



Alan German & Chris Taylor

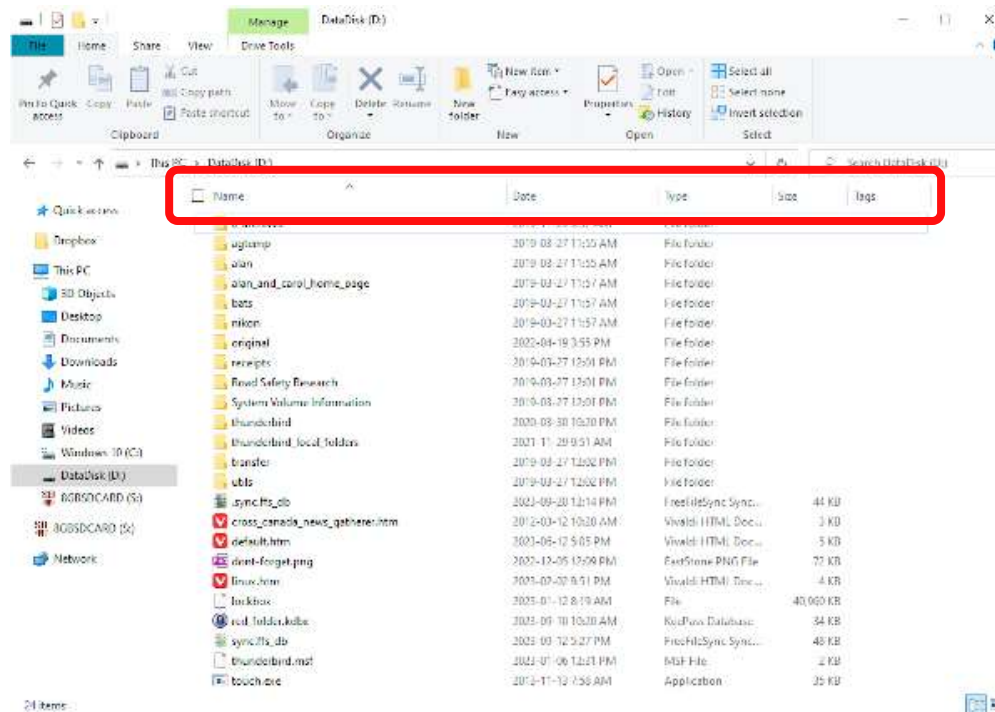
Ottawa PC Users' Group

September 27, 2023



“Type” Column in Windows Explorer

- Windows Explorer seems to default to several columns of information about listed files
 - Name
 - Date
 - Type
 - Size
 - Tags



How can I change this to just Name, Date, and Size?

File

Home

Share

View

Manage

Drive Tools

Pin to Quick access

Copy

Paste

Cut

Copy path

Paste shortcut

Move to

Copy to

Delete

Rename

New folder

New item

Easy access

Properties

Open

Edit

History

Select all

Select none

Invert selection

Clipboard

Organize

New

Open

Select

←

→

⌵

⬆

This PC

DataDisk (D:)

Search DataDisk (D:)

Quick access

Dropbox

This PC

3D Objects

Desktop

Documents

Downloads

Music

Pictures

Videos

Windows 10 (C:)

DataDisk (D:)

8GBSDCARD (S:)

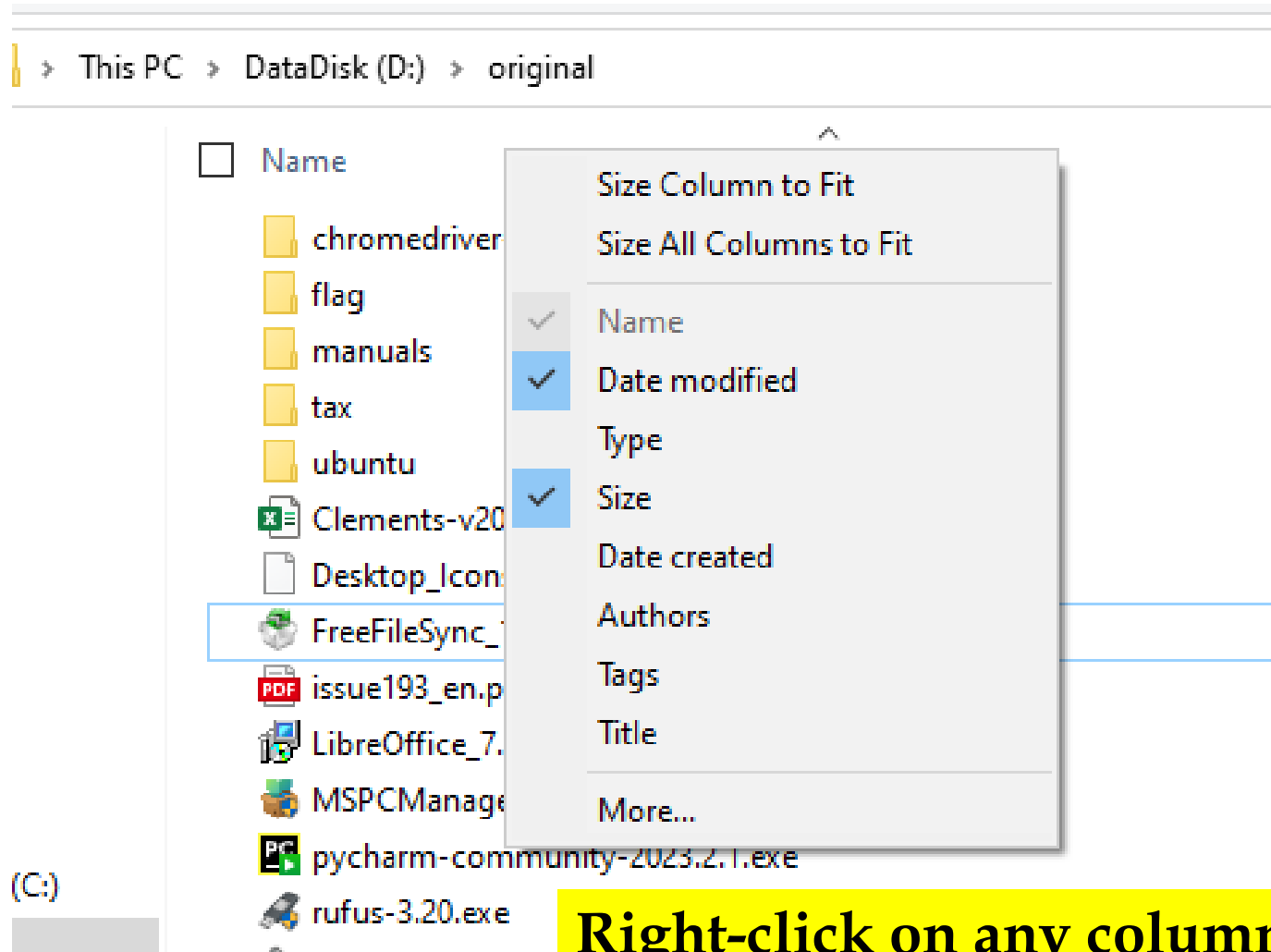
8GBSDCARD (S:)

Network

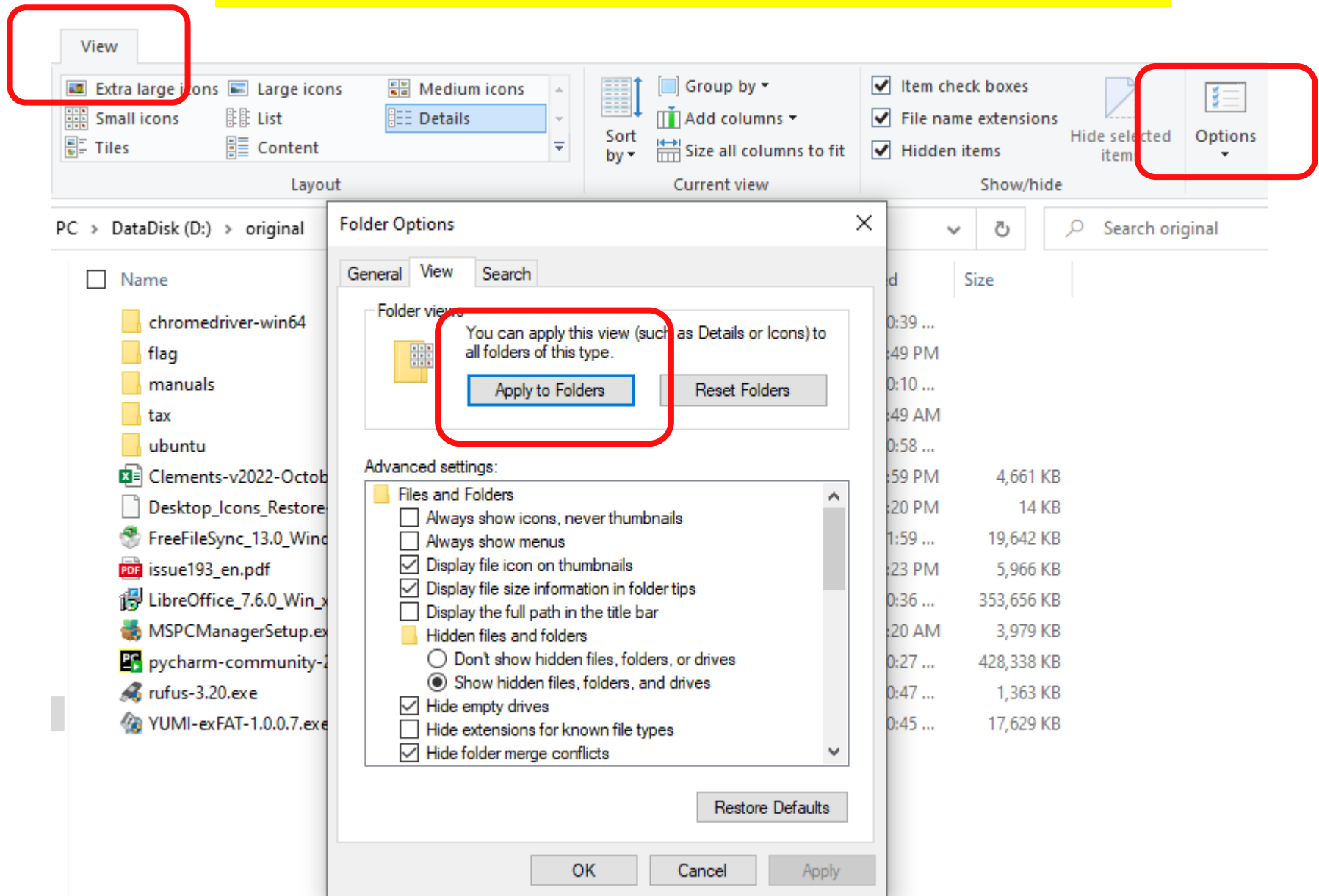
☐	Name	Date	Type	Size	Tags
	U_archives	2019-11-29 9:37 AM	File folder		
	agtemp	2019-03-27 11:55 AM	File folder		
	alan	2019-03-27 11:55 AM	File folder		
	alan_and_carol_home_page	2019-03-27 11:57 AM	File folder		
	bats	2019-03-27 11:57 AM	File folder		
	nikon	2019-03-27 11:57 AM	File folder		
	original	2022-04-19 3:55 PM	File folder		
	receipts	2019-03-27 12:01 PM	File folder		
	Road Safety Research	2019-03-27 12:01 PM	File folder		
	System Volume Information	2019-03-27 12:01 PM	File folder		
	thunderbird	2020-03-30 10:20 PM	File folder		
	thunderbird_local_folders	2021-11-29 9:51 AM	File folder		
	transfer	2019-03-27 12:02 PM	File folder		
	utils	2019-03-27 12:02 PM	File folder		
	.sync.ffs_db	2023-09-20 12:14 PM	FreeFileSync Sync...	44 KB	
	cross_canada_news_gatherer.htm	2012-03-12 10:28 AM	Vivaldi HTML Doc...	3 KB	
	default.htm	2023-06-12 5:05 PM	Vivaldi HTML Doc...	5 KB	
	dont-forget.png	2022-12-05 12:09 PM	FastStone PNG File	72 KB	
	linux.htm	2023-02-02 9:51 PM	Vivaldi HTML Doc...	4 KB	
	lockbox	2023-01-12 8:19 AM	File	40,960 KB	
	red_folder.kdbx	2023-09-10 10:20 AM	KeePass Database	34 KB	
	sync.ffs_db	2023-09-12 5:27 PM	FreeFileSync Sync...	48 KB	
	thunderbird.msf	2023-01-06 12:31 PM	MSF File	2 KB	
	touch.exe	2013-11-13 7:58 AM	Application	35 KB	

24 items

Change columns for a folder



Navigate to: View – Options – View – Apply to Folders



Folder views



You can apply this view (such as Details or Icons) to all folders of this type.

Apply to Folders

Reset Folders

What type is any given folder?

Is there a more generic setting?

1

Open a folder of Documents and set your preferred View, Layout and columns

On the View Menu, click Options

On the resulting dialog, select the View tab and click 'Apply to folders' and click OK

2

That will have set the default folder View for all folders that are set as 'Document' type

In File Explorer, there are a few Folder Types - Documents, General Items, Pictures, Videos and Music

Perform the steps in 1 for one folder of each of those other folder types, and that will set the default view for all folders in Windows.

<https://answers.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/forum/all/permanent-windows-explorer-folder-view-settings/4e6da9a0-5958-4f8e-bb74-82bf584669c5>

1

Open a folder of Documents and set your preferred View, Layout and columns

On the View Menu, click Options

On the resulting dialog, select the View tab and click 'Apply to folders' and click OK

Fix one folder



2

That will have set the default folder View for all folders that are set as 'Document' type

In File Explorer, there are a few Folder Types - Documents, General Items, Pictures, Videos and Music

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<https://answers.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/forum/all/permanent-windows-explorer-folder-view-settings/4e6da9a0-5958-4f8e-bb74-82bf584669c5>

The app WinSetView is designed to do exactly what you've requested. It allows you to customize the File Explorer folder view defaults.

WinSetView



[Download the zip file](#)

Globally Set Explorer Folder Views

Compatible with Windows 7, 8, 10, and 11.

Version 2.76

Summary

WinSetView provides an easy way to set Windows File Explorer default folder views. For example, if you want Details view, with a particular selection of column headings enabled across all folders, then WinSetView will do that for you.

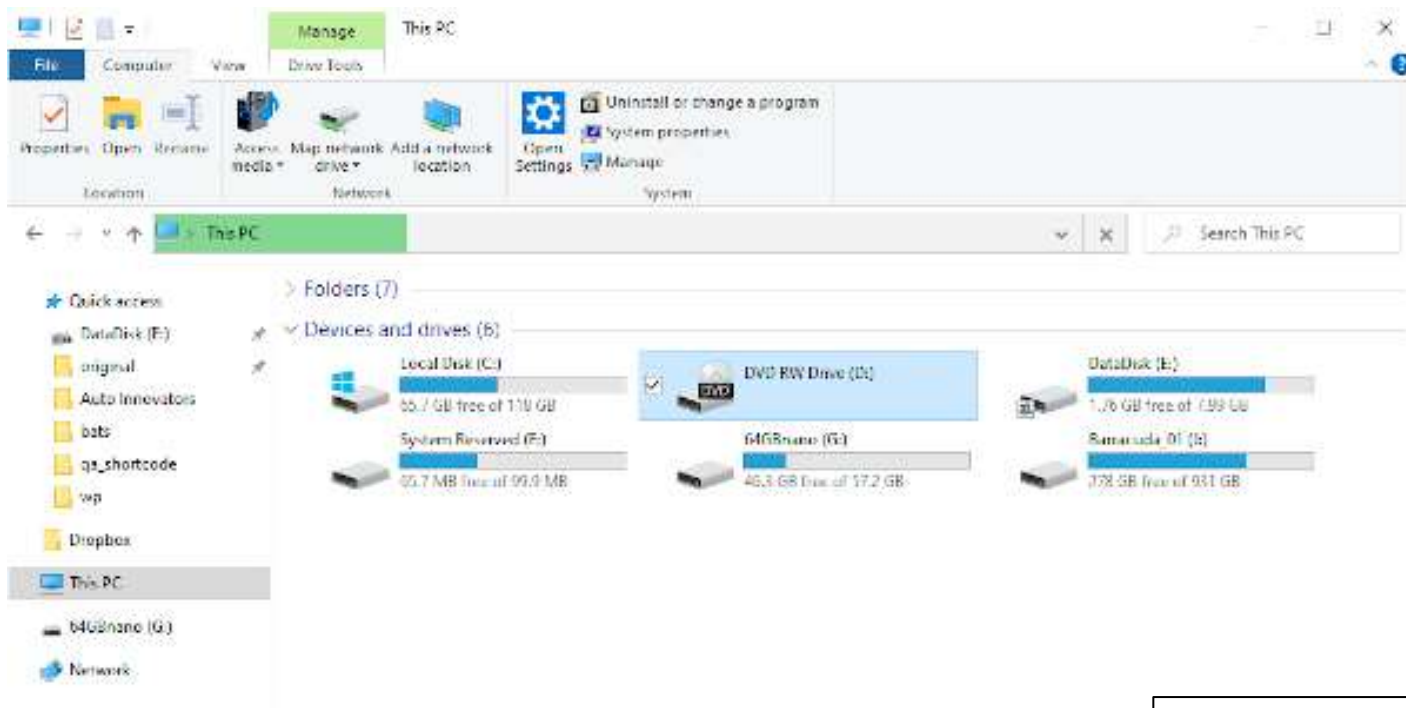
<https://lesferch.github.io/WinSetView/>

Untested



Green bar of death

- I have some beefs about File Explorer and that irritating green line that goes from left to right and never stops.
- What is it doing anyway?



E O'Driscoll



ChatGPT says...



in windows 10 why is a green progress bar displayed in File Explorer?



In Windows 10, a green progress bar is displayed in File Explorer when files or folders are being synced or copied to a location that is being monitored by a cloud storage service, specifically Microsoft OneDrive. OneDrive is Microsoft's cloud storage and file synchronization service that is integrated into Windows 10.

When you copy or move files to a folder that is set to sync with OneDrive, Windows 10 will display a green progress bar to indicate that the files are being uploaded to the cloud and synchronized with your OneDrive account. This progress bar gives you a visual indication of the status of the file transfer and syncing process.



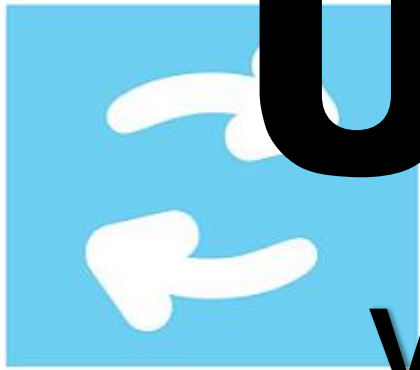
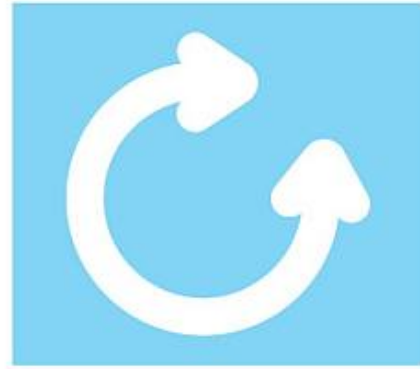
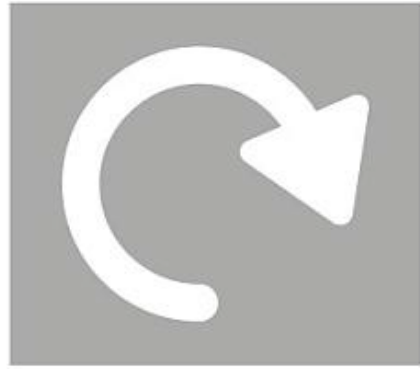
Reading a CD Disk



what about just reading a CD-ROM disk?

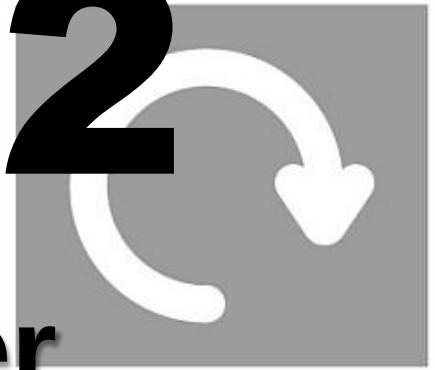
Here's why you might see a green progress bar when reading a CD-ROM:

1. **Indexing and Parsing:** When you open a CD-ROM in File Explorer, Windows may need to index and parse the contents of the disc. This involves reading the directory structure and file information from the disc to display it in a user-friendly way. The green progress bar is used to indicate the progress of this indexing and parsing operation.
2. **Loading Thumbnails:** If the CD-ROM contains image files or multimedia files, Windows may generate thumbnail previews for these files. This process can also trigger the green progress bar as Windows generates thumbnails for display.
3. **Reading Large Files:** If the CD-ROM contains large files, especially if they are being read for the first time, Windows may use the green progress bar to show the progress of reading those files.
4. **Scanning for Malware:** Some antivirus or security software may scan the contents of a CD-ROM when you open it. During this scanning process, a green progress bar might appear to indicate the progress of the scan.



UPDATE 2

Video DownloadHelper



UPDATE - Video DownloadHelper

- We looked at the Video DownloadHelper (VDH) '*Browser Extension*' and its '*Companion App*' for the Firefox and Google Chrome web browsers back on May 4, 2022. It allowed the user to VERY EASILY download videos (two clicks), or just the audio portions of the videos (three clicks), from sites like YouTube that stream videos through HTTP, HLS, DASH and other similar formats.
- We focused on the Firefox version because at the time Google (owner of YouTube) blocked VDH and other download apps from downloading YouTube videos when using Google Chrome (although they didn't mind you downloading videos from other company's sites through Chrome).



UPDATE - Video DownloadHelper

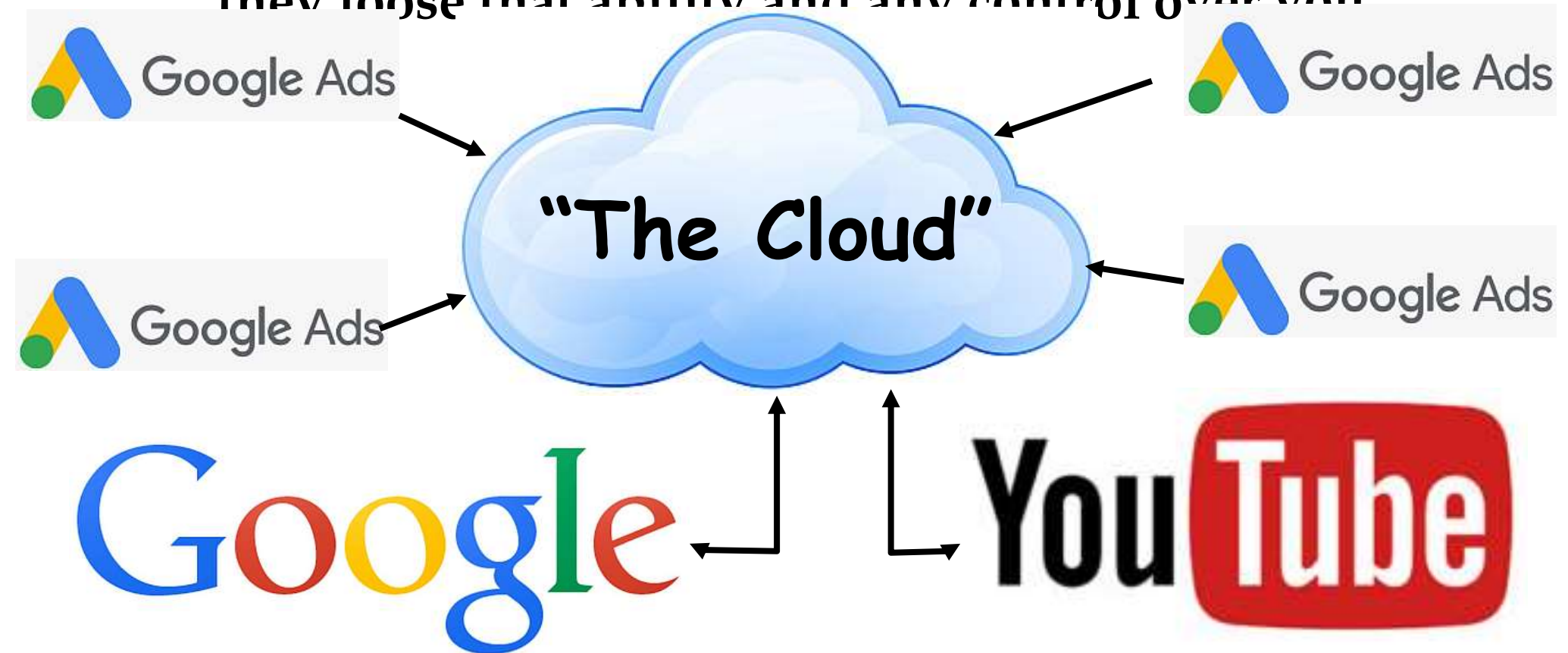


The best features of VDH are:

- It is very quick and very easy to use.
- It downloads the entire video cleanly, without extraneous material at the beginning and end of the video that you can get using video screen capture tools.
- It filters out any of those really very incredibly annoying ads you often get in the middle of many YouTube videos.
- It can download several videos and/or audio tracks concurrently as long as you keep Firefox open until the last download is finished.

UPDATE - Video DownloadHelper

However, Google, the owner of YouTube, wants you to live your Google life online and in the cloud so that they can track and monetise EVERYTHING that you do (Remember – YOU are their product). Once you download something, they lose that ability and any control over you.



UPDATE - Video DownloadHelper

- So on July 26, 2023 I reported how VDH had recently stopped working for many users. It was not entirely clear at the time whether this was due:
 - to a Windows update,
 - to some other problem, OR (the most likely culprit)
 - to Google now blocking VDH and other download tools even when using other browsers like Firefox.

The most recent release of VDH at the time (8.0.0.1) only partially fixed the problem, and only for a very limited number of videos.

- About the same time, the ability of the VLC Media Player and some other download apps to download YouTube videos also stopped working for many users.



UPDATE - Video DownloadHelper

- On Aug 22, 2023 VDH released version 8.0.0.6 (works with Firefox 42.0 and later). In casual testing involving downloading about 24 videos, it seems to correct the downloading problem for MOST videos.
- Keep in mind that it doesn't download videos that use an embedded video player on the site like news stories or recipe videos, even if they use the YouTube embedded video player.
- If the embedded video DOES use the YouTube video player, you can right-click on the video, copy the YouTube URL, paste the URL into the search bar on Firefox to open up the source video, and then use VideodownloadHelper to download the video normally.
- If the embedded video you want DOESN'T use the YouTube video player, you can still download it using a video screen capture tool like NCH Debut Video Capture and Screen Recording Software (demo'ed at the May 18, 2022 Q&A). Keep in mind that this usually gives you some extraneous material at the beginning and end of the video, and it doesn't filter out adds in the middle of the videos.

UPDATE - Video DownloadHelper

- Video DownloadHelper is available as an extension for Firefox (and Google Chrome if you can tolerate Google's restrictions).
- Video DownloadHelper itself is free and doesn't require registration. An unregistered version of the Converter helper app is also free, but registration only costs ~USD\$16 and is usable on a reasonable number of computers (the developers have to eat too). If you DON'T register it:
 - Converted videos will have a QR code in the converted or aggregated videos.
 - You won't be able to download just the audio portion of videos as MP3 audio files.

UPDATE – Download Bamboozlement

At last week's Q&A in his review of BleachBit, Alan mentioned that in trying to download BleachBit he had quite a bit of difficulty finding the actual BleachBit download link amongst all the much more prominent download links that downloaded something he DID NOT want.

Unfortunately, this problem IS NOT unique to BleachBit. I am finding more and more download sites trying this type of bamboozlement. Let's be careful out there

Share

Photo editing with Photoscape X

Part 1 – Straightening and cropping

Part 2 – Lighting adjustments

Part 3 – Editing tools (e.g. spot healing, soften skin, red eye)

Part 4 – Masking



Share

Handy tools

- *Spot removal* – restoring old photos, removing small objects or lines (e.g. telephone wires)
- *Fix red eye*
- *Soften skin* – soften facial lines in harsh light
- *Blur* – to soften a background
- *Sharpen*
- *Cloning* – replacing one area with another. Note: paid version only (\$70 CDN).

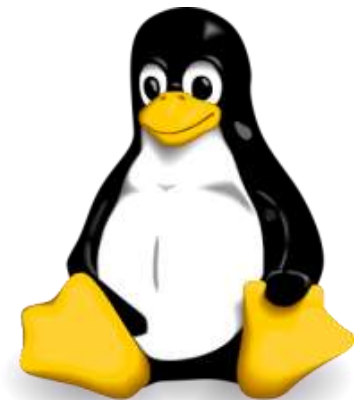
Share

Demonstration



Change Linux Boot Menu

- I have a Lenovo Thinkpad Edge 15 0301 with an SSD
- I have installed two Linux distros: Mint and Deepin (lightweight backup in case Mint is getting heavy)
- I have a hard time changing the default OS
- It currently boots to Deepin
- How do I change the default to Mint?
- Do I need to delete Deepin to do this?



Peter Kwan



Edit the grub menu

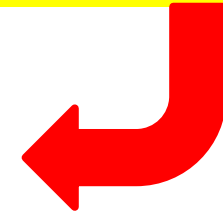
- Modifying the grub menu can be quite complex
- I haven't done this manually for quite some time, although I have documented the process I used (<https://linuxnorth.wordpress.com/2011/03/09/grub2-revisited/>)

10_linux identifies all of the Linux kernels that are available on our computer and produces individual script entries that will result in a listing in the boot menu for each kernel.

30_os-prober scans the hard drives for other operating systems (such as Windows) and creates menu listings for each.

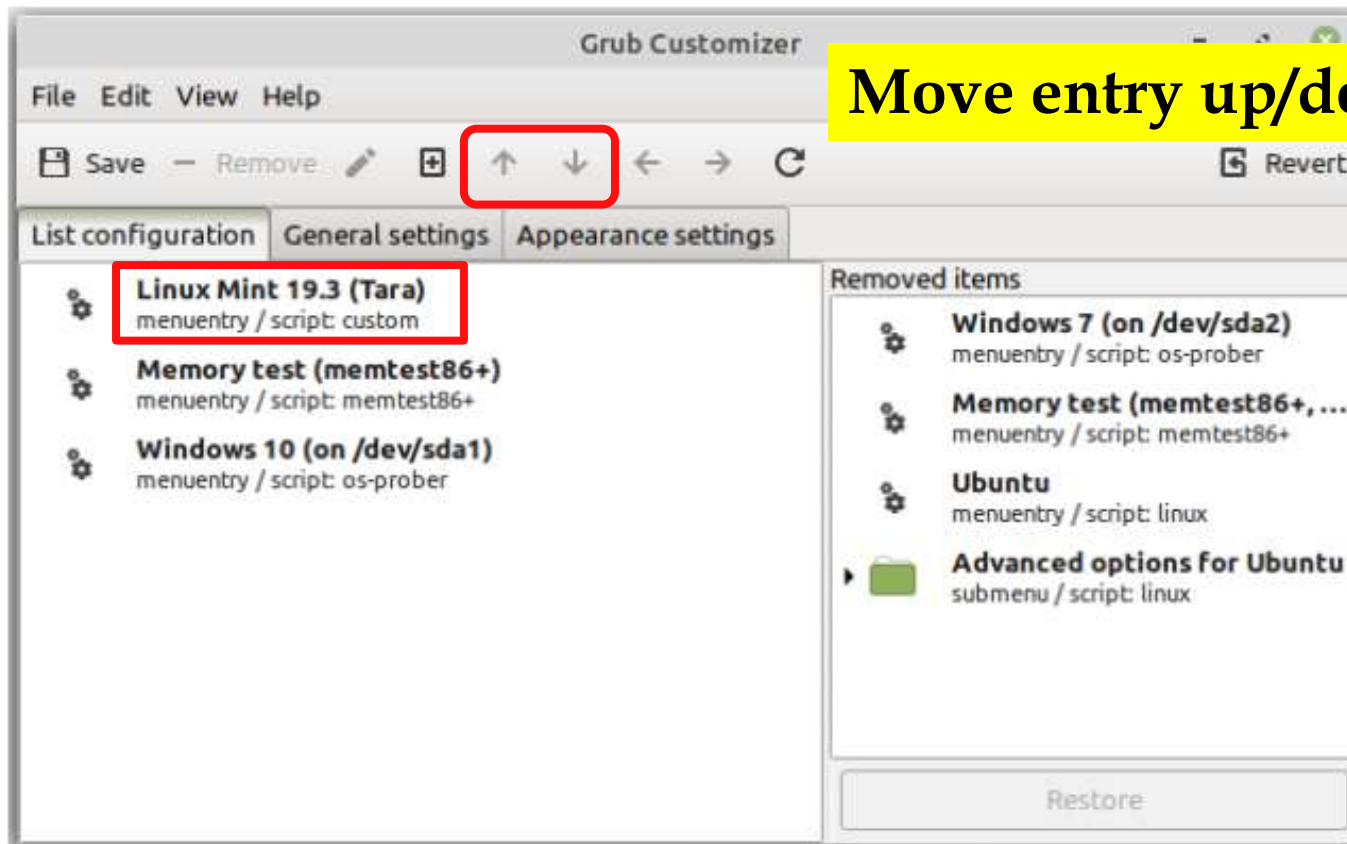
Finally, 40_custom is an open script where users can insert custom entries to create additional menu listings on the boot menu.

**Edit a bunch
of scripts**



But, there is an easier way...

- More recently, I have used Grub Customizer (<https://linuxnorth.wordpress.com/2020/01/12/updating-the-grub2-boot-menu/>)



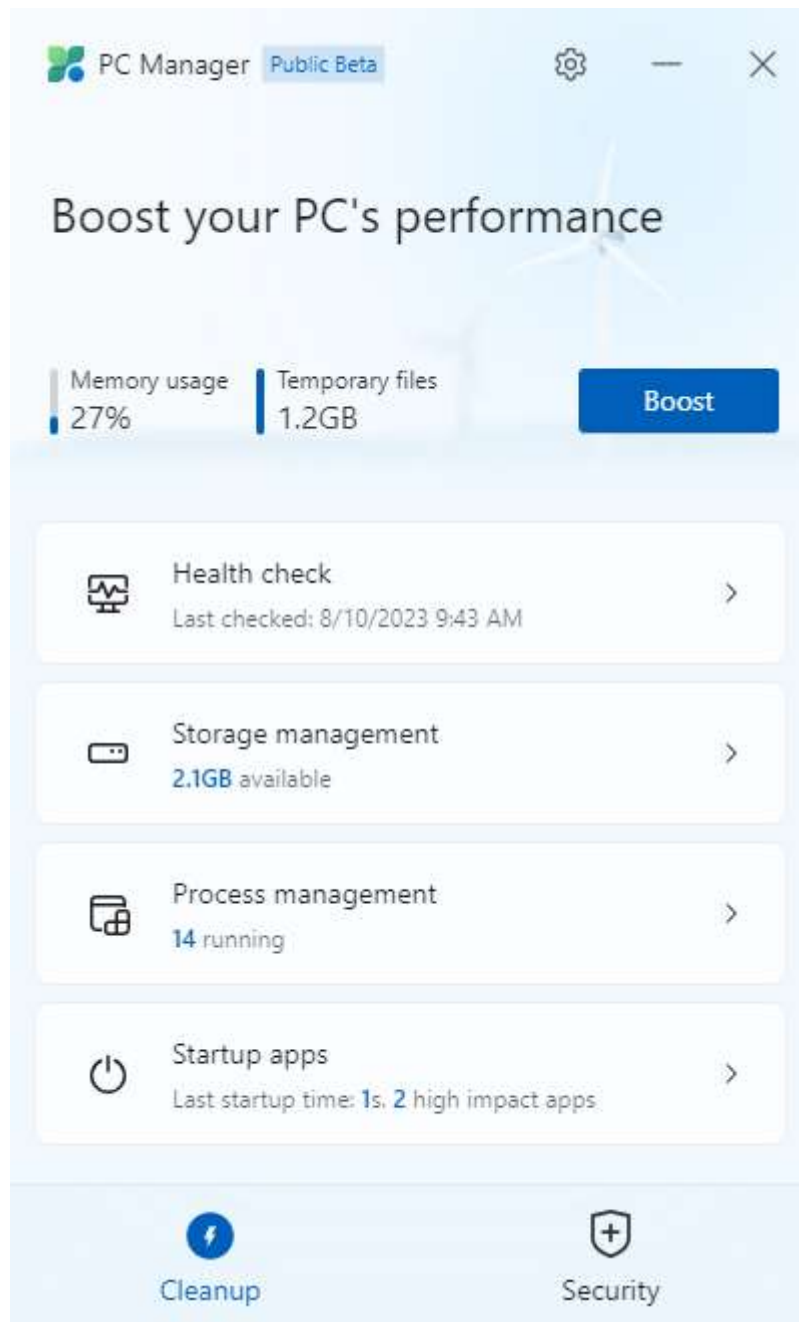
Move entry up/down

Share

Can We Speed Up An Old Windows Computer?

- Question from a member *“My laptop... takes a while to open, and most of the time it goes in a circle...”*
- Comment from a friend *“My Windows laptop is so sl-o-w...”*

So, what can we do to speed up such machines?

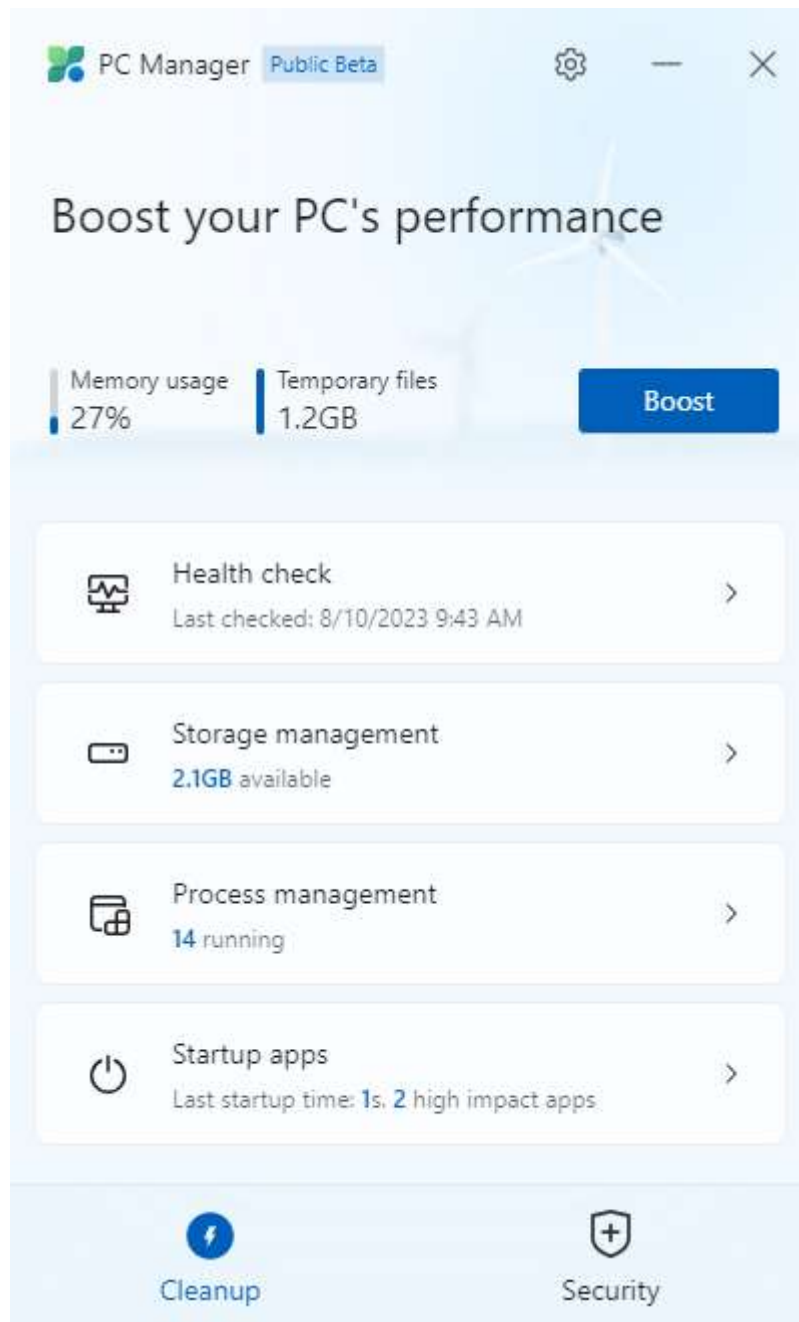


Controls:

- Boost
- Health check
- Storage management
- Process management
- Startup apps
- ~~• Cleanup~~
- Security
- Settings

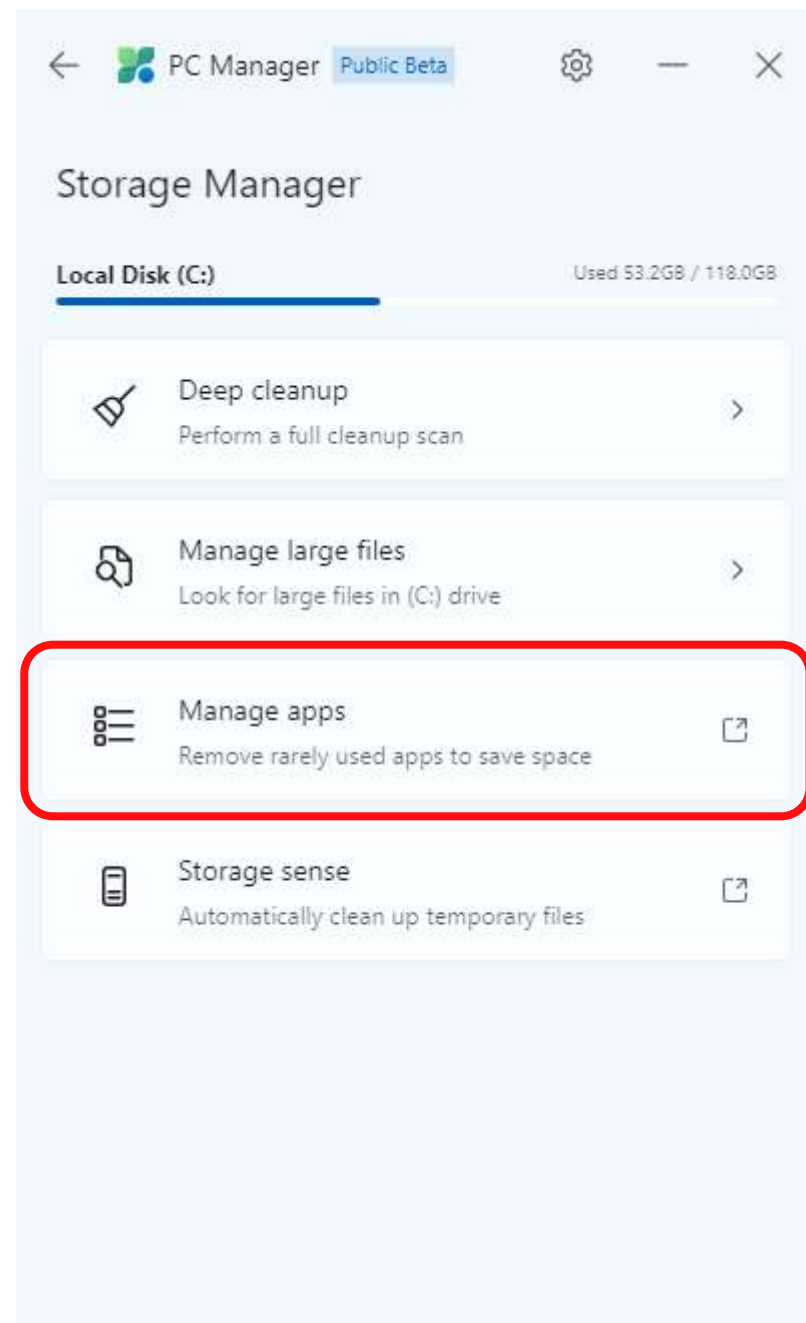
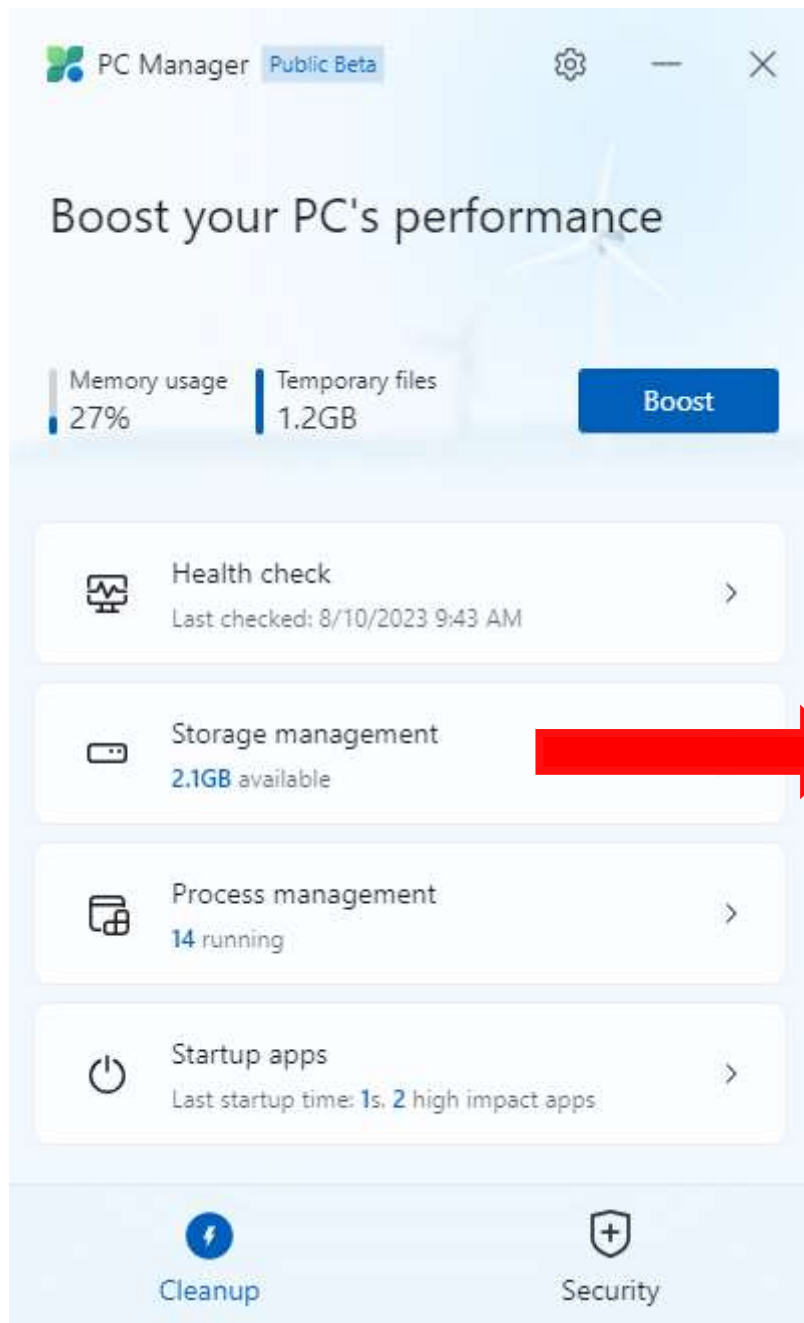
File Management:

- Boost
=> Useless?
- Health check
=> Removes some files, can be many
(some files may be “in use”, doesn’t seem
to process most “Disk Cleanup” folders)
- Storage management
=> Useful for finding large (and forgotten)
files, selections must be reviewed (many
system files)
- **Bottom Line**
=> Also need to run Disk Cleanup/System files



Controls:

- Boost
- Health check
- Storage management
- Process management
- Startup apps
- Cleanup
- Security
- Settings



 Home

Apps

 Apps & features Default apps Offline maps Apps for websites Video playback Startup

Apps & features

Apps & features

[Optional features](#)[App execution aliases](#)

Search, sort, and filter by drive. If you would like to uninstall or move an app, select it from the list.

Sort by: Name ▾

Filter by: All drives ▾

158 apps found

	3D Builder Microsoft Corporation	16.0 KB 2/15/2023
	3D Viewer Microsoft Corporation	20.0 KB 8/24/2023
	AMD Catalyst Control Center	8/23/2020
	App connector Microsoft Corporation	8.00 KB 1/24/2018
	App Installer Microsoft Corporation	320 KB 8/24/2023
	Ashampoo Burning Studio FREE	12/26/2022
	ATI Catalyst Install Manager	36.1 MB 12/26/2011

 HomeFind a setting 

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Apps & features

[Optional features](#)[App execution aliases](#)

Search, sort, and filter by drive. If you would like to uninstall or move an app, select it from the list.

Search this list 

Sort by: Size ▾

Filter by: All drives ▾

158 apps found



GIMP 2.10.22

1.10 GB

11/6/2020



LibreOffice 7.5.0.3

738 MB

2/4/2023



PowerToys (Preview) x64

681 MB

12/26/2022



MapSource

475 MB

9/27/2021



MapSource - US Topo 24K National Parks, Ea...

370 MB

6/22/2015



Microsoft OneDrive

293 MB

9/2/2023



Microsoft Silverlight

243 MB

1/15/2019

 Home

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Settings

Home

Find a setting

Apps

- Apps & features
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- Offline maps
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Apps & features

	Microsoft Edge Update	7/19/2023
	Microsoft Edge WebView2 Runtime	8/24/2023
	Microsoft Mouse and Keyboard Center	41.1 MB 8/23/2020
	Microsoft News Microsoft Corporation	16.0 KB 8/24/2023
	Microsoft OneDrive 23.169.0813.0001	293 MB 9/2/2023
		Modify Uninstall
	Microsoft Photos Microsoft Corporation	958 KB 8/5/2023
	Microsoft Silverlight	243 MB 1/15/2019
	Microsoft Store Microsoft Corporation	166 KB 8/24/2023
	Microsoft Sync Framework 2.0 Core Componen...	2.67 MB 1/5/2012
	Microsoft Sync Framework 2.0 Provider Service...	4.63 MB 1/5/2012

Select Microsoft OneDrive

 Home

Apps

 Apps & features Default apps Offline maps Apps for websites Video playback Startup

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		11/6/2020
	LibreOffice 7.5.0.3	738 MB 2/4/2023
	PowerToys (Preview) x64	681 MB 12/26/2022
	MapSource	475 MB 9/27/2021
	MapSource - US Topo 24K National Parks, Ea...	370 MB 6/22/2015
	Microsoft Silverlight	243 MB 1/15/2019
	Mozilla Thunderbird (x86 en-US)	216 MB 8/24/2023
	Microsoft Windows Desktop Runtime - 7.0.10...	213 MB 8/24/2023
	Microsoft Windows Desktop Runtime - 3.1.3...	203 MB 12/26/2022
	Java 8 Update 371 (64-bit)	197 MB 6/19/2023
	ocenaudio	165 MB 6/28/2023
	Candy Crush Soda Saga king.com	157 MB 8/24/2023
	NVS DB APP Software	150 MB 5/21/2015



 Home

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11/6/2020



LibreOffice 7.5.0.3

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MapSource - US Topo 24K National Parks, Ea...

370 MB

6/22/2015



Microsoft Silverlight

243 MB

1/15/2019



Mozilla Thunderbird (x86 en-US)

216 MB

8/24/2023



Microsoft Windows Desktop Runtime - 7.0.10...

213 MB

8/24/2023



Microsoft Windows Desktop Runtime - 3.1.3...

203 MB

12/26/2022



Java 8 Update 371 (64-bit)

197 MB

6/19/2023



ocenaudio

165 MB

6/28/2023

Candy Crush Soda Saga
king.com

157 MB

8/24/2023



NVS DB APP Software

150 MB

5/24/2015

The image is a screenshot of a web browser displaying the Microsoft Support page for the Silverlight End of Support. The browser's address bar shows the URL [support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/silverli](https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/silverlight-end-of-support-0a3be3c7-bead-e203-2dfd-74f0a64f1788). The page header includes the Microsoft logo, the word "Support", and links to "Microsoft 365" and "Buy Microsoft 365". The main heading is "Silverlight End of Support" in a large, dark blue font. Below the heading, the text "Windows 7, Silverlight" is displayed in a smaller, italicized font. A red rectangular box highlights the following text: "Microsoft Silverlight will reach the end of support on October 12, 2021. Silverlight development framework is currently only supported on Internet Explorer 10 and Internet Explorer 11, with support for Internet Explorer 10 ending on January 31, 2020. There is no longer support for Chrome, Firefox, or any browser using the Mac operating system."

Silverlight End of Support

Windows 7, Silverlight

Microsoft Silverlight will reach the end of support on October 12, 2021. Silverlight development framework is currently only supported on Internet Explorer 10 and Internet Explorer 11, with support for Internet Explorer 10 ending on January 31, 2020. There is no longer support for Chrome, Firefox, or any browser using the Mac operating system.

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/silverlight-end-of-support-0a3be3c7-bead-e203-2dfd-74f0a64f1788>

Home

Find a setting



Apps

Apps & features

Default apps

Offline maps

Apps for websites

Video playback

Startup

Apps & features

 Microsoft Corporation 8/5/2023 Cisco EAP-FAST Module 1.53 MB
12/20/2011 Cisco LEAP Module 838 KB
12/20/2011 Cisco PEAP Module 1.28 MB
12/20/2011 Clock 16.0 KB
Microsoft Corporation 6/23/2023 Cortana 81.0 KB
Microsoft Corporation 8/24/2023
[Advanced options](#)

Move

Uninstall

 CSV to vCard 1.04 MB
2/19/2019 Desktop Restore version 1.7.0 1.29 MB
1/21/2019 DHTML Editing Component 1.08 MB
11/26/2015 DW WLAN Card Utility 8/23/2020 EULalyzer 2.2 3.44 MB
3/18/2023 Everything 1.4.1.1022 (x64) 3.00 MB

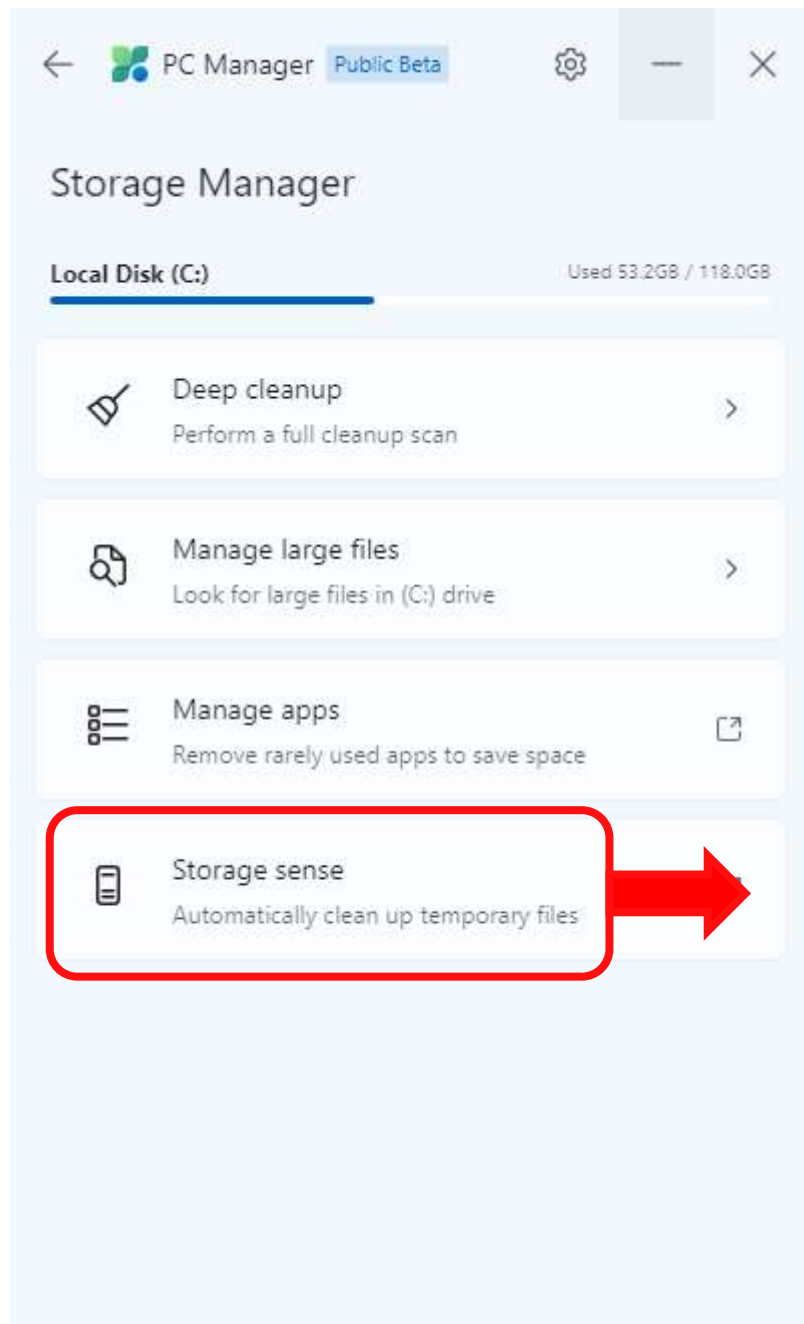
MICROSOFT / TECH / WINDOWS

Microsoft shuts down Cortana app on Windows 11

...but not in Windows 10

/ The digital assistant was first part of Windows Phone and now it's being discontinued on Windows.

<https://www.theverge.com/2023/8/11/23828311/microsoft-shuts-down-cortana-windows-11>



🏠 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.

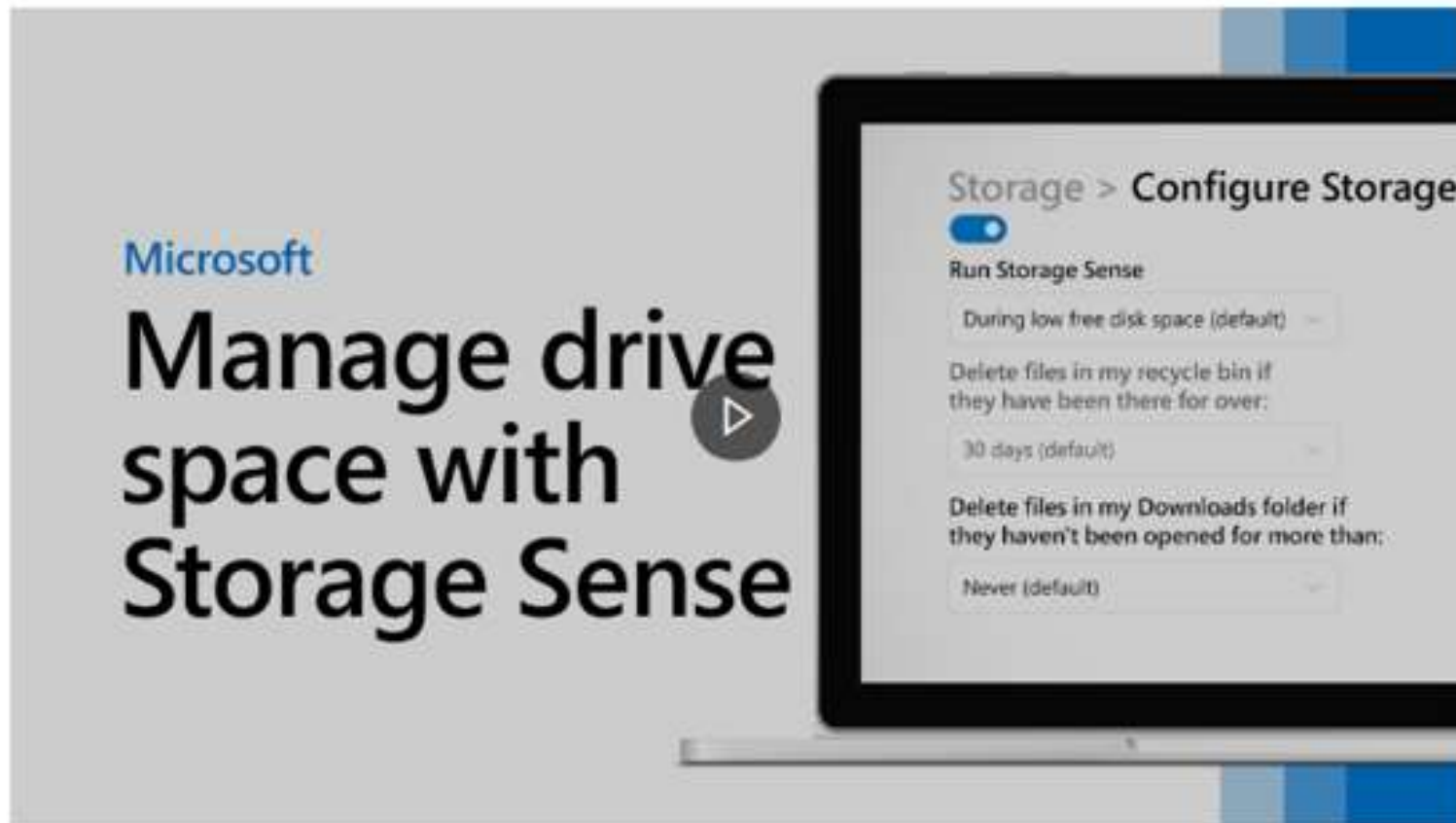
Clean now

Manage drive space with Storage Sense

Windows 11

Windows 10

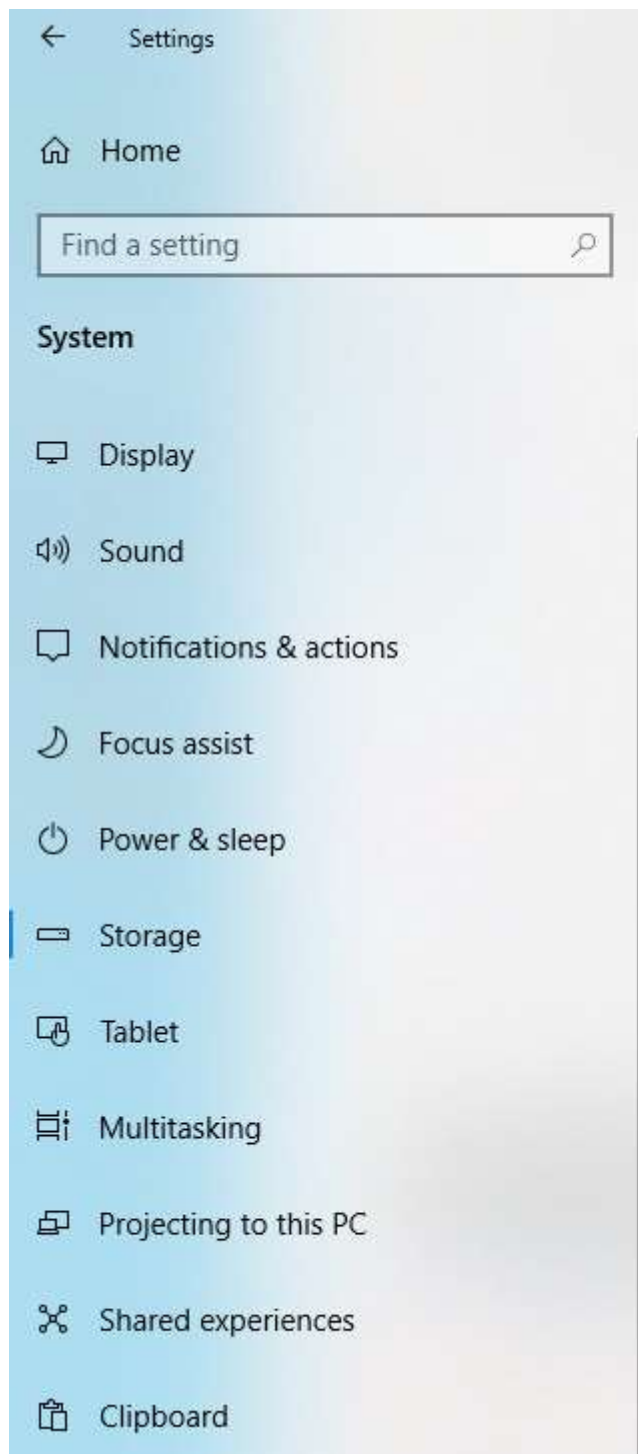
Storage Sense can automatically free up drive space for you by getting rid of items that you don't need, like temporary files and items in your Recycle Bin. Here's more info on how it works and how to set it up to meet your needs.



<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/manage-drive-space-with-storage-sense-654f6ada-7bfc-45e5-966b-e24aded96ad5>

Storage Sense

- Turned off by default
- When enabled, monitors low free disk space
- Will automatically remove temporary files, recycle bin contents, and items in the downloads folder
- Can specify drives other than Drive C:
- Settings determine when and what is deleted
(e.g. when disk space is low, weekly, monthly;
recycle bin items after 15, 30, 60 or 90 days)
- Can turn on automatically if disk space is low, but it will issue a warning



Settings > 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.

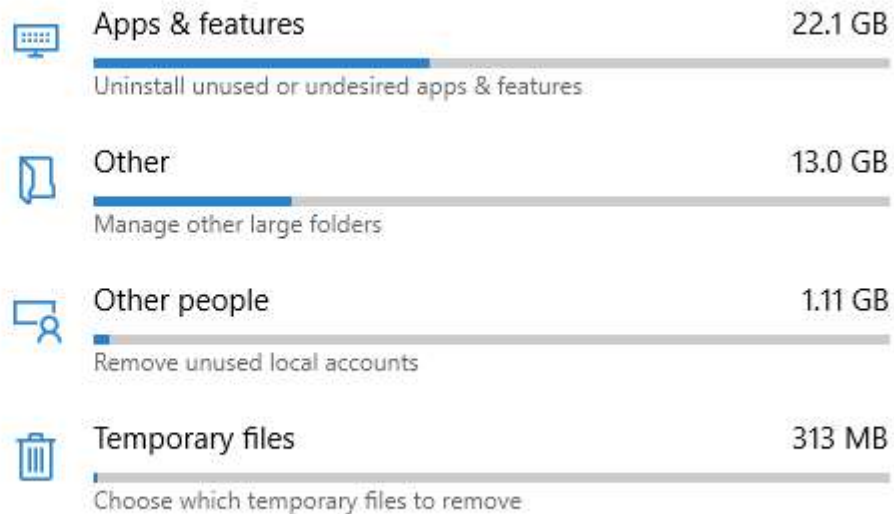


[Configure Storage Sense or run it now](#)

Local Disk (C:) - 118 GB



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



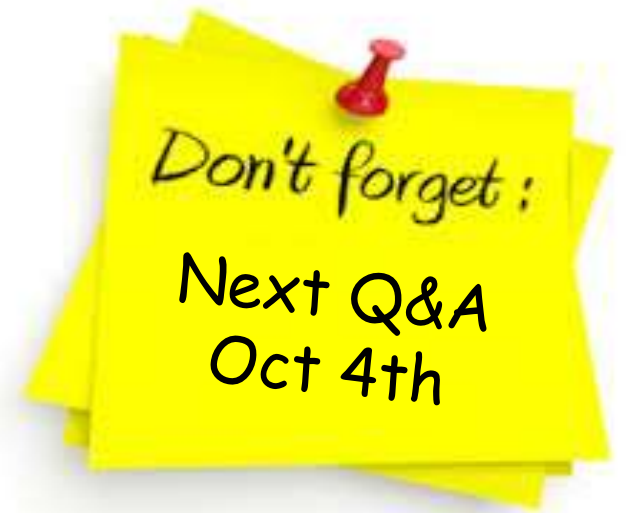
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What else can PC Manager do?





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