

How to extract multiple ZIP files at the same time in Windows

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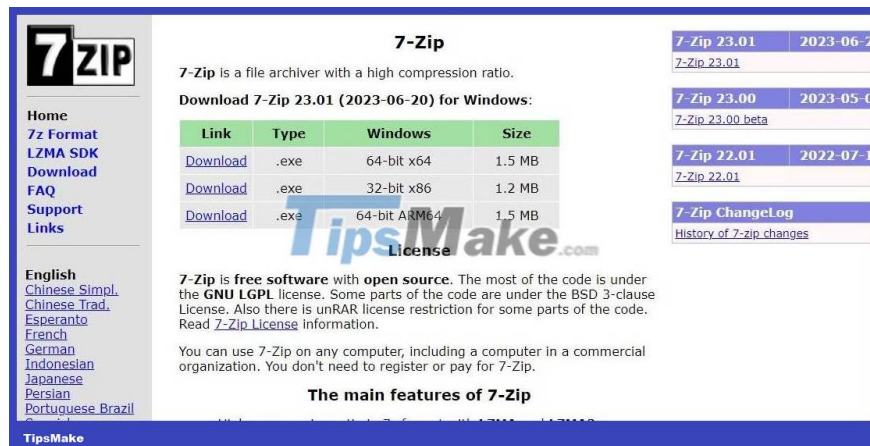
Many users need to extract ZIP archives on Windows 10/11 PC. Windows' built-in archive decompression tool is great for extracting single ZIP files. However, that tool does not have the option to batch extract multiple ZIP files. This means you have to decompress the ZIP archive one by one when using that decompression utility.

Therefore, Windows' built-in decompression tool is not ideal when you need to decompress many ZIP files. You're better off using a third-party application like 7-Zip or ExtractNow that allows you to extract multiple ZIP archives. This is how you can extract multiple ZIP files simultaneously using those software packages.

How to extract multiple ZIP archives simultaneously with 7-Zip

7-Zip is one of the best file compression and decompression tools for Windows. That software is available for free and is widely compatible with Windows platforms dating back to 2000. You can batch extract multiple archives into different folders using that software as follows.

1. Download 7-Zip software.



2. Click the pinned taskbar shortcut to open Windows File Explorer and go to the folder where your browser downloaded 7-Zip.

3. Double click on file **7z2301-x64**.

4. Click **Install** to install 7-Zip in the folder specified in the **Destination folder** box .

5. Select **Close** to exit the installer.

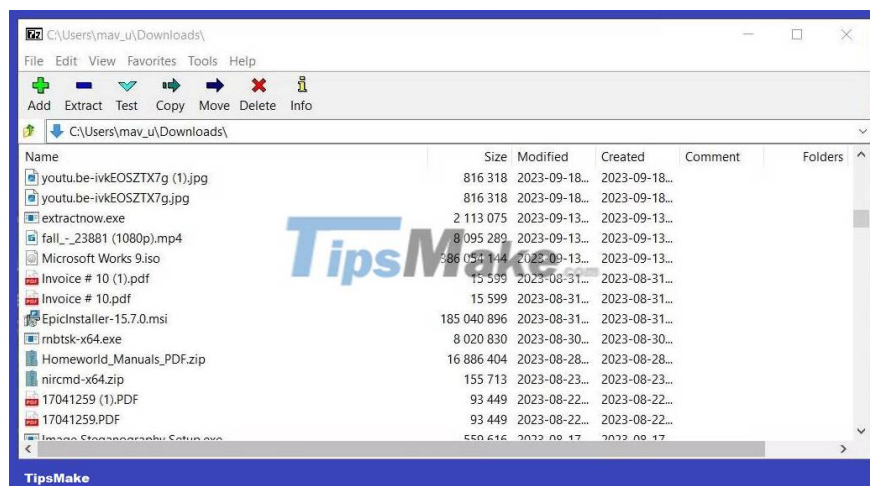
Now it's time to put the app to use:

1. Open the Start menu and click the **7-Zip** folder at the top of the application list. Then click **7-Zip File Manager** to run the software.

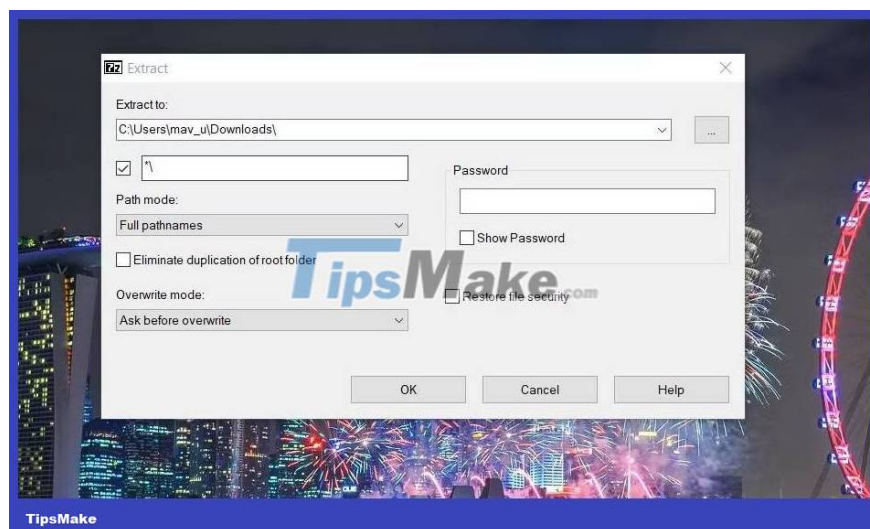
2. Navigate to the folder containing several ZIP archives in the 7-Zip window.

3. Select multiple ZIP files to extract by holding down the **Ctrl** key and clicking them in 7-Zip.

4. Click **Extract** to display the extraction window.



5. If you want to change the folder to include the extracted subfolders, click the ellipsis button. Then select another folder and click **OK**.



6. Select **OK** to extract the selected ZIP archives.

This will extract all the selected ZIP archives into different subfolders. Those extracted subfolders will have the same name as the ZIP files you extracted. Close 7-Zip and then open the folder you selected to extract the

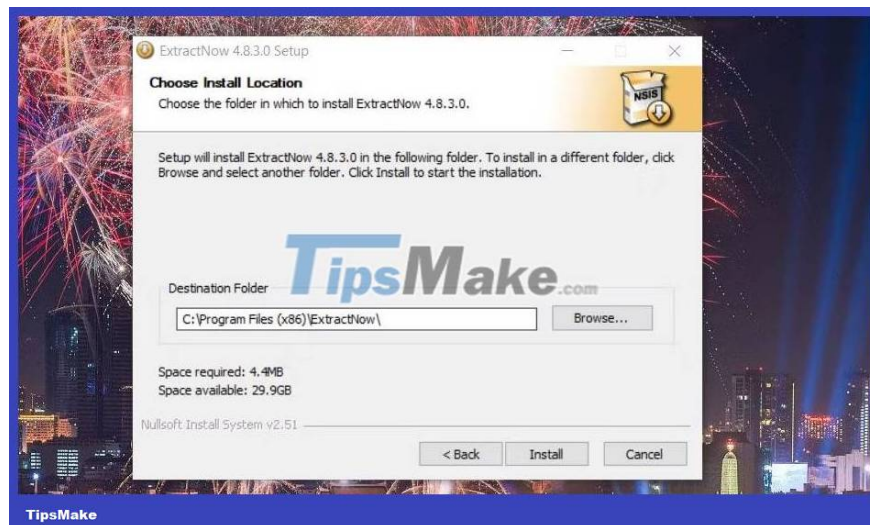
archives to open the folders extracted from there.

"*" in 7-Zip's **Extract** window means the archives will be extracted to new folders. If you want to extract all selected archives into the same subfolder, remove "*" from the text box. Enter the new folder name at the end of the selected path. 7-Zip will then batch extract all the ZIP files into the new folder added in the **Extract to box**.

How to extract multiple ZIP archives simultaneously using ExtractNow

ExtractNow is freeware that is more specifically designed to extract multiple archives at once. You can batch extract ZIP and RAR archives, among others, on Windows platforms dating back to 1995 using this software. Here's how you can batch extract your ZIP files using ExtractNow:

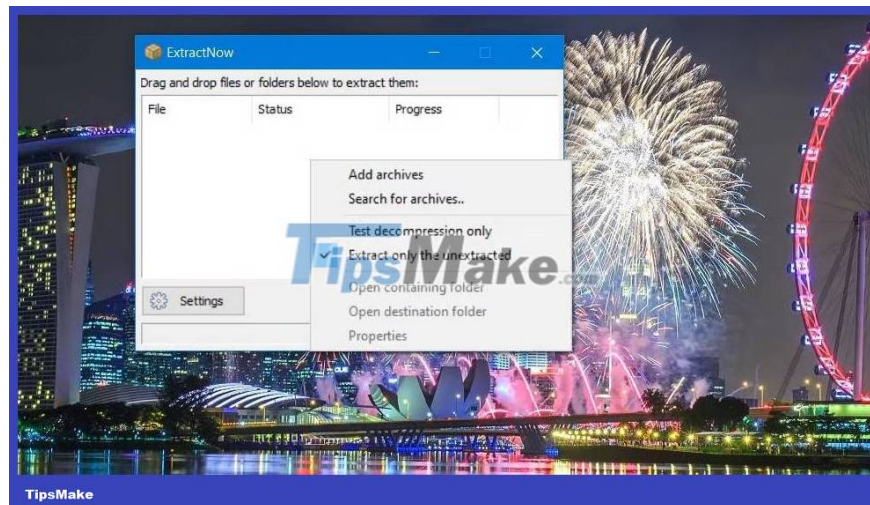
1. Open the ExtractNow download page.
2. Click **Download Now** to save the ExtractNow installation file.
3. Double-click the **extractnow.exe** file to start the setup wizard.
4. Click **I Agree** for the software license terms.
5. Select **Next** twice more then click **Install** to complete.



6. Click **Close** to open ExtractNow.

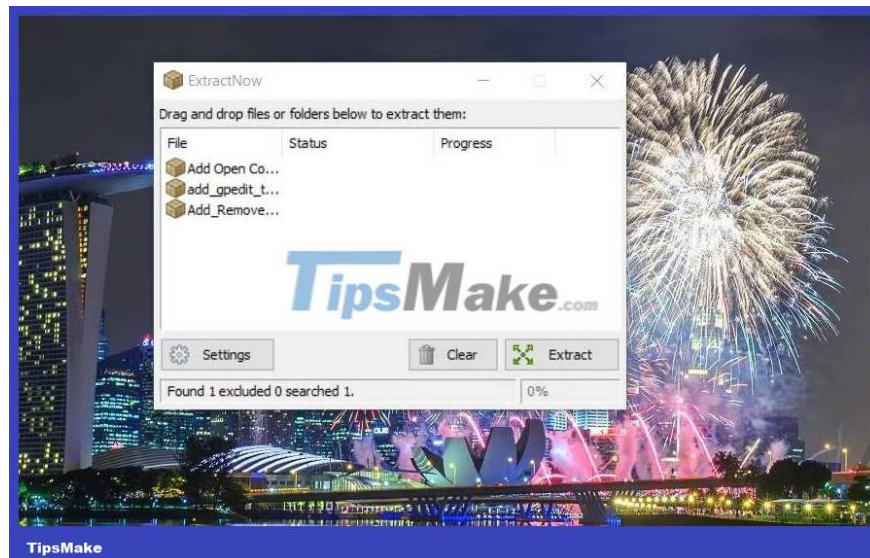
Now it's time to use the app:

1. Right-click inside the ExtractNow window and select **Add archives** .

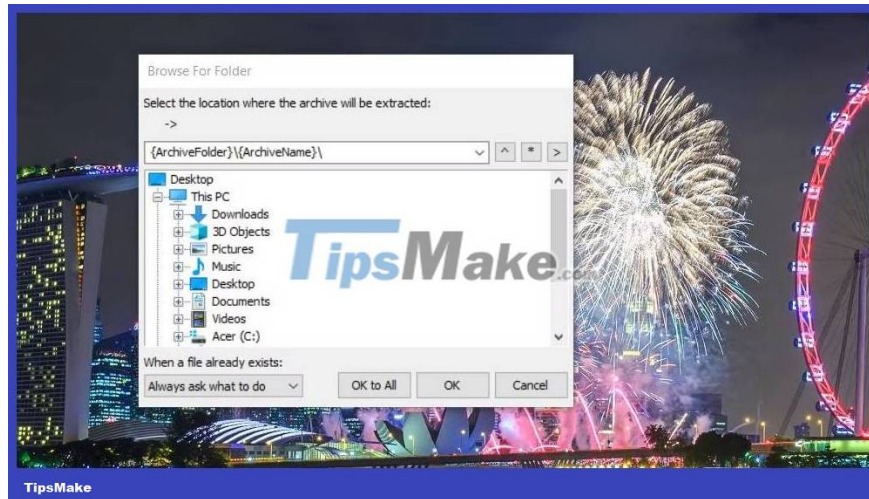


2. Select multiple ZIP archives by holding down the **Ctrl** key and clicking **Open** .

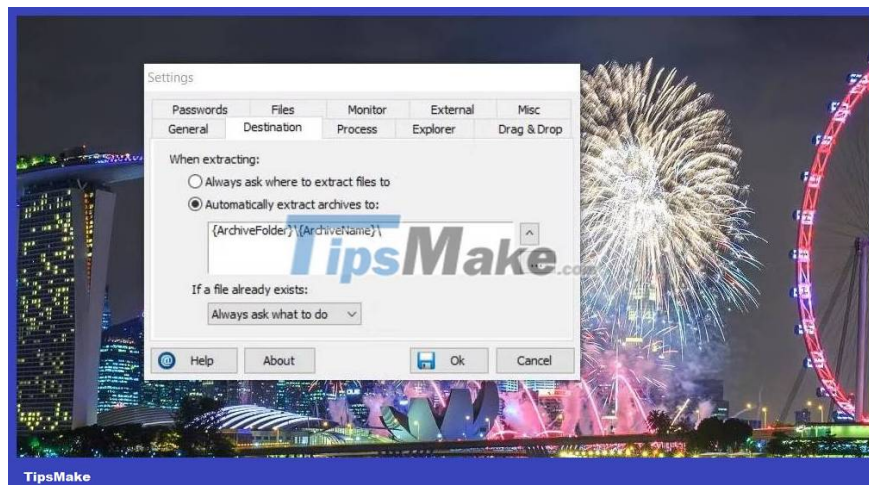
3. Click **Extract** to extract the ZIP files.



4. Then click **OK to All** to extract the selected archives into subfolders whose titles match the ZIP files in the same folder. Alternatively, you can manually select another destination to extract each file in the **Browse for Folder** window and click **OK**.



By default, this software will always ask you where to extract the file. However, you can change ExtractNow to automatically extract ZIP files without asking through its settings. To do so, click the **Settings** button and select the **Destination** tab . Then select the **Automatically extract archives to** button .



If you want to set a location to always extract selected ZIPs, click the **Browse for Folder** button ; Select a folder in the **Browse for Folder** window and click **OK** . Then select **OK on the Settings** window to save the options.

In addition, ExtractNow also has a lot of other settings that you can configure.

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