

Umbraco 7 Migration

Your guide to a smooth transition... 5 things you need to do NOW!



1. Be aware of the timescale

Umbraco has officially announced that it will retire all support from Umbraco 7 from September **this year**, as it will be officially End of Life (EOL) – now that's a date for the diary!

Umbraco has only been providing security updates for a while now and, with the release of Umbraco 10, they are on the home stretch of Umbraco 7's final journey.

Umbraco can't support all its versions forever. Umbraco 7 was first released 10 years ago in 2013 and is now classed as legacy software. It just isn't feasible to continue to support software when technology has evolved. In essence, Umbraco 7 is rather old for software and it's time to move on!



2. Understand the implications to your business

A total migration to the latest version of Umbraco is required for you to be fully operational and this requires a complete rebuild and data import

Failing to migrate, as a business, will expose your website or solution to both security and performance risks and you will struggle to find a web agency that will be able to help you with future problems.

So, to be clear...

Risk of security issues: Umbraco HQ will no longer provide fixes for bugs, regressions or security issues that may arise. While the software will – in theory – still work, Umbraco can't guarantee it will remain secure after the EOL date.

Outdated features or lack of new features: The reason why Umbraco users are encouraged to upgrade to the latest major version is to ensure users always get the new features that come with it. Staying on an outdated version means you don't work with the fastest and best version of Umbraco available – and that's a missed opportunity!

In short, if you don't migrate to the latest version of Umbraco by September 2023, the CMS won't be as reliable, secure, and friendly to work with as you are used to.



3. Secure your support

To make the whole process as simple, easy and pain free as possible, you'll need an expert to support your journey to the latest version of Umbraco, as there have been some fundamental changes to the code and the database infrastructure.

Migration means rebuilding the back office of Umbraco. However, this doesn't have to be a headache! With external support available – such as Boxharry's expert resources – that are ready to help with this process, you don't have to go through this on your own.

It's important to find the right Umbraco support team for you, to maintain your website, web application or client portal. Take due consideration to ensure you have a reliable and highly experienced agency to meet your requirements efficiently and effectively.



4. See this as an opportunity

Here at Boxharry, we and our clients see this upgrade as an opportunity, rather than just a requirement.

You now have the opportunity to reinvigorate your site; streamline and improve the user experience, technical SEO, accessibility, solution architecture, sustainability and system functionality – transforming your website into a powerful Digital Experience Platform.

As well as streamlining your solution, it is an excellent time to consider a new web design or User Interface (UI). Use this time to make improvements to User Experience and Conversion Rate Optimisation.

In short, this migration provides the perfect opportunity for a full website service to review performance, accessibility, UI, SEO, security, and social connections.



5. Get started!

Quite simply, the countdown is on! There's only months until Umbraco 7 is unsupported by Umbraco HQ. Websites using Umbraco 7 must NOW be taking action on their migration project to avoid any last-minute panic.

Over the coming months, Umbraco agencies worth their salt will be busy working with companies to migrate their solutions to the latest version of Umbraco. It's essential to engage with your agency right now to plan the logistics; how and when it will be done to meet the ever-nearing September 2023 deadline. Businesses must also ensure time is built in for User Acceptance Testing and Content.

If you have any questions about Umbraco migration, get in touch with Boxharry to have a chat and talk through your next steps.

