

Regain Windows 10 privacy

- Turn off Personalized Ads
 - Settings/Privacy/ Turn off "Let apps use my advertising ID for experience across apps"
 - Open the web browser and go to : <http://choice.microsoft.com/en-us/opt-out> and turn off (scroll down)
 - **"Personalized ads whenever I use my Microsoft account" and**
 - **"Personalized ads in this browser."**
- Cortana
 - Open Cortana and click Notebook from the Hamburger menu.
 - Turn off "Cortana can give you suggestions, ideas, reminders, alerts, and more".
 - Settings/Privacy/ Speech, Inking and Typing and click the Stop button.
 - Click the "Go to Bing and manage personal info for all your devices" button.
 - This allows removing any data Microsoft has already collected for you.
- Wi-Fi Sense and peer-to-peer
 - Settings/Network & Internet/Wi-Fi/Manage Wi-Fi settings
 - Turn off "Connect to suggested open hotspots".
 - Turn off "Connect to open networks shared by my contacts".
- Windows also shares downloaded updates and system files.
 - Turn this off or control it by:
 - Settings/Update & Security/Advanced Options/Choose how updates are delivered/ and change option "Updates from more than one place".
 - By default it is set to: Both local sources and other PCs on the Internet
 - Change that to either:
 - PCs on your local network, or
 - PCs on your local network and PCs on the Internet
 - Shut to peer to peer off entirely by sliding the ON button to OFF.
- OneDrive
 - To turn it off or stop it from asking to be set up:
 - Go to notification area (up arrow at the right side of Task bar).
 - Right-click on the cloud (OneDrive) and choose settings.
 - Uncheck "Start OneDrive automatically when I sign in".
 - Choose whether to allow OneDrive to allow fetching files from this PC.
 - Similarly choose whether to use Office to work on files together.

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- Back to Settings/Privacy
 - General
 - Turn off "Send Microsoft info about how I write to help us improve typing..."
 - Turn off "Let websites provide locally relevant content by accessing my language list".
 - Location
 - Turn off all use by Apps of your location
 - Or choose which Apps can use your location
 - Camera
 - Choose which Apps can use your camera
 - Microphone
 - Choose which Apps can use your microphone
 - Speech, Inking and Typing
 - Clear what Windows knows about you already
 - Click on "Stop getting to know me"
 - Account Info
 - Allows Apps use your pictures, name and other account info
 - Contacts
 - Control which Apps have access to your contacts
 - Calendar
 - Control which Apps have access to your calendar
 - Messaging
 - Control which Apps can send or read messages
 - Radios
 - Control which Apps have use radios (Bluetooth) in your devices to send or receive data
 - Other Devices
 - Controls syncing of devices
 - And which devices to consider trusted
 - Feedback & diagnostics
 - Control how much Windows diagnostic and usage data is sent to Microsoft from your PC or device
 - Adjusts how often Windows asks for feedback
 - Background Apps
 - Turn off which Apps run in the background and receive info, send notifications, and stay up to date, even when you are not using them

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- Microsoft Edge
 - Open settings (Ellipsis menu at the top right)
 - Go to Advanced settings
 - Use of stop Flash and stop the Flash cookies
 - Under Privacy and services is found:
 - Offer to save passwords
 - Save form entries
 - Have Cortana assist me...
 - Show search suggestions as I type
 - Use page prediction to speed up browsing
 - Help protect me from malicious sites and downloads with SmartScreen filter
- Control Panel
 - Windows has two more SmartScreen filters besides Microsoft Edge.
 - Control panel SmartScreen filter to stop you from installing potentially malicious desktop applications
 - But to do this, it must share information with Microsoft on which programs you are installing on your device.
 - Advanced users may want to disable this, as it can be a nuisance.
 - Navigate using Control panel's Category view and choosing Security and Maintenance and select "Change SmartScreen settings from the left pane menu.
 - Change radio button to "Don't do anything..."
- Windows Sync settings
 - Windows 10 syncs much information via your OneDrive
 - Go to Settings/Accounts
 - Choose which items to sync.
 - Desktop background
 - Web browser settings
 - Saved passwords
 - Language preferences
 - Ease of access settings
 - Other Windows settings
- Final SmartScreen filter
 - Go to Settings/Privacy/General
 - Slide to turn off or on "Use SmartScreen filter to check web content (URLs)
- Last option: Use a Local account only
 - Navigate to Settings/Accounts and your account
 - Choose "Sign in with Local account instead"
 - This is not tied to your Microsoft account, so much of the sharing is automatically turned off.