

Share

Desperately Seeking DiskSpace

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DVD DVD DVD

Use at your own risk!

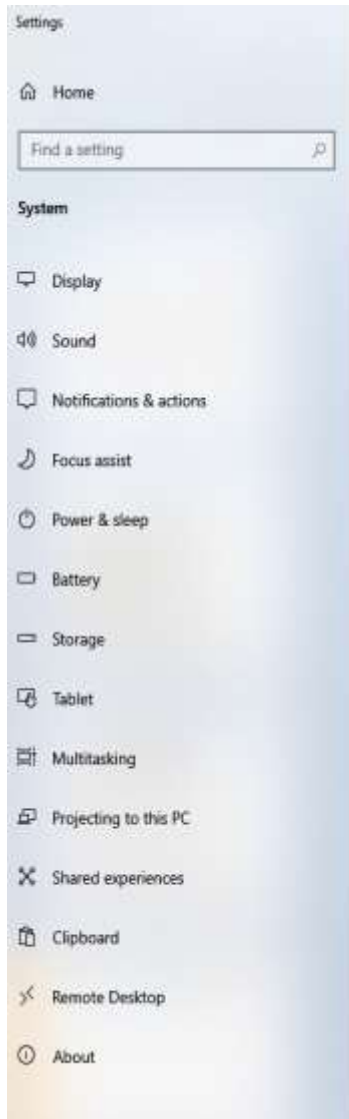
TL;DR

- **Buy more storage**
- **Clean windows up**
- **Live dangerously**
- **Compress**
- **Eliminate/link duplicates**
- **Prune out unneeded stuff**

Buy more storage

- **Add SD or micro-SD cards 0-512GB**
 - Especially for tablets, netbooks, others
- **External disks 0-16 TB**
 - Repurpose old disk in HD enclosure
 - Buy USB disk or Network attached disk
 - USB3 or higher connection
- **Network Attached Storage**
 - 2-8 disks, 4-16TB each
- ***Beware exposing NAS/D to internet***

Cleaning windows - storage



Storage

Storage Sense can automatically free up space by getting rid of files you don't need, like temporary files and content in your recycle bin.

☐ Off

[Configure Storage Sense or run it now](#)

OS (C:) - 476 GB

158 GB used 318 GB free

This is how your storage is used and how you can free up space.

 Other 37.6 GB
[Manage other large folders](#)

 Apps & features 31.4 GB
[Uninstall unused or undesired apps & features](#)

 Temporary files 201 MB
[Choose which temporary files to remove](#)

[Show more categories](#)

More storage settings

[View storage usage on other drives](#)

[Change where new content is saved](#)

[Manage Storage Spaces](#)

[Optimize Drives](#)

[View backup options](#)

Configure Storage Sense or run it now

Storage Sense

☐ Off

Storage Sense runs when disk space is low. We clean up enough space to help your system run its best. We cleaned up 0 bytes of space in the past month.

Run Storage Sense

[During low free disk space](#)

Temporary Files

☒ Delete temporary files that my apps aren't using

Delete files in my recycle bin if they have been there for over:

[30 days](#)

Delete files in my Downloads folder if they haven't been opened for more than:

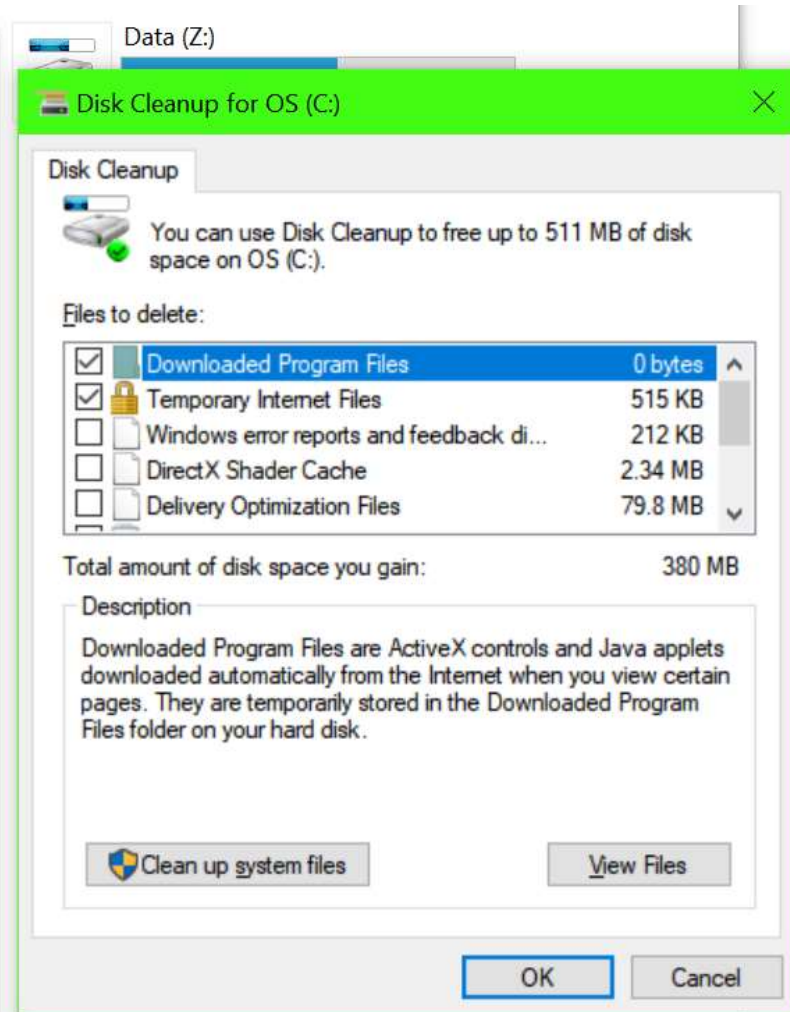
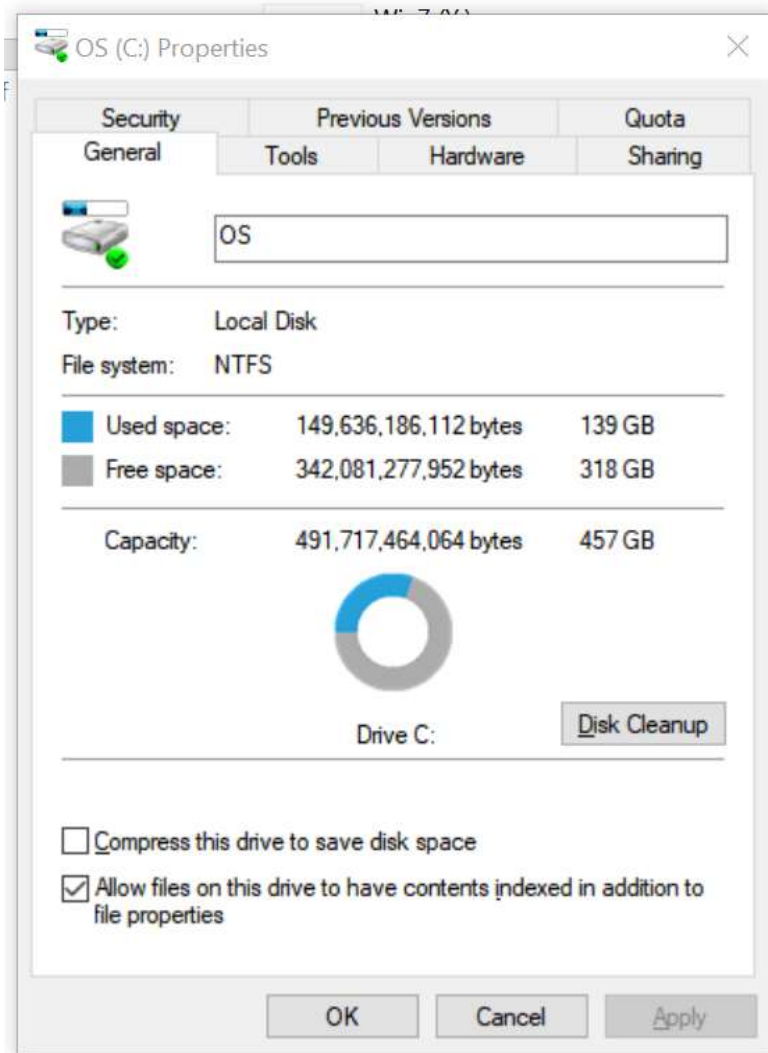
[Never](#)

Free up space now

If you're low on space, we can try to clean up files now using the settings on this page.

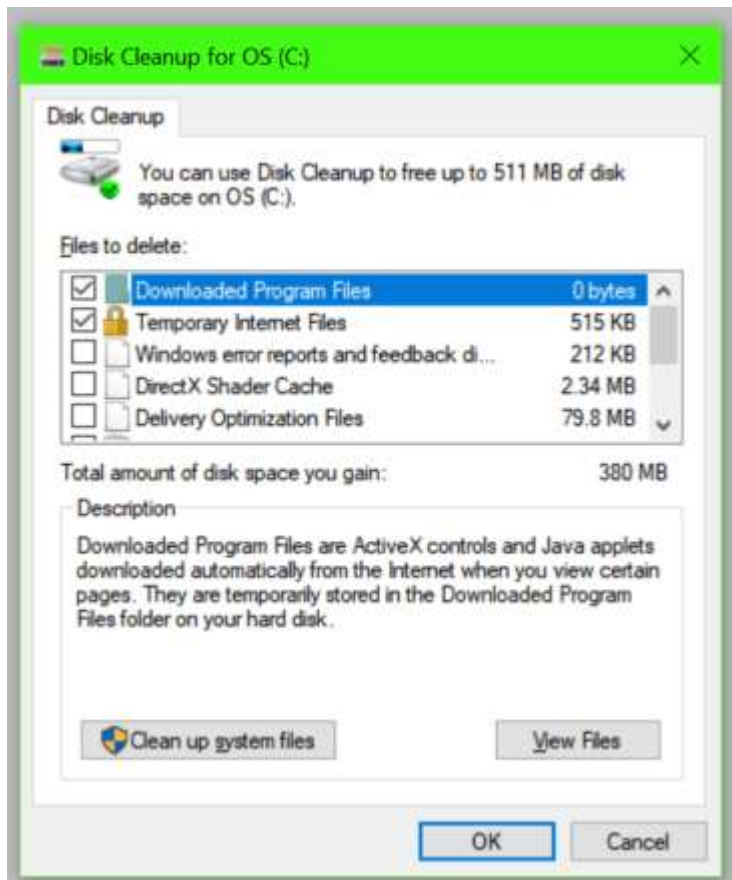
[Clean now](#)

Cleaning windows – disk

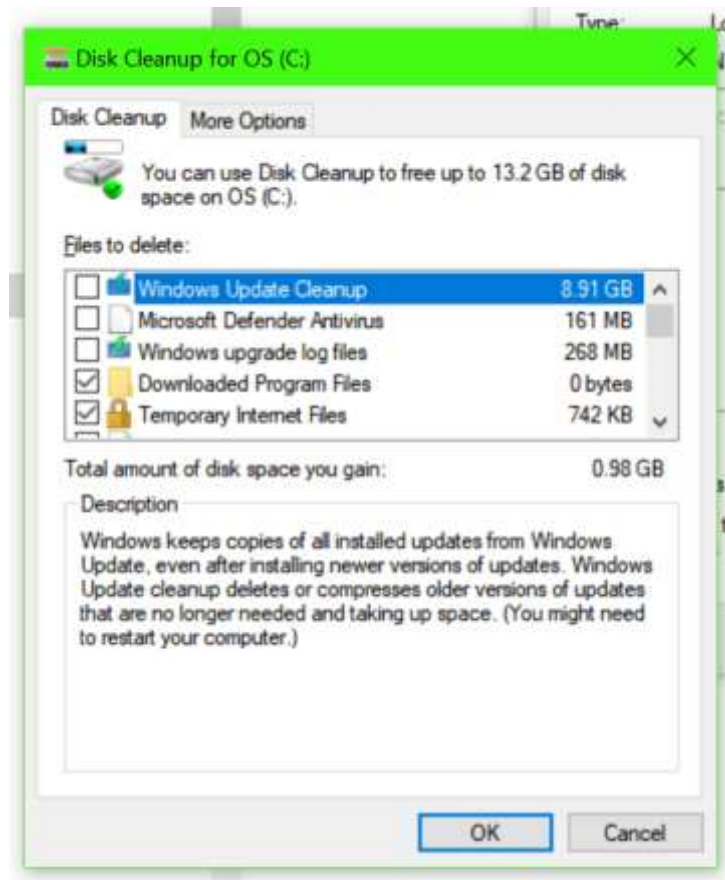


Cleaning windows - system

Cleanup (delete) ordinary stuff



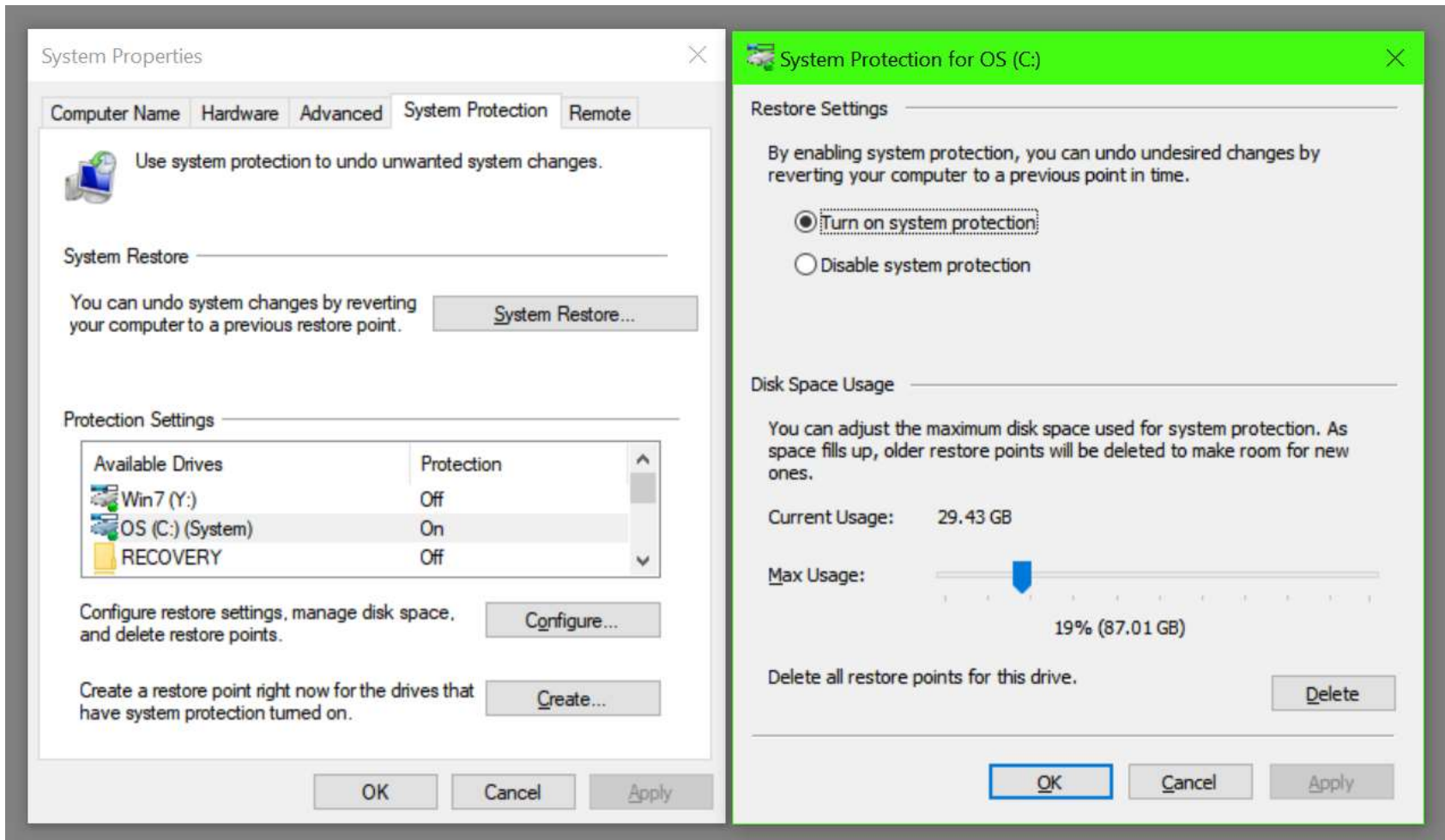
Cleanup System Files



Living Dangerously

Delete or disable **Restore points**

These allow recovering from bad updates or installations or more....



Living Dangerously

- **Disable Hibernation**

- ✓ Hibernation uses up SSD writes
- ✓ Hibernation takes space ~RAM size
- Hibernation can protect you from low battery conditions in laptops

How to make hibernation unavailable

1. Press the Windows button on the keyboard to open Start menu or Start screen.
2. Search for **cmd**. In the search results list, right-click **Command Prompt**, and then select **Run as Administrator**.
3. When you are prompted by User Account Control, select **Continue**.
4. At the command prompt, type `powercfg.exe /hibernate off`, and then press Enter.
5. Type *exit*, and then press Enter to close the **Command Prompt** window.

Living Dangerously

- **Windows Compress disk/folder/files**
 - Not for pics or audio – no improvement
 - ZIP, 7z file compression better but clumsy to use
 - Can be faster with fast processor
 - May cause more file fragmentation
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NTFS#File_compression

Windows Disk Compression

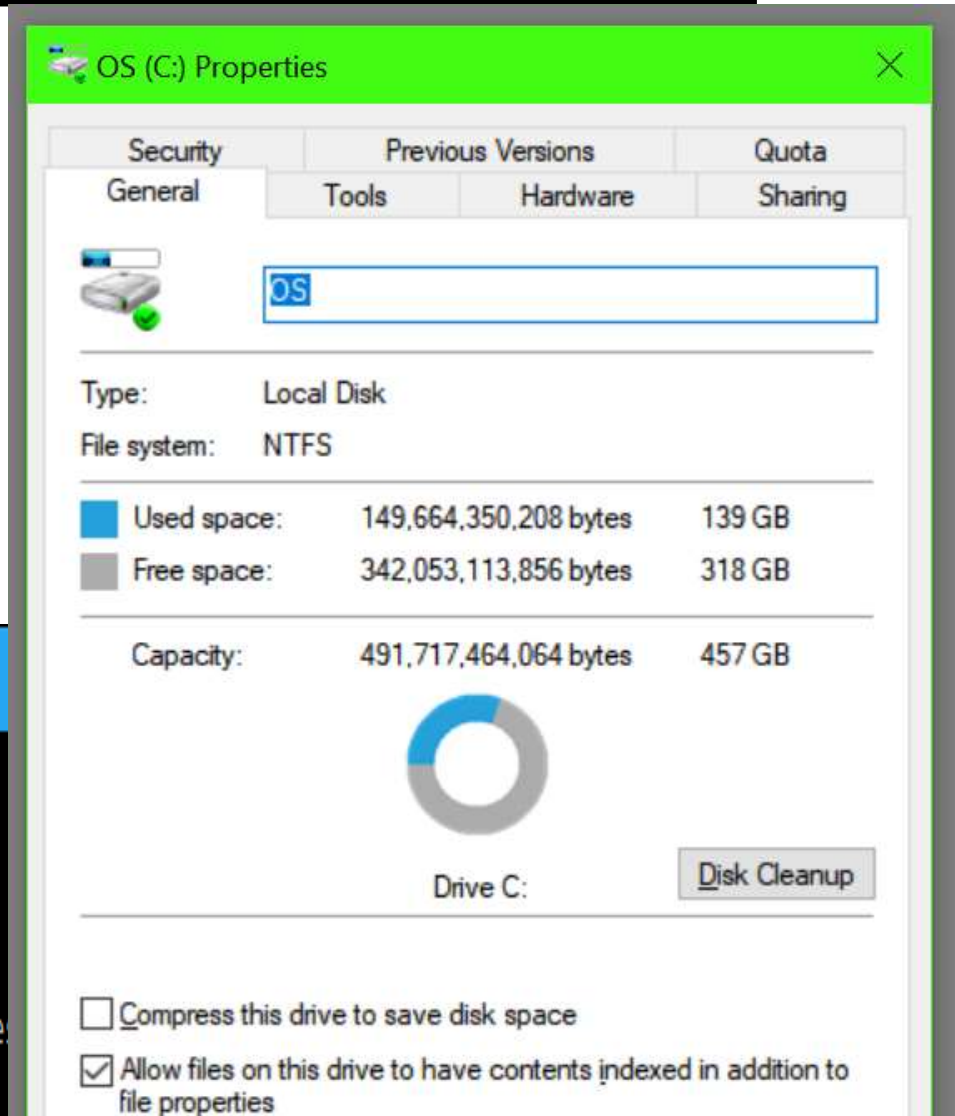
Entire disk

- For OS disk Windows handles Boot files safely
- You can save more on system disk using the COMPACT command: See <https://www.howtogeek.com/271225/how-to-save-space-on-storage-starved-pcs-with-windows-10s-compactos/>

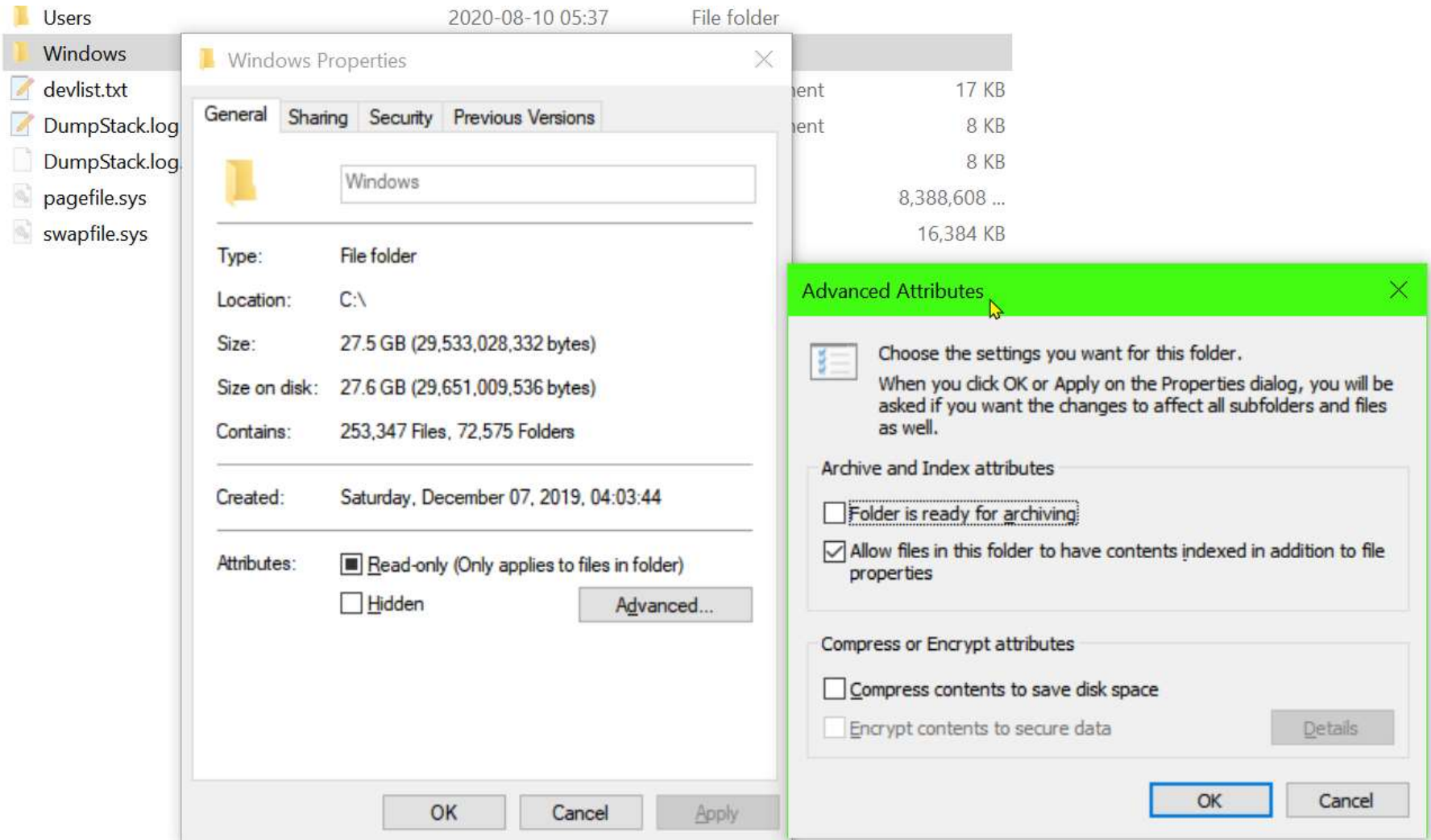
Administrator: Command Prompt

```
C:\WINDOWS\system32>Compact.exe /CompactOS:always
Completed Compressing OS binaries.

30963 files within 13624 directories were compressed.
5,467,544,811 total bytes of data are stored in 3,224,488,961 bytes.
The compression ratio is 1.7 to 1.
```

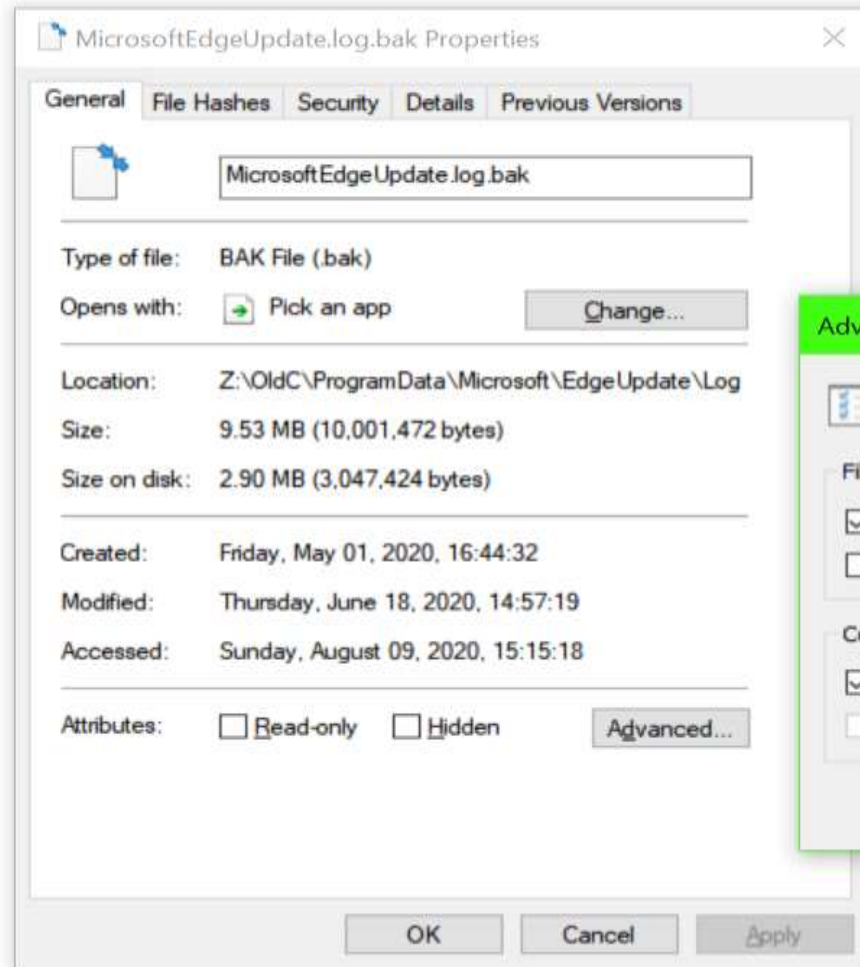


Windows folder compression

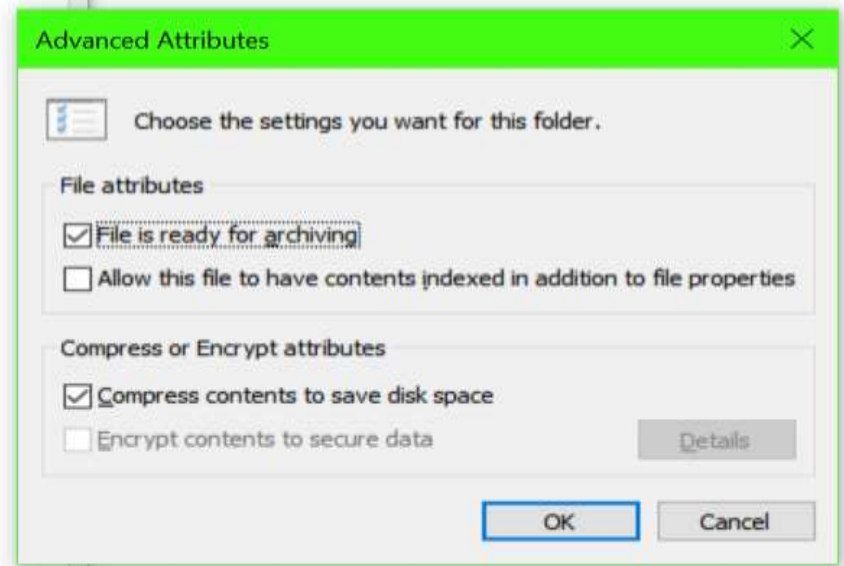


Window File Compression`

MicrosoftEdgeUpdate.log	2020-07-19 20:18	Text Document	5,553 KB
MicrosoftEdgeUpdate.log.bak	2020-06-18 14:57	BAK File	9,768 KB



Do NOT use on OS files!



Windows Compression Pros/Cons

- + Can save space (but not for AV/pix)**
- + Can be faster with fast processor**
- + good for logs, repetitive files**
- tends to fragment files – bad on HDDs**
- Probably slower when copying big files**
- Only NTFS – not FAT32, exFAT**
- USB/SD flash storage usually better performance & life with exFAT, FAT32**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NTFS#File_compression

Deleting Duplicates

- **Compare files with the same size and list them if identical content.**
- **Usually name, dates... do not matter**
- **Choose which to delete, which to keep**

<https://www.ccleaner.com/ccleaner>

http://www.nirsoft.net/utils/search_my_files.html

<https://www.google.com/search?q=duplicate+files+script>

<https://www.auslogics.com/en/software/duplicate-file-finder/>

<https://www.techspot.com/article/1648-delete-duplicate-files/>

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-ca/p/duplicate-finder/9p6b15zwz55x>

Hard linking duplicates

- **Must be on same logical disk – NTFS only**
- **Finds duplicate files & offers to create hard links to the duplicate data.**
- **Windows delivers same data when any of the names are accessed or edited.**
- **Beware! Don't link backups with original!
It won't be a backup then!**
- **Do NOT soft-link – links far too fragile**

https://duplicatesearcher.net/duplicate_searcher.aspx

<https://schinagl.priv.at/nt/dupemerge/dupemerge.html>

<https://www.sentex.ca/~mwandel/finddupe/>

Pruning stuff

- **Look thru the stuff you have and delete the *obsolete* or *bad* or *useless* or *large* stuff you don't need**
- **"Everything"** <https://www.voidtools.com/>
 - Sort all your files, eg, by size descending, & delete stuff you don't want
- **Photos – use Lightroom or Darktable to look thru photos to delete/tag/star/send.**
- **Install files – delete old install programs you will not need.**
- **Videos – do you really need? Rip to DVD?**
- **Applications- still using?**
- **Documents – still useful?**