

# How to fix Recycle Bin not self-cleaning on Windows 10

How to fix Recycle Bin does not automatically clean files on Windows 10 computers such as closing running software, updating or removing third-party applications, ...

In computers, the Recycle Bin is a temporary storage for files that have been deleted, but have not been permanently deleted from the file system. And you want to empty the Recycle Bin to permanently delete files from your computer, but the Recycle Bin does not delete those files. Please follow the article to know how to fix it!

## Causes of the Recycle Bin not self-cleaning files :

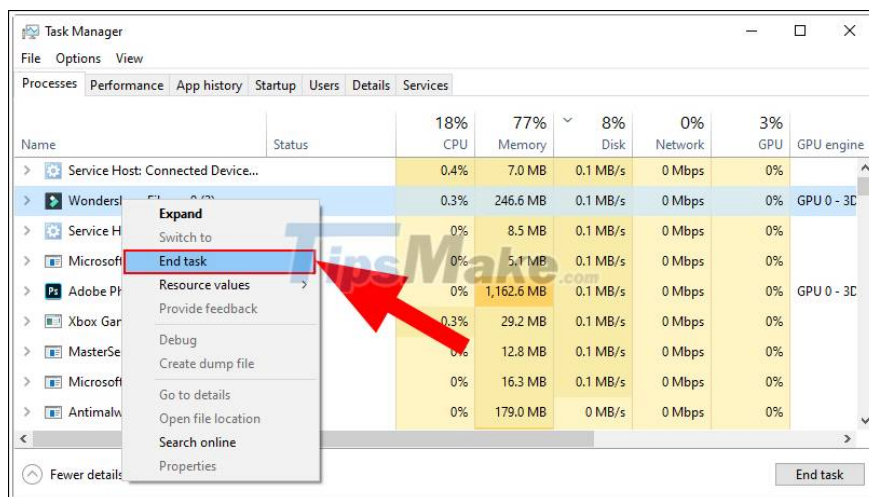
1. Some apps that you are using may cause the Recycle Bin to crash.
2. **Windows File Explorer** can interfere with the Recycle Bin and make it difficult to permanently delete files.
3. It is possible that the **Recycle Bin** itself is faulty, causing the file not to self-clean.

Here are 6 ways to fix the Recycle Bin not self-cleaning on Windows 10. Invite you to join us and follow the steps one by one.

## 1. Close any software running

**Step 1 :** Click **Ctrl + Shift + Esc** to open **Task Manager** .

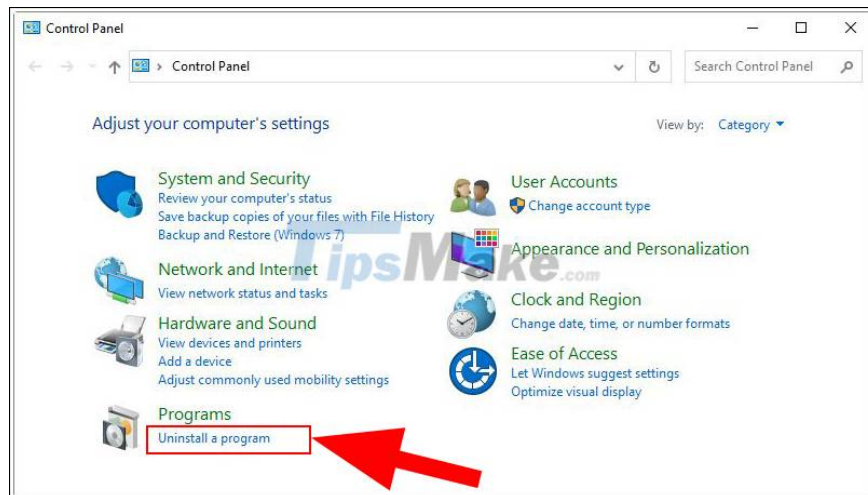
**Step 2 :** In the **Processes** tab , right-click on running applications> Select **End task** .



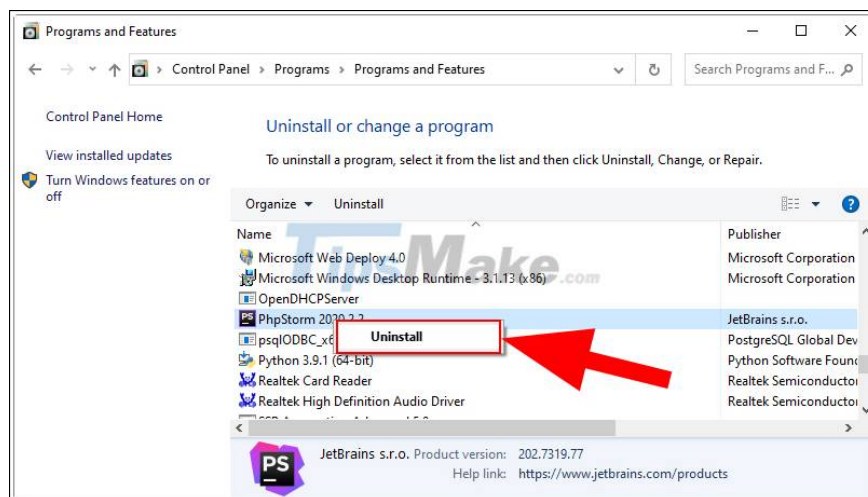
## 2. Update or remove third-party apps

Try updating third-party software programs or completely removing them. You can delete apps through the Control Panel.

**Step 1 :** Go to **Control Panel** > Select **Uninstall a program** under **Programs and Features** .



**Step 2 :** In the **Programs and Features** window , right-click on the third application name to delete and then select **Uninstall** and follow the instructions.

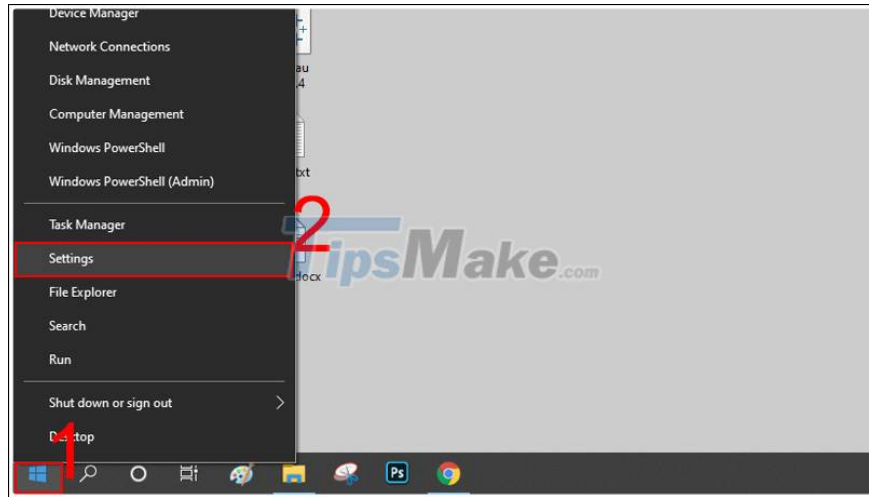


Then, restart the computer and check if the problem is resolved. This will perform a clean uninstall which will help ensure that you don't leave any leftover junk folders.

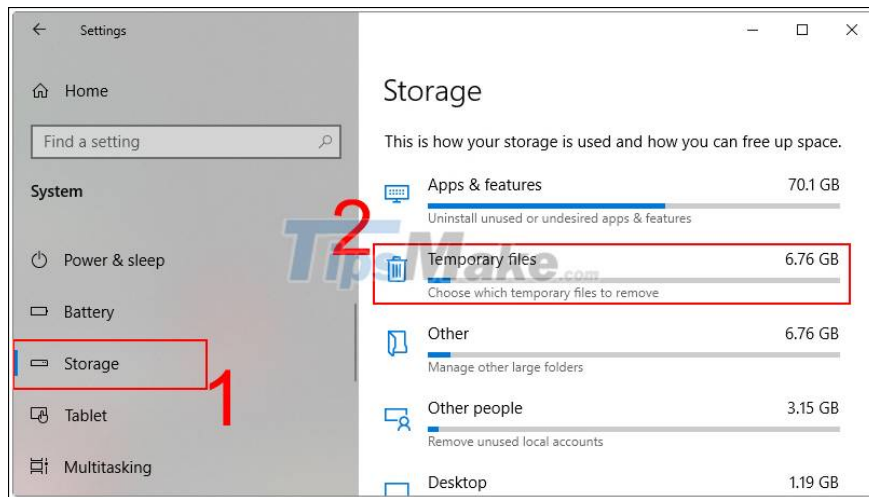
## 3. Empty the Recycle Bin through Settings

Instead of manually deleting files from the Recycle Bin, you can try doing this through Settings.

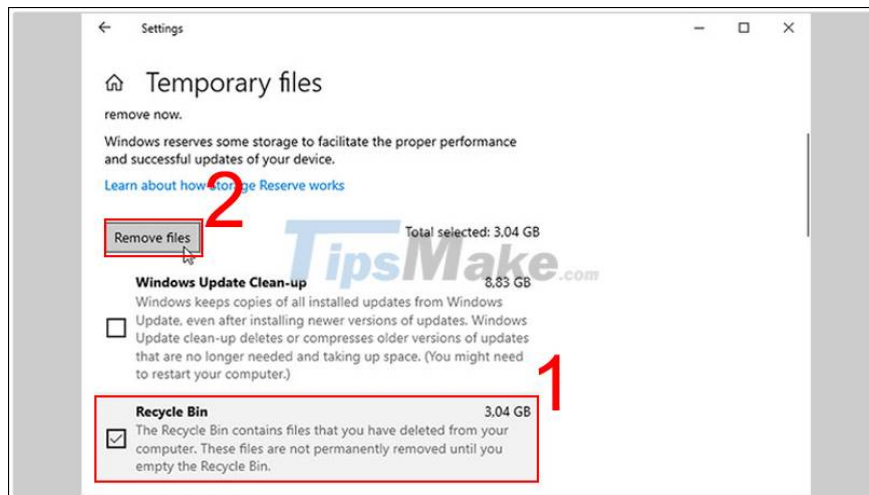
**Step 1 :** Right-click the **Start** icon > Select **Settings** or use the **Windows + I** key combination to open **Settings** .



**Step 2 :** Select **Storage** > **Temporary files** .



**Step 3 :** On the Temporary files window, select **Recycle Bin** > Select **Remove files** .

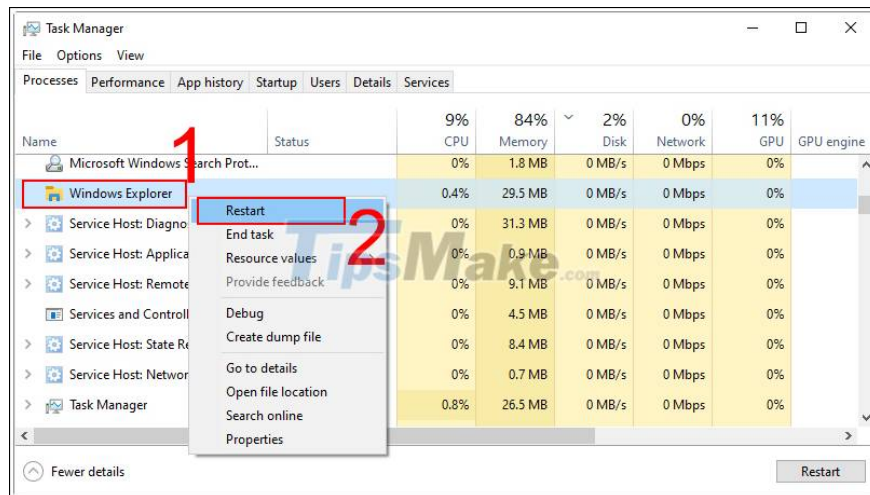


When the process is complete, check the Recycle Bin to see if there are any files in it.

## 4. Restart Windows File Explorer

**Step 1 :** Click **Ctrl + Shift + Esc** to open **Task Manager** .

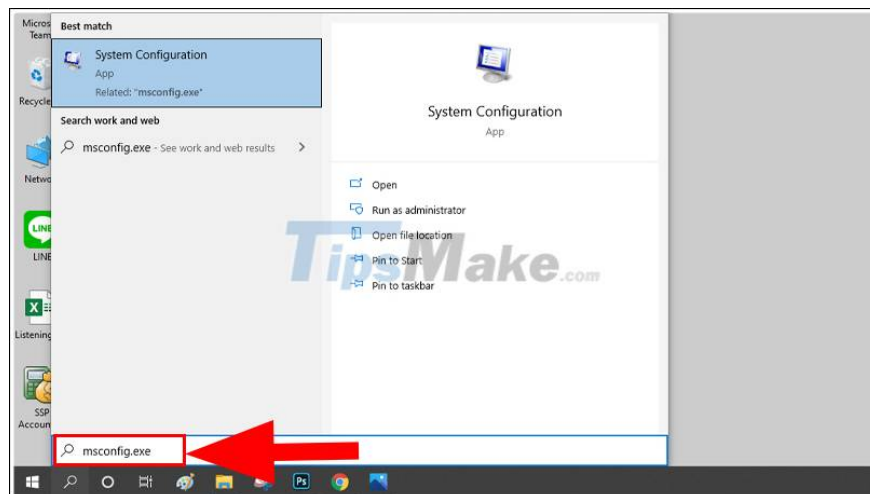
**Step 2 :** In the **Processes** tab , right-click **Windows Explorer** > Select **Restart** .



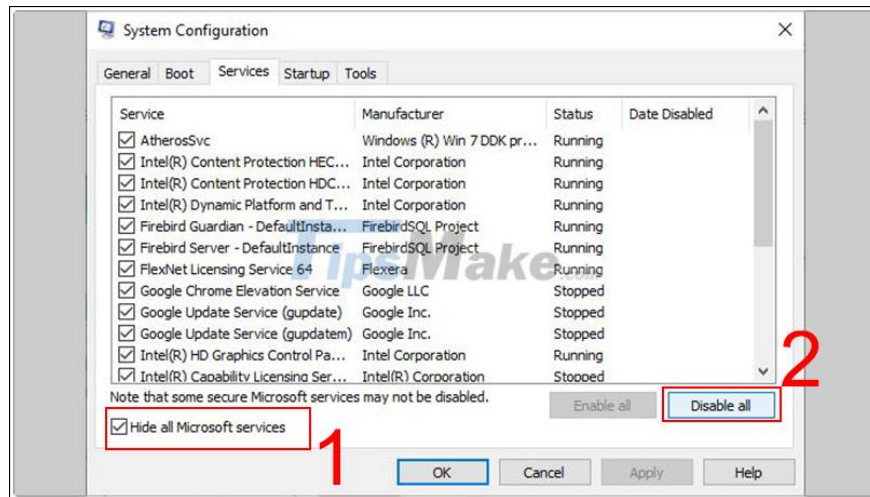
## 5. Perform Clean Boot on the PC

**Note :** If the computer is connected to a network, network policy settings may prevent you from following these steps. Only use the **System Configuration** utility to change advanced boot options on a computer with guidance from a Microsoft support engineer. Using the System Configuration utility may render the computer unusable.

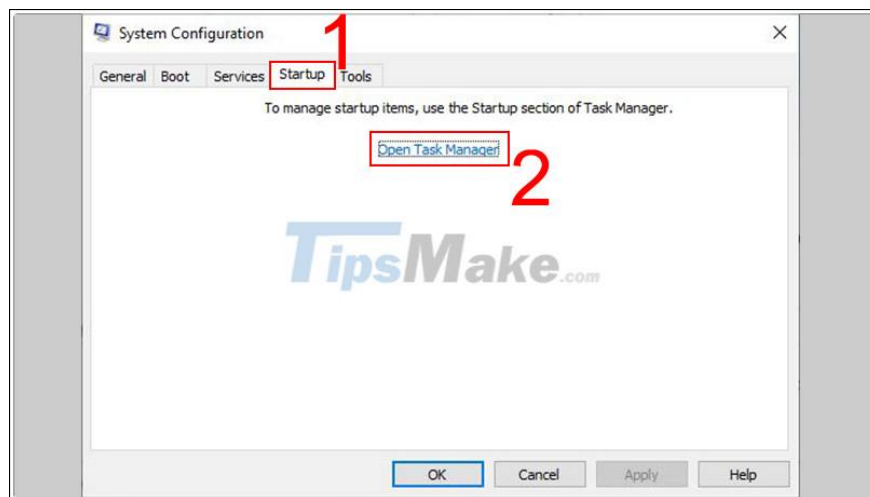
**Step 1 :** In the search box on the taskbar, type **msconfig.exe** > Press **Enter** to open System Configuration.



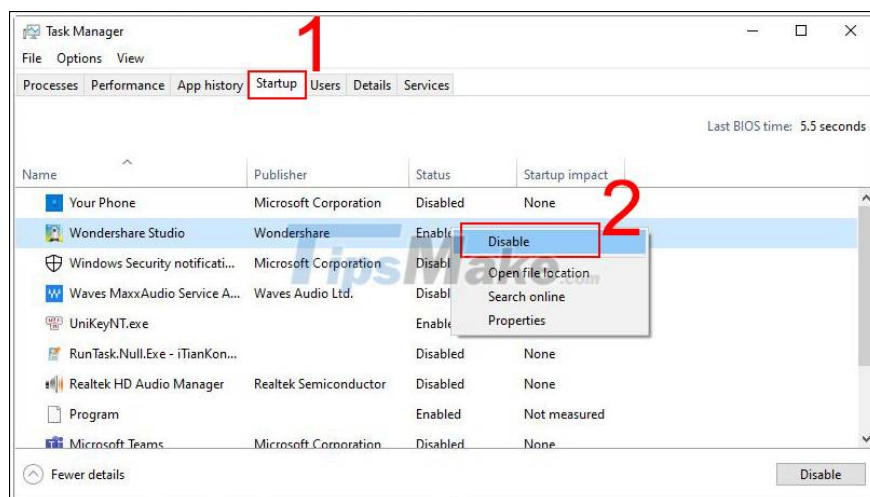
**Step 2 :** On the **Services** tab , select **Hide all Microsoft services** > Select **Disable all** .



**Step 3 :** Select the **Startup** tab of **System Configuration** , select **Open Task Manager** .

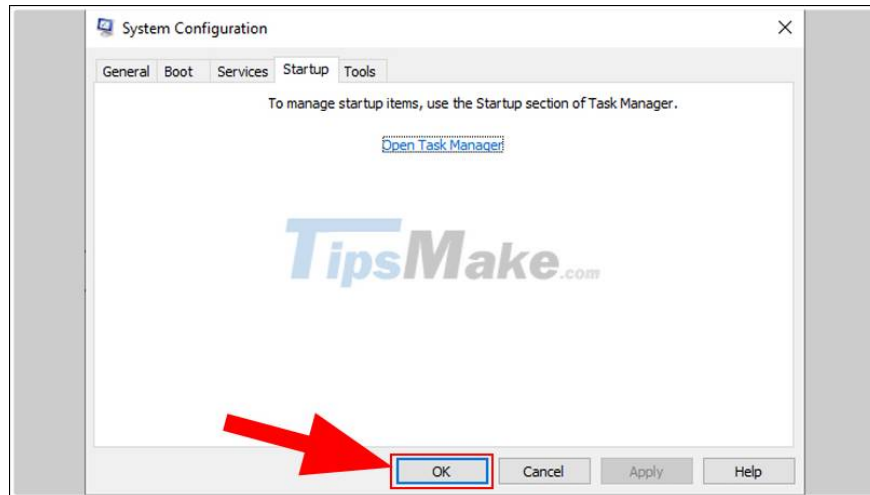


**Step 4 :** Select the **Startup** tab of **Task Manager** , right-click the items that are in **Enable** mode > Select **Disable** .



**Step 5 :** Close **Task Manager** .

**Step 6 :** On the **Startup** tab of **System Configuration** , select **OK** .

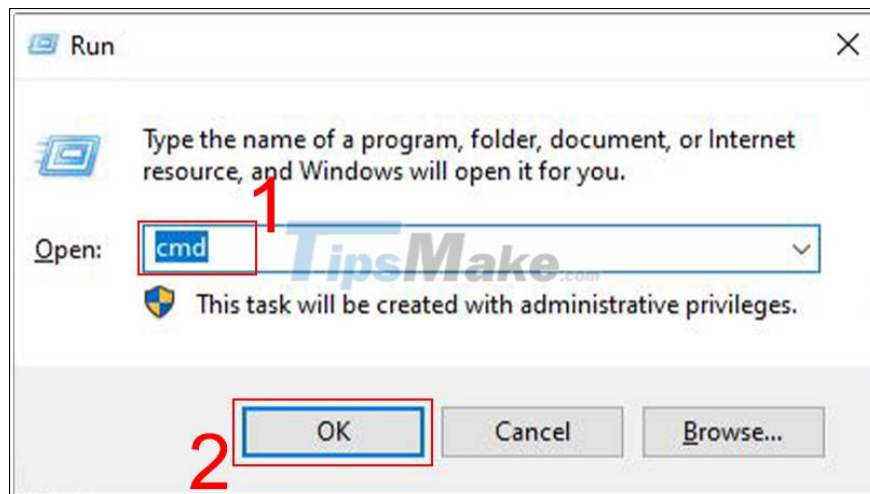


When you restart the computer, it will be in the **Clean Boot** environment .

**Note :** Computers may temporarily lose some functionality while in a Clean Boot environment. Reset the computer to start normally after troubleshooting with Clean Boot and continue using that function.

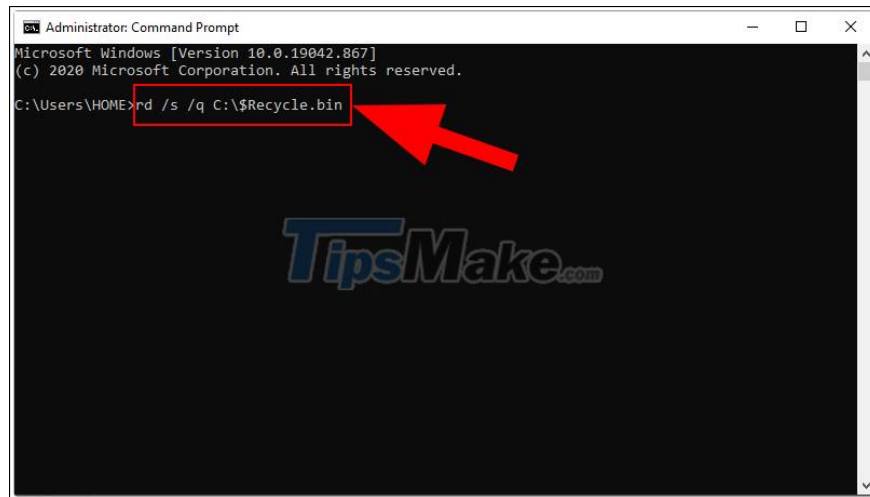
## 6. Reset Recycle Bin

**Step 1 :** Press the **Windows + R** key combination > type **cmd** > Select **OK** .



**Step 2 :** Enter the command below into the **Command Prompt** and press **Enter**.

```
rd /s /q C: $ Recycle.bin
```



```
Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.19042.867]
(c) 2020 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
C:\Users\HOME>rd /s /q C:\$Recycle.bin
```

This command will reset the Recycle Bin and help resolve the problem. Restart your PC and check if you can empty the Recycle Bin.

So the article has shown you ways to fix the Recycle Bin not self-cleaning error on Windows 10 already. Wish you all success!

You finished reading the article "**How to fix Recycle Bin not self-cleaning on 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.