

WINDOWS 11: DETERMINE WHICH APPS RUN AT STARTUP

Many of the apps on your PC—whether they’re included with Windows, installed by your PC maker, or installed later by you—will try to start automatically every time you startup. This slows the boot time and consumes valuable system resources. Therefore, you should examine which apps are auto-starting each time your PC boots and prevent unnecessary apps from doing so. What constitutes an unnecessary app will vary by person, and it’s not always obvious what some of the apps you see here even do.

To access the Startup apps:

1. Right-click on a blank area of the Taskbar.
2. Click on Task Manager.
3. Among the icons listed along the left vertical side of the next window, find the startup icon (it looks like a small speed indicator on a car’s dashboard).
4. By default, Startup displays the list of apps that are configured to run automatically at startup alphabetically. But this list is easier to manage if you sort by Status; this places all of the apps that are enabled to run automatically together, while segregating all of the apps that have been disabled.
5. When you make this change, you’ll have a better view of what’s really running each time your PC starts up.
6. To sort by Status, click the Status heading.
7. Now, consider each app that is in the Enabled group. If you find an app to disable—thus, preventing it from running when the PC starts up—then right-click it and choose “Disable.”)
8. When you make this change, the underlying app will move into the Disabled part of the list.
9. After making changes here, consider rebooting the PC as soon as possible.