

Nilesoft Shell - Menu customization application in Windows Explorer

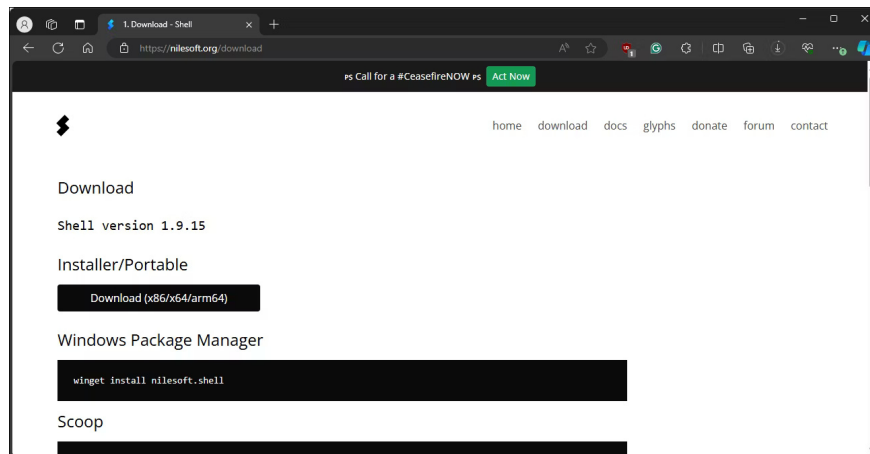
If you want more control, try Nilesoft Shell, an open source tool that lets you personalize the context menu to your liking.

How to customize Windows context menu using Nilesoft Shell

Nilesoft Shell is a context menu extension application for Windows File Explorer. It allows adding new items or modifying existing ones added by third-party systems or software. Users can even create cascading menus and sub-menus and personalize them with different themes, fonts, background colors and opacity.

Install Nilesoft Shell

The installer can be downloaded directly from the Nilesoft website. Once downloaded, double click on the installer and wait for the installation to complete.



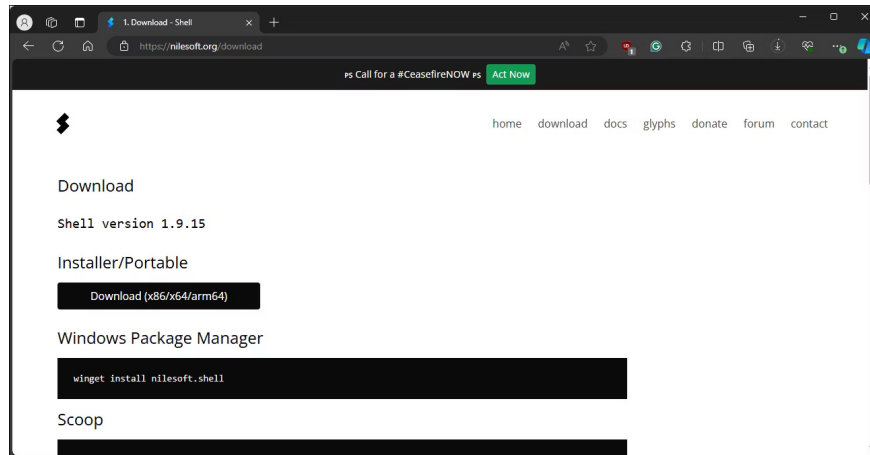
If that doesn't work, you can install Nilesoft Shell using a package manager like Winget, Chocolatey, or Scoop. Open Windows Terminal and type the following command, then press **Enter** :

```
winget install nilesoft.shell
```

To run the application:

1. Search for **Nilesoft Shell** in Windows Search.
2. Right click on the application and select **Run as administrator** .

3. Alternatively, press and hold **Shift** and right-click **Taskbar** , then go to **Shell > Manager** .



4. In the GUI dialog box, click **Register** to activate the software. The screen may flicker several times when Windows Explorer restarts.

Customize context menus

Once the integration is complete, Nilesoft Shell will display a new context menu when you right-click File Explorer. This menu includes existing, hidden options, and some additional options.

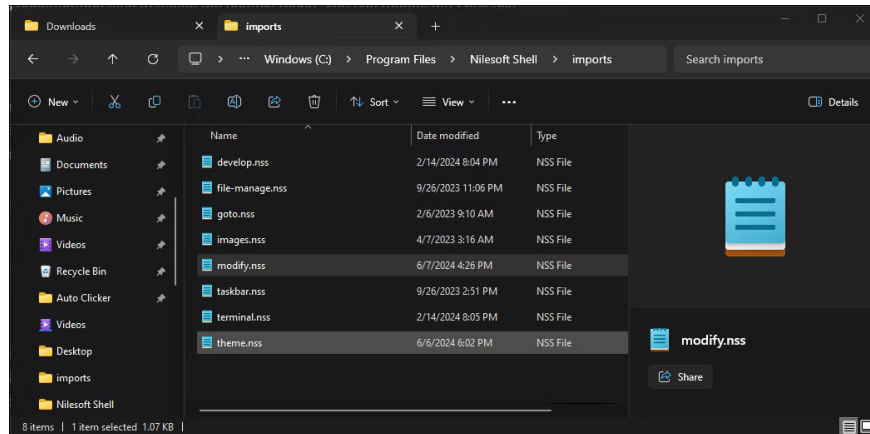


Although the Shell works well by default, you can customize it with new items and themes to meet your needs. To understand how the shell works and how to customize the context menu with additional options, see Nilesoft's documentation page.

Add or remove items from the context menu

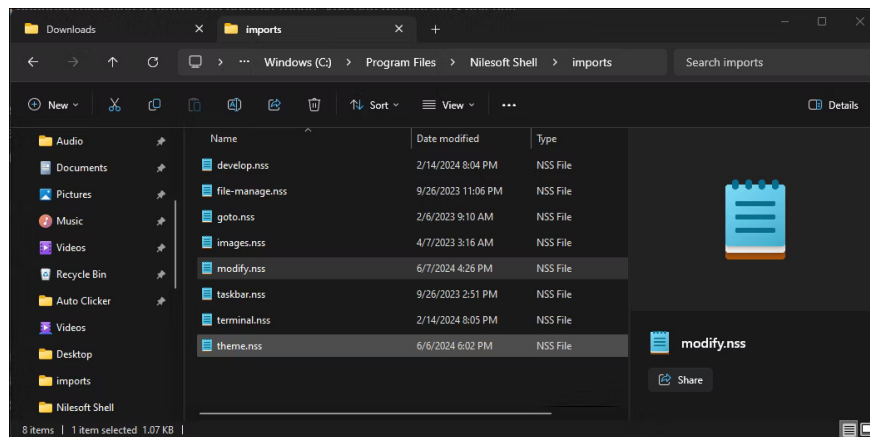
The shell uses its own configuration files to define context menus. The shell.nss or Modify.nss file can be modified to add or remove entries.

The example will remove the WinRAR option added by the software during installation. Press and hold **Shift** , right-click the **Taskbar** and go to **Shell > directory** . Open the **Imports** folder and double-click to open the **modify.nss** file in Notepad.



Now, add the following line of code to the Notepad file:

```
remove( find="winrar" )
```



In the above command, **winrar** is the identifier and is case sensitive. Replace Winrar with the option you want to remove. For example, to remove the **Open With** option from the context menu, add the following line of code to the file:

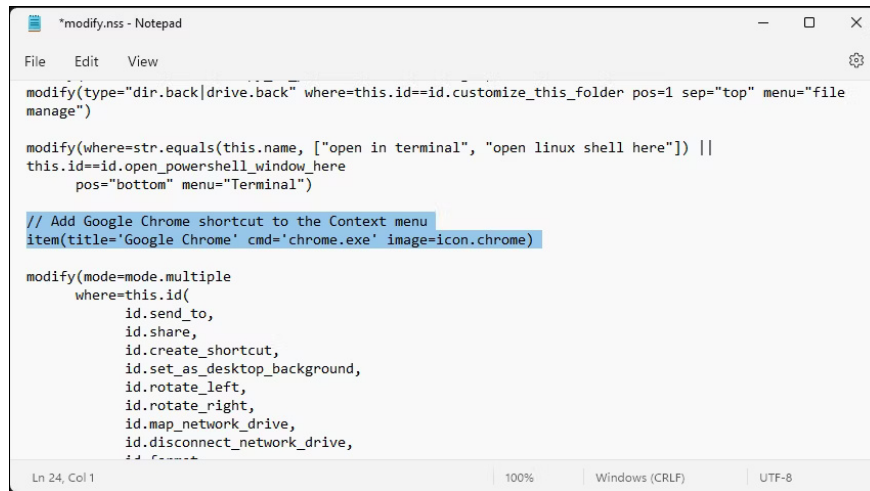
```
Remove( find="open with" )
```

To remove multiple entries, add all identifiers separated by a delimiter (|). To remove view, sort, refresh, and paste options from the context menu, enter:

```
Remove( find="view|sort by|refresh|paste" )
```

Now, let's try adding an item. To add a Google Chrome shortcut to the context menu, add the following command to the Modify.nss file:

```
item(title='Google Chrome' cmd='chrome.exe' image=icon.chrome)
```



```
modify(type="dir.back|drive.back" where=this.id==id.customize_this_folder pos=1 sep="top" menu="file manage")

modify(where=str.equals(this.name, ["open in terminal", "open linux shell here"]) ||
this.id==id.open_powershell_window_here
pos="bottom" menu="Terminal")

// Add Google Chrome shortcut to the Context menu
item(title='Google Chrome' cmd='chrome.exe' image=icon.chrome)

modify(mode=mode.multiple
where=this.id{
    id.send_to,
    id.share,
    id.create_shortcut,
    id.set_as_desktop_background,
    id.rotate_left,
    id.rotate_right,
    id.map_network_drive,
    id.disconnect_network_drive,
    id.disconnect
```

Once done, press **Ctrl + S** to save changes. Then press **Ctrl + right click** on the desktop to force the shell to reload the nss files. Right-click any item in File Explore to see the new menu item. If no changes are applied, check that the identifier name is correct.

It is also possible to add software shortcuts to the context menu using Registry Editor, but this is more complicated and risky.

Personalize context menus

You can further customize the appearance of the context menu by changing the background color, opacity, font size, and other properties to suit your needs. Open the **Imports** folder , then double-click to open the **themes.nss** file. To change the font size, modify the following line:

```
Font.size=20
```

You can change **the 20** in the command to a font size of your choice.

Next, set a different font by adding the following line:

```
Font.name="Lora"
```



```
theme
{
    name = "white"
    dark = auto
    background
    {
        color = default
        opacity = sys.is11 ? default : 90
        effect = default
    }
    image.align = 2
    /Change font size
    font.size=25
    /Change font name
    font.name="Lora"
}
```

You can replace Lora with your preferred font name. To undo the changes, delete the command or set the font size to automatic.

Advanced customization

By default, Nilessoft Shell adjusts the default system theme for the context menu. You can personalize it by modifying the theme.nss file or installing third-party themes like Catppuccin for Nilessoft Shell. Theme, background color, opacity, and effects can be changed to the default theme or third-party themes.

To apply a dark theme, change the syntax from "dark" to "white". Replace with "modern" or "classic" to restore the default style:

```
theme { Name= "dark"
```

To adjust the background color to orange, set the Color identifier to #F8C471. Set the Opacity between 70 and 30 for a more transparent look. Additionally, set the Effect indicator to 1 for transparent , 2 for blurred , or 3 for the acrylic effect . The blur level needs to be adjusted for these changes to be noticeable:

```
background { color = #24273a opacity = 70 effect = "1"
```



Save the file and reload the nss file to see the changes.

Remember that changes may not take effect immediately and require a restart. Also, don't forget to create a backup of the modified nss file. Multiple attempts to modify the configuration application caused it to stop working and required reinstallation. Having a backup can help you quickly restore your changes and avoid losing them due to errors.

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