

# How to delete a system restore point in Windows 10

This guide will show you how to delete all or specific system restore points for drives in Windows 10.

System protection (if enabled) is a feature that allows you to perform a system restore, bringing the PC back to a previous point, called a system restore point. This can be helpful if your PC is not working well and recently you've installed an application, driver or update.

Each restore point contains the information needed to restore the system to a selected state. A restore point is created automatically when you install new Windows applications, drivers, or updates and can also be created manually. Restoring will not affect individual files in the **% UserProfile%** folder , but will remove applications, drivers and updates installed after the restore point was created.

When you receive a major update or new feature for Windows 10, all restore points are automatically deleted during the update process because the old restore points are not compatible with the new Windows Update.

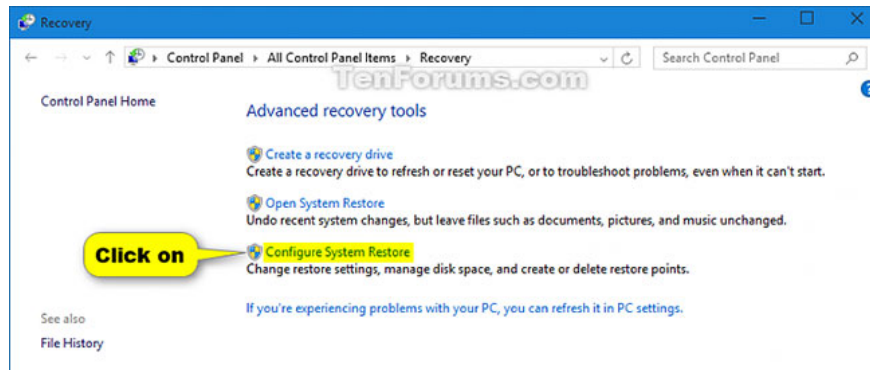
This guide will show you how to delete all or specific system restore points for drives in Windows 10.

## Note:

1. You must be logged in as an administrator to delete a system restore point.
2. The restore point stored in the OS System Volume Information folder is protected and hidden in the root directory of each drive where you have System protection enabled.

## Delete all system restore points for a drive in System Protection Settings

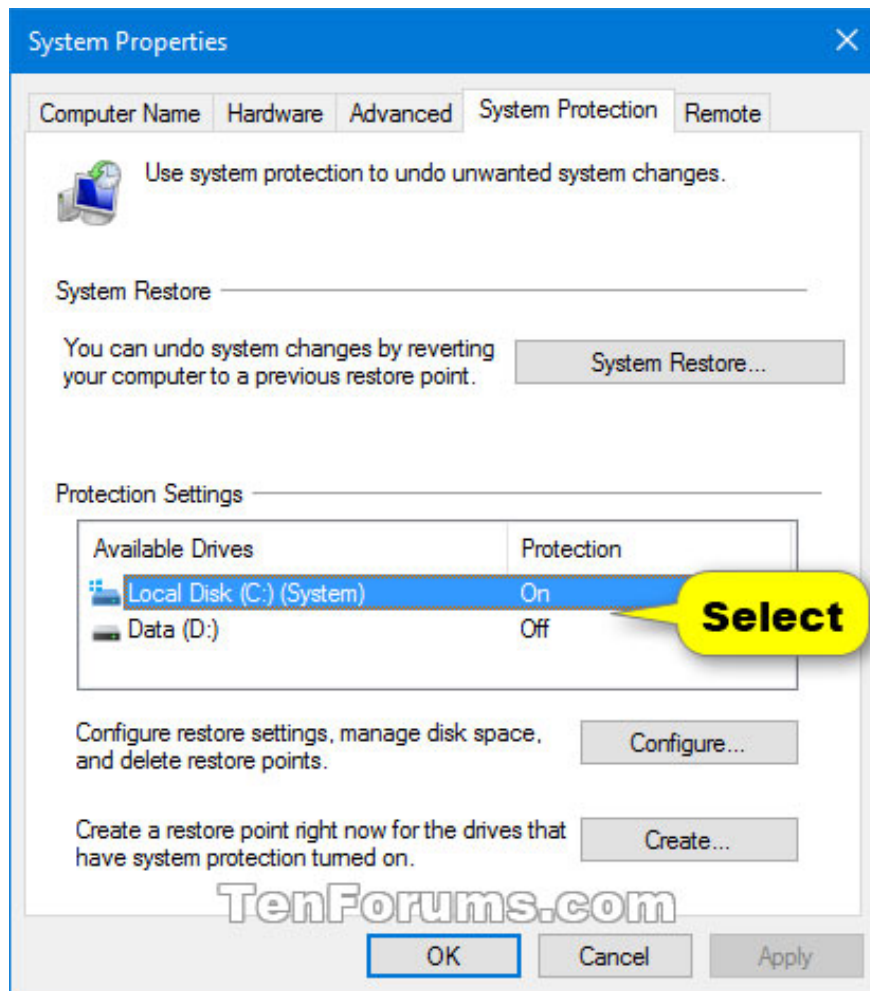
1. Follow step 2, step 3 or step 4 below, depending on how you want to open the **System**.
2. Open the **Win + X Quick Link** menu , click **System** and go to step 5 below.
3. Open Control Panel (**icons view**), click the **System** icon and go to step 5 below.
4. Open **Control Panel (icons view)** , click the **Recovery** icon , click the **Configure System Restore link** and go to step 6 below.



Click the Configure System Restore link  
5. Click the **System protection** link on the left.

6. If prompted by UAC, click **Yes**.

7. In **Protection Settings** , select a drive (for example: C :) that you want to delete all restore points from and click the **Configure** button .

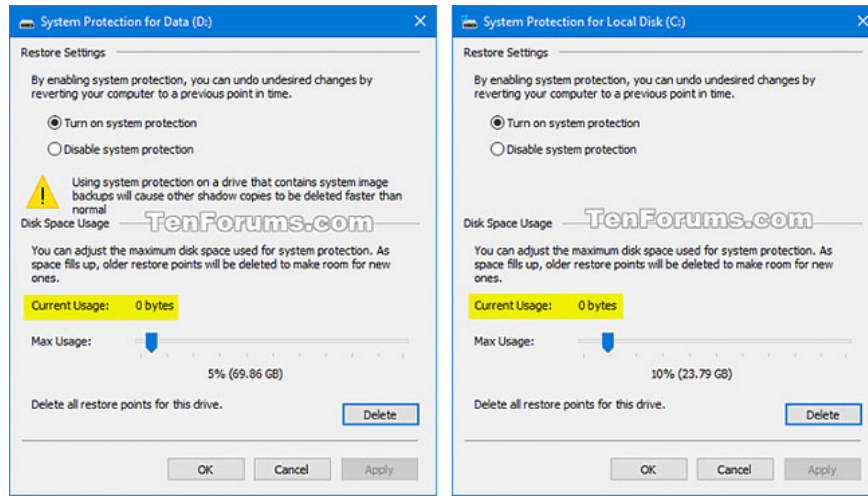


Click the Configure button  
8. Click **Delete**.

9. Click **Continue** to confirm.

10. Click **Close** when done.

11. You will notice that the **Current Usage** of the selected drive will be **0 bytes** .



You will notice that the Current Usage of the selected drive will be 0 bytes

## Delete all system restore points except the most recent restore point in Disk Cleanup

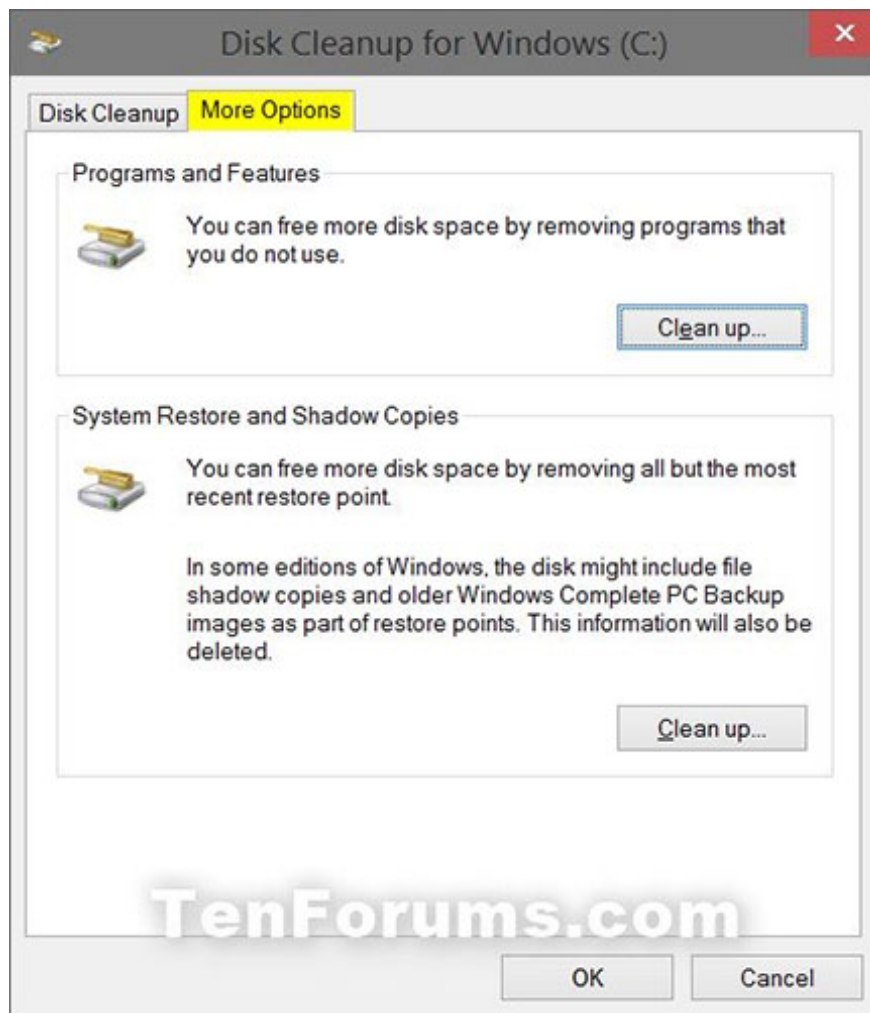
**Note** : You must be logged in as an administrator to use this option.

A) Click the **Clean up system files** button to run Disk Cleanup with admin rights.

B) If prompted by UAC, click **Yes**.

C) If you have multiple drives or partitions on your PC, select the **C:** drive or drive letter you want to clean and click **OK** , then return.

D) Click the **More Options** tab and click the **Clean up** button in **System Restore and Shadow Copies** .



Click the More Options tab and click the Clean up button in System Restore and Shadow Copies  
E) Click **Delete** to confirm.

## Delete all or specific system restore points in Command Prompt

1. Open Command Prompt with admin rights.
2. Copy and paste the command `vssadmin list shadows` into the Command Prompt as admin and press Enter.

```
Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.10586]
(c) 2015 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>vssadmin list shadows
vssadmin 1.1 - Volume Shadow Copy Service administrative command-line tool
(c) Copyright 2001-2013 Microsoft Corp.

Contents of shadow copy set ID: {ed2e4bfc-f2fe-45f4-a29a-8952daf8947d}
Contained 2 shadow copies at creation time: 12/12/2015 11:25:10 AM
Shadow Copy ID: {3e351030-9ebd-428c-9ff3-86dca40a7f96}
Original Volume: (C:)\\?\Volume{a41ce5cc-c408-46c1-8f67-9141e94fe63e}\
Shadow Copy Volume: \\?\GLOBALROOT\Device\HarddiskVolumeShadowCopy15
Originating Machine: DESKTOP-8U4SIF3
Service Machine: DESKTOP-8U4SIF3
Provider: 'Microsoft Software Shadow Copy provider 1.0'
Type: ClientAccessibleWriters
Attributes: Persistent, Client-accessible, No auto release, Differential, Auto recovered

Shadow Copy ID: {3198416a-a7cf-4882-9cb9-6b7560668e5b}
Original Volume: (D:)\\?\Volume{3631da9d-ef79-478b-b5a7-b5ab75b614d0}\
Shadow Copy Volume: \\?\GLOBALROOT\Device\HarddiskVolumeShadowCopy14
Originating Machine: DESKTOP-8U4SIF3
Service Machine: DESKTOP-8U4SIF3
Provider: 'Microsoft Software Shadow Copy provider 1.0'
Type: ClientAccessibleWriters
Attributes: Persistent, Client-accessible, No auto release, Differential, Auto recovered

Contents of shadow copy set ID: {41cd829f-3d95-4cd3-825d-ecfc9b5b120a}
Contained 2 shadow copies at creation time: 12/12/2015 11:26:07 AM
Shadow Copy ID: {b38f9fcd-3b80-4977-9e05-d8faceb9b57c}
Original Volume: (C:)\\?\Volume{a41ce5cc-c408-46c1-8f67-9141e94fe63e}\
Shadow Copy Volume: \\?\GLOBALROOT\Device\HarddiskVolumeShadowCopy17
Originating Machine: DESKTOP-8U4SIF3
Service Machine: DESKTOP-8U4SIF3
Provider: 'Microsoft Software Shadow Copy provider 1.0'
Type: ClientAccessibleWriters
Attributes: Persistent, Client-accessible, No auto release, Differential, Auto recovered

Shadow Copy ID: {a02e88f6-af93-4859-899e-b1dfff6b462d8}
Original Volume: (D:)\\?\Volume{3631da9d-ef79-478b-b5a7-b5ab75b614d0}\
Shadow Copy Volume: \\?\GLOBALROOT\Device\HarddiskVolumeShadowCopy16
Originating Machine: DESKTOP-8U4SIF3
Service Machine: DESKTOP-8U4SIF3
Provider: 'Microsoft Software Shadow Copy provider 1.0'
Type: ClientAccessibleWriters
Attributes: Persistent, Client-accessible, No auto release, Differential, Auto recovered

C:\Windows\system32>_
```

TenForums.com

Copy and paste the vssadmin list shadows command into the Command Prompt

3 Perform step 4 (to delete all), step 5 (all on the drive), step 6 (oldest on the drive) or step 7 (shadow copy ID) below, depending on how you want to delete the restore points. .

4. To delete all restore points on all drives, copy and paste the command below that you want to use into the Command Prompt, press Enter and go to step 8 below.

(Prompt to select Y / N to confirm before deleting)

```
vssadmin delete shadows /all
```

Or

(Delete without prompting)

```
vssadmin delete shadows /all /quiet
```

5. To delete all restore points on a specific drive, enter the command below you want to use in the Command Prompt, press Enter and go to step 8 below.

(Prompt to select Y / N to confirm before deleting)

```
vssadmin delete shadows /For=(drive letter): /all
```

Or:

(Delete without prompting)

```
vssadmin delete shadows /For=(drive letter): /all /quiet
```

Replace (drive letter) in the above commands with the drive letter you want, listed as **Original Volume: (x:)** from step 2 above.

For example:

```
vssadmin delete shadows /For=C: /all
```

Or:

```
vssadmin delete shadows /For=C: /all /quiet
```

6. To delete the oldest restore point on a specific drive, enter the command below you want to use into the Command Prompt, press Enter and go to step 8 below.

(Prompt to select Y / N to confirm before deleting)

```
vssadmin delete shadows /For=(drive letter): /oldest
```

Or:

(Delete without prompting)

```
vssadmin delete shadows /For=(drive letter): /oldest /quiet
```

Replace (the drive letter) in the above commands with the drive letter you want.

7. To delete a specific restore point with Shadow Copy ID, Enter the command below into the Command Prompt, press Enter and go to step 8 below.

```
vssadmin delete shadows /Shadow={Shadow Copy ID}
```

Replace **Shadow Copy ID** in the above command with the actual Shadow Copy ID number of the restore point you want to delete from step 2 above.

For example:

```
vssadmin delete shadows /Shadow={3e351030-9ebd-428c-9ff3-86dca40a7f96}
```

8. When done, you can close the Command Prompt if you like.

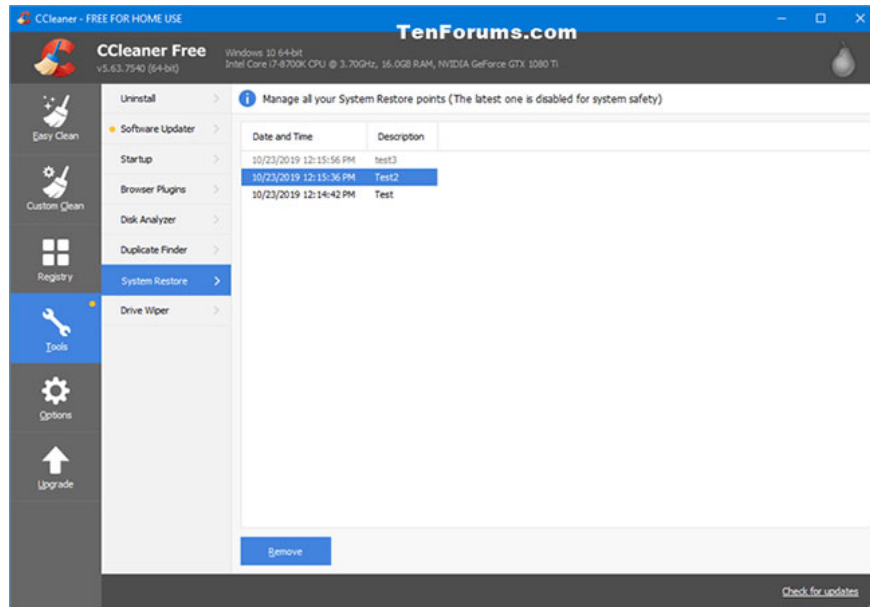
## Delete individual system restore points in CCleaner

This option will allow you to remove all restore points, except the most recent restore point.

1. If you haven't already, download and install the free CCleaner program.
2. Open **CCleaner**.
3. Click **Tools** on the left side and click **System Restore** in the **Tools** menu .

4 Select one or more of the listed restore points that you want to delete and click **Remove**.

You can press and hold the key CTRL, and click on restore points to be able to select more than one random point.



Delete individual system restore points in CCleaner

5. Click **OK** to confirm.

6. When done, you can close CCleaner if you want.

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