

Try Disk Usage, a new tool to analyze hard drive space on Windows 10

Disk Usage is located in `C:\Windows\System32\diskusage.exe` and will display the user guide when entering `diskusage /?`. This utility can scan your entire drive or specified folders and report how many each folder is in use.

Microsoft is creating a built-in Disk Usage command line utility to report how much disk space a folder uses.

Over time, it's common to run out of storage space and not know which programs or files are using up hard drive space. Previously, users needed to download free tools like TreeSize to list the directories using the most space.

While testing with the new Windows 10 Insider versions 20277 and 21277 released last week, some people have found out that Microsoft has quietly introduced the new Disk Usage utility. This utility can scan your entire drive or specified folders and report how many each folder is in use.

Disk Usage, a new tool to analyze hard drive space on Windows 10

Disk Usage is located in `C:\Windows\System32\diskusage.exe` and will display the user guide when entering `diskusage /?`, as shown below.

```

Administrator: Command Prompt
C:\test>diskusage /?
DiskUsage - Disk Usage

Description: Summarize disk usage recursively for the given directory.
Usage      : diskusage [options] [Directory]
Options    :
  /a, /systemAndReserve  displays size for system files and reserved space
  /c, /csv                displays in csv format
  /d, /maxDepth=N        displays directory information only if it is N or
                        fewer levels below command line argument
  /e, /minFileSize=SIZE  displays directory information only if its FileSize
                        is greater or equal than SIZE
  /f, /minSizeOnDisk=SIZE displays directory information only if its SizeOnDisk
                        is greater or equal than SIZE
  /g, /displayFlag=FLAG  specifies the flags value to determin which column(s) to display
                        column      value      description
                        SizeOnDisk  0x001    the on disk size
                        FileSize     0x002    the end of file size
                        SizePerDir   0x004    sum of SizeOnDisk for top level child
                        Files        0x008    number of child files
                        ChildDirs    0x010    number of child directories
                        FilesPerDir  0x020    number of top level child files
                        DirsPerDir   0x040    number of top level child directories
                        CreationTime 0x080    file creation timestamp
                        LastAccessTime 0x100    file last access timestamp
                        LastWriteTime 0x200    file last write timestamp
                        Attributes   0x400    file attributes
  /h, /humanReadable     displays size in human readable format
  /i, /iniFile=FILE      takes all the parameters from an INI file.
                        NOTE: SCENARIO name must be speificed via /j (/scenario)
  /j, /scenario=SCENARIO specifies the scenario name for the INI file
  /l, /alllinks           count all hardlinks separately (By default, files with multiple
                        hardlinks are counted only once towards the first link name)
  /m, /multipleName      count only files with more than one link names
  
```

This program is in the early stages of development, some features are not working as expected and there are some typos in the user manual.

For those interested, here is the complete manual:

DiskUsage - Disk Usage Description: Summarize disk usage recursively for the given

Try a new Disk Usage utility

Microsoft's new Disk Usage tool is in the early stages of development, so it's pretty basic. Let's see how it works.

By default, when running Disk Usage, it will report file and folder sizes in bytes, which is not as useful as displaying the size in MB, GB, etc. Thankfully, Microsoft has included the argument. **a / h** to display the amount of human readable capacity. used in the examples below.

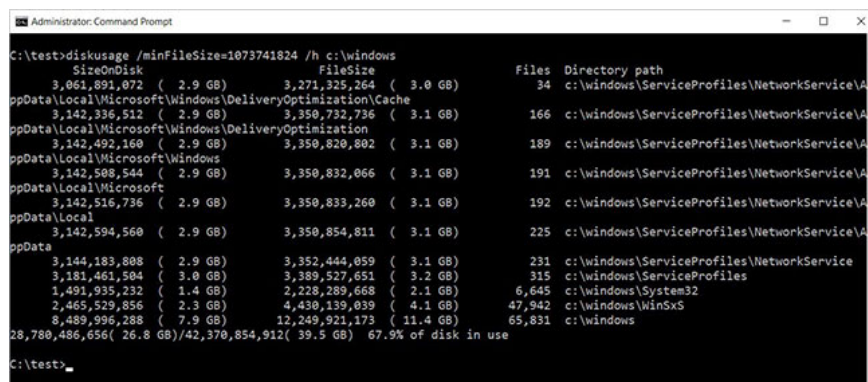
When I ran this test on a virtual machine, for example there was not much data or large programs installed, so I tested it with the **C: Windows** directory .

Since this tool requires administrative privileges, you must first open Command Prompt with admin privileges on Windows 10 before using diskusage.exe, otherwise it will show an error.

To view folders in C: Windows that are larger than 1GB, for example run the following command:

```
diskusage /minFileSize=1073741824 /h c:windows
```

As you can see below, Disk Usage has listed all folders, including the C: Windows folder, which is larger than 1GB.



```
Administrator: Command Prompt
C:\test>diskusage /minFileSize=1073741824 /h c:\windows
SizeOnDisk      FileSize      Files  Directory path
3,061,891,072 ( 2.9 GB)  3,271,325,264 ( 3.0 GB)    34   c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\NetworkService\A
ppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\DeliveryOptimization\Cache
3,142,336,512 ( 2.9 GB)  3,350,732,736 ( 3.1 GB)    166  c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\NetworkService\A
ppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\DeliveryOptimization
3,142,492,160 ( 2.9 GB)  3,350,820,802 ( 3.1 GB)    189  c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\NetworkService\A
ppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows
3,142,500,544 ( 2.9 GB)  3,350,832,066 ( 3.1 GB)    191  c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\NetworkService\A
ppData\Local\Microsoft
3,142,516,736 ( 2.9 GB)  3,350,833,260 ( 3.1 GB)    192  c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\NetworkService\A
ppData\Local
3,142,594,560 ( 2.9 GB)  3,350,854,811 ( 3.1 GB)    225  c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\NetworkService\A
ppData
3,144,183,808 ( 2.9 GB)  3,352,444,059 ( 3.1 GB)    231  c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\NetworkService
3,181,461,504 ( 3.0 GB)  3,389,527,651 ( 3.2 GB)    315  c:\windows\ServiceProfiles
1,491,935,232 ( 1.4 GB)  2,228,289,668 ( 2.1 GB)    6,645 c:\windows\System32
2,465,529,856 ( 2.3 GB)  4,430,139,039 ( 4.1 GB)    47,942 c:\windows\WinSxS
8,489,996,288 ( 7.9 GB)  12,249,921,173 ( 11.4 GB)  65,831 c:\windows
28,780,486,656( 26.8 GB)/42,370,854,912( 39.5 GB)  67.9% of disk in use
C:\test>
```

Disk Usage also includes a feature that lists the top N (number) folders on the drive or in a specified directory. To do this, use the command **/ t = [number]** as follows:

```
diskusage /t=5 /h c:windows
```

Unfortunately, the output of this command is not as expected. As you can see below, it shows an ordered list of 5 folders, but based on the previous commands, they are not the directories that the example expected.

```
Administrator: Command Prompt
C:\test>diskusage /t=5 /h c:\windows
SizeOnDisk      Files      SizePerDir      Directory path
775,458,816 (739.5 MB) 2 775,458,816 (739.5 MB) c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\Net
workService\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\DeliveryOptimization\Cache\ab0f0dfe746e9b0b80c0234e1c7b99f731b261
6e
538,796,032 (513.8 MB) 2 538,796,032 (513.8 MB) c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\Net
workService\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\DeliveryOptimization\Cache\da21de36e83793f93f95c1e04b50ee72d88d88
ff
1,467,723,776 ( 1.4 GB) 6,653 473,391,104 (451.5 MB) c:\windows\System32
350,044,160 (333.8 MB) 2 350,044,160 (333.8 MB) c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\Net
workService\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\DeliveryOptimization\Cache\c107694fc8690723ef95c1e04b50ee72d88d88
ff
281,100,288 (268.1 MB) 2 281,100,288 (268.1 MB) c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\Net
workService\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\DeliveryOptimization\Cache\188ec523e4a8b1cf7b2fe09d8d869bd1b03a9b
df
C:\test>
```

We guessed that the above command shows the largest directories, without looking at the files in their subdirectories.

Disk Usage also includes other features such as listing the files with the largest capacity using the /u option, as shown in the following command:

```
diskusage /u=5 /h c:\windows
```

As you can see below, instead of displaying the 5 largest folders, Disk Usage displays the 5 largest files.

```
Administrator: Command Prompt
c:\test>diskusage /u=5 /h c:\windows
SizeOnDisk      File path
775,421,952 (739.5 MB) c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\NetworkService\AppData\Local\Microsoft
\Windows\DeliveryOptimization\Cache\ab0f0dfe746e9b0b80c0234e1c7b99f731b2616e\content.bin
538,771,456 (513.8 MB) c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\NetworkService\AppData\Local\Microsoft
\Windows\DeliveryOptimization\Cache\da21de36e83793f93f95c1e04b50ee72d88d88ff\content.bin
350,027,776 (333.8 MB) c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\NetworkService\AppData\Local\Microsoft
\Windows\DeliveryOptimization\Cache\c107694fc8690723ef95c1e04b50ee72d88d88ff\content.bin
281,083,904 (268.1 MB) c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\NetworkService\AppData\Local\Microsoft
\Windows\DeliveryOptimization\Cache\188ec523e4a8b1cf7b2fe09d8d869bd1b03a9bdf\content.bin
197,722,112 (188.6 MB) c:\windows\ServiceProfiles\NetworkService\AppData\Local\Microsoft
\Windows\DeliveryOptimization\Cache\9b6c72bc3bfbe889e9ec043e8130790d290eb89\content.bin
c:\test>
```

Other features included in Disk Usage include creating a configuration file that contains the options you want to use automatically, customizing the output, and the ability to ignore different types of folders.

As mentioned before, Disk Usage is still in its infancy and there's no word on when it will officially appear. You can test it out now by installing the latest Windows 10 Insider builds.

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