

8 things to check if your computer doesn't recognize your headphones.

One fine day, your Windows computer suddenly stops recognizing your headphones, and despite trying many different methods, nothing works. In this article, TipsMake will share 8 things to check if your computer isn't recognizing your headphones.

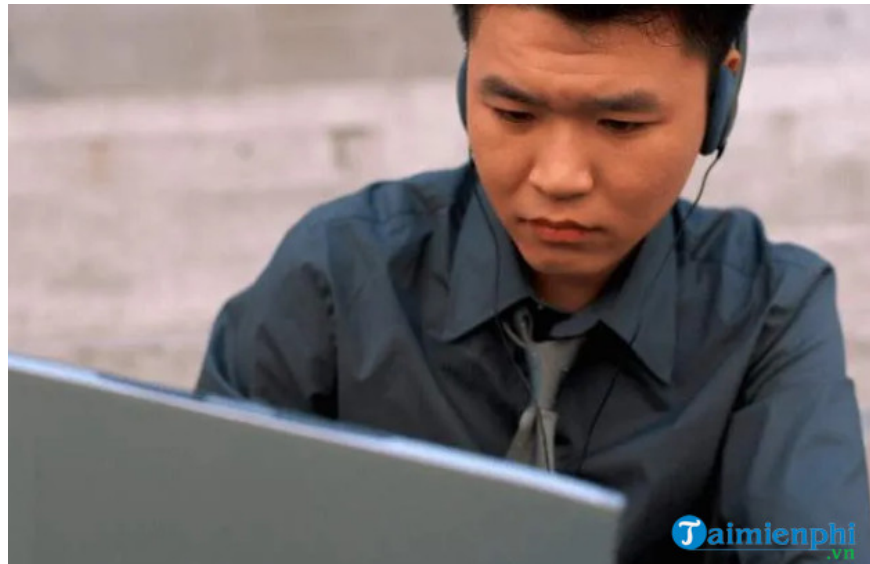
There are many reasons why you might not hear music or sound when plugging headphones into your computer. Refer to TipsMake's article "8 things to check if your computer doesn't recognize headphones" below to learn more about the causes and how to fix this problem.



Things to check if your computer doesn't recognize your headphones.

There are many reasons why a computer might not recognize headphones, including a faulty or damaged headphone jack, Bluetooth connection issues, inability to synchronize audio with video, or problems with noise cancellation being turned on or off.

Additionally, the error could be caused by incompatible drivers or operating systems, or after updating to a new Windows version. However, there are ways to fix the problem of not being able to hear music or sound when plugging headphones into your computer.



8 things to check if your computer doesn't recognize your headphones.

Here are some things you should check if your computer isn't recognizing your headphones:

Preliminary inspection

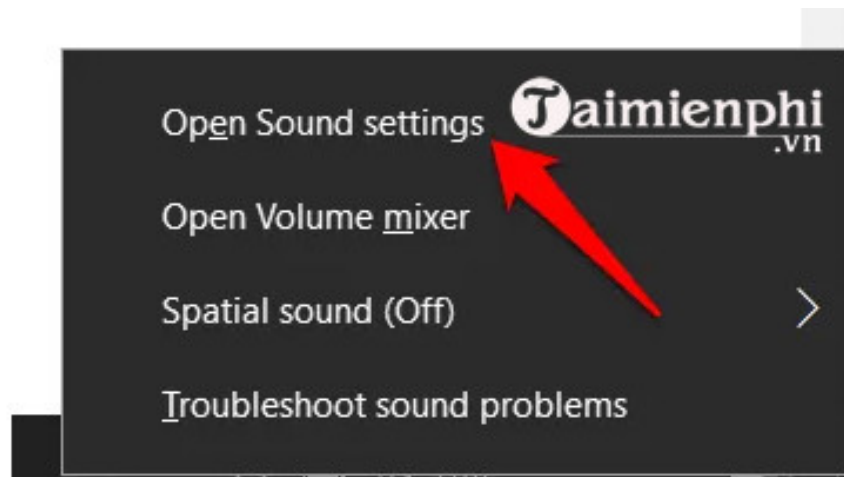
1. If using wired headphones, check the headphone jack for any faults or problems. Try unplugging and plugging it back in, making sure you've connected it to the correct audio output port, and check if the headphones are working.
2. If using wireless headphones, first turn on Bluetooth on both your computer and the headphones, then pair the two devices.



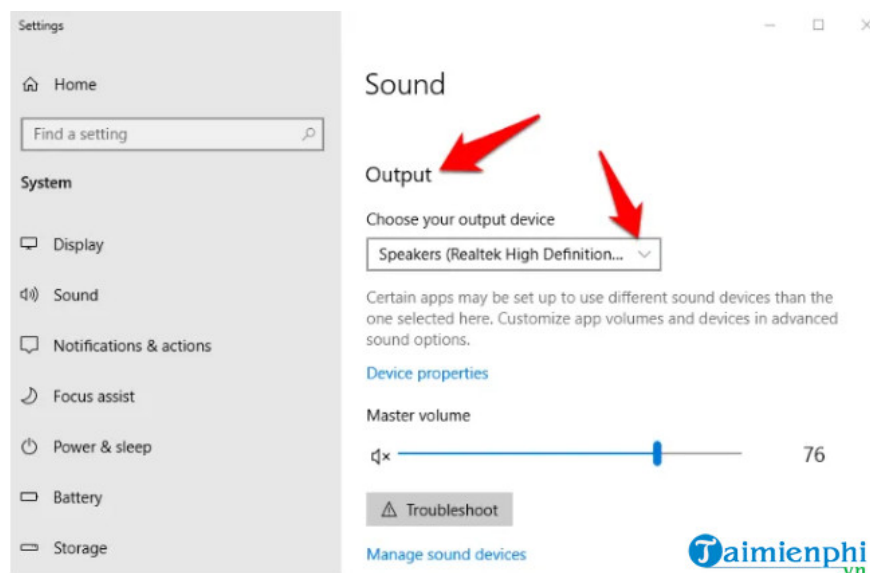
3. Check if the headphones are paired with another device via Bluetooth. If so, try turning off that device and pairing the headphones with your computer to see if the problem persists.

4. Sometimes, dust or dirt on the headphone jack can also cause the computer to not recognize the headphones. Try cleaning the headphone jack and reconnecting it to the computer to see if it works.

5. Set your headphones as the default device. Right-click the speaker/volume icon in the system tray and select **Open Sound Settings**.

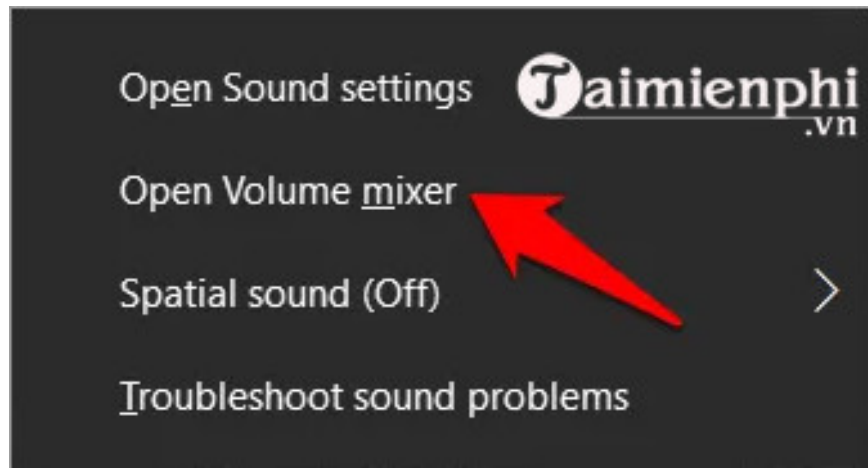


In the **Sound** section on the right-hand pane, under **Output**, select your headphones from the menu.

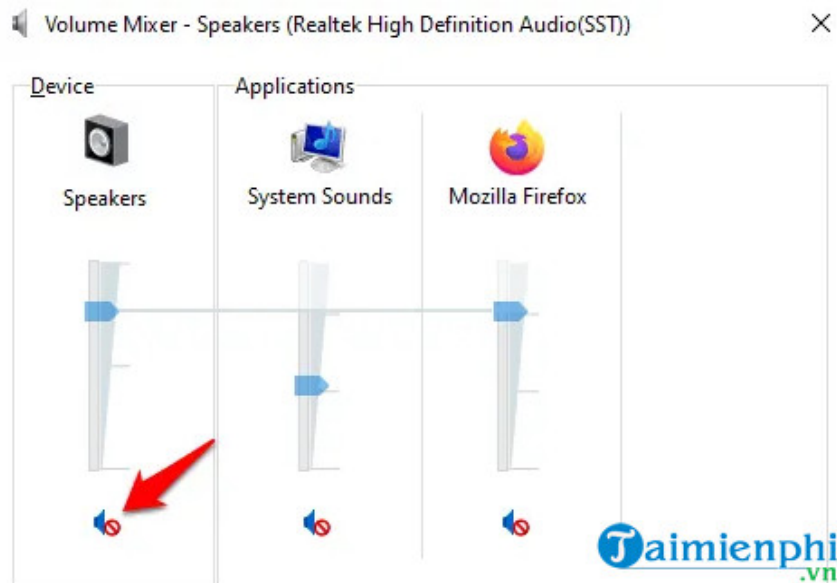


It's possible that the headphone's audio controls operate independently of the Windows audio controls. Try checking if the volume is loud enough and clear enough to hear.

Additionally, you should also check your computer's volume control by right-clicking the speaker icon on the Taskbar and selecting **Open Volume Mixer** . Slide the sliders to adjust your headphone volume.



Check if your headphones are muted by looking for the volume icon, which is a red circle with a diagonal line through it. If so, click the speaker icon to unmute them.



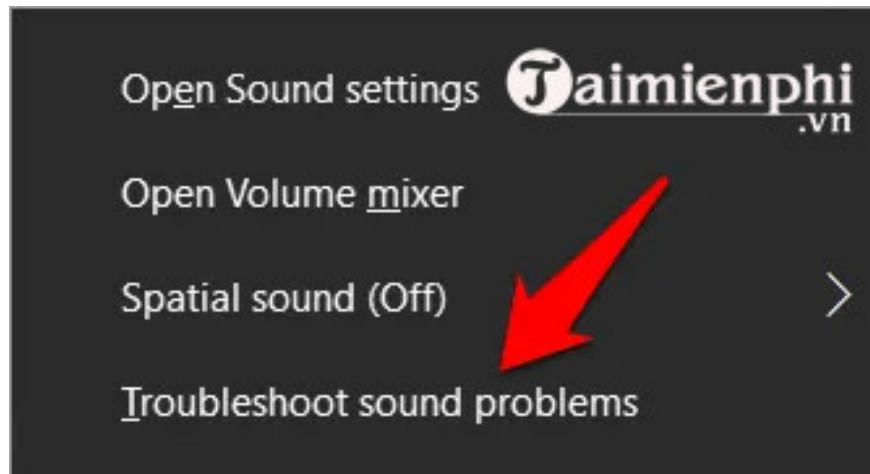
Balance the volume levels for your headphones. To do this, go to **Sound settings** => **Sounds** and click **the Levels tab** to adjust the headphone volume settings. Click **Balance** to balance the levels.

If the headphones still don't work, try using a different pair and plugging them into your computer to see if the problem persists. If the headphones work, the issue may be due to incompatible drivers, operating system, or other computer settings.

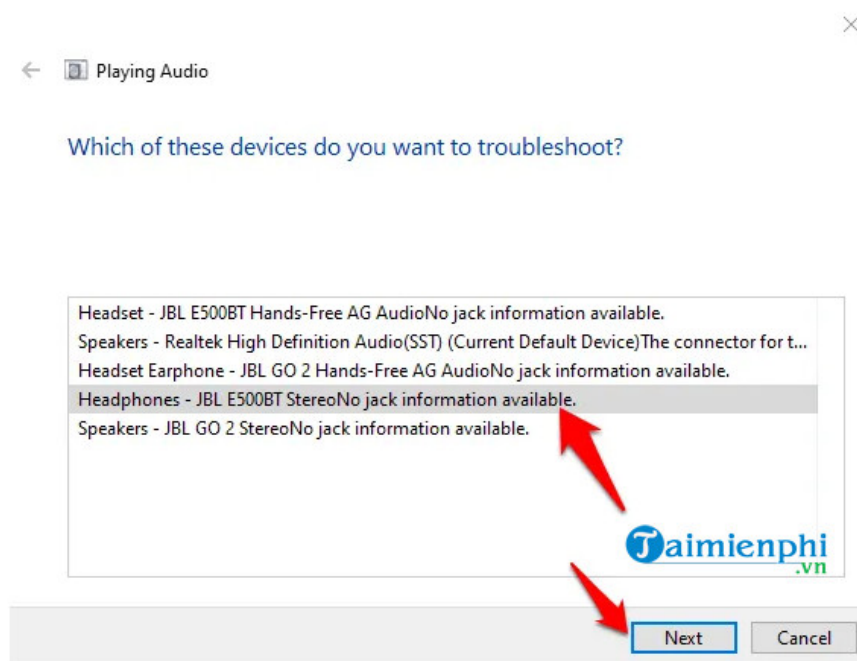
Check the Enhancements feature by going to **Sound settings** => **Sounds** => **Enhancements tab** and clicking **Disable all enhancements** . Test your headphones by clicking **Preview** . Some sound cards may not function properly if Enhancements is enabled.

Use Windows Troubleshooter to fix the error.

Right-click the speaker icon on the Taskbar and select **Troubleshoot Sound Problems**.



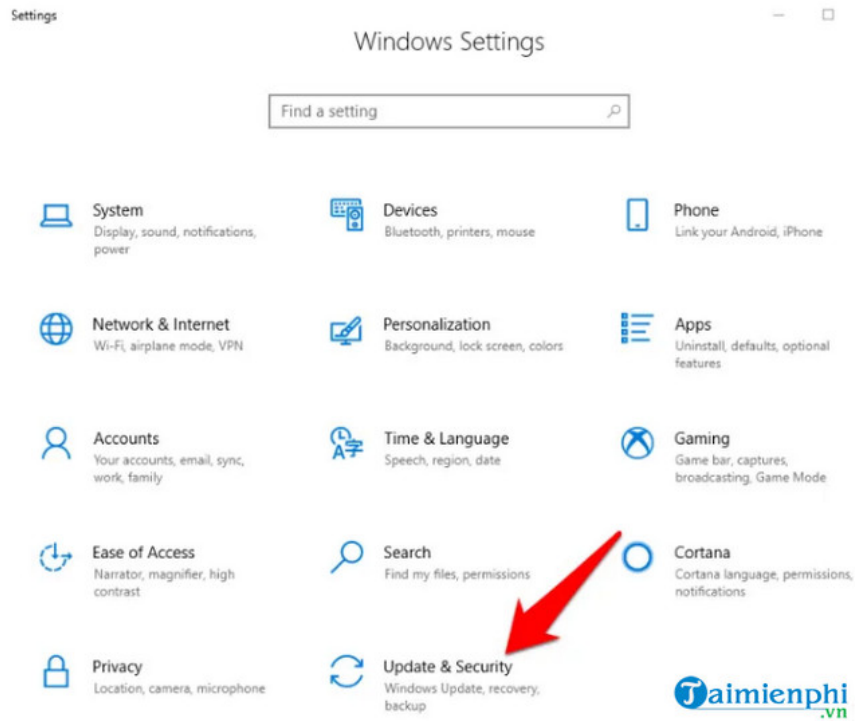
Select your headphones and then click **Next**.



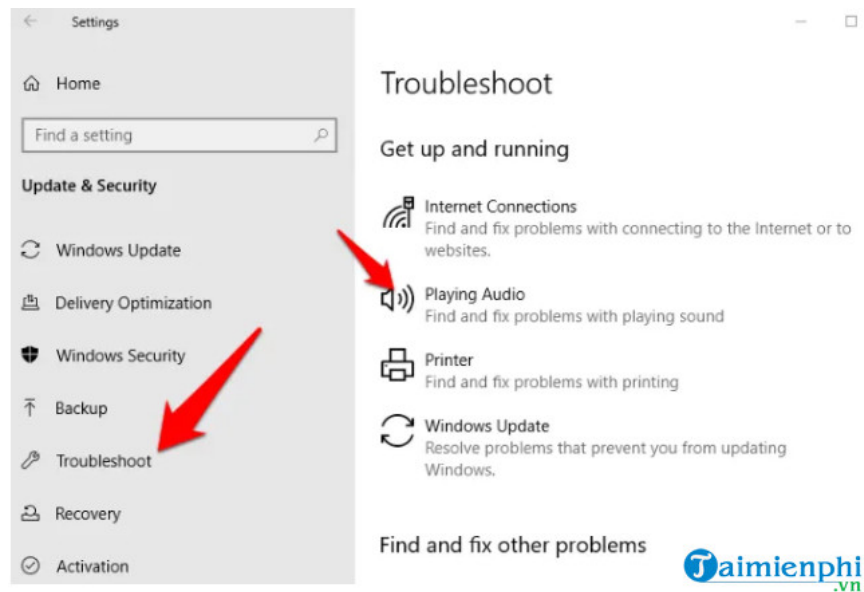
If a message appears on the screen saying you need to enable Audio Enhancements, click **No**. **Do not open Audio Enhancements** .

Use Audio Troubleshooter to fix the error.

First, open the Windows Settings window by clicking **Start => Settings => Update & Security**.




Click **Troubleshoot** => **Playing Audio**.




Click on " **Run the troubleshooter**" and follow the on-screen instructions.

Troubleshoot


Get up and running

 Internet Connections
Find and fix problems with connecting to the Internet or to websites.

 Playing Audio
Find and fix problems with playing sound

Run the troubleshooter

 Printer
Find and fix problems with printing

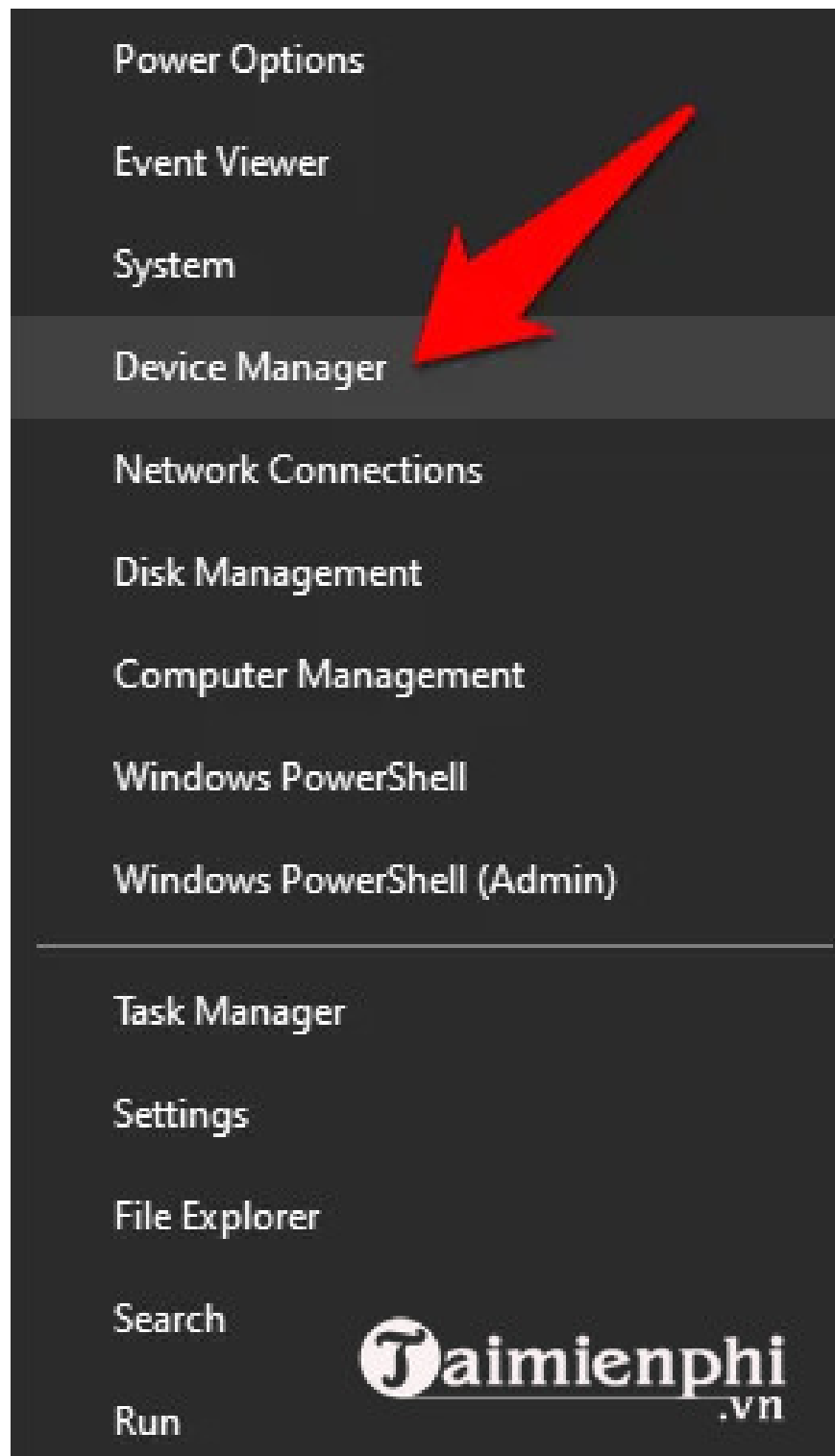
 Windows Update
Resolve problems that prevent you from updating Windows.

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Restart your computer and see if it recognizes the headphones.

Update your sound card driver.

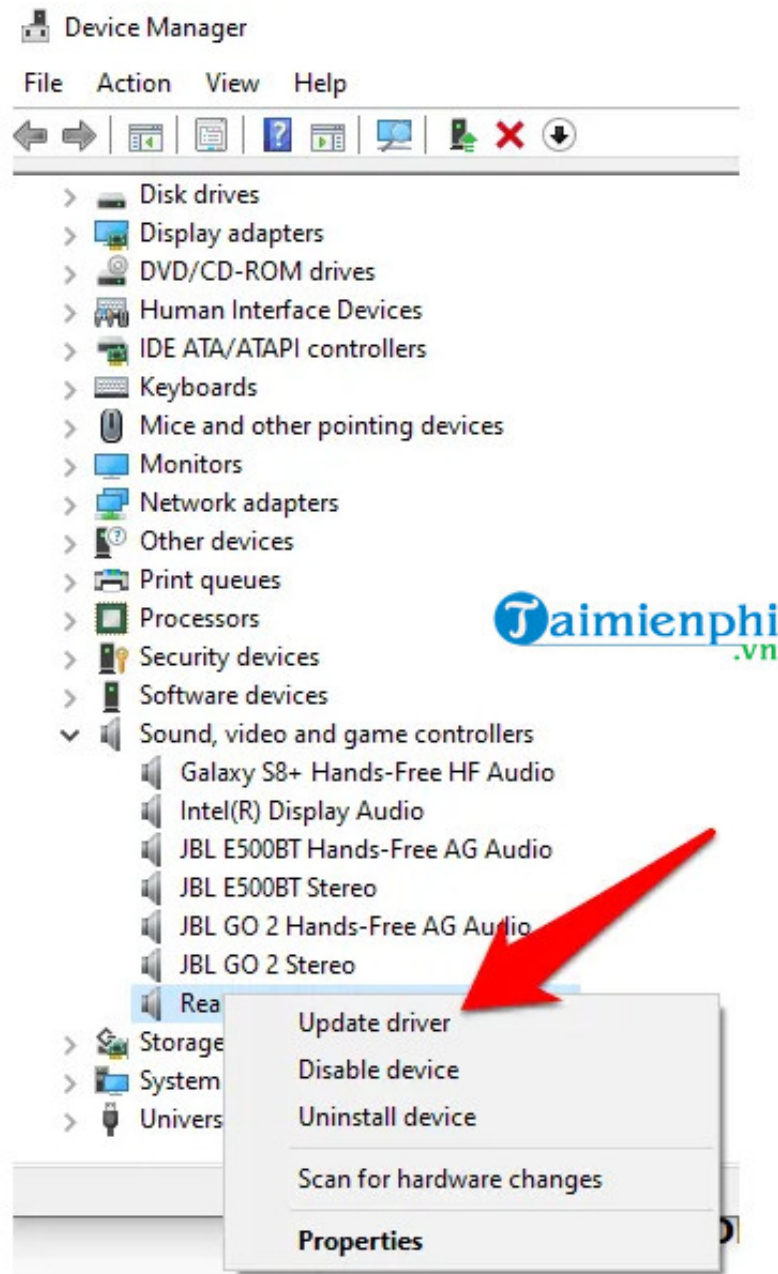
Right-click the **Start button** and select **Device Manager**.



In the Device Manager window, find and double-click **Sound, video, and game controllers**.



Check if your sound card driver is up-to-date. If not, right-click on the sound card driver and select **Update driver** .



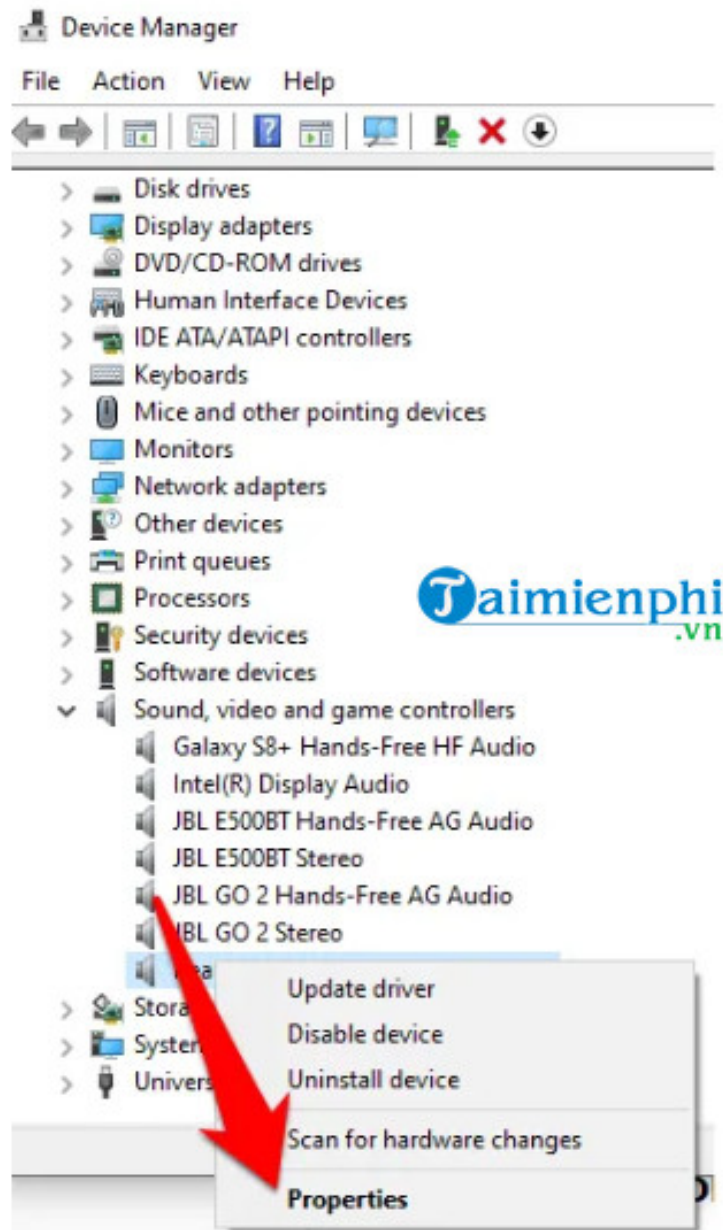
Windows will automatically search for and update your sound card driver, or if you prefer, you can browse for the driver you downloaded from the manufacturer's website and saved on your computer.

Downgrade driver

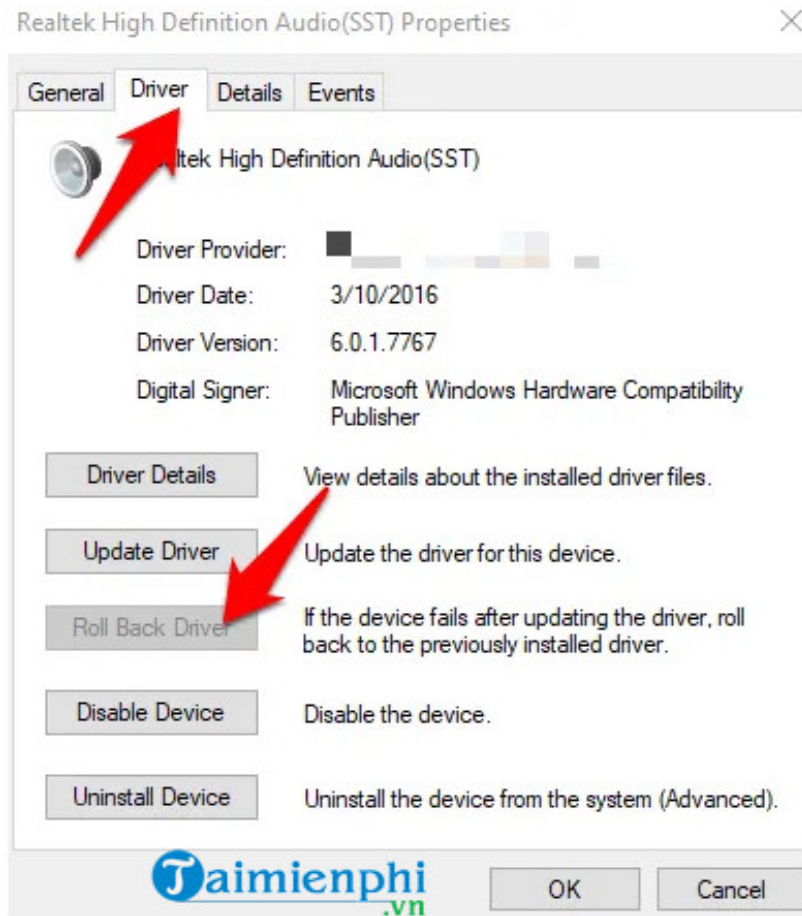
If none of the above methods work, try downgrading your audio and Bluetooth drivers to an older version. Sometimes the latest Windows updates can be incompatible and cause headphone problems.

Follow the steps below to downgrade the driver to an older version:

Right-click **the Start button** => **Device Manager** . In the Device Manager window, find and double-click **Sound, video, and game controllers** , then find and right-click your audio or Bluetooth driver and select **Properties**.



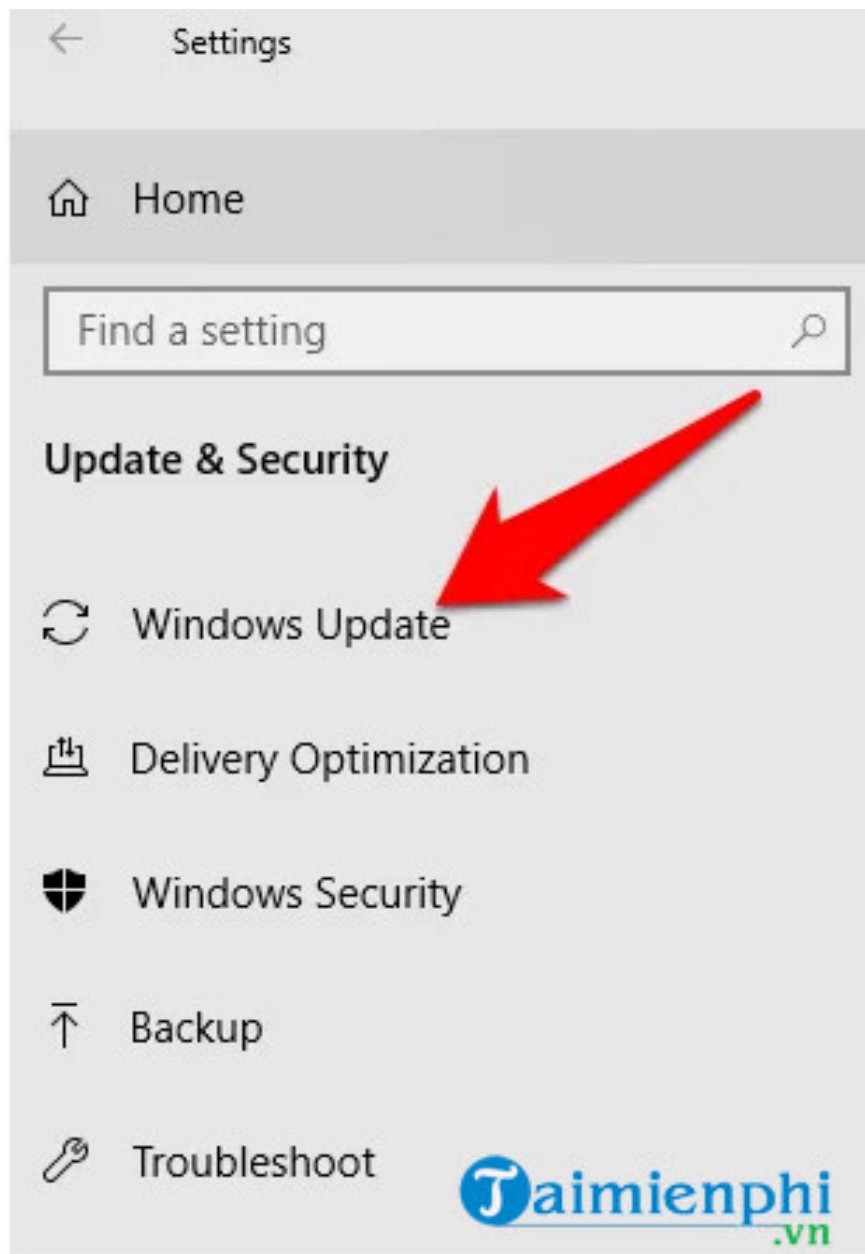
Click on **the Driver tab** , then find and click on the Roll back option .



Note : You can also try updating to the latest driver version and see if the error persists.

Install the latest version of Windows.

If your headphones aren't working after updating to the latest version of Windows, try uninstalling the update and restarting your computer to see if the problem persists.



First, open the **Settings** window => **Update & Security** => **Windows Update** .

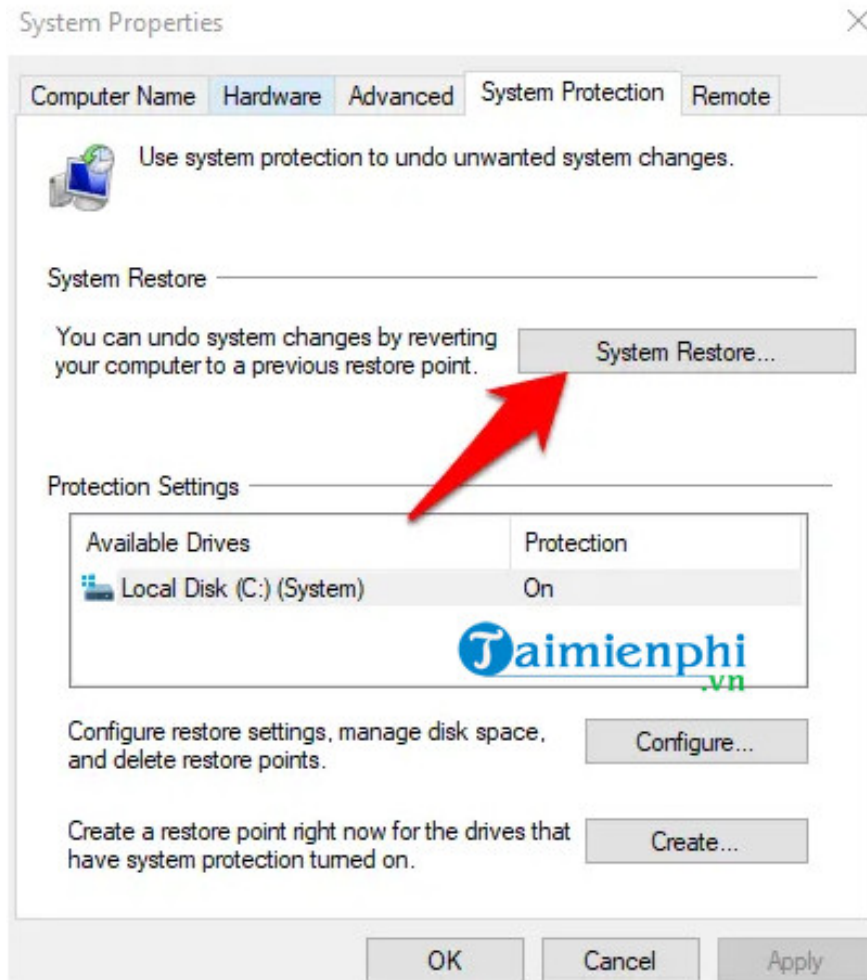
In the **Installed Updates** section , uninstall any updates you have recently installed.

Finally, check if your Windows computer recognizes the headphones.

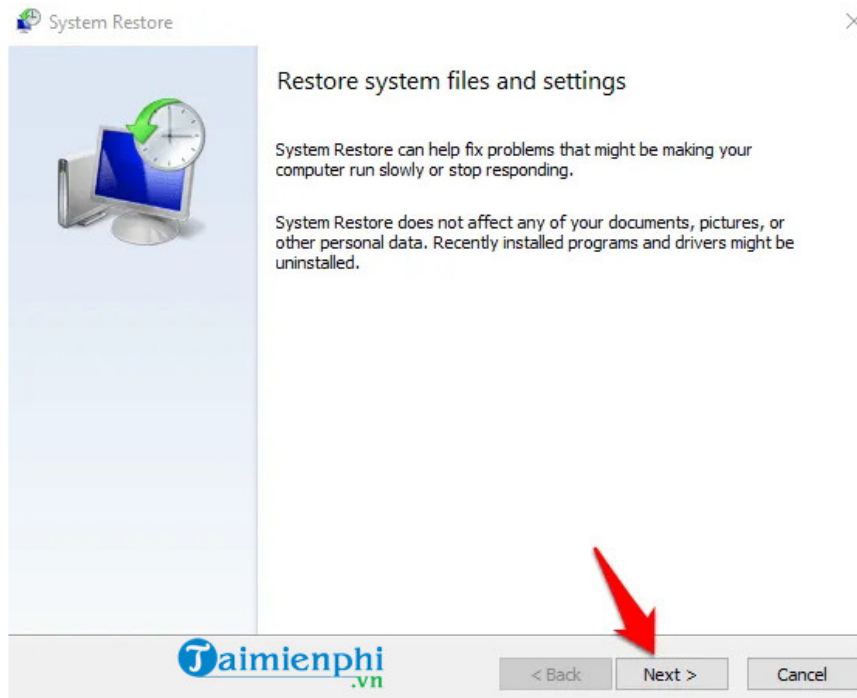
Use System Restore to restore the system.

By using System Restore, you can restore the system to a previous state before the headphone issue occurred.

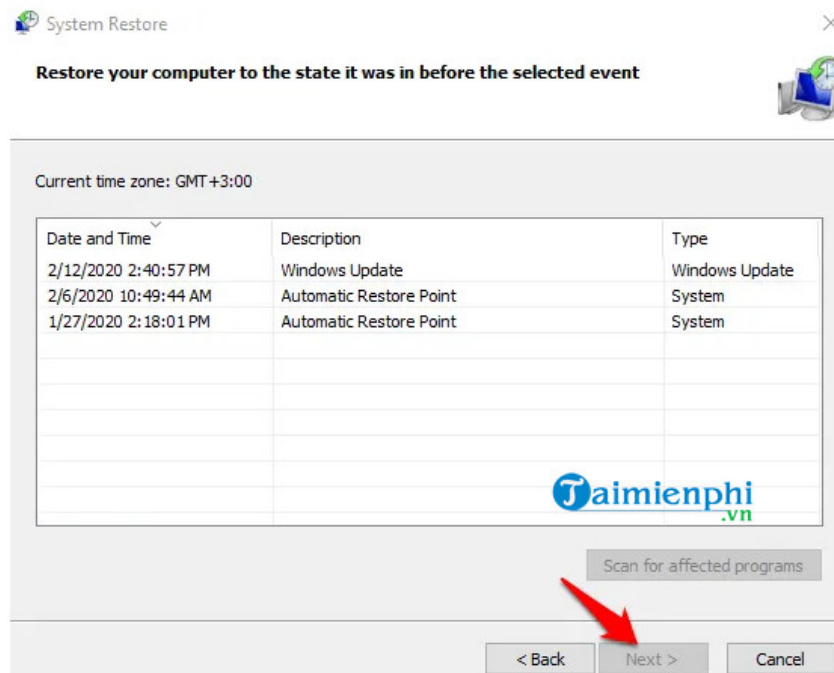
Type "**System Restore**" into the Start Menu search box, and from the search results, click "**Create a Restore Point**" .



In the System Properties window, click **System Restore**.



In the Restore system files and settings window, click **Next**.



Select your desired restore point and then click **Next**.

Finally, if none of the above methods work and the Windows computer still doesn't recognize the headphones, your last resort is to take the headphones (if still under warranty) or the computer to a repair center for assistance.

The article above from TipsMake has guided you through some ways to fix the problem of your computer not recognizing headphones or having no sound . If you have any questions or need clarification, such as what to do if Windows 10 doesn't recognize headphones , please leave your comments in the section below the article.

You finished reading the article "**8 things to check if your computer doesn't recognize your headphones.**" edited by the [TipsMake](#) team. We hope this article has provided you with many useful tech tips and tricks. You can search for similar articles on tips and guides. Thank you for reading and for following us regularly.