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# Splash Screen

When starting Blender, the splash screen appears in the center of the window. It contains options to create new projects or open recent ones. A more detailed description can be found below.



Blender Splash Screen.

To close the splash screen and start a new project, click anywhere outside the splash screen (but inside the Blender window) or press `Esc`. The splash screen will disappear revealing the default screen. To reopen the splash screen, click on the Blender icon in the Topbar and select *Splash Screen*.

## Note

When starting Blender for the first time or updating to a new version, the “interactive region” contains a [Quick Set Up Process](#).

## Splash Image

The upper part of the splash screen contains the splash image with the Blender version in the top right.

## Interactive Region

The interactive region is the bottom half of the splash screen.

### New File

Start a new project based on a template.

### Recent Files

Your most recently opened blend-files. This gives quick and easy access to your recent projects.

### Open

Allows opening an existing blend-file.

### Recover Last Session

Blender will try to recover the last [session](#) based on temporary files. See [Recovering Data](#).

### Donate

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**What's New**

Open the latest release notes.

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