

How to open Command Prompt on Windows 10, 8, 7, Vista and XP

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Command Prompt is one of the command line interface programs used to execute commands in the Windows operating system. Some common Command Prompt commands you may have heard of are ping, netstat, tracert, shutdown, attrib and many other commands.

Although Command Prompt is not a regular use tool, it is very useful in troubleshooting some Windows problems or automating certain tasks. The article will guide you how to open Command Prompt on Windows 10, 8, 7, Vista and XP.

How to open Command Prompt in Windows 10

See the article 12 ways to open CMD - Command Prompt easily on Windows 10 to know how to open Command Prompt in Windows 10.

How to open Command Prompt in Windows 8 or 8.1

Step 1: Swipe up to display the **Apps** screen or click the down arrow icon at the bottom of the screen.

Note: Before updating Windows 8.1, you can access the Apps screen from the Start screen by swiping from the bottom of the screen or right-clicking anywhere and then selecting **All apps** .

Tip: If you use the keyboard or mouse, how to open the fastest Command Prompt window in Windows 8 is through the Power User menu, just press the combination of **Win** and **X** or right-click the **Start** button and select **Command Prompt** .

1. Add Command Prompt to Power User Menu on Windows 10

Step 2: On the Apps screen, swipe or scroll right and find the section titled Windows System.

Step 3: In the Windows System, tap or click the **Command Prompt** . The new Command Prompt window will open on the Desktop.

Step 4: Now you can execute any command with the Command Prompt.

```
Command Prompt
Directory of C:\
[SysReset]      HaxLogs.txt      [PerFlogs]      [Program Files]      [Program Files (x86)]
[Temp]          [Users]          [Windows]       [Windows.old]
               1 File(s)         93 bytes
               8 Dir(s)  30,413,103,104 bytes free

C:\>ping www.google.com

Pinging www.google.com [172.217.3.4] with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 172.217.3.4: bytes=32 time=51ms TTL=53
Reply from 172.217.3.4: bytes=32 time=51ms TTL=53
Reply from 172.217.3.4: bytes=32 time=53ms TTL=53
Reply from 172.217.3.4: bytes=32 time=51ms TTL=53

Ping statistics for 172.217.3.4:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
    Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
        Minimum = 51ms, Maximum = 53ms, Average = 51ms

C:\>dir /w
Volume in drive C has no label.
Volume Serial Number is F8BF-5824

Directory of C:\
[SysReset]      HaxLogs.txt      [PerFlogs]      [Program Files]      [Program Files (x86)]
[Temp]          [Users]          [Windows]       [Windows.old]
               1 File(s)         93 bytes
               8 Dir(s)  30,413,168,640 bytes free

C:\>cd users
C:\Users>
```

How to use Command Prompt in Windows 7, Vista or XP

Step 1: Click **Start** (Windows XP) or **Start** button (Windows 7 or Vista).

Tip: In Windows 7 and Windows Vista, there is a faster way to open the Command Prompt is to enter the command in the search box at the bottom of the Start menu and then click the **Command Prompt** in the result.

Step 2: Click **All Programs** then **Accessories** .

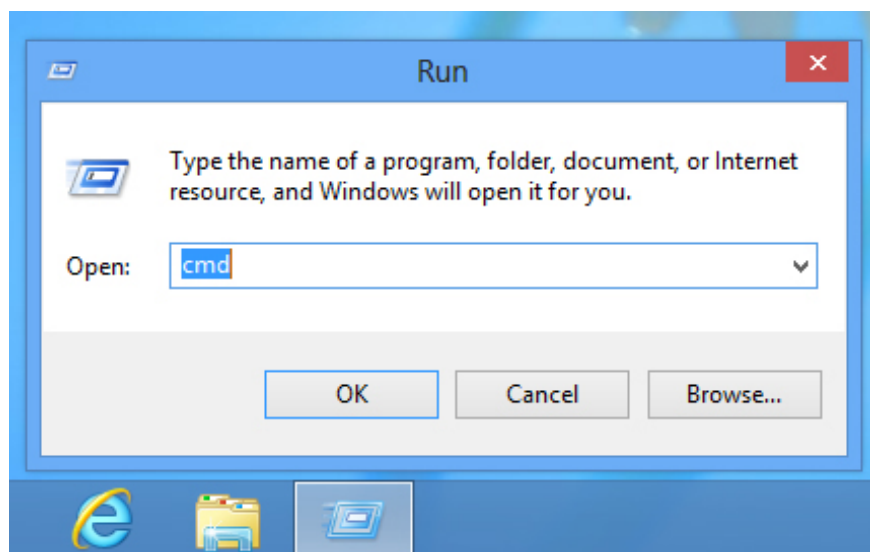
Step 3 : Select **Command Prompt** from the list of programs.

Step 4: Command Prompt is opened and ready to execute the command.

CMD commands , Elevated Command Prompt and Windows 98 & 95

In all versions of Windows, Command Prompt is opened by running **cmd** in the search fields or Cortana in Windows or via the Run dialog (using the **Win + R** shortcut to open the Run dialog box).

1. How to use Cortana to turn off or restart Windows 10?



In Windows XP pre-released versions, like Windows 98 and Windows 95, there is no Command Prompt. However, there is an older program but very much like the Command Prompt is MS-DOS Prompt, this program is in the Start Menu and also opened with the run command.

Some commands, such as the sfc command used to fix Windows files, require opening the Command Prompt as admin before executing the command. Users need to open the Command Prompt as an admin when receiving the message "check that you have administrative rights" or ". command can be executed from an elevated command prompt" after executing the command. See the article [How to Open Command Prompt under Admin on Windows 8 and 10](#) to know how to open the Command Prompt as an administrator.

See also: [21 Command Prompt tricks you may not know yet](#)

You finished reading the article "**How to open Command Prompt on Windows 10, 8, 7, Vista and XP**" 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.