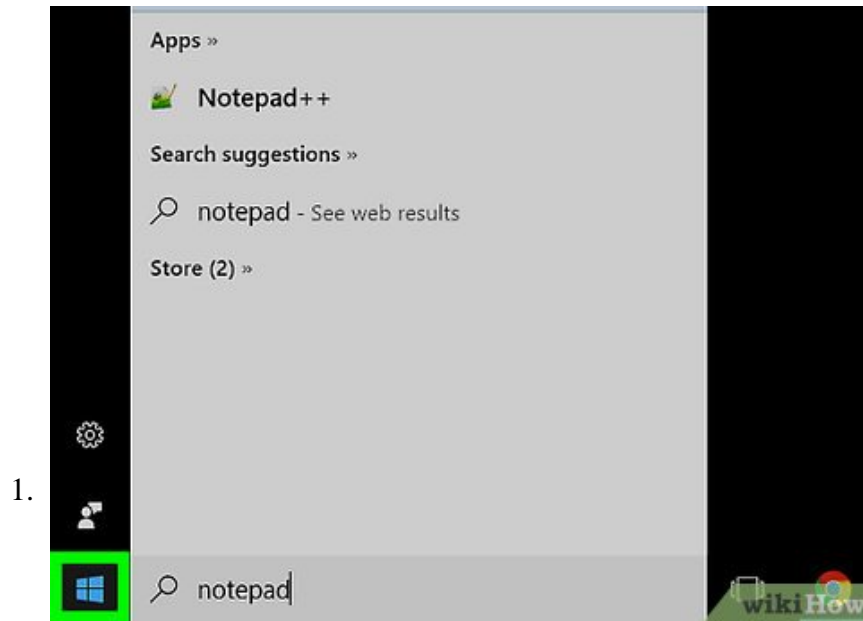


How to Make an Exe File

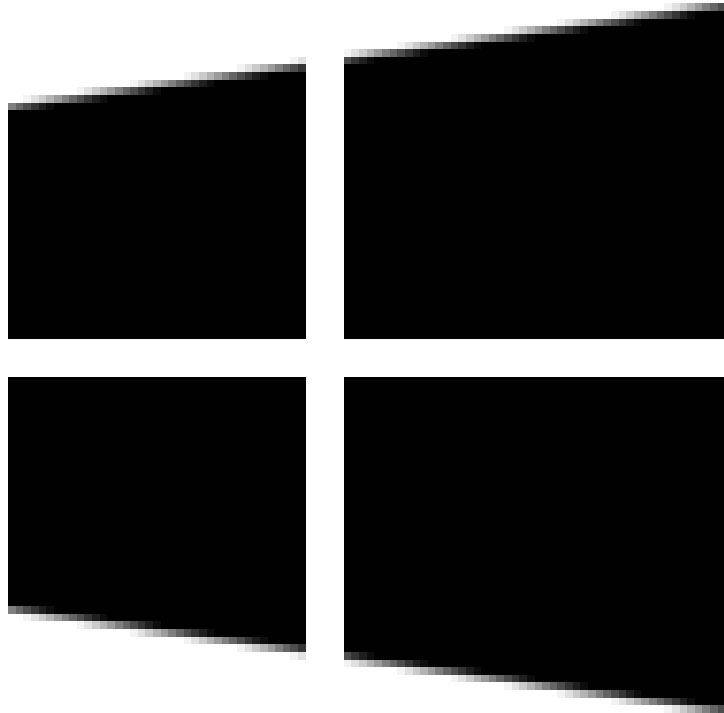
This wikiHow will teach you you how to create a basic EXE file on a Windows computer, as well as how to create a container for that file that will install it on another computer. EXE files are used to install programs or add files to a...

Part 1 of 2:

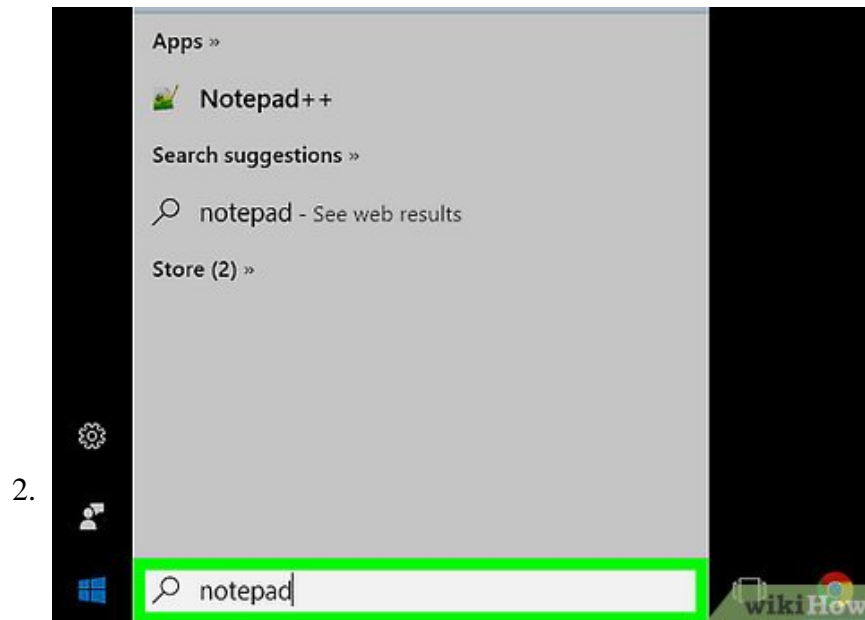
Creating an EXE File



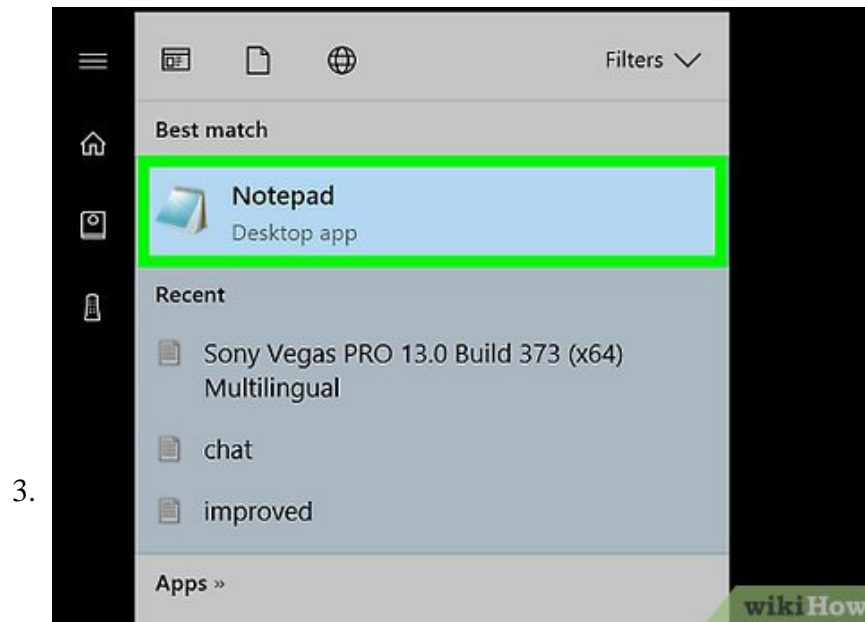
Open Start



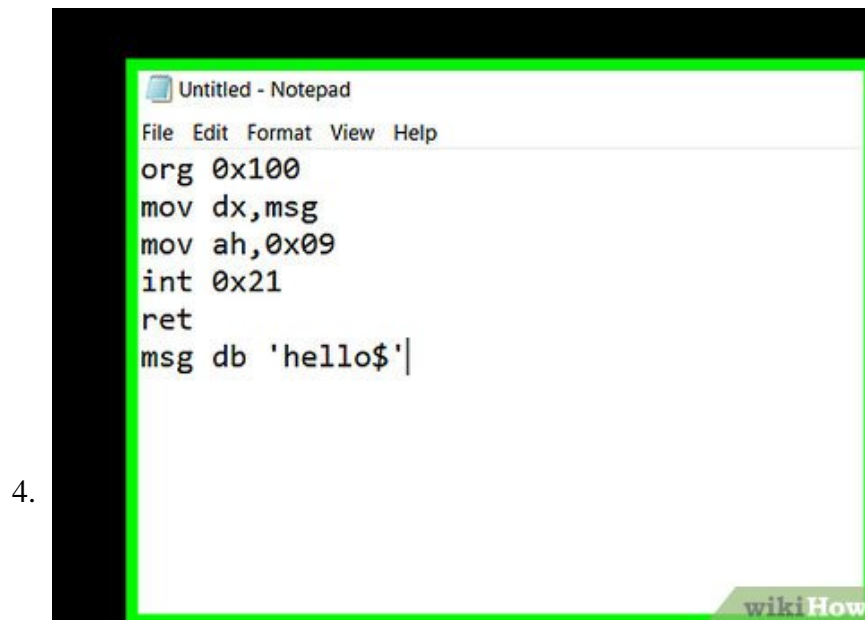
. Click the Windows logo in the bottom-left corner of the screen.



Type **notepad** into Start. This will search your computer for the Notepad app.



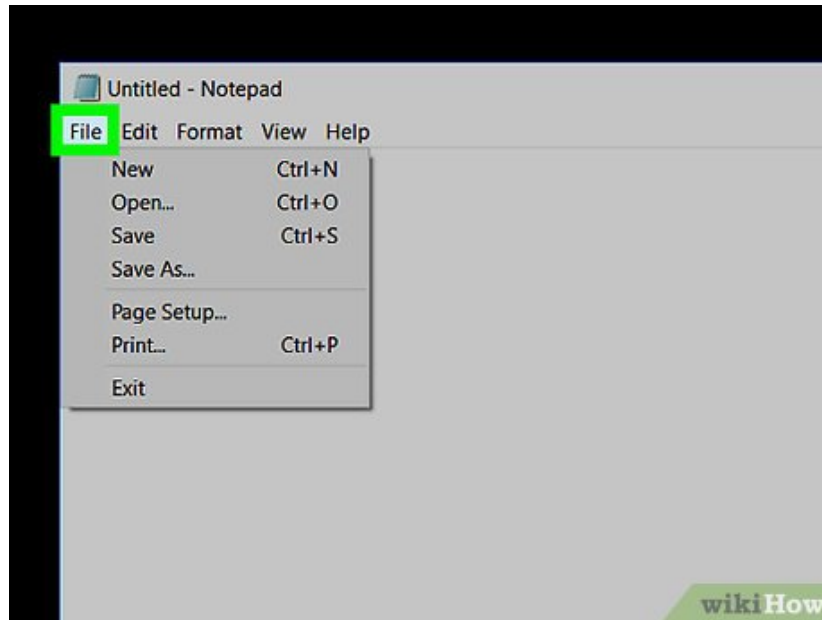
Click **Notepad**. It's a blue-and-white, notebook-shaped icon at the top of the Start window.



Enter your EXE's program code. Type in the code one line at a time, or copy and paste it into the Notepad document if you already have it typed out somewhere else on your computer.

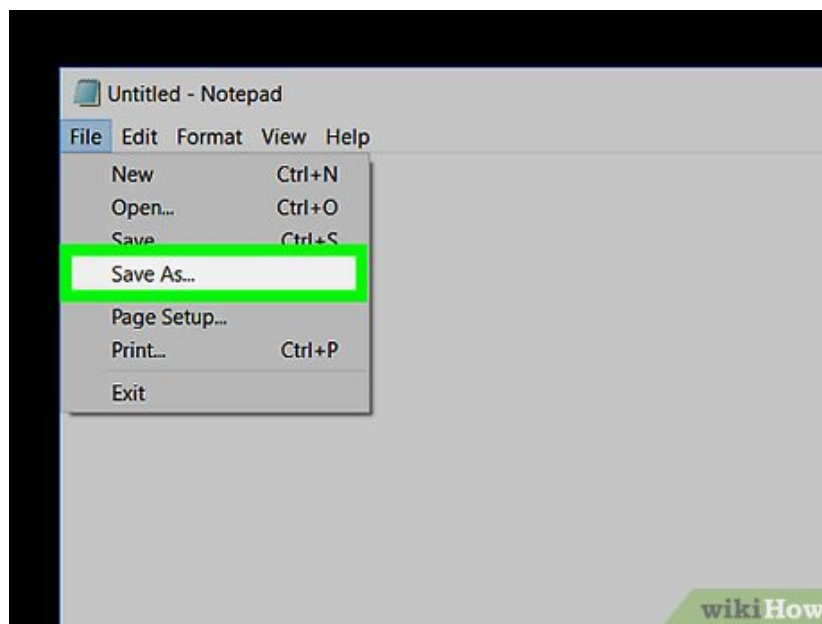
1. If you don't know how to code, you may want to have someone else perform this step for you.
2. You can also find EXE file code for basic programs online.

5.

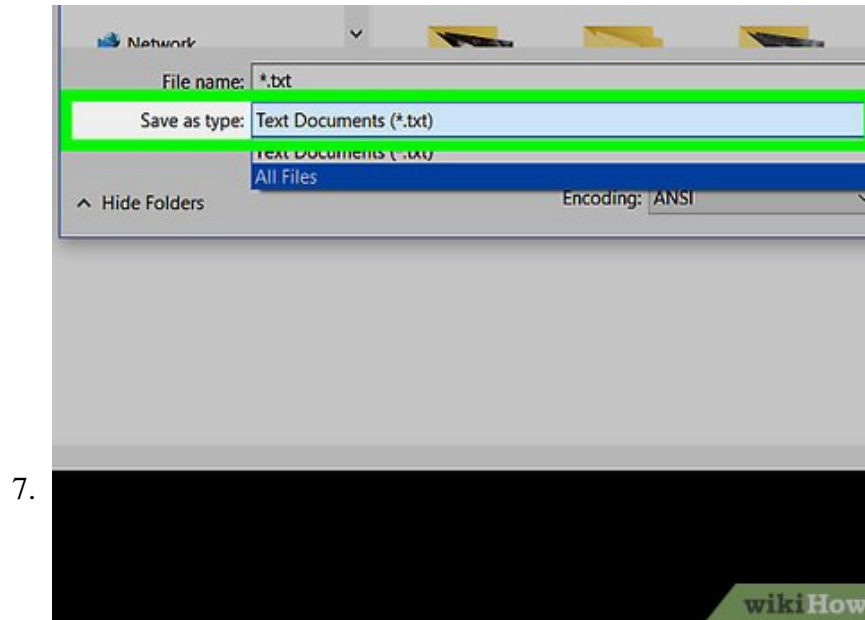


Click **File**. This option is in the top-left corner of the Notepad window. Doing so prompts a drop-down menu.

6.

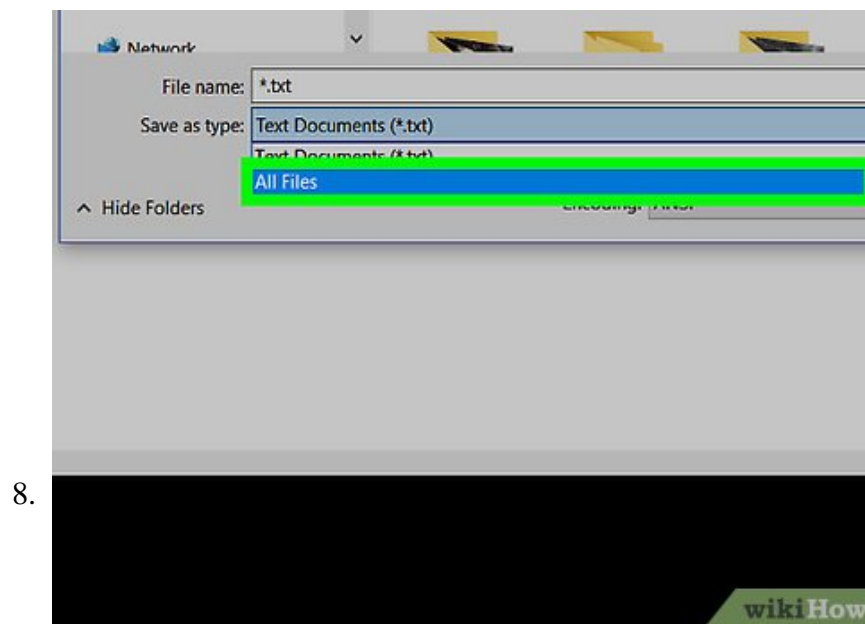


Click **Save As...**. It's in the **File** drop-down menu.

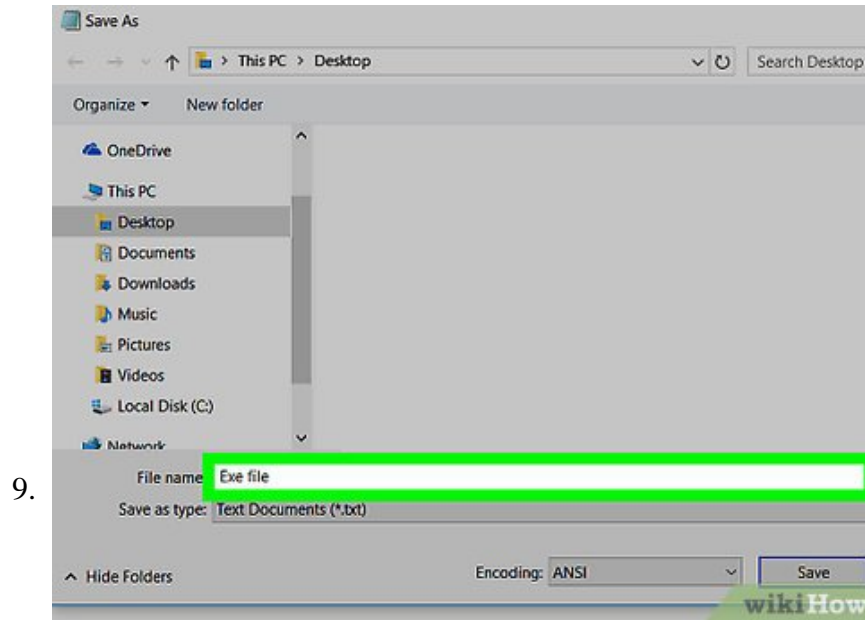


Click the "Save as type" drop-down box. You'll find this near the bottom of the window.

1. The current "Save as type" drop-down box should read **Text Documents (*.txt)**.

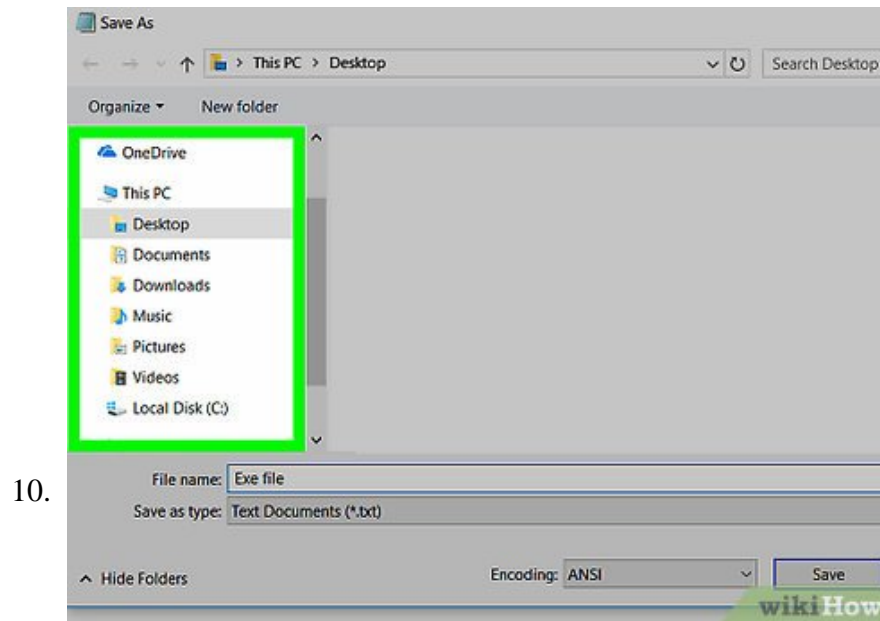


Click **All files**. It's in the drop-down box.



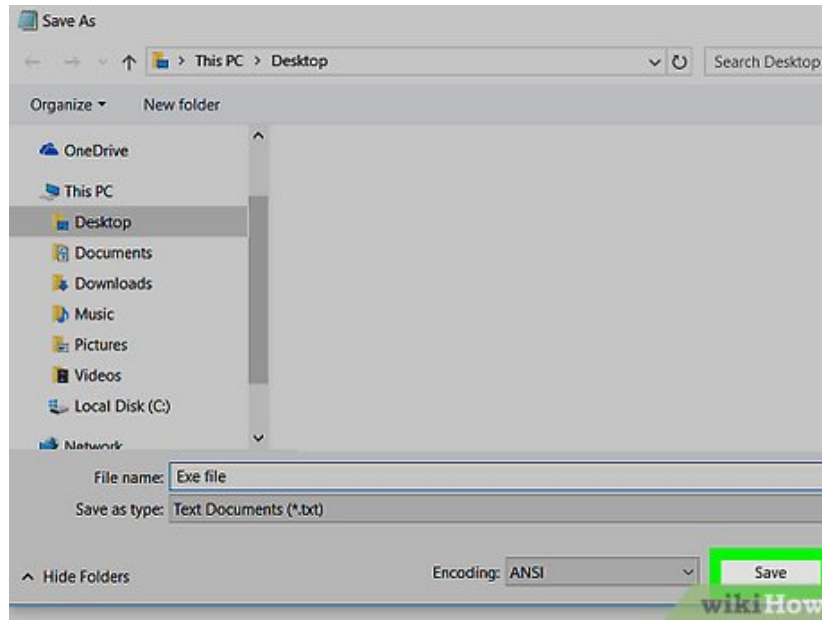
Enter a name for your EXE file. In the "File name" text box, type in a name followed by `.exe`. This will save your file as an EXE.

1. For example, to name the EXE file "bananas", you would type in `bananas.exe`.



Select a save location. Click a folder on the left side of the window to select it as the place where your file will be saved.

11.

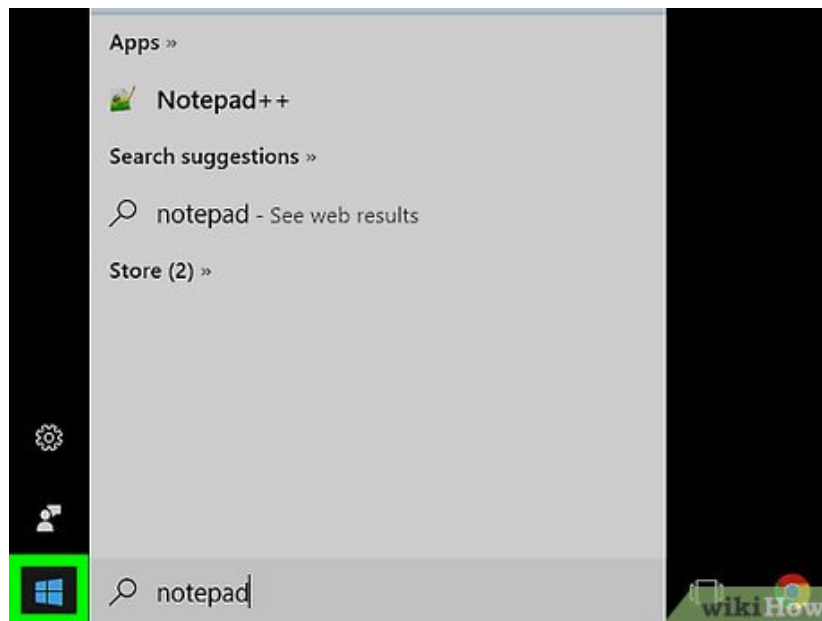


Click **Save**. It's in the bottom-right corner of the screen. This will save your EXE file in your selected location under the specified name.

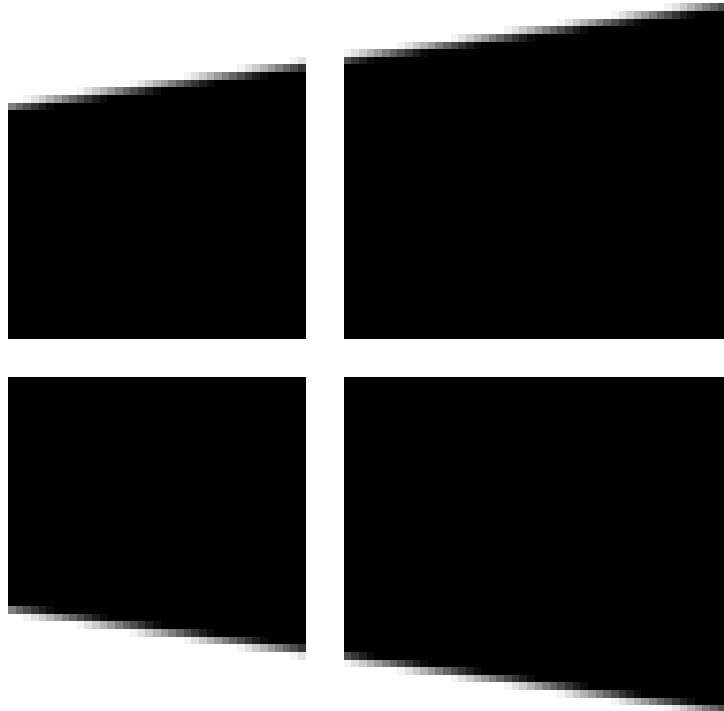
Part 2 of 2:

Creating an EXE Installer

1.



Open Start

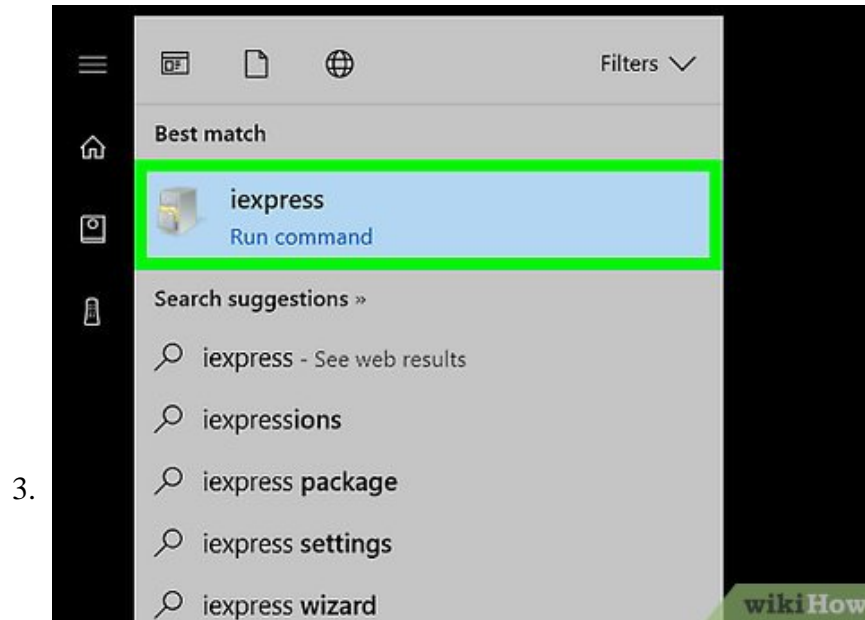


. Click the Windows logo in the bottom-left corner of the screen.

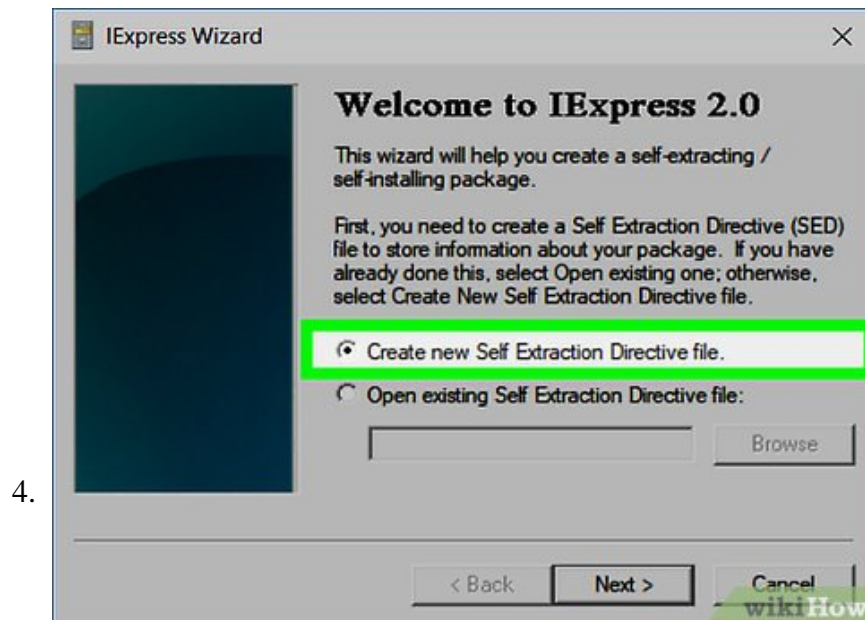


Type `iexpress` into Start. This will search for the **`iexpress`** command.

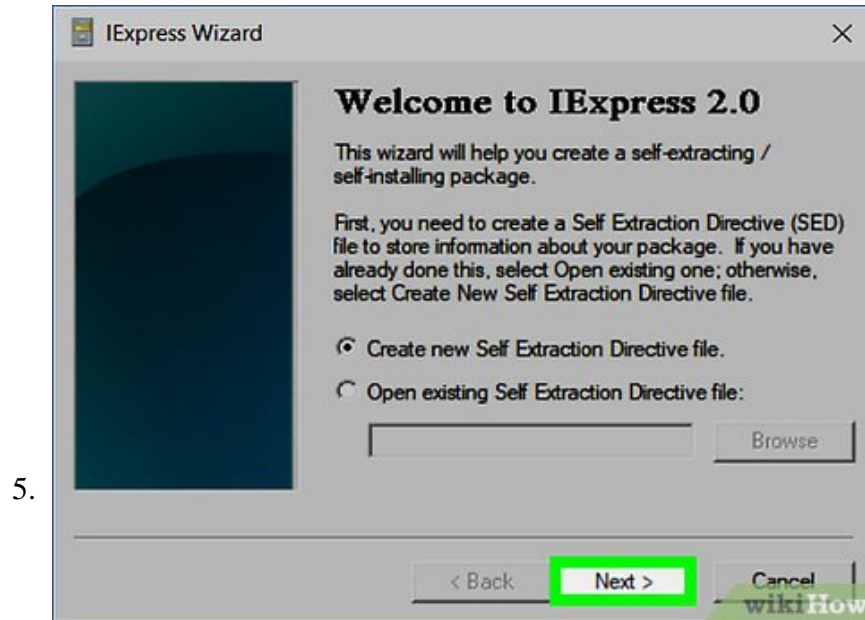
1. You have to fully type out `iexpress` in order for `iexpress` to appear.



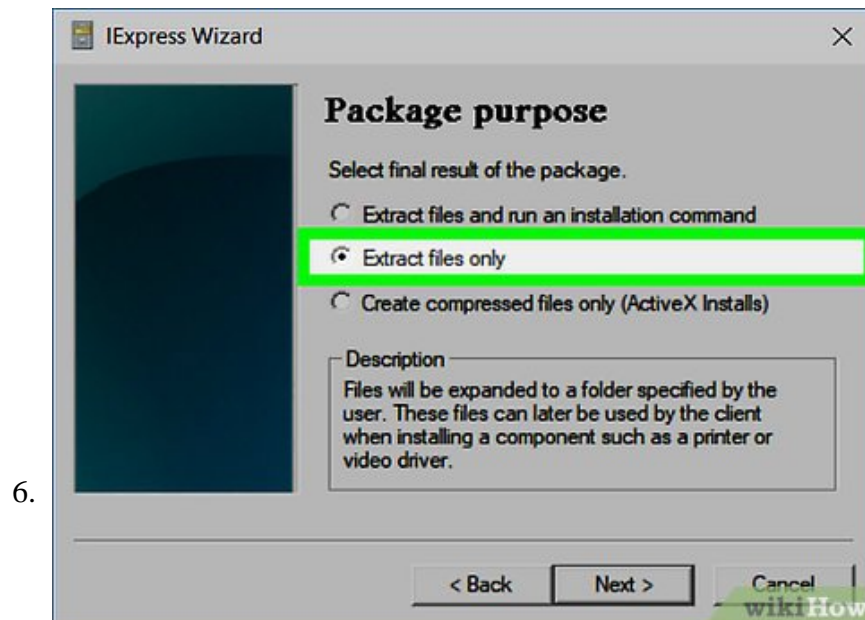
Click **iexpress**. It resembles a grey filing cabinet. You'll find this at the top of the Start window.



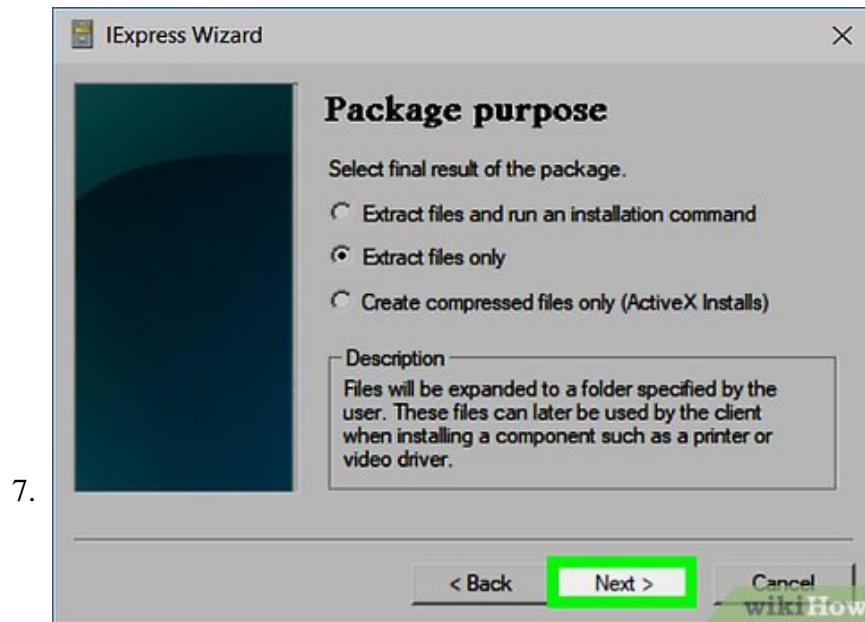
Check the "Create new Self Extraction Directive file" box. It's in the middle of the page. This option should be checked by default, but if it isn't, check it.



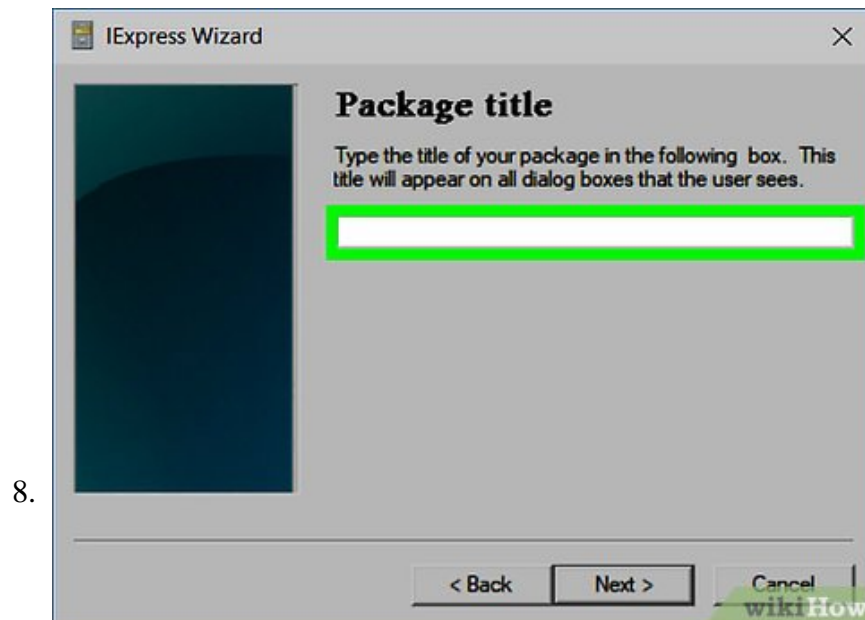
Click **Next**. This is in the bottom-right corner of the window.



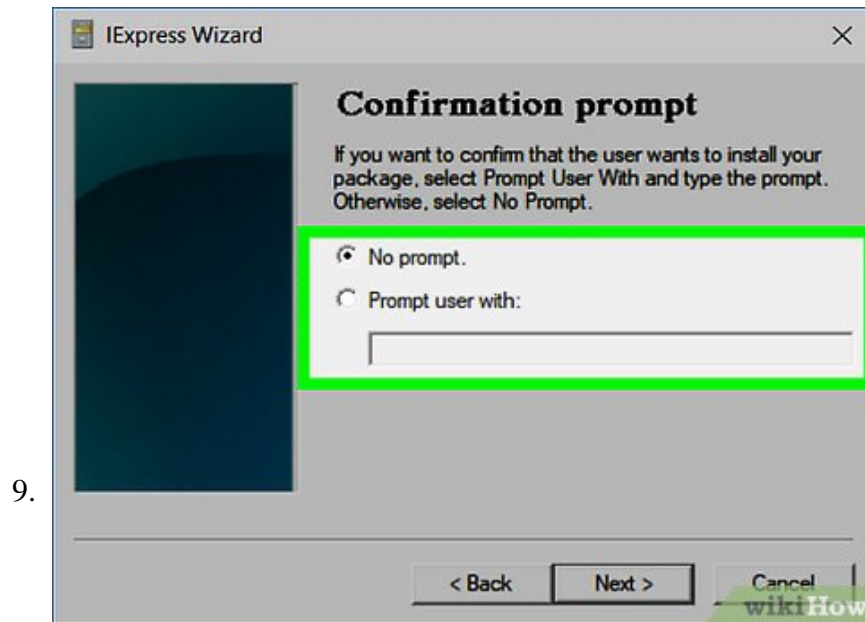
Check the "Extract files only" box. It's in the middle of the page.



Click **Next**.

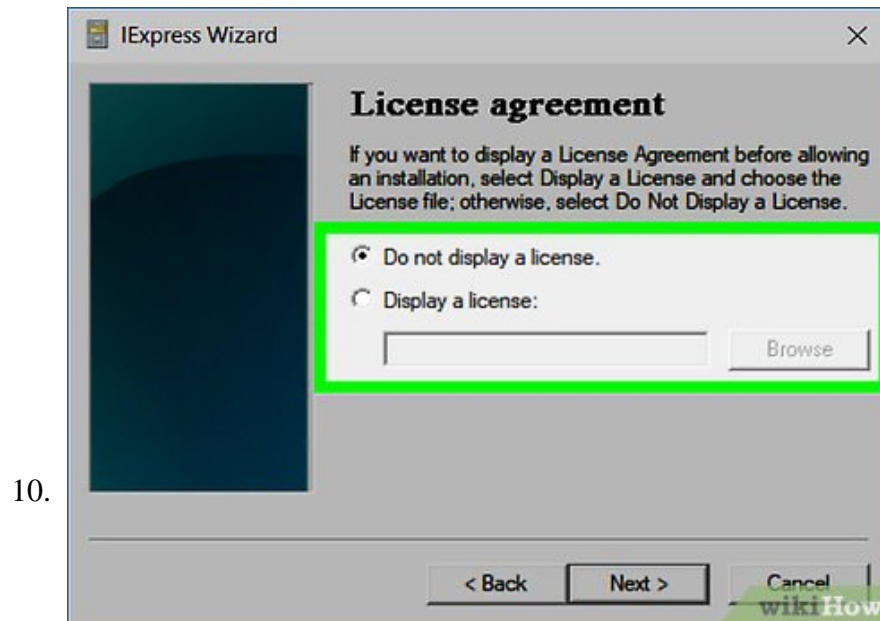


Enter a name for your EXE file. Type the file's name into the text field in the middle of the window, then click **Next**.

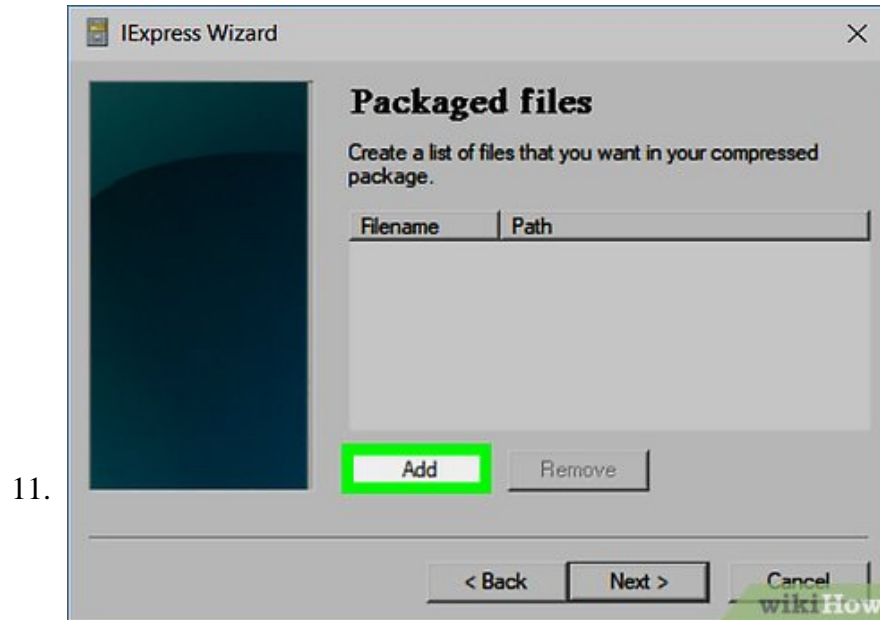


Decide whether or not you want to use a text prompt. Click **Next** to skip using a text prompt, or check "Prompt user with" and then type a word or phrase into the text box before clicking **Next**.

1. Using a prompt will cause a window with your typed text to appear to the user of the EXE file.

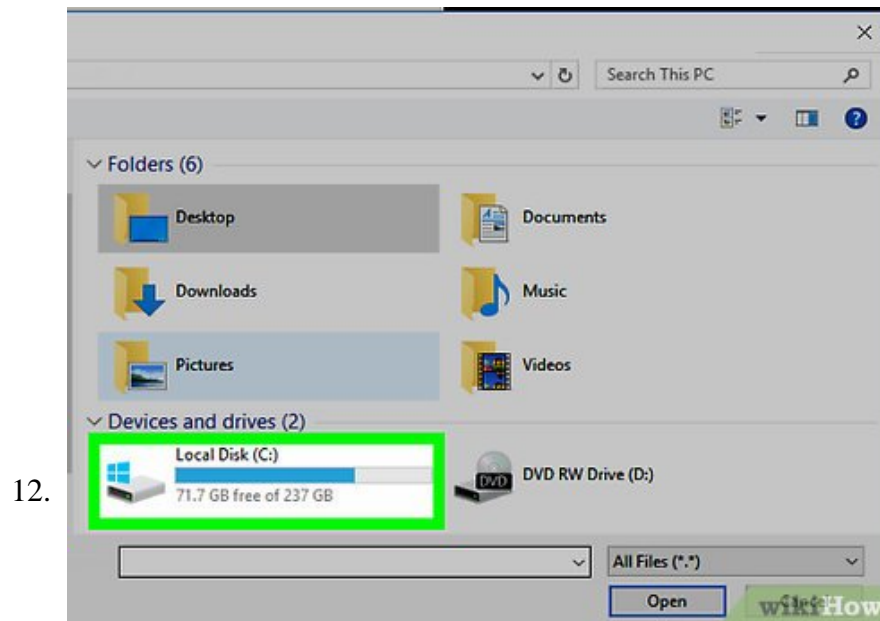


Decide whether or not to use a license. If you don't want to show the EXE user a license agreement that they have to read and agree to, just click **Next**. If you want to use a license agreement, check the "Display a license" box, then click **Browse**, select a text document that contains the license agreement, and click **Open**. You'll have to click **Next** to proceed.



Click `Add`. It's below the box in the middle of the window. Doing so will open a new File Explorer window in which you can select files to add to your EXE installer.

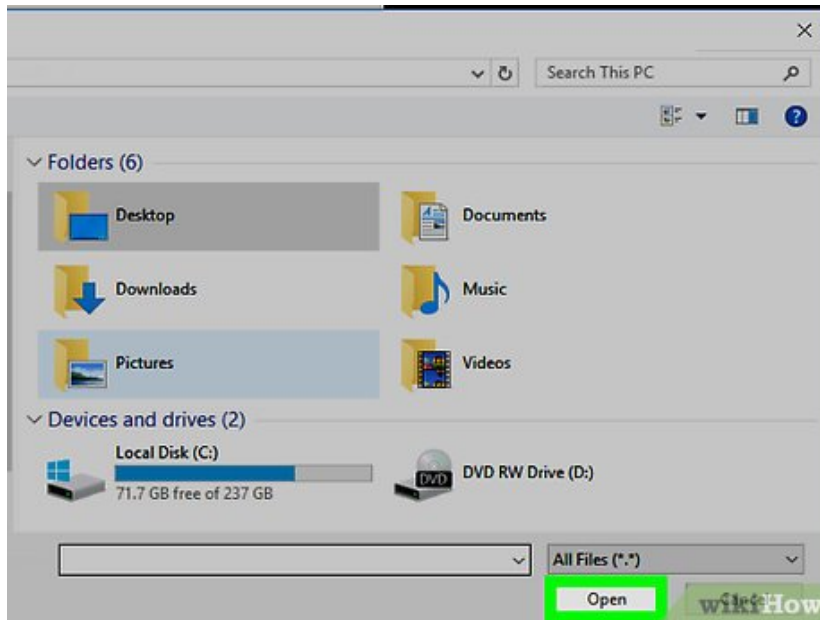
1. Files that you add to the EXE installer will be installed for whoever opens the EXE installer.



Select files to add. Click a file location on the left side of the File Explorer window, then select files by clicking and dragging the mouse across a group of files you want to use.

1. You can also select files independently by holding `Ctrl` while clicking individual files.

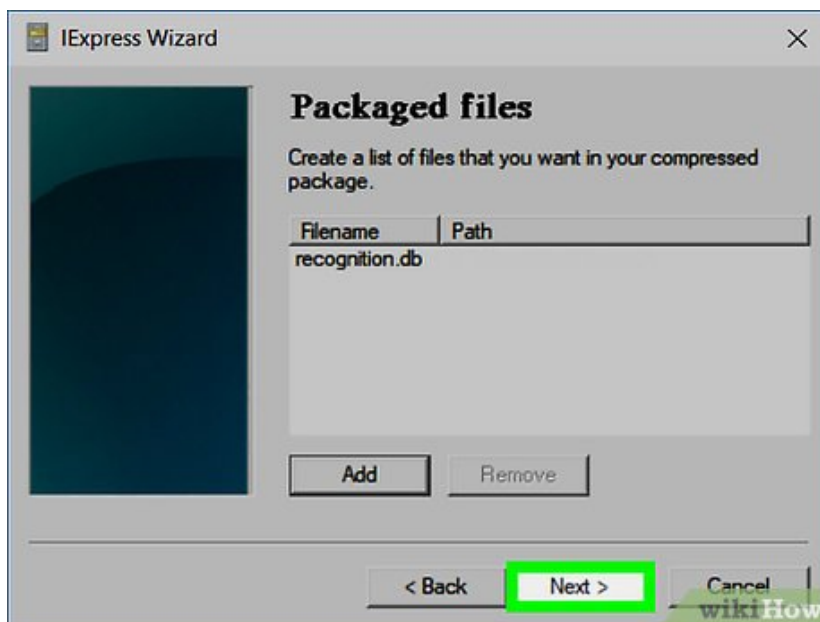
13.



Click **Open**. It's in the bottom-right corner of the window. Doing so adds your files to your EXE installer.

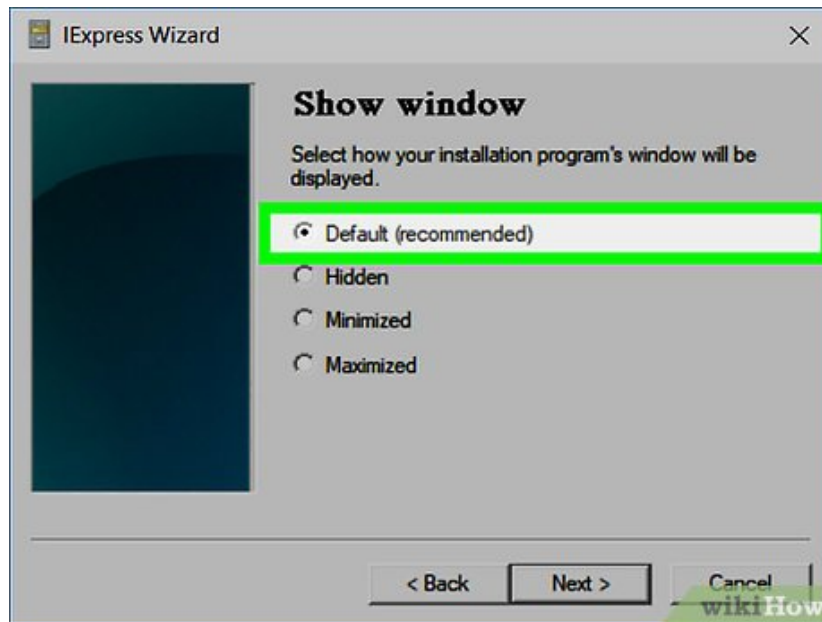
1. You can also add more files after this point by clicking **Add** again and then selecting more files to add.

14.



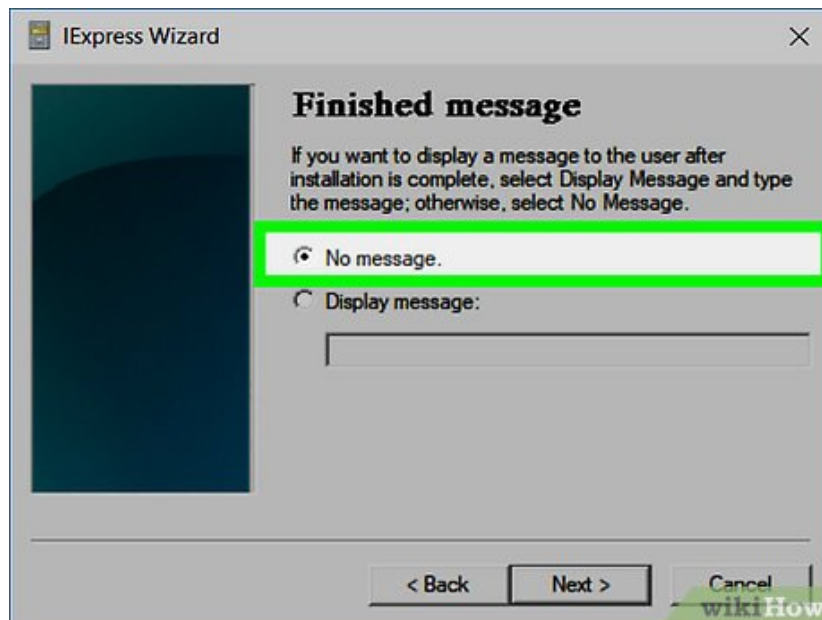
Click **Next**.

15.



Check the "Default" box, then click **Next**. This box is at the top of the window.

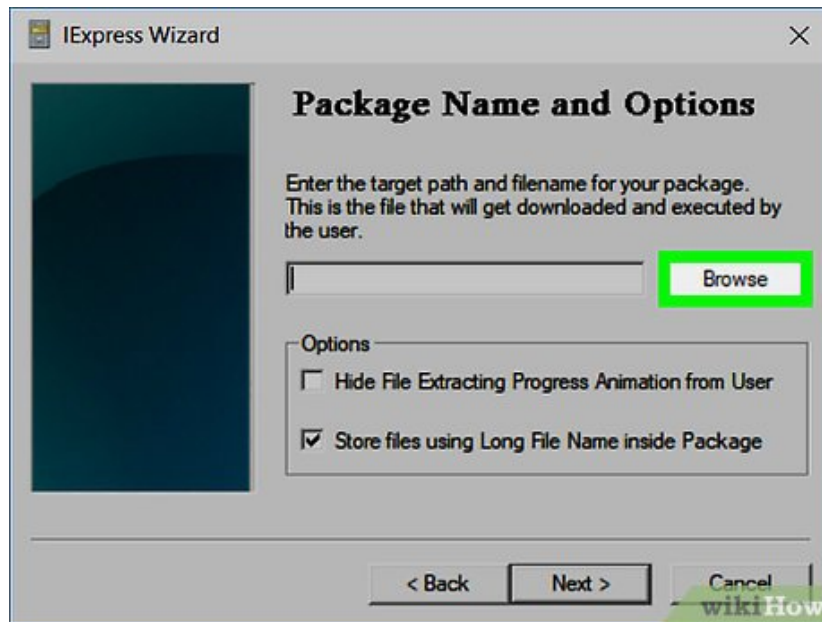
16.



Decide whether or not to include a final message. Once your EXE installer finishes running, you can choose to display a message for the user. To do so, check the "Display message" box, type in the message you want to use, and click **Next**.

1. If you want to skip the final message, just click **Next**.

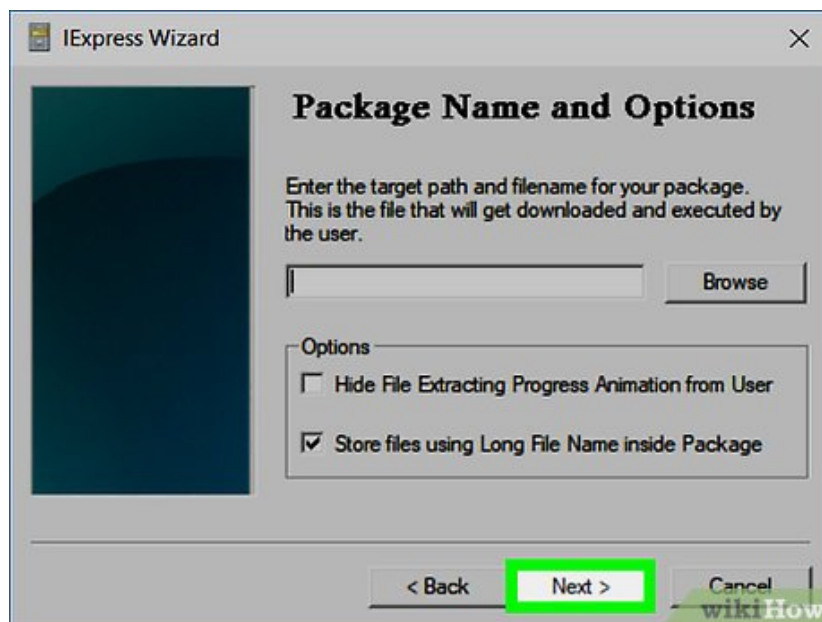
17.



Add the program that you want to install. This is the EXE program that you created earlier. Click **Browse**, navigate to the file's location, click the file, and click **Save**.

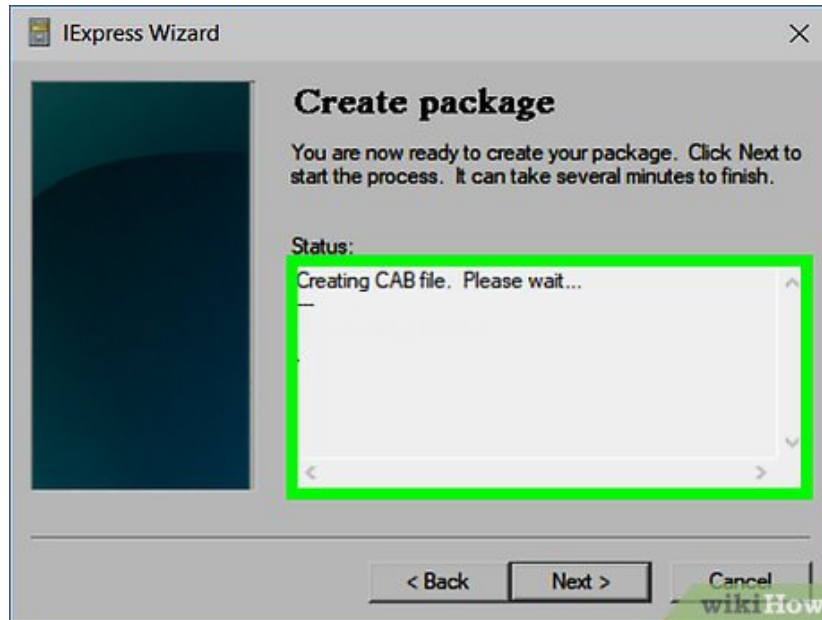
1. You can also check the "Hide File Extracting Process Animation from User" box to ensure that the EXE installs without much visual input.

18.



Click **Next** **three times.** This will create the EXE installer. Depending on how many files you're adding to the EXE installer, this process can take anywhere from a few seconds to a few minutes.

19.



Click **Finish** . It's at the bottom of the window. Doing so will save the file. Your EXE installer is now ready for use.

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