

How to exclude files and folders with Robocopy in Windows 10

On Windows 10, Robocopy is a powerful command-line file management tool. In this guide, you'll learn the steps to copy data with Robocopy on Windows 10, except for unnecessary files and folders.

In Windows 10, Robocopy (Robust File Copy) is a powerful command-line file management tool, with a range of options for moving files and folders to another location faster and more reliably than using File Explorer.

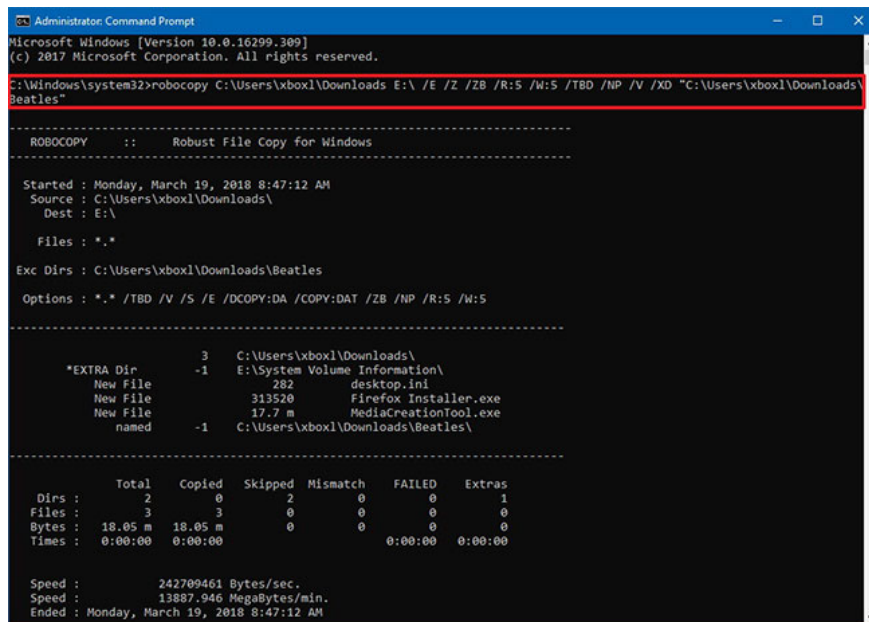
In this guide, you'll learn the steps to copy data with Robocopy on Windows 10, except for unnecessary files and folders.

How to exclude directories with Robocopy

To exclude a folder while copying using Robocopy, use the following steps:

1. Open Command Prompt with admin rights.
2. Enter the following command to copy files and folders, except for a specific folder, to another location and press Enter:

```
robocopy C:\sourcefolderpath D:\destinationfolderpath /E /Z /ZB /R:5 /W:5 /TBD /NP
```



How to exclude directories with Robocopy

This example excludes a specific directory using Robocopy:

```
robocopy C:sourcefolderpath D:destinationfolderpath /E /Z /ZB /R:5 /W:5 /TBD /NP
```

This example excludes a directory using the Robocopy wildcard option:

```
robocopy C:sourcefolderpath D:destinationfolderpath /E /Z /ZB /R:5 /W:5 /TBD /NP
```

This example excludes multiple directories using Robocopy:

```
robocopy C:sourcefolderpath D:destinationfolderpath /E /Z /ZB /R:5 /W:5 /TBD /NP
```

When you complete the steps, all data from the path will be copied, except for the directories you specified in the **exclude_folder_file_robocopy** command .

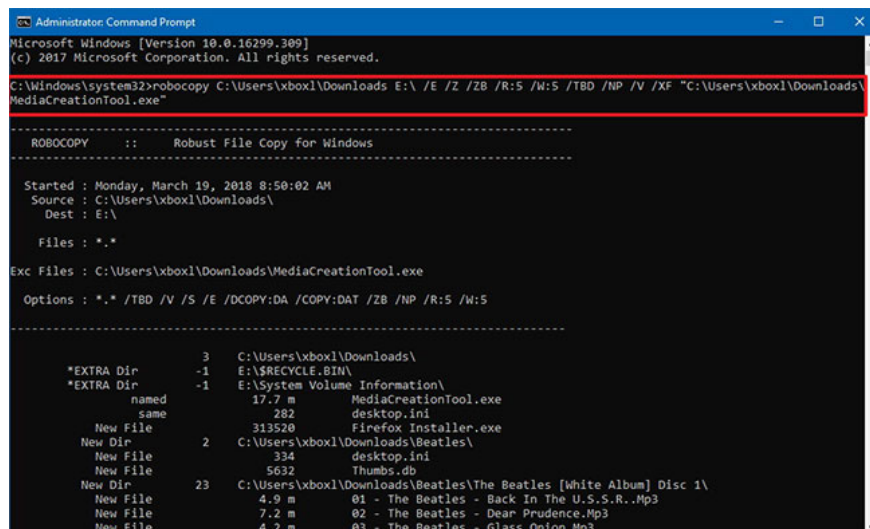
How to exclude files by Robocopy

To exclude a file while copying using Robocopy, follow these steps:

1. Open Command Prompt with admin rights.

2. Enter the following command to copy files and folders, except for a specific file, to another location and press Enter:

```
robocopy C:sourcefolderpath D:destinationfolderpath /E /Z /ZB /R:5 /W:5 /TBD /NP
```



```
Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.16299.309]
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C:\Windows\system32>robocopy C:\Users\xbox1\Downloads E:\ /E /Z /ZB /R:5 /W:5 /TBD /NP /V /XF "C:\Users\xbox1\Downloads\MediaCreationTool.exe"

-----
ROBOCOPY      ::      Robust File Copy for Windows
-----

Started : Monday, March 19, 2018 8:50:02 AM
Source   : C:\Users\xbox1\Downloads\
Dest     : E:\

Files : *.*

Exc Files : C:\Users\xbox1\Downloads\MediaCreationTool.exe

Options : *.* /TBD /V /S /E /DCOPY:DA /COPY:DAT /ZB /NP /R:5 /W:5

-----
          3      C:\Users\xbox1\Downloads\
*EXTRA Dir -1      E:\$RECYCLE.BIN\
*EXTRA Dir -1      E:\System Volume Information\
          named      17.7 m      MediaCreationTool.exe
          same      282      desktop.ini
          New File      313520      Firefox Installer.exe
          New Dir      2      C:\Users\xbox1\Downloads\Beatles\
          New File      334      desktop.ini
          New File      5632      Thumbs.db
          New Dir      23      C:\Users\xbox1\Downloads\Beatles\The Beatles [White Album] Disc 1\
          New File      4.9 m      01 - The Beatles - Back In The U.S.S.R..Mp3
          New File      7.2 m      02 - The Beatles - Dear Prudence.Mp3
          New File      4.2 m      03 - The Beatles - Glass Onion.Mp3
```

How to exclude files by Robocopy

This example excludes a file using Robocopy:

```
robocopy C:sourcefolderpath D:destinationfolderpath /E /Z /ZB /R:5 /W:5 /TBD /NP
```

This example excludes a file using the Robocopy wildcard option:

```
robocopy C:sourcefolderpath D:destinationfolderpath /E /Z /ZB /R:5 /W:5 /TBD /NP
```

This example excludes multiple files using the Robocopy option:

```
robocopy C:sourcefolderpath D:destinationfolderpath /E /Z /ZB /R:5 /W:5 /TBD /NP
```

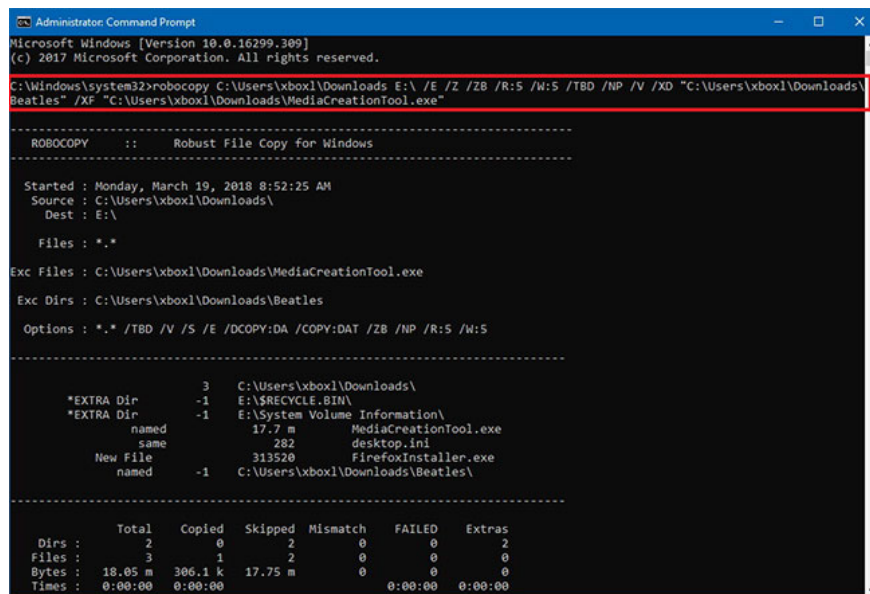
After completing the steps, Robocopy will copy all files and folders from a specific location, except for the files you specified in the command using the **/XF** switch .

How to exclude files and folders with Robocopy

To exclude both files and folders using Robocopy, use the following steps:

1. Open Command Prompt with admin rights.
2. Enter the following command to copy all files and folders, except for certain files and folders, to another drive, then press Enter:

```
robocopy C:sourcefolderpath D:destinationfolderpath /E /Z /ZB /R:5 /W:5 /TBD /NP
```



```
Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.16299.309]
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C:\Windows\system32>robocopy C:\Users\xbox1\Downloads E:\ /E /Z /ZB /R:5 /W:5 /TBD /NP /V /XD "C:\Users\xbox1\Downloads\Beattles" /XF "C:\Users\xbox1\Downloads\MediaCreationTool.exe"

-----
ROBOCOPY      ::      Robust File Copy for Windows
-----

Started      : Monday, March 19, 2018 8:52:25 AM
Source       : C:\Users\xbox1\Downloads\
Dest         : E:\

Files        : *.*

Exc Files    : C:\Users\xbox1\Downloads\MediaCreationTool.exe
Exc Dirs     : C:\Users\xbox1\Downloads\Beattles

Options     : *.* /TBD /V /S /E /DCOPY:DA /COPY:DAT /ZB /NP /R:5 /W:5

-----

*EXTRA Dir      3  C:\Users\xbox1\Downloads\
*EXTRA Dir     -1  E:\$RECYCLE.BIN\
*EXTRA Dir     -1  E:\System Volume Information\
   named        17.7 m  MediaCreationTool.exe
   same         282    desktop.ini
New File       313528  FirefoxInstaller.exe
   named       -1  C:\Users\xbox1\Downloads\Beattles\

-----

              Total  Copied  Skipped  Mismatch  FAILED  Extras
Dirs  :         2         0         2         0         0         2
Files :         3         1         2         0         0         0
Bytes :    18.05 m    306.1 k    17.75 m         0         0         0
Times  :    0:00:00    0:00:00                          0:00:00    0:00:00
```

How to exclude files and folders with Robocopy

When you complete the steps, all the content will be copied to the new location, in addition to the files and folders you excluded in the command using the **/XD** and **/XF** switches .

You finished reading the article "**How to exclude files and folders with Robocopy in Windows 10**" 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.