

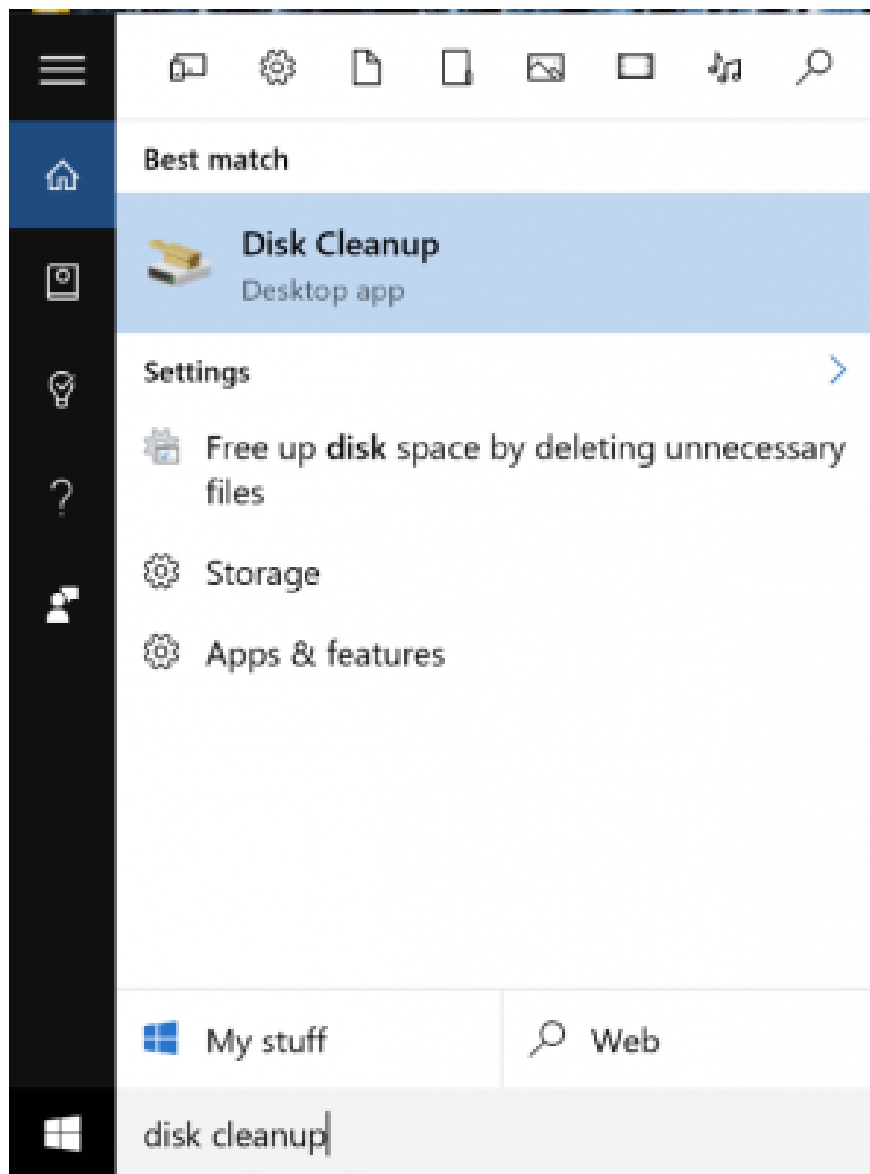
Wipe the winSxS folder to free up windows space

Windows uses a system directory called winSxS to store windows installation files as well as backup files or update files. However, these files occupy quite a lot of space on the system drive. So you should delete the folders, this file will go to free up your windows computer space.

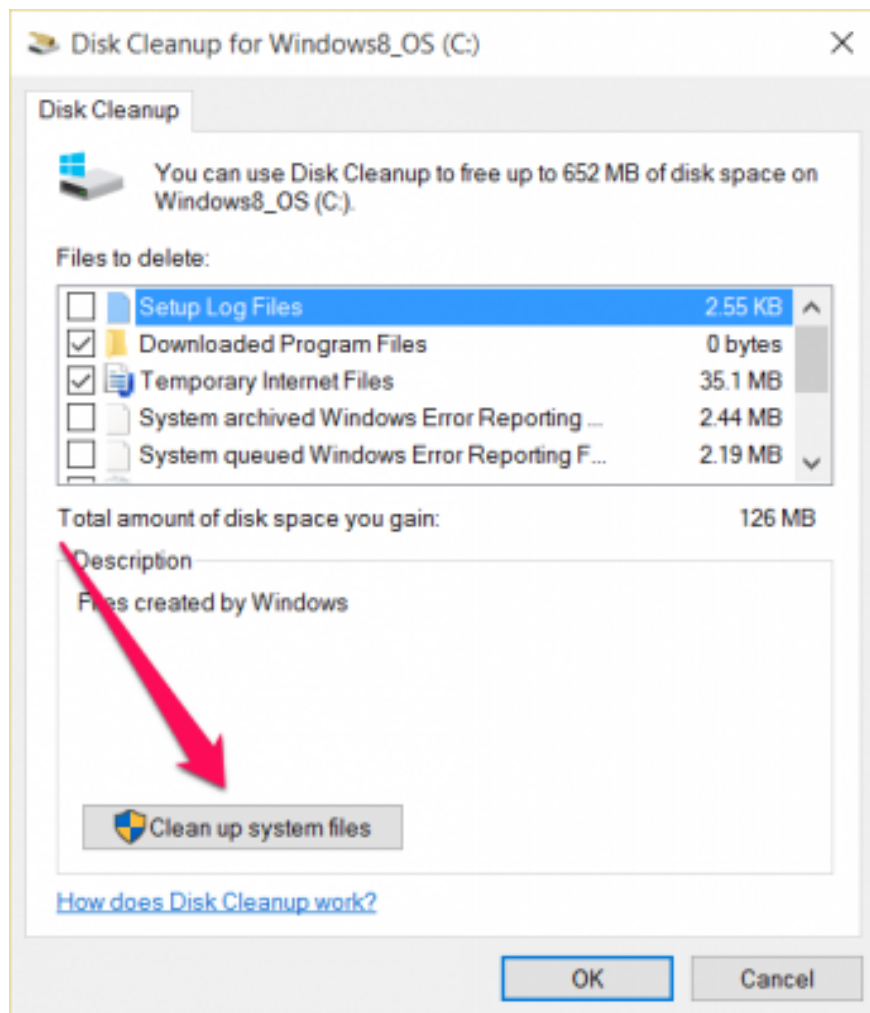
Windows uses a system directory called winSxS to store windows installation files as well as backup files or update files. However, these files occupy quite a lot of space on the system drive. So you should delete the folders, this file will go to free up your windows computer space.

1. Use Disk Cleanup to delete old updates from the SxS folder

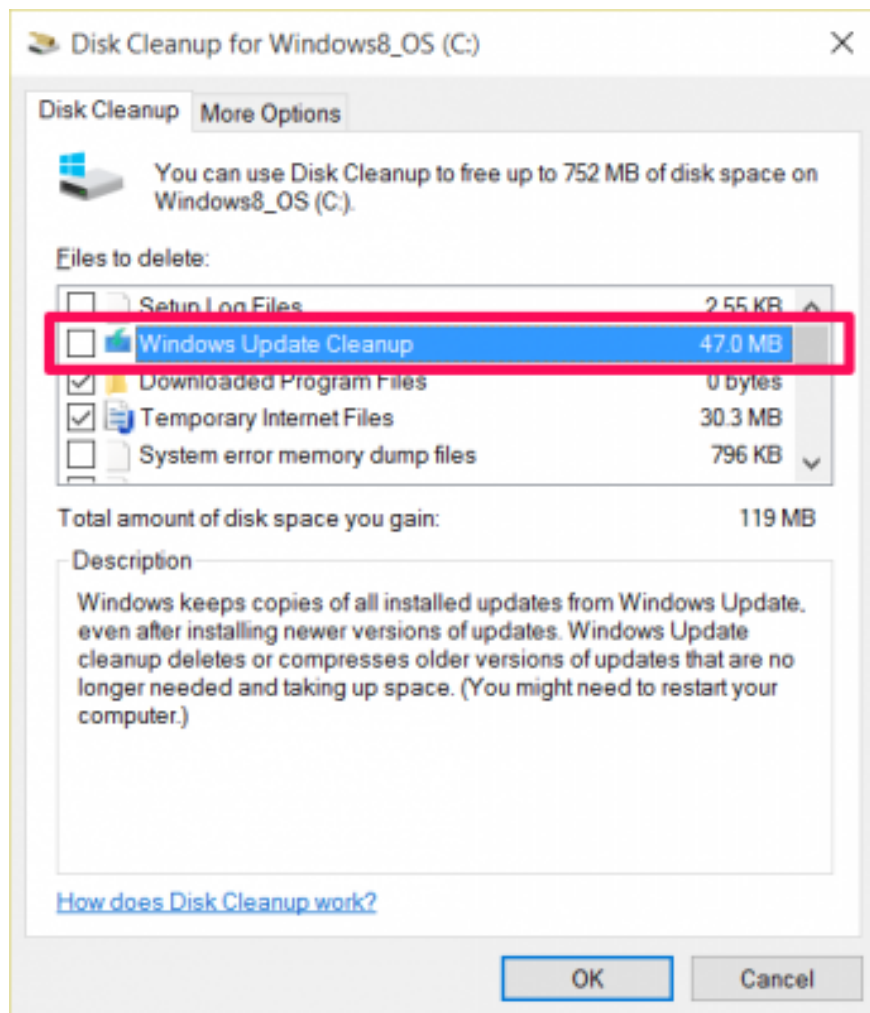
1. First open the Disk Cleanup tool by entering the **disk cleanup** into the Search box on the Start Menu or on the Taskbar and pressing Enter. On the list of search results, click Disk Cleanup.



2. On the Disk Cleanup tool window, click the **Cleanup system files** button .



3. Check **Windows Update Cleanup**.



4. Finally, click **OK** to finish.

2. Use the Command Prompt to delete the SxS folder

If you want to see how much space the SxS folder takes, you can use the Command Prompt.

1. Open Command Prompt under Admin. To do this, enter **cmd** in the Search box on Start Menu or search in the Taskbar. On the search results list, right-click **Command Prompt** and select **Run as administrator**.

Alternatively, right-click on the Start button in the bottom left corner of the screen, select **Command Prompt (Admin)**.

Programs and Features

Mobility Center

Power Options

Event Viewer

System

Device Manager

Network Connections

Disk Management

Computer Management

Command Prompt

Command Prompt (Admin)

Task Manager

Control Panel

File Explorer

Search

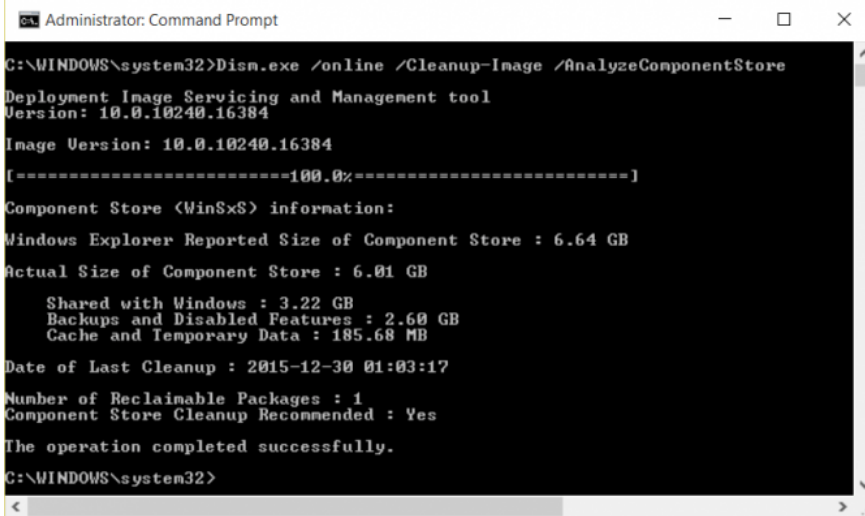
Run

Shut down or sign out



2. On the Command Prompt window, enter the command below and press Enter:

Dism.exe / online / Cleanup-Image / StartComponentCleanup



```
Administrator: Command Prompt
C:\WINDOWS\system32>Dism.exe /online /Cleanup-Image /AnalyzeComponentStore
Deployment Image Servicing and Management tool
Version: 10.0.10240.16384
Image Version: 10.0.10240.16384
[=====100.0%=====]
Component Store (WinSxS) information:
Windows Explorer Reported Size of Component Store : 6.64 GB
Actual Size of Component Store : 6.01 GB
    Shared with Windows : 3.22 GB
    Backups and Disabled Features : 2.60 GB
    Cache and Temporary Data : 185.68 MB
Date of Last Cleanup : 2015-12-30 01:03:17
Number of Reclaimable Packages : 1
Component Store Cleanup Recommended : Yes
The operation completed successfully.
C:\WINDOWS\system32>
```

Wait a few minutes for DISM tool to analyze the directory. Once completed, you will see how much space the SxS folder will take.

3. To delete the SxS folder, enter the following command into the Command Prompt window:

Dism.exe / online / Cleanup-Image / StartComponentCleanup

You can also use other commands to uninstall Windows updates and service packages to free up free space. Use the following command:

Dism.exe / online / Cleanup-Image / StartComponentCleanup

The execution of the command depends on the system and the file size you delete.

Refer to some of the following articles:

1. How to download Windows 10 Anniversary Update update?
1. Here's how to uninstall Windows 10 to return to using Windows 7 or 8.1
1. Summary of several ways to start Windows 10 in Safe Mode

Good luck!

You finished reading the article "**Wipe the winSxS folder to free up windows space**" edited by the [TipsMake](#) team. We hope this article has provided you with many useful tech tips and tricks. You can search for similar articles on tips and guides. Thank you for reading and for following us regularly.

