

REMOVING UNWANTED SOFTWARE FROM A "WINDOWS.." COMPUTER

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SOCIETY

WINNERS
WINdows usERS



An International
Association of Technology
& Computer User Groups

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presentation:**

<http://aztcs.org>

Click on “**Meeting
Notes**”

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

When you buy a "Windows.." computer from a retailer, it will usually arrived loaded with all sorts of software programs that should to be removed.

Then, as you use the computer, you will probably accumulate all sorts of additional software programs that need to removed.

Here are the details on how to remove unwanted software.

SYNOPSIS

- To remove a "desktop app", use the free "Revo Uninstaller Portable."
- To remove a "Universal Windows Platform" app use either the "Apps & Features" screen in "Settings" or the "Uninstall" option in the "Start menu" (in Windows 8.1 and 10)
- To remove a "portable app", use "File Explorer"/"Windows Explorer"

TOPICS

- Programs Inside a "Windows.." Computer
 - "Desktop Apps"
 - "Universal Windows Platform" (UWP) Apps
 - "Portable apps"
- "Universal Windows Platform" Apps
- Uninstalling "Desktop apps" in "Windows.."

TOPICS (continued)

- Appendix 1:
Making a Shortcut for a UWP App
Like "Mail" in "Windows 10"

PROGRAMS INSIDE A "WINDOWS.." COMPUTER

- Desktop apps
- Universal Windows Platform (UWP) apps (in Windows 8.1 and 10)
- Portable apps

PROGRAMS INSIDE A "WINDOWS.." COMPUTER (continued)

- Two kinds of programs inside a "Windows 7" computer
 - Desktop apps
 - Portable apps

PROGRAMS INSIDE A "WINDOWS.." COMPUTER

- Three kinds of programs inside a "Windows 10.." or "Windows 8.1" computer:
 - Desktop apps
 - Universal Windows Platform (UWP) apps
 - Portable apps

DESKTOP APPS

- "Desktop apps" were formerly known as "desktop applications" but Microsoft started calling them "desktop apps" when they released "Windows 8" in October 2012

DESKTOP APPS

- "Desktop apps" in "Windows.." usually have a *.exe file that resides in
C:\Program Files\<<name of program>\
or
C:\Program Files (x86)\<<name of program>\

DESKTOP APPS (continued)

- The desktop-based "Microsoft Office.." suite of programs are "desktop apps":
Microsoft Word..,
Microsoft Excel..,
Microsoft PowerPoint..,
Microsoft Outlook..,
Microsoft Publisher..,
Microsoft Access..
are all "desktop apps".

UWP APPS

- "Universal Windows Platform" apps have gone through many overlapping name changes with different Microsoft employees using different names at any given point in time:

UWP APPS (continued)

- "Metro Style Apps" in "Windows 8"
became
"Windows Store Apps" in "Windows 8.1"
became
"Modern apps" in "Windows 8.1"
became
"Universal Apps" in "Windows 8.1"
became
"Windows apps" in "Windows 8.1"
became
"Universal Windows Platform" (UWP) Apps
in "Windows 10"

UWP APPS (continued)

TIMELINE:

October 2012: "**Metro-style Apps**"

in "Windows 8"

October 2013: "**Windows Store Apps**"

in "Windows 8.1"

September 2014: "**Modern Apps**"

in Windows 8.1"

October 2012: "**Universal Apps**"

in "Windows 8.1"

March 2015: "**Windows apps**"

in "Windows 10"

July 2015: "**Universal Windows Platform**" Apps

in "Windows 10"

UWP APPS (continued)

- Most "UWP apps" tend to have simpler, less-cluttered user interfaces with hidden vertical and/or horizontal scroll bars, if any vertical and/or horizontal scroll bars exist at all
- Most "UWP apps" do not have a menu bar at the top of the application window

UWP APPS (continued)

- "UWP apps" are designed to look the same in "Windows 10", "Windows phones" and "Windows" tablets
- "Programs and Features" in the "Control Panel" and "Revo Uninstaller Portable" and other "uninstaller" programs cannot remove "UWP apps"

UWP APPS (continued)

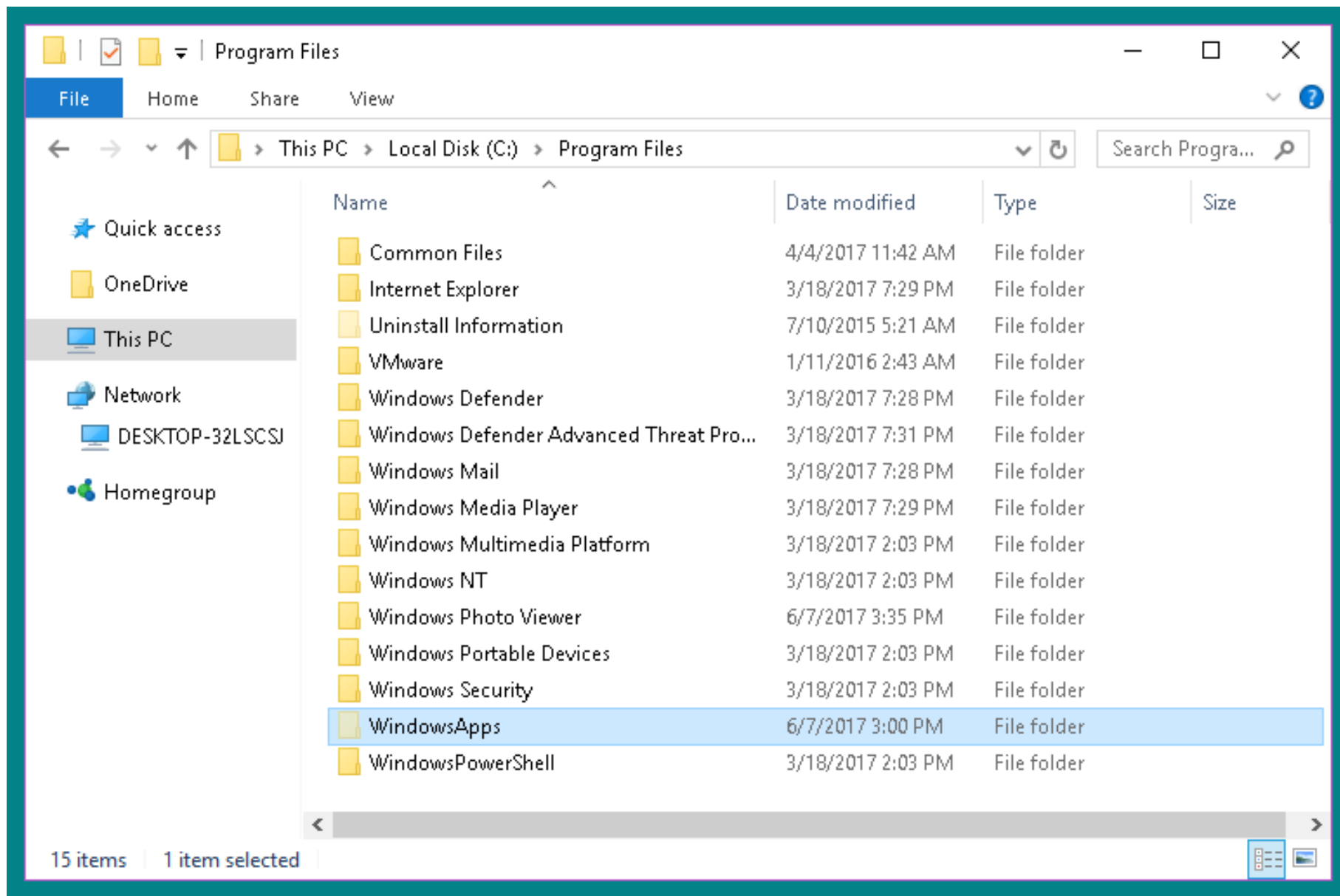
- "UWP apps" do not show up in "Programs and Features" in the "Control Panel"
- "UWP apps" are usually uninstalled from either in Start Menu sub-menu option or, in some cases, they are uninstalled from the pop-up menu that is displayed when you right-click on the tile of the "UWP app"

UWP APPS (continued)

- Like all "Universal Windows Platform" apps, "Mail" is only available for download and installation from the white "Windows Store" icon:
It is found in the "Windows Store" as "Mail and Calendar"

UWP APPS (continued)

- If you need to re-install "Mail", you can install a fresh copy over your existing copy of "Mail" by going to the "Windows Store" since like all "Universal Windows Platform" apps, "Mail" is only available for download and re-installation from the "Windows Store" icon where it is available as "Mail and Calendar"



UWP APPS (continued)

- "Skype 12" (with the blue "S") is a "Universal Windows Platform" app
- Windows Platform apps" can be found at
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universal
_Windows_Platform_apps](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universal_Windows_Platform_apps)

IS A PROGRAM A UWP APP OR A DESKTOP APP?

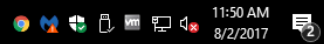
- To determine if an app is a "UWP app" or a "desktop app", click on the "Start" button locate the app in the Start Menu, right click on it, left click on "More", if "Open file location" exists then the app is a "Desktop app". If "Open file location" does not exist then the app is a "UWP" app.

IS A PROGRAM A UWP APP OR A DESKTOP APP? (continued)

- In "Windows 10", another way to determine if a program is a "UWP app" or a "desktop app" is from inside "Settings":

IS A PROGRAM A UWP APP OR A DESKTOP APP? (continued)

- In "Windows 10":
click on the "Settings" gear,
a "Windows Settings" window will be displayed,
click on Apps,
double-click on the program in question:
If a "Move" button is displayed, the program is a "UWP app".
If a "Modify" button is displayed, the program is a "desktop app".






Most used

-  File Explorer
-  Settings
-  Microsoft Edge
-  Google Chrome
-  Mail
-  Notepad

A






-  Alarms & Clock

C






-  Calculator
-  Calendar
-  Camera
-  Connect
-  Cortana



F

Life at a glance

 People	 News	 OneNote
 Store	 Weather	

Play and Explore

 Groove Music	 Movies & TV	
 Money		 Sports
 Tips		

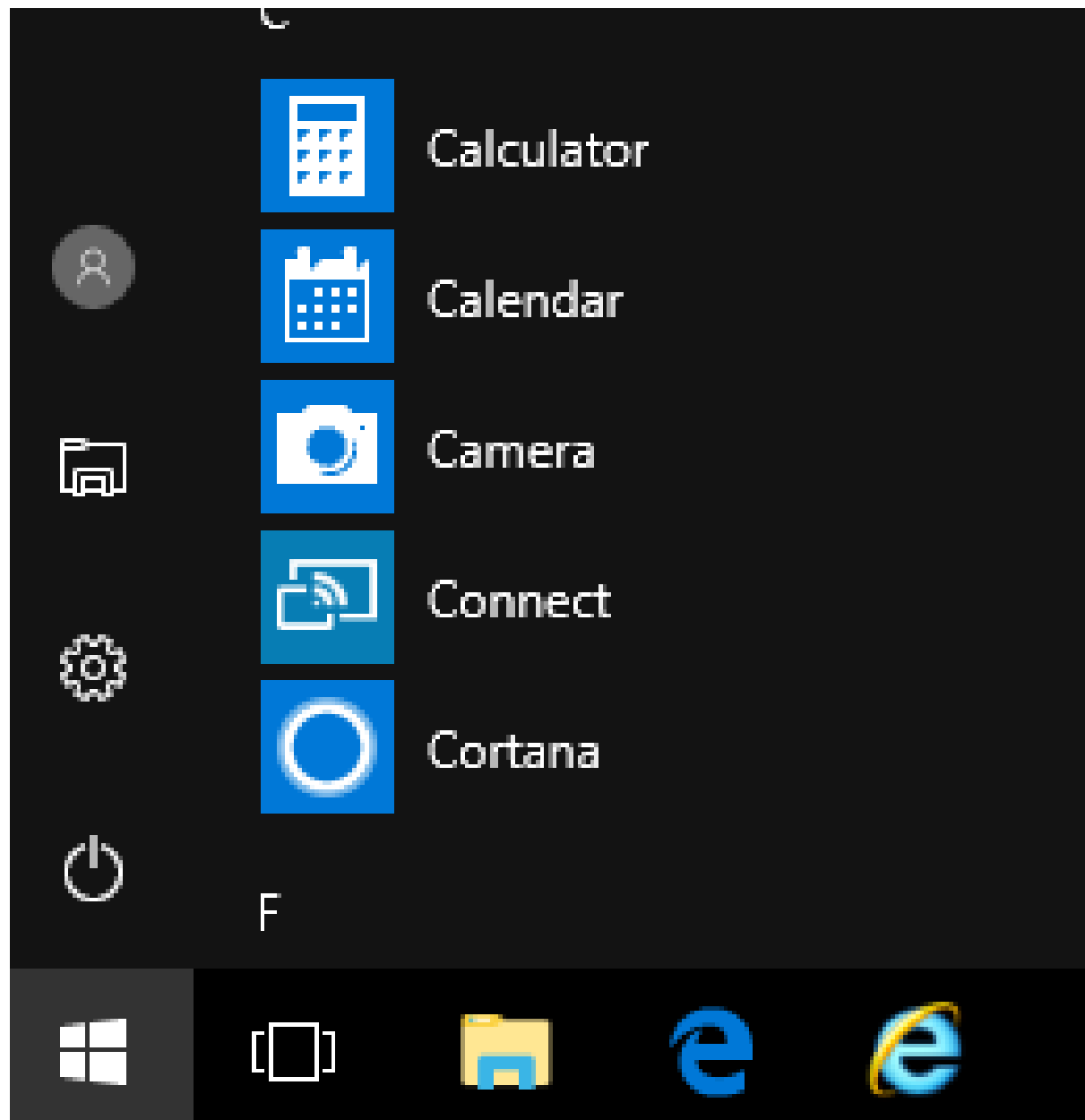
 Recycle Bin	 905Data-01 (G)
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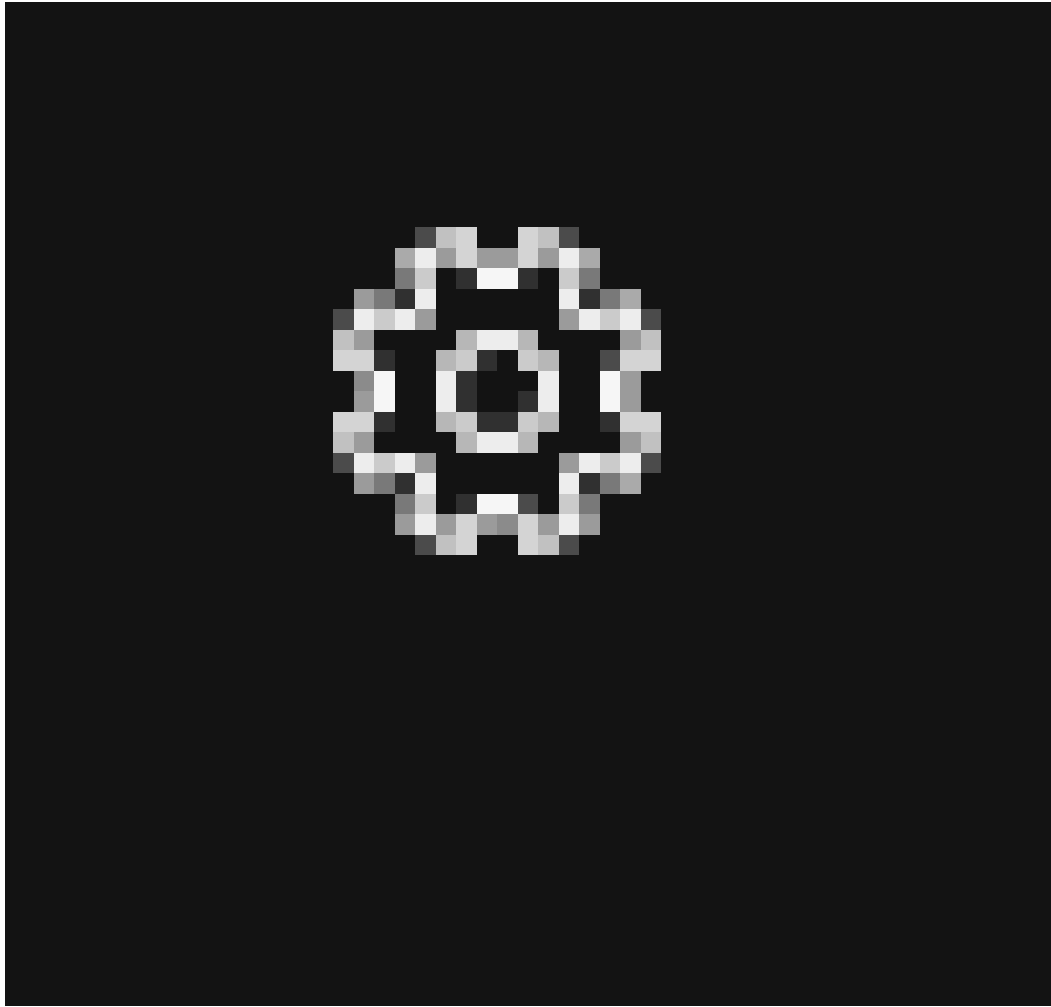


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IS A PROGRAM A UWP APP OR A DESKTOP APP? (continued)

- Click on the "Settings" gear:





IS A PROGRAM A UWP APP OR A DESKTOP APP? (continued)

- A "Windows Settings" window will be displayed:

Windows Settings

**System**Display, notifications,
power**Devices**

Bluetooth, printers, mouse

**Network & Internet**

Wi-Fi, airplane mode, VPN

**Personalization**Background, lock screen,
colors**Apps**Uninstall, defaults, optional
features**Accounts**Your accounts, email, sync,
work, family**Time & language**

Speech, region, date

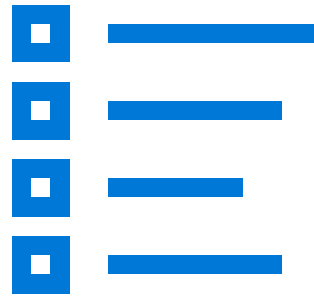
**Gaming**Game bar, DVR,
broadcasting, Game Mode**Ease of Access**Narrator, magnifier, high
contrast**Privacy**

Location, camera

**Update & security**Windows Update, recovery,
backup

IS A PROGRAM A UWP APP OR A DESKTOP APP? (continued)

- Click on apps:



Apps

Uninstall, defaults, optional
features

IS A PROGRAM A UWP APP OR A DESKTOP APP? (continued)

- Double-click on the program in question:

Home

Find a setting

Apps

Apps & features

Default apps

Offline maps

Apps for websites

Apps & features

Installing apps

Choose where you can get apps from. Installing only apps from the Store helps protect your PC and keep it running smoothly.

Allow apps from anywhere






Apps & features

Manage optional features

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: Name Filter by: All drives

	3D Builder Microsoft Corporation	32.0 KB 5/17/2017
	Alarms & Clock Microsoft Corporation	16.7 KB 6/14/2017
	App connector Microsoft Corporation	16.0 KB 8/3/2016
	App Installer Microsoft Corporation	16.0 KB 2/17/2017
	Calculator	16.0 KB



Home

Find a setting

Apps













Apps & features

Default apps

Offline maps

Apps for websites

Apps & features

	Microsoft Corporation	0/2/2011
	Feedback Hub Microsoft Corporation	16.0 KB 6/14/2017
	Get Office Microsoft Corporation	8.15 MB 7/25/2017
	Google Chrome Google Inc.	349 MB 7/31/2015
	Groove Music Microsoft Corporation	14.3 MB 7/25/2017
	Mail and Calendar Microsoft Corporation	30.6 MB 7/25/2017
	Malwarebytes version 3.1.2.1733 Malwarebytes	199 MB 7/25/2017
	Maps Microsoft Corporation	16.0 KB 5/28/2017
	Messaging Microsoft Corporation	242 KB 4/13/2017
	Microsoft OneDrive Microsoft Corporation	106 MB 7/30/2017
	Microsoft PowerPoint Viewer Microsoft Corporation	446 MB 7/25/2017
	Microsoft Solitaire Collection Microsoft Studios	16.0 KB 7/25/2017



Mail and Calendar
Microsoft Corporation

30.6 MB
7/25/2017

IS A PROGRAM A UWP APP OR A DESKTOP APP? (continued)

- If, after you double-click on a program, a "Modify" button is displayed, the program is a "desktop app".



Microsoft Corporation

1/25/2017



Mail and Calendar
Microsoft Corporation
[Advanced options](#)

30.6 MB
7/25/2017

Move

Uninstall



Home

Apps

Apps & features

Default apps

Offline maps

Apps for websites

Apps & features

	Microsoft Corporation	7/1/2015
	Microsoft Visual C++ 2010 x86 Redistributable... Microsoft Corporation	14.7 MB 7/1/2015
	Microsoft Wi-Fi Microsoft Corporation	16.0 KB 8/3/2016
	Money Microsoft Corporation	3.25 MB 6/6/2017
	Movies & TV Microsoft Corporation	14.8 MB 7/25/2017
	Mozilla Maintenance Service Mozilla	261 KB 8/2/2017
	Mozilla Thunderbird 52.2.1 (x86 en-US) Mozilla	90.2 MB 8/2/2017
	News Microsoft Corporation	5.58 MB 6/8/2017
	OneNote Microsoft Corporation	16.0 KB 7/25/2017
	Paid Wi-Fi & Cellular Microsoft Corporation	16.0 KB 8/2/2017
	Paint 3D Microsoft Corporation	16.0 KB 7/25/2017
	People Microsoft Corporation	76.2 KB 6/8/2017

IS A PROGRAM A UWP APP OR A DESKTOP APP? (continued)

- If, after you double click on a program, a "Modify" button is displayed, the program is a "desktop app".



Mozilla Thunderbird 52.2.1 (x86 en-US)
Mozilla

90.2 MB
8/2/2017



Mozilla Thunderbird 52.2.1 (x86 en-US)

Mozilla

52.2.1

90.2 MB

8/2/2017

Modify

Uninstall

UNINSTALLING AN UWP APP

- You cannot use "Revo Uninstaller Portable" or "Programs and Features" in the "Control Panel" to remove a "UWP App" from a "Windows" computer

UNINSTALLING AN UWP APP (continued)

To uninstall some UWP apps:

Click on the "Start button".

The "Start menu" will be displayed.

Locate the UWP app.

Use the RIGHT button to click on it.

Click on the "Uninstall" option in the pop-up context menu.

Etc..



Recycle Bin

The Windows taskbar is located at the bottom of the screen. It features the Start button (Windows logo) on the left, followed by pinned application icons for Microsoft Edge and File Explorer. On the right side, there are system tray icons for network, volume, and power, along with the system clock showing the time as 10:26 AM and the date as 2/7/2018. A speech bubble icon is also present in the bottom right corner of the taskbar.



Recycle Bin



Recently added



Get Help



Print 3D



Recovery Drive

Expand ▾

Most used



Google Chrome



File Explorer



Outlook 2016



Settings



Mozilla Thunderbird



Microsoft Edge

Life at a glance

Wednesday
7

Mail

Microsoft Edge

Photos

Cortana

Rain
38° 46°
27°
Washington,...

Phone Compa...

@NintendoA...
Here's the first
concept art for
Tostarena! Ev...
Twitter

Microsoft...



10:27 AM
2/7/2018





Recycle Bin



- New
- Money
New
- Movies & TV
New
- Mozilla Thunderbird
- My Office
New

N

- News
New

O

- OneDrive
- OneNote
New
- OneNote 2016
- Outlook 2016

P

- Print 3D

Life at a glance

<p>Wednesday</p> <p>7</p>		<p>Mail</p>
<p>Microsoft Edge</p>	<p>Photos</p>	<p>Cortana</p>
<p>Rain</p> <p>38° 46°</p> <p>27°</p> <p>Washington,...</p>	<p>Phone Compa...</p>	<p>Twitter</p>
<p>Microsoft...</p>		<p>King</p>





Recycle Bin



- New
- Money
New
- Movies & TV
New
- Mozilla Thunderbird
- My Office
New

N

- News
New

O

- OneDrive
- OneNote
New
- OneNote 2016
- Outlook 2016

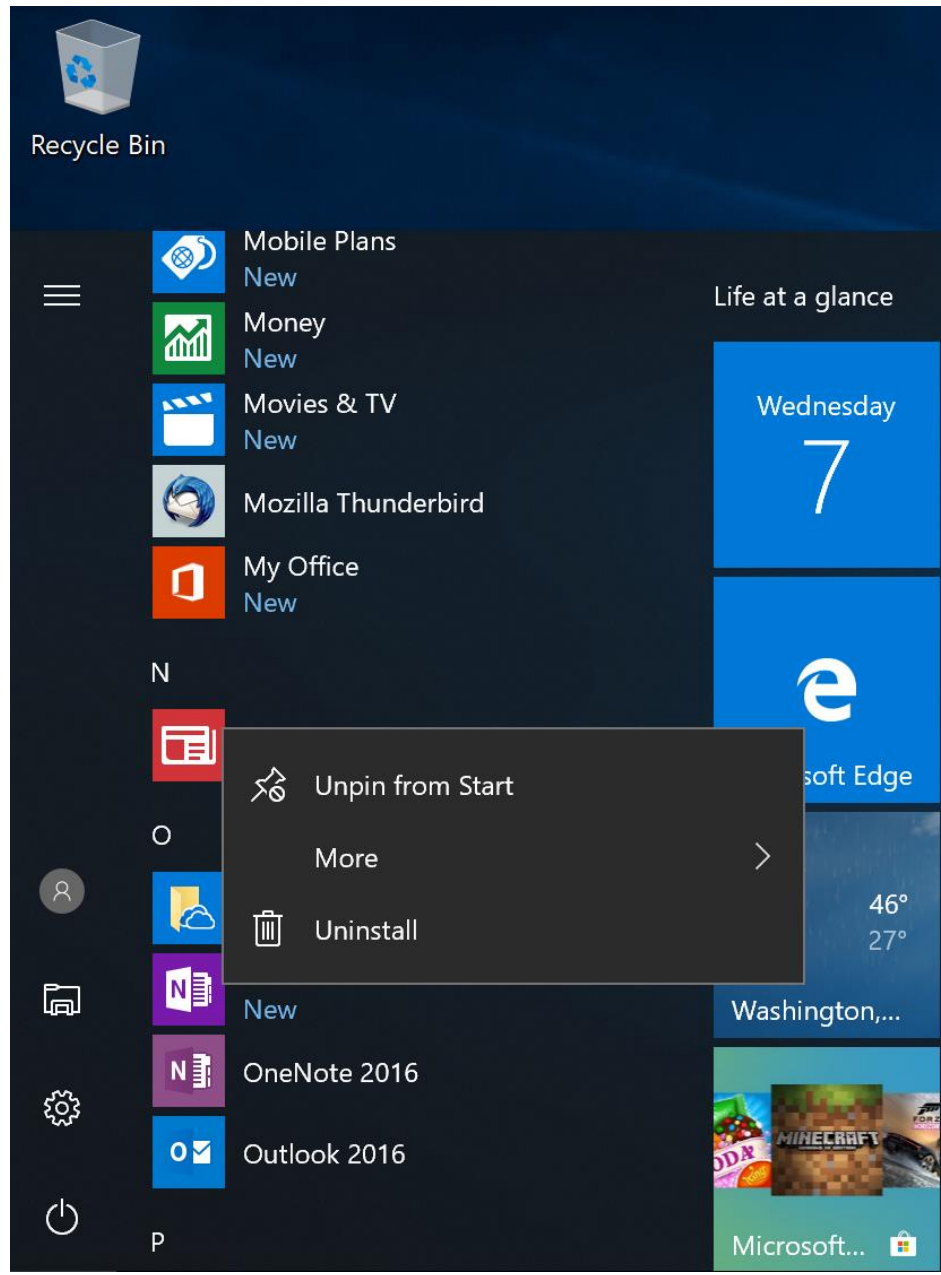
P

- Print 3D

Life at a glance

<p>Wednesday</p> <p>7</p>		<p>Mail</p>
<p>Microsoft Edge</p>	<p>Photos</p>	<p>Cortana</p>
<p>Rain</p> <p>38° 46° 27°</p> <p>Washington,...</p>	<p>Phone Compa...</p>	<p>Twitter</p>
<p>Microsoft...</p>		<p>King</p>





UNINSTALLING AN UWP APP THAT DOES NOT GIVE YOU AN "UNINSTALL" OPTION

- There is two ways for you to uninstall a "UWP app" that does not give you an "Uninstall" option.

Let's use the "Mail" app as an example:

UNINSTALLING THE "MAIL" UWP APP

- "Mail" is bundled with "Windows 10" and cannot be uninstalled by a right click on it in the Start Menu.

UNINSTALLING THE "MAIL" UWP APP (continued)

- If you want to uninstall "Mail" in "Windows 10", either use Powershell or a third-party program as described in <http://www.intowindows.com/how-to-reinstall-the-mail-app-in-windows-10/>

UNINSTALLING "DESKTOP APPS" IN "WINDOWS.."

- If you use "Programs and Features" in the "Control Panel" or "Apps" in "Settings" to uninstall a "desktop app" in "Windows 10", you will leave a lot of unneeded and unwanted "digital junk" in the C: drive and in the Windows "Registry".

UNINSTALLING "DESKTOP APPS" IN "WINDOWS.."

- To do a clean uninstall of a "desktop app", use the free "Revo Uninstaller Portable" as described in http://aztcs.org/meeting_notes/winhardsig/uninstaller/RevoUninstallerPortable.pdf

PORTABLE APPS

- "Desktop apps" and "UWP apps" depend on the Windows Registry. They have and put "keys", "values", and "data" into the Windows Registry
- "Portable apps" do not place information into the Windows "Registry"

PORTABLE APPS (continued)

- "Portable apps" do not "install" into the C: hard drive of your Windows computer. They run from a flash/thumb drive, an external hard drive, or a CD/DVD disc and they do not put none or very few files into the existing hard drives of your computer.

PORTABLE APPS (continued)

- To learn more about "portable apps", see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portable_application

PORTABLE APPS (continued)

- To remove a "portable app":
 - Use "Windows Explorer" in "Windows 7" and earlier
 - Use "File Explorer" in "Windows 8.1" and "Windows 10"

PORTABLE APPS (continued)

- "Revo Uninstaller Free" is very good "portable app" for cleanly removing "desktop apps".

See

http://aztcs.org/meeting_notes/winhardsig/uninstaller/RevoUninstallerPortable.pdf

A MORE EXTREME VIEW OF "SHOVELWARE"

- <https://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2477704,00.asp>
- <https://www.technorms.com/44794/remove-bloatware-from-laptop>

A MORE EXTREME VIEW OF "SHOVELWARE" (continued)

- <https://www.pcrisk.com/computer-technician-blog/windows/12022-how-to-get-rid-of-bloatware-in-windows-10>

A MORE EXTREME VIEW OF "SHOVELWARE" (continued)

- <https://www.thestar.com.my/tech/tech-news/2017/03/16/speed-up-your-computer-by-getting-rid-of-bloatware/>

A MORE EXTREME VIEW OF "SHOVELWARE" (continued)

- <http://www.itprotoday.com/windows-10/clean-new-windows-10-machine-bloatware>

APPENDIX 1

MAKING A SHORTCUT FOR A "UWP APP" LIKE "MAIL"

- For any "Universal Windows Platform" app like "Mail" in "Windows 10", you can make a shortcut by following the step-by-step instructions at <https://www.thurrott.com/windows/windows-10/5328/windows-10-tip-create-shortcuts-for-universal-apps>

APPENDIX 1

MAKING A SHORTCUT

FOR A "UWP APP" LIKE "MAIL"

- Type
shell:appsfolder
at a Run box or a command prompt
in "Windows 10"
- An "Applications" window will be
displayed:
You can make shortcuts to both
"UWP apps" and "desktop apps" in
this window