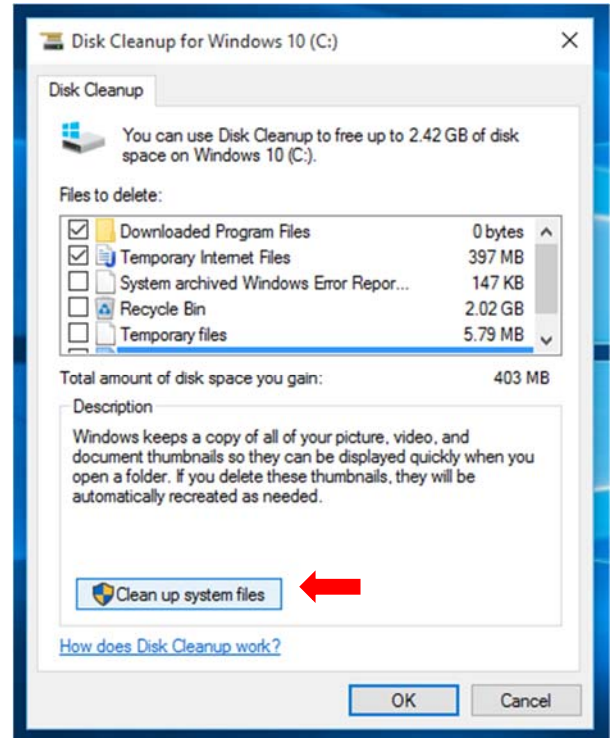
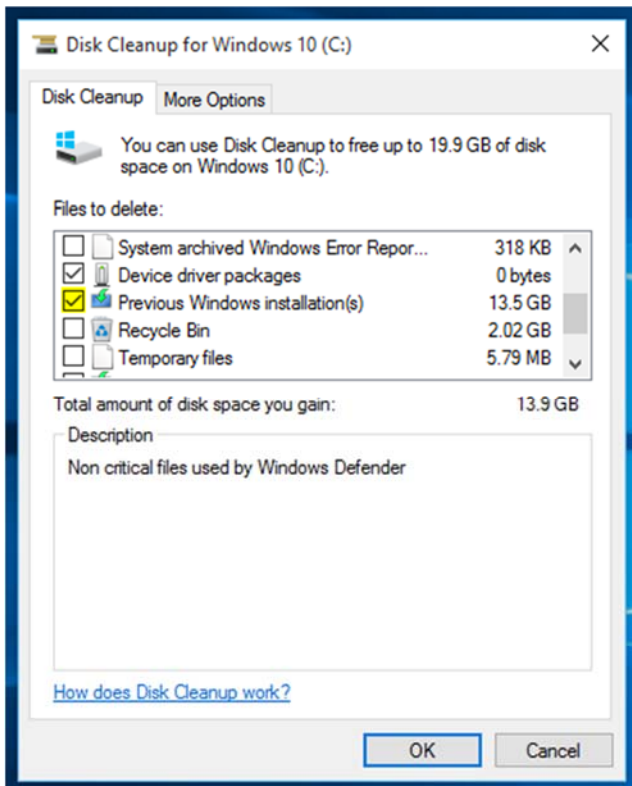


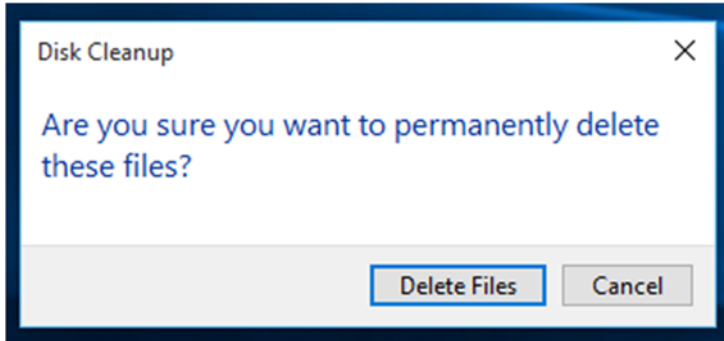
Instructions for cleaning up the Windows.old folder(s)

- If you previously upgraded from an earlier version of Windows, you likely will find one or more Windows.old folder(s) on the root (usually C drive) of your hard drive from old Windows version(s). This folder can take up a significant amount of space (several gigabytes) and is no longer needed after you have upgraded and are content with the new operating system. If you are looking to free up disk space, cleaning this folder is the perfect candidate. Unfortunately, deleting it is more complicated than deleting a normal folder.
- Trying to simply delete the Windows.old folder from File Explorer will result in a lot of permission denied errors. This is a special system folder that can only be deleted using the disk cleanup application. The process is as follows:
 1. Click on the Start Button and type in **Disk Cleanup** and hit Enter.
 2. When the Disk Cleanup utility has loaded, click on the Clean up system files button under the Description section.
 3. After the utility scans your computer, scroll through the list and check the box next to **Previous Windows installation(s)**.

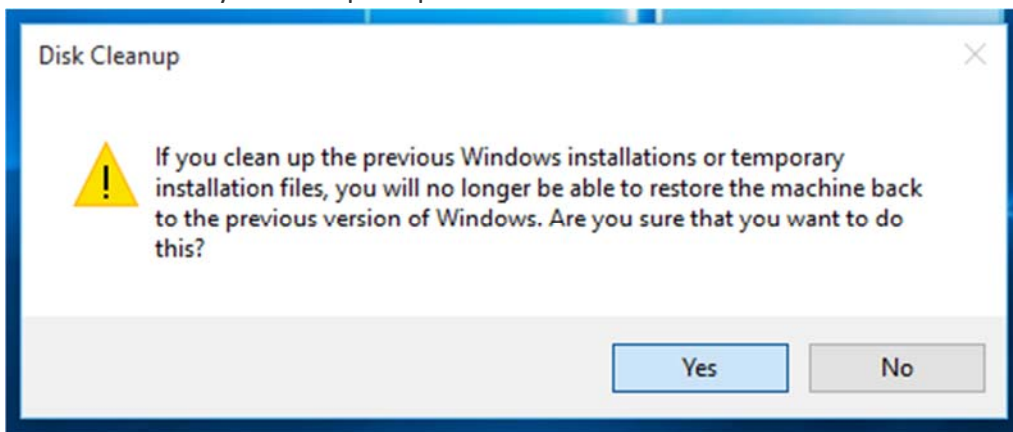


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4. Click **OK**, and then click the **Delete Files** button on the confirmation screen to proceed.



5. As the Disk Cleanup utility begins processing, you will be warned that once the old Windows installation files are deleted, you will no longer be able to return to the previous version of Windows. Click yes when prompted.



6. The delete process will probably take some time, so be patient. As confirmation of completion, the Disk Cleanup utility will close and files in the Windows.old folder will be removed freeing up a significant amount of disk space.