

SETTING UP A NEW WINDOWS 11 LAPTOP

How to Install Windows 11 Without an Internet Connection



By [Brian Burgess](#)

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Windows 11 wants the internet when you set up a new device. So, we'll show you how to install Windows 11 without an internet connection.

When initially installing Windows 11, it wants to connect to the internet. Microsoft wants you to create an account for your new device or when doing [a clean install](#) using a data connection.

However, you might not want to create a Microsoft account and instead have a more traditional offline experience. Or, you may need to set up your PC and don't have internet.

Luckily, there is a workaround you can use to bypass the internet requirement. So here's how you can install Windows 11 without an internet connection.

Install Windows 11 without Internet

If you need to install Windows 11 without the internet, there are a few steps to take. However, the process is straightforward.

To install Windows 11 without internet, do the following:

Go through the initial setup screens and select your country on the first **out-of-box-experience** (OOBE) screen.

Next, choose your keyboard layout on the following OOBE screen.

Click the **Skip** button if you don't need a second keyboard layout.

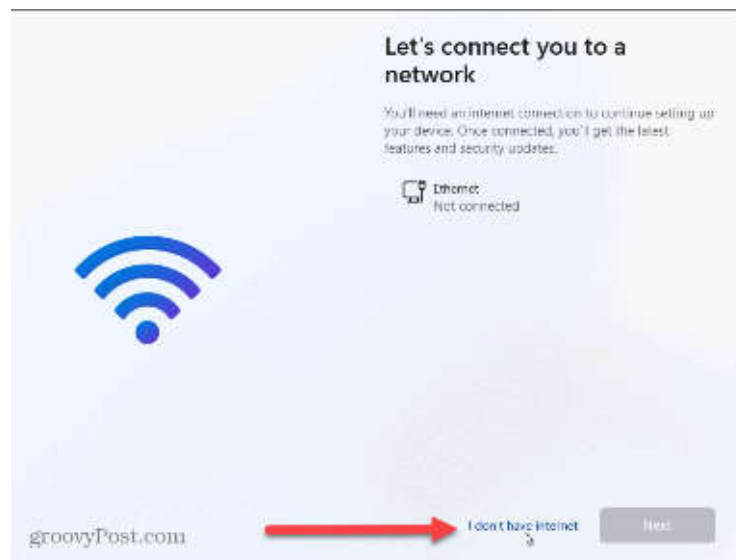
When the "Let's connect you to a network" screen appears, press **Shift + F10** on your keyboard.

In the **Command Prompt** window that appears, type the following command, and hit **Enter**.

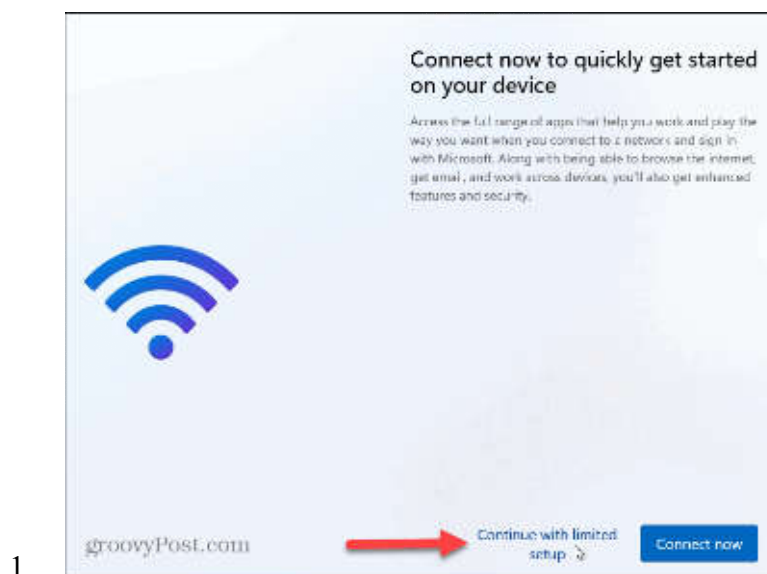
`OOBE\BYPASSNRO` (all text characters)

Your PC will restart and begin the OOBE again – enter your region and keyboard layout a second time.

When the “Let’s connect you to a network” screen appears, click the **I don’t have internet** link.



On the following screen of the OOBE, click **Continue with limited setup** on the bottom-right



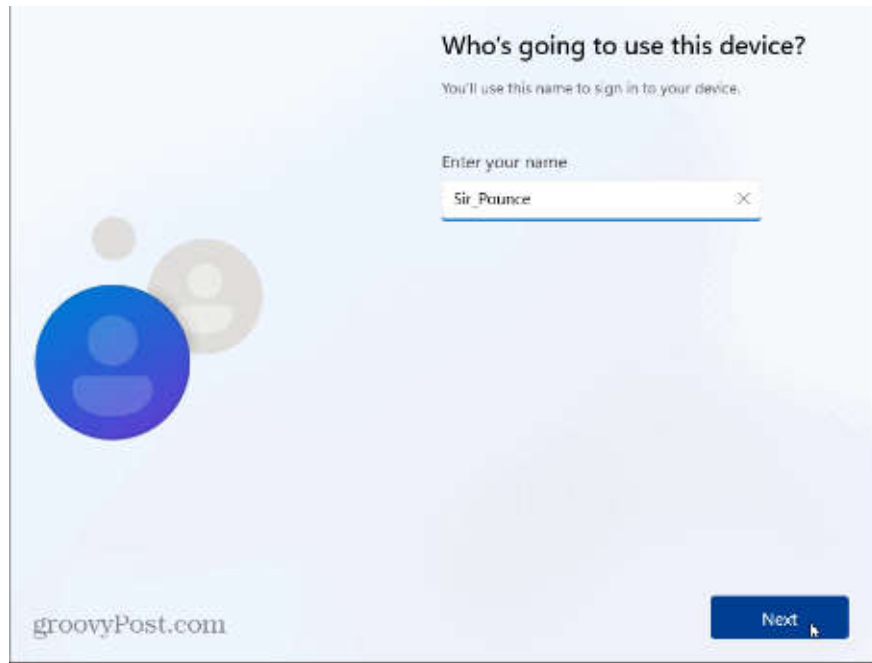
Click the **Accept** button when the EULA appears.

Create a Local Account on Windows 11

Now that you're past the initial request to connect to the internet, you can [create a local account](#) following the on-screen instructions.

To create a local account, do the following:

Type in the name of the local user (**RT**) and click next.

The image shows the Windows 11 setup screen titled "Who's going to use this device?". Below the title, it says "You'll use this name to sign in to your device." There is a text input field labeled "Enter your name" with the text "Sir_Pounce" entered. To the right of the input field is a small "X" icon. On the left side of the screen, there are three stylized user icons: a large blue one in the foreground and two smaller, faded ones behind it. At the bottom left, the text "groovyPost.com" is visible. At the bottom right, there is a blue button labeled "Next".

Who's going to use this device?

You'll use this name to sign in to your device.

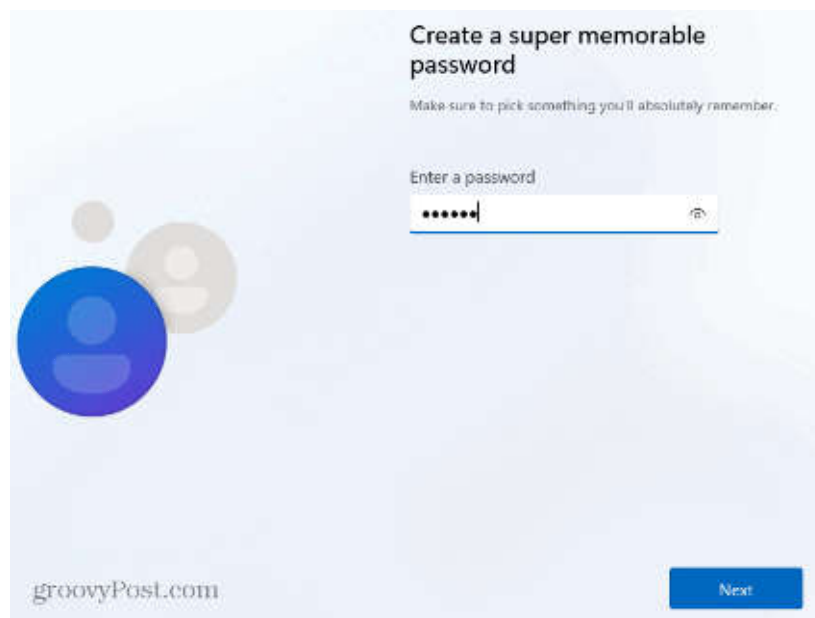
Enter your name

Sir_Pounce

groovyPost.com

Next

(Type in a **password** for the local user account twice to confirm) – Press Next to skip this.

The image shows the Windows 11 setup screen titled "Create a super memorable password". Below the title, it says "Make sure to pick something you'll absolutely remember." There is a text input field labeled "Enter a password" with several dots indicating masked text. To the right of the input field is a small icon. On the left side of the screen, there are three stylized user icons: a large blue one in the foreground and two smaller, faded ones behind it. At the bottom left, the text "groovyPost.com" is visible. At the bottom right, there is a blue button labeled "Next".

Create a super memorable password

Make sure to pick something you'll absolutely remember.

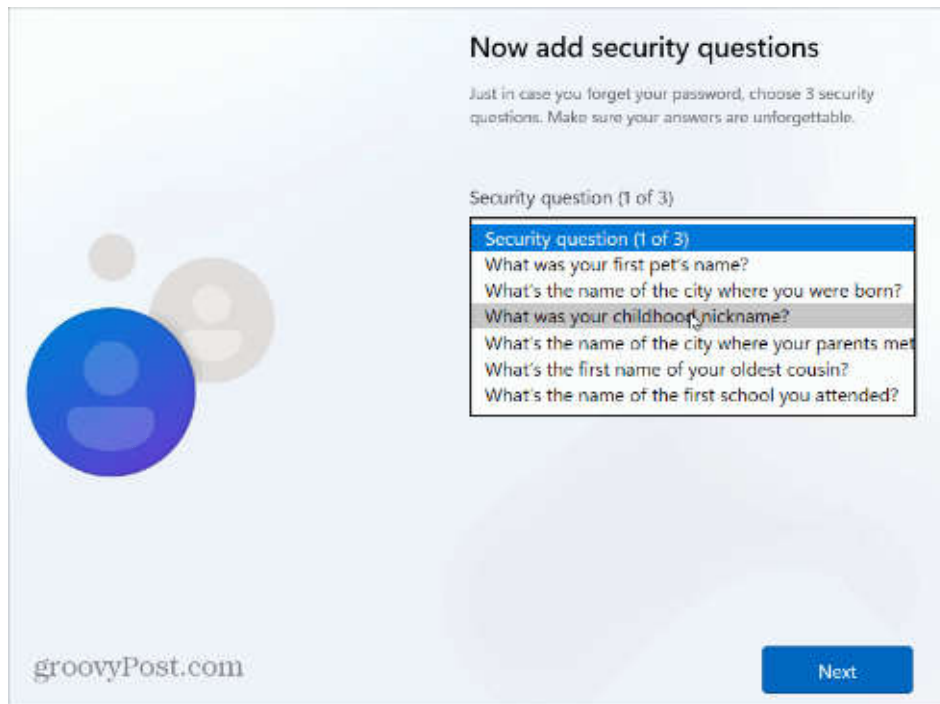
Enter a password

.....

groovyPost.com

Next

Skip the security questions by pressing **Next**.



The screenshot shows the 'Now add security questions' screen in Windows. On the left is a large blue circular icon with a person silhouette. The main heading is 'Now add security questions'. Below it, a subtext says: 'Just in case you forget your password, choose 3 security questions. Make sure your answers are unforgettable.' A box titled 'Security question (1 of 3)' contains a list of six questions: 'What was your first pet's name?', 'What's the name of the city where you were born?', 'What was your childhood nickname?' (which is highlighted), 'What's the name of the city where your parents met', 'What's the first name of your oldest cousin?', and 'What's the name of the first school you attended?'. At the bottom left is the text 'groovyPost.com' and at the bottom right is a blue 'Next' button.

Now add security questions

Just in case you forget your password, choose 3 security questions. Make sure your answers are unforgettable.

Security question (1 of 3)

Security question (1 of 3)

What was your first pet's name?

What's the name of the city where you were born?

What was your childhood nickname?

What's the name of the city where your parents met

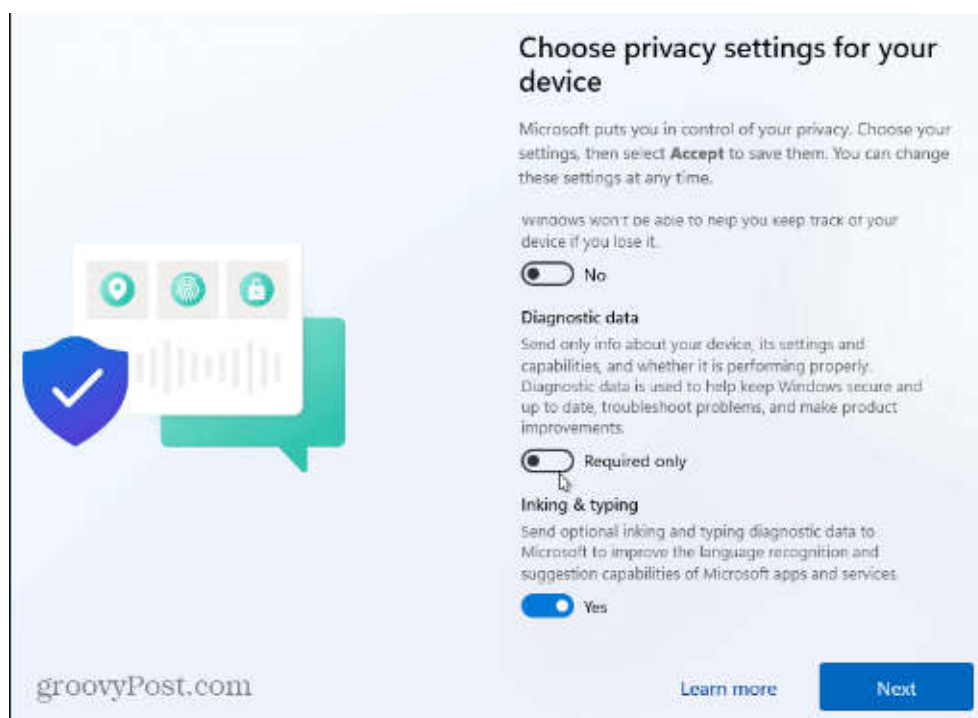
What's the first name of your oldest cousin?

What's the name of the first school you attended?

groovyPost.com

Next

Choose the privacy settings you want to use for the PC and click **Accept**. Note that you can [change your privacy options](#) in Settings.



The screenshot shows the 'Choose privacy settings for your device' screen in Windows. On the left is a graphic with a blue shield icon containing a white checkmark, and a green speech bubble containing three icons: a location pin, a fingerprint, and a padlock. The main heading is 'Choose privacy settings for your device'. Below it, a paragraph says: 'Microsoft puts you in control of your privacy. Choose your settings, then select **Accept** to save them. You can change these settings at any time.' A subtext says: 'Windows won't be able to help you keep track of your device if you lose it.' There are two toggle switches: the first is labeled 'No' and is currently turned off; the second is labeled 'Required only' and is currently turned on. Below these are two sections: 'Diagnostic data' with a description and a toggle switch set to 'Required only', and 'Inking & typing' with a description and a toggle switch set to 'Yes'. At the bottom left is the text 'groovyPost.com', at the bottom center is a 'Learn more' link, and at the bottom right is a blue 'Next' button.

Choose privacy settings for your device

Microsoft puts you in control of your privacy. Choose your settings, then select **Accept** to save them. You can change these settings at any time.

Windows won't be able to help you keep track of your device if you lose it.

☐ No

Diagnostic data

Send only info about your device, its settings and capabilities, and whether it is performing properly. Diagnostic data is used to help keep Windows secure and up to date, troubleshoot problems, and make product improvements.

☐ Required only

Inking & typing

Send optional inking and typing diagnostic data to Microsoft to improve the language recognition and suggestion capabilities of Microsoft apps and services.

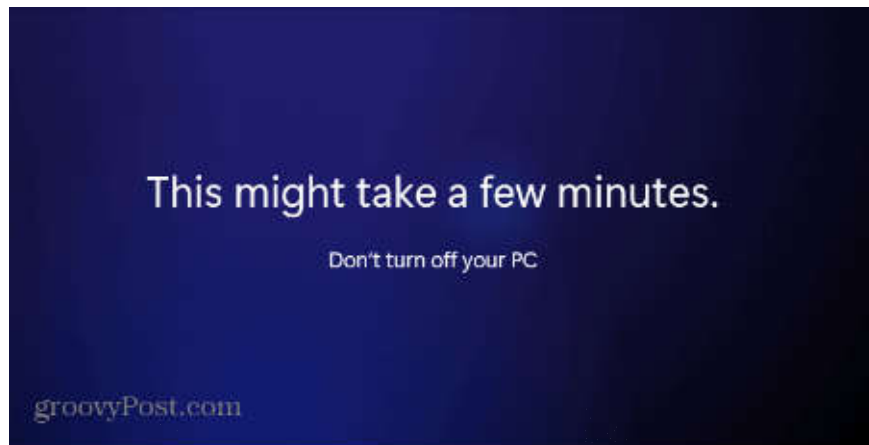
☒ Yes

groovyPost.com

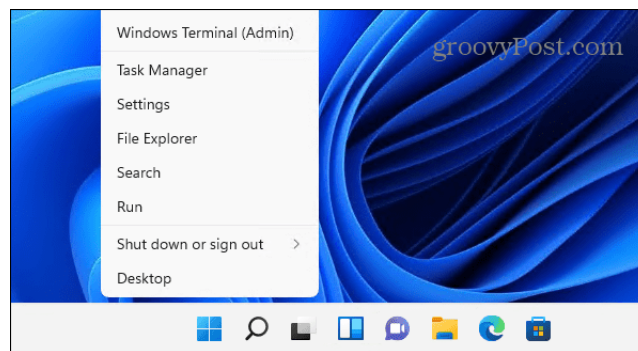
Learn more

Next

Wait a few moments while Windows 11 gets set up.



When it completes the setup process, you can begin using Windows 11 as a local user.



Using Windows 11

Now that you installed Windows, you can begin setting it up and using the OS. This method works on both Windows 11 Home and Pro and avoids the need to create a Microsoft account. However, it's worth mentioning that your files won't sync to other machines where you use a [Microsoft account](#).

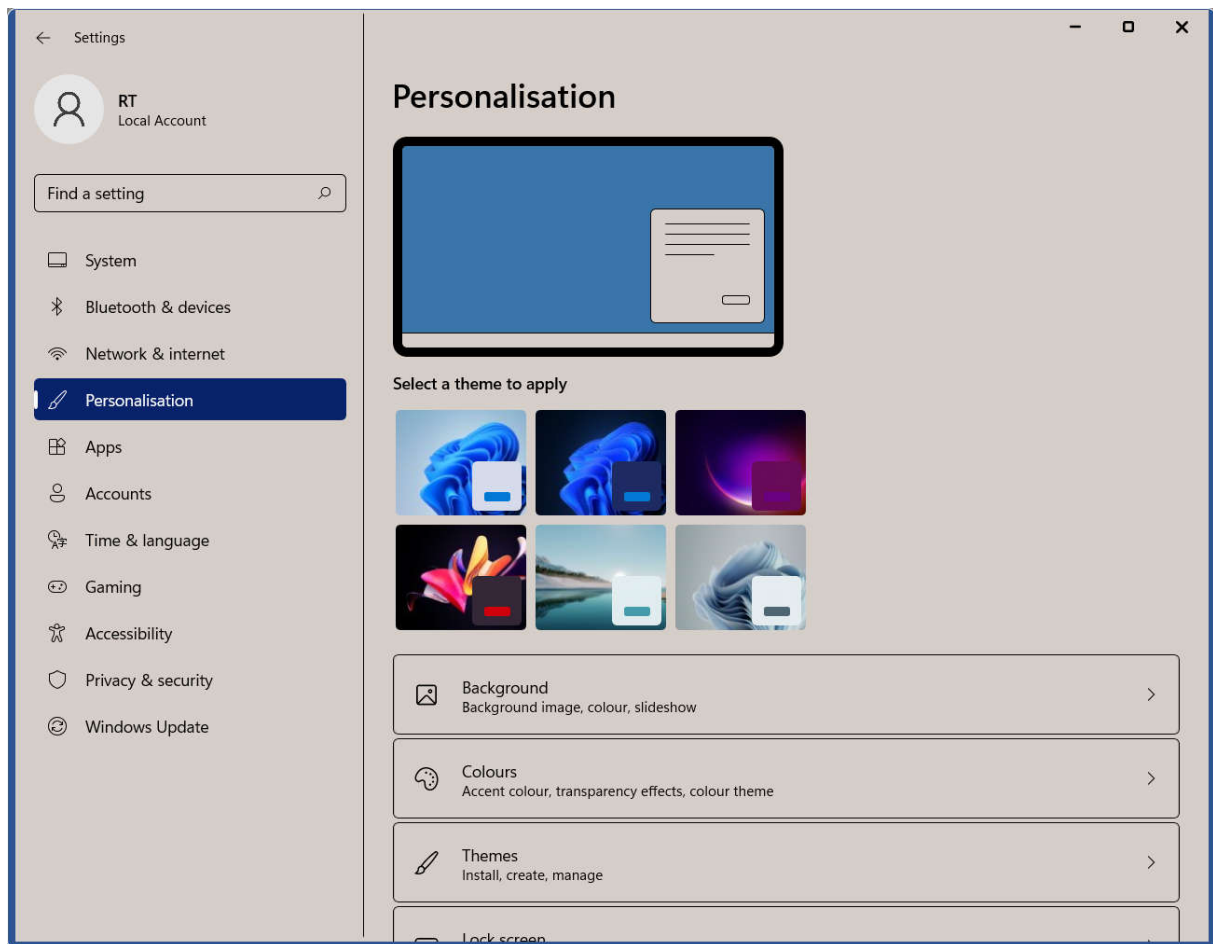
If you're not on Windows 11 yet, check out how to [create a local user account on Windows 10](#).

Windows 11 has an overhauled UI that you might not like, including a centered Start menu. The good news is you can [move the Start button to the left](#) with minimal effort. You'll also want to look at new features like [Widgets](#), [Teams Chat](#), and [Snap Layouts](#).

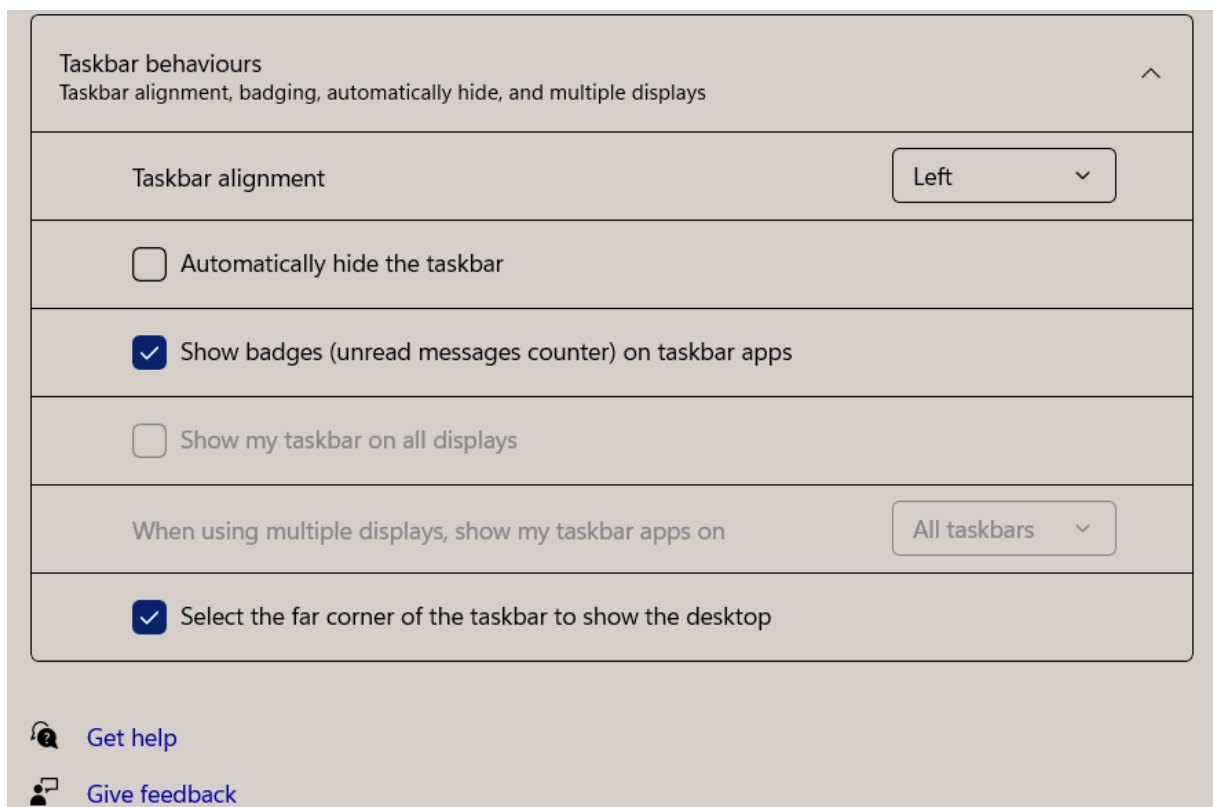
RC on **Taskbar**,

LC on **Taskbar settings** pop-up.

LC on **Personalisation** in LH column



Scroll down to **Taskbar behaviour** in RH and set **Taskbar alignment** to **Left**.

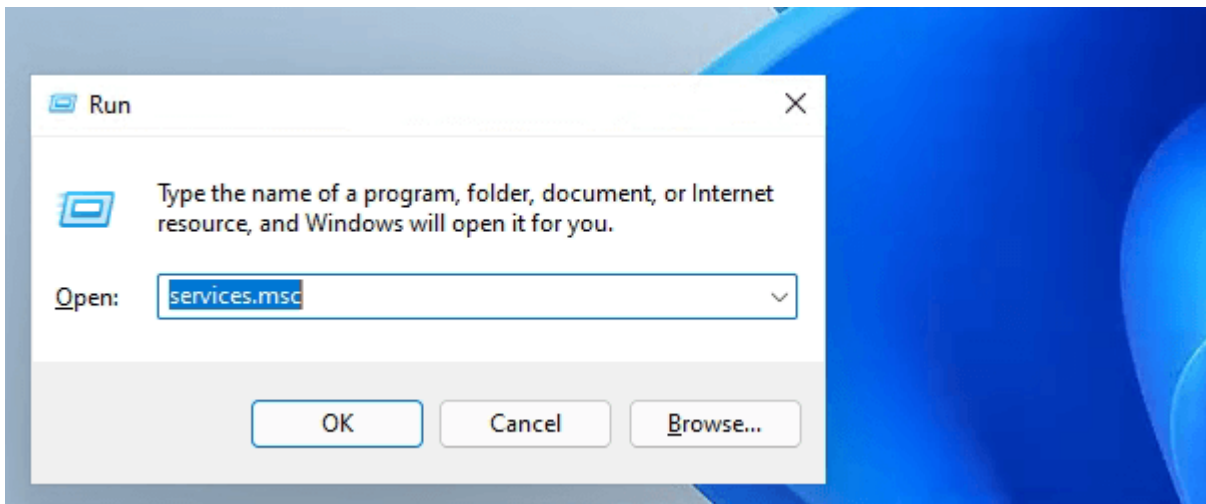


Solution 1. Turn off Windows Update Services in Windows 11

One of the best methods to stop computerized Windows updates is to **turn off Windows update services**. The steps are easy enough for a beginner.

Step 1. Press "Window + R" to open the Run window.

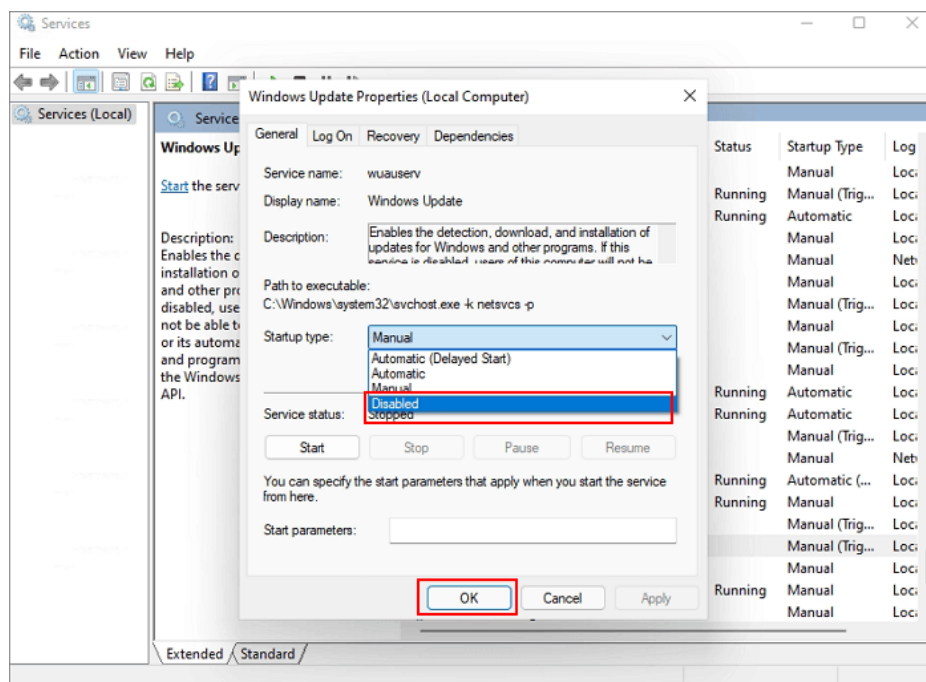
Step 2. Open the "Services Window" by typing **services.msc** and hit the "Enter" key.



Step 3. Locate and pick the "Windows Update" option from the "Services" list, then click the "Stop" button.

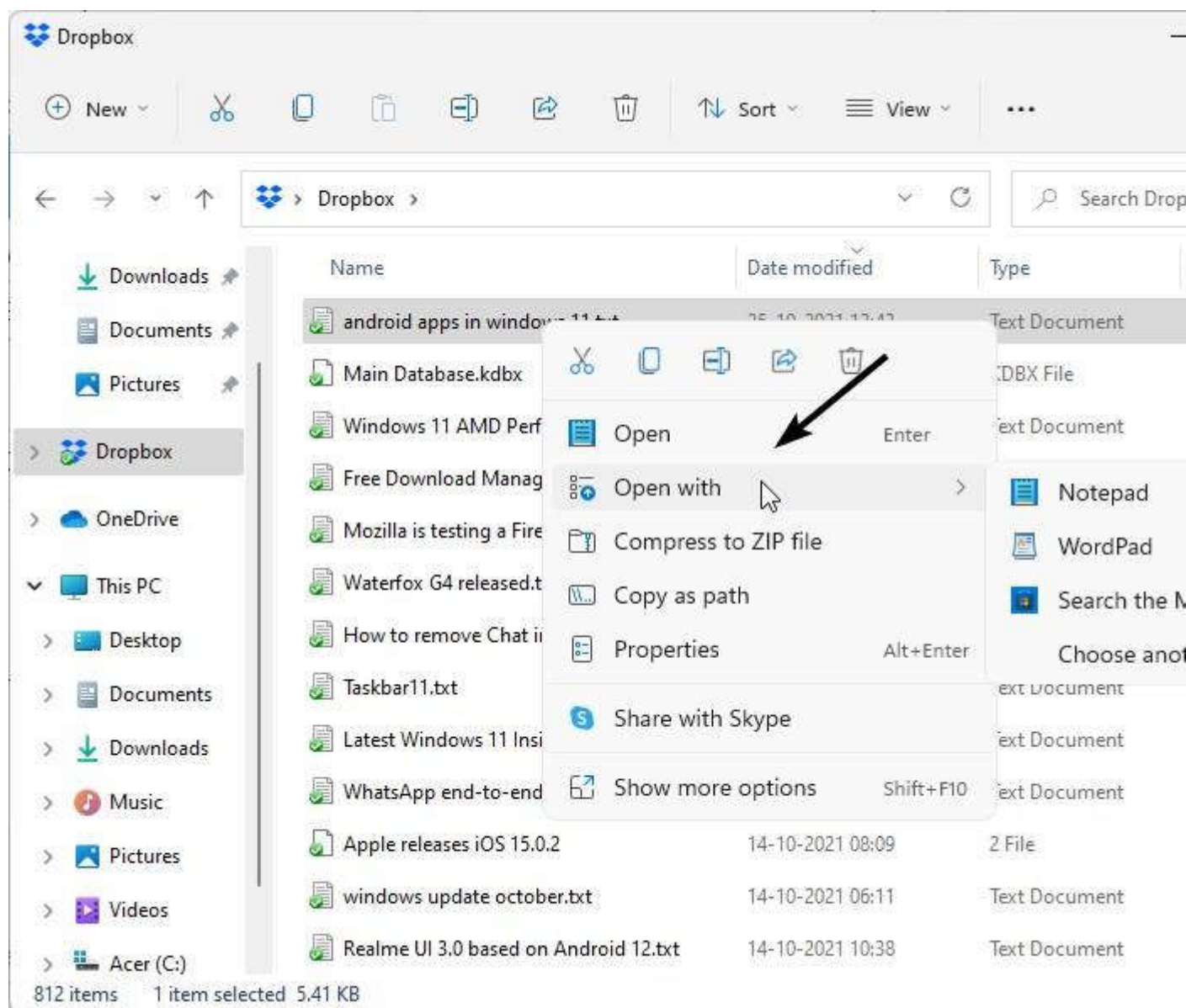
Step 4. Change the "Startup Type" to "Disabled" by clicking on the "General" tab.

RC on **Windows update > properties > startup type > disabled.**



Simplest method to set default programs for file types on Windows 11

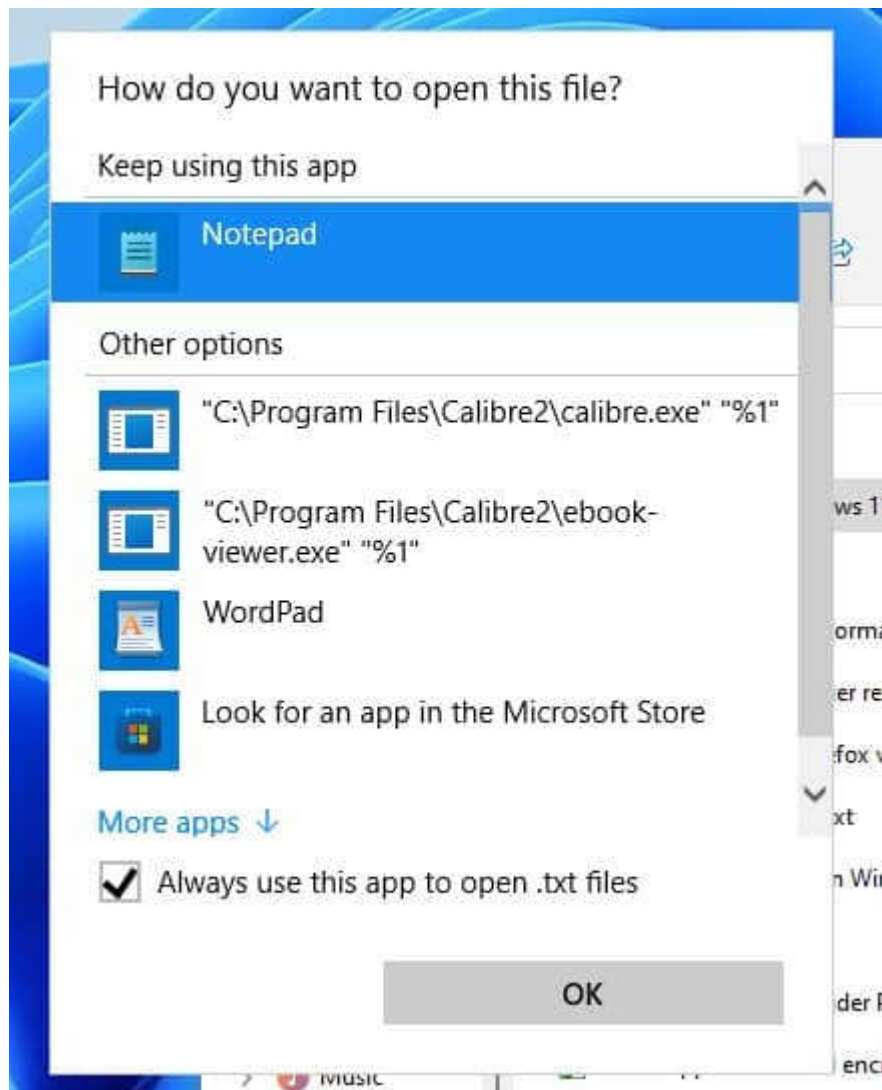
1. Open File Explorer.



2. Right-click on a file.

3. Select Open With > Choose Another App.

4. Pick a different program from the list, or use the "More Apps" option to access other programs (including portable applications.)



5. Tick the box that says,"Always use this app to open .[EXTENSION_TYPE] files.

That's it, now you know how to set the default apps on Windows 11.

Blog Why can't I copy large files to my USB Flash Drive?

Problem

You've got an 8GB Flash Drive. It's completely empty and you want to copy a large file to it, let's say 5GB. However, you keep getting a message stating 'not enough free space', despite the fact there is plenty of 'free space' on the Flash Drive.

Why does this message appear?

Most USB Flash Drives are formatted with something called an 'FAT32 File System'. This system was created in 1995 and, for computer-protection reasons, imposes limitations on copying a file to your Flash Drive if it exceeds 4GB in size – this was a lot of data back in 1995!

However, there is something called the 'Extended File Allocation Table (ExFAT) created by Microsoft that forms part of our solution for Microsoft Windows users. Here at Flashbay we use ExFAT to format our 64GB models or Flash Drives that have individual files larger than 4GB [data preloaded onto them](#). All of our other drives are formatted with the FAT32 system.

Solution

- 1) Ensure that your USB Flash Drive is empty and you've saved your files somewhere safe on your PC or laptop
- 2) Navigate to your 'Computer' folder and right click on your Flash Drive icon and select 'Format'
- 3) You will now see a box with a 'Format' option. Select 'ExFAT' from the dropdown menu. There may also be an option for NTFS, this can also be used in some cases. [More information here](#) (in English).
- 4) Click 'Start' and the switch from FAT32 to ExFAT will commence. This will take about 2 minutes.

That's it. Now you can copy files in excess of 4GB to your Flash Drive, if you have enough space on it of course!

How to Bring Back the Old Context Menu in Windows 11

The 'Show More Options' option is annoying. For example, I have to click numerous times to send a file to my phone. And when that happens a dozen times in a day, it can get annoying.

There are two ways to bring back the old Windows 10 context menu. You can either edit the Registry Editor entries. Or, you can tweak the Registry keys directly via Command Prompt.

The second step is easy.

The Windows Registry Editor is the hub of all Windows settings. And if you know the right key and value, you can customize some parts of your PC as per your preference.

Alternate Route: Via Command Prompt

If you do not want to mess around with the Keys and Values, you can add the keys directly via Command Prompt.

Restore Classic Context menus in Windows 11

Step 1: Open Command Prompt and paste the following command:

```
reg add "HKCU\Software\Classes\CLSID\{86ca1aa0-34aa-4e8b-a509-50c905bae2a2}\InprocServer32" /f /ve
```

This simple action will add both the keys in the correct sequence.

Step 2: Restart the computer and that's about it.

Restore Modern Context menus in Windows 11

To undo this change, in a **command Window**, paste and execute this command:

```
reg delete "HKCU\Software\Classes\CLSID\{86ca1aa0-34aa-4e8b-a509-50c905bae2a2}" /f
```

Restart the File Explorer or Computer for the changes to take effect.