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## **Microsoft Removes Antivirus Restriction Blocking Windows 10 from Getting Updates**

Microsoft has announced that it removed the Windows antivirus restriction that blocked some computers running incompatible security software from receiving updates. This behavior was introduced with the January security updates when the company rolled out Meltdown and Spectre mitigations and was maintained for the February 2018 Patch Tuesday cycle. According to this policy, Windows was running a series of antivirus compatibility checks before getting updates. A special registry key was required in order to receive updates, and in case this setting was missing, computers were left unpatched. “Some AV products had created compatibility issues with the Windows security updates, by making unsupported calls into the kernel memory,” Microsoft explains. “Based on our analysis of available data, we are now lifting the AV compatibility check for the March Windows security updates for supported Windows 10 devices via Windows Update. This change will expand the breadth of Windows 10 devices offered cumulative Windows security updates, including software protections for Spectre and Meltdown.”