

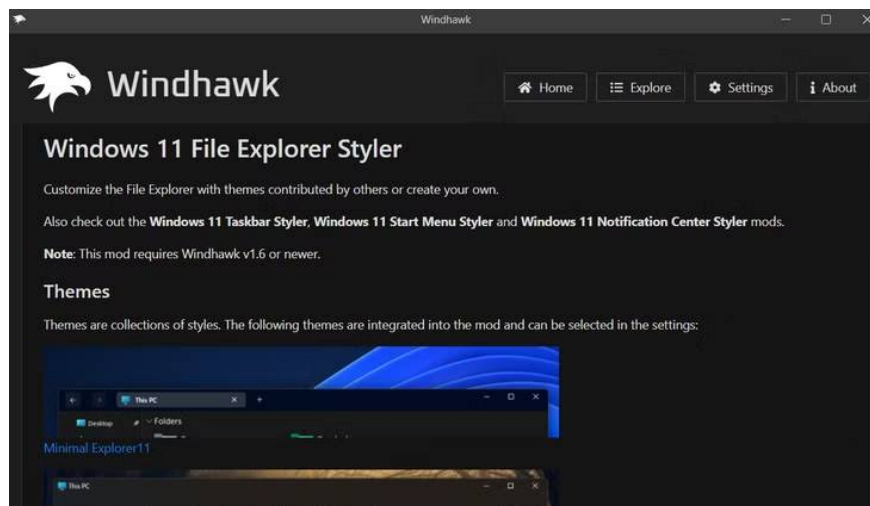
6 Free Tools to Make Windows File Explorer Better

From instant file previews to automatic downloads, batch renaming, and faster file transfers, users can rely on a number of add-ons to fix any File Explorer glitch.

With the right free tools, you can fix annoyances, speed up tedious tasks, and even add features that Microsoft never included. From instant file previews to automatic downloads, batch renaming, and faster file transfers, users can rely on a number of add-ons to fix just about any File Explorer issue.

6. Windhawk

Enjoy modern interfaces and smarter folder details

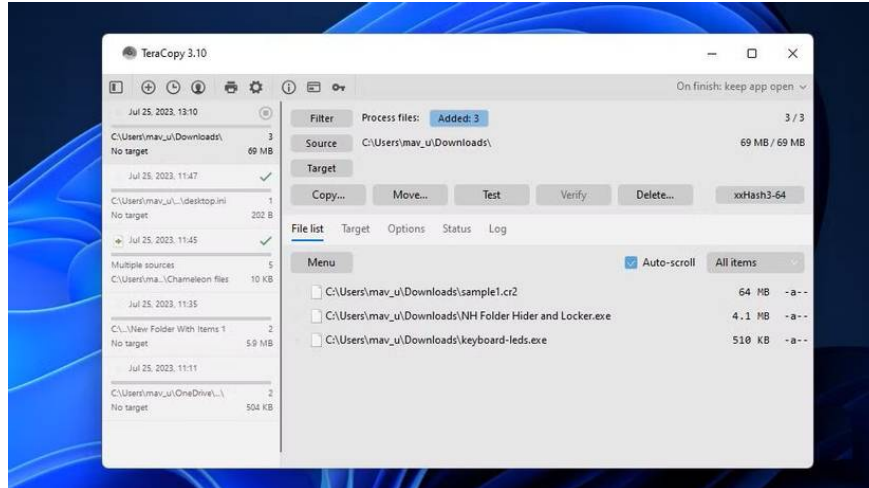


While there are plenty of ways to tweak and customize the look and feel of your Windows PC, Microsoft doesn't offer much flexibility in File Explorer. Windhawk is like a Swiss Army knife for fixing everything that ails Windows. It's a collection of modules designed to patch bugs and unlock features for your PC.

One standout module is the Windows 11 File Explorer Styler. This tool lets you swap out the usual monotonous interface for a variety of fresh, modern themes. From sleek, minimalistic interfaces to bold colors, this module gives you plenty of options.

5. TeraCopy

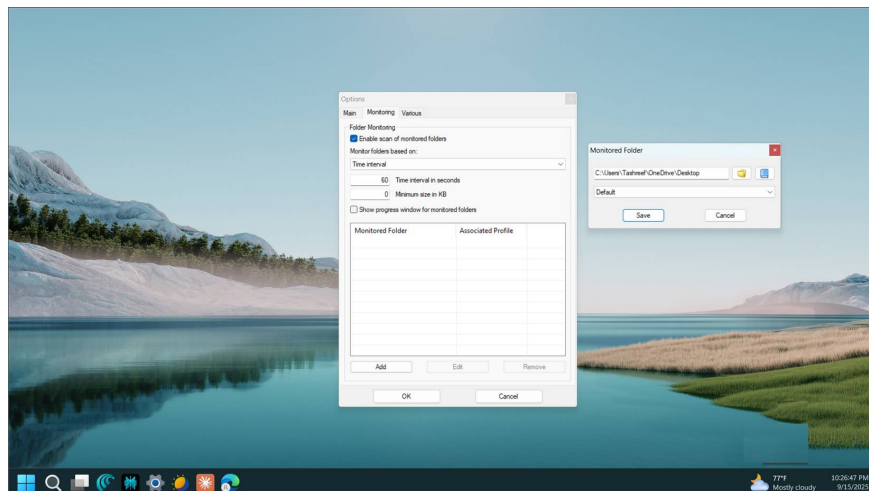
Easy file transfer



Anyone who has ever seen File Explorer handle file transfers knows how unreliable it can be, from quickly pausing and resuming to crashing completely when something goes wrong. TeraCopy is built to make moving and copying files faster, smarter, and a lot less stressful. It lets you pause and resume file transfers, skip problematic files without stopping the entire process, and even verify copied files to make sure everything is transferred safely.

4. DropIt

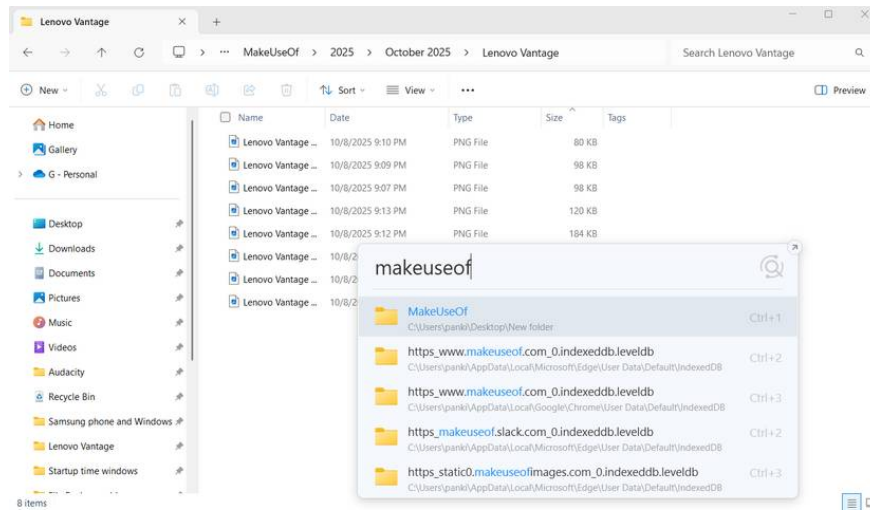
Automatically sort files



While TeraCopy makes moving files easier, doing it manually for every download can still be a hassle. Unfortunately, File Explorer doesn't offer any built-in way to automate the process. DropIt is a free tool that lets you create simple rules to automatically sort downloaded files into the right folders.

3. Listory

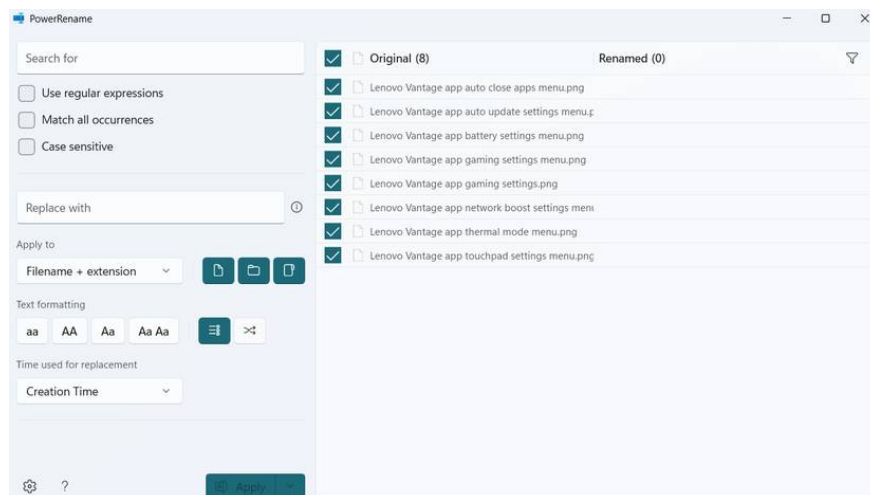
Find files instantly



File Explorer has always had a hard time finding files quickly. Sure, you can navigate folders or use the search box, but it's often slow and cumbersome. Listory solves that problem by integrating instant file search right into File Explorer. It has all the useful search options that File Explorer offers, but it's much faster. You can open Listory and find any file or folder in seconds. When you find the file you need, just double-click it and it will open immediately in File Explorer.

2. PowerToys PowerRename

Batch renaming is simple and powerful



When managing files, sometimes you have to rename a bunch of files. Of course, renaming them one by one isn't the ideal solution. PowerRename is a handy PowerToys module that solves that problem. It lets you rename

multiple files at once using search and replace, patterns, or even regular expressions.

Once installed, you can right-click any file in File Explorer and select **PowerRename** from the context menu. A window will appear where you can specify how to rename the file. You can add sequential numbers, remove unwanted text, or normalize file names. There's even an option to capitalize all file names or lowercase them.

1. QuickLook

Preview files without opening them



File Explorer includes a Preview Pane that lets you preview files without opening them in a separate app. This is handy when you're looking for a specific file within a bunch of files. However, it doesn't support all file types and isn't great for quickly browsing multiple documents. QuickLook, inspired by macOS, solves this problem by letting you preview almost any file instantly without launching its full app.

While PowerToys also offers a similar module called Peek, it requires pressing **Ctrl + Space** to preview files, which is the main reason why many people install QuickLook separately.

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