RUN A FAVORITE PROGRAM AUTOMATICALLY AT STARTUP

When you boot (start) your computer each day, chances are that the first thing you will do is either access the Internet via your favorite browser or open your email program to read your incoming email. Wouldn't it be great to have your Web browser's home page and maybe your e-mail program, begin to load the moment you start the computer?

All you need to do is copy and paste some shortcuts into the **Startup Folder** that is hidden within File Explorer? Here's how:

1. Click the Start button and open All apps.
2. Find the target program, e.g., your Gmail account.
3. Right-click on the target and select **Copy**. Although nothing appears to have happened, this action places a copy of the icon onto the invisible Clipboard.
4. Now click on the shortcut combination Windows + R. This action will take you to the run command.
5. At the run command, type **shell:startup**, then Enter**.** This action will take you to the hidden startup folder.
6. Right-click on an empty space anywhere within the open Startup folder and select **Paste**. Your target program is now ready to start when you boot your computer.
7. If you want your computer to open to your favorite browser, click the Start button and open All apps.
8. Find the target program, e.g., Microsoft Edge.
9. Right-click on the target and select **Copy**. Although nothing appears to have happened, this action places a copy of the icon onto the invisible Clipboard.
10. Now click on the shortcut combination Windows + R. This action will take you to the run command.
11. At the run command, type **shell:startup**, then Enter**.** This action will take you to the hidden startup folder.
12. Right-click on an empty space anywhere within the open Startup folder and select **Paste**. Your target program is now ready to start when you boot your computer.
13. Which program will be the active program and appear first will be determined by the order of the program icons in the Startup folder.

The second program will be open and ready for immediate access from the Taskbar.