

Removing previous versions of Windows 10

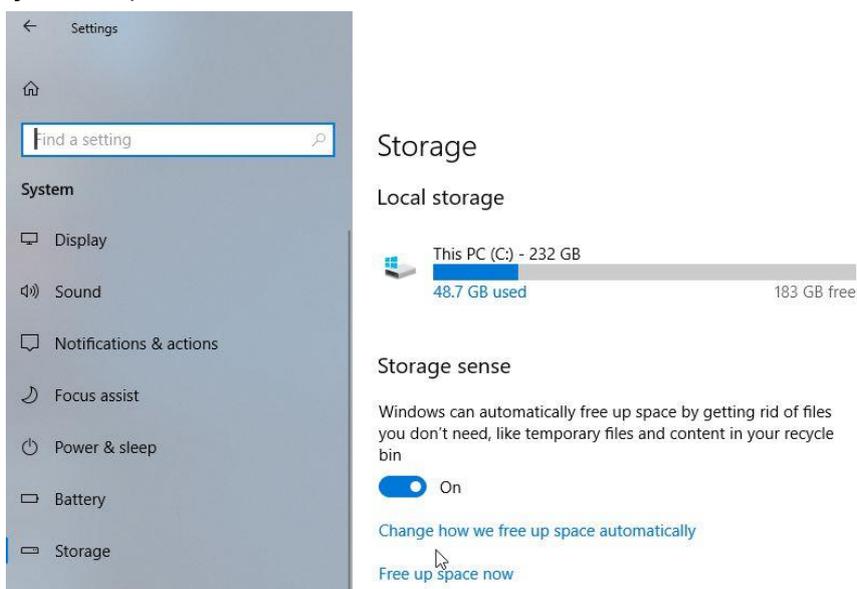
You may notice a decrease of available disk space of a few gigabytes after a major Windows 10 Feature update is applied. This space contains a copy of your previous version of Windows placed in a folder called “Windows old”. **It is automatically deleted 10 days after the update.**

Unless you are running very low on disk space, it is useful to keep this for the 10 day period in case you have issues and need to revert to the previous version.

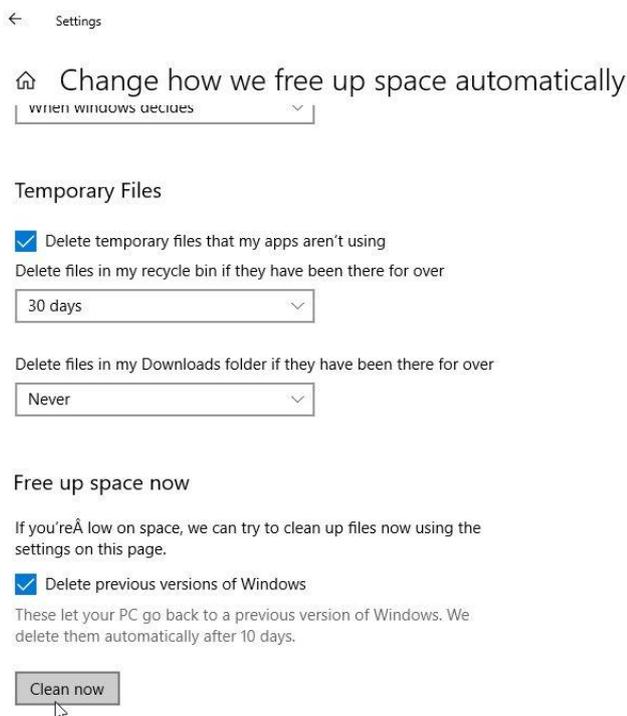
However, if you are desperate to delete this, you can. The procedure is different depending on your version of Windows. (To see your version, go *Start > Settings > System > About*, then scroll down to *Windows specifications*):

Windows 10 version 1803 or later

Start > Settings > System, click on Storage, then Change how we free up space automatically



Tick the box “Delete previous versions of Windows, then click “Clean now”

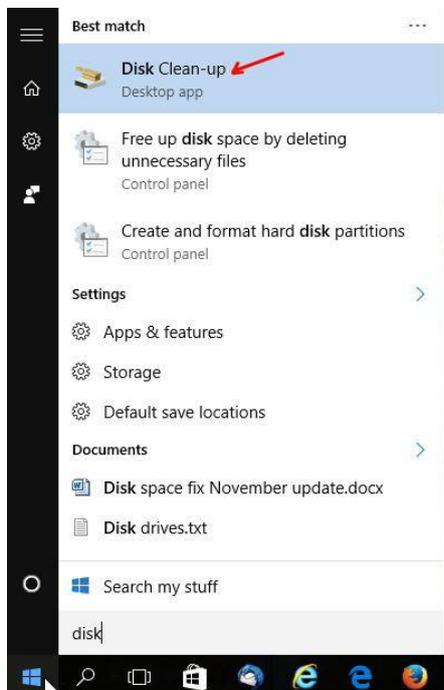


Removing previous versions – for Windows 10 earlier than version 1803

Disk Clean-up can delete temporary files, Microsoft browser caches, and empty recycle bin. At a deeper level it can clean up system files. You have full control over what is deleted.

To access the window where you choose to delete old versions of Windows, do the following:

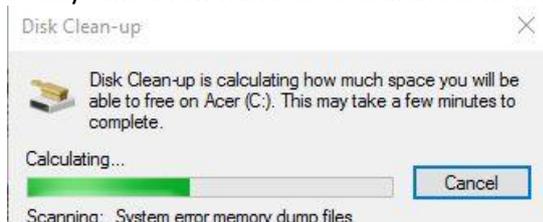
Start > type “disk” > click on *Disk Clean-up*



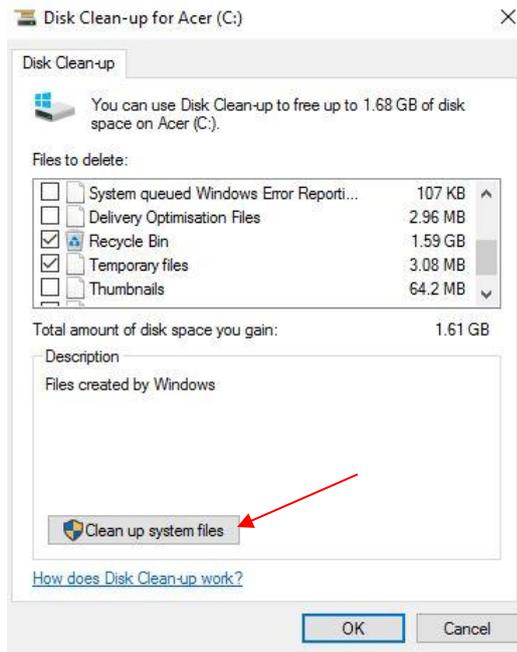
If you have multiple hard disks you will then see this windows which asks which drive you want to clean. Select (C:) drive



It may take a few minutes to search for files to clean up



When you see the results window click *Clean up system files*



It will take a few minutes to scan your disk then a results window will appear with more delete options. Tick *Previous Windows installations*, then OK.

