Free up drive space in Windows 10

If you are getting a Low Disk Space error due to a full Temp folder

If you used Disk Cleanup to free up space on your device and then see a Low Disk Space error, it's possible that your Temp folder is quickly filling up with application (.appx) files that are used by the Microsoft Store. To fix this problem, you'll need to reset the Store, clear the Store cache, and run the Windows Update troubleshooter:

1. To reset the Microsoft Store, select **Start** > **Settings** > **Update & Security** > **Troubleshoot**, then select **Windows Store Apps** from the list and select **Run the troubleshooter**.

2. To clear the Microsoft Store cache, press the **Windows Logo Key + R** to open the Run dialog box, then type **wsreset.exe** and click **OK**. A blank Command Prompt window will open, and after about ten seconds the window will close and the Store will open automatically.

3. To reset Windows Update, select **Start** > **Settings** > **Update & Security** > **Troubleshoot**, then select **Windows Update** from the list and select **Run the troubleshooter**.

Free up space with storage sense

You can use storage sense to delete unnecessary or temporary files from your device. (Can't find storage sense on your device using the steps below? See the **Free up space with Disk Cleanup** section below instead.)

1. Select the **Start** button, and then select **Settings** > **System** > **Storage** .
2. Under **Storage sense**, select **Free up space now**.
3. Windows will take a few moments to determine what files and apps are taking up the most space on your PC.
4. Select all the items you want to delete, and then select **Remove files**.

> Note
>
> Recycle Bin and some other settings aren't selected by default. You may have to scroll down to select these items.
>
> Select the Recycle Bin to free up space taken up by previously deleted files. Windows moves files you delete to the Recycle Bin in case you change your mind and need them again in the future. You might be able to free up a significant amount of free space by selecting **Recycle Bin** to *permanently* remove files you've previously deleted.

If you turn on storage sense, Windows will automatically free up space by getting rid of files you don't need, like temporary files and items in the Recycle Bin.

1. Select the **Start** button, and then select **Settings** > **System** > **Storage** .
2. Turn on **Storage sense**.
3. To choose which files you want Storage sense to delete automatically, select **Change how we free up space automatically**, then select or deselect the check boxes for options under **Temporary Files**, **Locally available cloud content**, and **Free up space now**.

Free up space with Disk Cleanup

If your system doesn't have storage sense, you can use the Disk Cleanup tool to delete temporary files and system files from your device.

1. Select the **Start** button, type **disk cleanup**, then select **Disk Cleanup** from the list of results.
2. Select the check box next to the type of files you want to delete. (To view a description of each type of file, select the name.) By default, **Downloaded Program Files**, **Temporary Internet Files**, and **Thumbnails** are selected.
3. To free up even more space, select **Clean up system files**, and then select the type of system files you want to delete.

> **Note**
>
> If it's been fewer than ten days since you upgraded to Windows 10, your previous version of Windows will be listed as a system file you can delete. If you need to free up drive space, you can safely delete it, but keep in mind that you'll be deleting your Windows.old folder, which contains files that give you the option to go back to your previous version of Windows. Deleting your previous version of Windows can't be undone.

1. After you've selected the types of files you want to delete, select OK, and then select Delete files in the confirmation window to start the cleanup.

Uninstall apps and optional features you don't need

Uninstalling apps and optional features you don't need is a good way to free up some extra space on your drive.

1. Select the **Start** button, and then select **Settings** > **Apps** > **Apps & features** .
2. You'll see a list of installed apps, including how much space each one uses and when it was installed. You can sort by **Size** to see which apps use the most space.
3. To uninstall an app, select it from the list and then select **Uninstall**.

> **Note**
>
> If you uninstall an app, you can always install it again later, either from the Microsoft Store or from any installation media you may have purchased. Make any sure you have the installation media and license keys you might need to reinstall the app before you uninstall it. If the app stores data, you may wish to export that data first or use tools and settings in the app to reduce how drive space it uses on your PC.

To free up additional space, you can also remove optional features, such as language packs and keyboard languages you no longer need.

1. Select the **Start** button, and then select **Settings** > **Apps** > **Apps & features** .
2. Select **Manage optional features**.
3. You'll see a list of optional features installed, including how much space each one uses. If you see something you no longer need, select it and then select **Manage** or **Uninstall**.