

THE WINDOWS STORE

HOW TO ACCESS THE STORE (Overview)

You can access the Microsoft Store by clicking the *Store* app located either in the Start Menu, the Desktop, or in the *Apps* section. Navigating the Store is similar to navigating the Start Menu. If you are looking for a particular application, simply type its name in the search for apps box in the upper right corner while in the Windows Store and all the possible selections will appear.

If you want to acquire applications from the Store, you will need to have a Microsoft account. This is no big deal. All you need is a username and password of your choosing. You can establish a Microsoft account by using your Cox or Gmail email address and password, for example. Many Computer Club members have found that a Gmail account is a convenient and easily remembered tool for gaining access to the Store. If you are just “window shopping” while in the Store, that is, not making a purchase or walking out with a free app, you don’t need to have your Microsoft account handy.

When you’re ready to download an app from the store, select **Buy** or **Try** if it’s a paid app, or **Install** if it’s free.

After you buy it, you can install it on any PC you sign in to with your Microsoft account.

A couple nice features of downloading an app from the Microsoft Store: 1) If an app is updated from the producer, it will be automatically updated on your computer; 2) If an app becomes corrupted on your computer, you will be invited to return to the store for a working copy.

MANUALLY UPDATE APPS FROM THE WINDOWS STORE

The Windows Store is set to handle app updates automatically. However, at times, you may want to force an app update rather than wait for the Windows Store to do so later.

To manually trigger an update for all your installed apps, follow these steps:

1. Open the Windows Store. At its upper-right corner, you see the search bar.
2. Click the first icon to the left of the search bar. A list of apps appears.
3. Click *Check for Updates*. It takes the Windows Store a couple of seconds to find the available updates.
4. To update individual apps, click their Download icon (a downward-pointing arrow), or click Update All to update all the apps.

PINNING APPS TO THE START SCREEN OR THE TASKBAR

After an app is installed from the Store, you'll find it listed in the Apps area of the Start menu with all the other apps on your PC. With a right-click, you can pin the app to your Start screen or your taskbar, so it's easier for you to find and use later. You can also drag it to your Desktop where it will become a shortcut icon.

UNINSTALL APPS FROM THE WINDOWS STORE

To remove an app from your Windows 10 computer, follow these steps:

1. Open **Settings**. (Windows + I)
2. Click **System**. The list of system settings appears.
3. Click **Apps & Features**. A list with all installed apps appears.
4. Scroll down the list of apps until you find the one you're looking for.
5. Click the app that you want to remove to select it.
6. Click Uninstall.
7. Click Uninstall again to confirm your choice.

PRACTICE INSTALLING APPS

Here's a couple of free applications to install if you want to practice

Multimedia8 is a competent and polished application that is available free. It does what you might expect a native app to do, which is to enable you to enjoy media content from any source on your computer or the cloud.

Solitaire. Microsoft stripped basic solitaire from Windows 8. But now, there are several versions of solitaire (most are free) that you can install on your computer from the Windows Store.

Here are some more apps that are interesting to view:

- Burger recipes**
- Best sandwich recipes**
- Dessert mania**
- Cookie monster and lovers**
- Adobe Photoshop Express**
- Police Radio Scanner**
- Network Speed Test**

RESET WINDOWS STORE APPS IF THEY ARE NOT WORKING

Since the major build of August 2016, Windows 10 lets you easily **reset your Windows Store app**, if it is not working properly.

Open the Start Menu and click on the Settings icon. Next, click on *System* and then on *Apps & features* in the left panel. Having done that, you will see a list of installed apps.

Next, identify the app which is not working properly and click on it. the panel will expand and you will see options to *Move* and *Uninstall*. Here you will also see **Advanced options**. Click on it and you will have the option to click on the **Reset** button to reset the app. Clicking on it will open a warning window, telling you that the app's data will be deleted and preferences reset. Click on **Reset**. In a few seconds, you will see a check mark next to the reset button, indicating that the operation has been completed successfully. Now return to the app and confirm that it is now working properly.