8 unexpected uses of Task Manager

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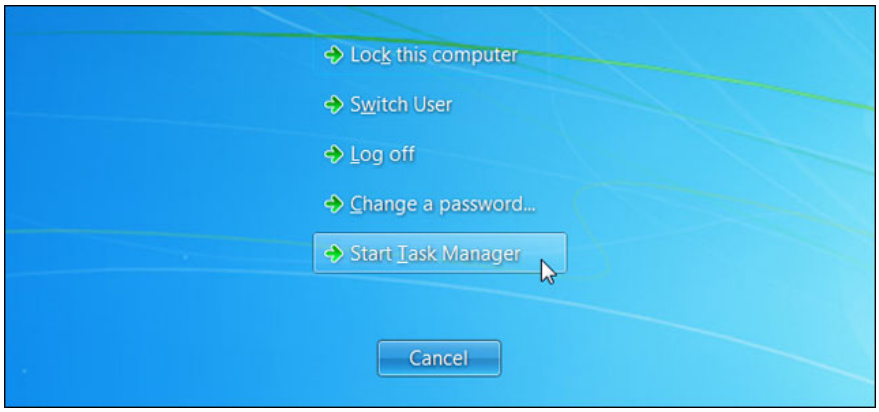


Open Task Manager

Windows allows you to open Task Manager in many ways:

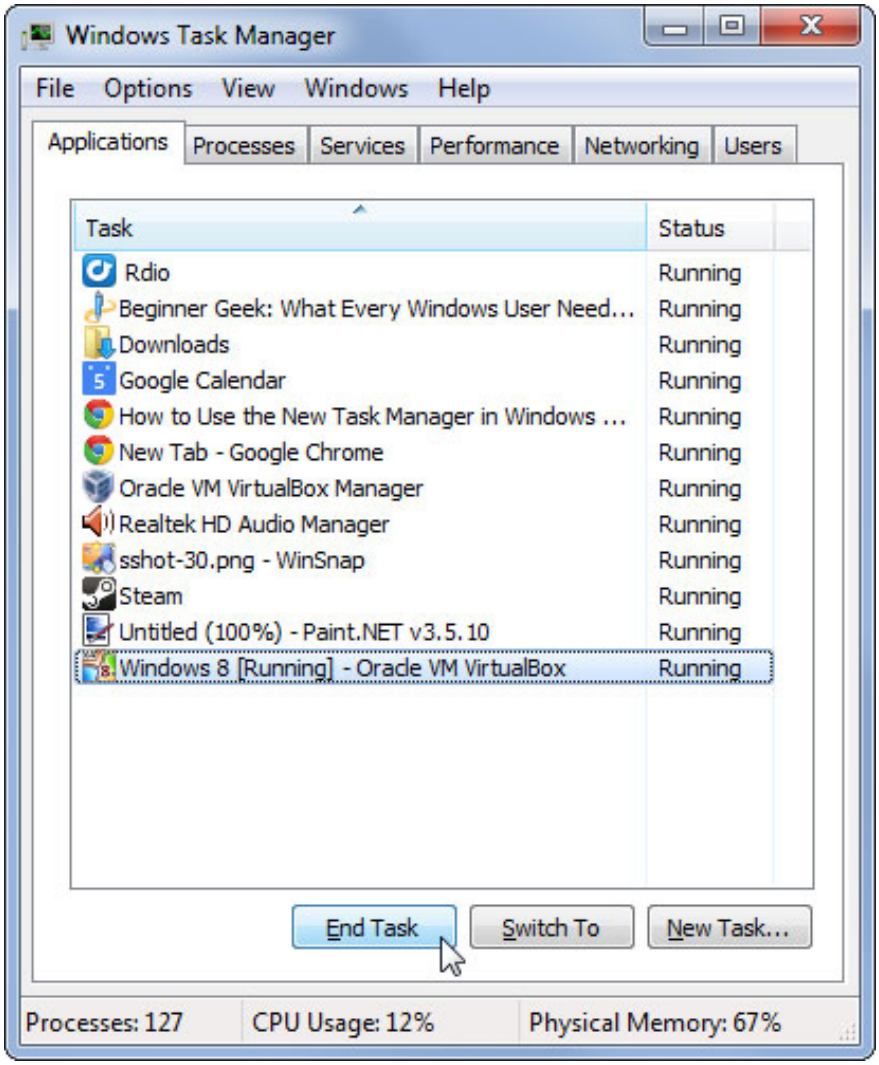
- Shortcuts : Press **Ctrl + Shift + Escape (Esc)** anywhere on Windows.

- Mouse: Right-click on the taskbar and select **Start Task Manager.**

- Traditional method: Press **Ctrl + Alt + Del** and select **Start Task Manager.**

See software that is consuming a lot of CPU and RAM

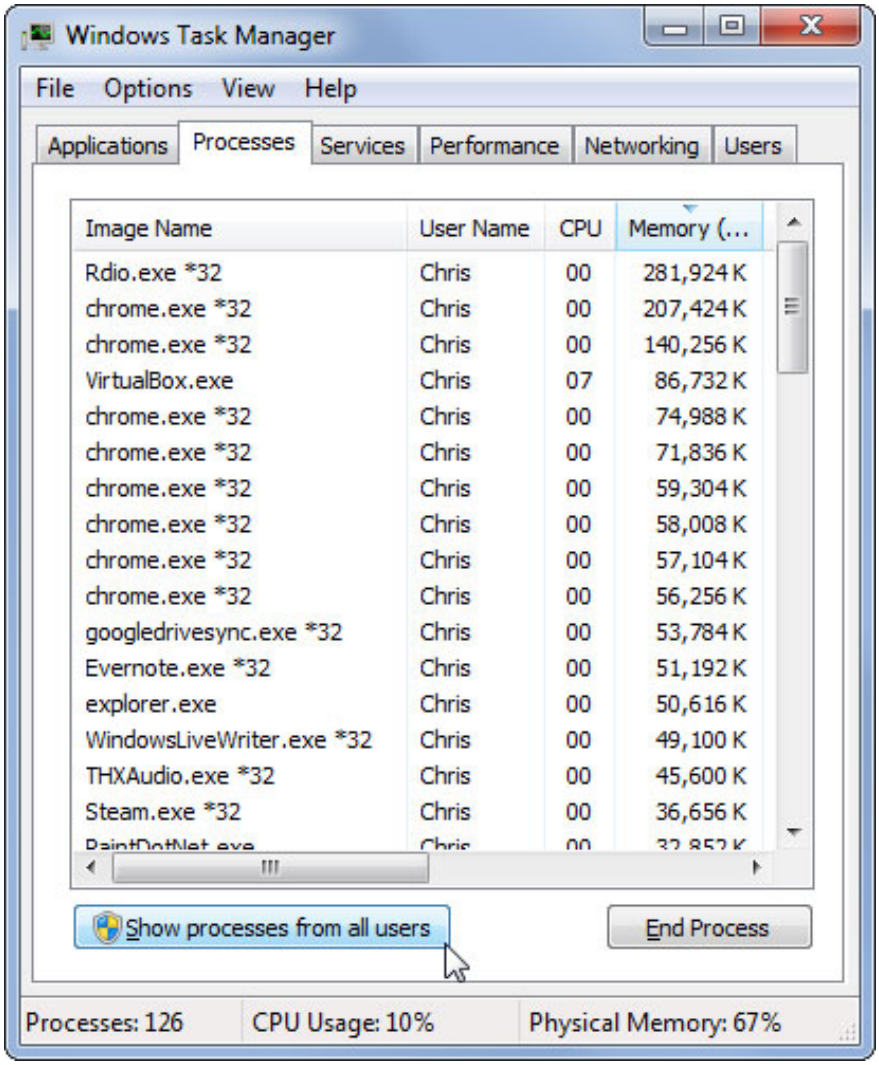
Task Manager will open the tab (tabs) immediately after being opened, allowing you to track open applications and close them with the **End Task** button **.** This feature will work even if the app is suspended.



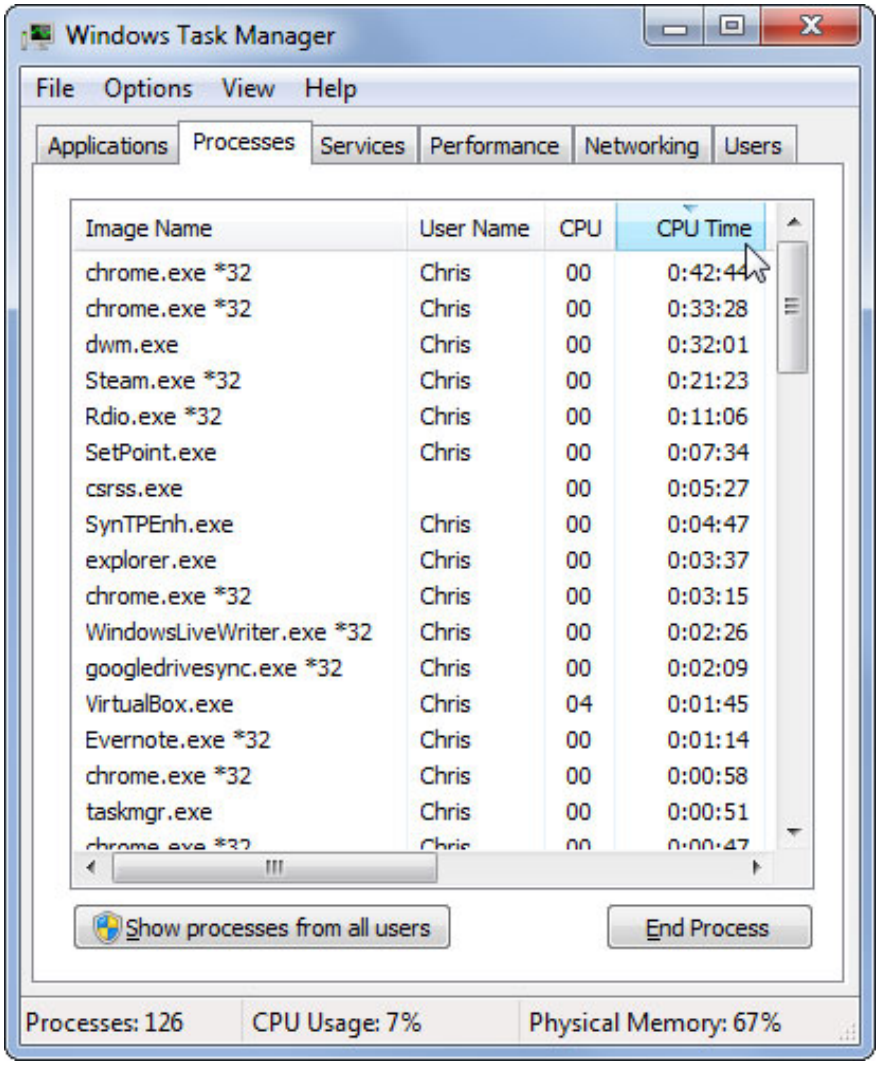
The default tab will not reveal to you the level of resource usage. This tab will also not show applications running in the background (no main window).

Switch to the **Processes tab** to see all processes running on your computer, including applications with the main window and applications running in the system tray (system tray - the area to the right of the taskbar) as well as completely *"hidden"* applications within the operating system.

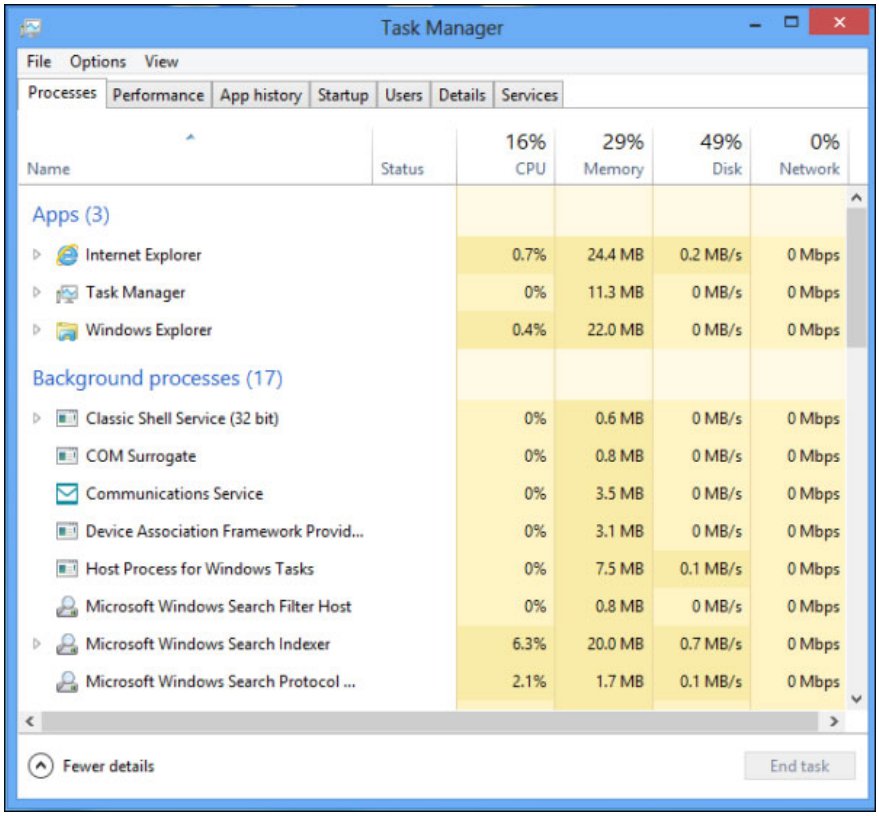
By default, Task Manager only displays the processes performed by your current user account. To see all processes running on your computer, press the **"Show processes from all users" button.**



You can also select the **View** menu **,** select **Select Columns** and turn on the **CPU Time** option. Select the CPU Time column to see which process uses the most processor time, so you can detect processes that use a lot of CPU resources while you haven't tracked Task Manager.

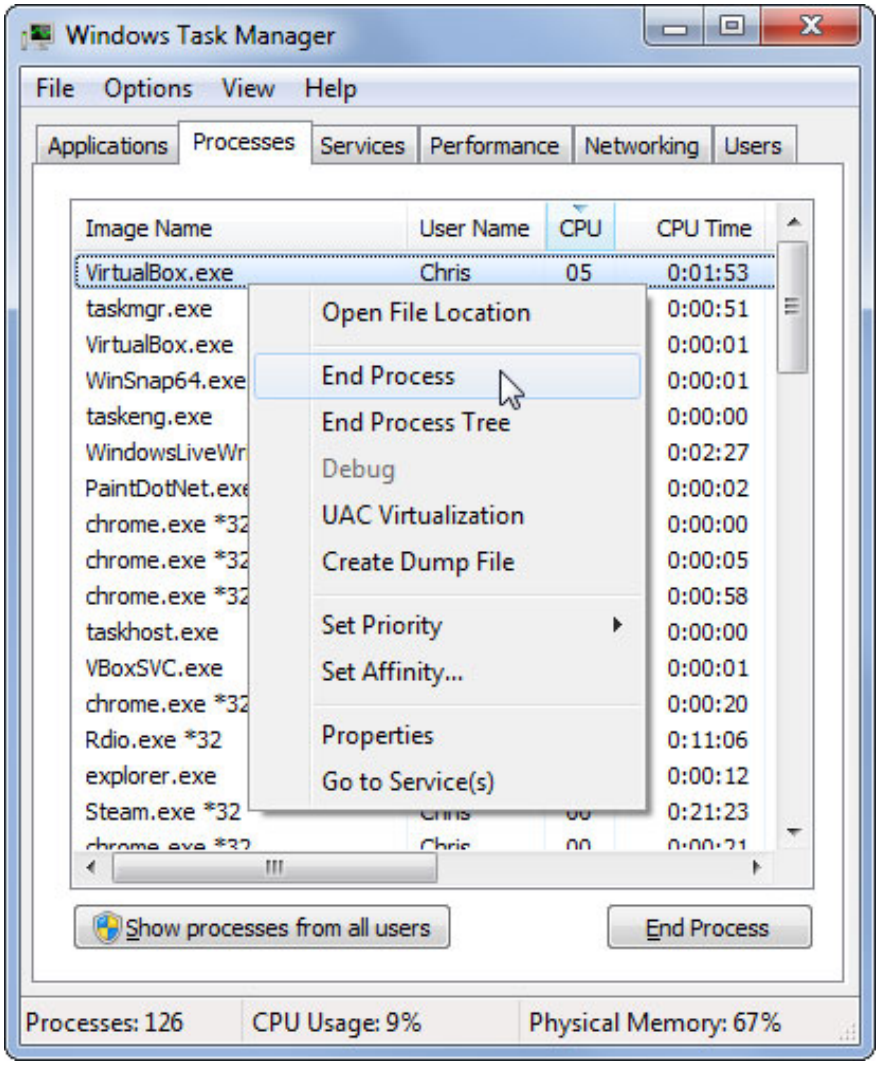


On **Windows 8** , the **Processes tab** shows both the usage of CPU, memory, hard disk and network resources at the same location. You can find this information on **Windows 7** , but they are displayed in many different locations.



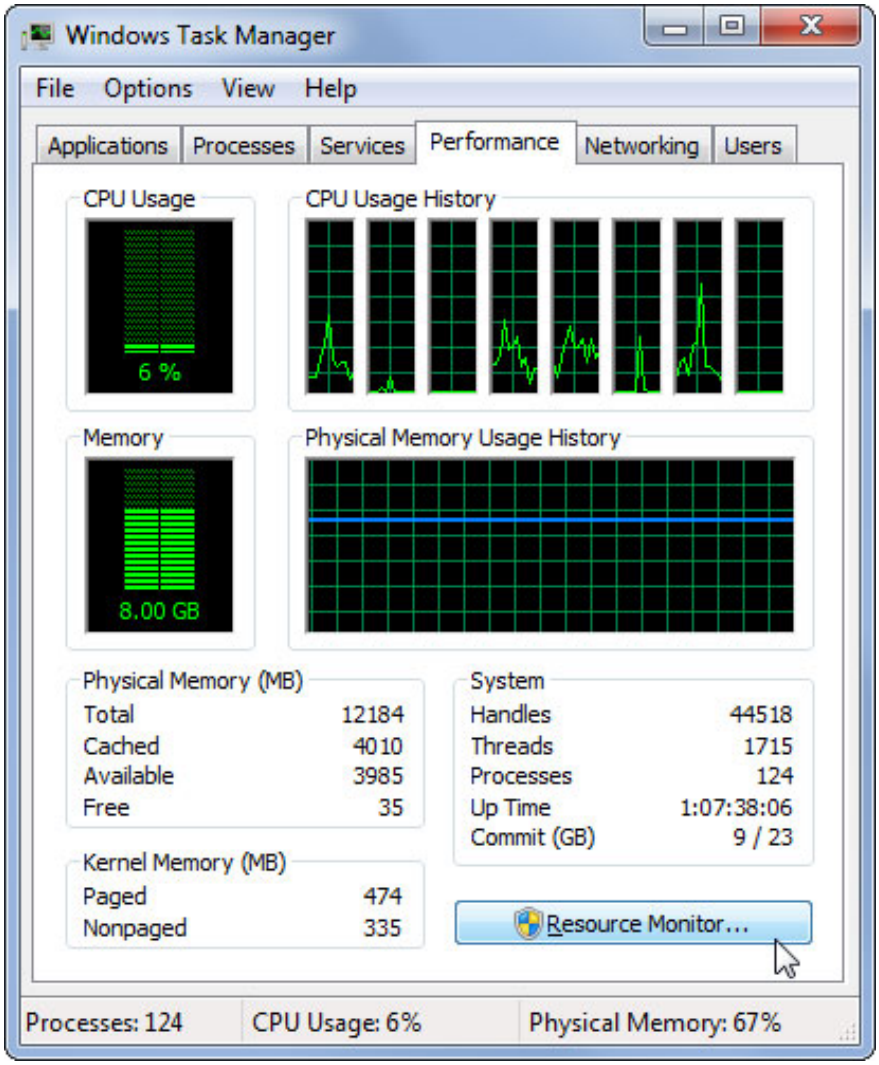
Turn off hidden programs

A program may have an error that cannot completely escape causing a loss of the machine's resources. For example, even if you have played a game programmed with errors, this game continues to run in the background and uses a lot of your CPU and RAM. Choose how to arrange CPU processes, right click on applications that use the most CPUs and select End Process to resolve this error.



Check CPU usage and overall RAM

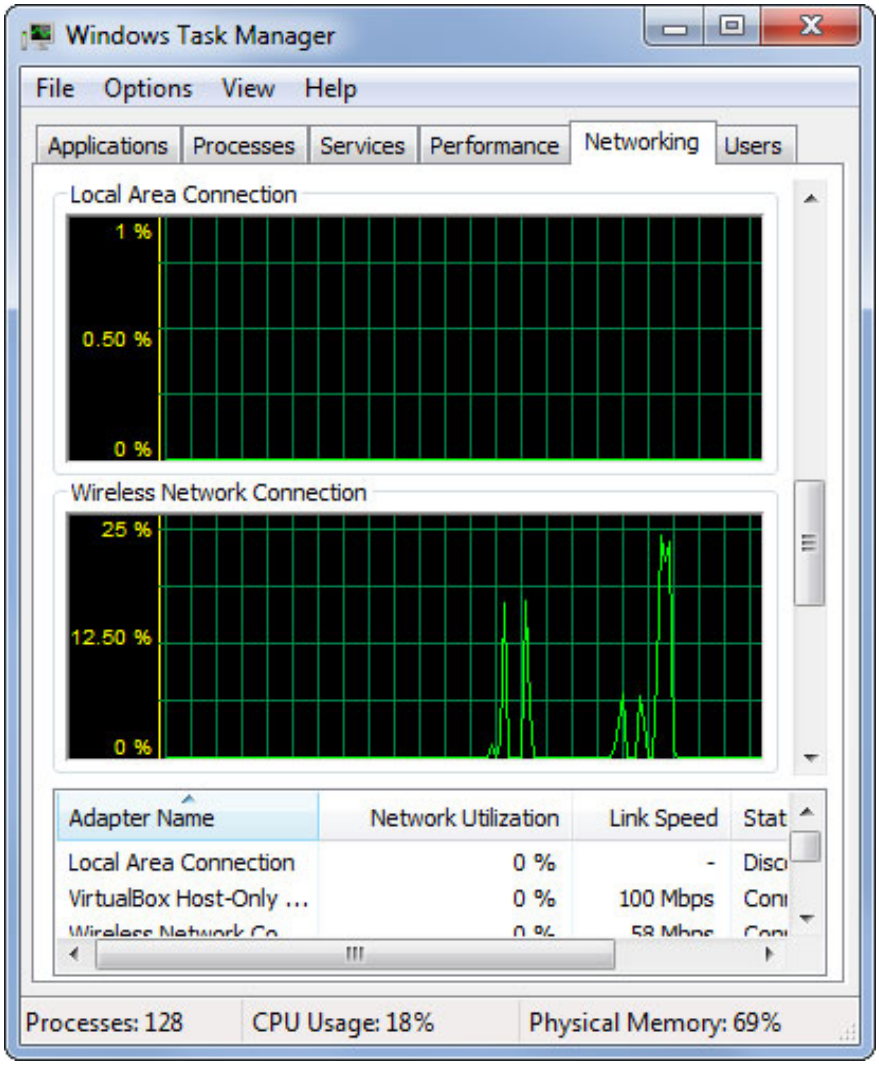
Switch to **Performance** tab to see the CPU usage and RAM usage of Windows. The **CPU Usage History section** shows summary information about CPU usage, next to individual CPU charts. The Memory section shows the level of RAM usage in Windows for a certain period of time.



If you find that your CPU and RAM usage levels are high, try to close programs that are using too much CPU and RAM that you don't need to use on the **Processes tab.** If your CPU or RAM usage level is always high, you should consider upgrading RAM or higher speed processor.

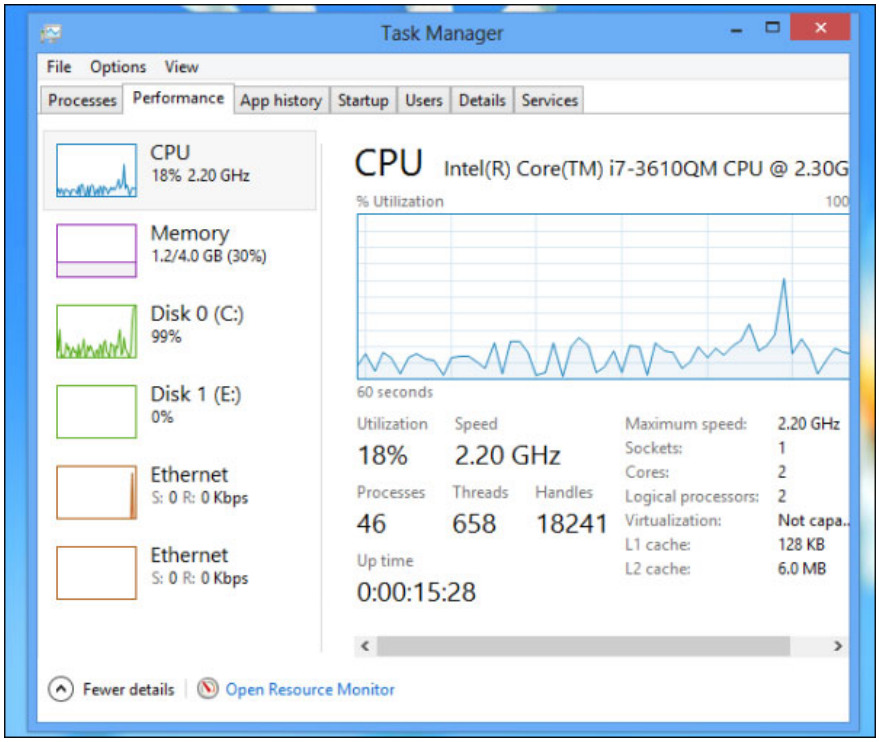
Check the level of network usage of both Windows

If you have problems connecting to the Internet (the web is loading too slowly, Skype calls are frequently interrupted .), you should check the network usage of Windows. Open the **Networking** tab of Task Manager.



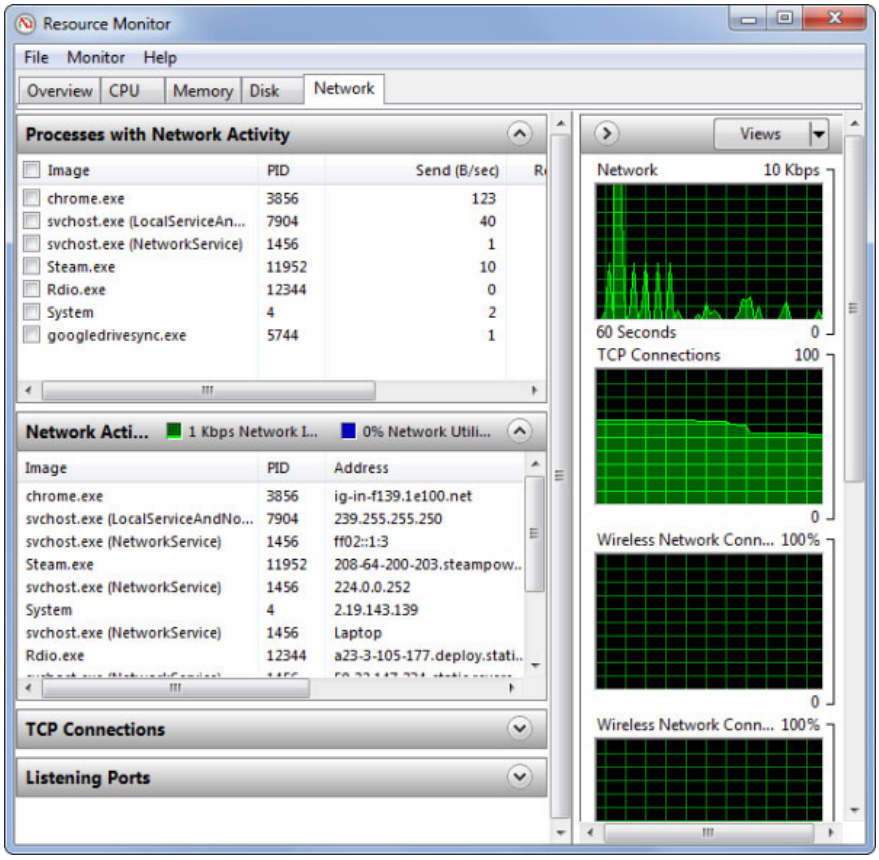
You will see the usage chart for each network card on your computer, including LAN and Wi-Fi network. This way you will know whether any hidden programs on the computer are slowing down the network.

On Windows 8, you will see the network information displayed in the **Performance** tab **.**



Check the network usage level of each program

You may want to know how much bandwidth each application is using. On Windows 7, switch to **Performance** tab and select the **Resource Monitor** button to open the resource management application:

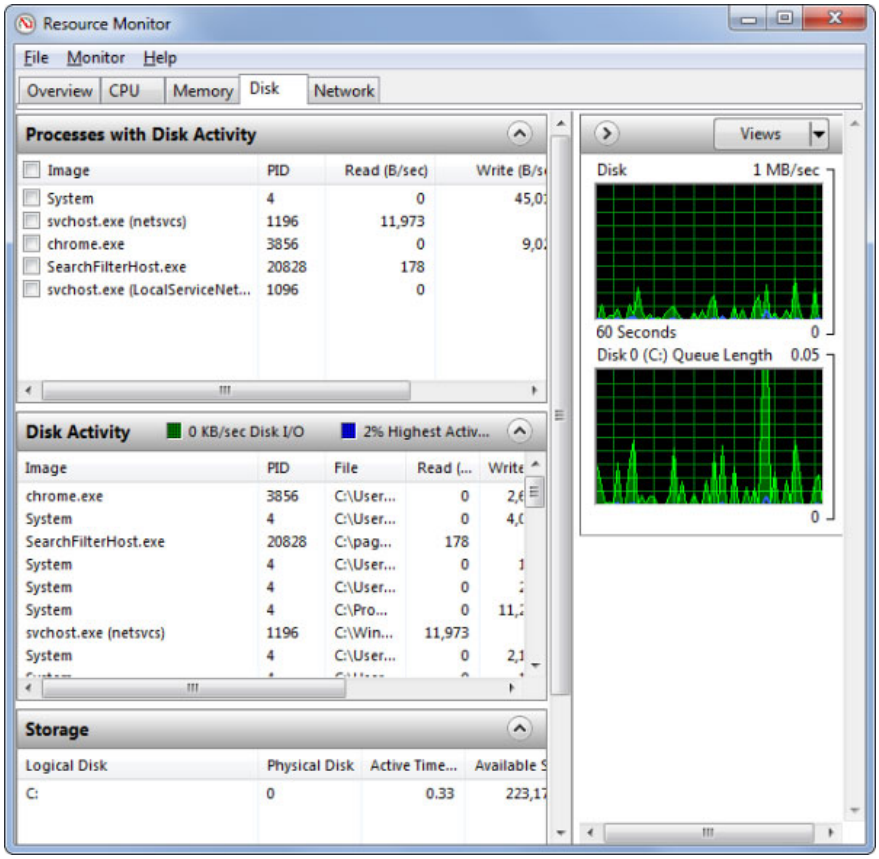


On the **Network** tab of **Resource Monito** r, you will see a list of applications that are using the network and their usage. Note that usage includes all activities conducted over the network, ie not only activities conducted over the Internet but also activities between different computers, between computers and other devices (smartphone, tablet .) on the same local network.

On Windows 8, the **Processes tab** will tell you the network usage of each process.

Check the hard disk usage level of each process

When switching to the **Disk** card on the **Resource Monitor,** you can see how many applications are reading / writing to the hard drive at a speed. If your hard drive is running slowly, this tool will show you which programs are using the hard drive the most.

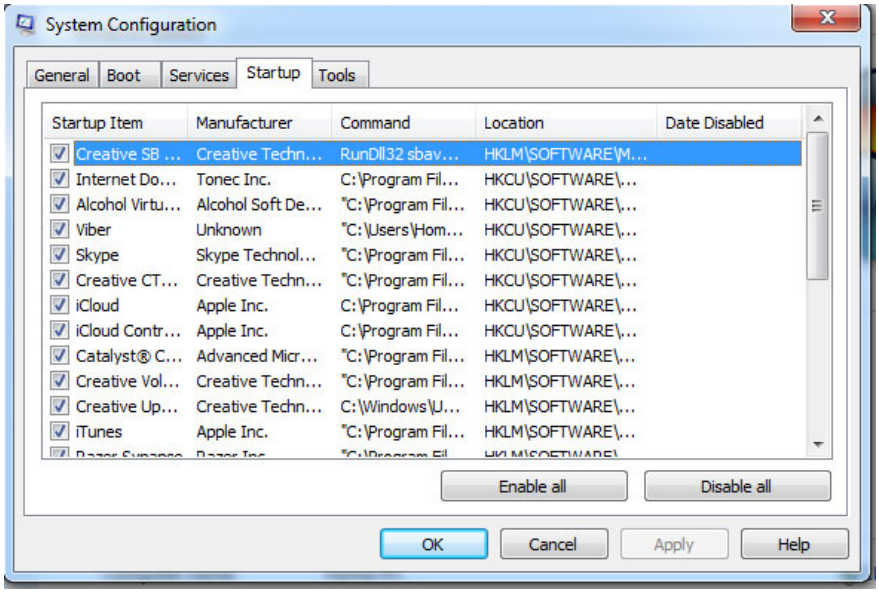


On Windows 8, you can view information about the usage of the hard drive on the **Taskes tab** of Task Manager.

Check applications that start with the device

On Windows 8, you can open the **Startup** card to check which applications are started with the device.

On Windows 7, to perform this task you will have to open **msconfig** program by pressing **Windows + R** key **,** then type **"msconfig".** This program will also allow you to control the services started with the device.



In **msconfig,** you can turn on / off programs that start with the computer.

In addition, you can use **CCleane** r to control programs that start with the machine.

If you want to use a more advanced process control program, you can use **Process Explorer** provided by Microsoft (for free). This tool will provide some advanced features that Task Manager of Windows 7 and Windows 8 do not have, such as the ability to view files and folders being " *locked"* by a program and unlock this program. to edit that file.

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