

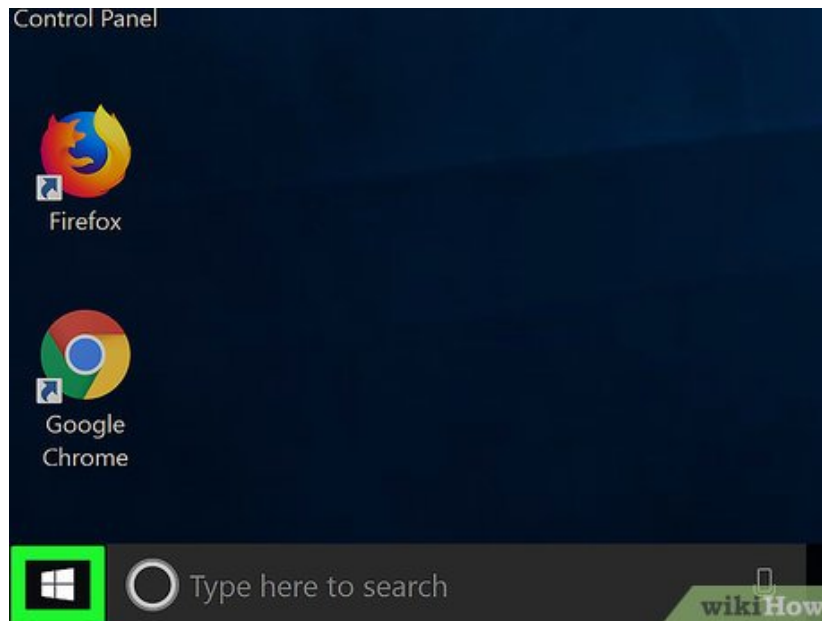
How to Enable Regedit

This wikiHow teaches you how to enable access to the Registry Editor on a Windows computer. Whether your Registry Editor has been disabled by an administrator on your school network or a virus is preventing you from opening it, there are a...

Method 1 of 5:

Using Run

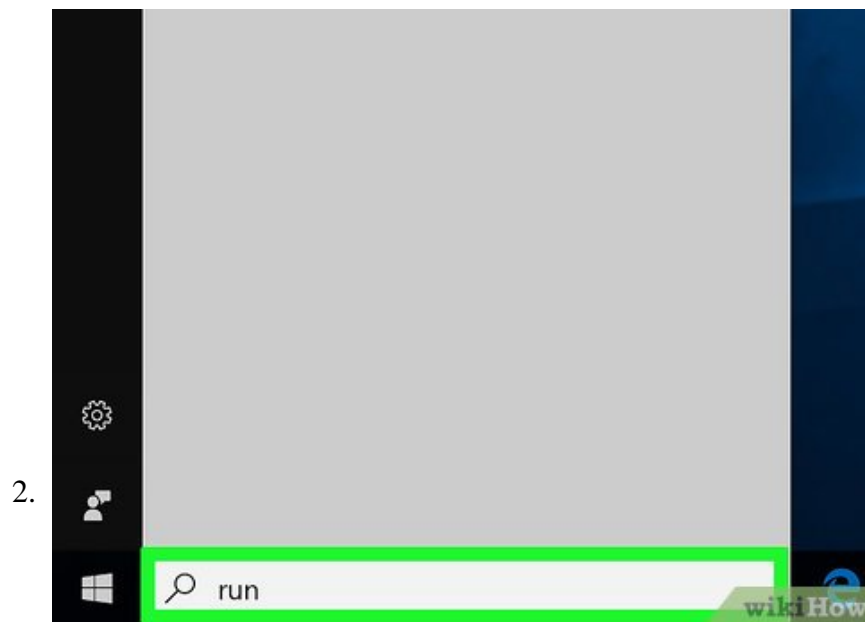
1.



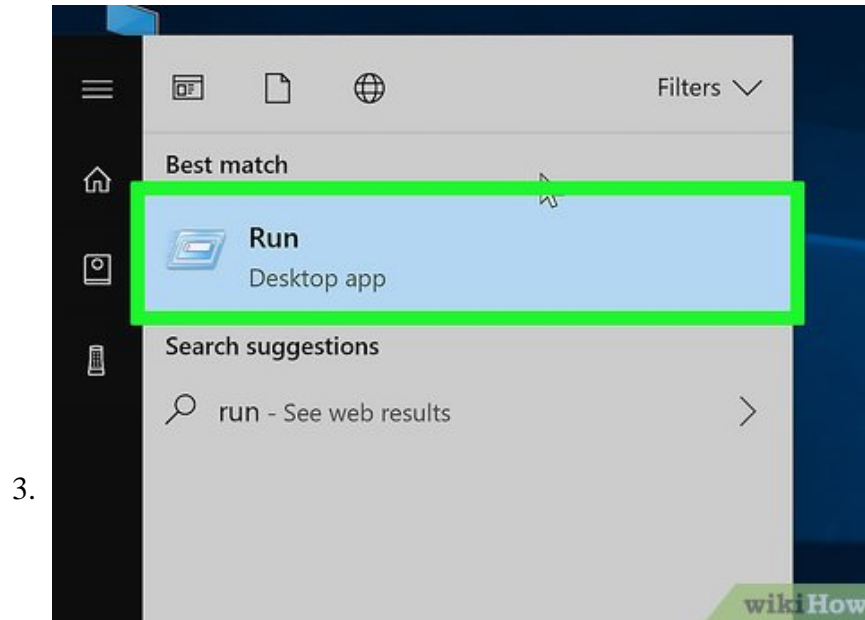
Open Start



. Click the Windows logo in the bottom-left corner of the screen.

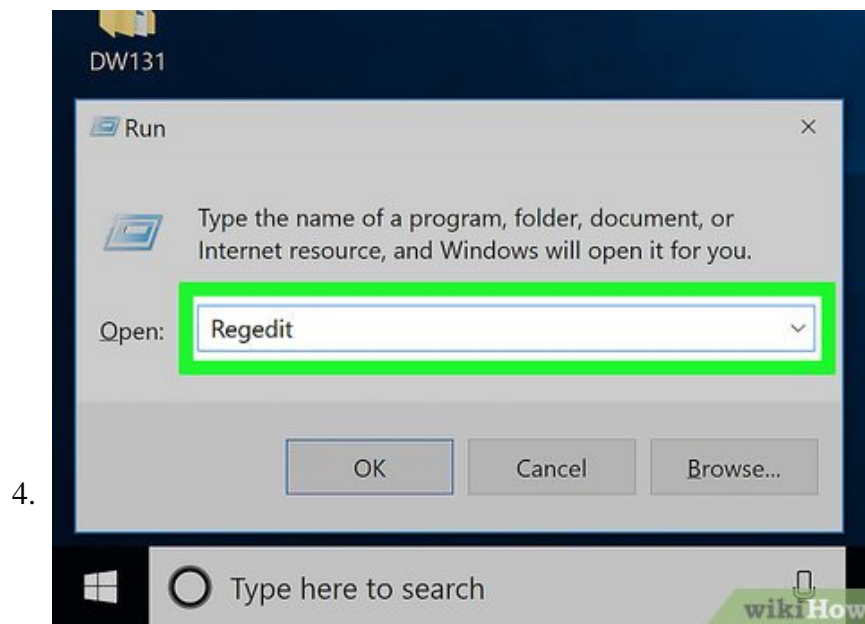


Type `run` into Start. This will search your computer for the "Run" app.

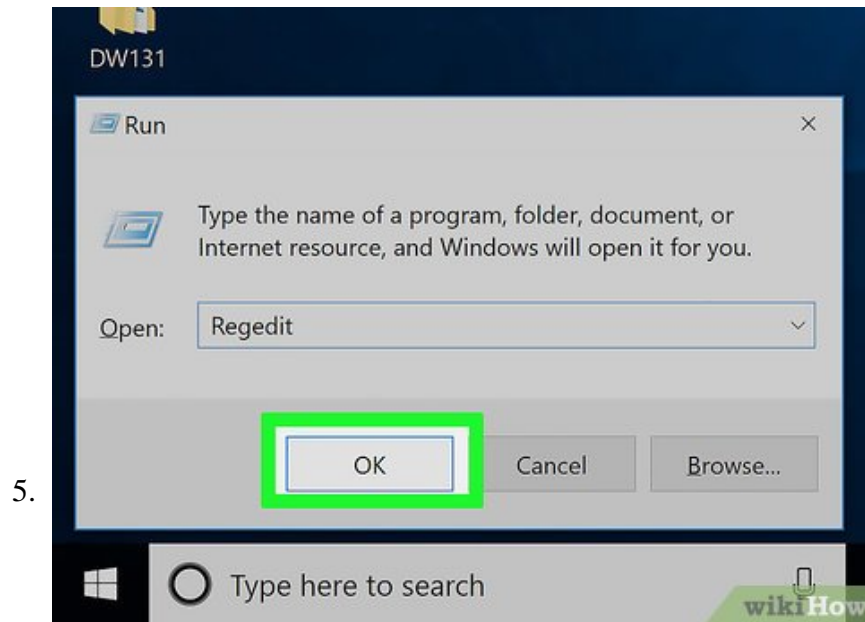


Click **Run**. It's at the top of the Start window. Run will open.

1. If you're on a computer where Run is disabled, you won't be able to open Run.



Type **regedit** into Run. This is the command to open the Registry Editor.

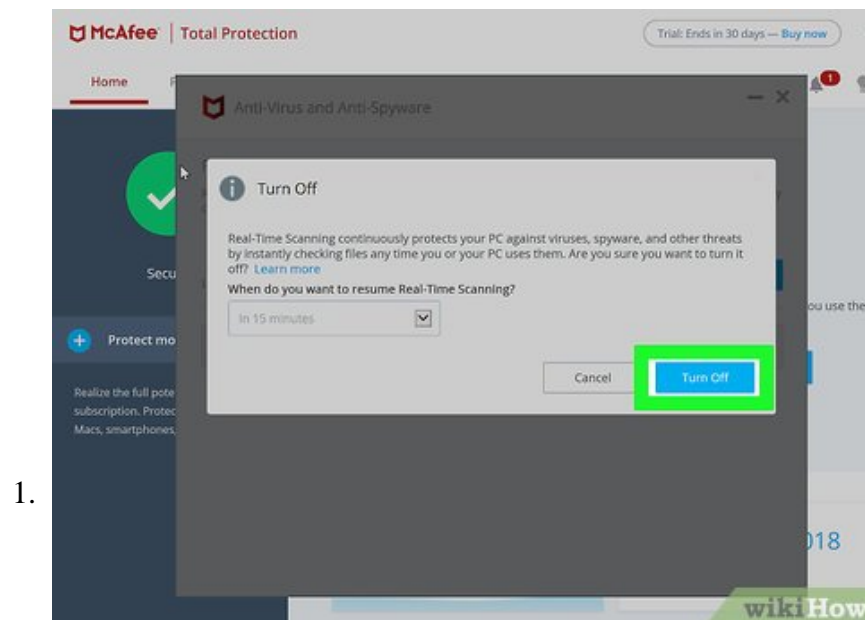


Click **OK**. Doing so will run the Registry Editor open command. If the Registry Editor prompts you for permission and then opens when you click **Yes**, your problem is fixed.

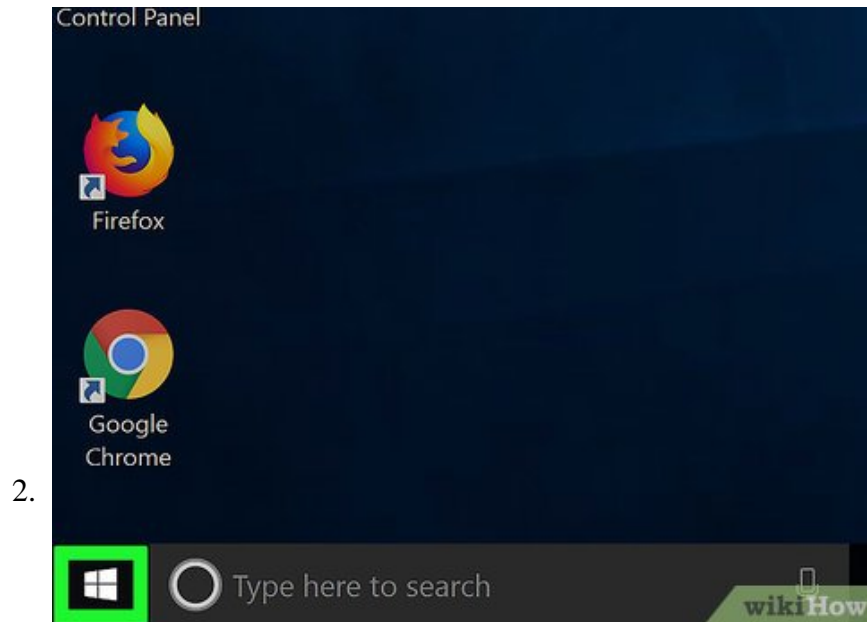
1. If the Registry Editor doesn't open, you'll need to try another method in this article.
2. If you receive a pop-up window that says "Registry editing has been disabled by your administrator", you'll need to edit your Group Policy settings. This will only work if you control the Group Policy Editor on your network.

Method 2 of 5:

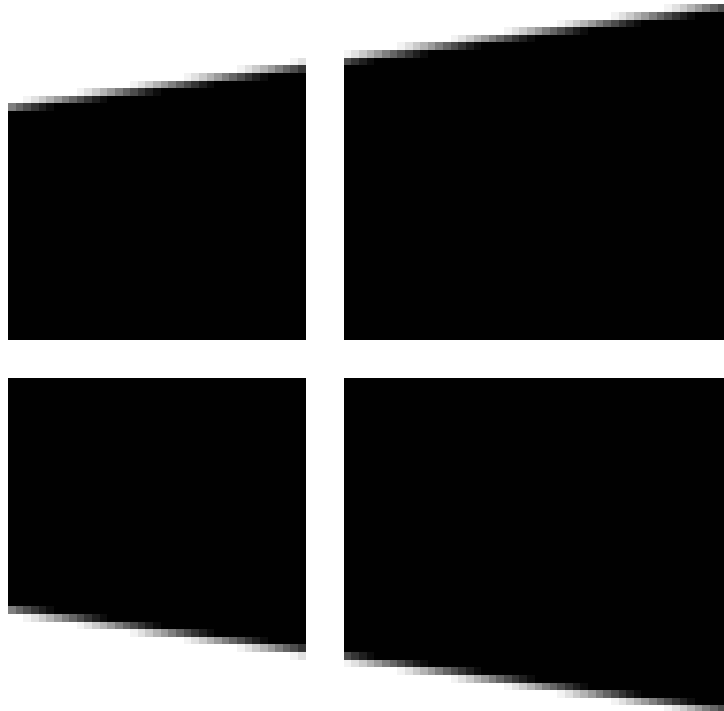
Running a Security Scan



Disable any third-party antivirus programs. Third-party antivirus programs—that is, any antivirus program that isn't Windows Defender—can cause several different problems with your computer. Because of this, disable all antivirus protection that isn't Windows Defender before continuing.



Open Start



. Click the Windows logo in the bottom-left corner of the screen.

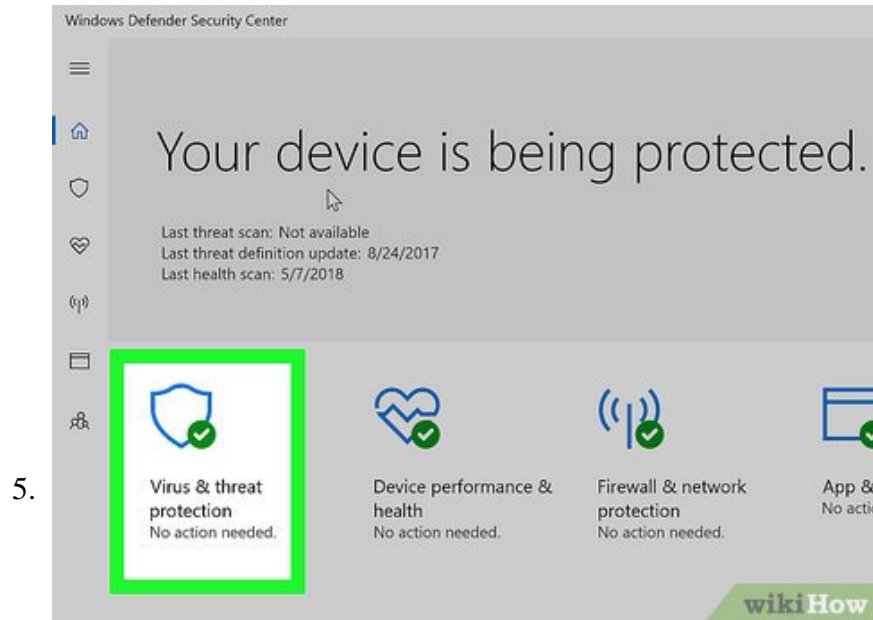


Type **windows defender security center** into Start. This will search your computer for the Windows Defender application.

1. On some versions of Windows, this may show up simply as **Windows Defender** instead.

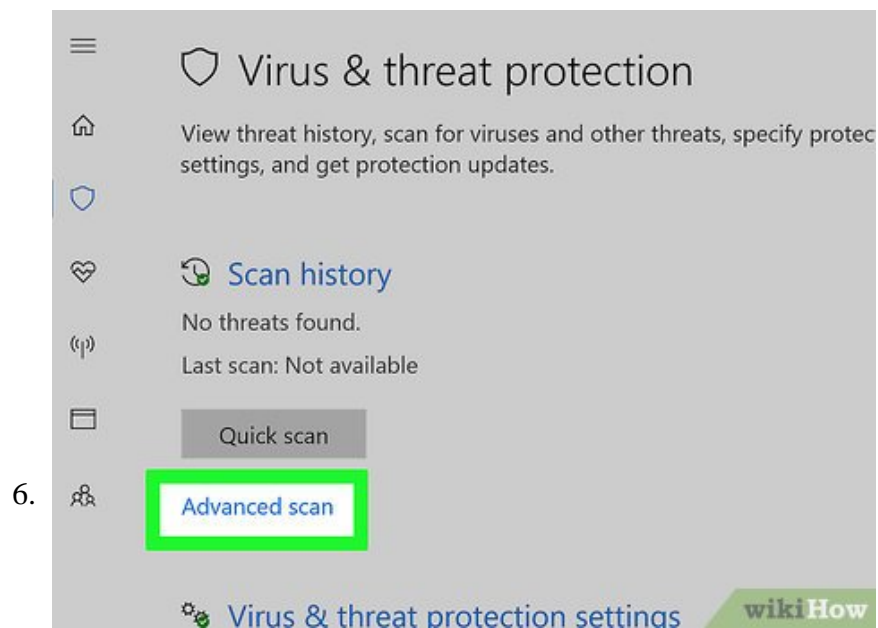


Click **Windows Defender Security Center**. It's a white shield on a grey background. You'll see it at the top of the Start window.



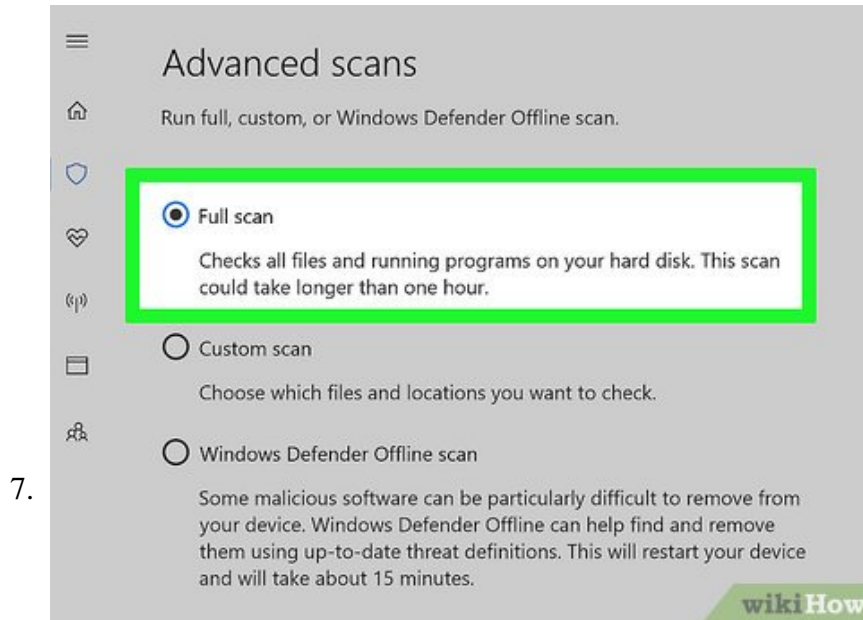
Click the shield icon. This icon is in the upper-left corner of the Windows Defender page.

1. When expanded, this option is called **Virus & threat protection**.

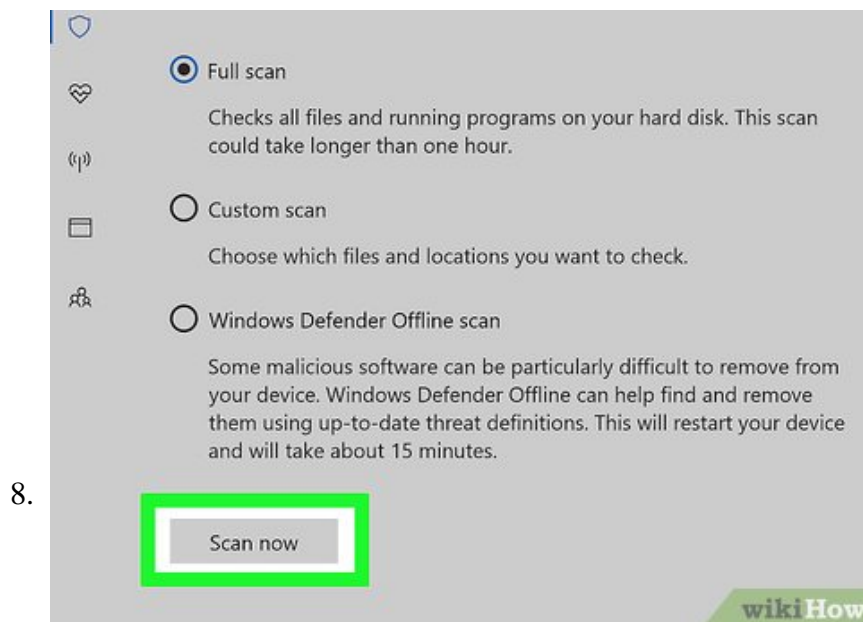


Click [Advanced scan](#). It's a link below the **Quick scan** button in the middle of the page.

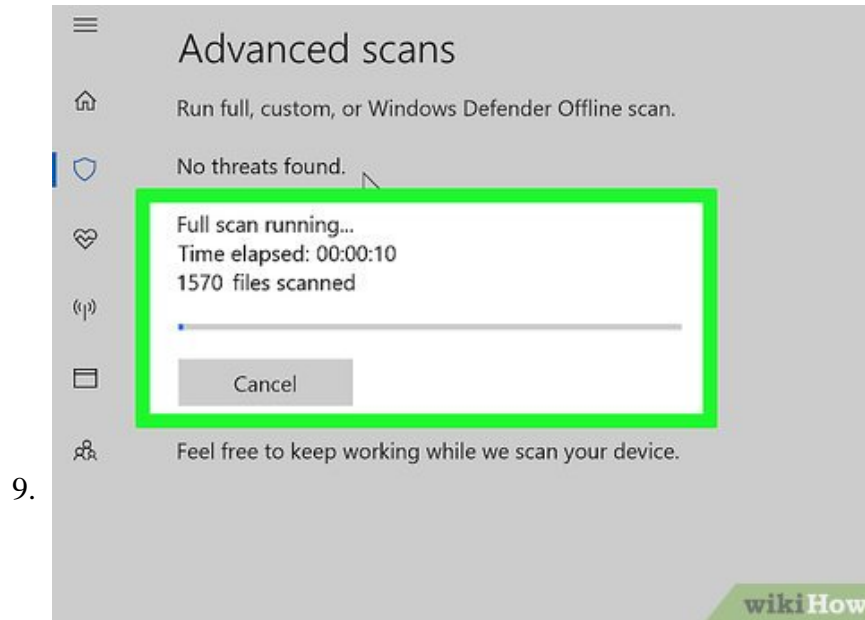
1. On some versions of Windows Defender, click the **Home** tab instead as there is no Advanced Scan section.



Make sure "Full scan" is checked. Click the circle to the left of "Full scan" at the top of the page if it isn't already filled in.

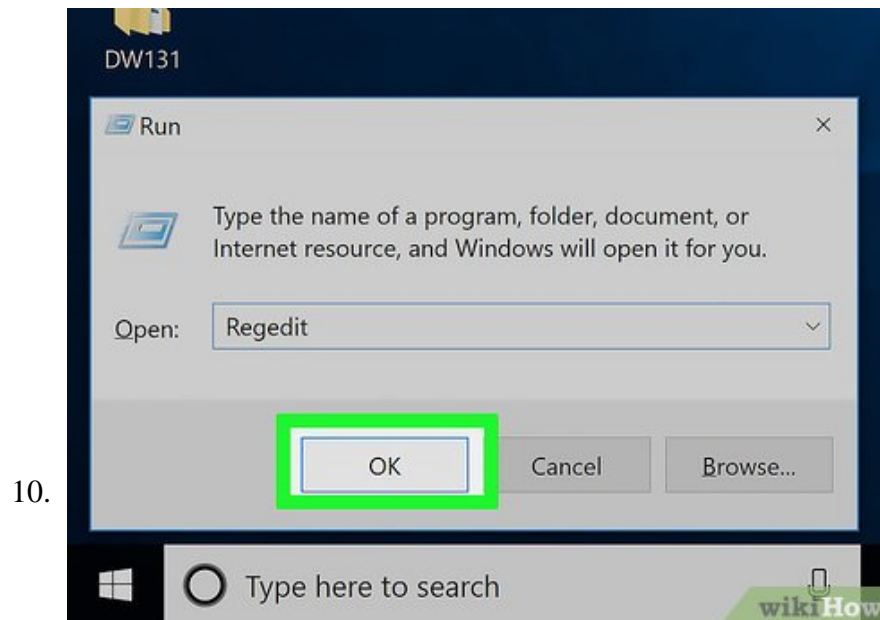


Click Scan now. It's in the middle of the page. Windows Defender will start scanning your computer for malicious software that might be preventing Registry access.



Wait for the scan to complete. If anything malicious turns up during the scan, Windows Defender will alert you and give you the option of removing the dangerous items.

1. If this scan doesn't find anything, repeat the scan with "Windows Defender Offline scan" checked instead of "Full scan" checked.

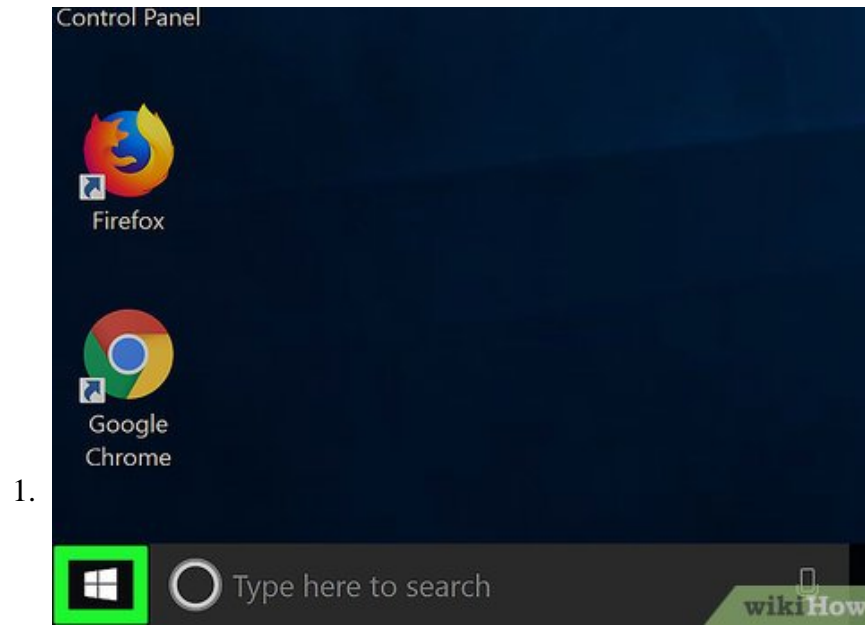


Try to open Registry Editor. Once the scan completes, open **Start**, type in `regedit`, and press **Enter**. If the Registry Editor still doesn't open, you'll need to try a different method.

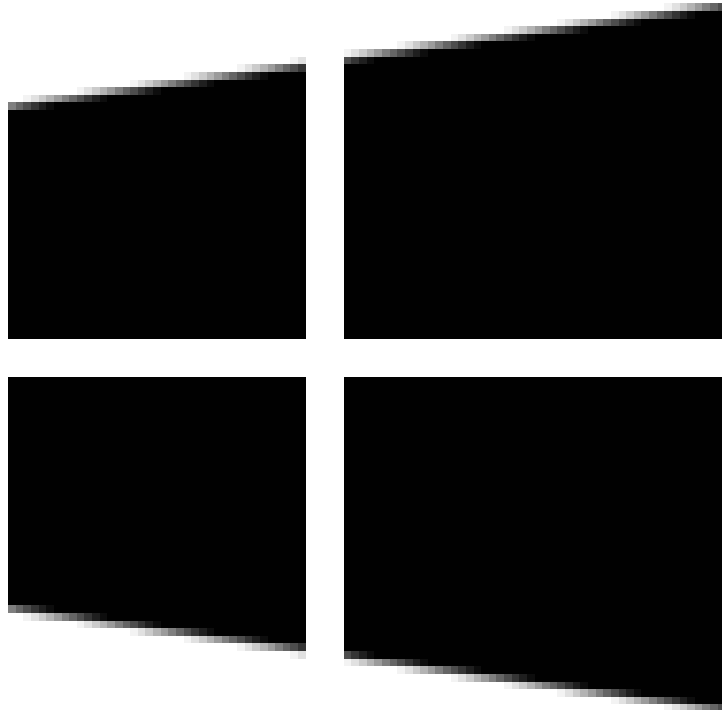
1. You may need to restart your computer before you can access Registry Editor after the scan.

Method 3 of 5:

Using Command Prompt

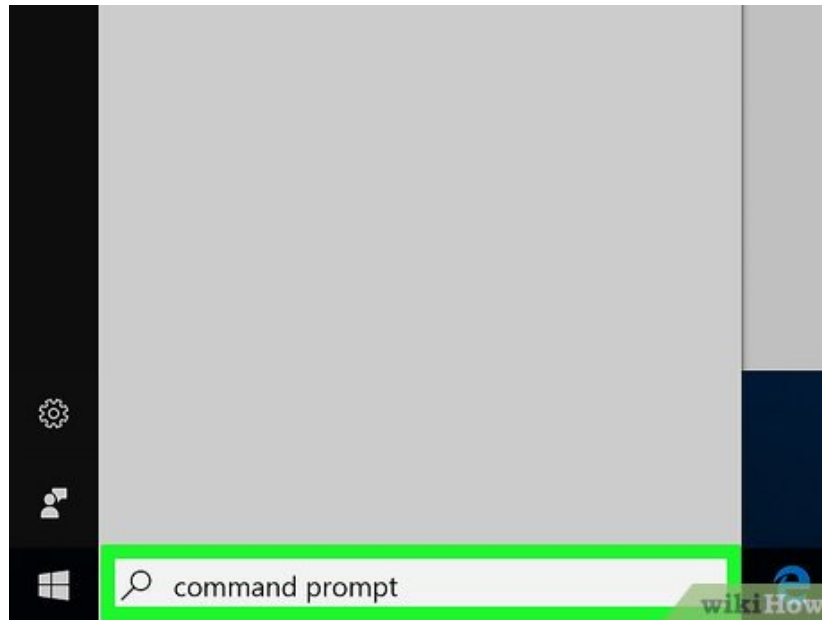


Open Start



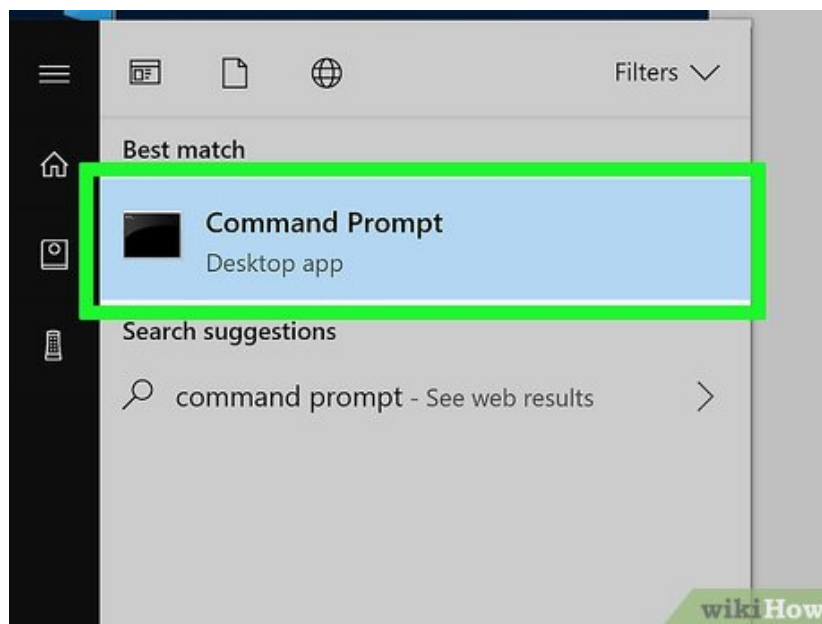
. Click the Windows logo in the bottom-left corner of the screen.

2.

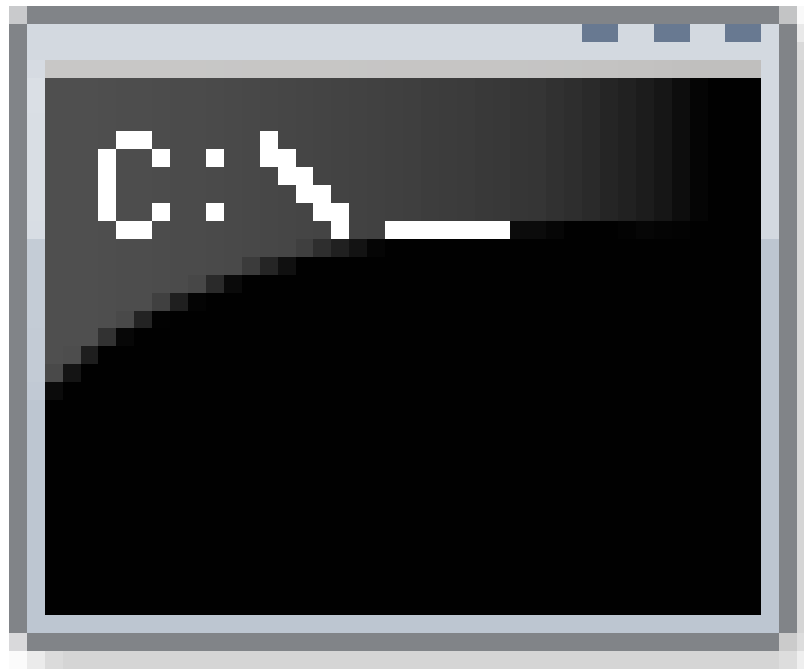


Type **command prompt** into Start. This will bring up the Command Prompt icon in the Start menu.

3.

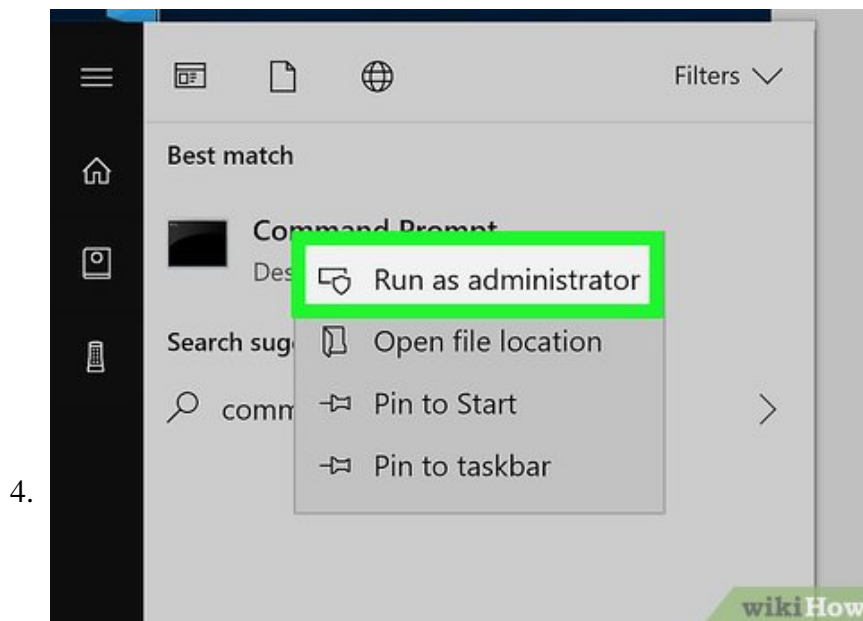


Right-click



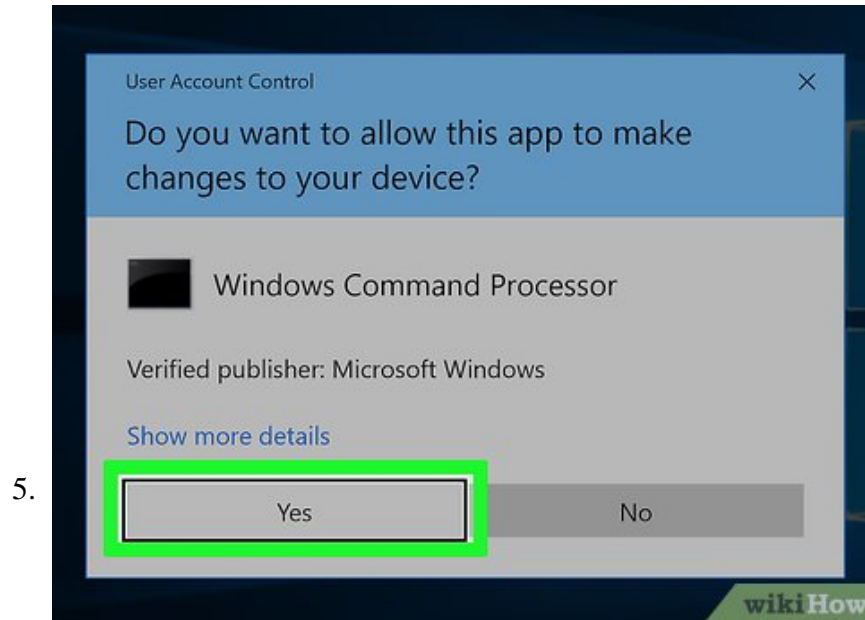
Command Prompt. It's at the top of the Start window. A drop-down menu will appear.

1. If your trackpad doesn't have a right mouse button, use two fingers to tap the trackpad instead.

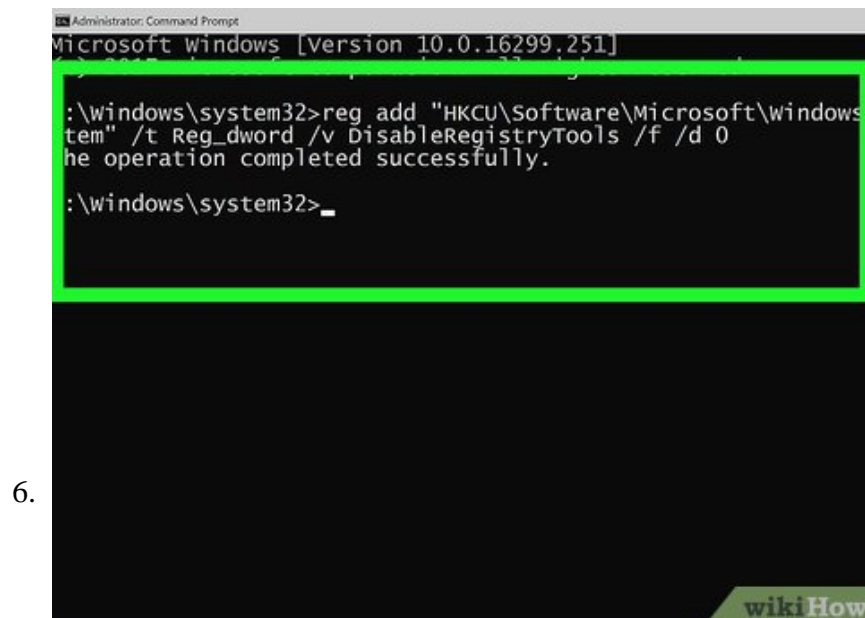


Click **Run as administrator**. It's an option in the drop-down menu.

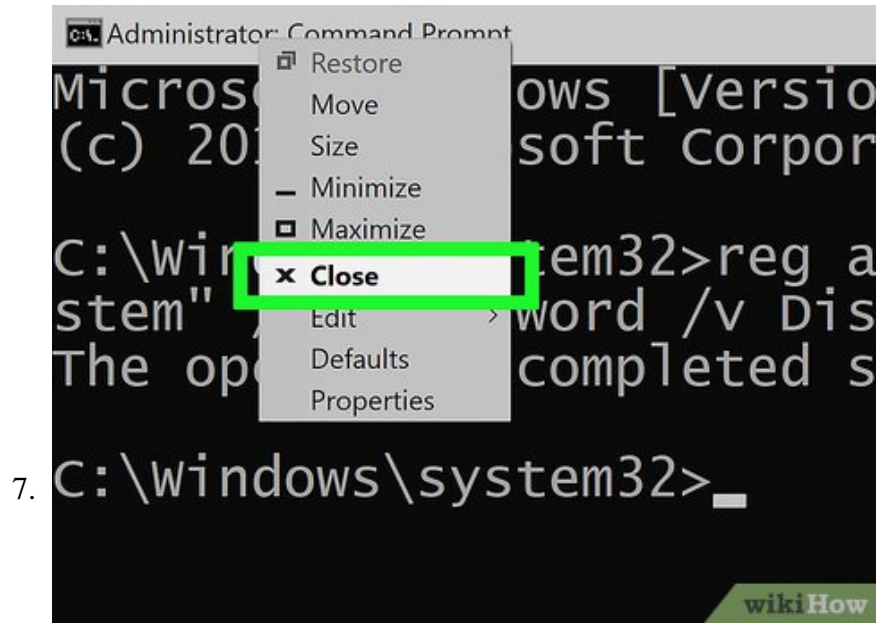
1. If you aren't an administrator on this computer, you won't be able to complete this method.



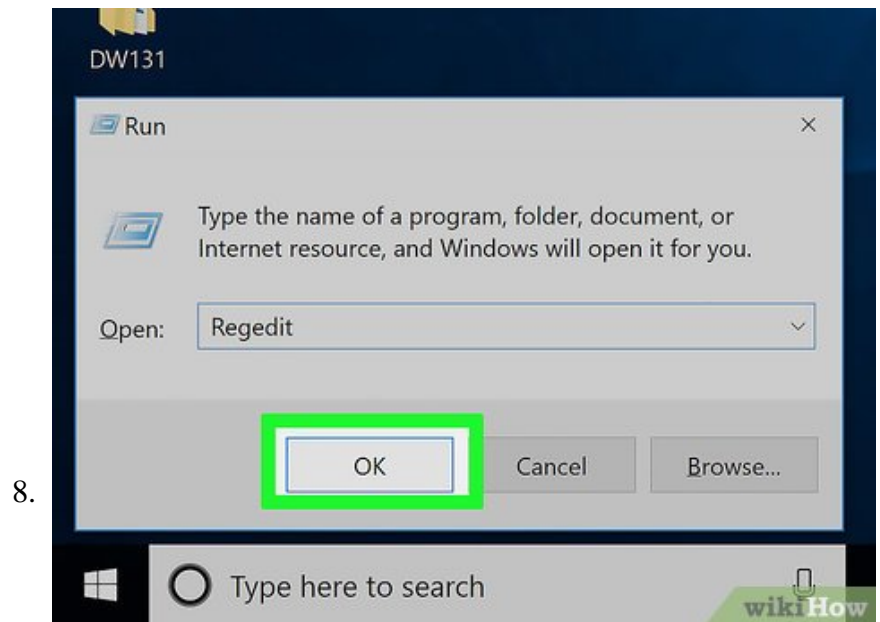
Click **Yes** when prompted. Doing so will open Command Prompt in Administrator mode.



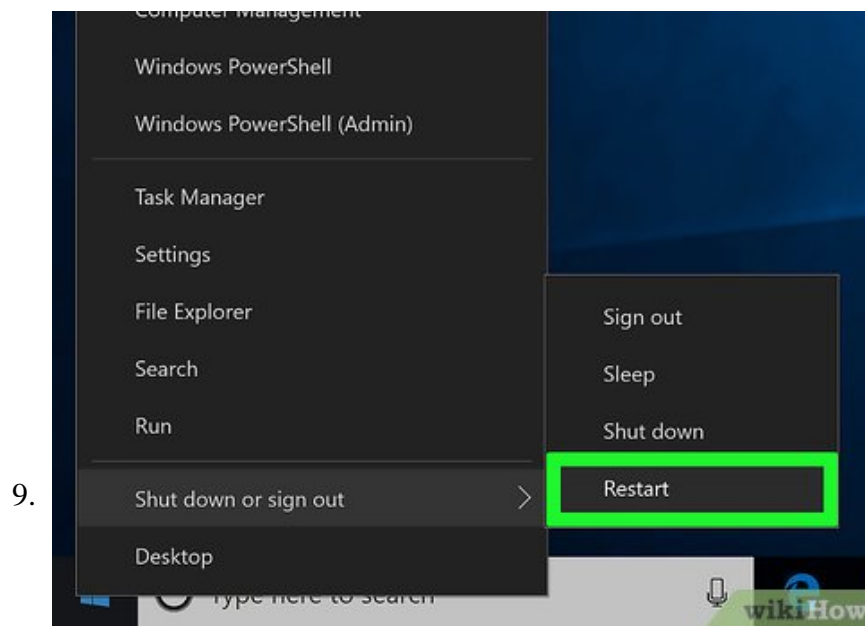
Enter the Registry refresh command. Type `reg add "HKCU\Software\Microsoft\WindowsCurrentVersionPoliciesSystem" /t Reg_dword /v DisableRegistryTools /f /d 0` into Command Prompt, then press `Enter`.



Close Command Prompt. Your command should have re-enabled the Registry Editor.



Try to open Registry Editor. Open **Start**, type in `regedit`, and press **Enter**. If the Registry Editor doesn't open, proceed to the next step.



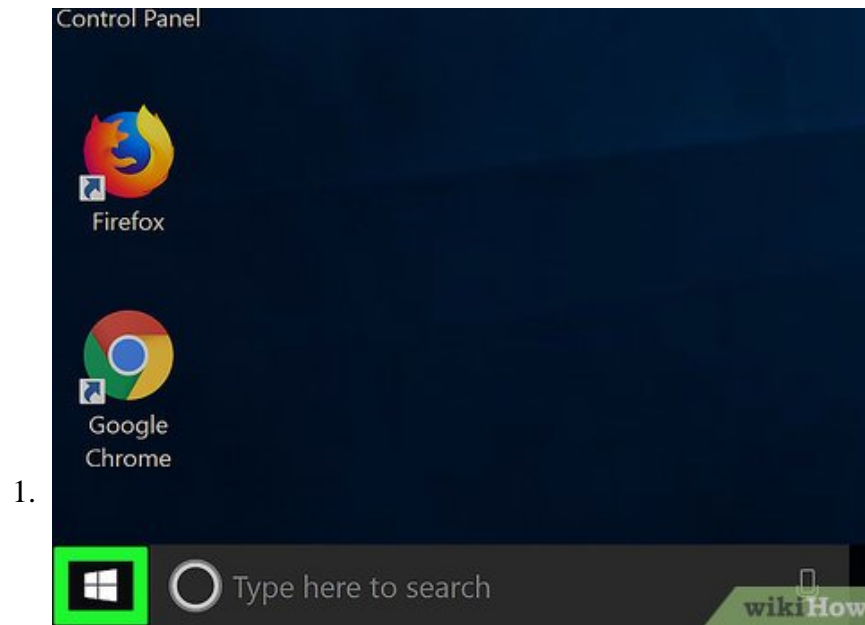
Restart your computer. Open **Start**, click the **Power** icon



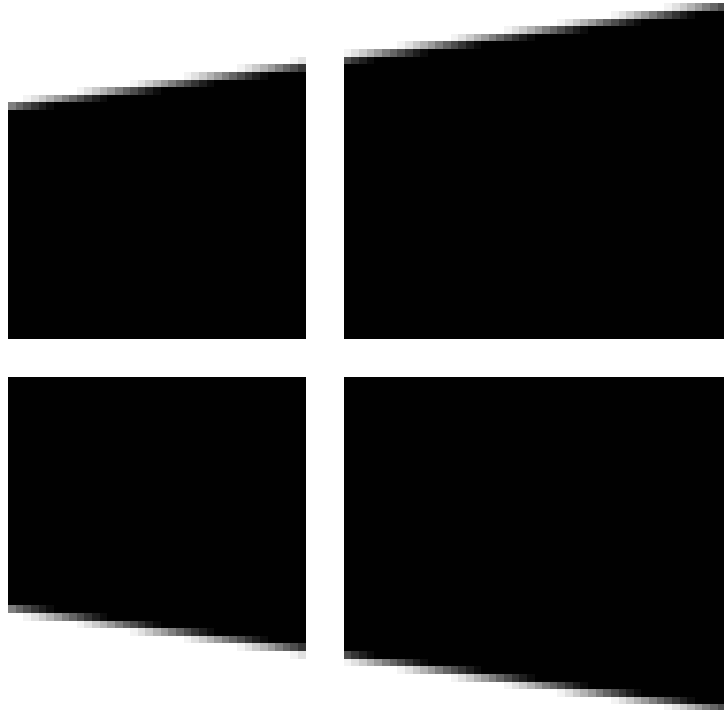
, and click **Restart**. Once your computer finishes restarting, you can try opening Registry Editor again.
1. If Registry Editor still won't open, you may be able to use a script to force it to open.

Method 4 of 5:

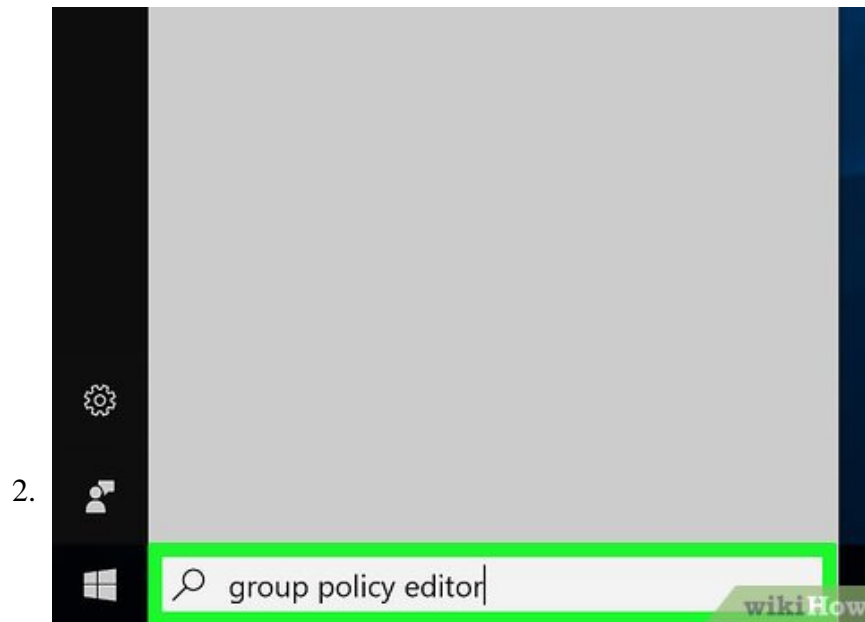
Using Group Policy Editor



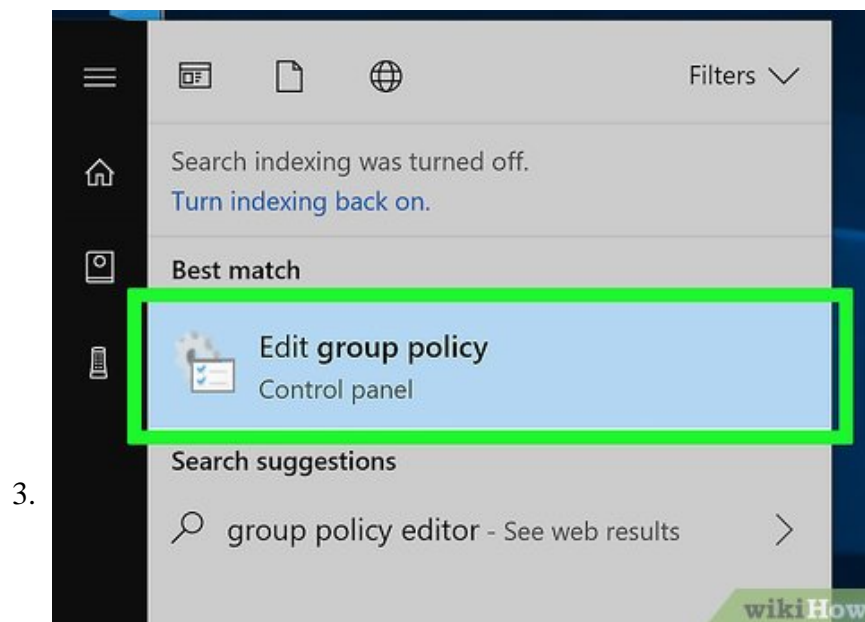
Open Start



. Click the Windows logo in the bottom-left corner of the screen.

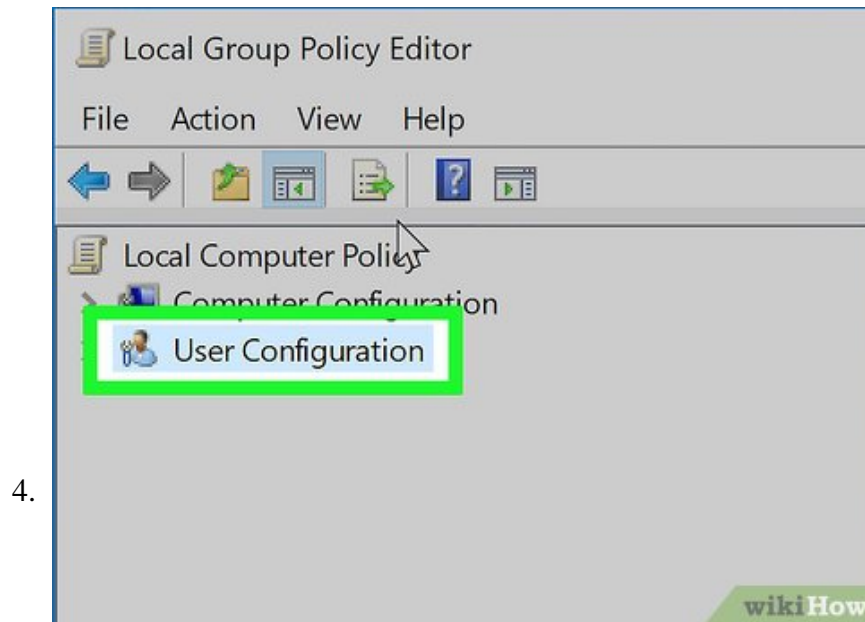


Type **group policy editor** into Start. This will search your computer for the Group Policy Editor program.

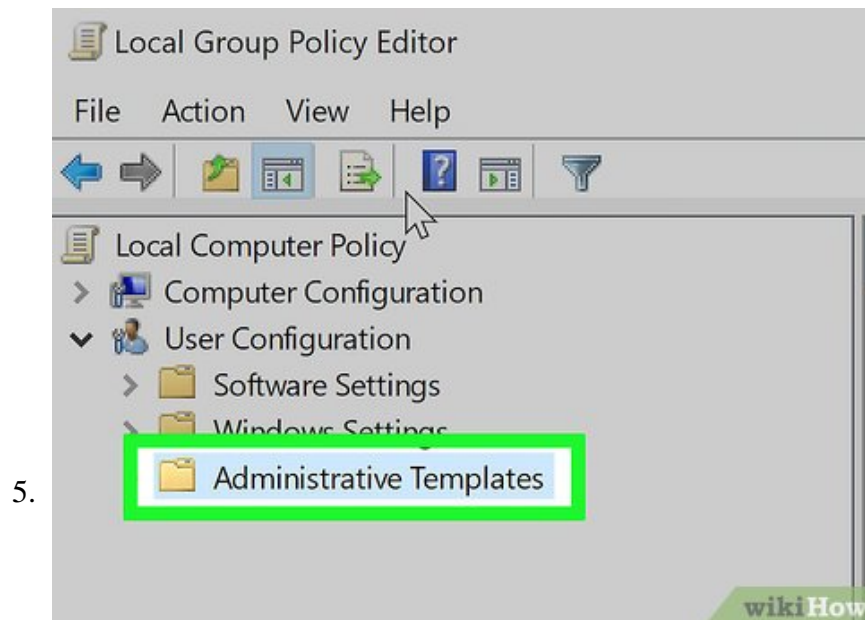


Click the **Group Policy Editor** icon. It's at the top of the Start menu. Group Policy Editor will open.

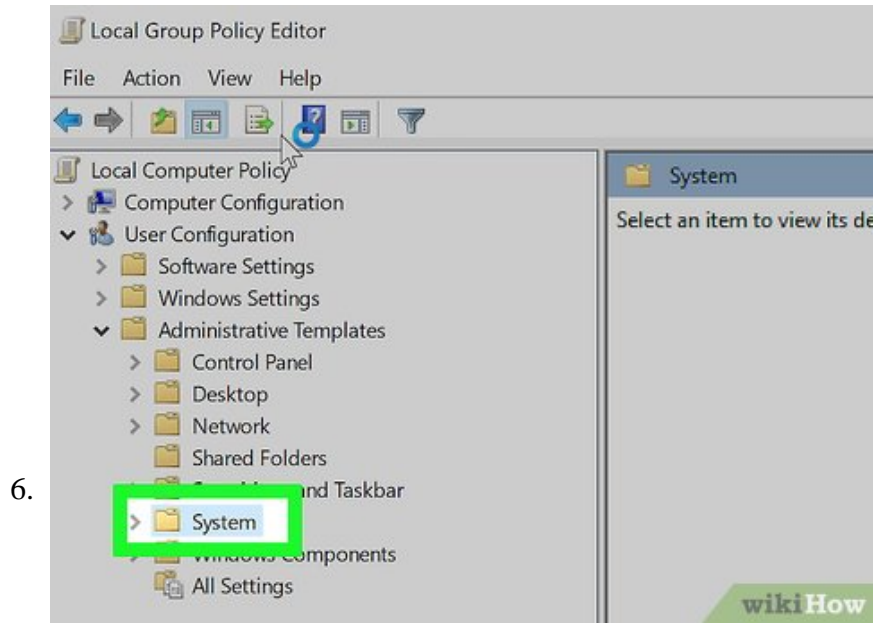
1. On some versions of Windows it may read **Edit group policy** instead.



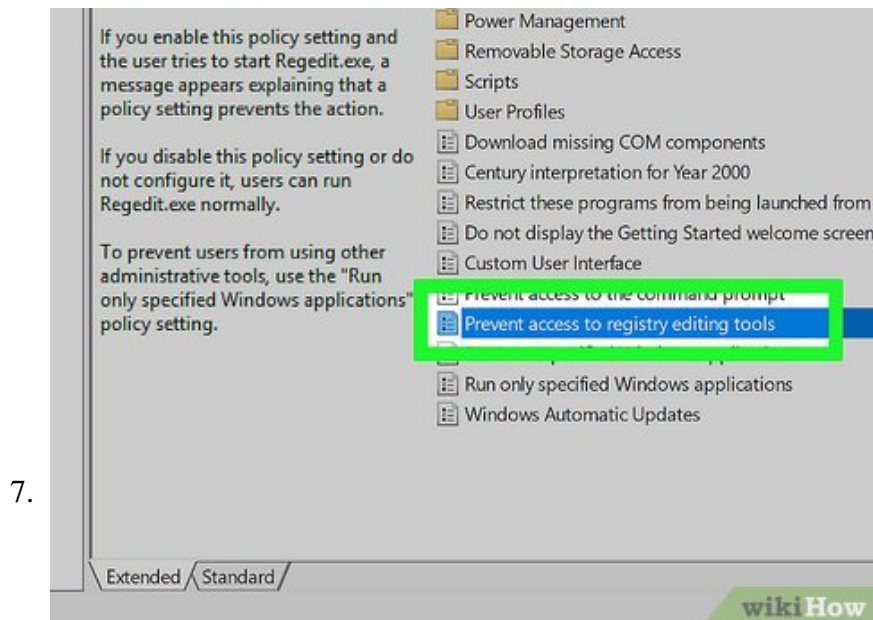
- Double-click** **User Configuration** . Doing so will expand this item to display the folders below it.
1. Skip this step if **User Configuration** is already expanded.
 2. If you don't see this option, first double-click the **Local Computer Policy** item at the top of the sidebar.



Click **Administrative Templates** . This folder is near the bottom of the **User Configuration** list of folders.

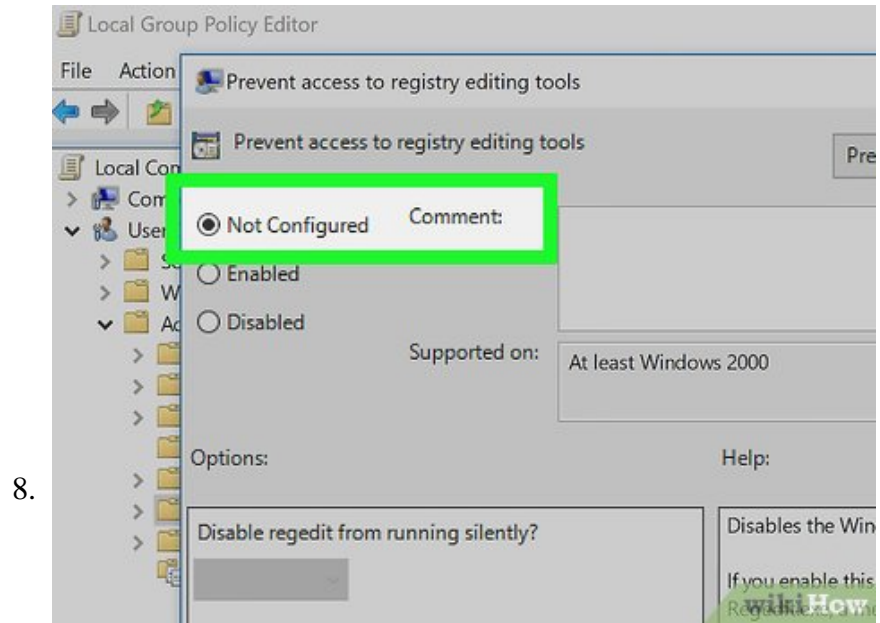


Double-click the **System** folder. It's on the right side of the Group Policy Editor window.

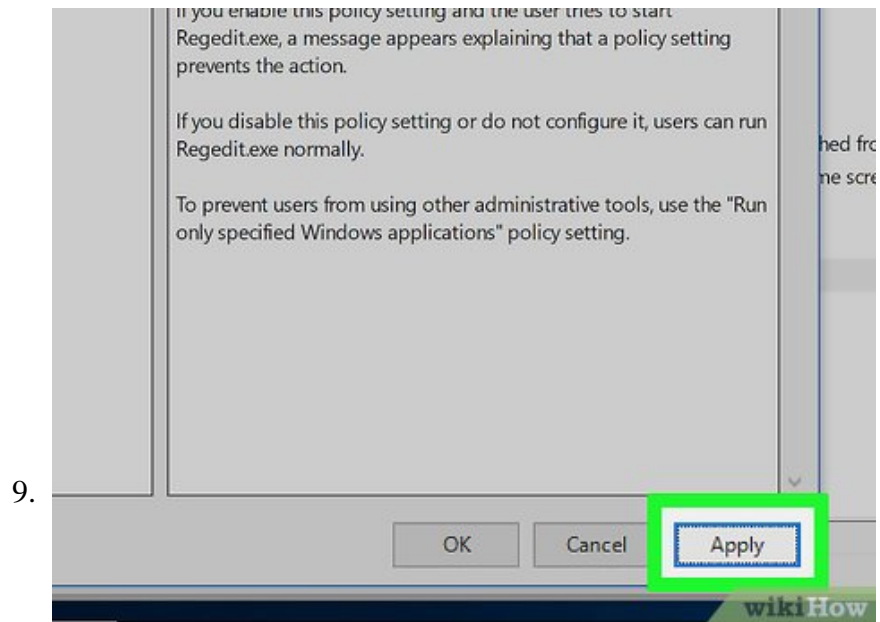


Double-click **Prevent access to registry editing tools**. You'll find this item on the right side of the window.

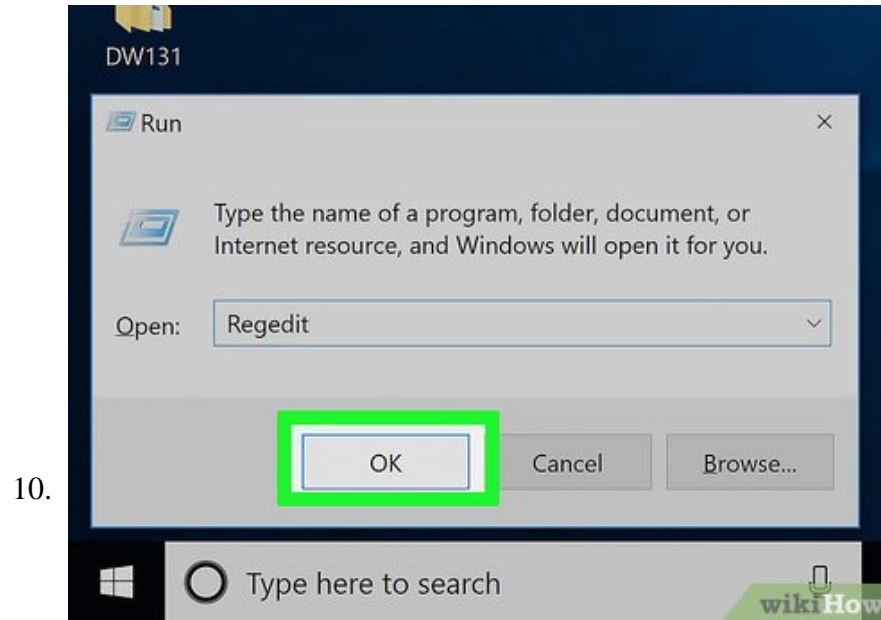
1. You may have to scroll down to find it.



Check the "Not Configured" box. It's in the upper-left side of the pop-up window.



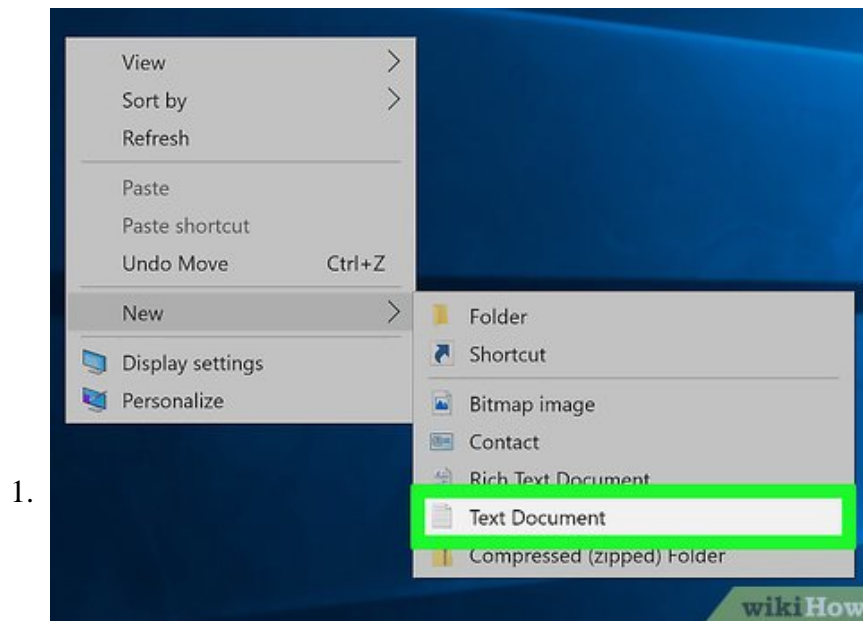
Click **Apply**, then click **OK**. These are both at the bottom of the window. Doing so should re-enable Registry Editor on your computer.



Try to open Registry Editor. Open **Start**, type in `regedit`, and press `Enter`. If Registry Editor opens, you have successfully bypassed the Group Policy Editor restrictions.

Method 5 of 5:

Using a Virtual Basic Script



Open a new Notepad document. Open **Start**, type `notepad` in, and click the blue **Notepad** app. This will open a new Notepad document.

```
New Text Document - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
Option Explicit
Dim WSHShell, n, MyBox, p, t, mustboot, errnum, vers
Dim enab, disab, jobfunc, itemtype
Set WSHShell = WScript.CreateObject("WScript.Shell")
p = "HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\System"
p = p & "DisableRegistryTools"
itemtype = "REG_DWORD"
mustboot = "Log off and back on, or restart your pc to" & vbCR & "effect the changes"
enab = "ENABLED"
disab = "DISABLED"
jobfunc = "Registry Editing Tools are now "
t = "Confirmation"
Err.Clear
On Error Resume Next
n = WSHShell.RegRead (p)
On Error Goto 0
errnum = Err.Number
if errnum <> 0 then
    WSHShell.RegWrite p, 0, itemtype
End If
If n = 0 Then
    n = 1
    WSHShell.RegWrite p, n, itemtype
    MyBox = MsgBox(jobfunc & disab & vbCR & mustboot, 4096, t)
ElseIf n = 1 then
    n = 0
    WSHShell.RegWrite p, n, itemtype
    MyBox = MsgBox(jobfunc & enab & vbCR & mustboot, 4096, t)

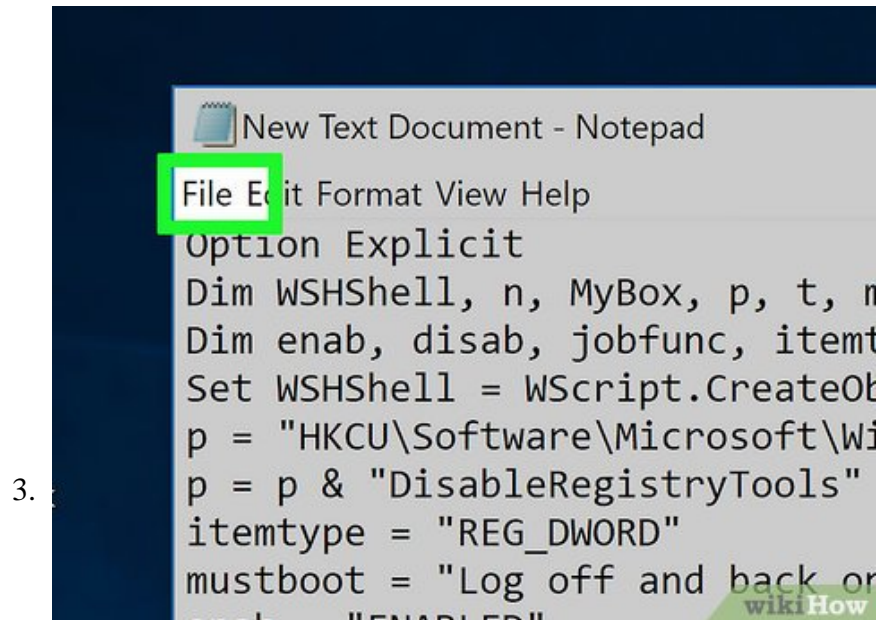
```

2.

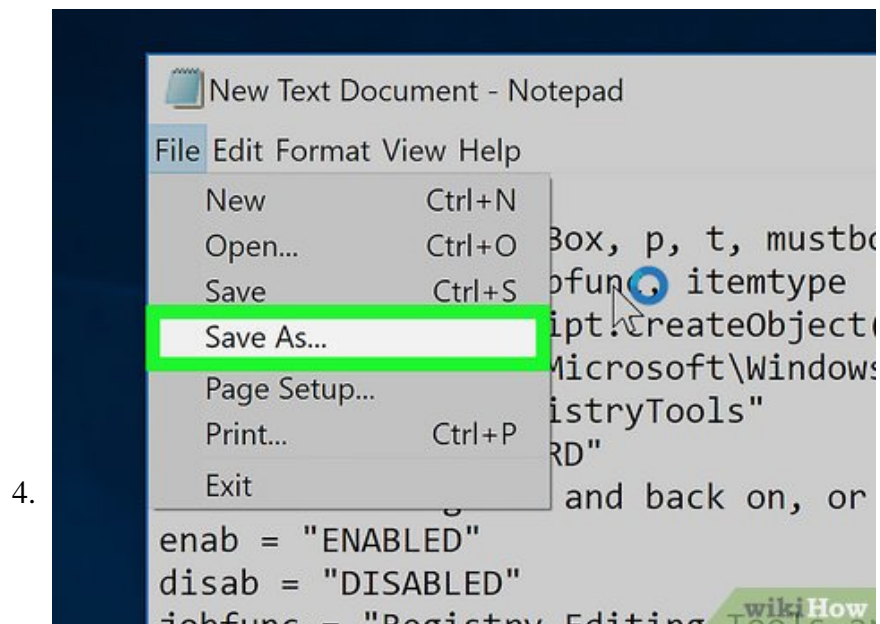
Copy the following code into the Notepad document:

```
Option Explicit
Dim WSHShell, n, MyBox, p, t, mustboot, errnum, vers
Dim enab, disab, jobfunc, itemtype
Set WSHShell = WScript.CreateObject("WScript.Shell")
p = "HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\System"
p = p & "DisableRegistryTools"
itemtype = "REG_DWORD"
mustboot = "Log off and back on, or restart your pc to" & vbCR & "effect the changes"
enab = "ENABLED"
disab = "DISABLED"
jobfunc = "Registry Editing Tools are now "
t = "Confirmation"
Err.Clear
On Error Resume Next
n = WSHShell.RegRead (p)
On Error Goto 0
errnum = Err.Number
if errnum > 0 then
    WSHShell.RegWrite p, 0, itemtype
End If
If n = 0 Then
    n = 1
    WSHShell.RegWrite p, n, itemtype
    Mybox = MsgBox(jobfunc & disab & vbCR & mustboot, 4096, t)
ElseIf n = 1 then
```

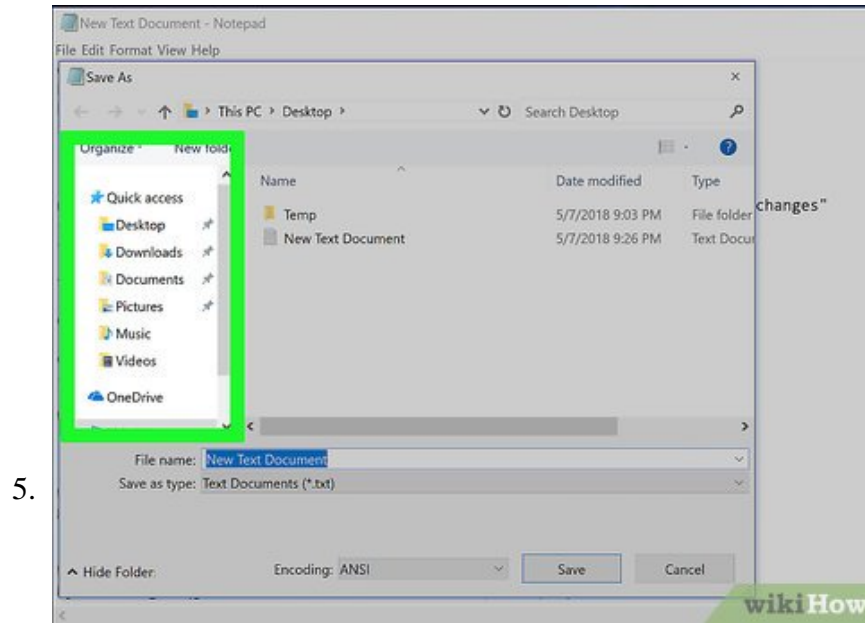
```
n = 0
WSHShell.RegWrite p, n, itemtype
Mybox = MsgBox(jobfunc & enab & vbCR & mustboot, 4096, t)
End If
```



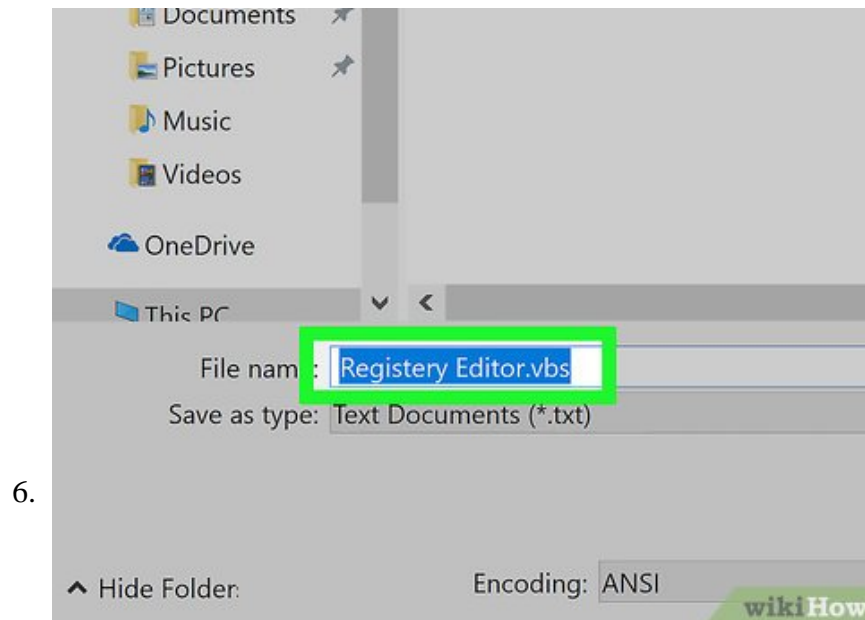
Click **File**. It's in the top-left side of the Notepad window.



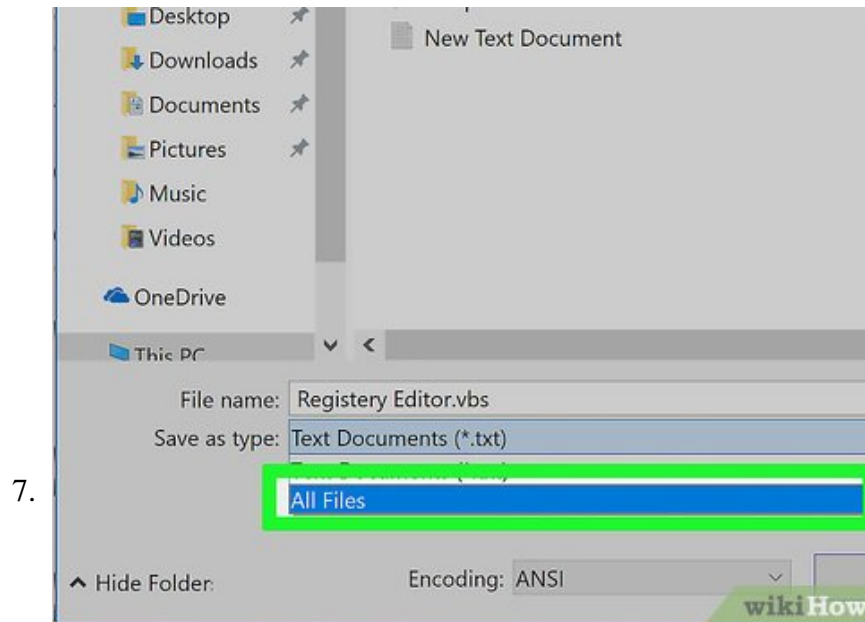
Click **Save As...**. This option is near the top of the **File** drop-down menu.



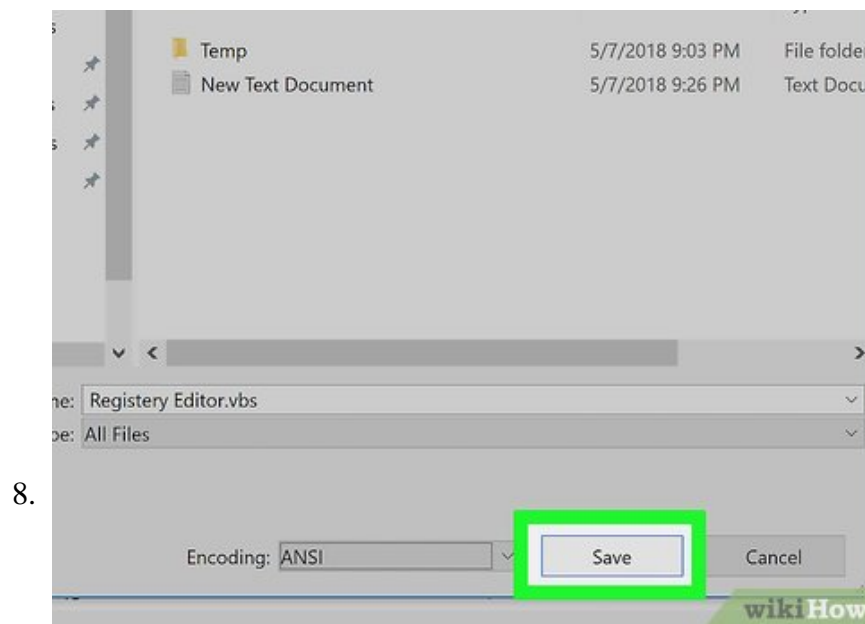
Select a save location. Click the **Desktop** folder on the left side of the Save As window.



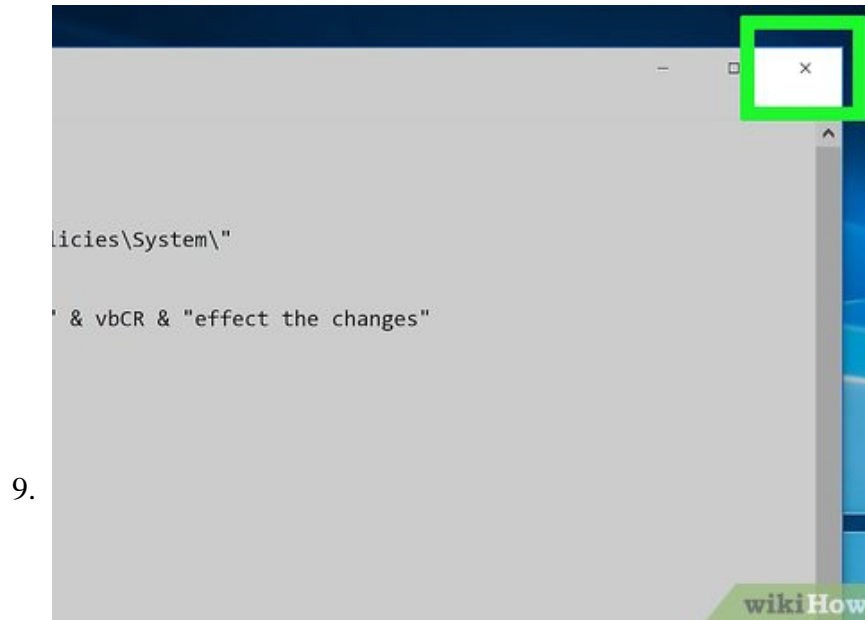
Enter Registry Editor.vbs as the file name. Do this in the "File name:" field.



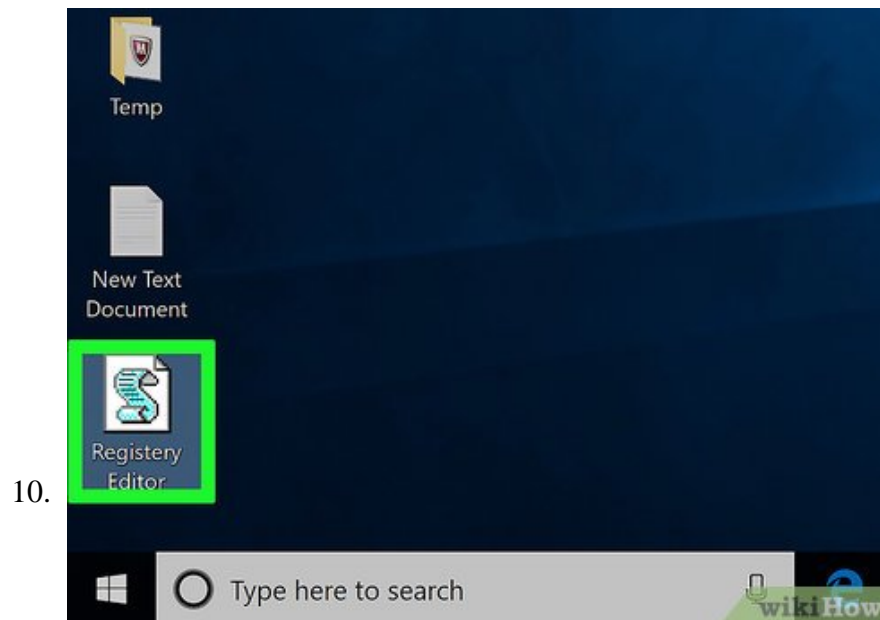
Select a file type. Click the drop-down box next to "Save as type:", then click **All Files**. This will save your document in the correct file format.



Click **Save**. It's in the bottom-right corner of the Save As window. This will create your file.



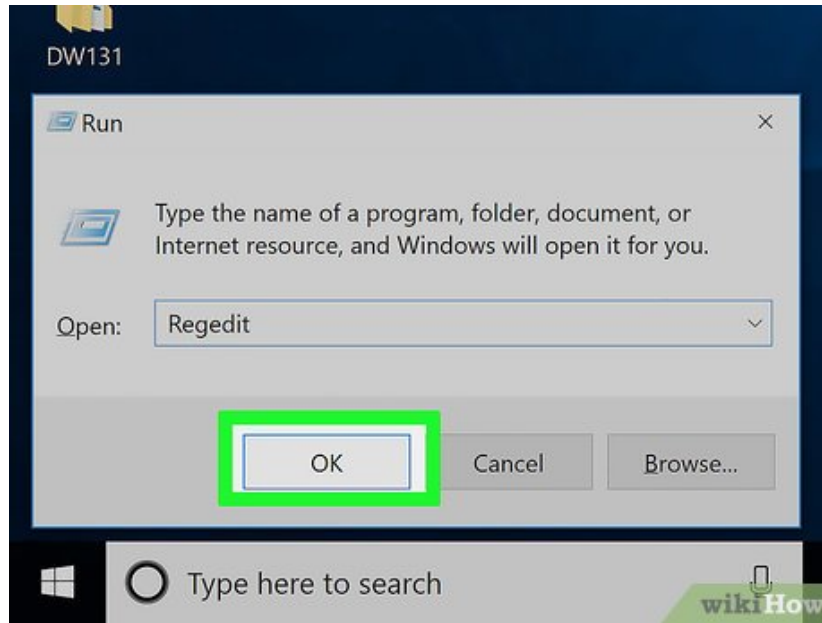
Close Notepad. Click the **X** in the top-right corner of Notepad to do so.



Double-click the VBS file. Doing so will prompt the script to run.

1. This script will switch the registry editor's disabled/enabled setting. Do not run it a second time, or the registry editor will be disabled again.

11.



Try to open Registry Editor. Open **Start**, type in `regedit`, and press `Enter`. If the Registry Editor still won't open, you may need to take your computer into a tech department to have a professional look at it.

You finished reading the article "**How to Enable Regedit**" 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.