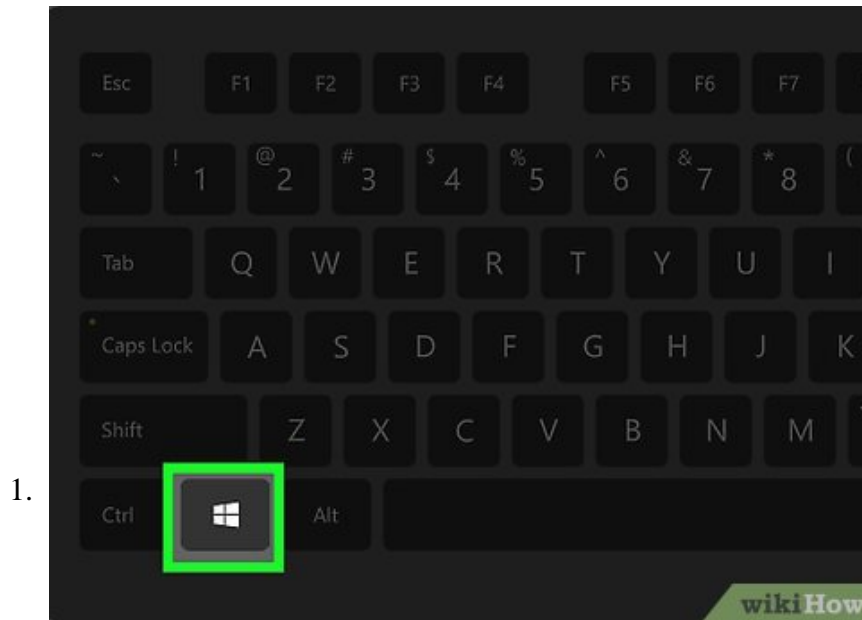


How to Fix the 'This App Can't Be Activated by the Built in Administrator' Error in Windows

This wikiHow teaches how to fix the 'This App Can't Be Activated by the Built in Administrator' error that occurs when you try to start some apps as an administrator in Windows 8 and 10, usually caused by problems with the User Account...

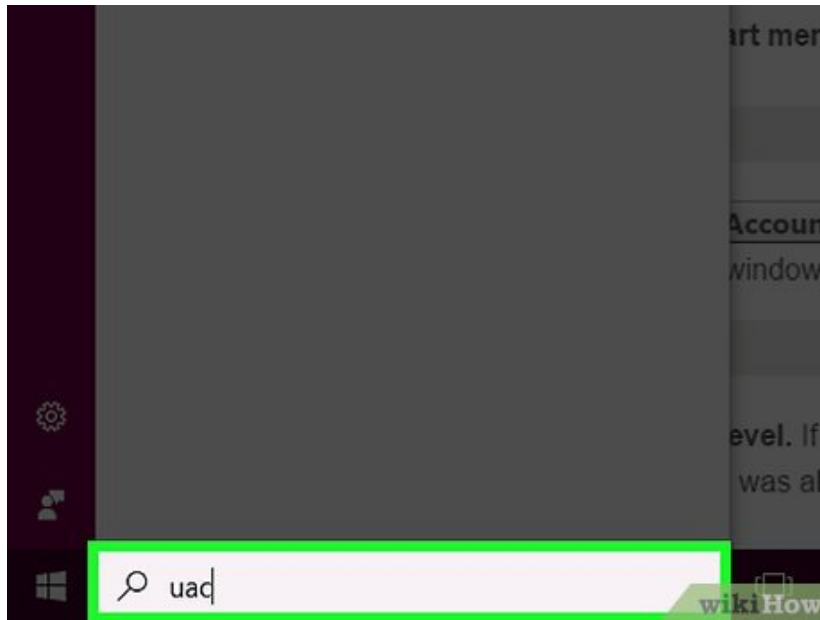
Method 1 of 4:

Adjusting UAC Settings



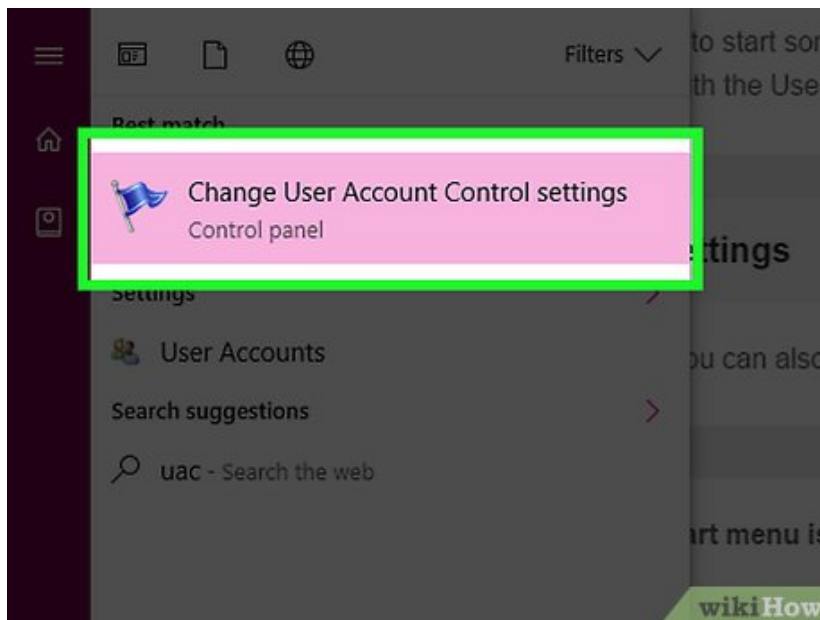
Click the Start button. You can also press Win.

2.

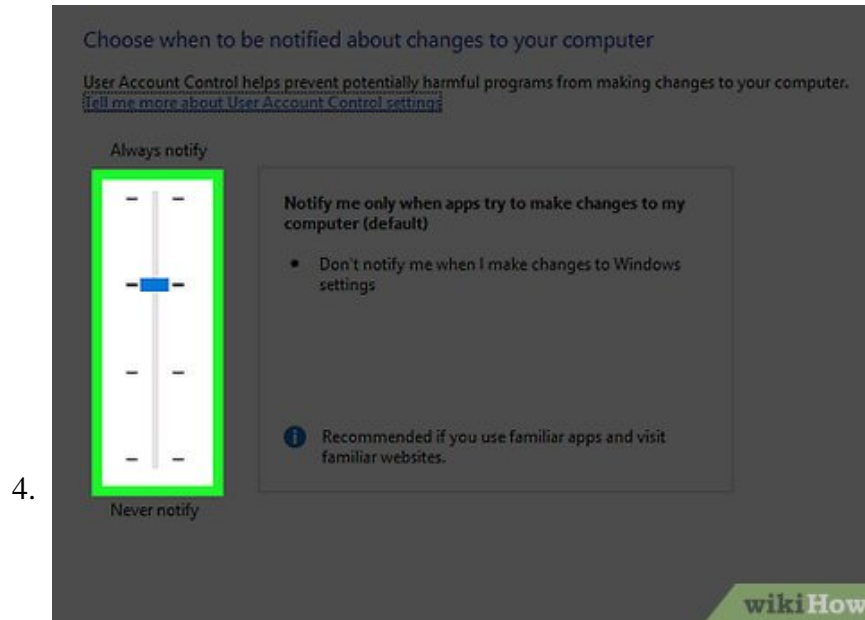


Type **uac** while the Start menu is open. This will search for UAC options.

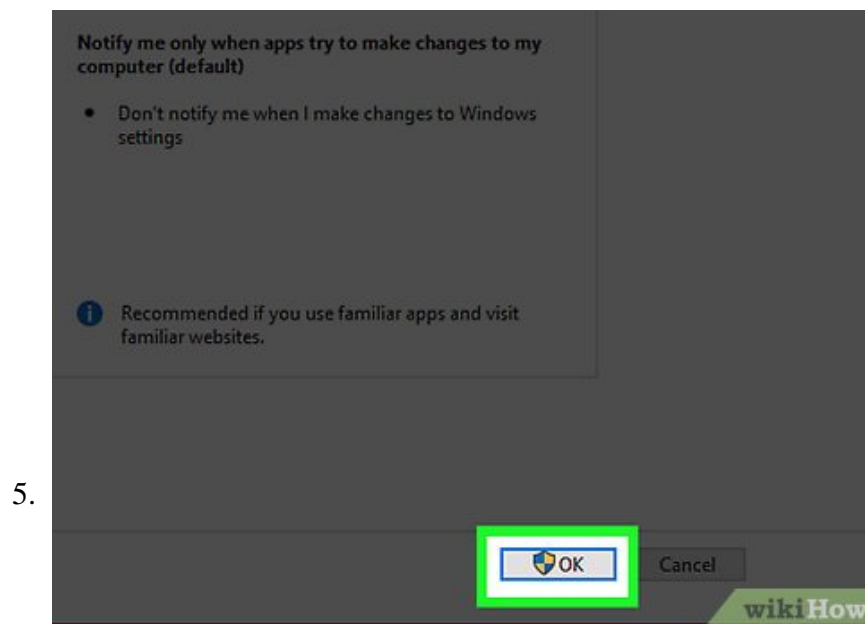
3.



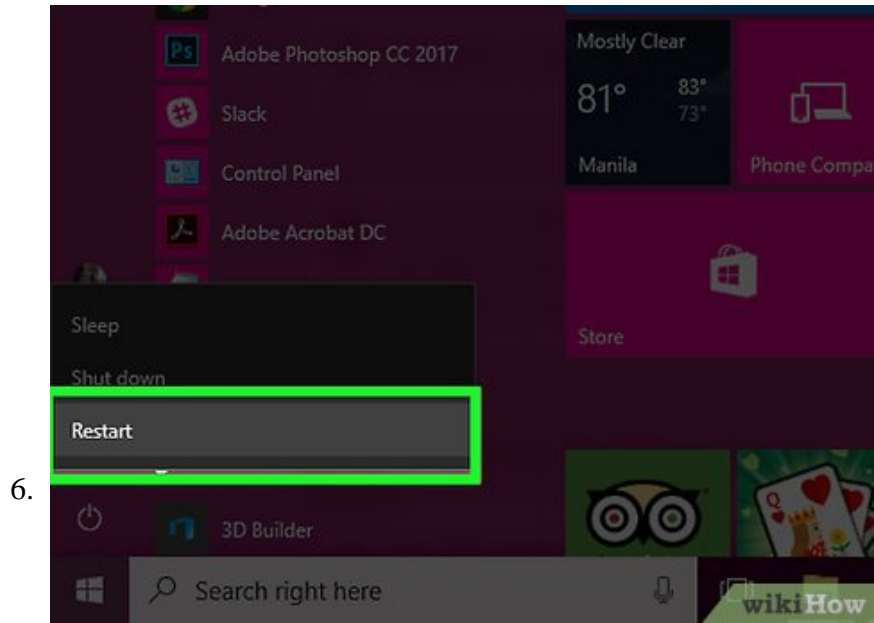
Click the **Change User Account Control settings** option. This will open the User Account Control Settings window.



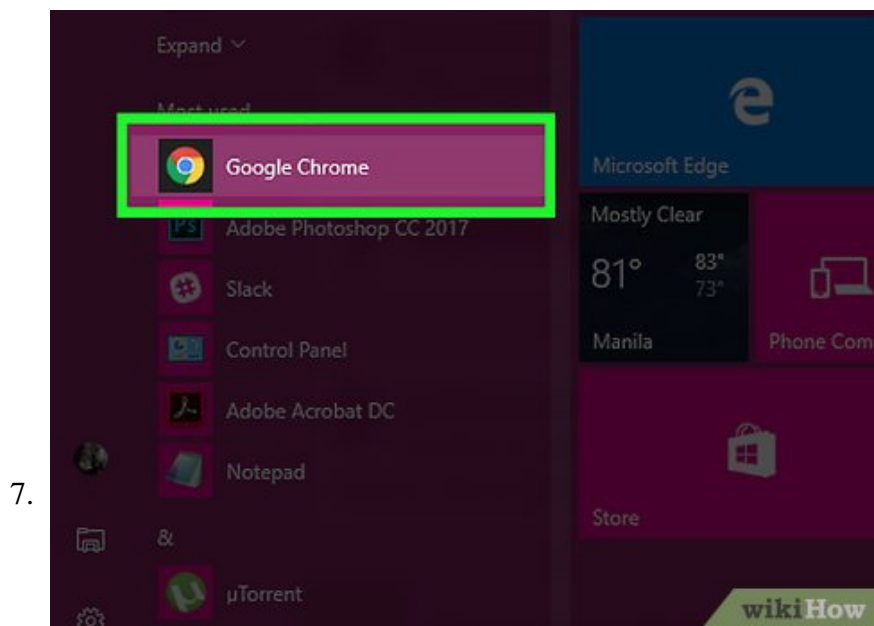
Move the slider up one level. If UAC was disabled, move the slider up one level to enable basic UAC. If UAC was already enabled, raise the slider to the next security level.



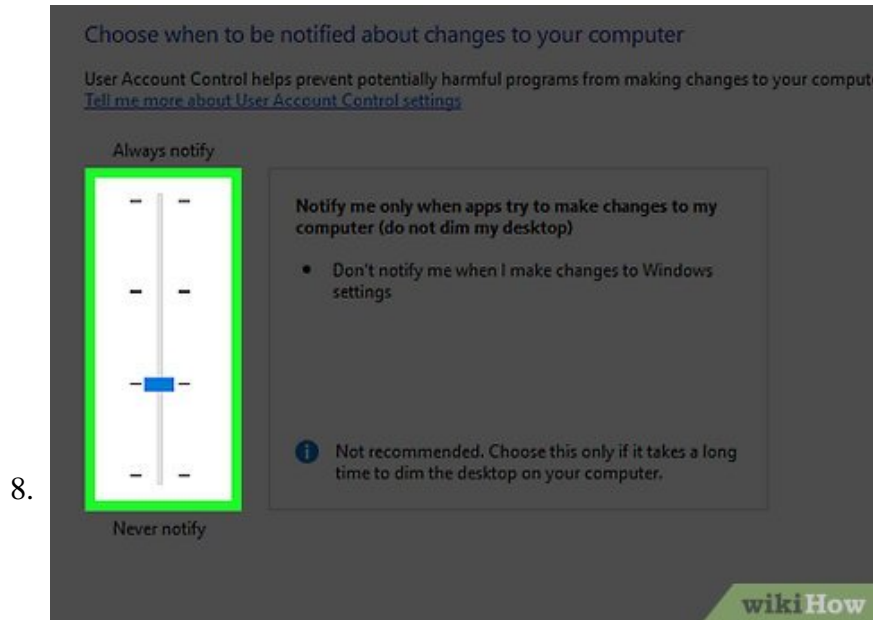
Click **OK**. Click Yes if prompted by UAC to continue.



Restart your computer. You'll need to reboot your computer in order for the new UAC changes to take effect.



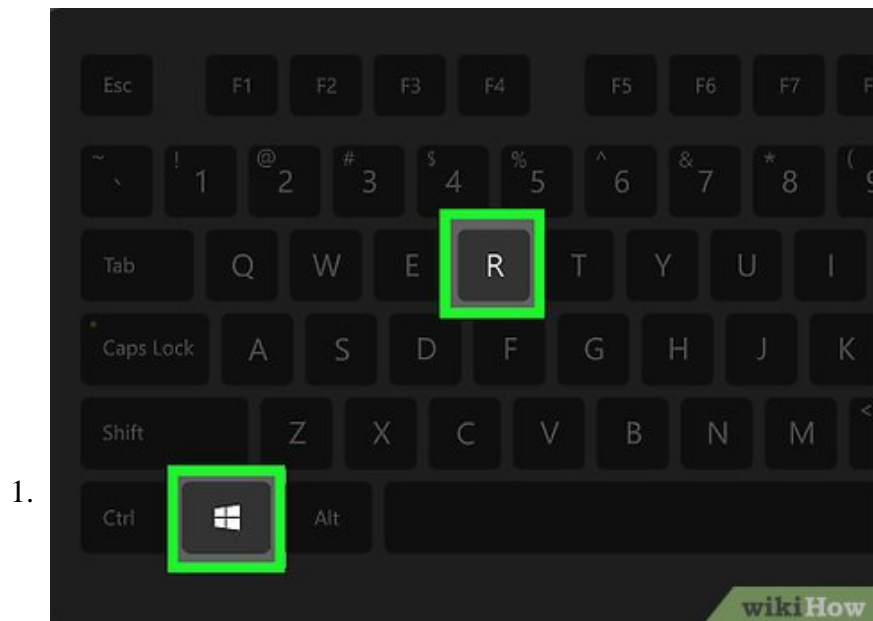
Try opening the app again.



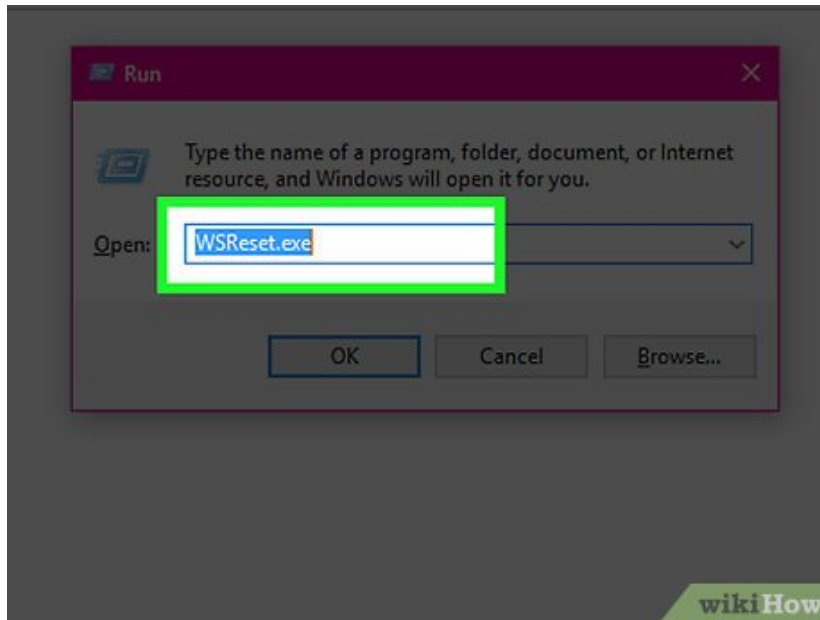
Lower your UAC settings again. If the app is able to launch, you should be able to go back to your UAC settings and lower it to the setting you were using before. You'll need to reboot again after making the changes.^[1]

Method 2 of 4:

Clearing the Store Cache

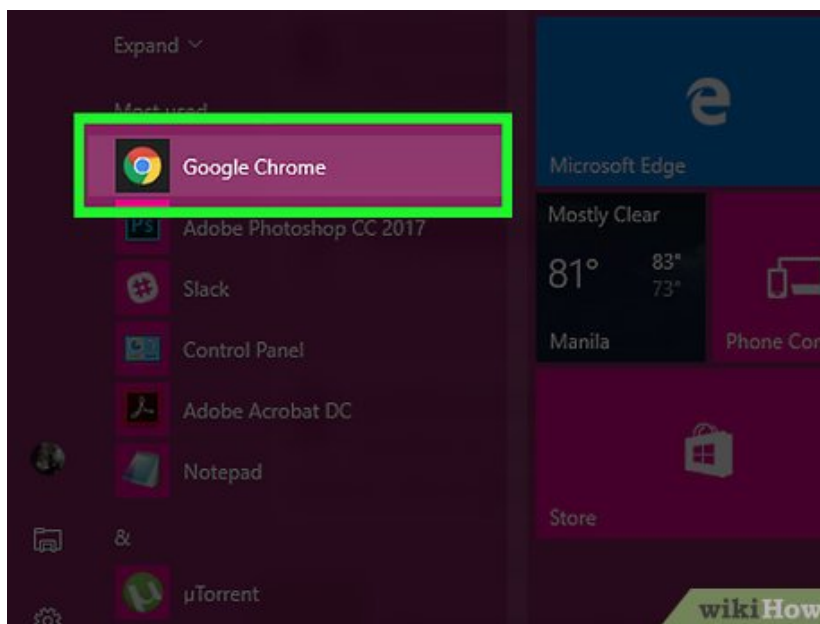


Press **Win + R**. This will open the Run window.



2.

Type **WSReset.exe** and press **Enter**. You'll see a Command Prompt window appear for a few moments, and then the Windows Store will open.



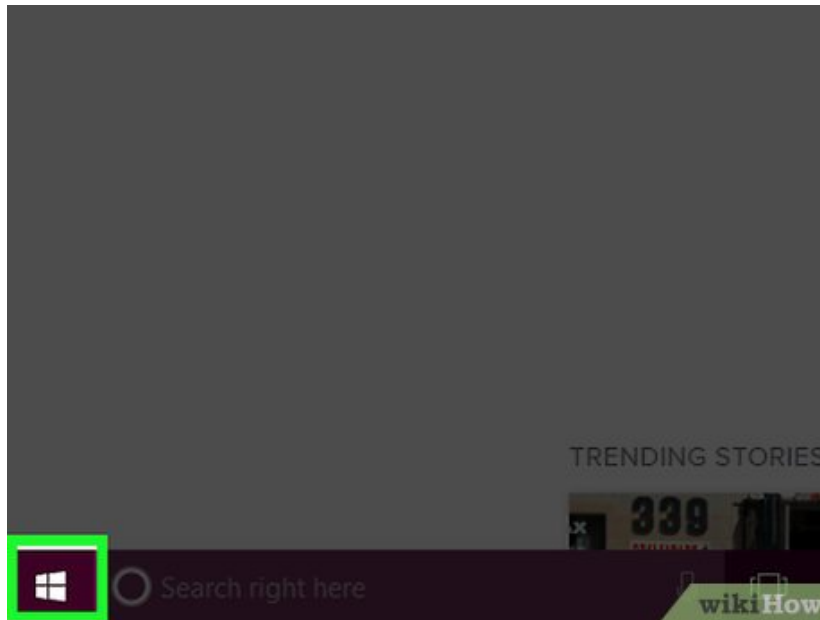
3.

Try opening your app again. Resetting the Windows Store may have fixed the problem you were experiencing.^[2]

Method 3 of 4:

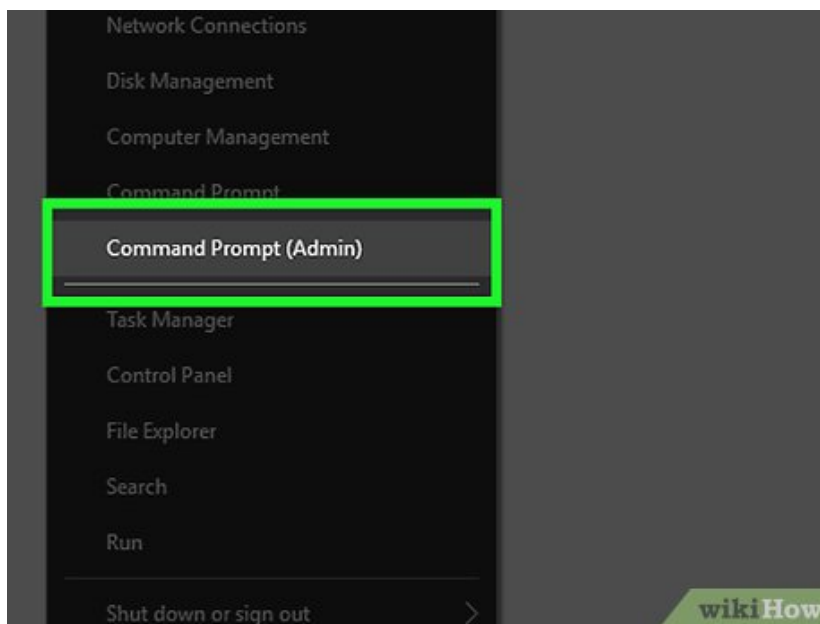
Running System File Checker

1.



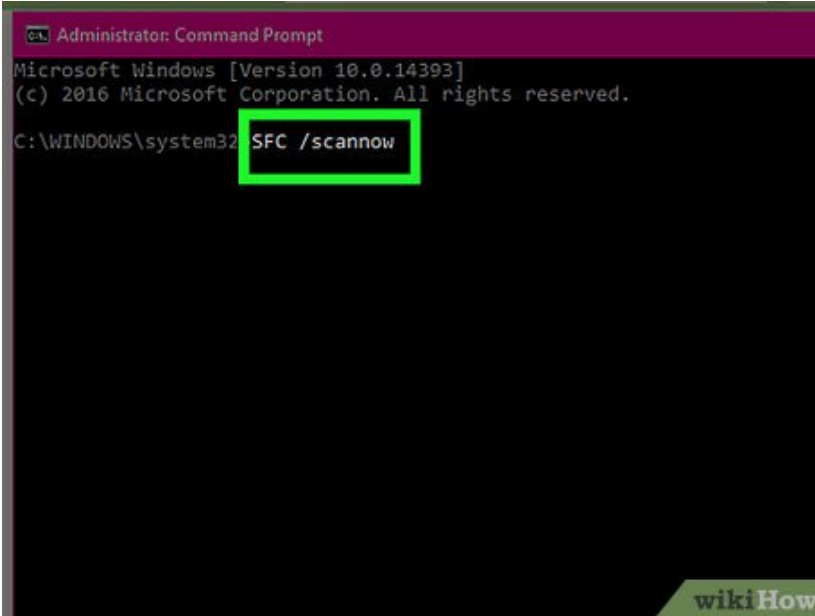
Right-click the Start button. You'll see a list of options appear. If you're using Windows 8 and don't see a Start button, press `? Win + X`.

2.



Click **Command Prompt (Admin)**. This will open a Command Prompt window with administrator access.

3.

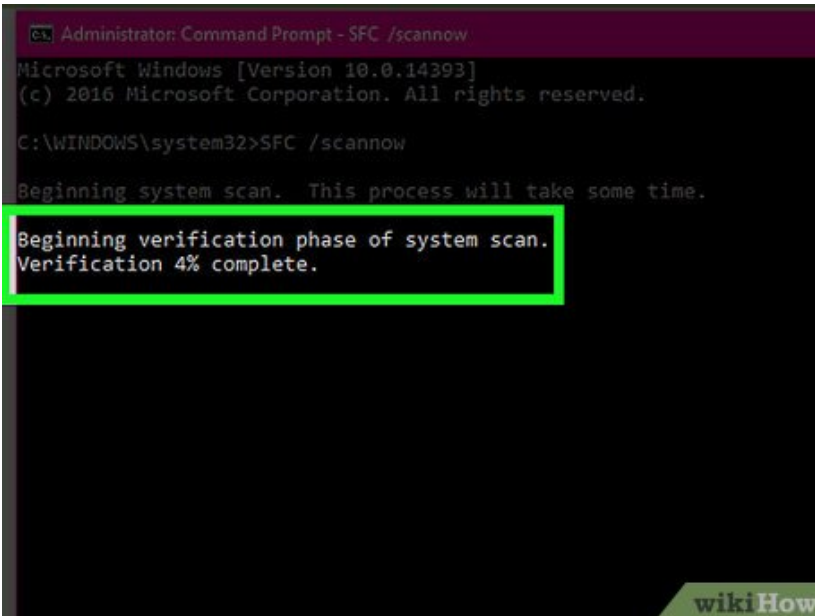


```
Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.14393]
(c) 2016 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
C:\WINDOWS\system32 SFC /scannow
```

wikiHow

Type `SFC /scannow` and press `Enter`. This will begin the System File Checker utility.

4.



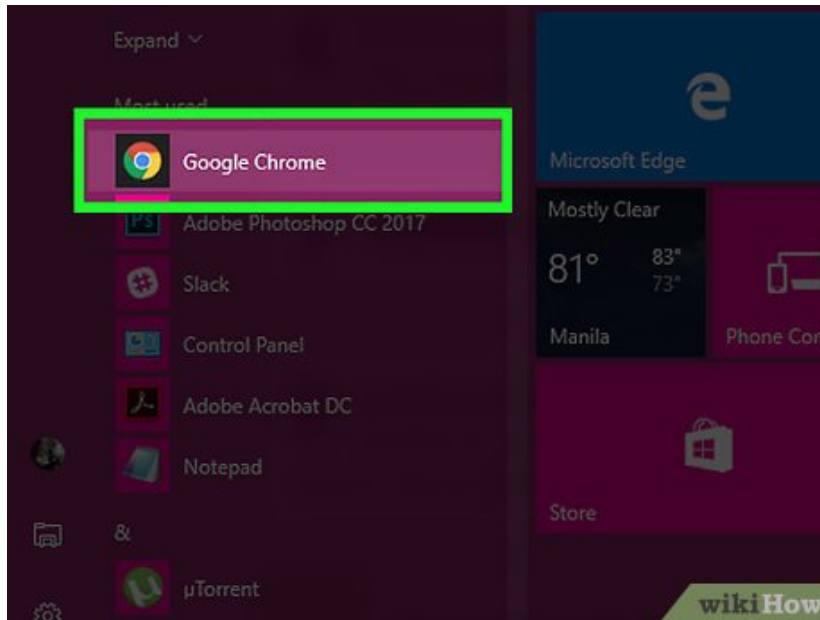
```
Administrator: Command Prompt - SFC /scannow
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.14393]
(c) 2016 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
C:\WINDOWS\system32>SFC /scannow
Beginning system scan. This process will take some time.
Beginning verification phase of system scan.
Verification 4% complete.
```

wikiHow

Wait while the scan completes. You can see the scan progress in the Command Prompt window. The scan can take quite a while, especially for slower systems or computers with large amounts of storage.

1. You can cancel the scan at any time by pressing `Ctrl + C`.

5.

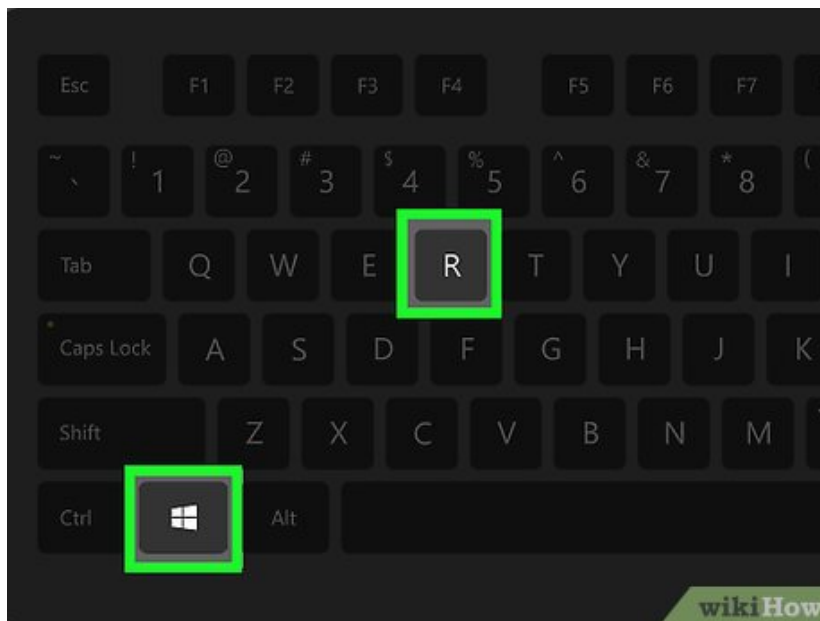


Try running the app again. If the scan was able to find and repair any problems, your app may now work.

Method 4 of 4:

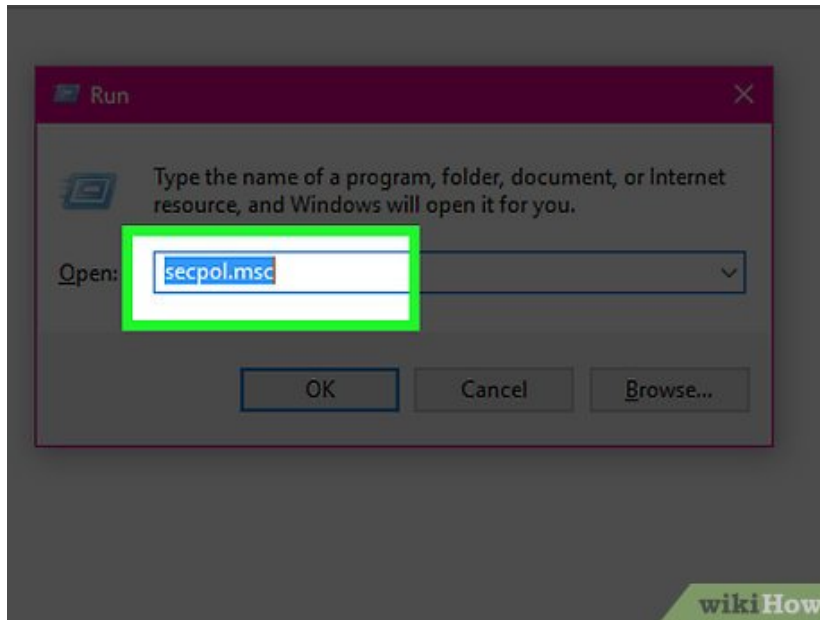
Checking Security Policies

1.



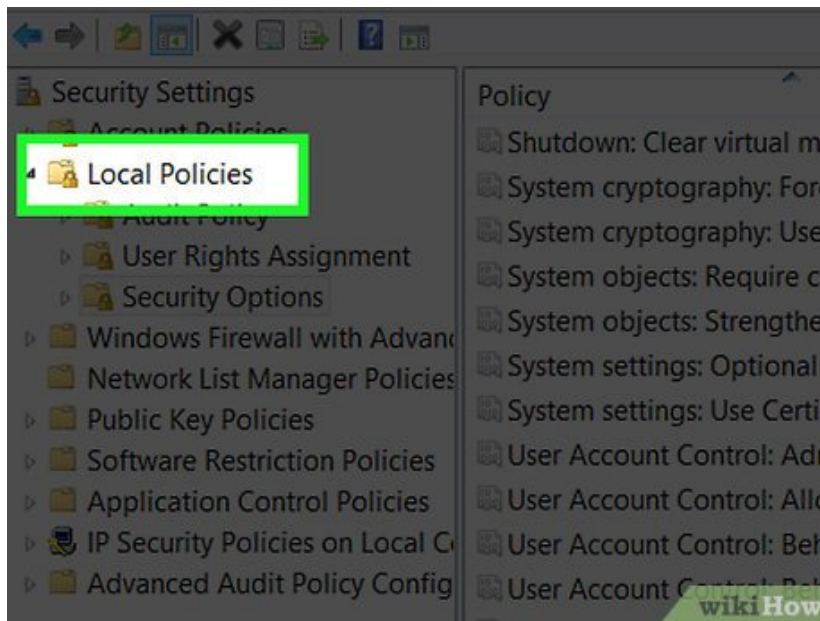
Press **Win + R**. This will open the Run window.

1. This method should only be attempted if all other methods have failed, as it involved manually editing Windows Registry entries.



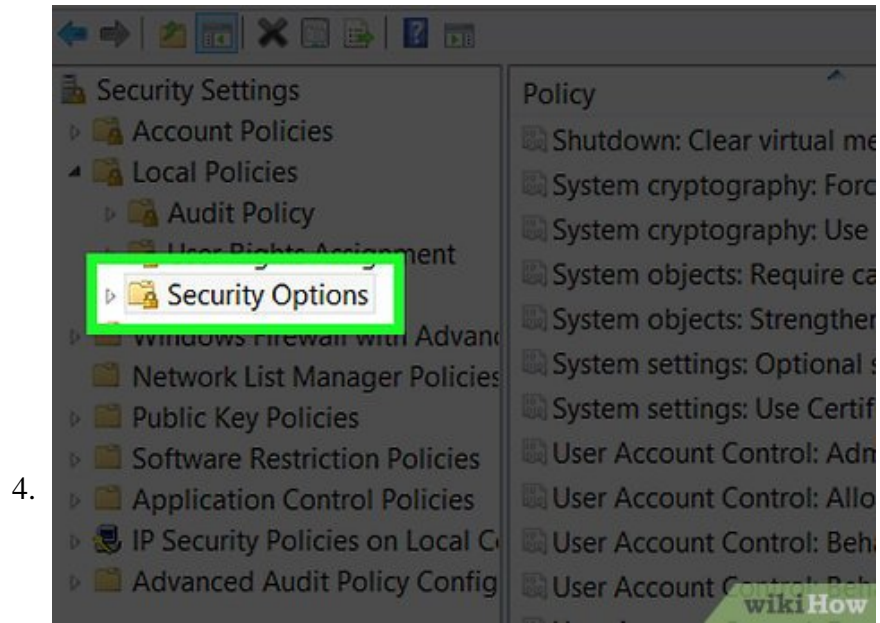
2.

Type **secpol.msc** and press **Enter**. If you get a "Windows cannot find secpol.msc" message, you are not running a compatible version of Windows. This feature is only available in Pro and Enterprise versions of Windows.

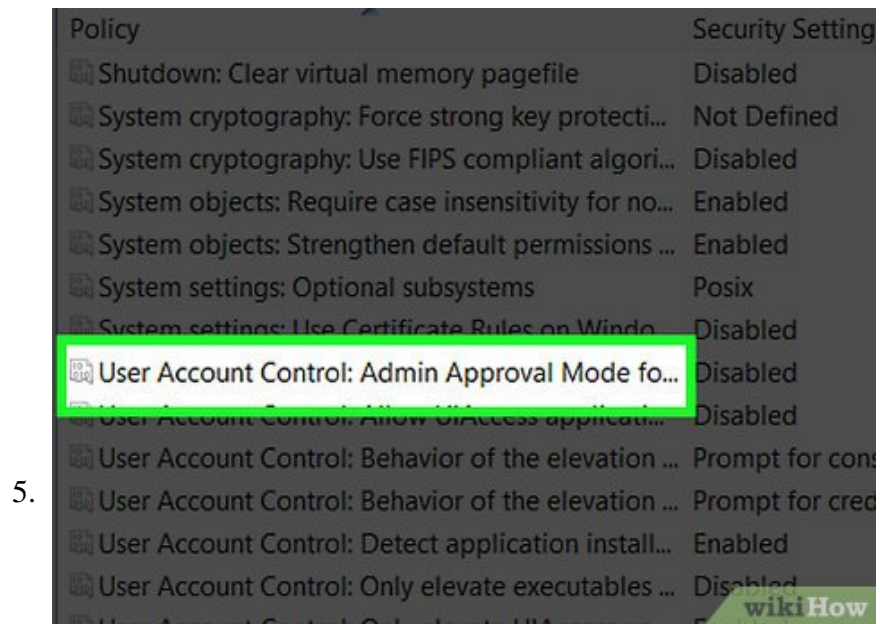


3.

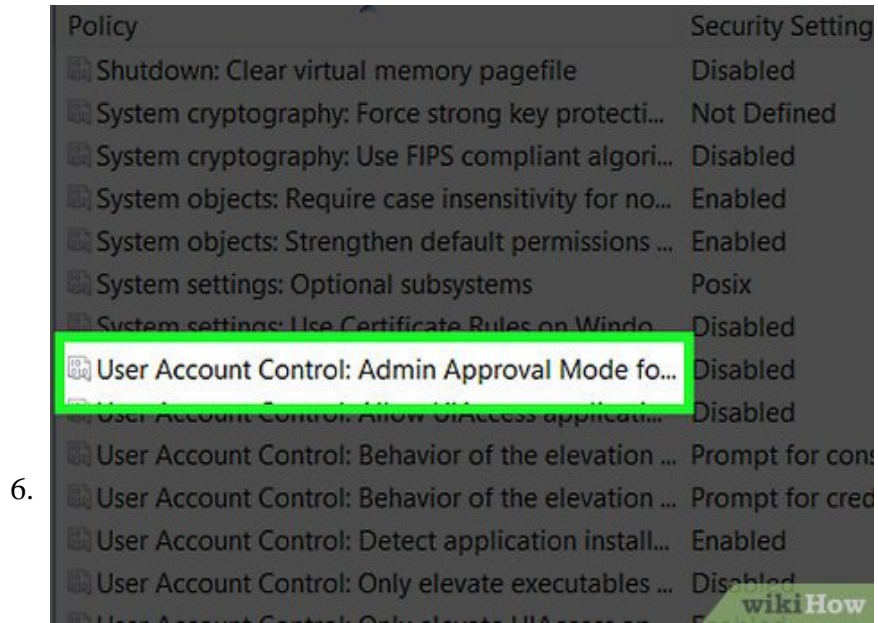
Expand the **Local Policies** folder. You'll see this in the left frame, and several folders will appear underneath it.



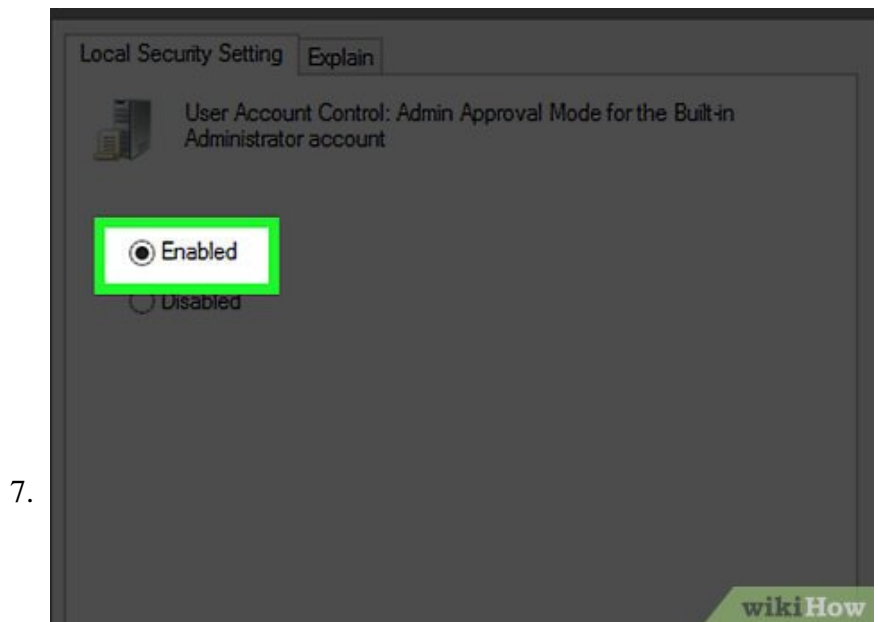
Click **Security Options**. You'll see a list of policies appear in the right frame.



Find the **User Access Control: Admin Approval Mode...** entry. You may have to scroll to find it.

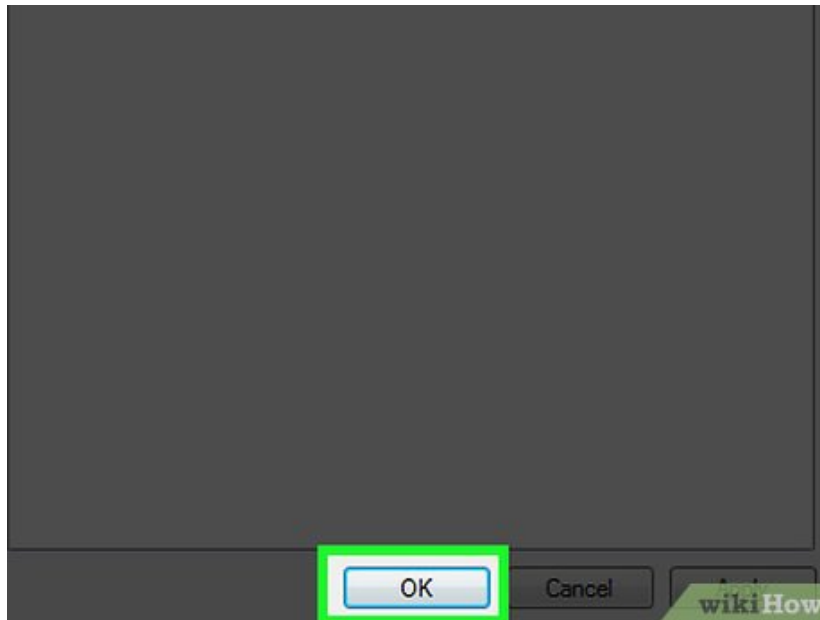


Double-click the entry.



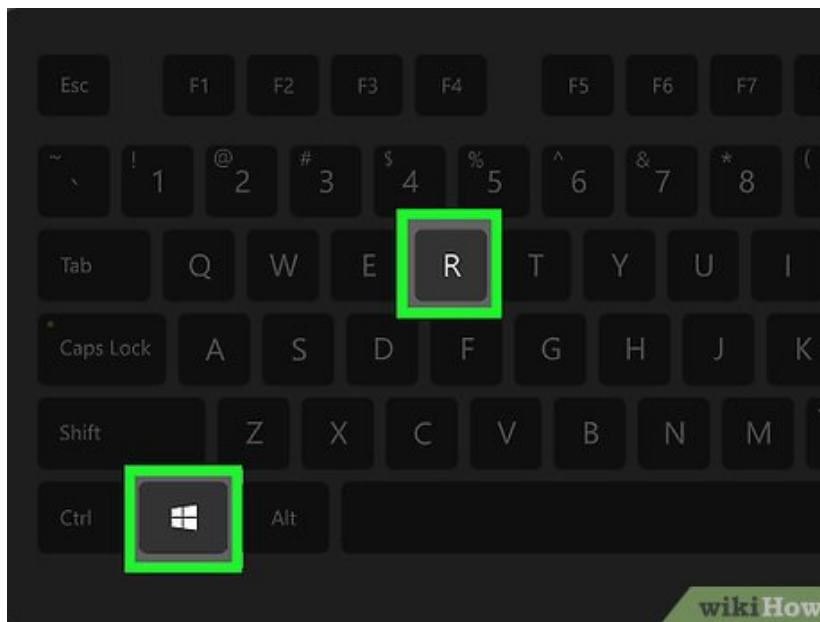
Select the **Enabled** radio button.

8.

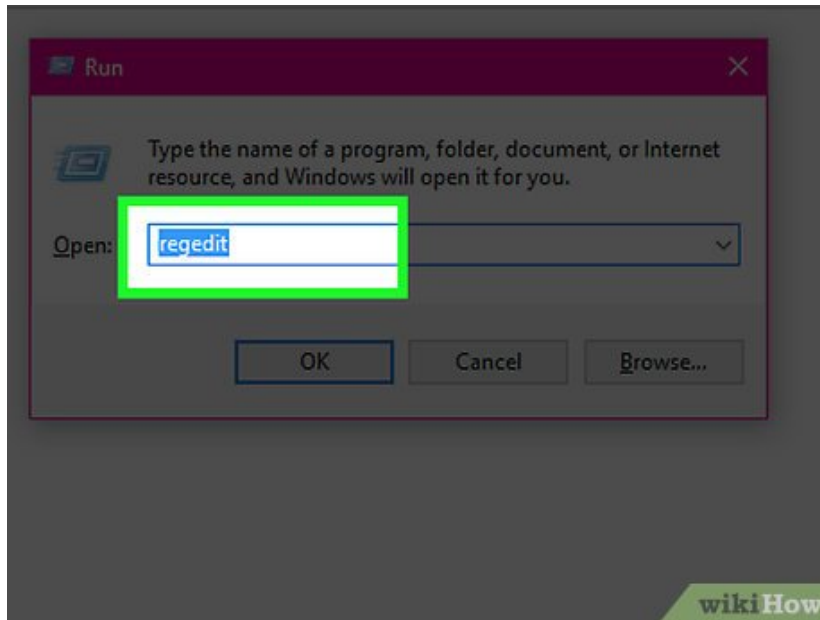


Click **OK**.

9.

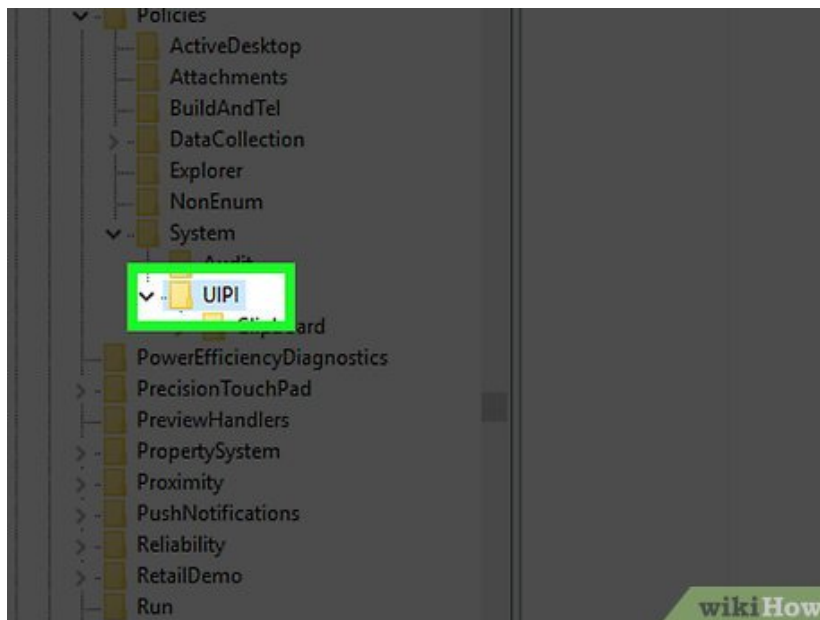


Press **Win + R**. This will open the Run window again.



10.

Type `regedit` and press `Enter`.

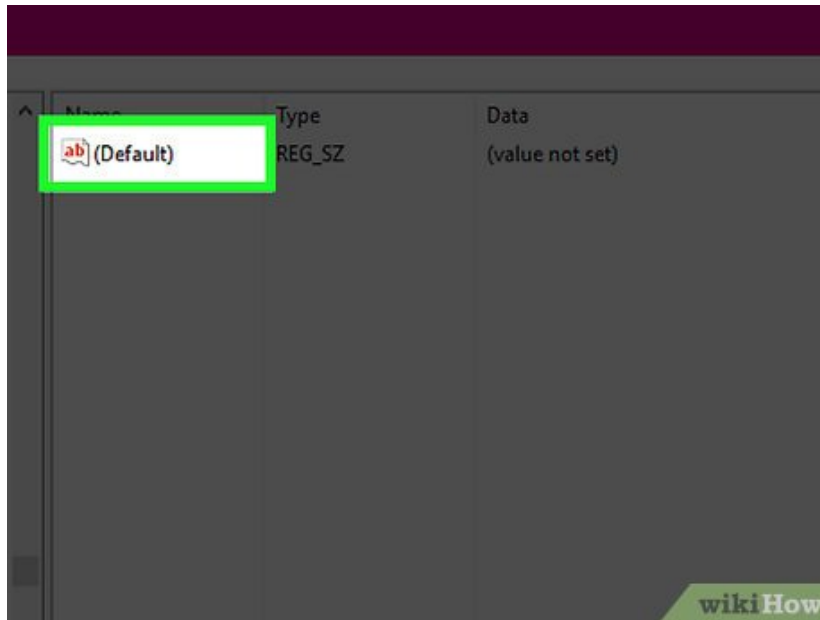


11.

Expand the directory tree to find the correct entry. Expand the directory tree in the left frame to open the following location:

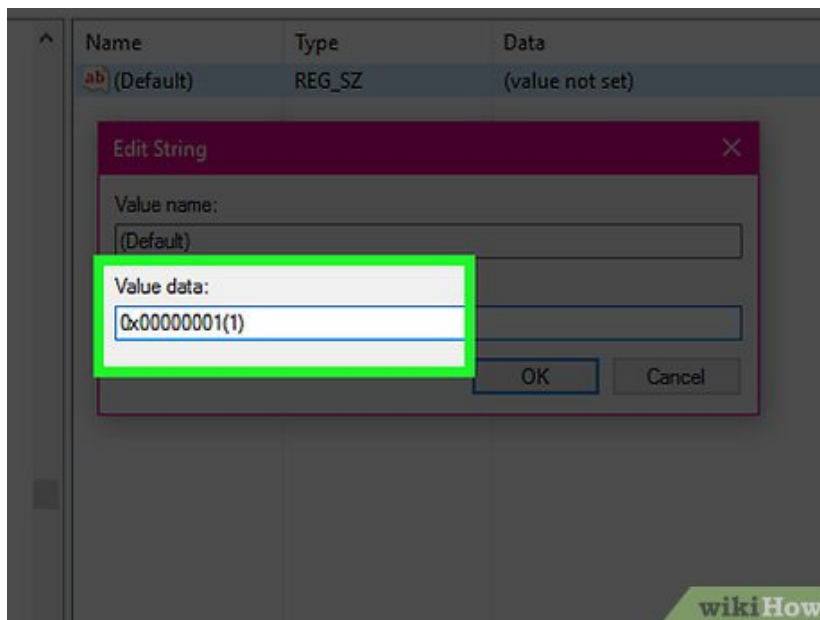
1. HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE ? SOFTWARE ? Microsoft ? Windows ? CurrentVersion ? Policies ? System ? UIPI

12.



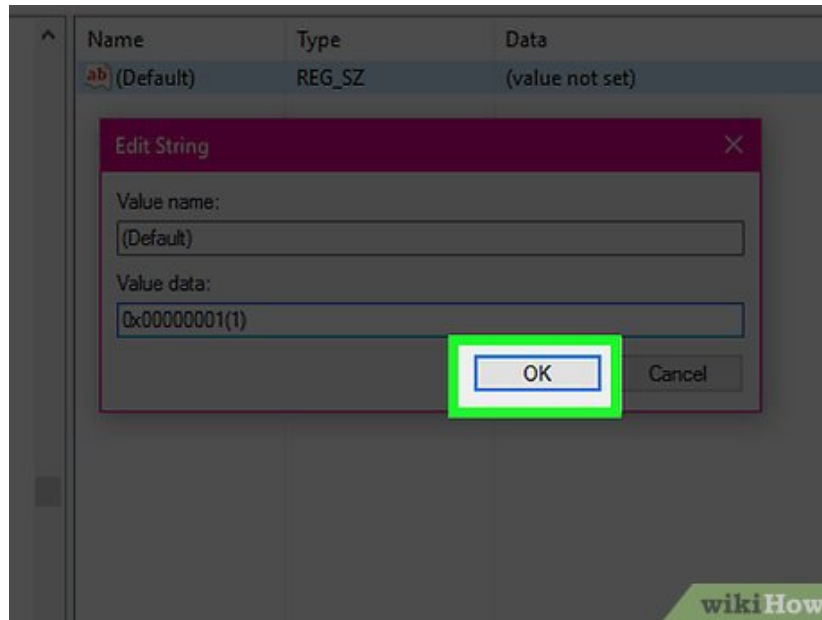
Double-click the **(Default)** item. You'll see this in the right frame after selecting the UIPI folder.

13.



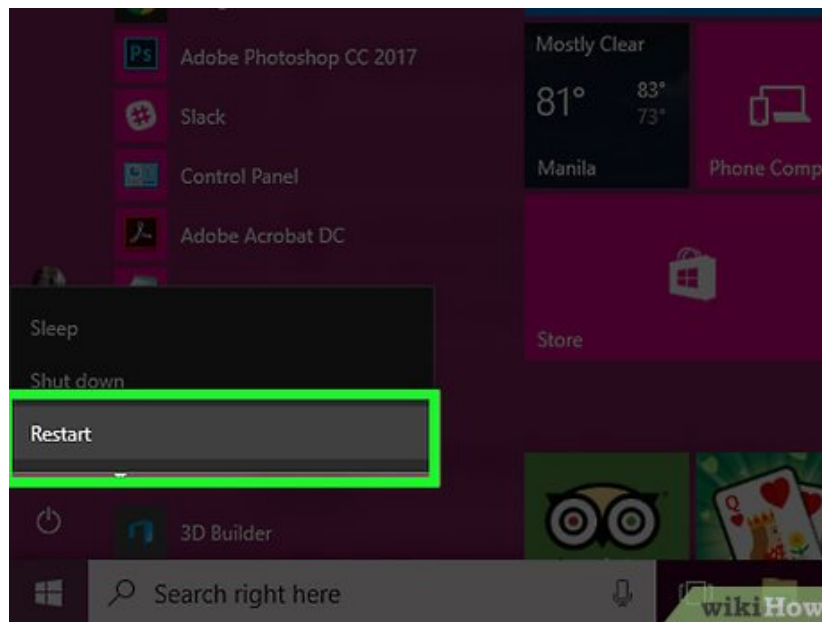
Type `0x00000001(1)` into the **Value data** field.

14.



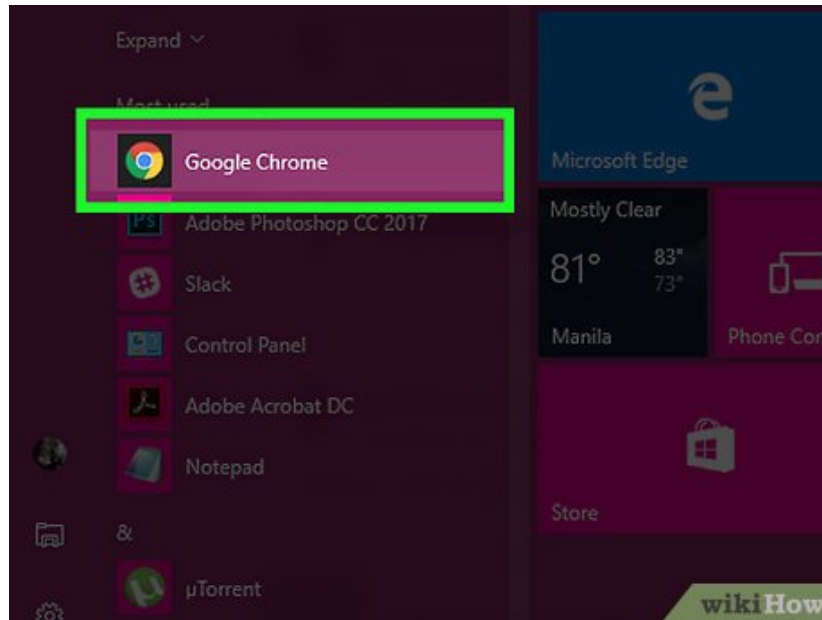
Click **OK**. This will save the changes.

15.



Restart your computer. This will apply your new security policy and registry settings.

16.



Try running your app again. If your computer's security policy settings were to blame for the app not working, it should work now.^[3]

You finished reading the article "**How to Fix the 'This App Can't Be Activated by the Built in Administrator' Error in Windows**" 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.