

Windows 7

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Here is the Guide to Speed Up Windows 7 - Ultimate Guide To Make Windows 7 Blazing Fast!!!

Windows 7 is Engineered for speed. Special attention has been given by the Windows 7 team for making Windows 7 faster than the previous operating systems. Windows 7 is much faster than Windows Vista, but even then most of us don't get satisfied with it. There are many who still have their old PC. Installing Windows 7 on them wont be as soothing as they work with with XP and Even with latest hardware's installed some users still long for more performance. At least if we don't make it lightning fast we can optimize Windows 7 to the maximum possible extent and enjoy the maximum performance we could squeeze out from it. So for all the extra performance lovers, let me present you wit this Ultimate Guide To Speed Up Windows 7.

I guarantee you that after following this guide and implementing the recommendations on your PC, you will really get the performance gain.

The bare Minimum Requirements You need To Run Windows 7

- 1) 1GHz processor (32- or 64-bit)
- 2) 1GB of main memory
- 3) 16GB of available disk space
- 4) Support for DX9 graphics with 128MB of memory (for the Aero interface)
- 5) A DVD - R/W drive

Even if you don't have the DX 9 graphics card there is no problem because our target is performance not the " Eyecandy ". Of course if you need the aero experience you need a powerful graphics card for sure.

The Ultimate Guide to Speed up Windows 7

- Speed Up the Windows 7 Boot Speed

A simple tweak will help you to decrease the boot time of windows 7. You will be benified by this tweak only if you have a multiple core processor. These days most of the computers have a dual core or quad core or something better than that CPU's.

- Press [Win] + R or take the RUN option from the start menu.

- Now type msconfig in there and press Enter Key to open up the System Configuration Window. Click on the Boot tab in there.

You will see a box called Time out. This is the time (in sec) which the system waits for the user to select the operating system to boot to.

- If you use only a single operating system (don't dual boot) you can safely set the value to 0.

- But if you have more than one operating system installed then set it to 3 or more (which ever is convenient).

- Now after doing the above step click the " Advanced Options " button. The Boot Advanced Options Window will then pop up.

- Tick the check box saying "Number of Processors". Now click on the drop down box and select the maximum number of processor cores (might be 2 or more).

- Press " OK " and also tick the " No GUI Boot " option too.

- Click " Apply "and then on " OK " and thats it.

- Disable the Aero Theme on Windows 7

The aero user interface certainly adds some " Eyecandy " to Windows 7 but certainly is a resource hog especially when, what you expect from windows 7 is more performance juice. Aero user interface squeezes your graphics or video card to its maximum. So why cant we just avoid the Windows 7 aero? if we care more about speed and performance in Windows 7. So Disabling the Aero in Windows 7 certainly adds an extra speed boost to it.

- Right Click on your Desktop and select " Personalize " click the Window Color Tab.
- Uncheck the Box saying " Enable Transparency " and then click on " Open classic appearance properties for more color options".
- Then a window will open up. Apply a Standard or Basic theme from it. The Standard Windows 7 theme is more preferred.

Disabling the aero theme alone in Windows 7 will really speed things up.

- Disabling the Unwanted Visual Effects in Windows 7 to Speed Up more
Even though we have tuned off the aero effects in Windows 7 still there are many unwanted visual effects that can be safely disabled to speed up windows 7 even more.

- For this right click on " Computer" and select "Properties" from the right click menu.
- Click on " Advanced System Settings " from the left pane to open up the " System Properties " window.
- Select the "Advanced" tab from it. Then Under " Performance " click " Settings ". Choose " Custom: " Options From it.
- Now untick all the options and select only the last four options (actually three only needed; you can untick the second option from the last four). See the screen shot if you have any doubt.
- Now just logoff your system and turn logon.

You will now notice the speed difference now.

- Disabling the Unwanted Services to Speed up Windows 7

There are many services in windows 7 that we dont require for our daily use. There are some exceptional cases though. Services such as "print spooler" is only needed when we use a printer. If we use a printer only occasionally we can safely turn off that service in Windows 7 and turn it on only when we need to take a print.

Disabling the unneeded services in Windows 7 can really speed up the system boot time.

- Disable the User account control (UAC) Feature in Windows 7

The User account control (UAC) feature in Windows 7 is very annoying though it says it can protect your computer from harmful virus activity etc. But if you are a daily user of your computer this windows 7 feature will be a total nuisance to you.

To Disable and Turnoff UAC in Windows 7

- From the Control Panel open the " User Accounts and Family Safety " > User Account.
- Click the User Account Control settings link.
- Now just Drag the Slider towards "Never Notify".
- Click "OK" and Reboot your system.

Disabling UAC is for advanced users only i dont recommend doing it if not.

- Disabling the Search Indexing Feature in Windows 7

Most of the Windows 7 users do less searches in there system. The Search Indexing service in Windows 7 will index keeps track of the files so that they can be found quickly when asked at some other time. This feature is useful only if you perform frequent searches on your system.

For occasional file searchers the Search Indexing service in Windows 7 is a total resource hog. It unwontedly eats up your system resources. What you need from windows 7 is maximum performance from it then i would certainly recommend you to disable this resource hogging Windows 7 Search Indexing Feature.

To Disable the Search Indexing Feature in Windows 7

- Right Click the "Computer" Icon in the desktop and select "Manage".
- Click "Services and Applications" in the "Computer Management" window.
- Click on "Services".
- You can see a lot of services listed there. Look for "Windows Search" in that.
- Right Click on "Windows Search" from the list and choose "Properties".
- The "Windows Search Properties Window" will open up. From "Startup type" click on the drop down menu and choose "Disabled".
- Click "Apply" then "OK" and thats it. The Windows 7 Serch Indexing Feature is now disabled.

If you want to completely disable the search indexing feature in Windows 7 you can set the Search Indexing Service to Manual (See the above method about disabling unwanted services).

- SetUp the Windows 7 Ready Boost Service for an Extra Speed Boost

The ready boost feature in Windows 7 will help you to use your flash drive or pendrive or USB drive as Ram there by improving the performance and speed of windows 7 greatly. You can certainly experience it when launching bulky applications such as Adobe Photoshop etc.

- To configure the Ready Boost Feature in Windows 7 you need to have a High Speed Flash/USB or Pendrive with you which is ready boost compatible.

- After plugging you pendrive, open "Computer" > Right-click the on USB Drive/Pendrive > select "Ready Boost" tab > tick the "Use this device" checkbox.

- You can configure how much space on your USB drive/ Pendrive to be used as Ram.

- Turn off Unused Windows 7 Features

There are many feature in windows 7 that we often dont use. Disabling these unused features in Windows 7 will really help in speeding things up.

- Open up " Programs and Features " from Control Panel.
- Click the " Turn Windows features on or off " from the left pane.
- Now uncheck all the Feature that you don't use in Windows 7 and restart the system for the changes to take effect.
- Disable the Windows 7 Sidebar (Actually the Gadgets)

Disabling the window 7 sidebar is defenitely help you to to gain a few seconds during start up time. There are many useful utilities such as the RocketDock etc. which are good application launchers.

To Disable the Sidebar in Windows 7,

- Right click on the sidebar and select " Properties " .
- On the properties windows untick the check box showing " Start sidebar when Windows Starts "
- From now on windows sidebar won't start when windows 7 start up.
- Disable the Aero Peek and Aero Snap features in Windows 7

Aero Snap will help you to maximize, minimize and resize the windows just by dragging and dropping it into the screen corners.

To disable Aero Snap Feature in Windows 7,

- Open the Windows 7 " Control Panel " and double-click on " Ease of Access Center " icon.
- Now click on the " Make it easier to focus on tasks " seen at the bottom in there
- Now untick the check box saying " Prevent windows from being automatically arranged when moved to the edge of the screen " .

That will now disable the Aero Snap in Windows 7.

Now To Disable the Aero Peek feature in Windows 7

The Aero Peek feature in Windows 7 helps you to peek through all open windows by hiding all other windows and showing only the outlines of all windows. Aero Peek is similar to the " Show Desktop " Feature in XP and Vista.

If you have followed step 3 then Aero Peek will be automatically disabled. If not,

- Right click on the Windows 7 taskbar and select " Properties " .
- Now untick the " Use Aero Peek to preview the desktop " option from there.

The aero peek feature will now be disabled in windows 7.

- Change the Power Plan To Maximum Performance

The Power settings in Windows 7 is not automatically set for maximum performance. By default the power plan in Windows 7 is set for a balanced performance with energy consumption on hardware. So you may not get the optimal performance from windows 7 if this is the case. So we need to change the power plan to High Performance Mode.

- Double click the " Power Options " in the Control panel.
- Click the down arrow showing " Show Additional Plans " to see the " High Performance " power plan.
- Now just activate the " High Performance " plan and thats it.
- You may go for the advanced settings for further tweaking if you want.

- Disable the Thumbnail Preview Feature to speed up File browsing in Windows 7

The thumbnail preview feature in Windows 7 will show the small thumbnails of the contents of a folder instead of showing it's icon. But this feature really do take up some system resources. So by disabling the Thumbnail Preview feature in Windows 7 the file browsing in Windows 7 explorer can be speed up.

For disabling thumbnails in Windows 7,

- Double Click on " Computer " >click on the "Organize" drop-down menu and select the "Folder and Search options"

- Under ‘Files and Folders’ section, go to the "View" tab and tick the check box showing "Always show icons, never thumbnails" checkbox.

- Most Essential Softwares To Speed Up Windows 7

In order to maintain your Windows 7 Performance and keep it up in Top Shape there are some very essential software's that can help us to Speed Windows 7. I will list some of them here. You can download these utilities. But i remind you that you need to run these utilities at least once in a week. Only if you do it regularly your Windows 7 will be in top shape every day.

- Wise Registry Cleaner

- CCleaner

- TCP Optimizer

- TeraCopy

- Startup Delayer

- Registry Tweaks to Speed Up Windows 7

Here are some registry teaks that can be used to speed up windows 7 even more. I have complied only the safest tweaks that can be applied to your PC. Apart from speeding up windows 7 they will also add some functionalities in windows like adding Copy to / Move to in right click context menu to speed up your daily tasks.

If you have the complete version of Tune Up Utilities software with you then it is the best one to keep your Windows 7 in top shape.

- Turn OFF Windows 7 Password Protection To save a few More Seconds!!!

If you have set a password for accessing your user account in windows 7, then you need to enter it each and every time you logon to windows. Logging into windows automatically without entering any password will save you a few seconds more. If you are the only person who use your computer then i would recommend to turn this off. If that is not the case you can skip this step.

- Turn OFF Windows 7 Screen Saver and Wallpaper

In order to display the wallpaper and screen saver the system needs some memory. So by disabling those two we can save a few Mega Bytes of memory.

To Disable The Screen Saver and Wallpaper in Windows 7,

- Right click on desktop and choose "Personalize".

- Click the Screen Saver link " From the Screen Saver drop down menu, Set it to "None" and click "Apply" and then "OK".

- Now click on "Desktop Background" link.

- From the "Location" drop down menu select "Solid Colors" and pick one color and click "OK".

- Disable Unwanted Start Up Items and Speed Up Windows 7 Start Up

This really matters when you have installed a lot of softwares on your PC. Many software such as AcdSee will run services such as device detector etc during the system start up. These are of no use actually for most windows users. So preventing such services from starting up during the start up of windows 7 can result in quicker start Ups. This will actually save some seconds during windows 7 start up.

- Type " msconfig " in the "RUN" option from start menu press [Enter] to open up the System Configuration Utility.

- Now navigate to the "StartUp" tab.

- Untick the Entries which are not needed

- Disable Unwanted System Sounds in Windows 7

In order to play the sounds you hear in windows 7, system resources are being utilized. So if you can disable these sound effects you can gain some speed and also free some system resources too.

To disable the system sounds in Windows 7,

- Type mmsys.cpl in RUN From the Windows 7 Startmenu search box and press [Enter].

- Navigate to the "Sounds" tab.

- Now from under "Sound Scheme:" select "No Sounds" > Click "Apply" > "OK".

- You can keep some of your favorite sounds turned on if you want, but sounds played during the Windows 7 start up, shutdown, Logon, logoff, start navigation etc should be set to none if you want some real speed boost.

Thats it following all these steps will certainly boost the speed and performance of your windows 7 operating system.