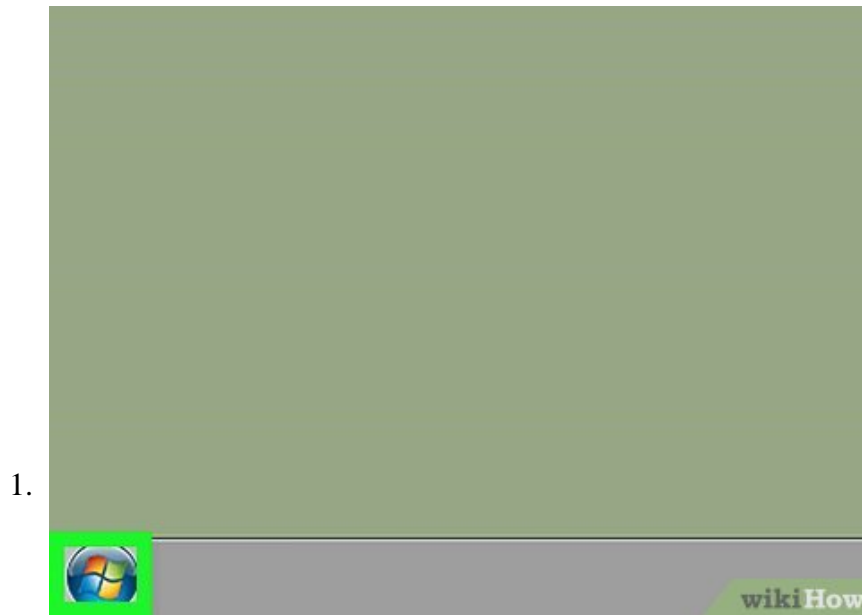


How to Change Directories in Command Prompt

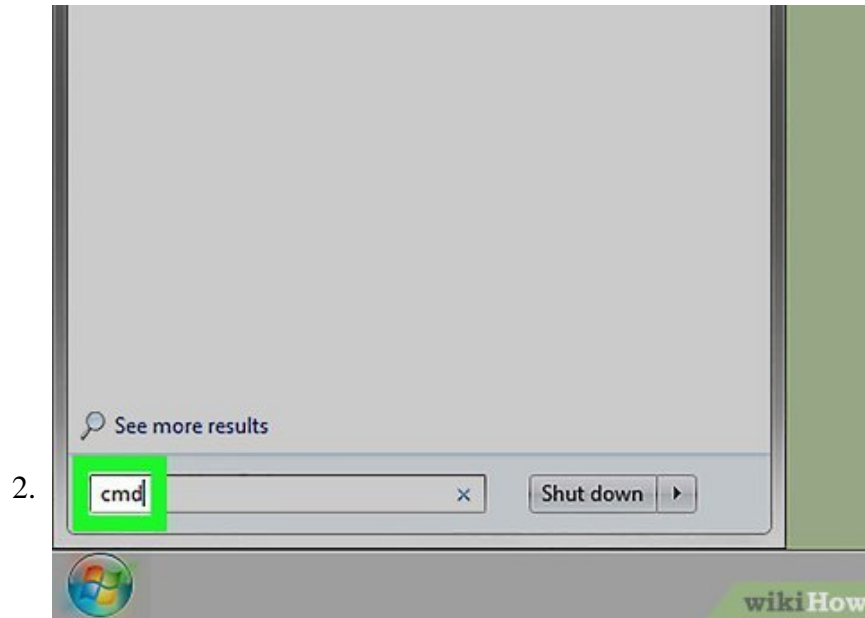
This wikiHow teaches you how to change the folder (also known as the 'directory') in which your Windows computer's Command Prompt program operates. To make changes in Command Prompt, you must be using an administrator account. Open Start...

Part 1 of 2:

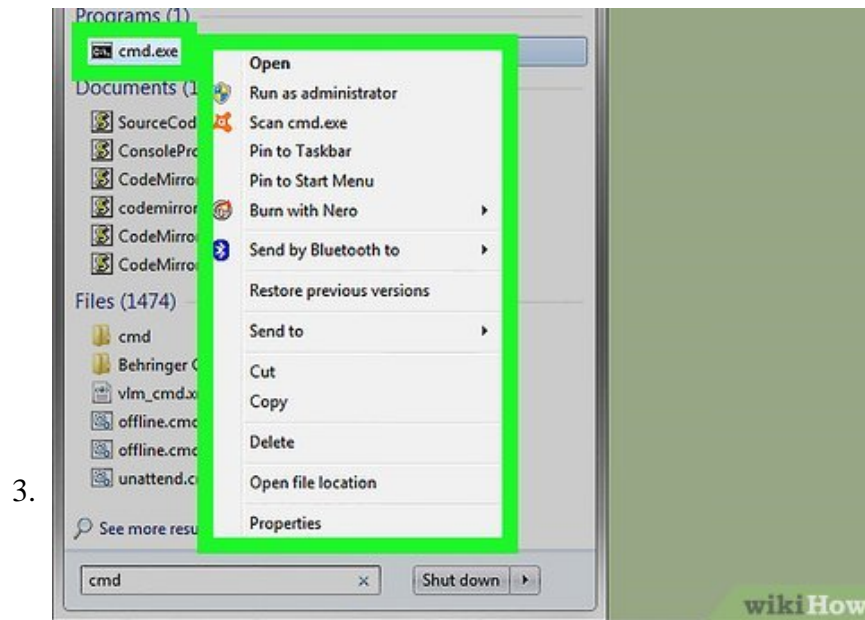
Opening Command Prompt



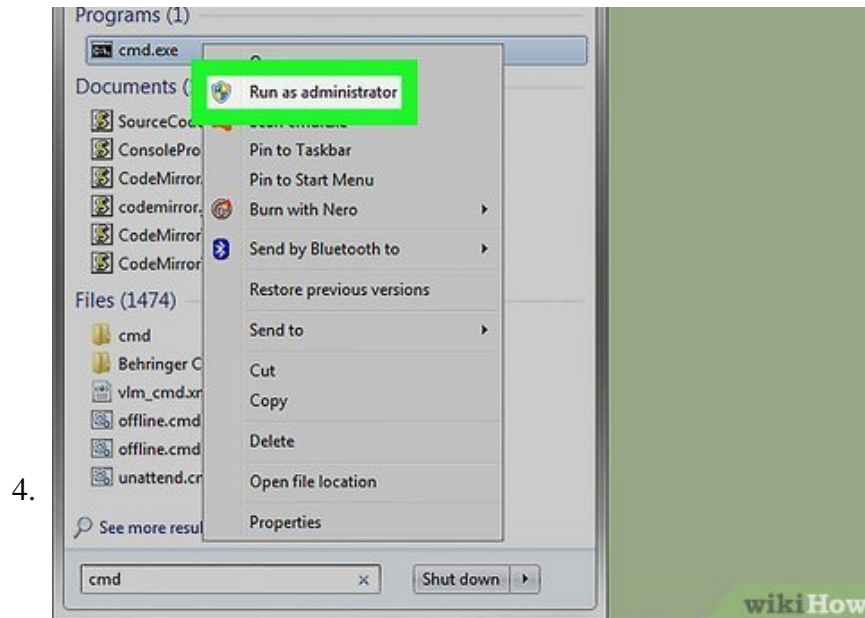
- Open Start.** Either click the Windows logo in the bottom-left corner of the screen, or press the **Win** key.
1. For Windows 8, place your mouse cursor in the top-right corner of the screen, then click the magnifying glass icon when it appears.



Type in `cmd` . This will bring up the Command Prompt icon at the top of the Start window.



Right-click Command Prompt. It resembles a black box. This invokes a drop-down menu.

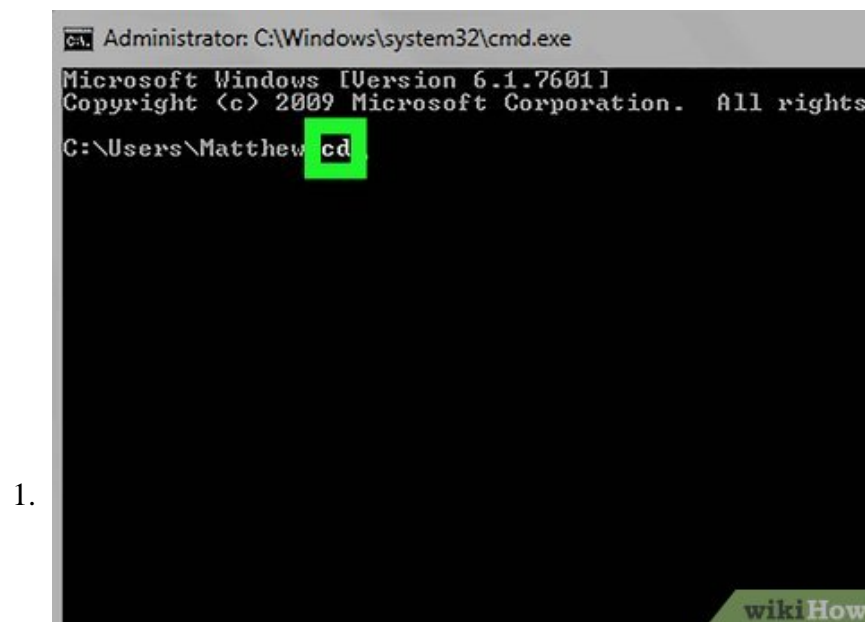


Click **Run as administrator**. It's near the top of the drop-down menu. Doing so will open Command Prompt with administrator privileges.

1. Confirm this choice by clicking **Yes** when prompted.
2. You won't be able to run Command Prompt in administrator mode if you're on a restricted, public, or networked computer (e.g., a library or school computer), or an otherwise non-administrator account.

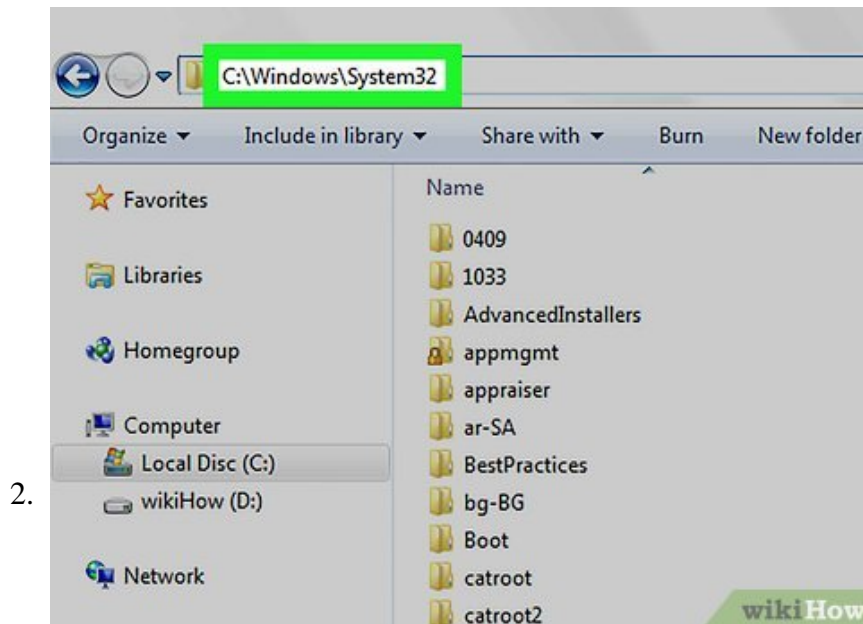
Part 2 of 2:

Changing the Directory



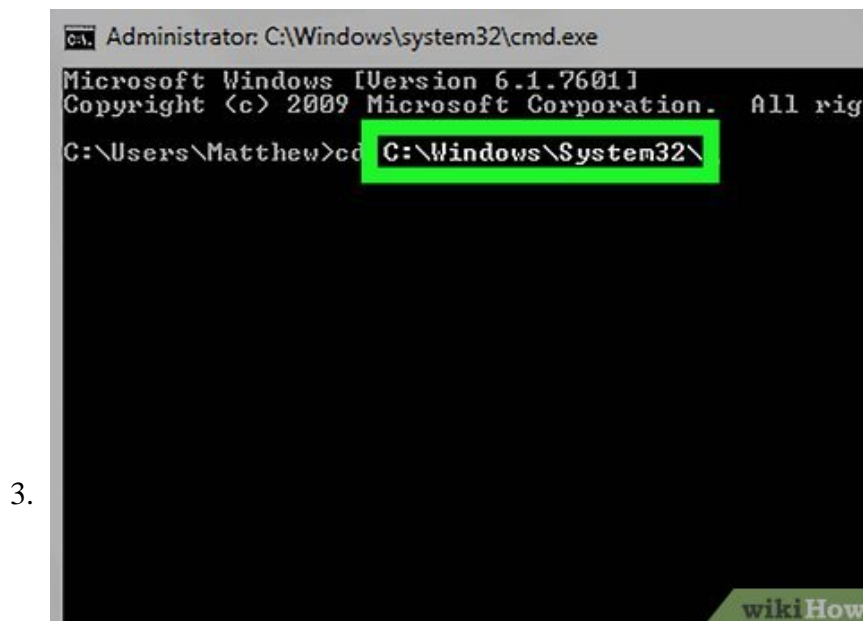
Type in `cd` . Make sure you include the space after "cd". This command, which stands for "change directory", is the root of any directory change.

1. Don't press the `Enter` key.



Determine your directory's path. A directory path is like a map to a specific folder. For example, if the directory to which you want to change is the "System32" folder that's in the "WINDOWS" folder on the hard drive, the path would be "C:WINDOWSSystem32".

1. You can find a folder's path by opening My Computer, double-clicking the hard drive icon, navigating to your destination, and then looking at the address at the top of the folder.



Type in your directory's path. Your command or address goes after the "cd" command; make sure there is a space between "cd" and your command.

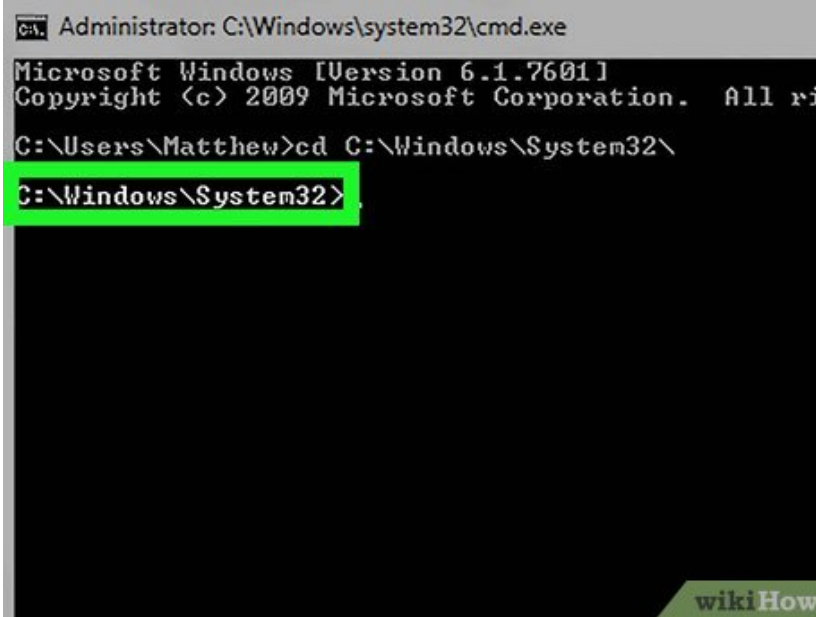
1. For example, your whole command might look like `cd WindowsSystem32` or `cd D:`

2. Since your computer's default directory location will be the hard drive (e.g., "C:"), you don't need to type in the hard drive's name.

```
Administrator: C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7601]
Copyright (c) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\Matthew>cd C:\Windows\System32\
C:\Windows\System32>
```

4.

A screenshot of a Windows Command Prompt window. The title bar reads "Administrator: C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe". The window content shows the Microsoft Windows logo, version information (6.1.7601), and copyright notice (© 2009 Microsoft Corporation). The current directory is C:\Users\Matthew. The user has entered the command "cd C:\Windows\System32\" and the prompt has moved to C:\Windows\System32>. The prompt and the command text are highlighted with a green box. A "wikiHow" logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the screenshot.

Press `? Enter`. Doing so will change the Command Prompt directory to your selected one.

You finished reading the article "**How to Change Directories in Command Prompt**" 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.