

## UNCLUTTER THE START SCREEN TO GIVE YOU CONTROL

A Windows computer, even a new one just out of the box, is notorious for having bloatware applications that you probably don't need or want. It makes sense to reduce the clutter on the Start Screen down to a workable number of tiles that suggests that you are in control and know how to manage.

The Start Screen with its clusters of tiles is really there for the Tablet user. It has very little value for desktop or laptop users, even those with a touch screens.

A well-organized computer user is recognized by the fact that his most-used applications are housed on the taskbar for easy retrieval. Very few applications need to be positioned as tiles on the Start Screen.

The only tiles that make sense for the desktop or laptop user are the very few that can be made "live". These are designed to access the Internet and provide timely information on a specific subject. Examples: **weather**, **money**, and **news**.

Thus, to remove a tile from the Start Screen (unfortunately, tiles cannot be removed in multiple sets), right-click on the target tile and click *unpin from Start*. Note that you are not removing the application. It will remain in the Start Menu for easy retrieval.

If the computer manufacturer or Microsoft placed an application on your start screen (or one that you installed earlier) but do not want, right-click on the target tile move to *more*. If the application can be **uninstalled**, that option will be available to you. Unfortunately, many of Microsoft's applications cannot be uninstalled!

If the target program is a legacy app (one created for use with Windows 7 and earlier), clicking on *uninstall* will take you to the Programs and Features window where you can complete the uninstall process in a traditional way. To get to Programs and Features, press the Windows key together with the X key, then the F key.

If the target program is a modern app (one created for use by Windows 8 or 10), clicking on *uninstall* (if the option is available) will remove it to the Windows Store where it can be reclaimed later at no cost.