pros at the PC here is the short version.



Open Word 2007, click on the Office Logo  and click on the “Word Options” button at the bottom. Then click on the “Save” option on the left side, and pull down the “save files in this format” box and select “Word 97-2003 (.doc) from the drop down list. Then click OK and you’re done. Your Word 2007 will now save all “Save As” files in the .doc format which can be opened by anyone with MS Word including 2007.