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Personalizing your Windows 11 PC can make it feel more like your own, and changing the taskbar color is a simple way to customize your desktop experience. Whether you prefer a specific accent color or want your taskbar to match your current wallpaper, adjusting this setting is straightforward.Changing the Taskbar Color in Windows 11Step 1: Open the Settings app on your computer. You can do this by clicking on the Start menu and selecting the Settings icon, or by pressing Windows + I on your keyboard.Step 2: In the Settings window, navigate to the Personalization section by clicking on it in the left-hand menu.Step 3: Within Personalization, select the Colors option on the right side.Note: The taskbar color option isn't available when using the Light mode in Windows 11. To enable it, you'll need to switch to either Dark or Custom mode.Step 4: Under the Choose your mode dropdown menu, select either Dark or Custom. Choosing Dark will apply the dark theme to Windows and apps, while Custom allows you to set different themes for Windows and apps.Step 5: If you opt for Custom, make sure to set the Default Windows mode to Dark. This setting is necessary to access the taskbar color options. You can leave the Default app mode as Light if you prefer.Step 6: Next, decide how you want to choose your accent color. Under the Accent color section, you can select Automatic or Manual. Selecting Automatic will allow Windows to pick an accent color based on your current wallpaper.Step 7: If you choose Manual, you can select your preferred color from the palette provided. You also have the option to click on View colors to access a color picker for more customization.Step 8: After selecting your accent color, toggle on the option Show accent color on Start and taskbar. This will apply your chosen color to the taskbar and Start menu.Note: The accent color will be applied to both the taskbar and the Start menu. There isn't an option to apply the color to the taskbar only.Step 9: Once you've enabled this setting, you should see the taskbar and Start menu reflect your new accent color.Changing the Taskbar Color Without Windows ActivationIf your copy of Windows isn't activated, the personalization settings are typically locked. However, you can still change the taskbar color by making some changes in the Registry Editor. Be cautious when editing the registry, as incorrect changes can affect system stability.Step 1: Open the Registry Editor by clicking on the Start menu, typing Registry Editor, and selecting it from the search results.Step 2: In the Registry Editor, navigate to the following path by copying and pasting it into the address bar and pressing Enter:HKEY_CURRENT_USER\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Themes\PersonalizeStep 3: In the right pane, find the ColorPrevalence DWORD entry and double-click on it to edit its value.Step 4: Change the Value data to 1 and click OK to save the changes.Step 5: Next, navigate to the following registry path:HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\DesktopStep 6: Locate the AutoColorization DWORD entry and double-click on it.Step 7: Set the Value data to 1 and click OK to apply the changes.Step 8: Close the Registry Editor and restart your computer for the changes to take effect. After rebooting, your taskbar and Start menu should now display an accent color that matches your current wallpaper.By following these steps, you can customize your taskbar color in Windows 11, whether your system is activated or not, giving your desktop a personalized touch. Do you want to give your desktop a customized look by altering the color of the Windows taskbar? You may make your desktop look more aesthetically pleasing and consistent with your style by changing the taskbar's appearance. This post will explain how to change the taskbar color in Windows using basic settings, whether you desire a new look or to match the color to your desktop theme. Discover the various Windows taskbar color options to customize your desktop to your exact liking.Features of the Windows TaskbarTaskbar buttons are the name of the controls on the taskbar. Windows includes a taskbar button for each primary window (or secondary window with certain properties) that a program creates, and it removes the button when the window closes. These new taskbar button characteristics can be used by programs created for Windows 7:Even when the program isn't operating, Jump Lists offer quick access to frequently used locations (such as files, folders, and links) and actions via a context menu accessible via the program's taskbar button and Start menu item.Quick access to frequently used commands for a certain window is made possible by thumbnail toolbars. The taskbar button's thumbnail displays toolbar thumbnails.The taskbar button icon for the software displays overlay icons to indicate status changes.On the program's taskbar button, progress bars display the status of lengthy tasks.Users can go immediately to window tabs, project windows, multiple-document interface (MDI) child windows, and secondary windows by using the taskbar button thumbnails for sub-window taskbar buttons.To enable rapid access to programs even when they aren't operating, users can pin program buttons to the taskbar.How to use the taskbar on WindowsMore than just viewing your apps and the time may be done with the taskbar. You may alter the color, add your favorite apps, and rearrange the taskbar buttons to make it uniquely yours. Additionally, you can check the charge of your battery and in a moment reduce all running programs to view your desktop.From the taskbar itself, customize the taskbar. Use the Taskbar settings to modify several characteristics of the taskbar at once. Taskbar settings can be accessed by right-clicking or holding down any space on the taskbar. Scroll through the taskbar settings to see options like customization, resizing, icon selection, battery information, and more.Change Taskbar Color On WindowsTo change the color of the Taskbar, follow these Steps:Step 1: Click on “Start” and “Settings”. Step 2. In “Settings”, Select “Personalization” and then click on “Colors”. Step 3. In “Colors”, Click on the “Choose your color” drop-down and Select “Custom”. Step 4. Under “Choose your default Windows mode”, choose “Dark” (You won't get an option to put the color in the taskbar if you choose “Light”). Step 5. Now, you can select the color from “Windows color” or you can Click on “Custom color” and use the “color picker” to select your custom color. Step 6. Check the box “start, taskbar, and action center”. Step 7. Now, the color decided by you will reflect on the “Taskbar”. Note: To change the color of the taskbar, you have to select “Dark”, Under the “Choose your default Windows mode” option. If you decide “Light” then Checkbox “start, taskbar, and action center” will not get active. ConclusionWindows taskbar color changes are a quick and simple method to customize your PC. With so many possibilities for customizing the taskbar color, you may improve the aesthetics and overall enjoyment of Windows. Make the most of Windows' taskbar color settings to customize your desktop's theme and improve the way it looks. Changing the taskbar color is a simple yet effective way to add your touch to the digital canvas. Whether you’re a minimalist or a fan of bold statements, the color of the taskbar sets the tone for your Windows experience. In this article, we will guide you on how to change the taskbar color in Windows 11. Changing your taskbar color lets you personalize your digital environment, boosting productivity and enhancing the overall user experience. It’s not just about looks; it’s about tailoring your device to suit your style and workflow seamlessly. There are two ways to change the color of the taskbar. We will explain both methods in detail with step-by-step instructions. Let’s begin. Changing the taskbar color using personalization settings on Windows 11 is straightforward. Follow the below steps. Step 1: Press the Windows key on your keyboard, type Settings, and click Open. Step 2: Navigate to Personalization and choose Colors from the right pane. Step 3: Click the Chevron (arrow) icon beside ‘Choose your mode’ and choose Custom. Step 4: From the expanded menu, next to ‘Choose your default Windows mode,’ select Dark. Note: Under ‘Choose your default app mode,’ you’re free to select either Light or Dark as your preference. Step 5: Now, scroll down to the Accent color section, pick a color of your choice for the taskbar from the grid, and click on it. Note: If you don’t like any color from the grid, scroll down a bit, click on View colors, and custom-pick a color. Step 6: Finally, turn on the toggle for ‘Show accent color on Start and taskbar.’ Note: Accent colors don’t apply to the taskbar in Light Windows mode. So, if the ‘Show accent color on Start and taskbar’ option is greyed out, ensure that you have selected Dark mode under ‘Choose your default Windows mode’ in the above settings. That’s it. The accent color is applied to the taskbar immediately. If you want to do the same to the windows’ border or title bar, toggle on the ‘Show accent color on title bars and windows’ border option. If, however, you want to go back to default settings, you can always choose the pre-set themes. Also Read: Best ways to ungroup Taskbar icons in Windows 11 When you change themes on Windows 11, it inherently also changes the color of your taskbar. Let’s follow the below-mentioned steps. Step 1: Press the Windows key on your keyboard, type Settings, and click Open. Step 2: Navigate to Personalization and choose Themes from the right pane. Step 3: Under Themes, go through the options and choose any theme. Note: Additionally, you can select free or paid themes from the Microsoft Store by clicking the Browse themes button. There you go. This theme has now been applied, and the color of your taskbar should have changed. If you want to change the color of not only the taskbar but also of other components, such as the start menu, continue reading. Step 1: Press the Windows key on your keyboard, type Settings, and click Open. Step 2: Navigate to Personalization and choose Colors from the right pane. Step 3: Scroll down to the Accent color section, click on the chevron (arrow) icon, and choose Manual from the drop-down menu. Step 4: Now, pick a color of your choice for your taskbar from the grid and click on it. Note: If you don’t like any of the colors, scroll down, click View colors, and custom-pick a color. There you have it. The accent color has now changed. That said, if you’re having trouble changing the color of your taskbar on Windows 11, there could be several reasons behind it. Let’s understand them. Also Read: How to make taskbar transparent in Windows 11 Some editions of Windows 11 may have restrictions on specific customization options. Ensure you are using a version of Windows 11 that allows taskbar color customization. Using a custom theme or third-party software to customize your desktop may conflict with Windows 11’s native settings. Try reverting to the default theme and checking if you can change the taskbar color. Ensure that you have administrative privileges on your account. Certain changes to system settings, including taskbar color, may require administrator access. Outdated or incompatible graphics drivers can sometimes cause issues with visual customization. Update your graphics drivers to the latest version compatible with Windows 11. Group policies may restrict certain customization options if your computer is part of a network domain. Check group policy settings or registry entries related to visual customization. After trying these solutions, if you still can’t change the taskbar color, there might be a specific issue with your system configuration, and you may need to contact Microsoft support. 1. Does changing the Taskbar color affect other elements? Yes, changing the taskbar color may affect the color of other elements, including the Start menu, window borders, and the action center. This is part of the overall color customization in Windows 11. 2. Does Taskbar color change affect dark mode? Yes, changing the taskbar color can affect the appearance of elements in both light and dark modes. Windows 11 adjusts the overall color scheme based on your preferences. 3. Does Taskbar color customization affect performance? No, taskbar color customization does not significantly impact system performance. It’s a cosmetic feature and doesn’t consume substantial system resources. Changing the color of the taskbar in Windows 11 is a small but meaningful feature, allowing users to make their digital space their own. The color of your taskbar can set the tone for your computing experience. You may also want to read the best ways to disable Taskbar thumbnail preview in Windows 11. Changing the taskbar color in Windows 11 is a simple yet effective way to personalize your computer. This straightforward task involves navigating to the Settings menu and tweaking a few color options. In just a few minutes, you can have your taskbar reflecting your unique style. Let’s dive into the steps to change your taskbar color in Windows 11. This guide will walk you through the process of changing your taskbar color in Windows 11, making your desktop more visually appealing. Start by clicking on the Start button and then select the gear icon to open the Settings menu. The Settings menu is where you can find all the customization options for your PC. If you can’t find the gear icon, you can also search for “Settings” in the Start menu. In the Settings menu, click on “Personalization” to access the appearance settings for your Windows 11. Personalization contains all your display and theme settings. It’s essentially your playground for desktop customization. Within the Personalization menu, click on “Colors” to open the color settings. The “Colors” section is where you can adjust the accent colors, which include the taskbar color. This is where the magic happens. Under the “Choose your color” dropdown, select either Light, Dark, or Custom. Then scroll down to the “Accent color” section and pick a color from the palette. The accent color you choose will apply to various parts of the Windows interface, including the taskbar. Custom allows for more detailed options, including additional color choices. Scroll down to the option “Show accent color on Start and taskbar,” and toggle it on. This ensures that your selected accent color is applied not just to the Start menu but also to your taskbar. After following these steps, your taskbar will instantly change to the color you selected. Experiment with Colors: Don’t be afraid to try different colors. You can always change it back if you don’t like it. Match Your Wallpaper: Choose a taskbar color that complements your desktop background for a cohesive look. Use Dark Mode: If you often work in low-light conditions, consider using a dark accent color with dark mode for less strain on your eyes. Custom Colors: Windows 11 allows for custom color codes. If you want an exact match, use a color picker tool to get the right code. High Contrast Settings: If you have vision issues, use high contrast settings to make the taskbar easier to see. This option is only available if you’ve enabled either the Dark or Custom color modes. Yes, the accent color will also change the color of the Start menu and action center. Absolutely! Just follow the same steps and select a different color or turn off the accent color option. Yes, there are various third-party apps available that offer more advanced customization options for the taskbar. Not directly through Windows 11 settings, but you can achieve this with third-party customization tools. Open the Settings menu. Navigate to Personalization. Select Colors. Choose your accent color. Apply the color to your taskbar. Changing the taskbar color in Windows 11 is a quick and easy way to add a personal touch to your computer. Whether you’re looking to match your desktop background, reduce eye strain, or simply want to try something new, customizing your taskbar color can make a big difference in how you experience your PC. Feel free to experiment with different colors and settings until you find the perfect look. Remember, this simple change can reflect your personality and mood, making your computing experience more enjoyable. For further customization options, consider exploring third-party tools that offer more extensive personalization features. Happy customizing! Matthew Burleigh has been writing tech tutorials since 2008. His writing has appeared on dozens of different websites and been read over 50 million times. After receiving his Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Computer Science he spent several years working in IT management for small businesses. However, he now works full time writing content online and creating websites. His main writing topics include iPhones, Microsoft Office, Google Apps, Android, and Photoshop, but he has also written about many other tech topics as well. Read his full bio here. If you want to give your Windows 10 taskbar a fresh look, changing its color is a simple process. First, you need to access the Personalization settings in Windows 10. From there, you can choose your favorite color to apply to your taskbar. Just follow the steps below, and you’ll have a vibrant new taskbar in no time! How to Change Taskbar Color in Windows 10 Changing your taskbar color in Windows 10 is simple and can make your desktop feel more personalized. Follow these steps to accomplish the task. Step 1: Open Settings Click on the Start menu and select "Settings." The Settings app is your central hub for adjusting various aspects of your Windows 10 experience. You can find it by clicking the gear icon in the Start menu. Step 2: Navigate to Personalization In the Settings window, click on "Personalization." Personalization is where you can tweak your desktop background, lock screen, and colors. It’s the go-to place for making your Windows 10 look just the way you like it. Step 3: Access Colors Click on the "Colors" tab in the left-hand menu. The Colors section allows you to pick and choose from a variety of color options. This is where the magic happens for your taskbar color change. Step 4: Choose Your Color Scroll down to the "Show accent color on the following surfaces" section and check the "Start, taskbar, and action center" box. Then, pick a color from the palette above. This step lets you see your chosen color applied directly to the taskbar, start menu, and action center, giving your desktop a uniform look. Step 5: Save Changes Close the Settings window to save your changes automatically. Windows 10 saves your changes as soon as you select your color. No need to hunt for a save button! Once you’ve completed these steps, your taskbar will adopt the new color you selected. This change can make your desktop feel more personalized and vibrant. Tips for Changing Taskbar Color in Windows 10 Experiment with Colors: Don’t hesitate to try different colors until you find the one that feels right. Dark Mode: If you use dark mode, choose a lighter accent color for better contrast. Custom Colors: Use the custom color option to match your taskbar perfectly with your desktop background. Sync Across Devices: If you have multiple Windows 10 devices, you can sync your settings for a cohesive look. High Contrast Settings: If you have vision issues, consider using high contrast settings available in the same menu. Frequently Asked Questions Can I change the taskbar color without changing other parts of Windows 10? No, changing the taskbar color also changes the color of the start menu and action center. What if the color doesn’t show on my taskbar? Ensure that the "Start, taskbar, and action center" box is checked in the Colors settings. Can I use a custom color? Yes, you can use the custom color option in the Colors tab to pick any color you like. Does changing the taskbar color affect performance? No, changing the taskbar color does not impact your system’s performance. How do I revert to the default color? Simply go back to the Colors tab and choose the default blue color or any other from the palette. Summary Open Settings. Navigate to Personalization. Access Colors. Choose Your Color. Save Changes. Conclusion Changing the taskbar color in Windows 10 can breathe new life into your desktop. By following the straightforward steps outlined above, you can easily personalize your taskbar to match your style. Whether you’re looking for a subtle hue or a bold statement, Windows 10’s customization options have got you covered. Don’t forget to explore the other personalization settings while you’re at it. From changing your desktop background to adjusting the lock screen, there’s no shortage of ways to make your Windows 10 experience uniquely yours. For further reading, consider looking into how to use themes in Windows 10, which can provide even more customization options. If you have any questions or run into any issues, feel free to leave a comment or check out Microsoft’s support page for additional help. Happy customizing! Matt Jacobs has been working as an IT consultant for small businesses since receiving his Master’s degree in 2003. While he still does some consulting work, his primary focus now is on creating technology support content for SupportYourTech.com. His work can be found on many websites and focuses on topics such as Microsoft Office, Apple devices, Android devices, Photoshop, and more. If Windows 10 has been your favorite version so far, but you had to move to Windows 11, you're not alone, and you should know that many users share that feeling.Although Windows 11 builds on the foundation of its predecessor, it also introduces a new design language and interface tweaks that can feel unfamiliar. Changes like the centered Taskbar, the stripped-down Start menu, and the new version of File Explorer and Settings app may take some getting used to.The good news is you can customize many of these elements to make it look a little more like the Windows 10 experience. Whether you prefer built-in tweaks or third-party tools, it's possible to restore the classic Start menu, reposition the Taskbar, and bring back the traditional File Explorer layout. You may like In this how-to guide, I'll outline two ways to customize your desktop to resemble the Windows 10 experience on Windows 11.Warning: These instructions involve making system changes. As such, it's important that you create a full backup before proceeding in case something breaks and you need to roll back to a good working state.These are the subtle changes you can make to your setup to make it look a little more like the older version.Start menu and Taskbar alignment On Windows 10 and previous versions, the Taskbar and Start menu have always been aligned to the left, which is a layout many users find familiar. On Windows 11, however, the default center alignment gives the interface a more modern look, but it can feel unfamiliar. Fortunately, the new version of the operating system includes a setting that lets you shift these elements back to the traditional left-aligned position.All the latest news, reviews, and guides for Windows and Xbox diehards.To set the legacy alignment for the Taskbar to the left side of the screen, use these steps:Open Settings.Click on Personalization.Click the Taskbar page on the right side.Click the "Taskbar behaviors" setting.Select the Left option for the "Taskbar alignment" setting.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Once you complete the steps, the Taskbar buttons and Start menu should align to the left.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Show app labels in TaskbarWindows 10 had a straightforward setting within the Taskbar settings that controlled how application buttons behaved, including whether labels were displayed. On Windows 11, Microsoft introduced a redesigned experience that didn't include this option, but later on, the company brought back the behavior.To show labels for apps in the Taskbar, use these steps:Open Settings.Click on Personalization.Click the Taskbar page on the right side.Click the "Taskbar behaviors" setting.Select the Never option for the "Combine taskbar buttons and hide labels" setting.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)After you complete the steps, the Taskbar will ungroup and display labels of running applications.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Switch to classic File Explorer and context menuIn addition to the desktop elements, another significant change was the introduction of a new File Explorer, which, even though it retained the familiar structure, introduced an unnecessary learning curve for many users.Fortunately, the company still keeps the legacy file manager around for compatibility with other experiences, but it's not quite easy to access.To switch to the classic File Explorer on Windows 11, use these steps:Open Start.Search for Windows Tools and click the top result to open the app.Click on Home or This PC to switch to the classic version of File Explorer and the context menu.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)(Optional) Right-click the Windows Tools app and choose the "Pin to taskbar" option.(Optional) Right-click the File Explorer icon and select the "Unpin from taskbar" option.Quick note: You want to perform this action because when you switch to the Home or This PC page, the Windows Tools icon will switch to the File Explorer icon.After you complete the steps, you can access the classic version of File Explorer, which also brings back the classic context menu during this experience.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Alternatively, you can always access the classic context menu using the "Shift + Right-click" shortcut in the modern version of File Explorer.Change color scheme If you want a more legacy experience, then you want to change the color settings to bring back the color accent for title bars and around the app frame.To customize the accent color to match the legacy elements, use these steps:Open Settings.Click on Personalization.Click the Colors page on the right side.Select the "Custom" option in the "Choose your mode" setting.Select the Dark option for the "Choose your default Windows mode" setting.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Choose the color scheme with the "Accent color" setting.Turn on the "Show accent color on Start and taskbar" toggle switch.Turn on the "Show accent color on title bars and window borders" toggle switch.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Once you complete the steps, the desktop experience will have a more legacy feeling, like on Windows 10.On Windows 10, apps like File Explorer always show the scrollbar, but in the new version of the operating system, the scrollbar will only show on hover. However, you can always turn off the functionality for a more classic experience.To always show the scrollbar on Windows 11, use these steps:Open Settings.Click on Accessibility.Click the Visual Effects page on the right side.Turn on the "Always show scrollbars" toggle switch.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)After you complete the steps, compatible apps will always show the scrollbar on Windows 11.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Show classic desktop icons Showing classic desktop icons (such as This PC, Network, and Control Panel) on Windows 11 can also help to bring back a familiar Windows 10 (and even older versions) experience.To show the legacy desktop icons on Windows 11, use these steps:Open Settings.Click on Personalization.Click the Themes page on the right side.Select the "Desktop icon settings" option.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Check the icons to show on the desktop, including "Control Panel," "Network," "Computer," "Recycle Bin," and others.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Once you complete the steps, you will have a more familiar desktop setup similar to one on Windows 10 and older versions.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Disable non-legacy features in NotepadThis is optional, but if you use the Notepad app on a daily basis, you may want to turn off new AI features for a more classic experience.To disable all the AI features available in Notepad, use these steps:Open Notepad.Click the gear button to open the settings page.Turn off the Formatting toggle switch to disable the Markdown support (if applicable).(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Click the "When Notepad starts" setting.Select the "Start new session and discard unsaved changes" option.Turn off the "Recent files" toggle switch to disable the menu with your most recent text files.Turn off the "Spell check" toggle switch to disable auto-correction for misspelled words.Turn off the "Autocorrect" toggle switch to disable underlines for misspelled words.Turn off the "Copilot" toggle switch to disable the AI features.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)After you complete the steps, you will end up with a more classic Notepad.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Quick tipIf you still have access to a Windows 10 setup, you can grab the default wallpaper from the C:\Windows\Web\Wallpaper\Windows location, and you can set this background as your new default experience on the Windows 11 desktop.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)This is a preview of Windows 11 with Windows 10 tweaks without extra tools.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)In addition to the customizations you can implement locally in the operating system, you can also use third-party tools to change the appearance of Windows 11.However, my disclaimer here is that I do not recommend any of these tools for work or school devices, as these types of third-party applications are known to break the operating system at random times, usually after system updates.Also, the web browser may even flag them as untrusted, but it's often because these tools make changes to the core behavior of the operating system.Also, only pick and use one tool at a time to avoid conflicts. However, you can use any of these tools in combination with the tweaks that don't require third-party applications.ExplorerPatcherExplorerPatcher is a popular free, open-source utility designed to restore various interface elements present in earlier versions of the operating system, primarily Windows 10. It aims to give you more control over the appearance and functionality.Install ExplorerPatcherYou can typically download the ExplorerPatcher tool from its official GitHub page, but it's easier to install it through the Windows Package Manager.To install the ExplorerPatcher on Windows 11, use these steps:Open Start.Search for Command Prompt, right-click the top result, and choose the Run as administrator option.Type the following to install the tool and press Enter: winget install --id valinet.ExplorerPatcher(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Once you complete the steps, the tool will be installed on your computer, and you can proceed to customize the appearance of the operating system.Customizing with ExplorerPatcherTo bring some of the traditional look to the new version of the operating system, right-click the Taskbar, choose the "Properties" option, and then select the area to customize.Taskbar On the Taskbar tab, select the "Windows 10 (ExplorerPatcher)" option in the "Taskbar style" setting and click the "Restart File Explorer" option at the bottom-left corner to apply the changes and unveil other settings.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)(Optional) Choose the "Top" option to change the Taskbar position to the top of the screen in the "Primary taskbar location on screen" setting. The option is only possible when using the tool's own version of the Taskbar.The rest of the default settings should suit most scenarios, but you can further customize the appearance according to your preferences.File ExplorerOn the File Explorer tab, you can tweak several settings. On this page, you can check the "Disable the Windows 11 context menu" to revert to the classic version that includes every possible option for a specific element.You can check the "Always use legacy file transfer dialog" to switch to the classic dialog for file transfers.If you want to switch from the modern to the classic version of File Explorer, choose the "Windows 10 Ribbon" option in the "Control Interface" setting.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Finally, click the "Restart File Explorer" option at the bottom-left corner to apply the changes and unveil other settings.The remaining default settings are recommended for most users.Start menu On the Start menu tab, you can bring back the classic menu, remove the rounded corners for elements on the screen, and more.If you want to bring back the classic Start menu from Windows 10, select the "Windows 10" option in the "Start menu style" setting.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)This is optional, but you can also choose the "Not rounded" option for the "Corner preference" setting.After you're done configuring the menu settings, click the "Restart File Explorer" option at the bottom-left corner to apply the changes and unveil other settings.Window SwitcherOn the Window Switcher page, you can bring back the legacy "Alt + Tab" experience.This is an optional tweak since the window switcher available on Windows 11 is visually very similar. However, the latest version of the operating system includes various improvements, including tab integration with Microsoft Edge.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)This is an optional tweak since the window switcher available on Windows 11 is visually very similar. However, the latest version of the operating system includes various improvements, including tab integration with Microsoft Edge.If you're changing this setting, click the "Restart File Explorer" option at the bottom-left corner to apply the changes and unveil other settings.This is a preview of Windows 11 with Windows 10 tweaks using the ExplorerPatcher tool.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Uninstall ExplorerPatcherOnce you are ready for the Windows 11 interface, you can uninstall ExplorerPatcher using these steps:Open Start.Search for Command Prompt, right-click the top result, and choose the Run as administrator option.Type the following to install the tool and press Enter: winget uninstall --id valinet.ExplorerPatcherOnce you complete the steps, restart the computer to revert to the new Windows 11 experience.Windhawk Windhawk is also a popular open-source customization tool that can change the default behavior of the operating system, in this case, Windows 11. It's designed to make it easier for anyone to tweak and modify various aspects of the operating system and individual programs, where some customization options have been removed or made more difficult to access.This tool provides a framework for developers to create and share small code snippets, called "mods," that modify the behavior or appearance of Windows 11 (or 10) and apps.Install Windhawk You can typically download the Windhawk tool from its official web page, but it's easier to install it through the Windows Package Manager.To install the Windhawk, use these steps:Open Start.Search for Command Prompt, right-click the top result, and choose the Run as administrator option.Type the following to install the tool and press Enter: winget install --id RamenSoftware.Windhawk(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)After you complete the steps, the app will be installed on your device, and you can now proceed to add mods to change the appearance of Windows 11.Customizing with Windhawk To change the appearance of Windows 11 to bring back some of the Windows 10 elements, open the Start menu, search for Windhawk, and click the top result to open the app.Once in the tool, click "Explorer," then you'll have to search, install, and configure each mod.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Classic Taskbar While in the "Explorer" tab, search for "Enable Win10 taskbar on Win11 24H2," click the "Details" button, and then the "Install" button.Once it's installed, open the "Home" tab and turn on the toggle switch for the mod.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)During my testing, this was the only mod that replicated the look and feel of the Windows 10 Taskbar more accurately. However, it centers the Start menu by default and doesn't offer an option to change the alignment. So, if you prefer the Start menu aligned to the left, this mod might not be the right choice for you.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Classic Start menuOpen the "Explorer" tab, search for "Windows 11 Start Menu Styler," click the "Details" button, and then the "Install" button.Once it's installed, open the "Home" tab, turn on the toggle switch for the mod, and click the "Details" button.Click on the "Settings" tab, and choose the "Windows11_Metro10" option from the "Theme" setting, and click the "Save settings" button (if applicable).(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)The Start menu design only offers a dark mode color. If you plan to use this mod, you may want to change the color system on Settings > Personalization > Colors.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Classic File ExplorerWhile in the "Explorer" tab, search for "Classic Explorer navigation bar," click the "Details" button, and then the "Install" button.Once it's installed, open the "Home" tab and turn on the toggle switch for the mod.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)After enabling this mod, you will have a more classic version of File Explorer that also enables the classic context menu.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)Uninstall WindhawkOnce you are ready for the Windows 11 interface, you can uninstall Windhawk using these steps:Open Start.Search for Command Prompt, right-click the top result, and choose the Run as administrator option.Type the following to install the tool and press Enter: winget install --id RamenSoftware.WindhawkAfter you complete the steps, the app will be uninstalled, and your experience should revert to the Windows 11 look and feel.This is a preview of Windows 11 with Windows 10 tweaks using the Windhawk tool.(Image credit: Mauro Huculak)If you want an even more classic experience, you can also use other tools like the Open Shell app to change the Start menu to Windows 7, Vista, and even XP era.Which elements of Windows 11 do you wish you could revert to the Windows 10 experience? Let me know in the comments.More resourcesExplore more in-depth how-to guides, troubleshooting advice, and essential tips to get the most out of Windows 11 and 10. Start browsing here: After fresh installing or upgrading your PC to Windows 11, the taskbar color is set as white color with transparency effects on by default. However, you can change the taskbar color to black or any color you want in Windows 11. This short tutorial will you how to change the taskbar color and how to enable or disable taskbar transparency effects in Windows 11. Depending on what color you want to change your taskbar to, the steps may vary. How to change taskbar color to black or white in Windows 11 To change the taskbar color to black or white in Windows 11, you only need to change the Windows color mode to dark or light mode. Here’s how to do so. Press Win + i keys to open Settings. On the left pane, select Personalization. On the right pane, select Colors. To change the taskbar color to black, select Dark for the “Choose your mode” option. To change it to white, select Light instead. Since the dark mode will also change the window and everything else to black, if you only want to change the taskbar color to black but retain the app’s window as white, select Custom instead for the “Choose your mode” option. Then, select Dark for “Choose your default Windows mode” and Light for “Choose your default app mode“. Doing so will force Windows 11 to apply Dark and Light mode separately for Windows and app mode. Below is a screenshot of how it looks like to have only taskbar color set to black while the Settings window remains white. How to change taskbar color to any other color in Windows 11 To change the taskbar color to any color other than black and white, there are some extra steps needed to make it happen. Follow the steps below to do so. Press Win + i keys to open Settings. On the left pane, select Personalization. Then, on the right, select Colors. Click on the “Choose your mode” drop-down menu and select Dark. Optionally, if you want to change only your taskbar color without changing the color of app’s window such as the Settings window, select Custom instead for the “Choose your mode” option. Then, select Dark for “Choose your default Windows mode” and Light for “Choose your default app mode“. Next, scroll down and turn on the “Show accent color on Start and taskbar” option. After turning on the option, you can now set the taskbar color to any color you want by selecting a color under Accent color. Make sure to change the Accent color option to Manual first if it’s not already set to Manual. “Show accent color on Start and taskbar” greyed out The “Show accent color on Start and taskbar” option is greyed out if the Windows color mode is set as Light mode. It’ll only be available when you switch your Windows color mode to Dark mode. You can also unlock the option by setting the “Choose your mode” option to Custom and then the “Choose your default Windows mode” option to Dark. How to make taskbar transparent in Windows 11 To enable or disable the transparency effect for the taskbar on Windows 11, first follow the same steps above to open the Personalization settings. Then, next to Transparency effects, click on the radio button to switch it on to allow Windows and surfaces to appear translucent (transparent effect), or switch it off to disable the transparency effects for taskbar.

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