

How to Start Scheduled Tasks with Delay on Windows

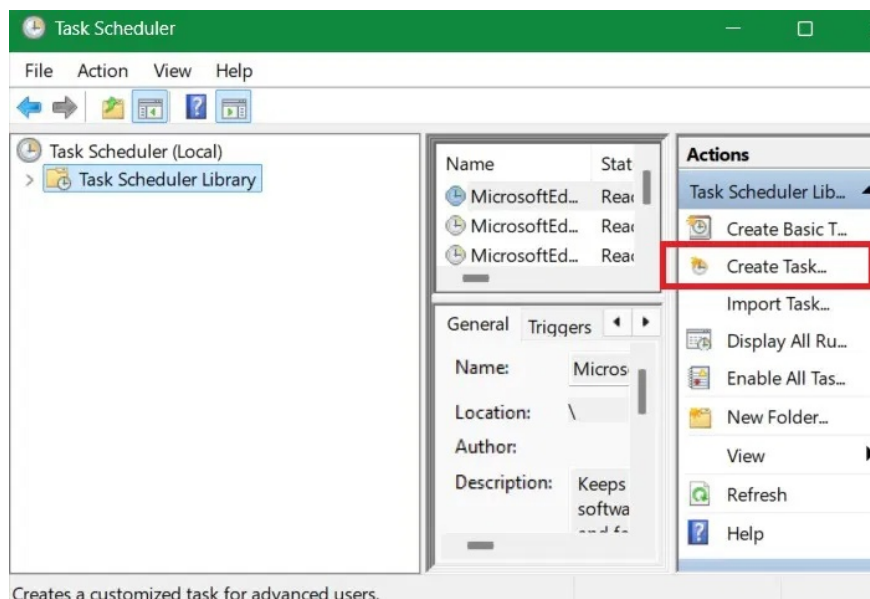
This feature is extremely useful for delaying unnecessary tasks, ensuring network connectivity before a task starts, running tasks in a specific order, scheduling updates, or performing hardware maintenance.

We've learned how to use Task Scheduler to launch programs or scripts, but did you know you can delay their execution? This feature is incredibly useful for delaying unnecessary tasks, ensuring network connectivity before a task starts, running tasks in a specific order, scheduling updates, or performing hardware maintenance. Let's take a look at how you can delay scheduled tasks in Task Scheduler.

Start scheduled tasks with delay using Task Scheduler

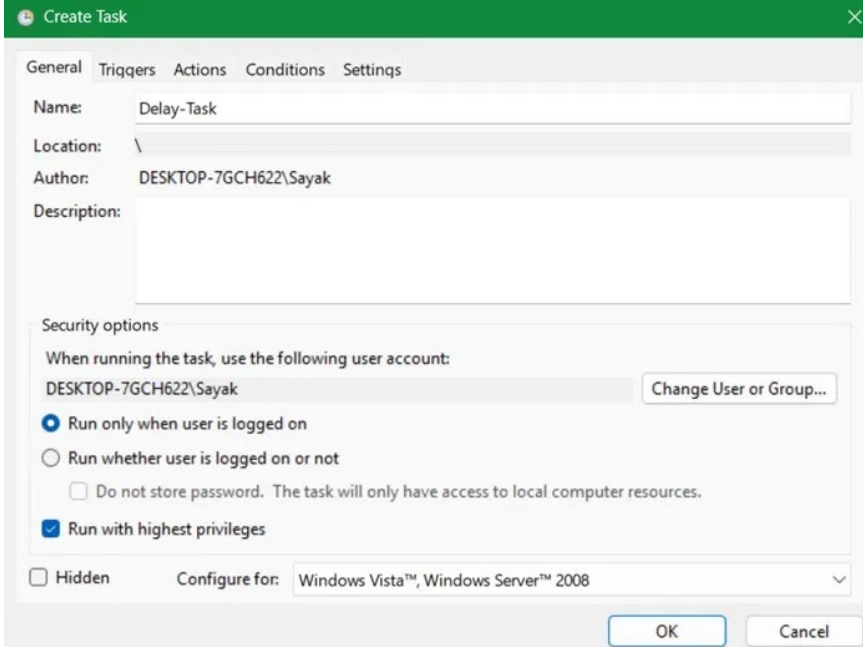
Open Task Scheduler using any of the following methods. To delay any startup program or other system process, do the following:

Select **Task Scheduler Library** in the left panel and click on the **Create Task** option appearing in the right panel.



In the **General** tab , enter an appropriate **Name** and **Description** . **If the task requires admin privileges, select the Run with highest privileges** check box .

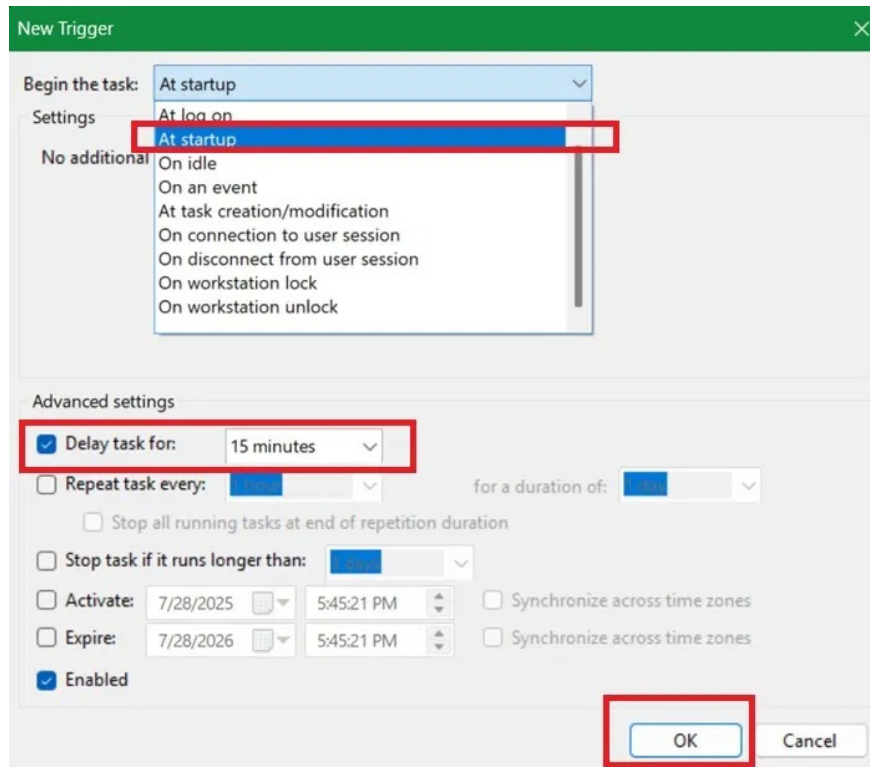
Don't click **OK** right away. Instead, go to the **Triggers** tab and click **New** .



The image shows the 'Create Task' dialog box in Windows Task Scheduler, with the 'General' tab selected. The 'Name' field contains 'Delay-Task'. The 'Location' is set to '\'. The 'Author' is 'DESKTOP-7GCH622\Sayak'. The 'Description' field is empty. Under 'Security options', the user account 'DESKTOP-7GCH622\Sayak' is selected. The 'Run only when user is logged on' radio button is selected. The 'Do not store password' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Run with highest privileges' checkbox is checked. The 'Hidden' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Configure for' dropdown menu is set to 'Windows Vista™, Windows Server™ 2008'. The 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons are at the bottom right.

Select a trigger from the drop-down menu. Since you want to start a program with a delay, select the **At Startup** option . You can select any other trigger you want. The delay function is available for all triggers, except when idle.

After selecting the trigger, select the **Delay task for** checkbox , and select the number of minutes from the drop-down menu. In this case, for example, delay the program's launch for 15 minutes after system startup. Click **OK** to continue.

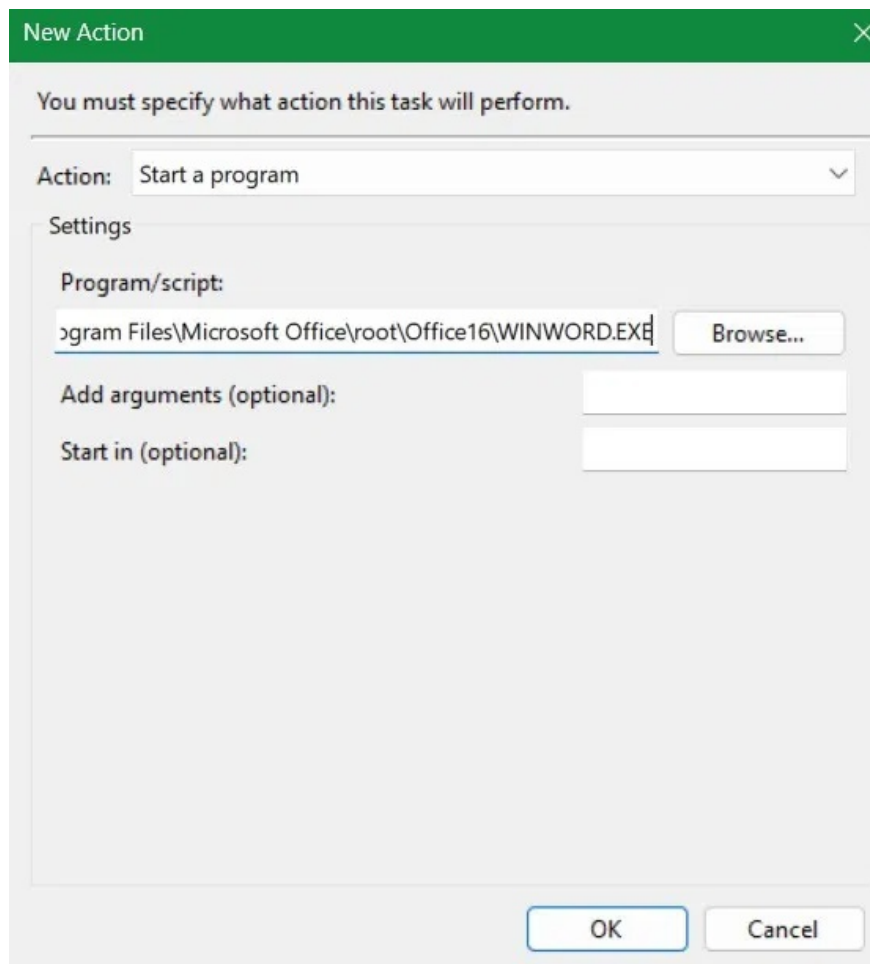


Go to the **Actions** tab . Click **New to open the New Action** window . Select an action. In our case, it is **Start a Program** . Select a program by clicking the **Browse** button .

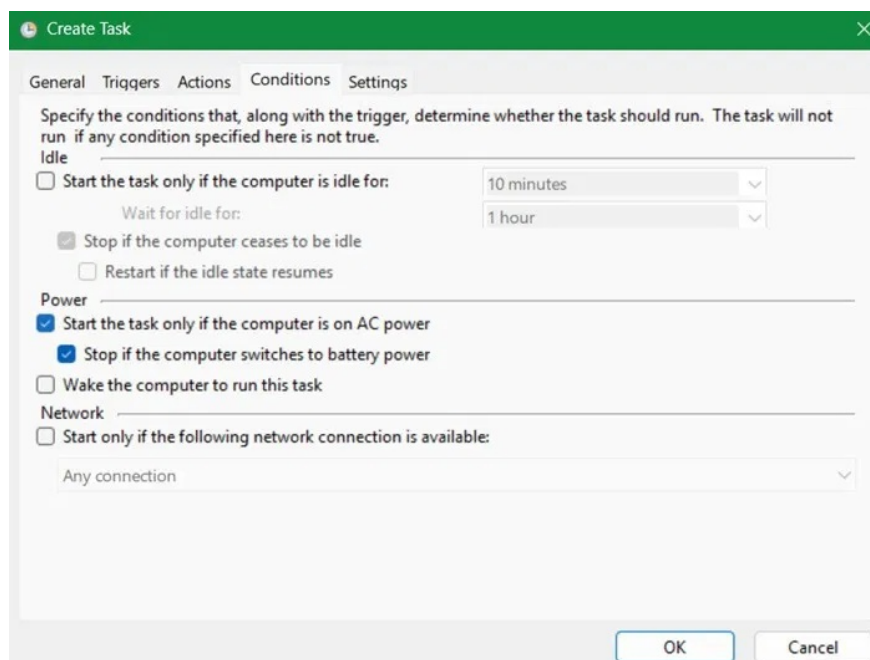
This example has chosen to open the Word application. To do this, you must find its source file, right-click to view its **Properties** , and **copy-paste the entire path into the Program/script** area . However, you can also manually browse for any program in the folders on your PC.

If the program needs additional arguments, you can enter them in the **Add Arguments** field . Click **OK** to continue.

Note: If there are no arguments, another pop-up will ask you to confirm whether you want to set it like that.

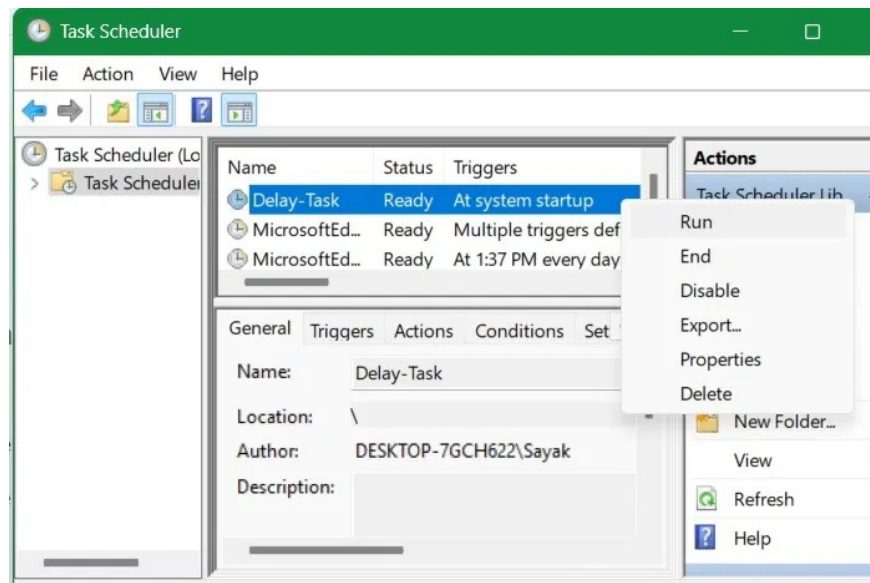


(Optional) If you're using a laptop, you may want to set the task to start only when it's on AC power. In that case, go to the **Conditions** tab and select the **Start the task only if the computer is on AC power** check box .



You can keep the **Settings** tab as is. Click the **OK** button to complete the task creation process.

Finally, to test if the task is running correctly, right-click on the task in the main window and select the **Run** option . If there are no errors, the task will run immediately. You can edit the task's triggers and actions at any time using **Properties** .



From this point on, the task you just set will run with a delay depending on the settings. Since the example has chosen to delay the task on startup, the task will run 15 minutes after the system boots.

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