

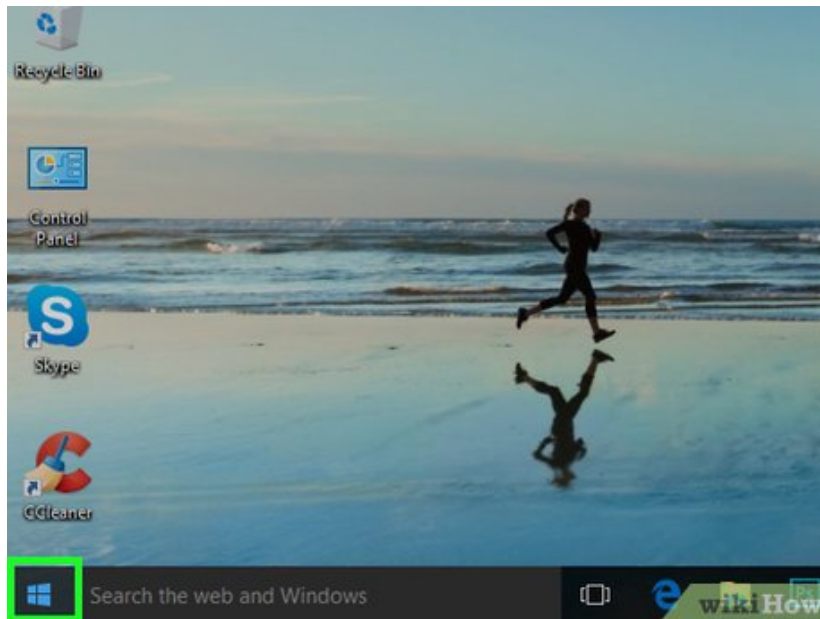
How to Update Your Computer's BIOS

This wikiHow teaches you how to update the BIOS software for a Windows computer. Keep in mind that your BIOS rarely needs updating, and updating the BIOS incorrectly can render your computer completely inoperable. Mac computers do not use...

Part 1 of 2:

Downloading the BIOS Update File

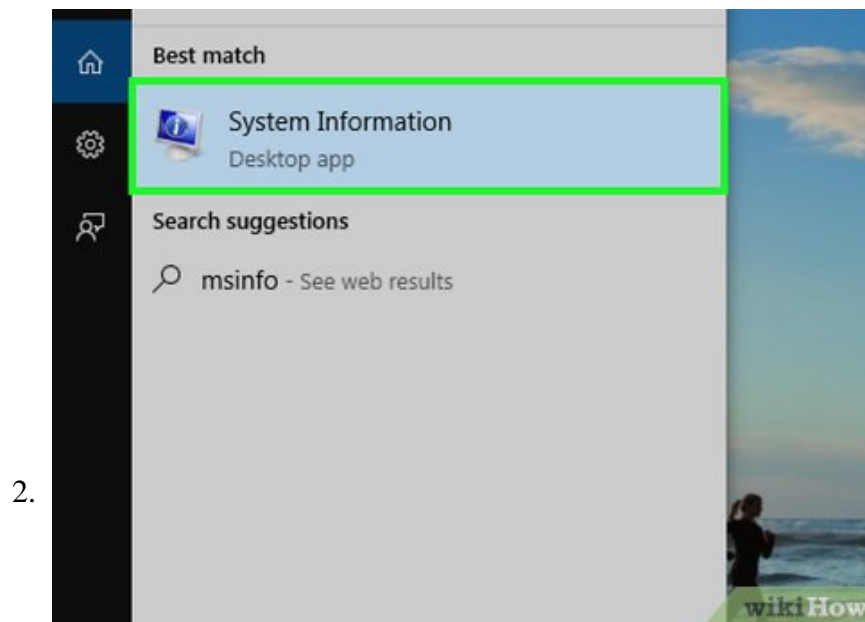
1.



Open Start



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



Open System Information. Type `msinfo` into the Start window, then click **System Information** at the top of the Start window.

3.

Item	Value
OS Name	Microsoft Windows 10 Home Single Language
Version	10.0.17134 Build 17134
Other OS Description	Not Available
OS Manufacturer	Microsoft Corporation
System Name	DESKTOP-3D00RK9
System Manufacturer	Dell Inc.
System Model	Vostro 15-5568
System Type	x64-based PC
System SKU	0793
Processor	Intel(R) Core(TM) i3-6006U CPU @ 2.00GHz, 2000 Mhz, 2 Core
BIOS Version/Date	Dell Inc. 2.8.0, 06-02-2018
SMBIOS Version	3.0
Embedded Controller Version	255.252
BIOS Mode	UEFI
BaseBoard Manufacturer	Dell Inc.
BaseBoard Model	Not Available
BaseBoard Name	Base Board
Platform Role	Mobile
Secure Boot State	On
PCR7 Configuration	Elevation Required to View
Windows Directory	CAWINDOWS

Check your computer's model name. Next to the "System Model" heading, you'll see a list of numbers and letters; this is your computer's model name. You'll need this information when you search for the BIOS update file.

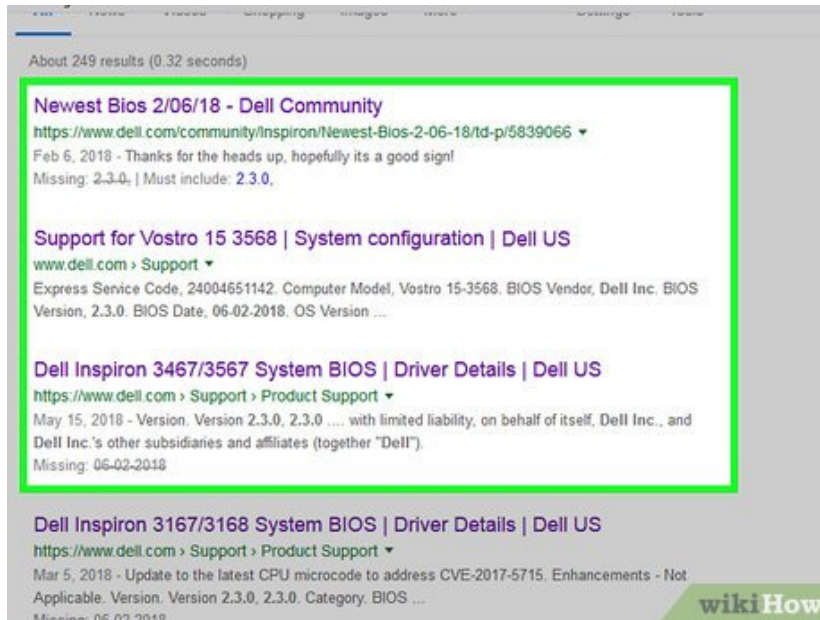
1. Skip this step if you have a custom-built computer.

4.

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Find your BIOS version number. Next to the "BIOS Version/Date" heading, you'll see a company name, your computer's model name, and a number after a period. The number after the period is your BIOS version.

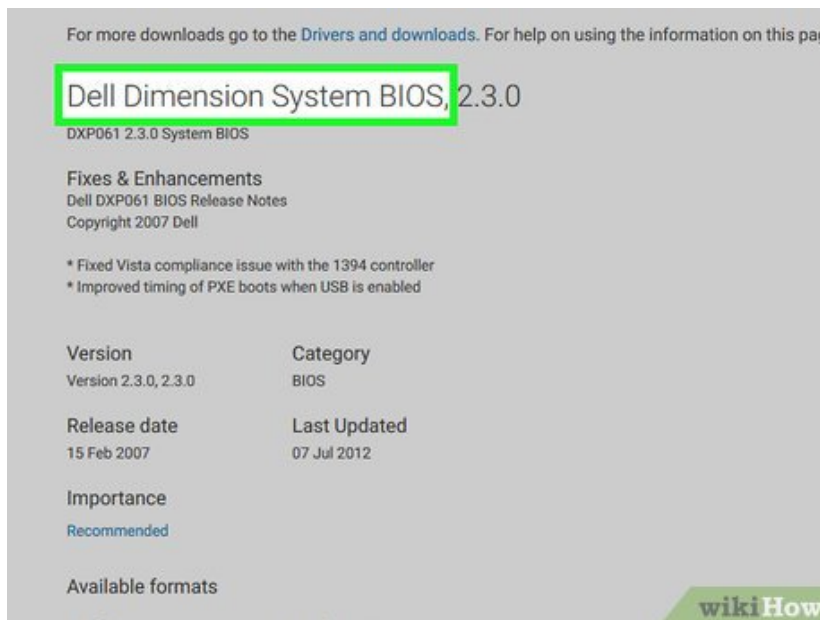
1. For a computer with the model number "Q553UB" and a BIOS set to version 202, for example, you would see "Q553UB.202" here.
2. If you're using a custom-built computer, you'll need to find your motherboard's model instead of using the computer's model number.



5.

Open your BIOS manufacturer's support site. Generally, the easiest way to do this is by typing your computer's manufacturer name, your computer's model name, and "drivers" or "BIOS" into Google and then selecting the proper link. This process will vary depending on your computer's manufacturer, so you may have to click through a few different links before you find the correct one.

1. If you're using a custom-built computer, you'll need to look up your computer's motherboard name along with "BIOS" and "update" and then open the manufacturer's website.



6.

Find the BIOS update file. Depending on the website, you may have to open the "Updates", "Support", or "Downloads" section first, or click a "BIOS" heading. Once you've found the BIOS file, you can proceed.

1. Again, this may involve some trial and error.

EXPERT TIP

Picture 8 of How to Update Your Computer's BIOS

Mobile Kangaroo
Apple Authorized Service Provider

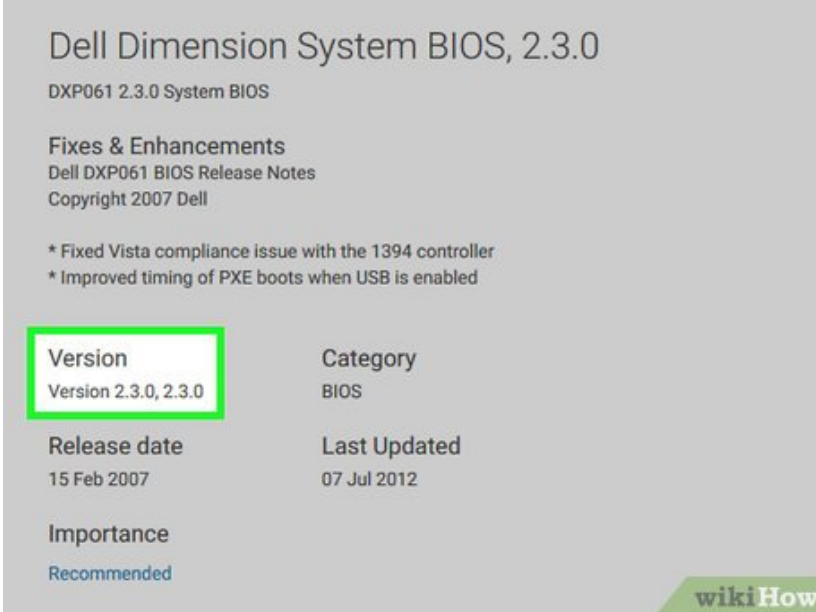
Mobile Kangaroo is a full service repair shop and Apple Authorized Service Provider headquartered in Mountain View, CA. Mobile Kangaroo has been repairing electronic devices such as computers, phones, and tablets, for over 16 years, with locations in over 20 cities.

Picture 9 of How to Update Your Computer's BIOS

Mobile Kangaroo
Apple Authorized Service Provider

Is it safe to update the BIOS in Windows? Joseph Alexander, a computer repair technician, explains: "It is typically safe to update your BIOS as long as you source the BIOS update directly from the device manufacturer. Make sure you follow their instructions carefully."

7.



Dell Dimension System BIOS, 2.3.0
DXP061 2.3.0 System BIOS

Fixes & Enhancements
Dell DXP061 BIOS Release Notes
Copyright 2007 Dell

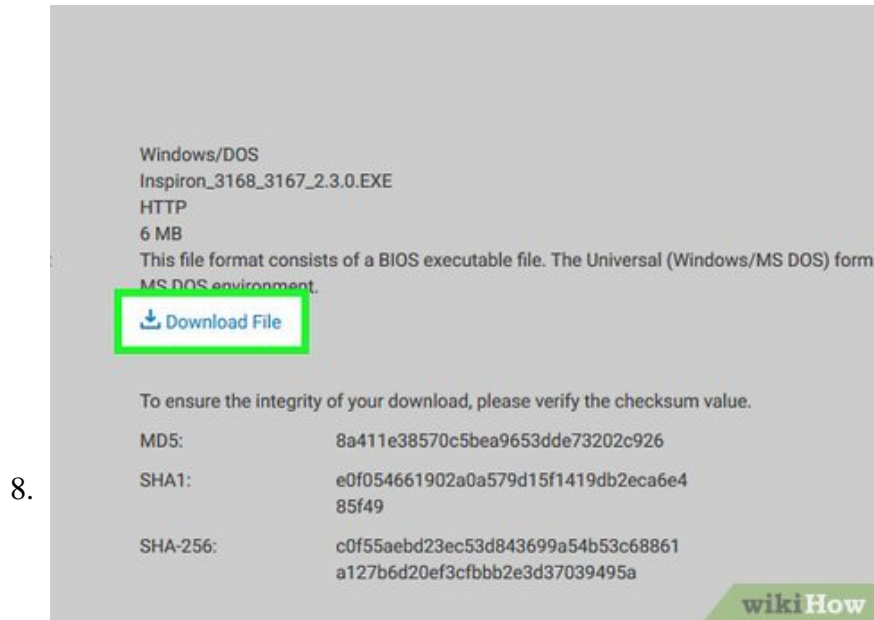
- * Fixed Vista compliance issue with the 1394 controller
- * Improved timing of PXE boots when USB is enabled

Version	Category
Version 2.3.0, 2.3.0	BIOS
Release date	Last Updated
15 Feb 2007	07 Jul 2012
Importance	
Recommended	

wikiHow

Make sure the update file is newer than your BIOS version. In the file's name, you should see a version number. If this version number is higher than your BIOS version number, your BIOS is outdated and thus can be updated.

1. If the version number on the website matches your BIOS version number, your BIOS is up-to-date and does not need updating.
2. Even if your current BIOS version is a whole number (e.g., 301) and the file on the site is listed as a higher decimal (e.g., 301.1), the site's file is a higher version than your BIOS uses.

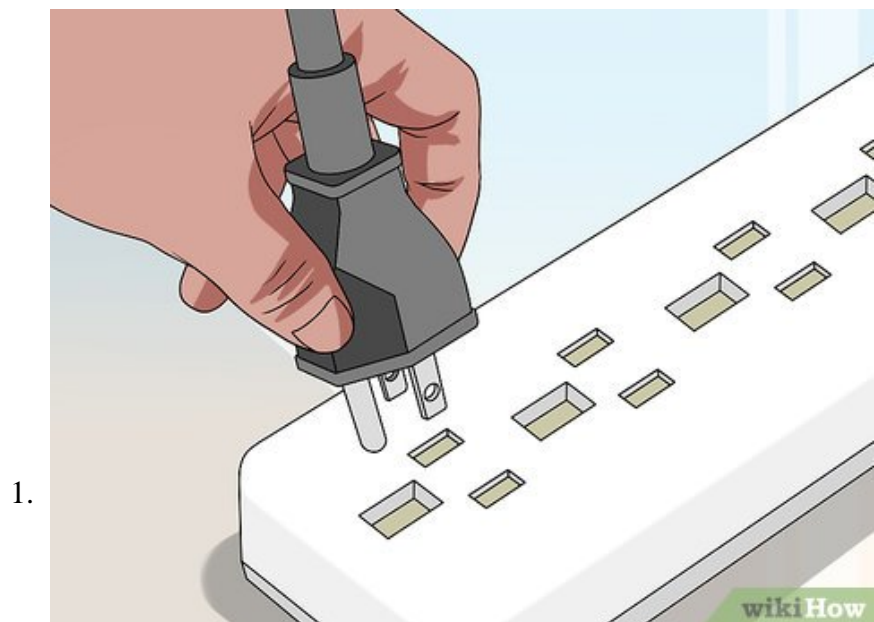


Download the update file. Click the **Download** link, button, or icon to do so. Once your BIOS update file finishes downloading, you can proceed with updating your BIOS.

1. In some cases, you may have to click the file's name to prompt it to download.
2. Most BIOS update files will download inside of a ZIP folder.

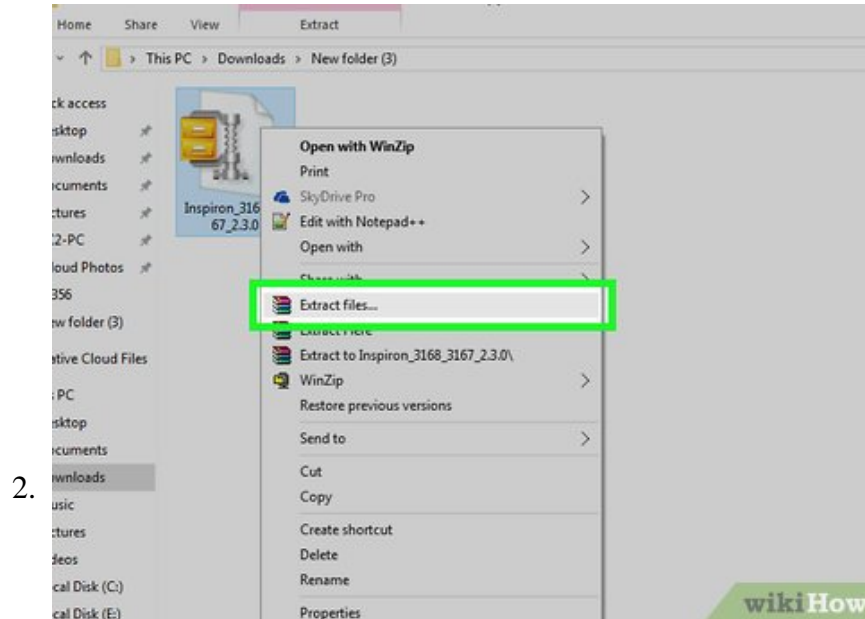
Part 2 of 2:

Updating Your BIOS



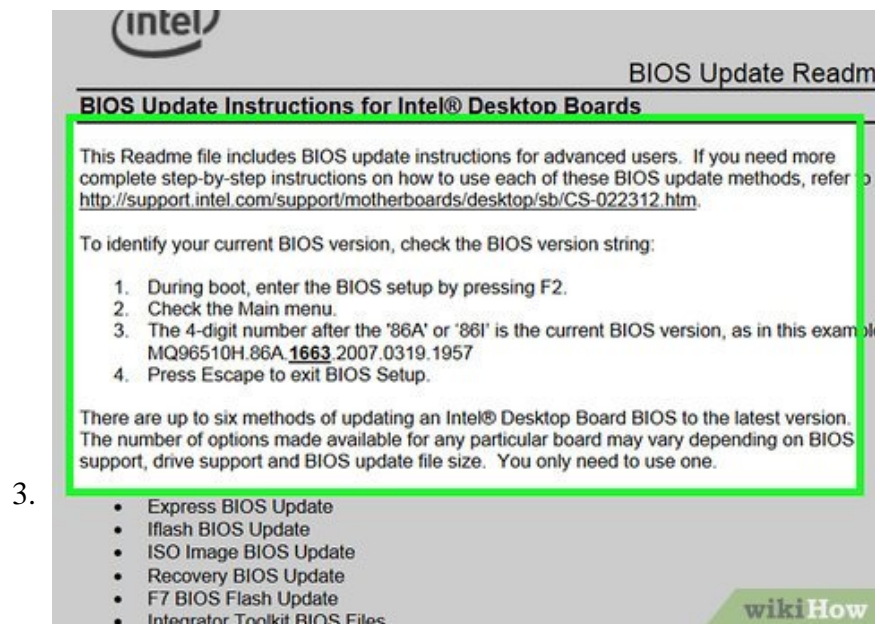
Make sure your computer is plugged into a reliable power source. Since you can permanently ruin your BIOS if your computer turns itself off during the update process, you'll want to use a reliable power source.

1. If you're using a laptop, your computer's battery should be fully charged in addition to the laptop being plugged in.



Extract your BIOS file. In most cases, you'll have to extract (or "unzip") the BIOS update file from within its folder:

1. Double-click the downloaded ZIP file to open it.
2. Click the **Extract** tab at the top of the window.
3. Click **Extract all**.
4. Click **Extract** when prompted.
5. Wait for the extracted folder to open.



Read your BIOS file's README document if applicable. If a text document labeled "README" or similar is available, double-click it to open it and read the entire document before proceeding.

1. If the README file's instructions for updating your BIOS contradict the instructions in the rest of this article, make sure you follow the README's instructions instead.



Plug a USB flash drive into your computer. Since your BIOS won't be able to access your computer's files, you'll need to put the BIOS update file on a blank USB flash drive.



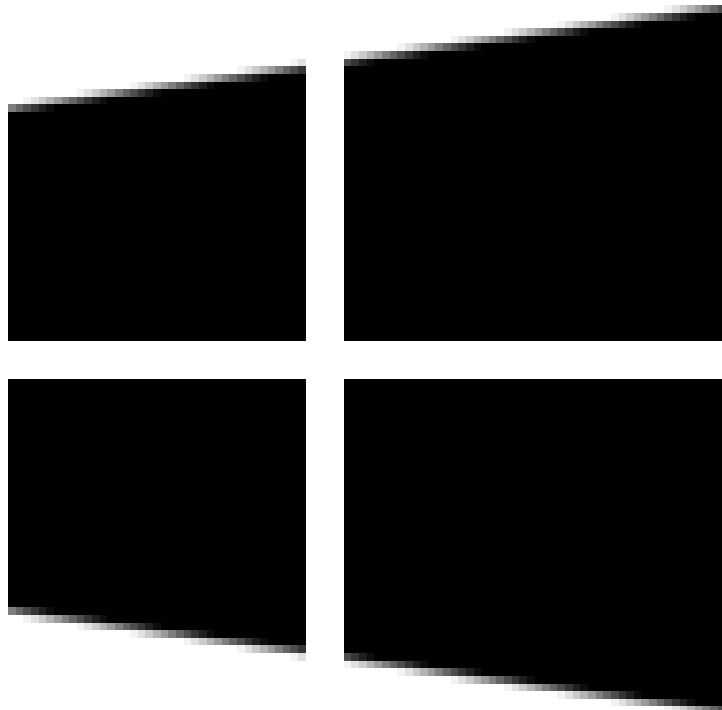
Copy the BIOS file onto the flash drive. Click once the BIOS file, press **Ctrl + C** to copy it, then open your flash drive and press **Ctrl + V** to paste in your copied file.

1. You need to leave the flash drive plugged into your computer for the duration of the update process.

6.



Access the BIOS page. Prompt your computer to restart by clicking **Start**



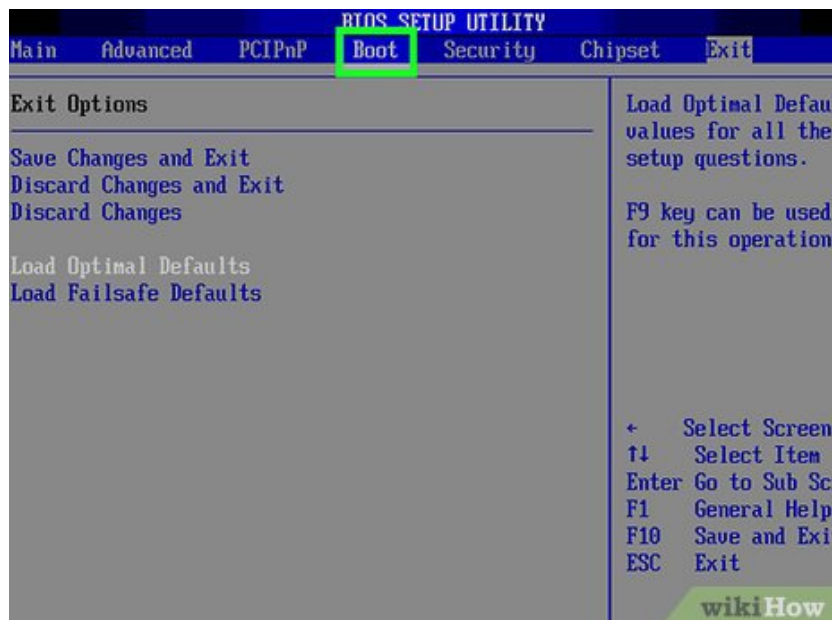
, clicking **Power**



, and clicking **Restart**, then immediately begin pressing the key your computer's manufacturer assigned to the BIOS startup. If the BIOS doesn't launch, you'll need to restart again and try a different key.

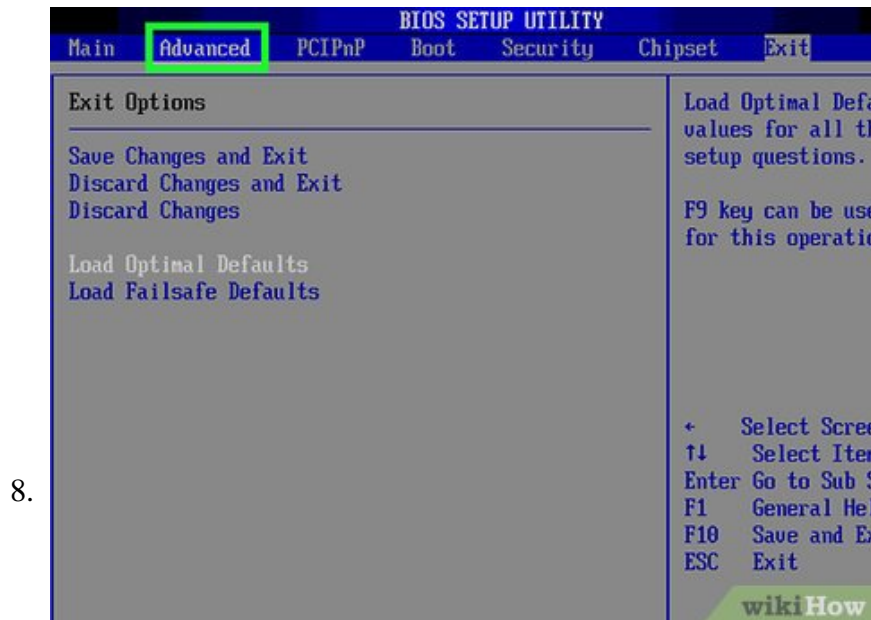
1. For most computers, this key is one of the function keys (e.g., F12), though some computers use the Del key or the Esc key.
2. If you don't know your computer's BIOS key, look it up by typing your computer's manufacturer name, model name, and "BIOS key" into a search engine.

7.



Back up your BIOS if possible. If you see a "Backup" or "Save" option on the BIOS' main screen (or if you see a **Backup** tab at the top of the screen), select it and follow any on-screen instructions. This will ensure that you can restore your BIOS settings later if your BIOS update doesn't pair well with your computer.

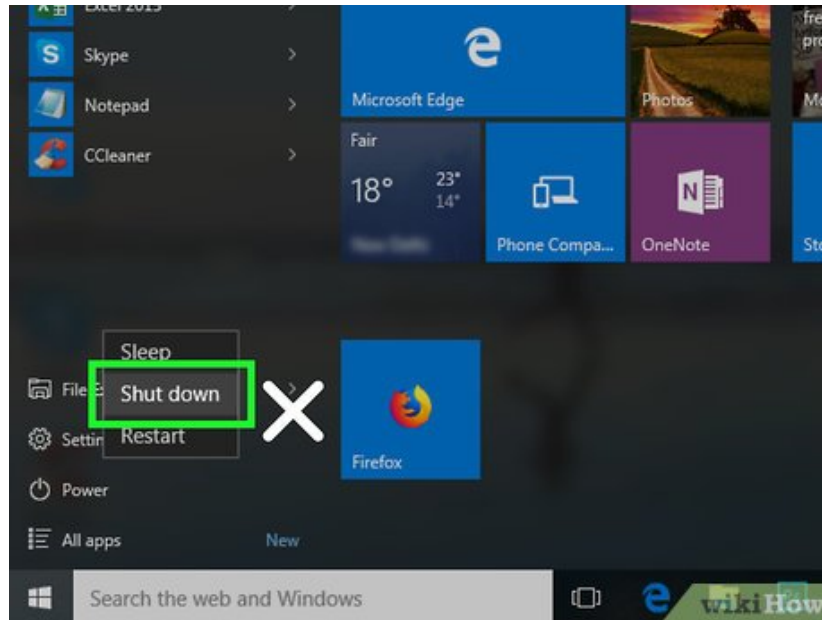
1. You may instead be prompted to back up your BIOS once you initiate the backup process.
2. Not all BIOS pages allow you to back up their settings.



Enable and use your BIOS update tool. Each BIOS will have a slightly different way of accessing the BIOS update tool, so you may have to consult your BIOS manufacturer's support site for a direct explanation of how to do so.

1. In many cases, you'll select the **Boot** tab, ensure that your USB flash drive shows up, enable any backup or "Flash" options in the menu, and then select the **Start Flash** option from the **Advanced** tab.^[1]
2. Sometimes, pressing the BIOS key while a USB drive is plugged in will bring up a unique menu that allows you to select an **Update** option and follow the on-screen instructions. This is common on Dell computers.^[2]

9.



Allow your computer's BIOS to update. This process can take a few minutes to over an hour depending on your computer and the depth of the BIOS update. Once your BIOS is finished updating, your computer should restart itself, though you may be prompted to confirm this decision.

1. **Do not turn off your computer while the BIOS is updating.** Doing so can cause the BIOS to become corrupted, meaning that your computer will be unable to start, complete the BIOS installation, or otherwise run at all.

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