

## Scrub Your Prefetch Folder

One of Microsoft's big advances associated with the development of Windows 10 was that it loads applications much faster than its predecessors. To accomplish this feat, the operating system gathers information about each program that you launch and stores that information in the Prefetch folder. Then on subsequent restarts, Windows uses the information in the Prefetch folder to essentially preload (fetch) parts of those programs at boot time. Thus, when you launch your application, it appears to load really fast.

However, the Prefetch folder can accumulate too much information over time. This makes the operating system so busy loading bits and pieces of lots of applications into memory that it ends up slowing down the boot process. Fortunately, you can clean out the Prefetch folder at any time. Follow these steps:

- a) Click on **Start** >>
- b) type **Run** >>
- c) type **Prefetch** in the Open text box and click **OK** >>
- d) click on any one of the files >>
- e) press **[Ctrl] + A** to select all files >>
- f) Press **Delete** >>
- g) close the folder.

As you use your system, Windows will rebuild the contents of the Prefetch folder. *You will want to empty the Prefetch folder periodically.*