



Alan German & Chris Taylor

Ottawa PC Users' Group

June 5, 2024

Follow Up

Firefox Add-Ons



Firefox Setup?

- I downloaded the most recent version of Firefox
- The new version has multiple settings and add-ons
- Do you have any advice on setting up Firefox
- Which add-ons are useful (some sound promising)?

Bea Alt



Firefox Browser ADD-ONS

- Firefox Multi-Account Containers** [Add Firefox](#)
Firefox Multi-Account Containers lets you keep parts of your online life separated into color-coded tabs. Cookies are separated by container, allowing you to visit the web with multiple accounts and integrate identity VPNs for an extra level of privacy.
★★★★★ [Install Firefox](#)
- PrivacyOFF** [Recommend](#)
Removes and prevents popups, overlays and cookie notifications, other tools do not. Enjoy the original look of the internet.
★★★★★ [Recommend](#)
- CleanURLs** [Recommend](#)
Removes trailing elements from URLs.
★★★★★ [Install it](#)
- Shredder Password Manager** [Recommend](#)
At home, at work, or on the go, Shredder really secures all your passwords, passkeys, and sensitive information.
★★★★★ [Shredder Inc.](#)
- CanvasBlocker** [Recommend](#)
Blocks some JS APIs to prevent fingerprinting.

Cookies and Site Data

Your stored cookies, site data, and cache are currently using 1.0 GB of disk space. [Learn more](#)

☐ Delete cookies and site data when Firefox is closed

Passwords

☒ Ask to save passwords

☒ Fill usernames and passwords automatically

☒ Suggest strong passwords

☒ Suggest Firefox Relay email masks to protect your email address. [Learn more](#)

☒ Show alerts about passwords for breached websites. [Learn more](#)

☐ Use a Primary Password. [Learn more](#)

Formerly known as Master Password

[Change Primary Password...](#)

☐ Allow Windows single sign-on for Microsoft, work, and school accounts. [Learn more](#)

Manage accounts in your device settings

[Clear Data...](#)

[Manage Data...](#)

[Manage Exceptions...](#)

[Exceptions...](#)

[Saved passwords](#)

8,240 results found for “new tab”

Filter results

Sort by

Relevance ▾

Add-on Type

All ▾

Badging

Any ▾

Search results



New Tab Override 👑 Recommended

👤 64,132 users

New Tab Override allows you to set the page that shows whenever you open a new tab.

★★★★☆ Sören Hentzschel



Tabliss - New Tab 👑 Recommended

👤 72,059 users

A beautiful New Tab page with many customisable backgrounds and widgets that does not require any permissions.

★★★★☆ tabliss.io

Default web site list

New Tab — Settings

Extension (New Tab Override)

moz-extension://ec88d111-b066-41a6-81bb-9731fcebba61/html/

New Tab — Settings

This page is provided by **New Tab Override**: Select which page should open as new tab!

Settings

Option

custom URL

URL

file:///D:/default.htm

Access to local files via URL is no longer possible for extensions.

Tab Position

Open new tabs next to the current tab if they are related to the current tab, otherwise

Focus

☐ Set focus to the web page instead of the address bar

Clear address bar / select URL

The automatic emptying of the address bar or selecting the URL is not possible for WebExtensions. This requires a change by the browser.

Support

Please consider a donation to support the ongoing development of this extension.

Donate

Do you like the extension? Then please leave a review on [addons.mozilla.org](#)

Feature requests or error report? Open a ticket on GitHub:
[New Tab Override on GitHub](#)

URL

file:///D:/default.htm

sh

New Tab Override © 2015 - 2024, soeren-hentzschel.at

custom URL

- ⓘ The web page entered here is displayed when opening a new tab. Only URLs starting with http:// or https:// are supported. Please note: Access to local files via URL is no longer possible due to Firefox restrictions. Please consider using the "local file" option or a local web server, for example via MAMP or XAMPP.



Recommended

...but

Please note: Access to local files via URL is no longer possible due to Firefox restrictions.



Follow Up



Location for weather



Why weather notification???

- As of April 2024, when I start my laptop
 - I get a weather popup at the centre bottom of my screen
 - it disappears when I get to the login screen
- Questions:
 - where does it come from?
 - I did not set that up
 - how do I turn it off/prevent it from popping up?
- Note: nothing to do with the weather widget/taskbar
 - which has always been disabled

Q&A 2024-05-29

- reports that weather on lock screen showed wrong location



Bob Herres asked Perplexity AI

- *I live at K2S 1P6. I have a Desktop PC, running Windows 11. It was last updated 29 May 2024. (Update 2024-05 .NET 6.0.31 Security Update for x64 Client (KB5039843)) I have 3 monitors. Just before I enter my password to start a new session this morning on 30May 2024... the screen, just before, I see the screen that allows me to enter my password displays 1. *Current weather: from Portsmouth UK*, 2. Brief Market info TSX DOW S&P and 3. Brief NHL Score info. *How do I change this info, and make it more relevant to where I live?**
- Response: *What would you like to see on your Login Screen?*
- Bob said: *Ottawa weather info, current news. I'm not interested in NHL scores*



First wrong answer

- Press *Windows + I* to open the *Settings* app
- Click on the *Personalization* category from the left-hand menu
- Click on *Lock screen* in the *Personalization* menu
- Turn on the toggle switch next to *Show the lock screen background picture on the sign-in screen*
- Under *Personalize your lock screen* choose between *Windows spotlight*, *Picture* or *Slideshow* based on your preference
- This has nothing to do with the display of weather on the lock screen

Follow Up Second wrong answer

- Adding & customizing widgets
 - ensure your Windows 11 version is up-to-date
 - you need at least Build 22631.3371 to access the new widgets
 - enable Widgets Using ViVeTool:
 - download ViVeTool from GitHub and extract it to *C:\ViveTool*
 - open Terminal as an administrator and navigate to the ViVeTool folder by typing `cd C:\ViveTool`
 - enable the widgets by running the command:
c:\vivetool\vivetool /enable /id:47921515,47921574
 - restart your computer
- Download a 3rd party tool???
- Maybe this was needed if Widgets had been disabled somehow?

Follow Up Third wrong answer

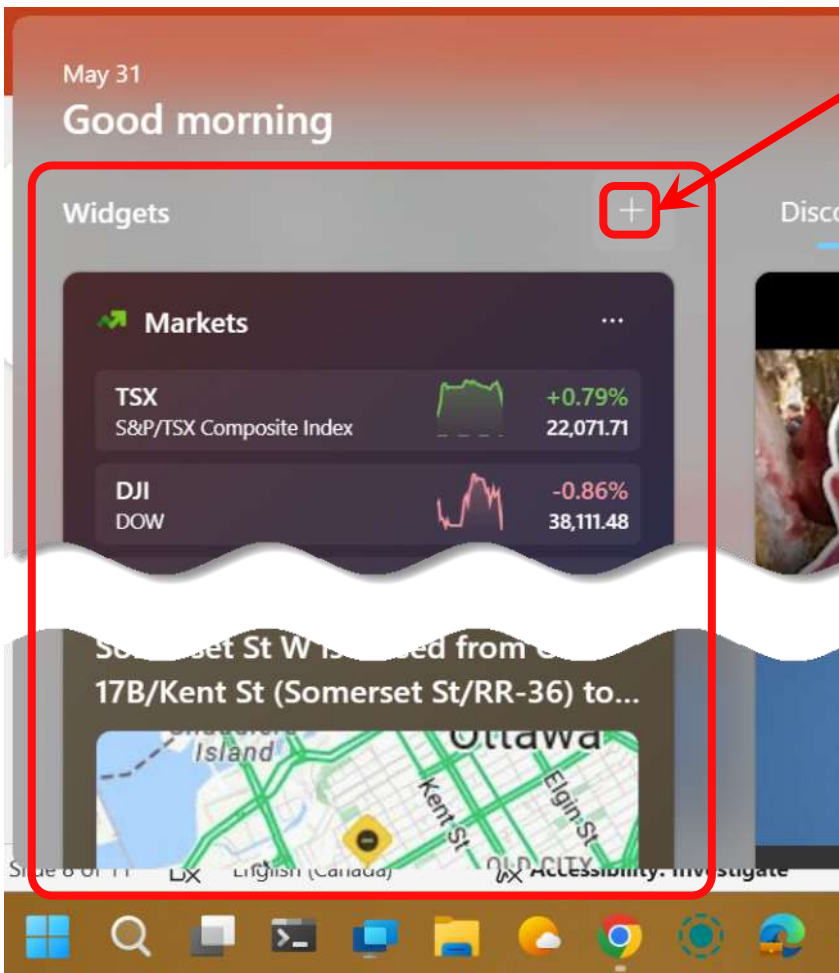
- Configure Widgets:
 - go to *Settings > Personalization > Lock screen*
 - enable *Weather and more* for the lock screen background
- This it won't fix the location for the weather
 - Bob's original query: *...the screen displays Current weather: from Portsmouth UK ... How do I change this info, and make it more relevant to where I live?*

Follow Up Fourth answer incomplete

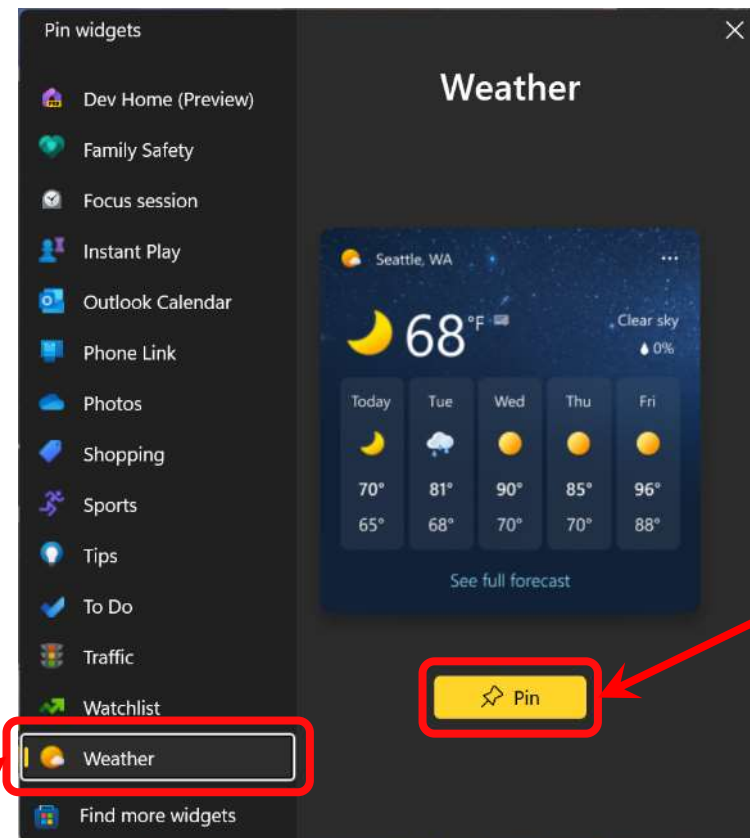
- Customizing Widget Content
 - Weather Widget:
 - The weather widget will automatically display weather information.
Ensure your location settings are set to Ottawa to get local weather updates.
 - News Widget:
 - Currently, the widgets are not customizable to show specific news sources. However, you can enable general news updates through the widgets panel.
 - Disabling NHL Scores:
 - Since the widgets are bundled, you cannot selectively disable NHL scores without disabling the entire set of widgets. If you prefer not to see NHL scores, you may need to disable the widgets and rely on other methods to get weather and news updates.
 - By following these steps, you can ensure that your login screen displays relevant information such as Ottawa weather and current news, enhancing your user experience on Windows 11
- Yes, but how?

Follow Up What's the right answer?

Press Windows + W to open Widgets panel



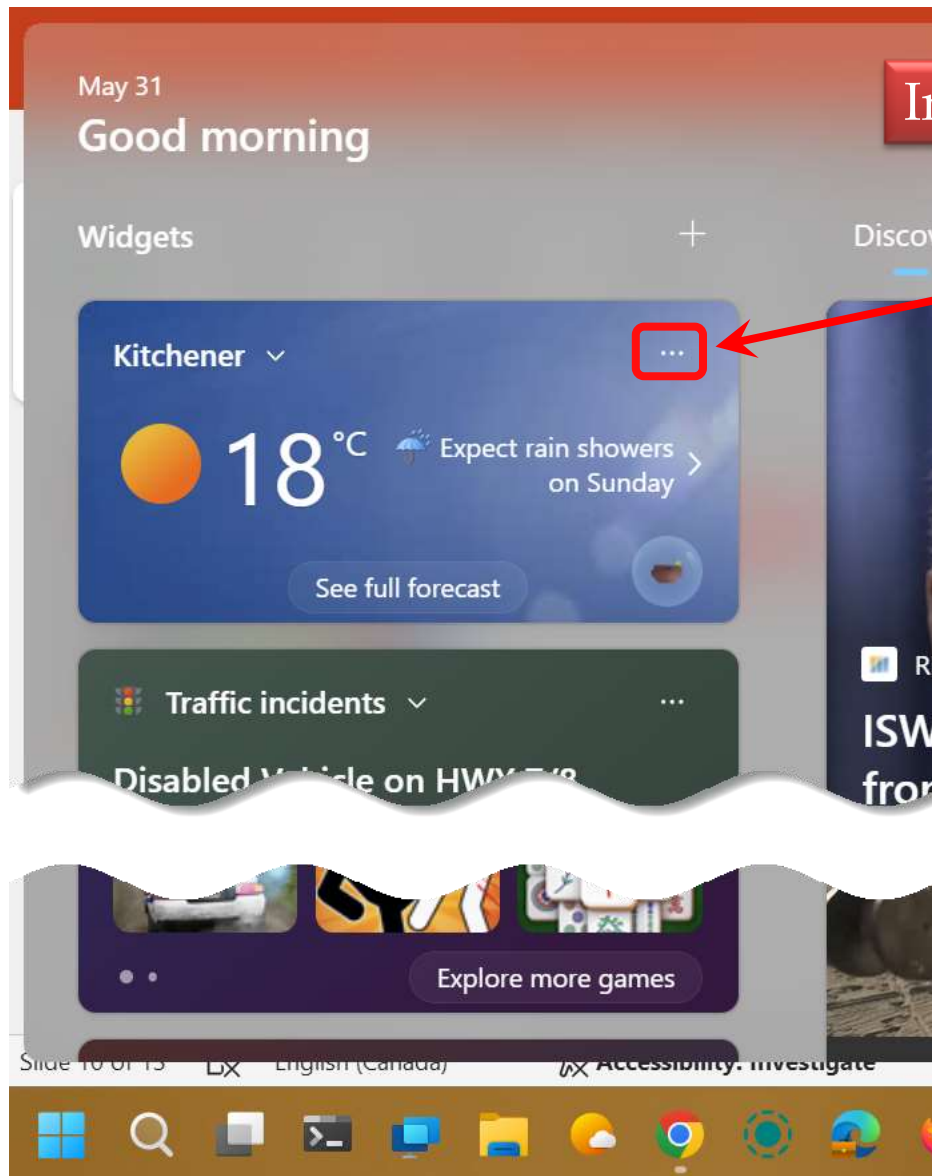
If *Weather* not showing under *Widgets*, click +



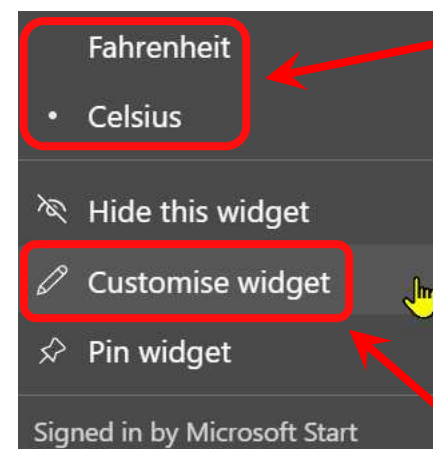
Click *Pin*

Click *Weather*

Follow Up



In the *Weather* Widget, click the meatball menu



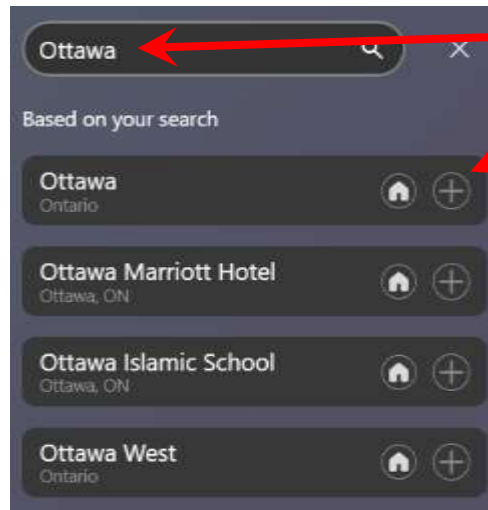
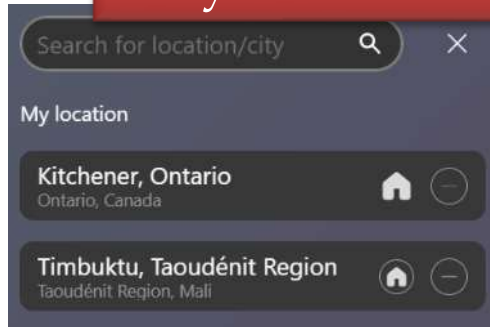
Select units

Select *Customise widget*

Follow Up



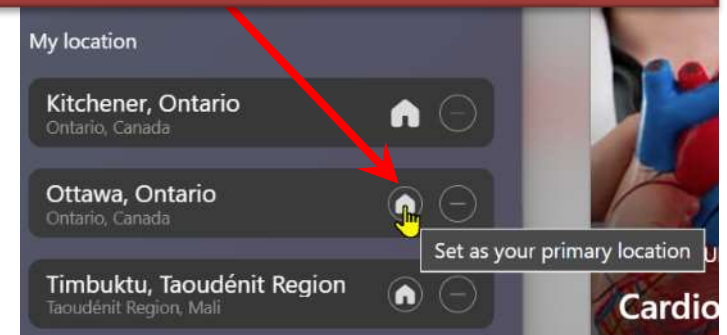
Only Kitchener and Timbuktu showing



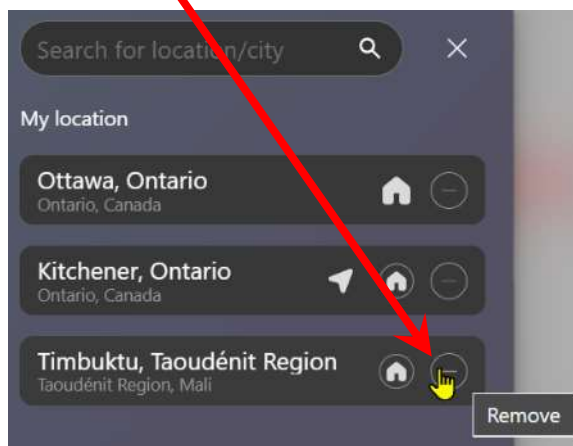
Search for *Ottawa*

- click + to add

Click Home to set as primary

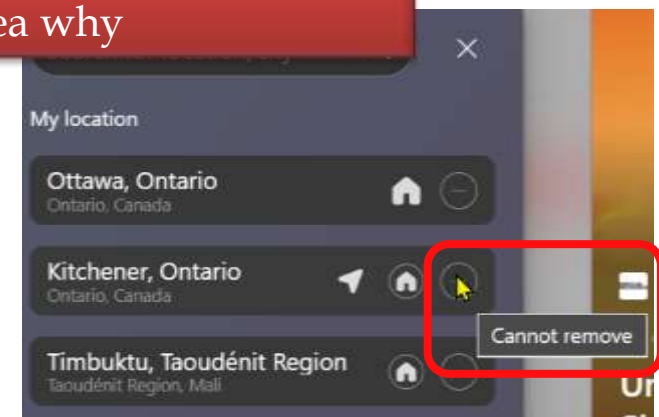


Click  to remove Timbuktu



Can't remove Kitchener

- no idea why



Follow Up Final? word

BC

BChomowitz

Created on November 23, 2023

How to fix W11 weather widget detecting wrong location?

I am running W11 Pro 21H2 on my desktop pc. Recently, the weather widget has started to display the weather from the wrong location. It appears it thinks I am located in Athens, Texas, when I am actually located in Seminole, FL. I tried to delete the Athens, TX location in the

MA

Maggiekev

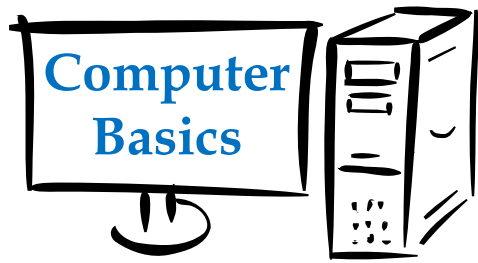
Replied on April 10, 2024

↳ In reply to Maggiekev's post on March 10, 2024

The Microsoft technician had suggested I reinstall Windows 11 using the repair option. I waited to do this but ultimately did so. All software, internet favorites, desktop items were left as is, and after the final restart my PC was back to normal with both the weather widget and clock (set to automatically adjust) were working fine.

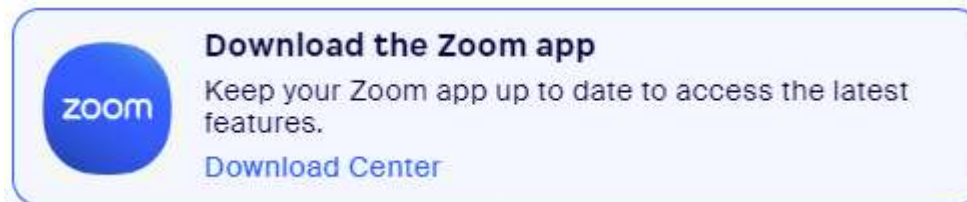
I can only guess that some system file or registry entry got corrupted. Regardless, the windows reinstall, repair option worked.

I don't know that I would go to that extreme just to get the weather for Ottawa on the lock screen...

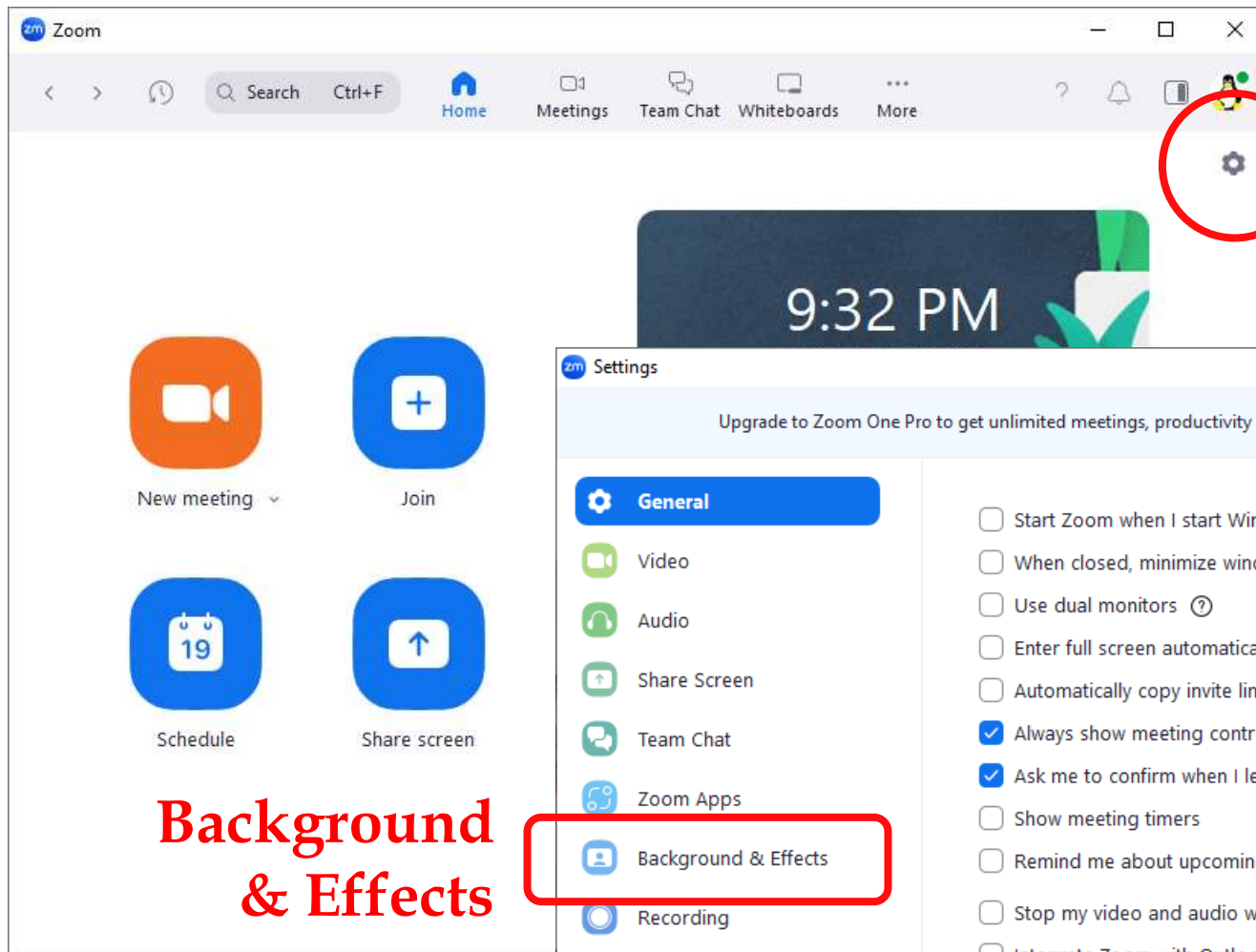


Using the Zoom Client – Part 3

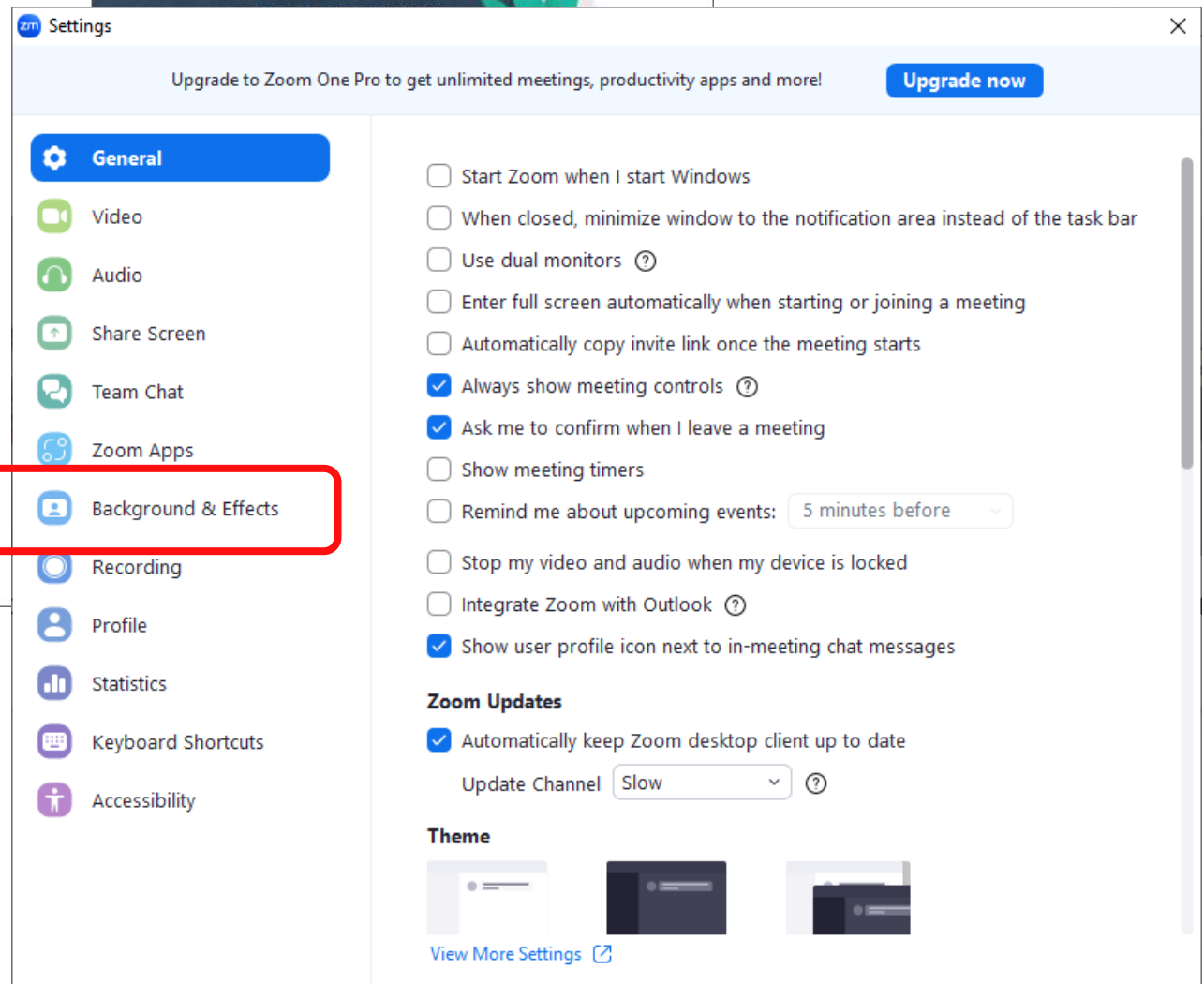
- I would be interested in knowing how people put a background on Zoom without showing their messy homes (at least mine is messy!)
- I don't specifically sign into Zoom
- I just click the link to sign into your meetings (same with other Zooms I attend)
- So, I don't know if using a background requires signing into an account



<https://zoom.us> (*Resources tab*)



Settings



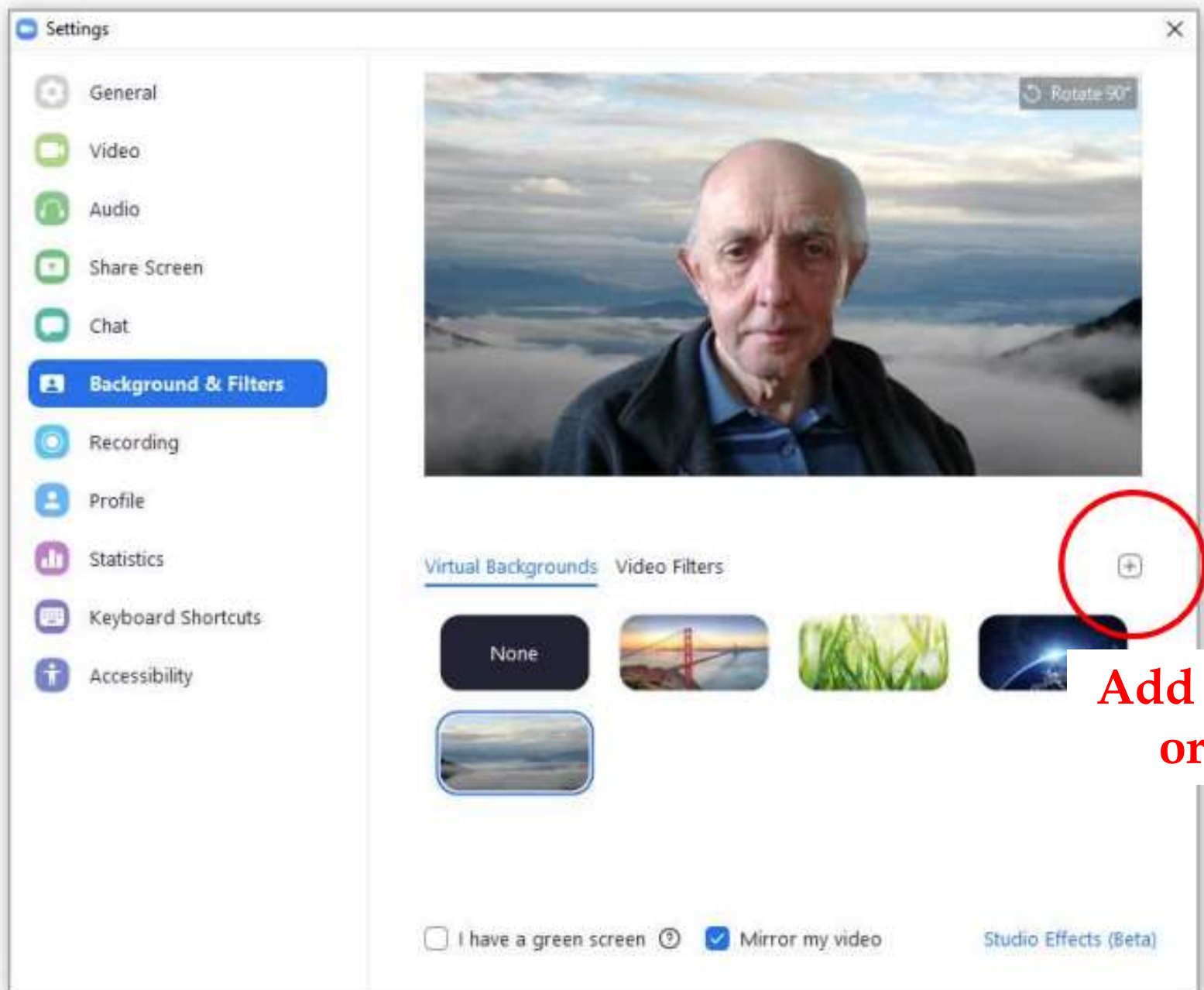
Follow-up

Backgrounds, filters and profiles in Zoom

- How do I add a virtual background to my Zoom session?
- What are filters?
- How do I display my profile picture instead of using a webcam?



https://opcug.ca/qa_recordings/20210210_PowerPoint.pdf



Share

Selected Zoom Tips

- How to upload a profile pic
- How to change your name
- How to adjust your video
- How to add a virtual background

Note:

- Assumes install of zoom desktop client or mobile app
- Button locations may vary depending on your platform

https://opcug.ca/qa_recordings/20230830_PowerPoint.pdf

Z Settings

Upgrade to Zoom One Pro to get unlimited meetings, productivity apps and more!

[Upgrade now](#)

- General
- Video
- Audio
- Share Screen
- Team Chat
- Zoom Apps
- Background & Effects
- Recording

Profile

- Statistics
- Keyboard Shortcuts
- Accessibility

Edit Profile Picture



[Change Picture](#)

[Save](#)

[Cancel](#)



Linda Buske

[linda@sympatico.ca](#)

[BASIC](#)

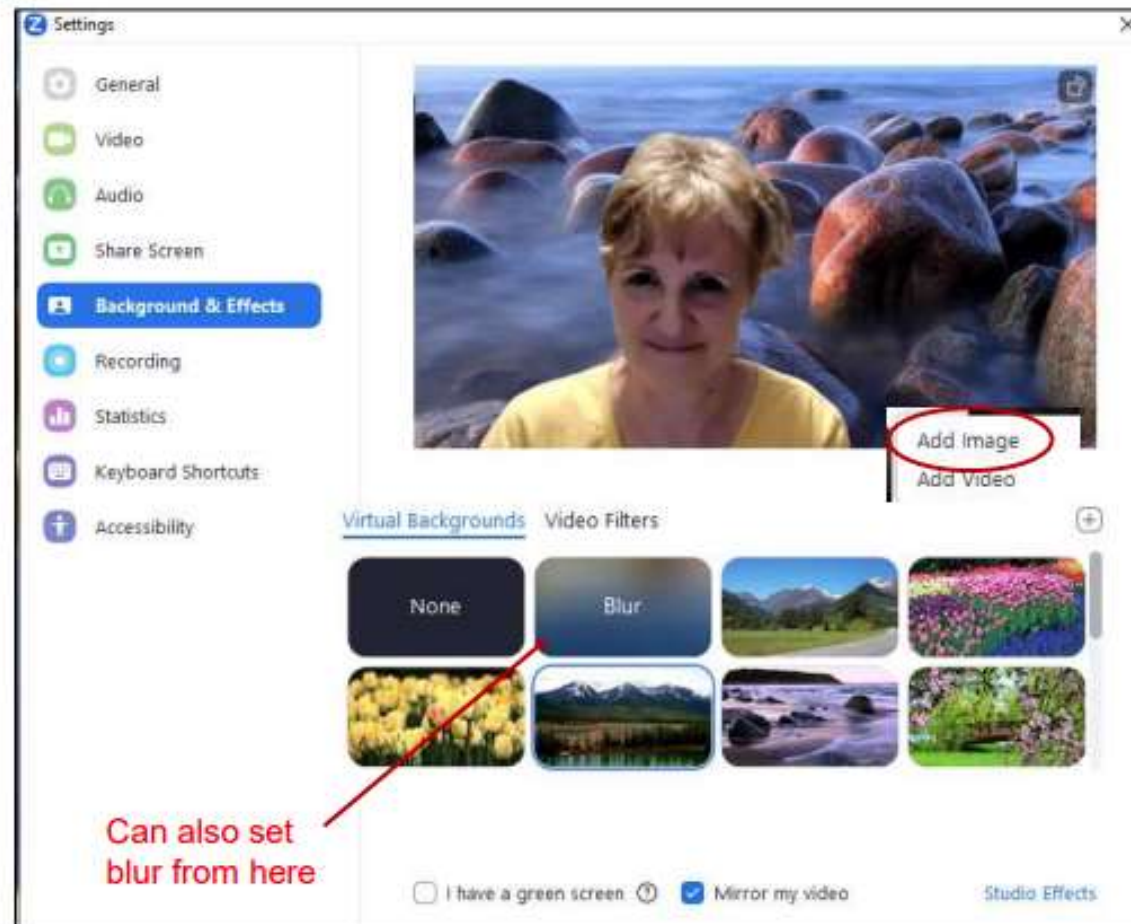
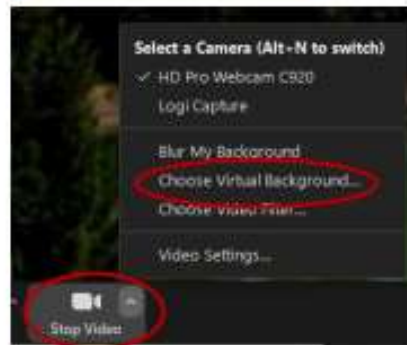
[Upgrade to Pro](#)

[Edit My Profile](#)

[View Advanced Features](#)

Share

Adding a virtual background





Do PC *Fix-it* utilities work?

YouTubeTech

- Everyone is annoyed if/when their PC slows down
- There are many 3rd party tools that claim to speed up bogged-down PCs
- Vendor claims
 - *Intelligently detect and resolve PC slowdown issues with one click*
 - *200% Faster PC*
 - *300% Faster Surfing*
 - *Remove useless junk files and clean registry to free up more disk space and reduce PC crashes.*
 - *Repair & Replace Damaged or Missing OS Files*
 - *Optimize Win Registry - Check for invalid/corrupt registry entries*



But do they actually work?

YouTubeTech

- Linus Tech Tips video
- *My PC is Slow... Can These “Speed Up” Tools Fix it?*
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-G-DByczwbWA>
- Highlights
 - most review sites recommended same handful of tools over and over again
 - might seem like a case of experts agree until you dig deeper
 - **Cons** listed: *Windows offers comparable built-in tuneup tools*
 - some of them actually work pretty well but...
 - you can achieve a similar result for free



What to do for free?

YouTubeTech

- Would Linus recommend any of these?
 - if you're watching this video probably not you
 - bothered by a family member to update their drivers, delete useless startup items and clear up their storage space then Avast and CCleaner are easy to use & can help
- If you don't mind spending 5 minutes a month
- Some fast & easy tricks to achieve very similar results for free
 - Task Manager > Startup tab
 - choose which apps you want on startup vs. those you're okay to open manually
 - uninstall programs you no longer need
 - defrag *for HDDs* or trim *for SSDs* your drive
 - run Disk Clean-up
 - it may just be time for an upgrade
 - many tools targeting older systems that might still be using a hard drive
 - at the price of this software you could just buy an SSD



What I use

YouTubeTech

- CCleaner
 - **for options I choose** in CCleaner, it doesn't do a single thing I couldn't do manually
 - empties **all** browser caches and compacts **all** browser databases
 - removes temporary files
 - empties recycle bin
 - deletes memory dumps
 - deletes Chkdsk file fragments
 - deletes NVIDIA install files
 - pops up & tells me when it can clean up significant disk space
 - does it with a couple of clicks
 - **Warning: it can clean a lot more**
 - **select only those things you want cleaned**
 - CCleaner remembers chosen settings
 - **don't use its registry cleaning option**

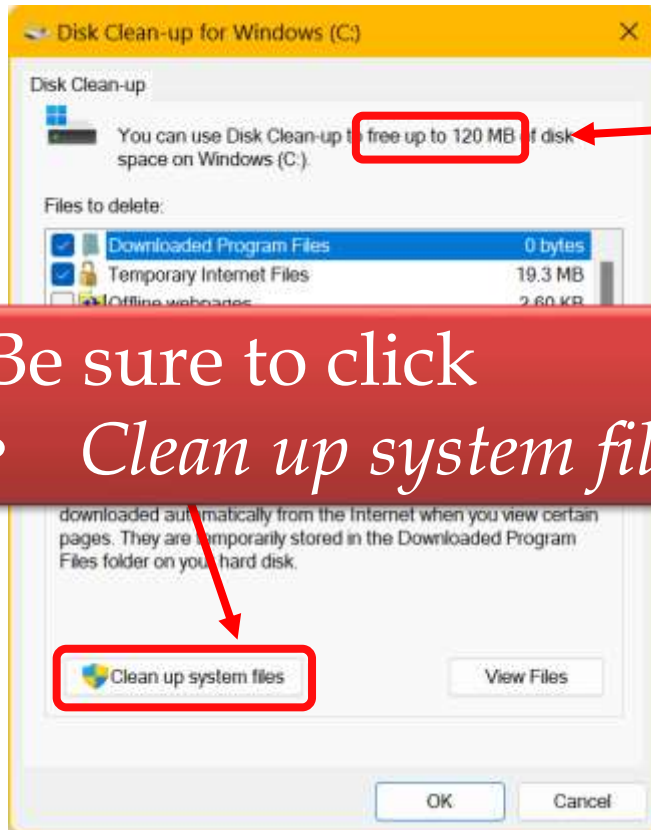
<https://www.ccleaner.com/ccleaner>



What I use

YouTubeTech

- Disk Clean-up (comes with Windows)

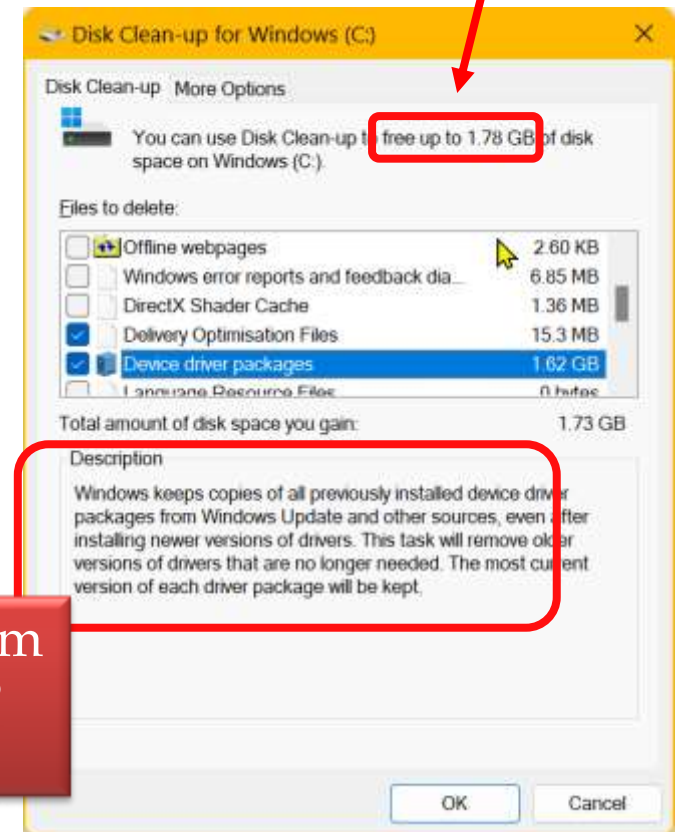


Clean-up went from 120 MB to 1.78 GB

- depends on options selected

Be sure to click

- *Clean up system files*



Read *Description* for each item

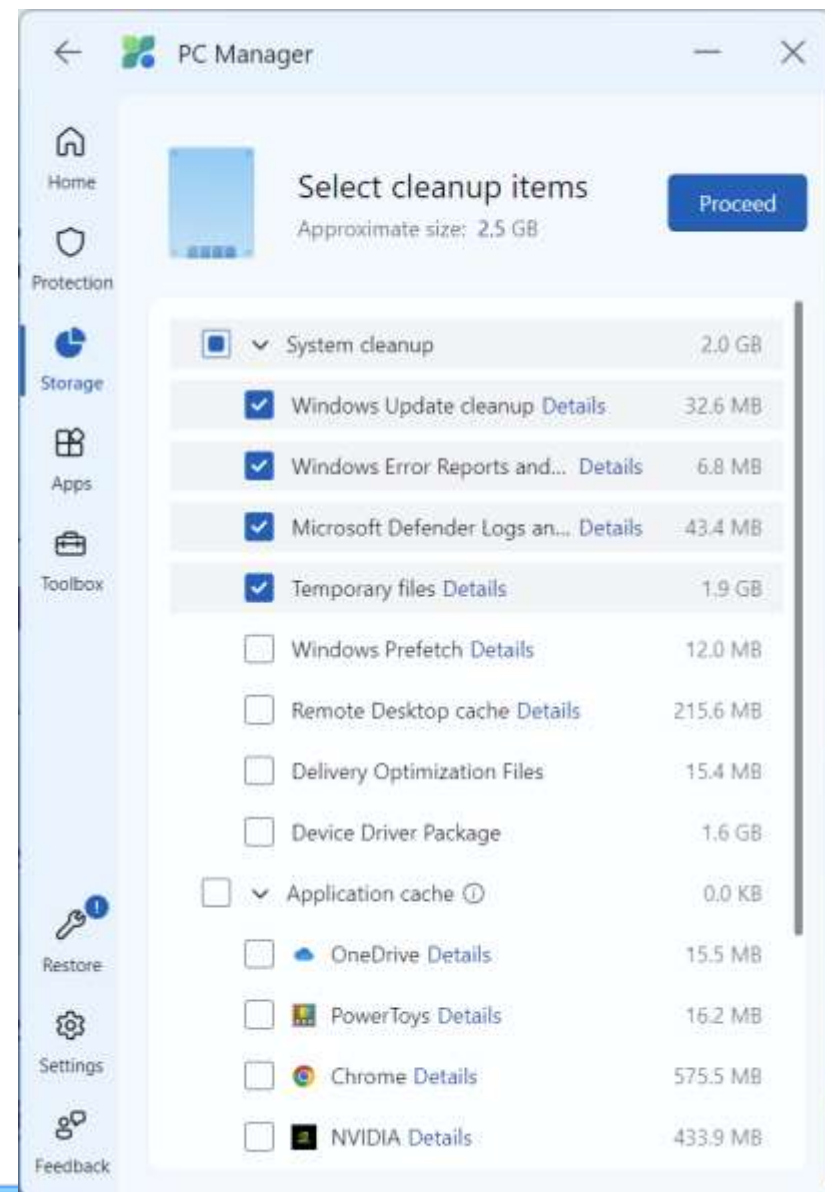
- don't understand an option?
- don't select it



What I use

YouTubeTech

- PC Manager
 - free from Microsoft Store
- Somewhat involved with many areas
- Provides deep insight into disk clutter
- I rarely use
 - should probably use more often



Search for *Microsoft PC Manager* in Microsoft Store



Are registry cleaners snake oil?

YouTubeTech

- <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/topic/microsoft-support-policy-for-the-use-of-registry-cleaning-utilities-0485f4df-9520-3691-2461-7b0fd54e8b3a>
 - Microsoft does not support the use of registry cleaners
 - Microsoft not responsible for issues caused by registry cleaning utilities
 - Microsoft can't guarantee problems caused by registry cleaning utilities can be solved
- <https://answers.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/forum/all/registry-cleaner-for-windows-10/fb7b8fbb-4380-4876-8515-2aebf4744259>
- <https://answers.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/forum/all/windows-11-registry-cleaner/7aa41533-4762-4f11-b622-bed5cf3f3385>
- <https://www.tenforums.com/performance-maintenance/189587-registry-cleaner.html>
- <https://youtu.be/zbqlJKiENvQ?t=242>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21VMQyQzRJw>
 - on a *brand new* Windows installation
 - CCleaner found 63 registry issues
 - Wise Registry cleaner found 139 registry issues



Perplexity.AI

YouTubeTech

- *Are there any registry cleaners that are safe to use?*
- **No consensus registry cleaners are reliable or safe to use**
 - Microsoft does not recommend or endorse them
 - claim to improve performance
 - experts agree performance gains are **negligible at best**
 - **can delete required registry entries**
 - causing system instability, crashes or making Windows unbootable
 - **may corrupt Windows** in a way that **manifests months later**
 - cleaners like CCleaner, Wise Registry Cleaner, and Auslogics Registry Cleaner **highlight risks & lack of Microsoft endorsement**
 - **overwhelming advice** from Microsoft and most experts: **avoid registry cleaners**
 - **none** can be considered **reliable or safe**
 - **consensus:** registry cleaners **provide no real value** and can **break or destabilize Windows**
 - **best to leave the registry alone**



YouTubeTech

Why I've Stopped Using Google Search



**ASK
LEO!**
Leo Notenbr

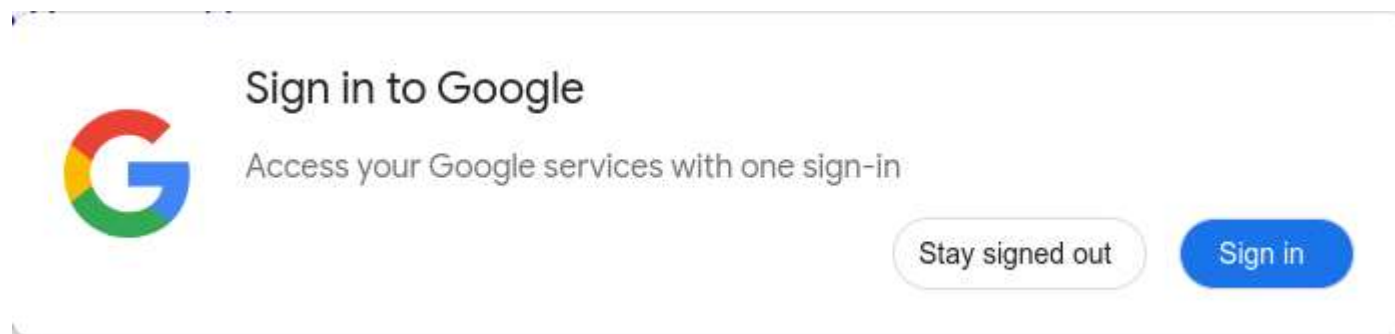
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K297opaBp8E>

- Google's initial search results are "sponsored" i.e. they are adverts!
- *"Google is an ad-delivery company that occasionally shows search results"*
- Microsoft Bing acts similarly but does tag the initial results as Ads
- Duck Duck Go is ad-supported but ads are based on the search terms used; they do not follow you around as you browse the Internet
- Kagi.com is ad-free but it's a pay system (e.g. \$5.00/month for 300 searches)
- AOL (!), Brave, Perplexity AI

Share

Disable Google Login Pop-Ups

- Just like Microsoft, Google knows best
- They desperately want you to login to your Google account
- All the time and everywhere
- Pop-ups galore!



Some people find this slightly annoying



User 11786193807425724659

Original Poster

Aug 13, 2022



STOP THE F***ING SIGN IN POP UP!!!

[illegible]

[I have the same question \(968\)](#)



 Locked



 This question is locked and replying has been disabled.

Is there a fix? – Maybe yes



Trending • Windows • PC Optimization • iPhone • Android • Streaming • Deals

Home > Web

How to Turn Off the "Sign in with Google" Prompt on Websites

Not now, Google!

BY MAHESH MAKVANA AND NICK LEWIS

UPDATED SEP 17, 2023

<https://www.howtogeek.com/735152/how-to-turn-off-the-sign-in-with-google-prompt-on-websites/>

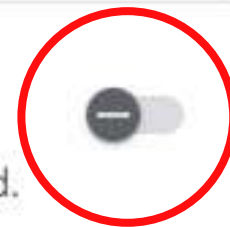
1. Launch Google's My Account site in a web browser and login to your Google account
2. Navigate to *Security > Your Connections to Third-Party Apps & Services > See All Connections*
3. Click on the gear icon in upper-right corner
4. Turn off *Google Account Sign-In Prompts*

Sign in with Google settings

Changes you make here apply to Sign in with Google where you use it to sign in to third-party apps and services

Sign-in prompts

Allow Google to display a sign-in prompt on Android.
Learn more about [sign-in prompts on Android](#)





← Settings

Sign in with Google settings

Changes you make here apply to Sign in with Google where you use it to sign in to third-party apps and services.

Sign-in prompts



Allow Google to display a sign-in prompt on Android. [Learn more about sign-in prompts on Android](#)

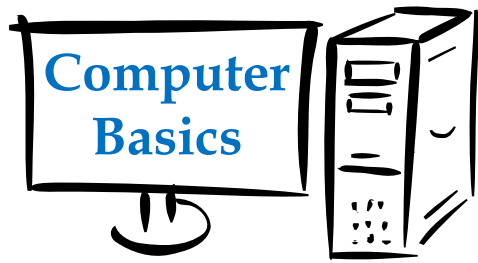
To manage third-party sign-ins on Chrome, go to Chrome Settings. [Learn more about sign-in prompts on Chrome](#)

Is there a fix? – Maybe no



Until recently, you could disable the feature from your Google account... I now discovered that Google quietly removed the feature.

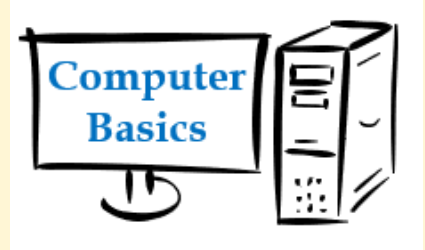
<https://bgr.com/tech/google-wont-let-you-turn-off-its-annoying-sign-in-pop-ups-heres-what-to-do/>



Back To Basics?

- I have spent quite a few years performing basic computing tasks
- Nevertheless, most of the time I find this very challenging
- I wish you would include some really basic topics in future Q&A's
- I find that the items that are usually discussed are quite advanced

Computer Basics



Memo to: SuggestionBox@Dopcuq.ca

My wish list is as follows:

1.

2.

3.



**Any other:
Questions
Comments
Shares?**



**Britannia Park
Trolley/Picnic Station**

June 12, 2024



If you want to be fed and watered, you must:

Register by E-mail to: pizzaparty@opcug.ca



And now...

...a special reminder
from our very own
AI guru and crooner
extraordinaire...
(*and his band*)

Share

Audio AI

- Copied text from OPCUG newsletter for the pizza party
- Fed that to Perplexity AI
 - told Perplexity to make the lyrics for a song
- Fed lyrics generated by Perplexity AI to Suno

<https://suno.com/>



Make a song with Suno

Page 3

ANNUAL PIZZA NIGHT

Pizza Time! Wednesday, June 12, 6 PM, Britannia Park Trolley Station

Once again we are fast approaching the end of our OPCUG season, and once again we'll celebrate it with pizza, drinks, and desserts. This event is free for OPCUG members and their guests.



We will have four door prizes to give away at the pizza party:
2 Reactor Socket Shelf Ultra
2 OPCUG Travel Mugs

The sockets have six wide-spaced AC outlets with surge protection, two 1.1 amp fast-charging USB Type-A ports, an LED night light, and two shelves.
Only members are eligible to win a door prize.

The event will be, as always, on the second Wednesday of June, that is June 12, 2024, starting at 6 PM. It will be at the **Britannia Park Trolley Station** (see images below), under a sheltered area in case the weather does not cooperate, with free parking and bathroom access. Unfortunately, for those who like beer or wine with their pizzas, **alcohol is not permitted** in the park. Pop and water will be provided.

To help with planning, we're asking you to **register by email at pizzaparty@opcug.ca**. Tell us if you are bringing guests and how many, your pizza preference (e.g. combos, special, meat lover, vegetarian, gluten free, etc.), and if you need a ride or can offer a ride.

We look forward to seeing you all in great numbers!

Britannia Park Trolley Station
(click image for more photos):



Map of Britannia Park
(click image to open in Google Maps):



Sky view of Trolley Station and parking
(click image to view larger):





Volume 41, Number 4

Bob Herres

Share

Pizza Party!

Register: pizzaparty@opcug.ca
• details at the website

Verse 1:

It's that time of year, when the season's ending,
OPCUG members are all attending,
A night of fun, a night of cheer,
The annual Pizza Party is finally here!

Chorus:

Pizza, pizza, it's time to celebrate,
With slices galore, we can't wait to partake!
Cupcakes and drinks, a feast so grand,
Gathering together, hand in hand.

Verse 2:

June the 12th, mark your calendar,
Britannia Park, where we'll all gather,
Under the shelter, rain or shine,
Gathering together, hand in hand.
June the 12th, mark your calendar,
Britannia Park, where we'll all gather,
Under the shelter, rain or shine,
A night to remember, a party so fine.

Chorus:

Pizza, pizza, it's time to celebrate,
With slices galore, we can't wait to partake!
Cupcakes and drinks, a feast so grand,
Gathering together, hand in hand.

Bridge:

RSVP, let us know your needs,
Gluten-free, veggie, or a ride to heed,
Door prizes await, for members true,
A night of surprises, just for you!

Verse 3:

So come one, come all, to this grand affair,
OPCUG's Pizza Party, a night to share,
Laughter and joy, with friends so dear,
A celebration we'll hold year after year!

Chorus:

Pizza, pizza, it's time to celebrate,
With slices galore, we can't wait to partake!
Cupcakes and drinks, a feast so grand,
Gathering together, hand in hand.

Outro:

OPCUG, opcug.ca,
A community that's here to stay,
Let's raise our slices, let's raise our cups,
To the Pizza Party, hip hip hooray!



Music posted at: [20240605_PizzaPartyAnthem.mp3](#)



LAST CALL !!!

**Britannia Park
Trolley/Picnic Station
June 12, 2024**

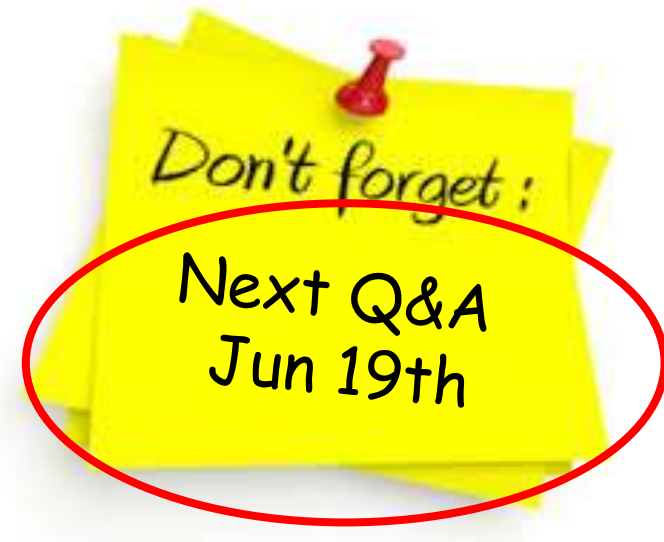


If you want to be fed and watered, you must:

Register by E-mail to: pizzaparty@opcug.ca



No Q&A on
June 12th
(Pizza-Q !!!)



**Send your questions,
answers, and topics
you wish to share to:**

SuggestionBox@opcug.ca