

How to uninstall old drivers on Windows 10

Windows 10 can automatically update the new driver for the device, but it does not delete the old driver. To remove the old driver, read how to uninstall the old driver on Windows 10 below the following article.

Drivers are important components of Windows, they tell the operating system how to operate computer hardware devices. Windows 10 can automatically update the new driver for the device, but it does not delete the old driver. If you want, here's how to remove the old driver.

1. When do you need to delete old drivers?

Windows 10 comes with a reliable driver database from Microsoft and third-party vendors. The Windows system stores all the things related to your drivers inside the DriverStore folder. Its exact location is:
`%SystemRoot%/System32/DriverStore`

Since the files in this directory are important for system operation, you should not change it.

Over time, Windows will continuously install drivers for new hardware, as well as update the latest versions for current devices. However, it does not delete old drivers, making them take up some of your disk space. So we need to do some way to delete the old driver.

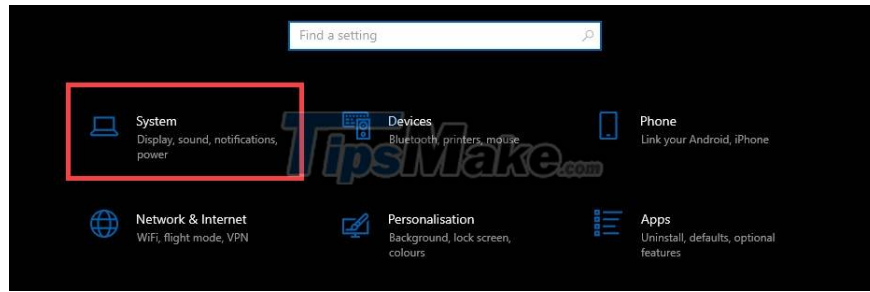
2. Clean up old drivers with Storage Sense

Windows 10 has a Storage Sense feature that can automatically delete unnecessary files from the system drive. You can also schedule the cleaning process to keep the system tidy.

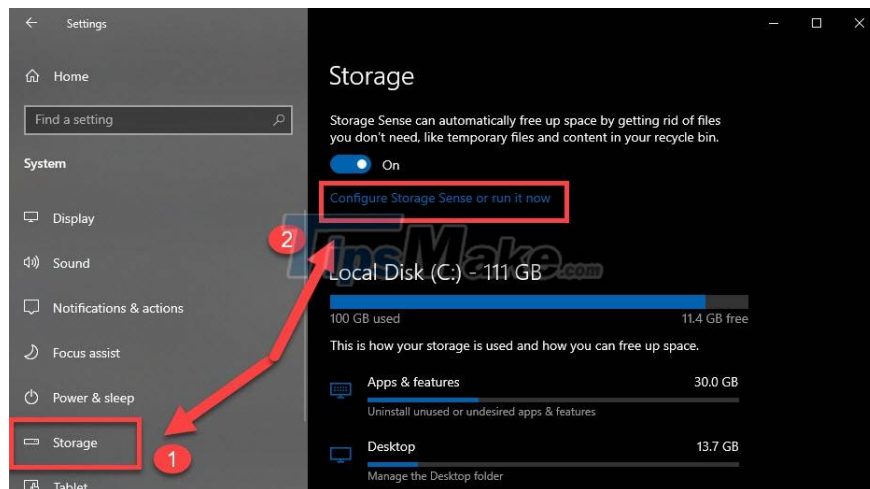
Step 1: Open Settings by pressing Windows + I. Or click the gear icon on the Start screen.



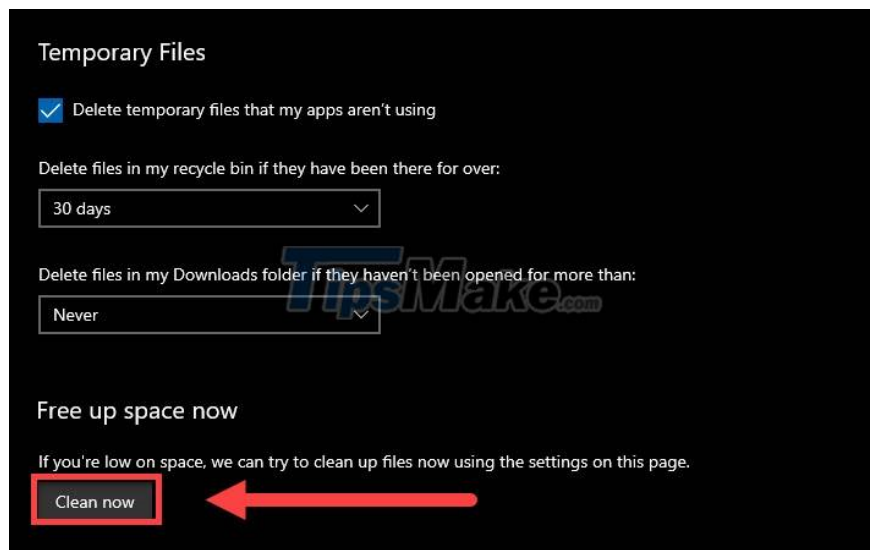
Step 2: Go to System.



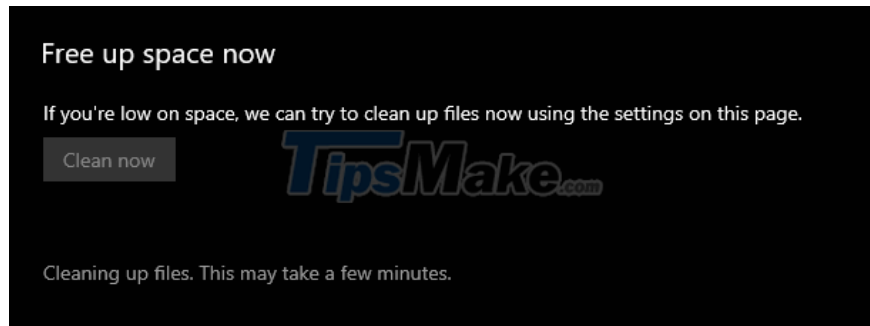
Step 3: Switch to the Storage tab in the left column. In the right pane, click Configure Storage Sense or run it now.



Step 4: Scroll to the bottom of the window and select Clean now.

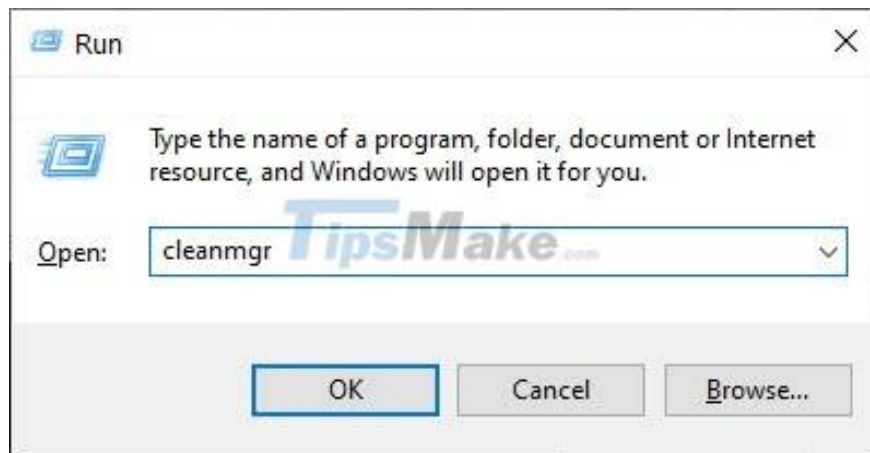


This will automatically scan for unnecessary files, including old drivers that are no longer in use.

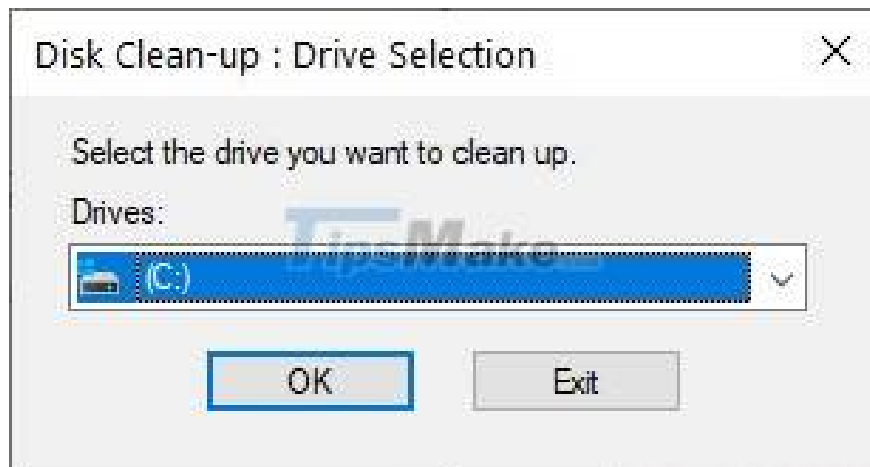


3. Use Disk Cleanup

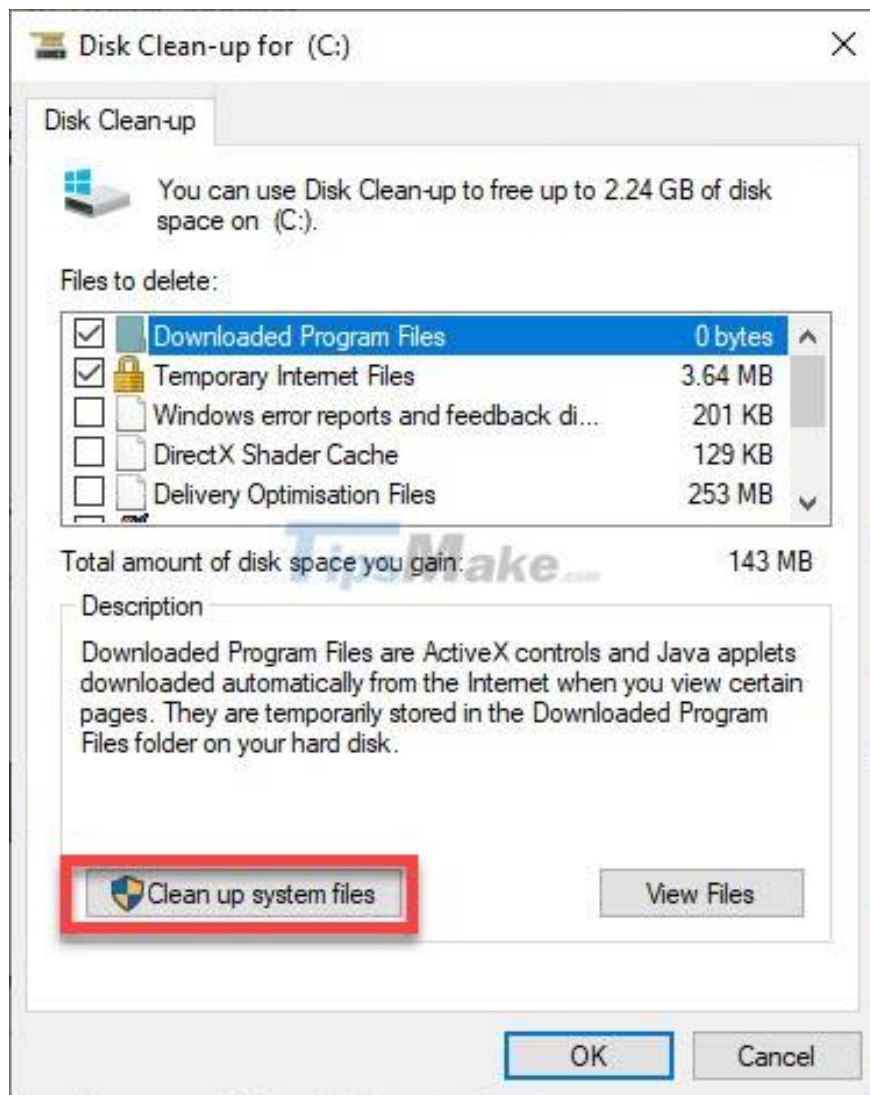
Step 1: Press Windows + R to open the Run dialog >> type cleanmgr.



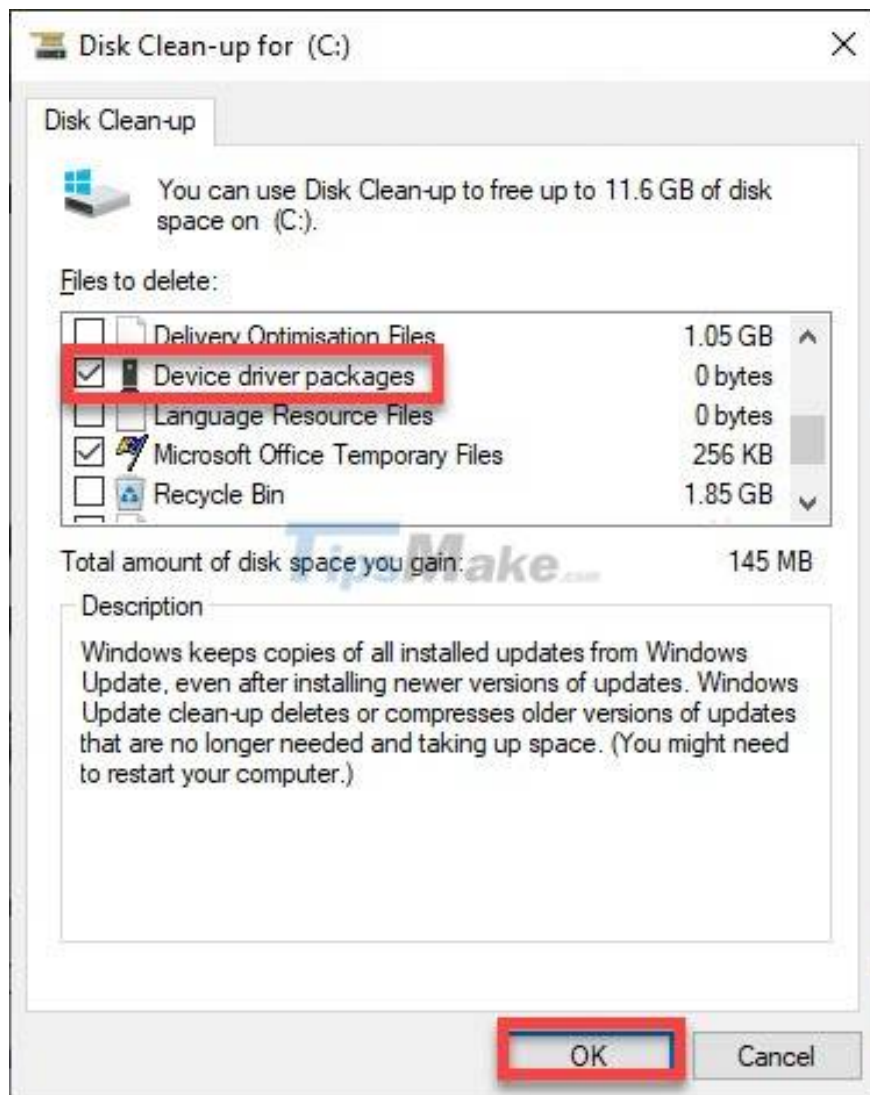
Step 2: Disk Cleanup window will open in C drive, if you save Windows in another drive, or select it. When the correct system drive is selected, press OK.



Step 3: Disk Clean-up window appears, click Clean up system files and allow it to run as administrator.



Step 4: The system cleaning components will appear, here you tick Device driver packages and click OK.



4. Uninstall Old Drivers Using PowerShell

Just download and run the script below in PowerShell, you can uninstall old drivers quickly.

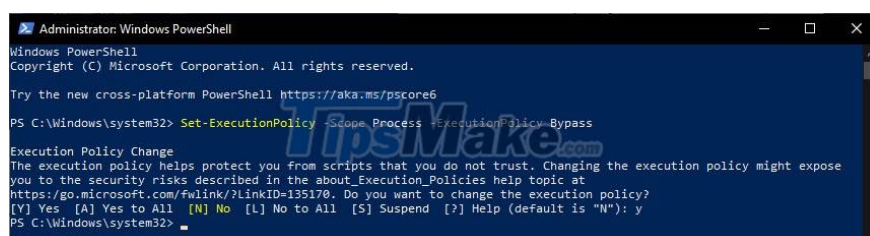
Step 1: Download the following PowerShell script: Insert file.

Step 2: Press Windows + X and a menu will appear in the lower left corner, select Windows PowerShell (Admin).



Step 3: When the PowerShell window appears, enter the following command to allow the running of the external script.

Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope Process -ExecutionPolicy Bypass

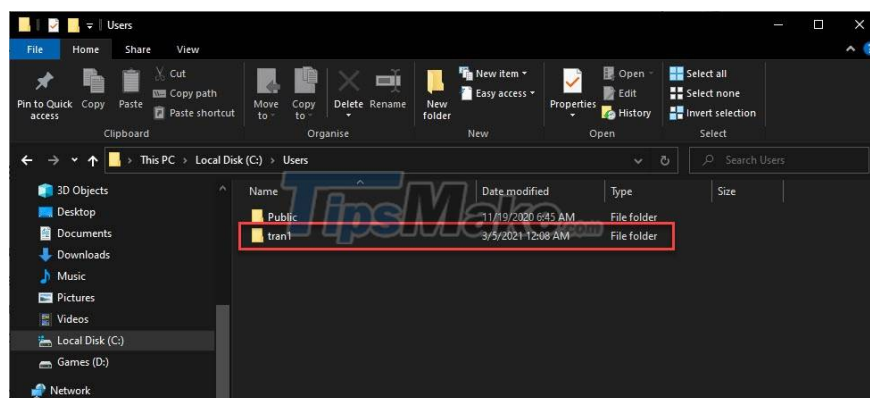


If the current state of access is [N] No. Please enter Y and Enter to agree.

Step 4: Next, run the following command to open the script file in PowerShell.

C:/Users/username/Downloads/driver_cleanup.ps 1

Remember to replace 'username' with the correct user folder on your computer. You can find it by opening File Explorer and navigating to C:/Users.



After entering the command file, the system will automatically delete the old driver.

```
Administrator: Windows PowerShell
Windows PowerShell
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Try the new cross-platform PowerShell https://aka.ms/pscore6

PS C:\Windows\system32> Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope Process -ExecutionPolicy Bypass

Execution Policy Change
The execution policy helps protect you from scripts that you do not trust. Changing the execution policy might expose you to the security risks described in the about_Execution_Policies help topic at
https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?linkID=135170. Do you want to change the execution policy?
[Y] Yes [A] Yes to All [N] No [L] No to All [S] Suspend [?] Help (default is "N"): y
PS C:\Windows\system32> C:\Users\trani\Downloads\driver_cleanup.ps1
All installed third-party drivers

FileName      Vendor      Date      Name      ClassName  Version  Entr
-----      -
applesub.inf   Apple, Inc.  ..10/2/2020  oem6.inf  USBDevice  486.0.0.0  No
corsairgamingaudio.inf  Corsair     ..09/6/2020  oem28.inf MEDIA      2.3.28.0   No
corsairslusbxp.inf      Corsair Components, Inc.  ..07/14/2017  oem29.inf USB       3.3.0.0    No
corsairusbdriver.inf    Corsair     ..09/30/2020  oem27.inf System    3.0.88.0   No
corsairvhddriver.inf    Corsair     ..05/30/2020  oem26.inf HIDClass  3.0.88.0   No
gameflt.inf          Xbox       ..02/17/2021  oem25.inf HSM       10.0.19041.14  No
haswellsystem.inf     INTEL      ..10/3/2016  oem31.inf System    10.1.1.38   No
heci.inf            Intel      ..07/18/2017  oem2.inf System    11.7.0.1040  No
igd1h64.inf          Intel Corporation  ..09/29/2016  oem3.inf Display  20.19.15.4531  No
igd1h64.inf          Intel Corporation  ..03/8/2017   oem32.inf Display  20.19.15.4624  No
intcdaud.inf         Intel(R) Corporation  ..05/10/2016  oem4.inf MEDIA      6.16.0.3197  No
intcdaud.inf         Intel(R) Corporation  ..06/27/2016  oem5.inf MEDIA      8.20.0.950   No
lynxpointssystem.inf  INTEL      ..10/3/2016  oem30.inf System    10.1.1.38   No
nv_ref_pubwu.inf      NVIDIA     ..03/23/2018  oem11.inf Display  23.21.13.9135  No
nvhda.inf            NVIDIA Corporation  ..12/15/2017  oem22.inf MEDIA      1.3.36.6    No
nvhda.inf            NVIDIA Corporation  ..03/23/2018  oem16.inf MEDIA      1.3.36.6    No
nvstusb.inf          NVIDIA     ..03/23/2018  oem12.inf USB       6.14.13.9041  No
nvvhci.inf           NVIDIA     ..01/10/2020  oem20.inf System    3.4.2785.9920  No
prnms001.inf         Microsoft  ..06/21/2006  oem1.inf Printer  10.0.19041.1  No
prnms009.inf         Microsoft  ..06/21/2006  oem0.inf Printer  10.0.19041.1  No
rt64bxg4.inf          Realtek    ..12/31/2020  oem15.inf Net       10.46.1231.2020  No
stuaacpi_driver.inf   Intel      ..04/12/2017  oem10.inf System    14.28.47.630   No
xvdd.inf            Xbox       ..01/15/2021  oem13.inf SCSIAdapter  10.0.19041.18  No
```

The above are simple ways to help you uninstall old drivers on your computer to free up space. Hope you are successful.

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