

USE THEMES TO CUSTOMIZE HOW WINDOWS 11 LOOKS

Windows 11 ships with six themes—Windows (dark), Windows (light), Glow, Captured Motion, Sunrise, and Flow—the latter four of which feature 4 backgrounds that appear in turn on a schedule. Windows (light) is the default and it contains just one background.

When you open Settings (WINKEY + I) and navigate to Personalization, you will see the selected theme and five others highlighted at the top of the page. This makes it easy to switch between the most recently-accessed themes.

For a much wider range of options, select the Themes option (Personalization > Themes).

Here, you can perform the following actions.

Customize a theme

Each theme provides a background (which can be one or multiple images), an accent color, a sound scheme, and a mouse cursor. But you don't have to accept a theme's defaults: you can instead customize any of these items and, if desired, save it as a new custom theme. To do so:

- a. Select the theme you wish to customize so that it appears at the top of Themes settings.
- b. Then, select Background, Color, Sounds, or Mouse cursor to customize that item. When you're done and return to Themes settings, the Customize button has changed to Save.
- c. Click that button to save the theme as a new theme.

Find new Themes

Microsoft makes many more additional themes available from the Microsoft Store. You can select the "Browse themes" button next to "Get more themes from the Microsoft Store" to open that app and see what's available.

Unfortunately, you do have to browse mindlessly through the huge collection of themes and cannot easily filter the view or search for themes, despite the presence of both features on this page.

If you find a theme you like, select it to display its details page. Then, select the “Get” button to download it and install it on your PC.

When you return to Themes settings (Windows + I), you will see that the new theme has been added to the grid of available themes so you can apply it to your PC.

It will also appear at the top of Personalize settings (also Windows + I) because it is now one of your six most recently accessed themes.

Delete a theme

- a. To delete a theme:
- b. Go to Settings. (Windows + I)
- c. Click on Personalization.
- d. Open Themes settings,
- e. Right-click the theme you wish to remove, and then select “Delete” from the context menu that appears.

You can also delete recent themes from the top view in Personalization settings. However, you cannot delete any of the themes that come with Windows 11.