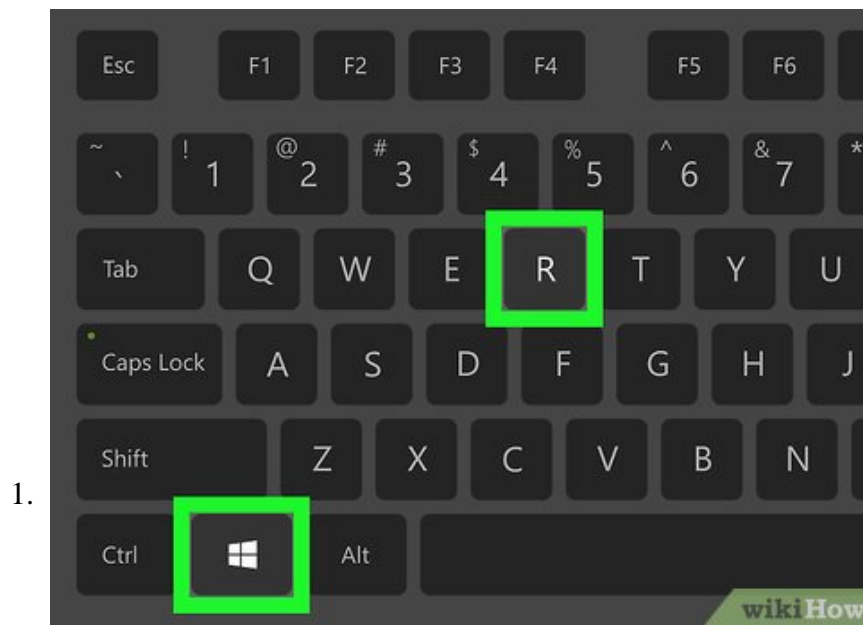


How to Run a Batch File from the Command Line on Windows

This wikiHow teaches you how to run a batch file (.BAT) from the Windows command line. You can run the program from the 'Run' dialog or by typing commands into a terminal window. Press **Win** + **R**. This opens the Run dialog.

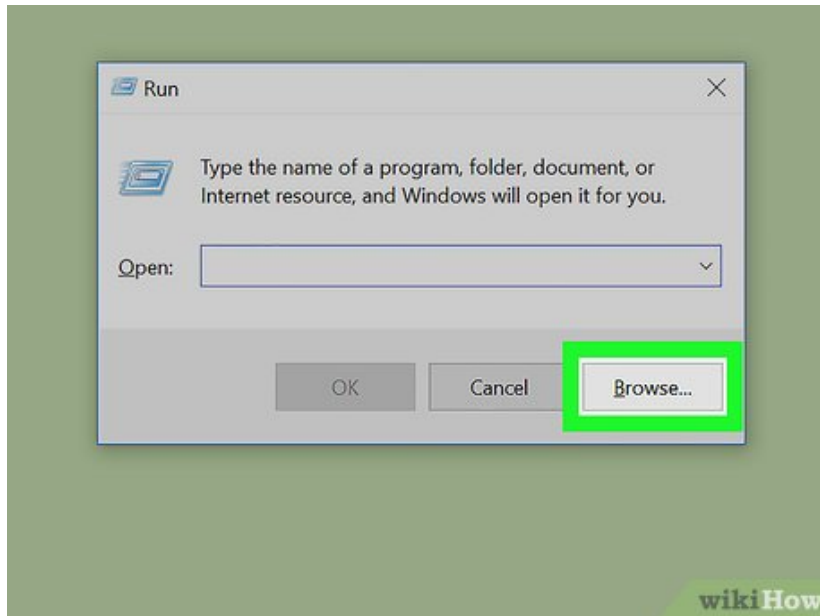
Method 1 of 2:

Using Run



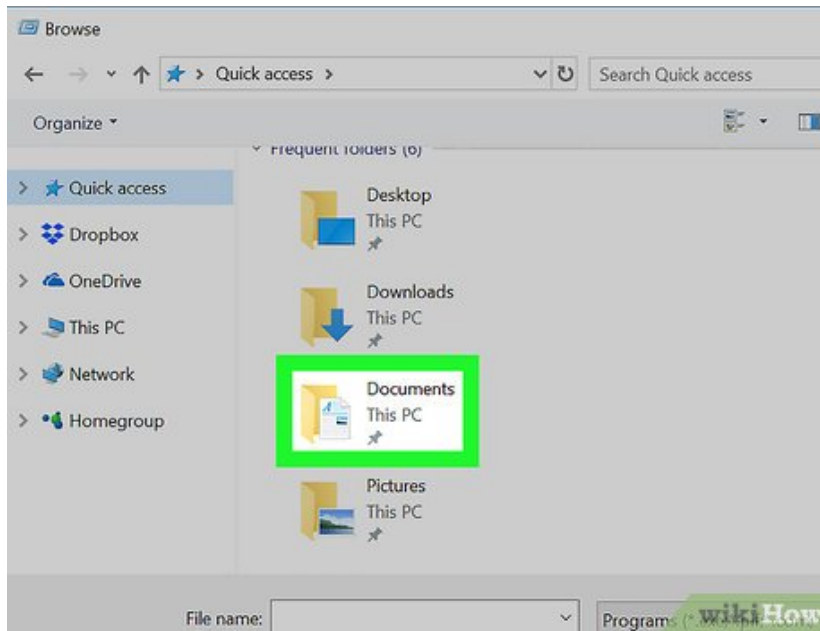
Press **Win** + **R**. This opens the Run dialog.

1. If you need to run the batch file as an administrator, see this method instead.



2.

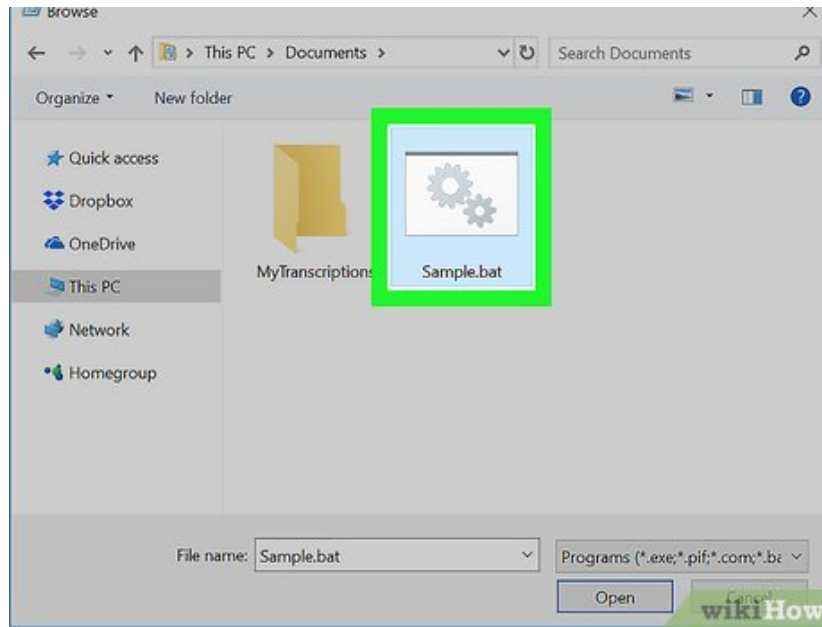
Click **Browse...**.



3.

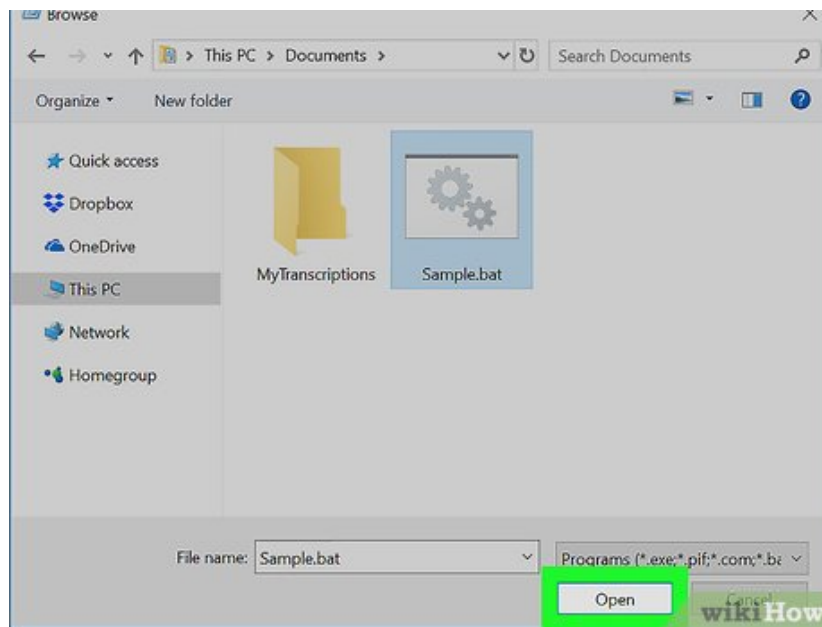
Navigate to the folder that contains the batch file.

4.

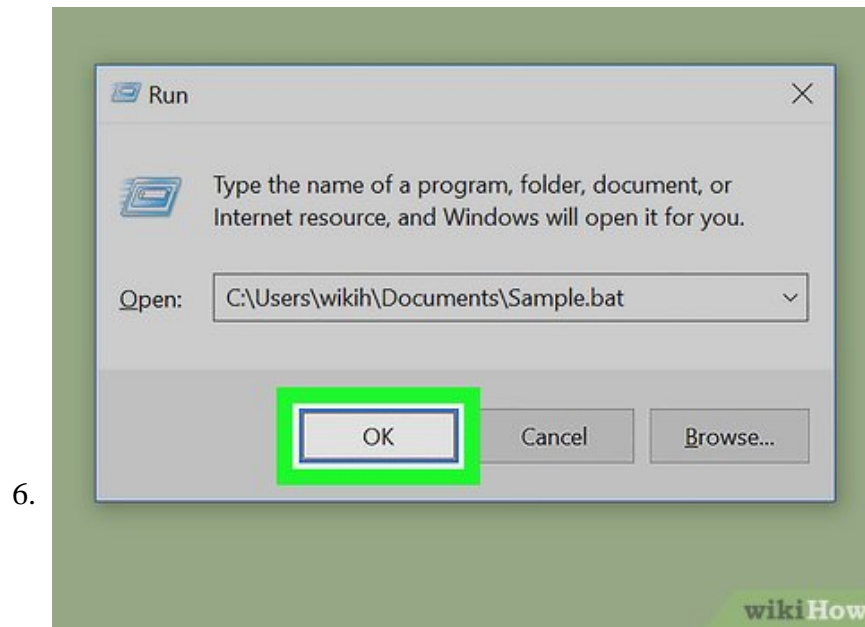


Click the batch file once to select it. The file is now highlighted.

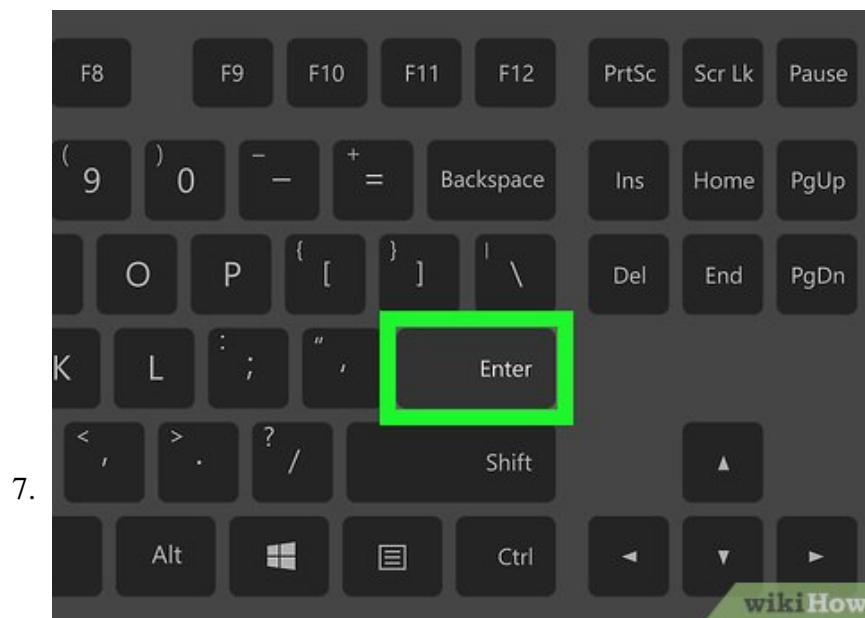
5.



Click **Open**. This pastes the full path to the batch file into the Run box.



Click **OK**. The batch file will open in a terminal window and run. When it's finished running, you'll see a line at the bottom of the window that says 'Press any key to continue.'

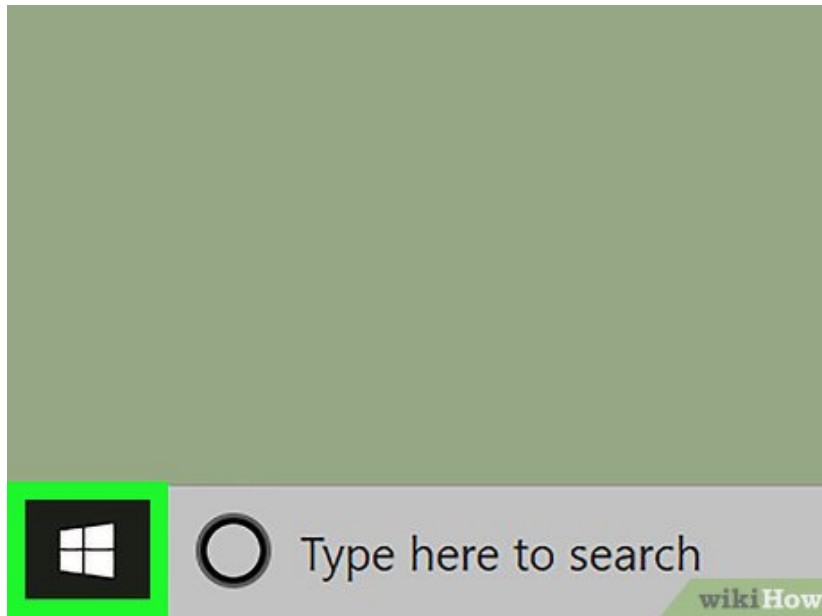


Press any key. This closes the terminal window after the command runs.

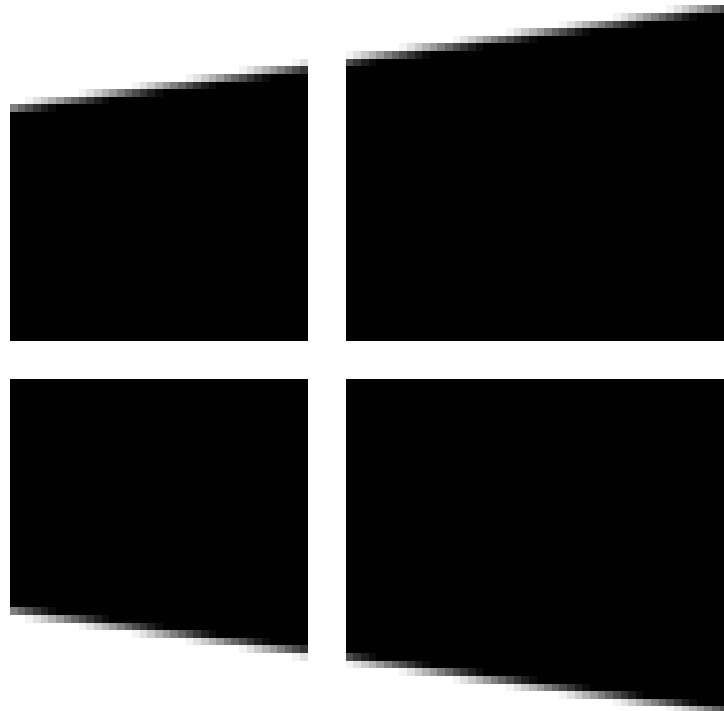
Method 2 of 2:

Using a Terminal Window

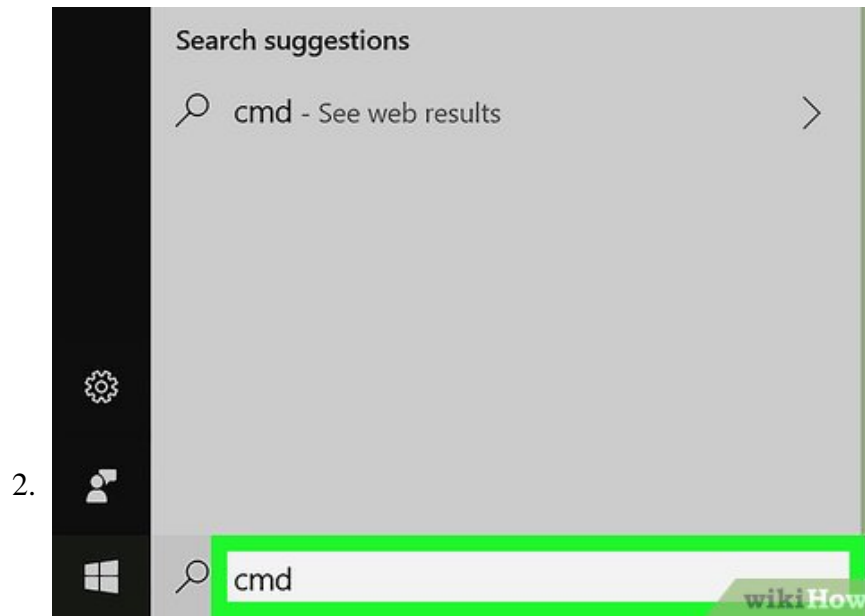
1.



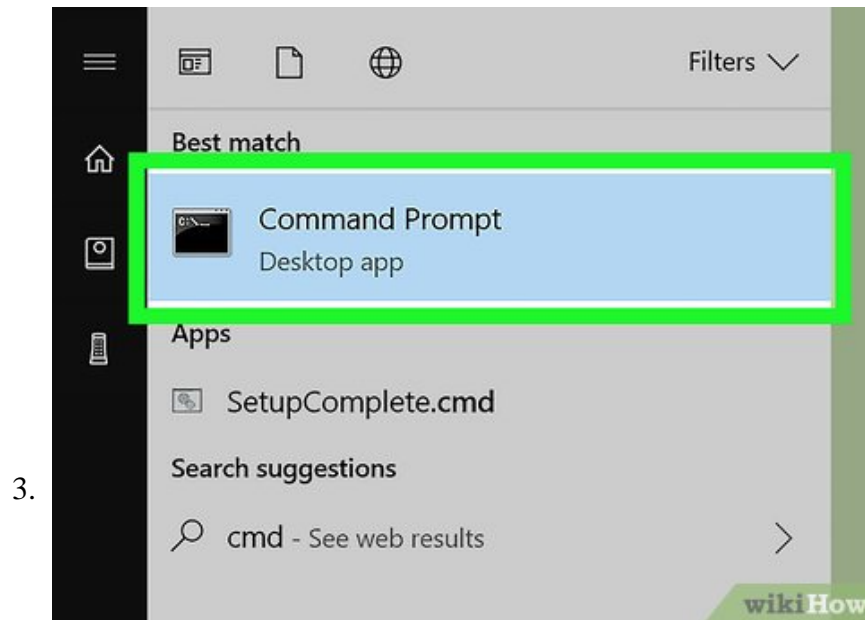
Click the



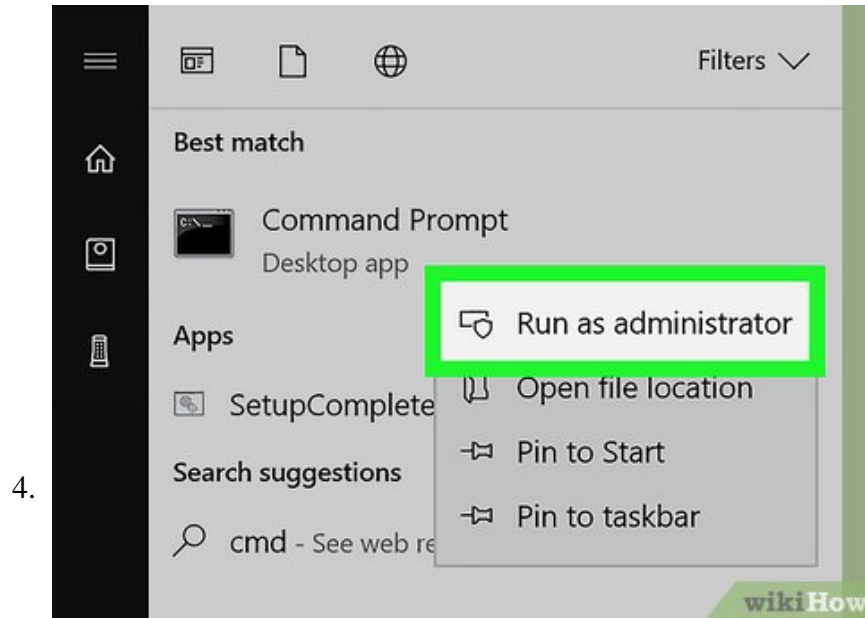
menu. It's usually at the bottom-left corner of the screen.



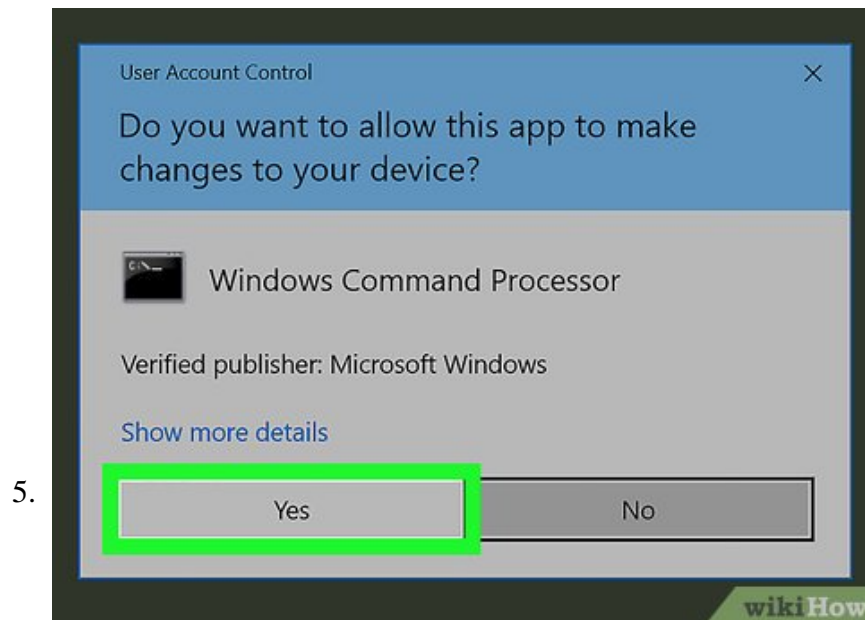
Type `cmd` into the search bar. A list of matching results will appear.



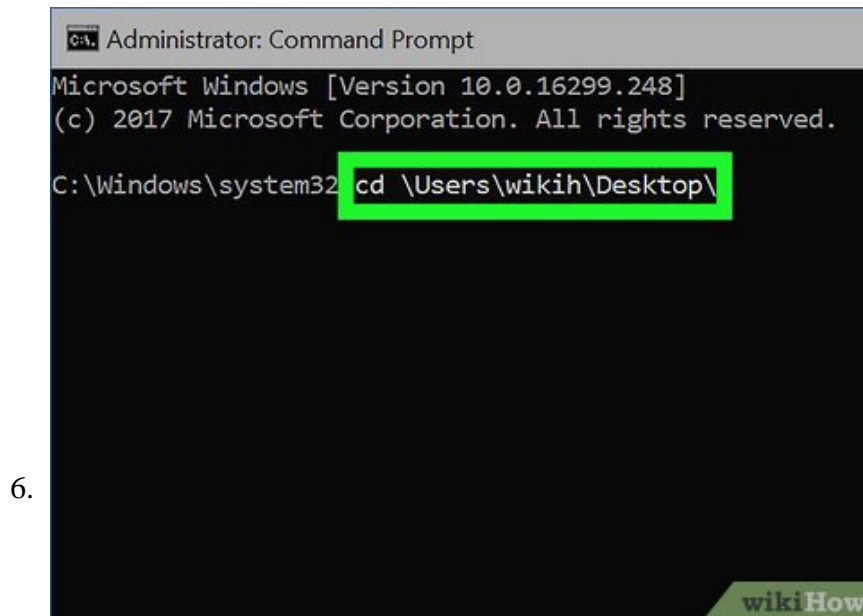
Right-click `Command Prompt`. A menu will expand.



Click **Run as Administrator**. A confirmation message will appear.

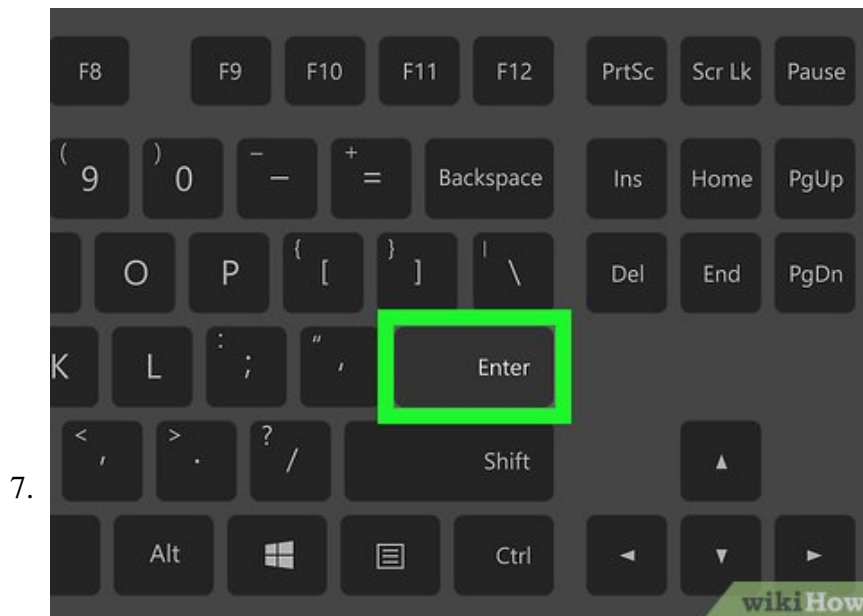


Click **Yes**. This opens the command line at an elevated (administrator) level.



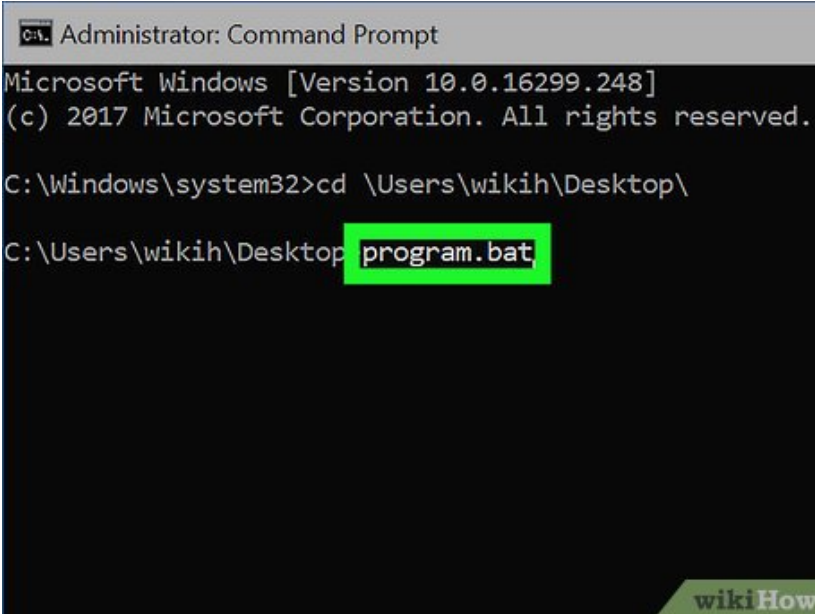
Type `cd` followed by full path to the folder with the `.BAT` file. Here's an example:

1. If the batch file is on your desktop, type `cd UsersYourLoginNameDesktop`.
2. If it's in your downloads folder, type `cd UsersYourLoginNameDownloads`.
3. If you don't know what your login name is, type `cd Users` and press `?Enter` to go to the Users folder, and then type `dir` and press `?Enter` to see a list of logins.



Press `?Enter`. This will move you into the directory.

8.



```
C:\> Administrator: Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.16299.248]
(c) 2017 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>cd \Users\wikih\Desktop\
C:\Users\wikih\Desktop> program.bat
```

The screenshot shows a Windows Command Prompt window with a black background and white text. The title bar reads "Administrator: Command Prompt". The prompt shows the user navigating to the desktop directory and then typing "program.bat". The text "program.bat" is highlighted with a green rectangular box. A "wikiHow" logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the screenshot.

Type the name of the batch file. For example, if it's called 'program.bat,' type `program.bat`.

1. If you don't know the name, type `dir` and press `Enter` to view the files in the folder. You'll find it there.

9.



Press `Enter`. This runs the batch file.

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