

# What is the Desktop.ini file? How to hide and delete Desktop.ini file on Windows

The article will provide you with information about the Desktop.ini file, how to use the file, how to hide and how to delete the Desktop.ini file quickly and easily. Click to see it now!

If you are a user of the Windows operating system, surely the following information is essential for you. Let's learn about what is Desktop.ini file? How to hide and delete the Desktop.ini file is very simple on Windows in this article!

## 1. What is the Desktop.ini file?

The .ini format is initialized by the Windows operating system.

It is essentially a file that is installed in plain text, which tells you how a program places icons from size, color, language or whatever.



The Desktop.ini file is a file that is installed for the Windows desktop or also for a program that uses the desktop.

Windows uses the Desktop.ini file to determine how a folder should be displayed, be it icons, names, shared properties, etc.

## 2. Is the Desktop.ini file a virus?

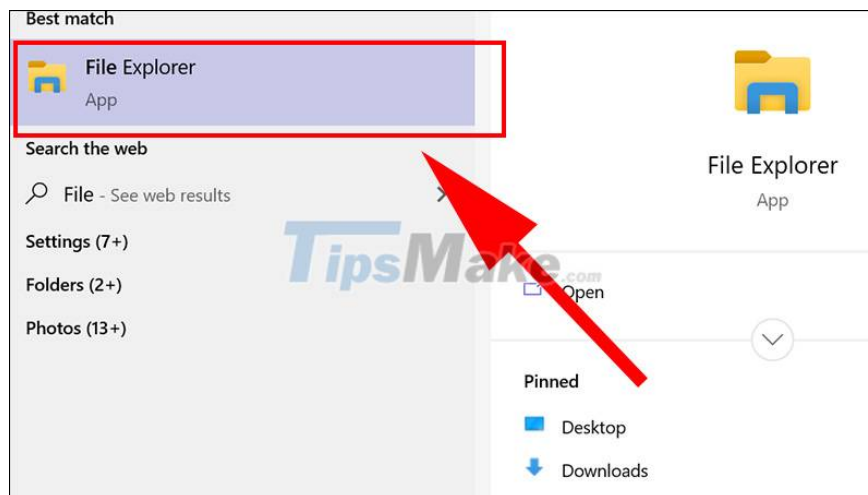




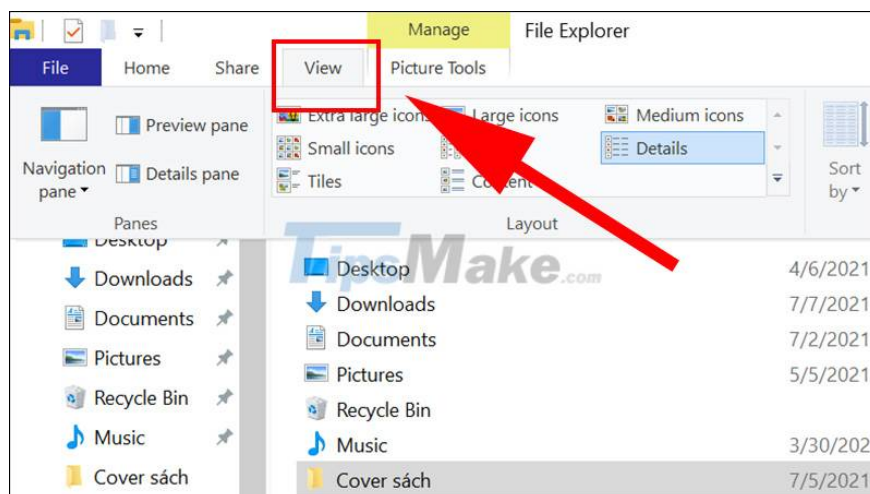
#### 4. How to view Desktop.ini

So can we see the Desktop.ini file and the answer is absolutely yes, moreover we can do it easily with the following steps.

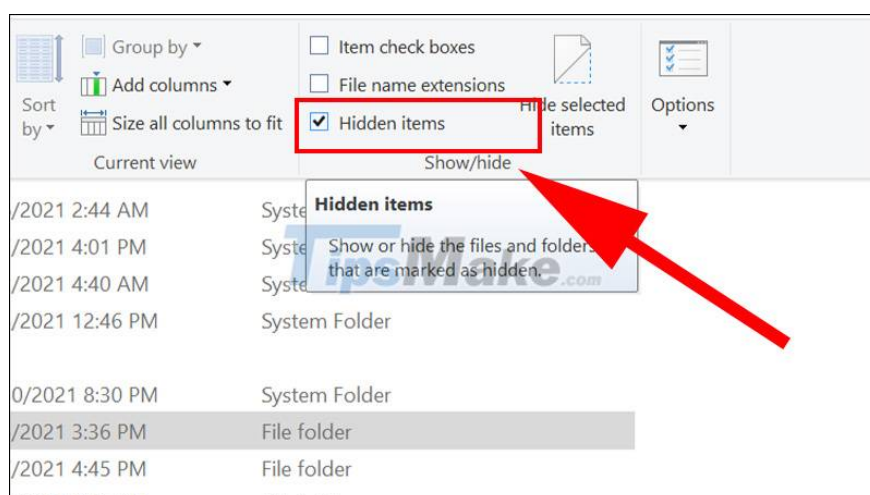
**Step 1 :** Open **File Explorer** to any folder.



**Step 2 :** Go to the **View** tab .



**Step 3 :** Turn it on, check the **Hidden items** box .



**Step 4 :** Go to the desktop and check if the desktop.ini file has appeared.

If you want to know what's in a desktop.ini file, you can open it in Notepad.

Also, you should be able to change its contents without any problem. However, be careful and don't change anything if you don't really understand and know what you're trying to do.

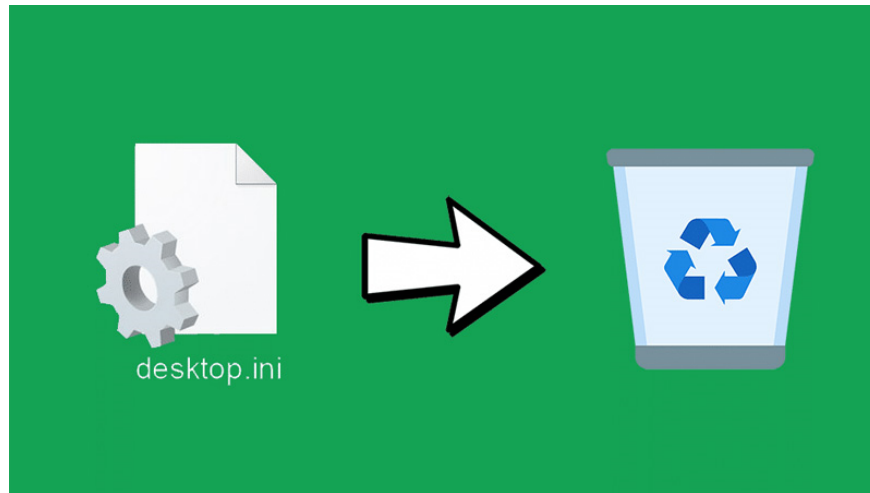
## 5. Is it possible to delete the Desktop.ini file?

This seems to be a very interesting question when it comes to the Desktop.ini file.

It is correct that we can completely delete the Desktop.ini files, but this causes the folder display settings to be restored to the original default state.

This is not confusing because whenever you change the folder icon or a thumbnail image or share properties, when you delete this file, your device changes will be lost and your settings will be lost. this folder will be converted to the default state on the system.

But it will automatically regenerate the next time you customize the folder settings.



## 6. How to use Desktop,.ini files to customize folders

To customize folders using the desktop.ini file is not difficult if you follow the following instructions.

The first step you need to create and update the original Desktop.ini file, this helps the folder to be upgraded and updated in terms of display and other external settings.

### Note :

- Add a custom icon or thumbnail for the parent folder.
- Create a small information tip to provide information about that folder and it will be displayed when you move the mouse pointer over the folders.
- Adjust how folders are shared or accessed.

Steps to change the display style of any folder using Desktop.ini file:

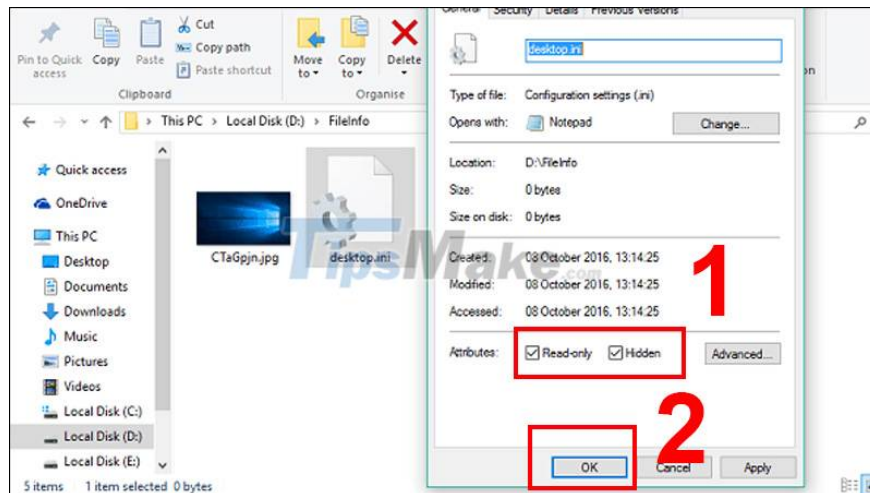
**Step 1** : Select the folder you want to customize using the Desktop.ini file > Run the command ' **attrib +s folder name** ' to select the folder on the directory system.

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.14393]
(c) 2016 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\WINDOWS\system32>D:
D:\>attrib +s FileInfo
D:\>
```

**Step 2 :** Create Desktop.ini file for the folder on question.

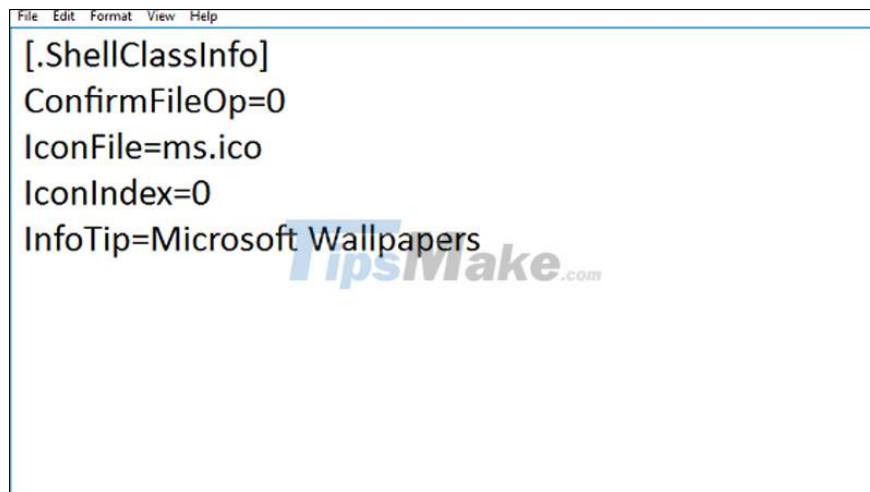
Enable **Read-only** and **Hidden** in the **Properties** window of the Desktop.ini file.



This will help you restrict other users from accessing.

**Note :** The Desktop.ini file you created needs to be in the Unicode file format in order for the character string to be saved in a readable form.

**Step 3 :** Here is an example of the file Desktop.ini creates for a folder named FileInfo:



**[.ShellClassInfo]** - Initialize system properties that help you customize folders by assigning values to some properties that can be 'defined' in the Desktop.ini file.

**ConfirmFileOp** - Set this to 0 and you will not receive the **You Are Deleting a System Folder** warning when deleting or moving the Desktop.ini file.

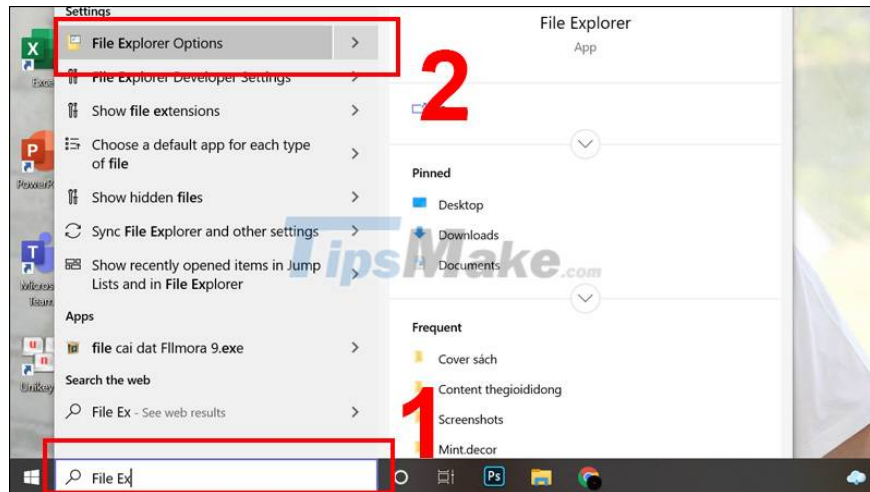
**IconFile** - When you want to set a custom icon for the folder, you can specify the icon file name here. To be more sure you should check the full path of the file.

**IconIndex** - If you set a custom icon for the underlying folder, simply set it at 0 if there is only one file icon in the file specified for the IconFile property.

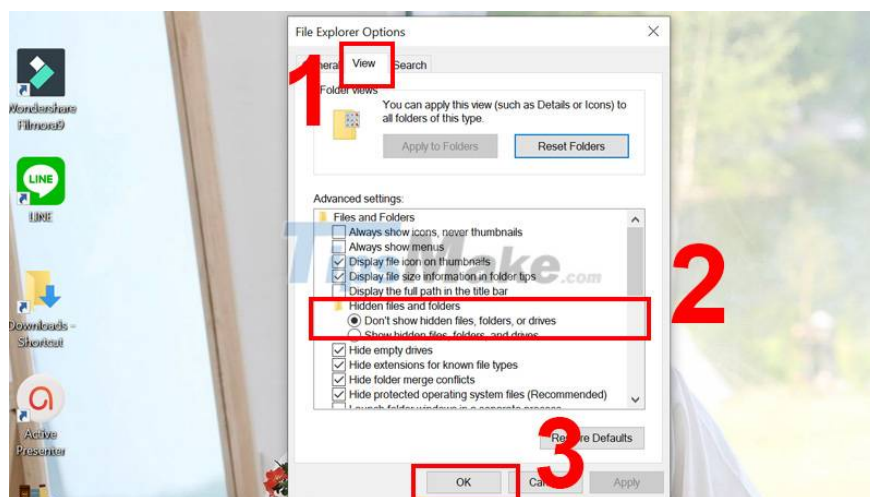
**InfoTip** - This is a special property, used to set a text string and can be used as an informative tip about the directory. If you set this to a text string and then hover your mouse over the folders, the text strings stored in the Desktop.ini file will be displayed there.

## 7. How to hide the Desktop.ini file

**Step 1** : Go to the search box or click on the Windows icon > Search **File Explorer Options** .

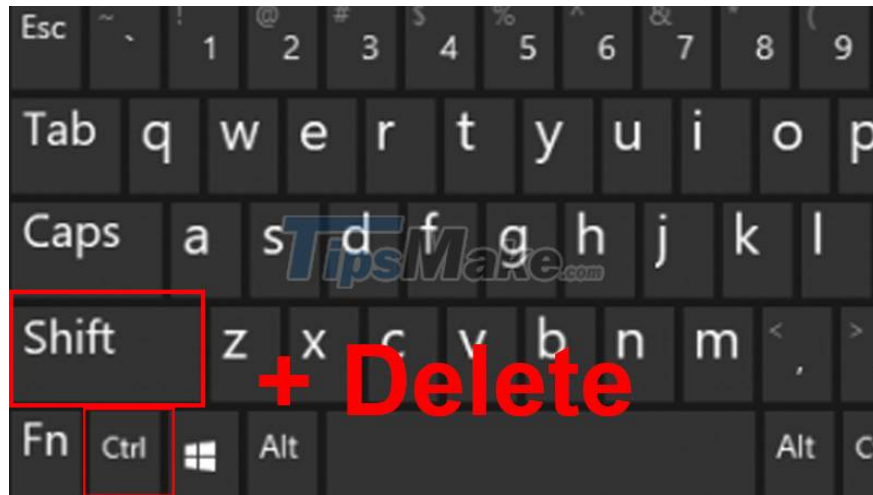


**Step 2** : Click **View bar** > **Under Hidden files and folders** , check **Don't show hidden files, folders, or drivers** > Select **OK** .

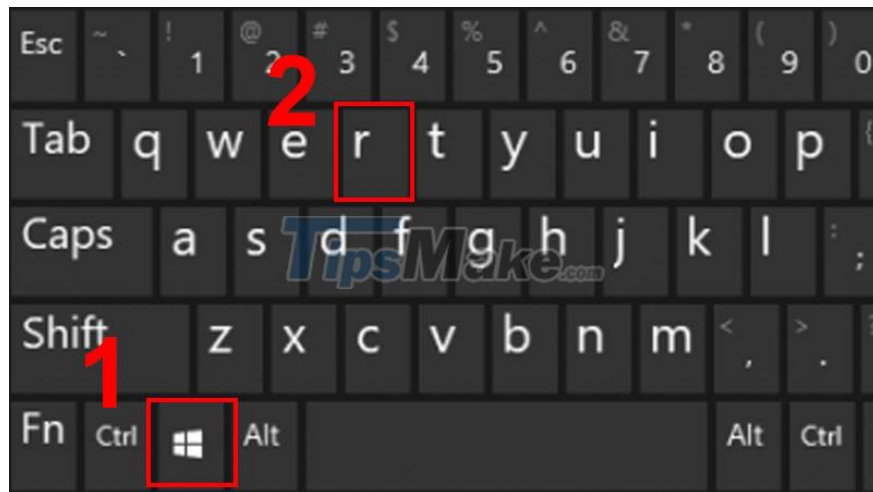


## 8. How to thoroughly delete the Desktop.ini file

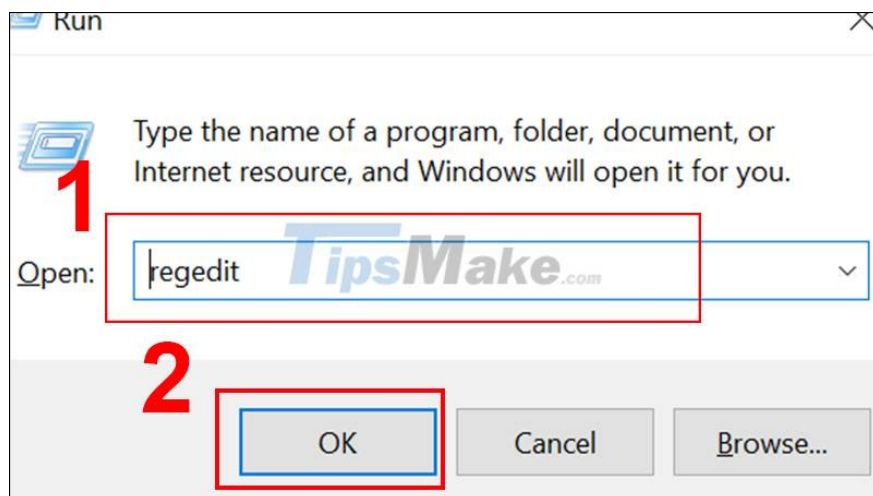
**Step 1** : Find the Desktop.ini file and perform normal deletion like other files or press **Ctrl + Shift + Delete** to delete it permanently.



**Step 2 :** Use the **Windows + R** combination .

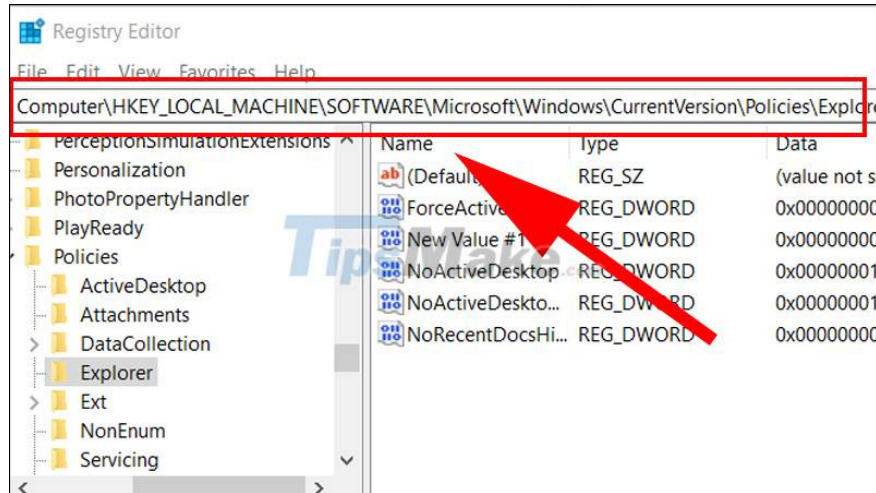


Enter the keyword **regedit** in the empty box > Press **Enter** .

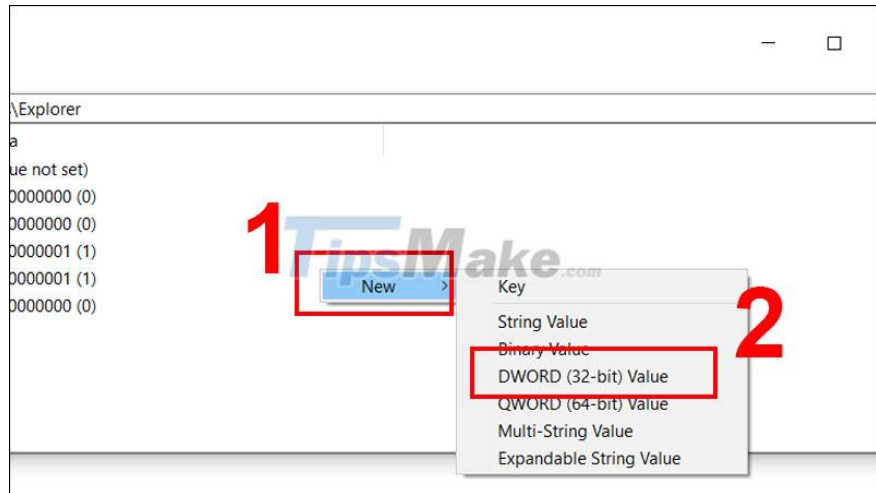


**Step 3 :** Access the folders by path:

Computer\HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Explorer



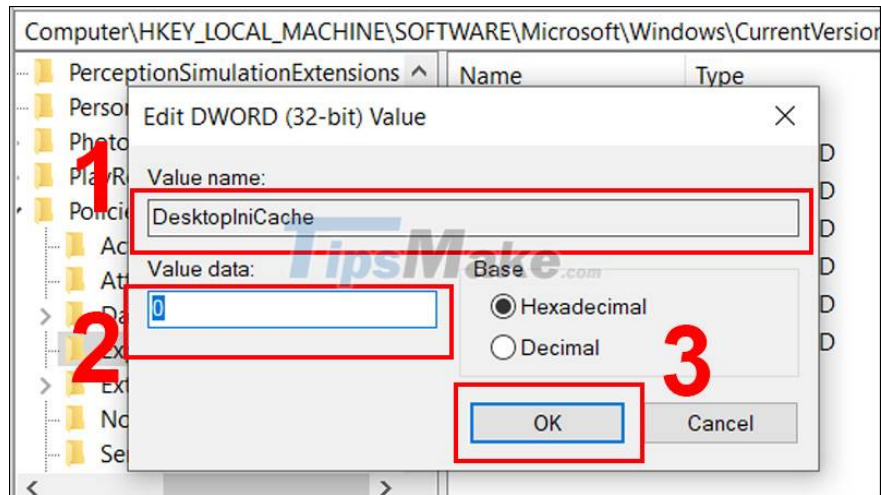
**Step 4 :** Right-click in the space on the right > At **New** > Select **DWORD (32-bit) Value** .



**Step 5 :** In the **Value Name** box > Enter the name of the DWORD as '**DesktopIniCache**' .

In the **Value data** frame > Enter the value as '**0**' .

Then click **OK** and restart the computer.



The above article has provided you with information about the Desktop.ini file, how to use it and how to delete the file. Hope to be useful to you. Wishing you every success in your life.

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