

How to disable Windows Search on Windows 8.1 and Windows 7

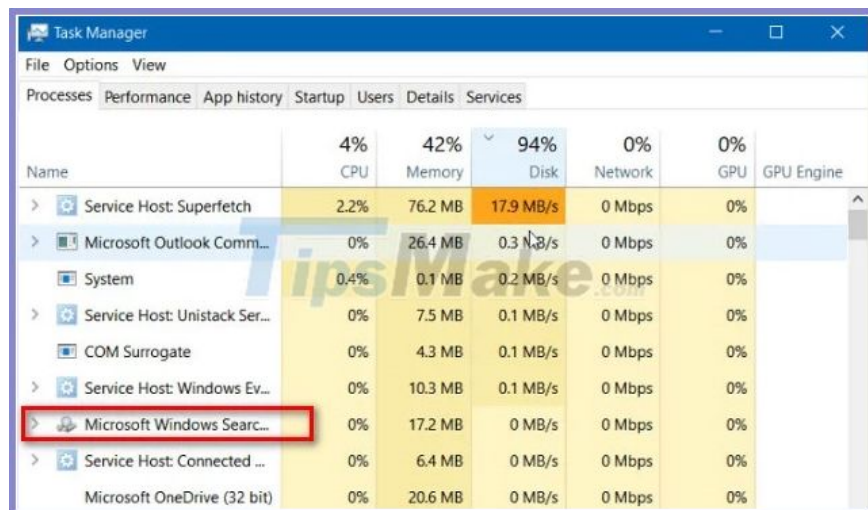
Some users are not interested in the Search feature of Windows and prefer instead to use some of the utilities of other brands, such as Everything as an example.

If so, you might want to disable this feature to free up some resources in Explorer and Start Menu.

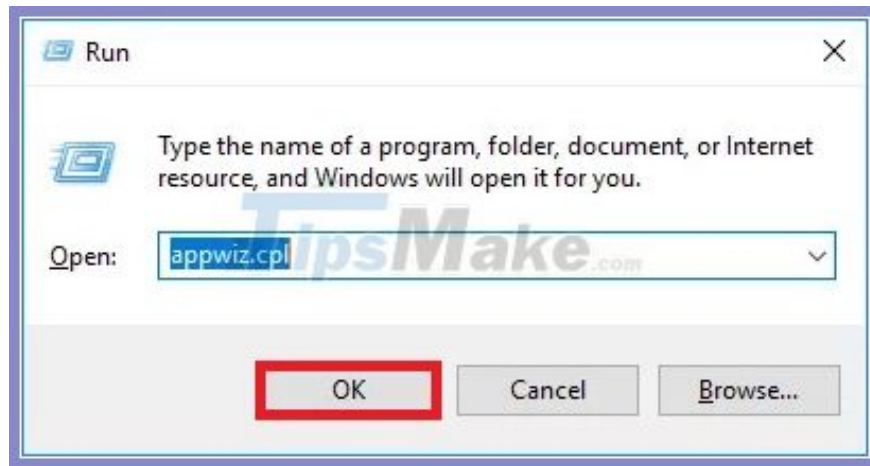
How to turn off search on Windows 7 and Windows 8 / 8.1

Step 1. First, you need to make sure that the **Windows Search** service is not being used. To do this, press **Ctrl + Shift + Esc** to open Task Manager.

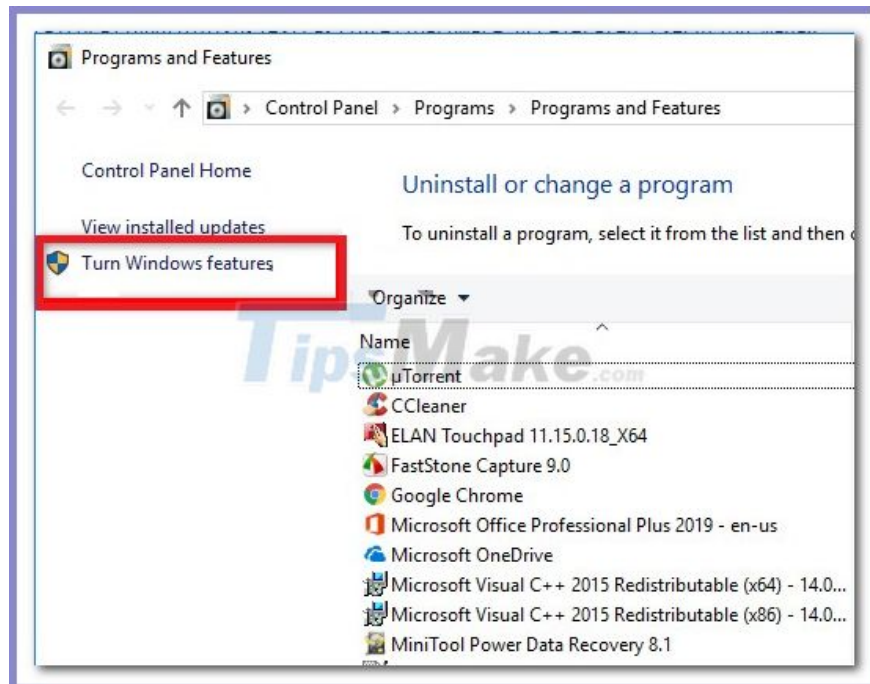
Step 2. Inside **Task Manager**, go to the **Processes** tab and look for **Microsoft Windows Search progress**. When you see it, right-click on it and choose **End Task** from the context menu.



Step 3. When the service is temporarily stopped, press **Windows key + R** to open the **Run** dialog box. Then, type **appwiz.cpl** and press **Enter** to open the **Programs and Features** window.



Step 4. Inside the **Programs and Features** window , click **Turn Windows features on or off** from the vertical menu on the left.



Step 5. Inside the **Windows Search** window , scroll through the list of features and locate **Windows Search**. When you see it, uncheck the checkbox that comes with it and click **OK**.



Step 6. When the confirmation window appears, click **Yes** and wait for the changes to be implemented. Then, restart the computer.

Step 7. When the reboot is complete, the Windows Search feature is now disabled.

Note : If you want to re-enable Windows search, just redo the above steps and click on the enable Windows Search checkbox.

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