

# Lost Admin rights on Windows 10, this is how to fix it

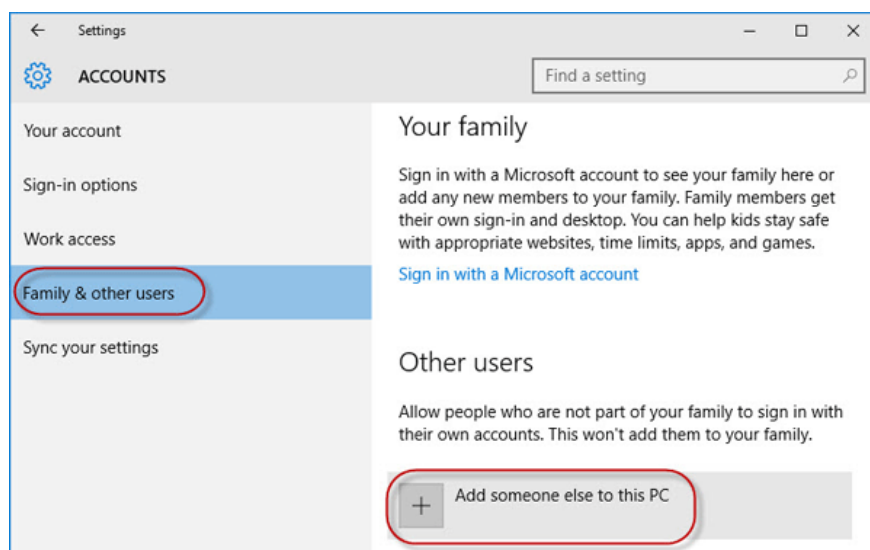
For some reason, your Windows 10 computer has lost Admin rights. Every time you open an application on the screen, you receive an error message. So how to restore lost Admin rights, please refer to the article below,

## Option 1: Regain lost admin rights in Windows 10 through Safe Mode

**Step 1 :** Log in to your current Admin account where you have lost administrative rights.

**Step 2 :** Open the PC Settings panel and select **Accounts**.

**Step 3 :** Select **Family & other users** , then click **Add someone else to this PC** .



**Step 4 :** Click **I don't have this person's sign-in information** .

How will this person sign in?

Enter the email address or phone number of the person you want to add. If they use Windows, Office, Outlook.com, OneDrive, Skype, or Xbox, enter the email or phone number they use to sign in.

[I don't have this person's sign-in information](#)

[Privacy statement](#)

**Step 5 : Click Add a user without a Microsoft account.**

Let's create your account

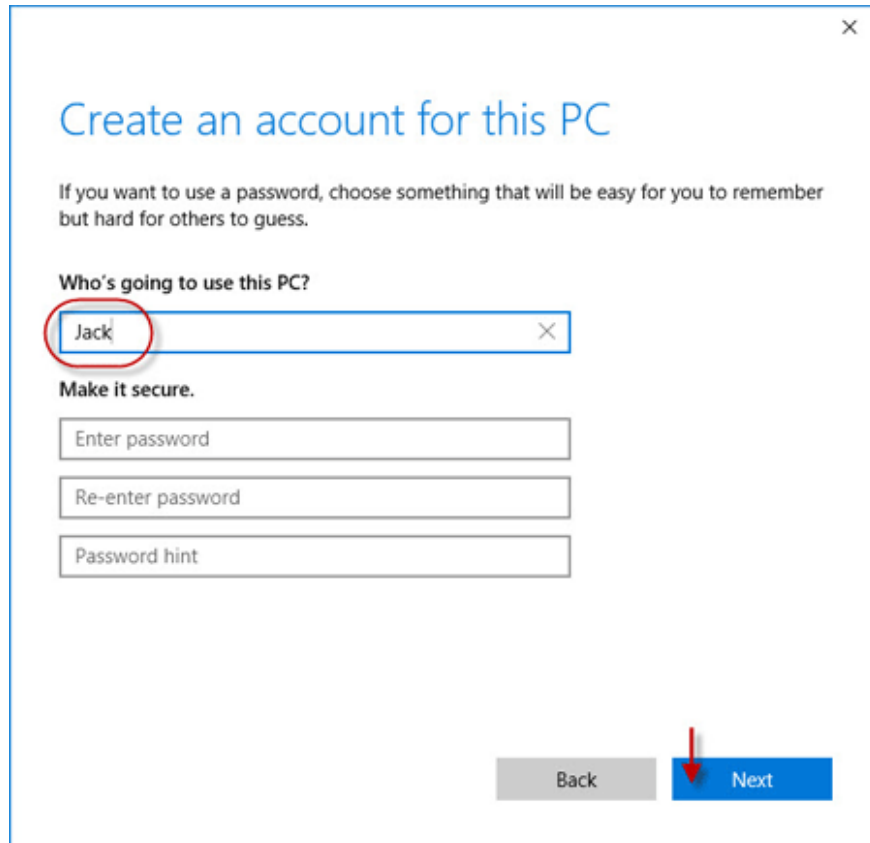
Windows, Office, Outlook.com, OneDrive, Skype, Xbox. They're all better and more personal when you sign in with your Microsoft account.\* [Learn more](#)

[Get a new email address](#)

\*If you already use a Microsoft service, go Back to sign in with that account.

[Add a user without a Microsoft account](#)

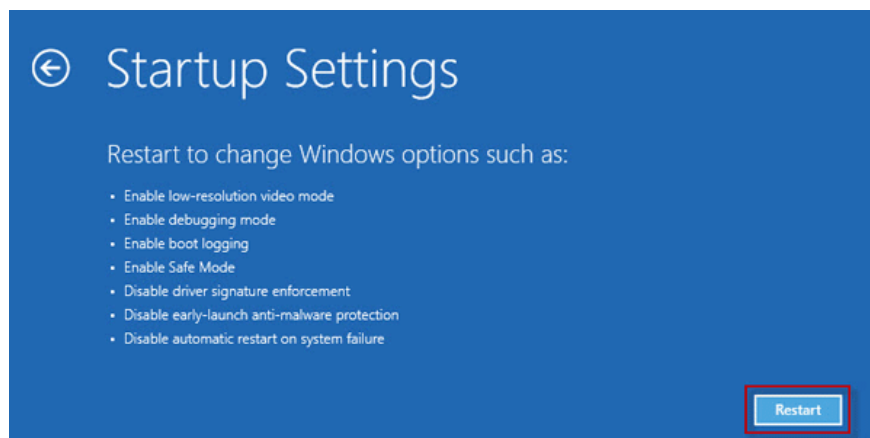
**Step 6** : Enter the username, then click **Next**. This will add a new local account on your PC.



**Step 7** : Press **Win + R** keys to bring up the **Run** dialog box , type **cmd** and press **Enter**.

**Step 8** : After the Command Prompt window opens, type **shutdown /r /o** and press **Enter**.

**Step 9** : After Windows 10 reboots to the "**Choose an option**" screen , click **Troubleshoot** > **Advanced options** > **Startup Settings** . Then click **Restart**.




**Step 10** : On the **Startup Settings** screen , press number 4 to turn on Safe Mode.

# Startup Settings

Press a number to choose from the options below:

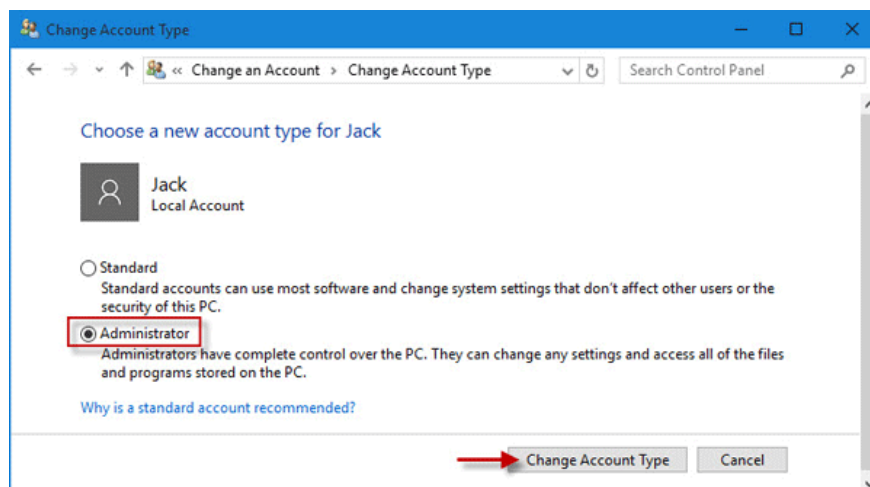
Use number keys or functions keys F1-F9.

- 1) Enable debugging
- 2) Enable boot logging
- 3) Enable low-resolution video
- 4) Enable Safe Mode 
- 5) Enable Safe Mode with Networking
- 6) Enable Safe Mode with Command Prompt
- 7) Disable driver signature enforcement
- 8) Disable early launch anti-malware protection
- 9) Disable automatic restart after failure

Press F10 for more options

Press Enter to return to your operating system

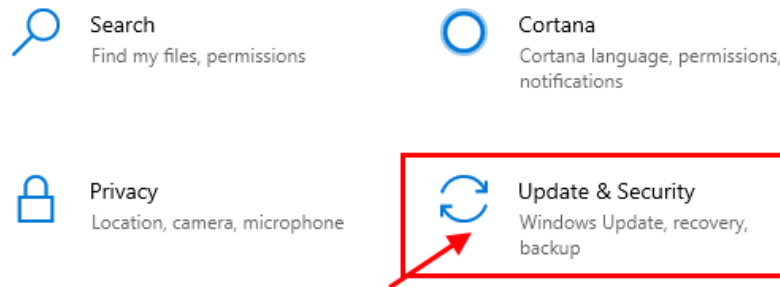
**Step 11** : After Windows 10 starts in Safe Mode, open Control Panel. Go to **User Accounts > Manage another account** , select the new local account you added in step 6, then click the **Change the account type** link . Select **Administrator** and click **Change Account Type** to change the account from standard user to admin.



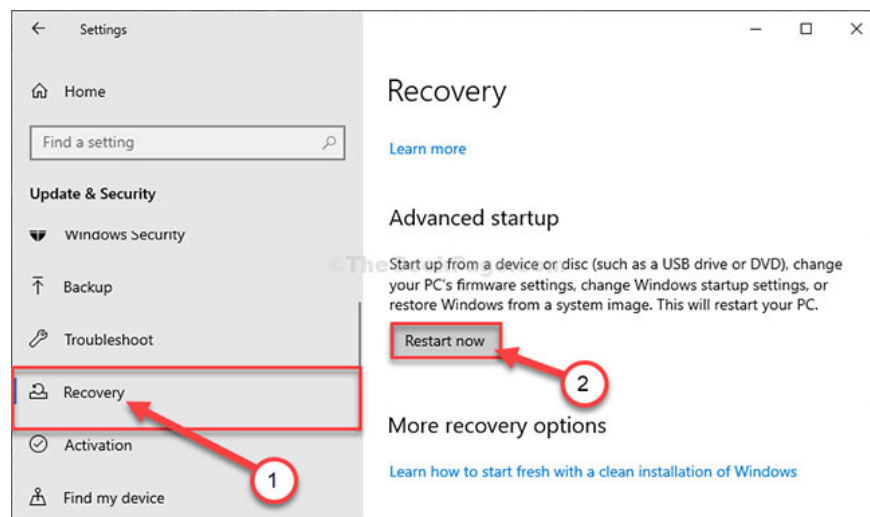
**Step 12** : Restart your PC to bring Windows 10 out of Safe Mode and back to normal mode. Log in to Windows 10 with a new admin account. Now, you have regained administrator rights in Windows 10 and can delete the assigned Admin account that you lost administrator rights to.

## Option 2: Modify account settings from Registry Editor

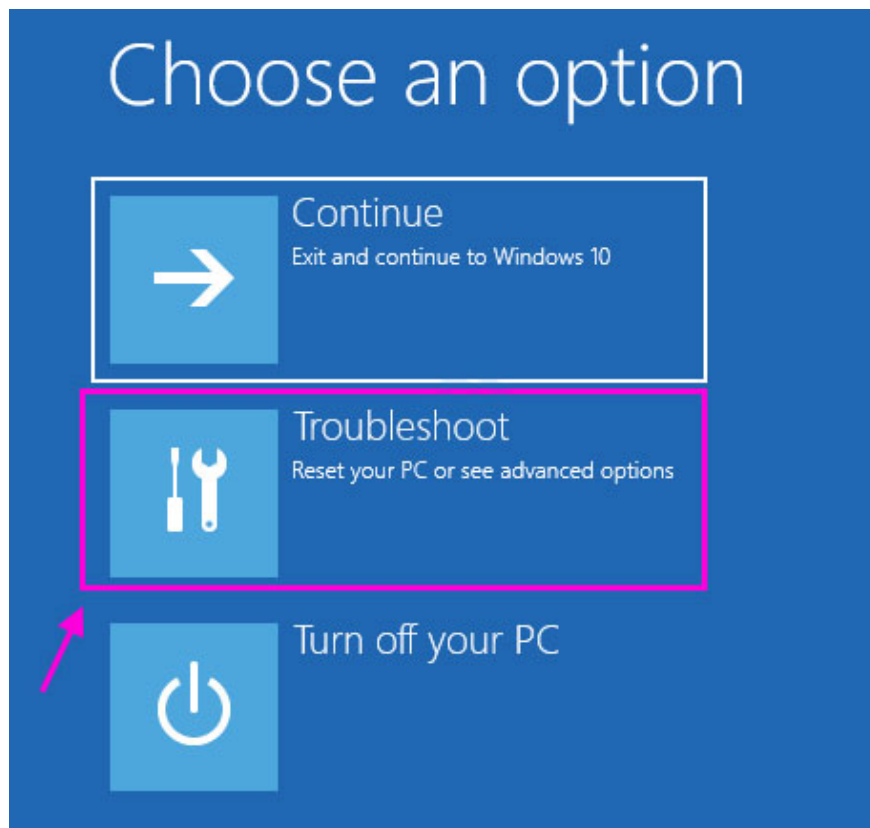
1. Open **Settings** .
2. Then, access '**Update and Security**' settings .



3. Then, click "**Recovery**".
4. Then, in the '**Advanced Startup**' section , click '**Restart Now**'.

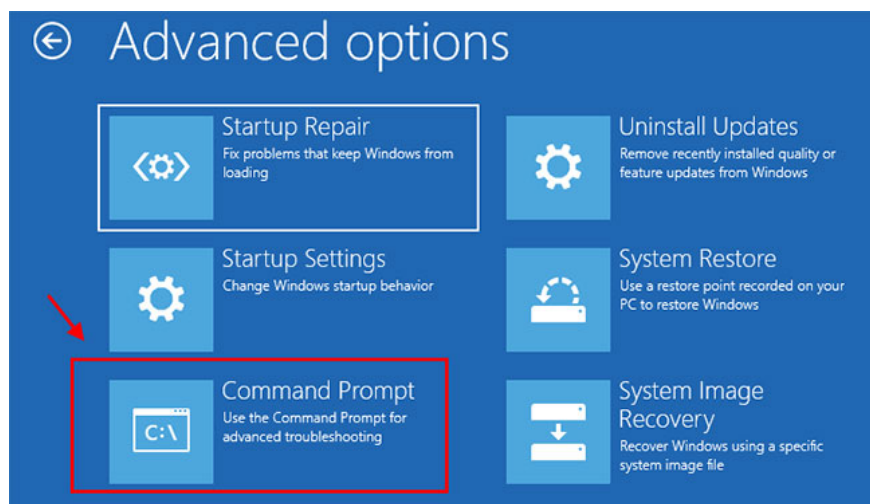


5. The next step is to click '**Troubleshoot**'.

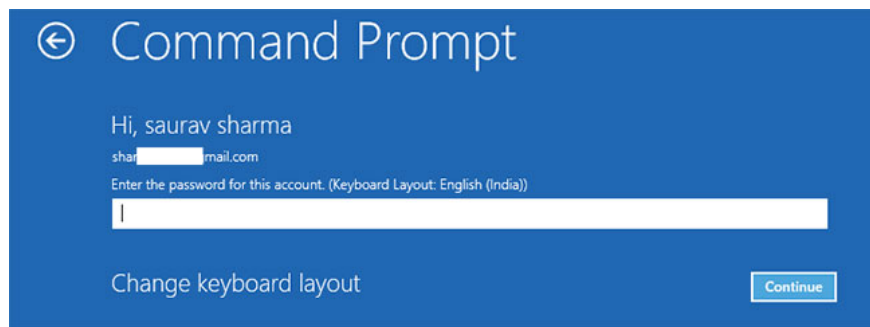


6. To see more available options, you must click on "**Advanced options**".

7. You need to access "**Command Prompt**". So let's click on it.



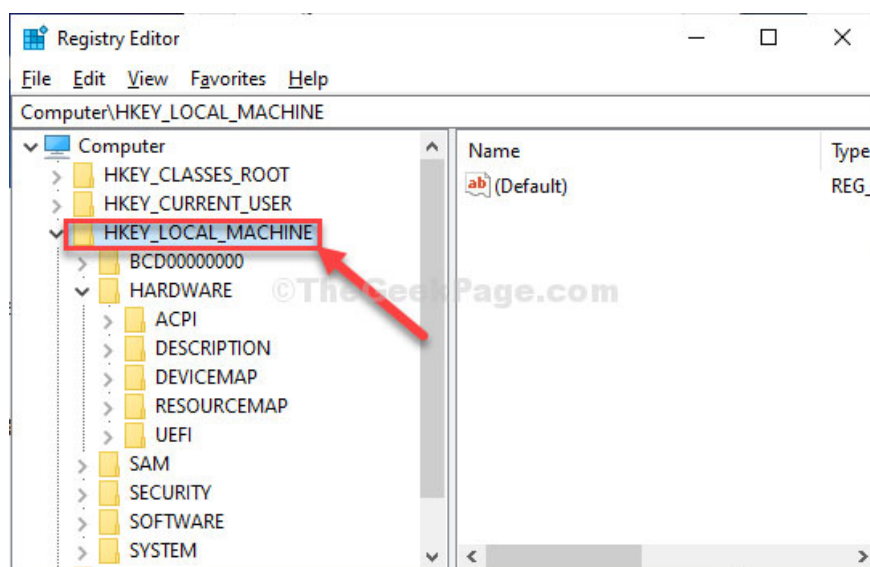
8. Set your account password to access the CMD terminal. Click '**Continue**'.



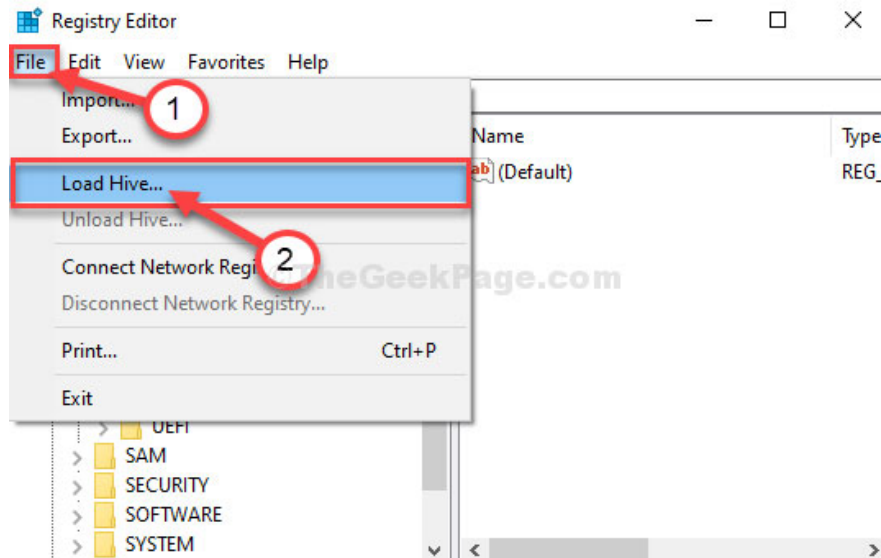
9. In the Command Prompt window, type or copy **"regedit"** and press **Enter** to open the Registry Editor on your computer.

**NOTE:** You need to create a Registry backup. Once you have opened the Registry Editor, you need to click **File** and then select **Export** from the menu bar.

10. In the Registry Editor window, select the **"HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE"** branch to highlight it.



11. Now, click on **'File'** from the menu bar and then click on **'Load Hive'**.

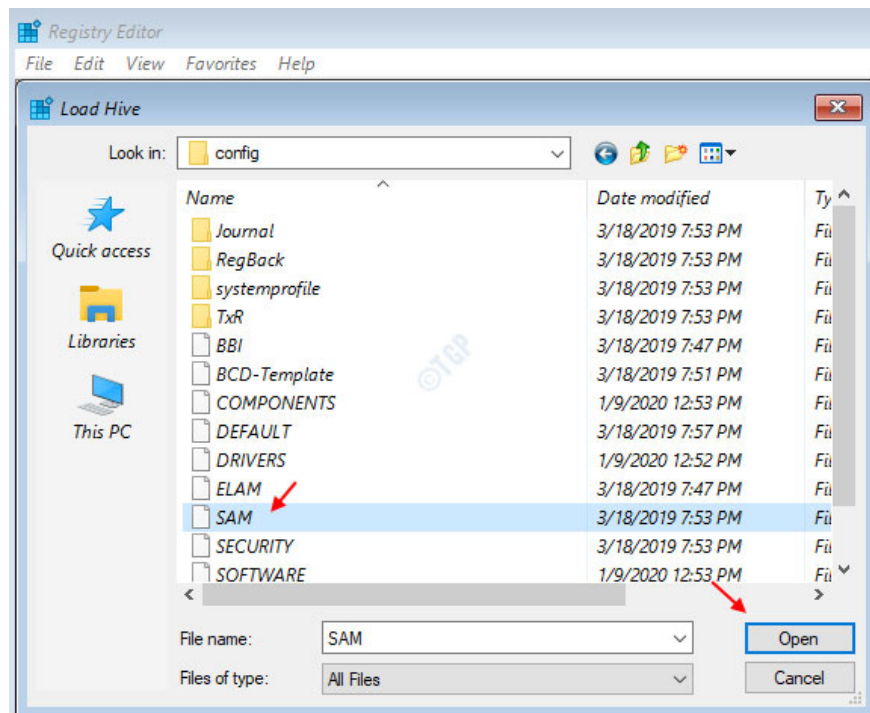


12. In the **Load Hive** window , navigate to this location:

system root drive > Windows > System32

13. In the **System32** folder , double-click the 'config' folder .

14. In the **Config** folder , scroll down to find and select the '**SAM**' file.



15. Now, click **Open** to load the hive in the registry branch.

16. You need to provide a name for the hive.

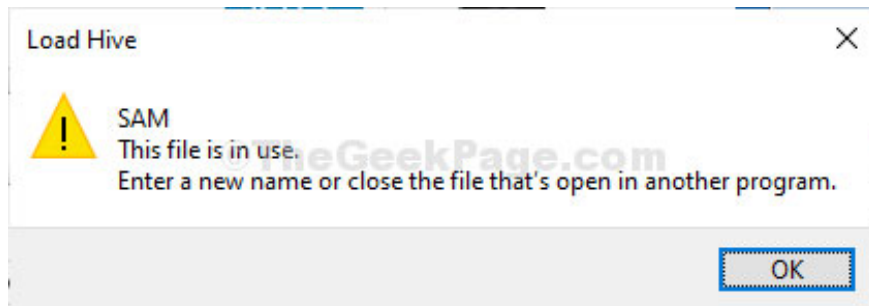
17. Name the key '**REM\_SAM**'. Click **OK**.



After restarting your computer, you will have administrative rights to your account again.

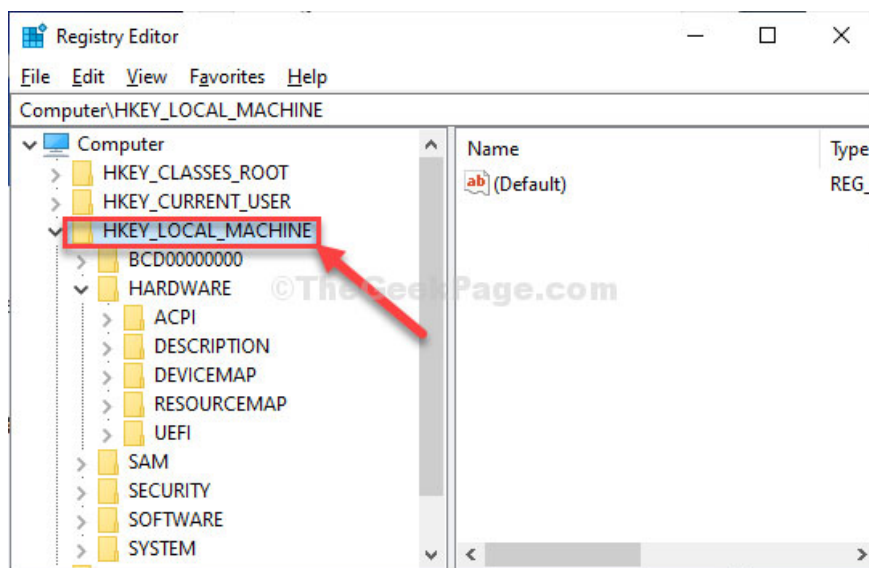
**Note:**

Trying to open file 'SAM' , you may see this error message *'The process cannot access the file it is being used by another process'* or the message *'File is in use'* .

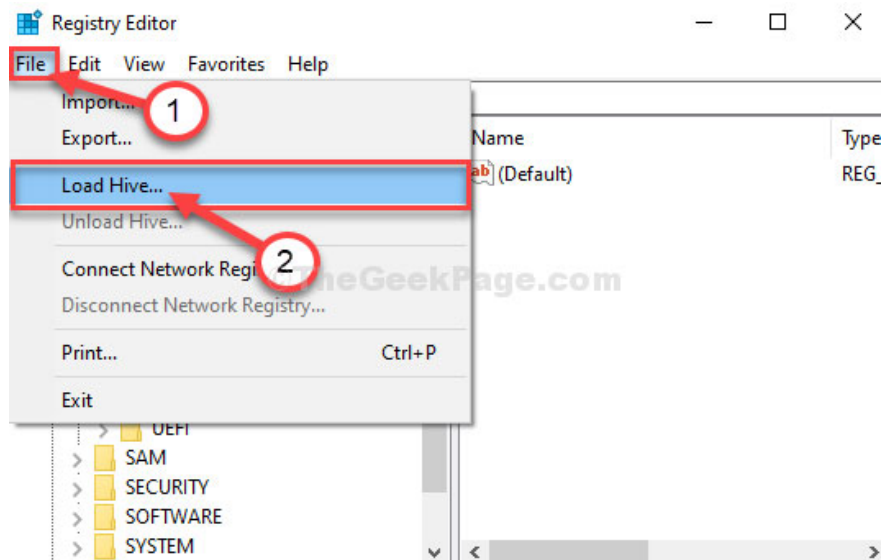


To resolve the issue, follow these steps:

1. In the Registry Editor window, select the **"HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE"** branch to highlight it.



2. Now, click on **'File'** from the menu bar and then click on **'Load Hive'**.



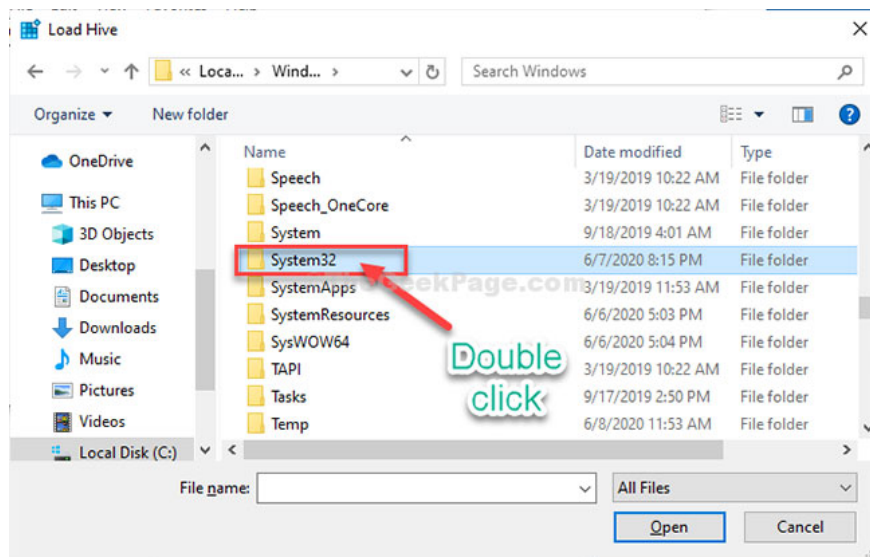
3. Now, click on '**Look in:**' to open the drop-down menu.

**Note :** You are facing trouble because you are selecting the '**BOOT (X:)**' drive on which CMD is running.

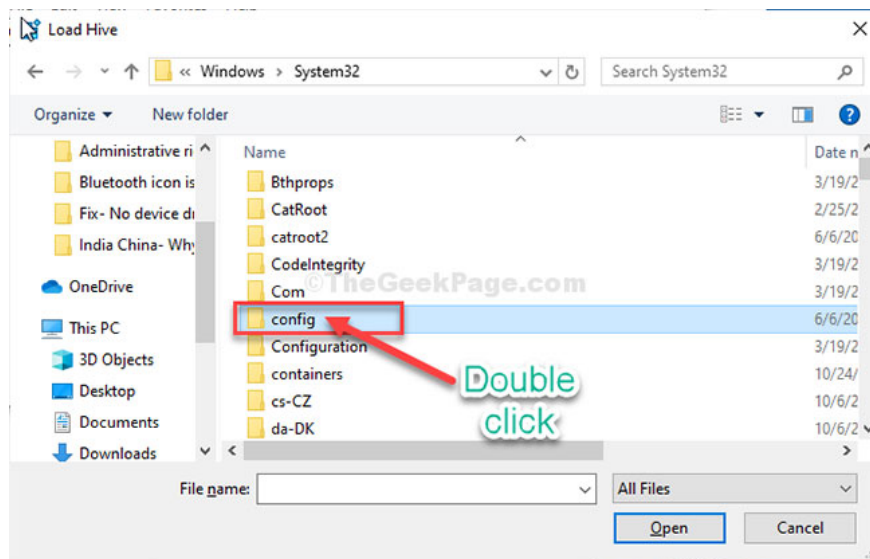
4. Select the system root drive on the computer (for this computer, it is the '**Local Disk (D:)**' drive , usually **Local Disk (C:)** ) and then click '**Open**'.

5. Now, scroll down and double-click on the '**Windows**' folder.

6. In the same way, scroll down, find the '**System32**' folder and access it.



7. Now, double click on the '**Config**' folder to access it.



Then, follow the remaining instructions (from step 13) to modify the binary value and resolve the problem.

## Option 3: Regain lost Admin rights on Windows 10 with the iSumsoft Windows Password Refixer tool

To use this option, you need to borrow a PC that you can access as admin.

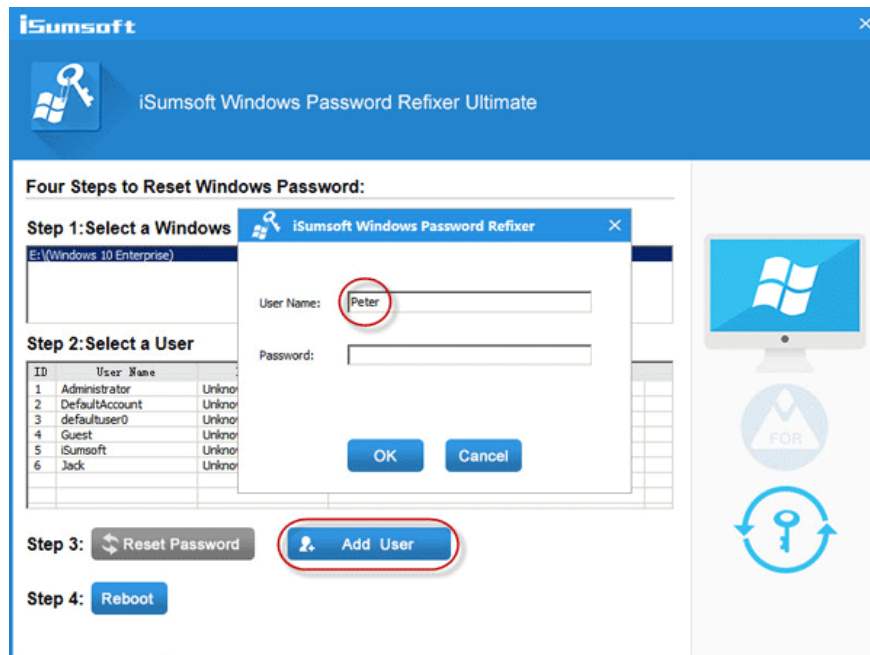
**Step 1 :** On another PC that you can access with admin rights, download and install iSumsoft Windows Password Refixer.

**Step 2 :** Launch this tool and follow the steps to burn it to USB and create a bootable drive.



**Step 3 :** Connect the bootable USB drive to the Windows 10 PC on which you have lost admin rights and set the PC to boot from USB.

**Step 4 :** After the " **Windows Password Refixer** " screen appears, click **Add User** . Then, enter the username in the dialog box and click **OK**. This will add a new local user with admin rights on Windows 10.



**Step 5 :** Click **Reboot** and exit the bootable USB drive to restart your PC. The new admin account will appear on the Windows 10 login screen. Log in to it and you have regained admin rights.

Wish you success!

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