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# VIEW LAST ACTIVITY OF YOUR PC

## Aim

To view and document the recent user and system activities on a Windows PC (program executions, file opens, USB insertions, logon/logoff, startup/shutdown, etc.) using **NirSoft – LastActivityView**.

## Introduction

LastActivityView is a portable Windows artifact viewer that correlates traces from multiple sources (UserAssist, Prefetch, Jump Lists, RecentDocs, MUICache, event logs, shell history, and more) into a single timeline. It helps quickly answer "what happened, when, and by which process" without installing heavy forensic suites. Typical uses include basic triage, user activity verification, and incident response on a live system or an offline Windows drive.

# **Procedure**

# 1. Acquire the tool

- o Download LastActivityView (ZIP) from the page shown.
- Extract the ZIP to a working folder (e.g., C:\Tools\LastActivityView\).

### 2. Run with elevated rights

 ○ Right-click LastActivityView.exe → Run as administrator for fuller artifact access.

### 3. Initial timeline

- o The tool auto-loads artifacts and displays a table.
- o Click the **Time** column to sort **Newest** → **Oldest**.

#### 4. Filter and focus

- o Press Ctrl+Q (Quick Filter) and type keywords to narrow results:
  - Examples: USB, chrome.exe, .docx, shutdown, setup.exe.
- Optional) Options → Advanced Options...
  - Set **From/To** time range.
  - Choose Load activity from external hard-drive to analyze another Windows installation.

## 5. Inspect key columns

- o **Time** exact timestamp of the event.
- Description / Action Type e.g., Run .EXE, Open file, USB plug, System Started/Shutdown.
- o **Process / Filename / Full Path** what ran or opened.
- More Info extra context (parameters, device name, etc.).

## 6. **Document findings**

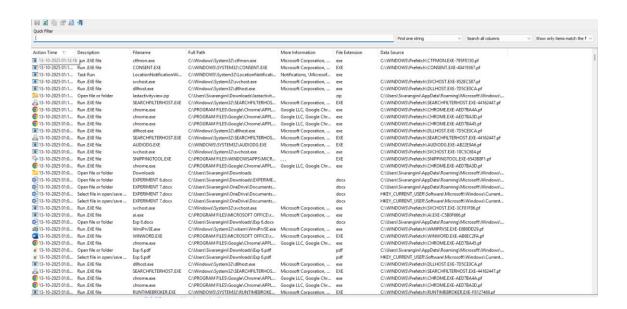
- Select relevant rows → Ctrl+S to export CSV/HTML/XML.
- o Or View → HTML Report All Items to generate a printable report.
- Note any gaps, anomalies, or corroborating artifacts (e.g., Prefetch presence for a run event).

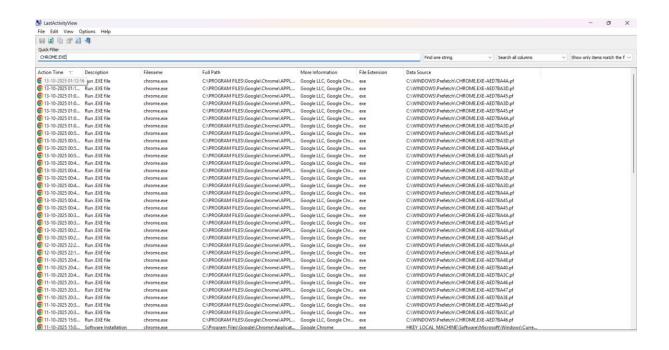
## 7. (Optional) Corroboration

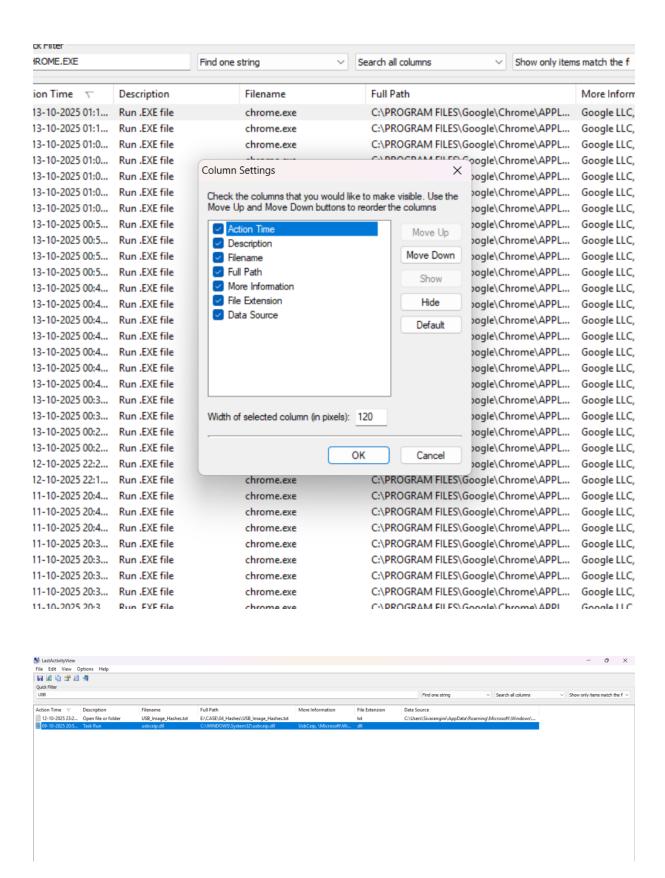
- Event Viewer (eventvwr.msc) → Windows Logs for startup/shutdown and device logs.
- Check C:\Windows\Prefetch\ for corresponding .pf files of executed programs.

# Output

- On-screen: A chronological table of activities showing:
  - o *Time* (e.g., 2025-10-12 20:14:03)
  - Action Type (e.g., Run .EXE, Open File, USB Device Connected, System Started, Shutdown)
  - Process/Filename/Path (e.g., C:\Program
    Files\Google\Chrome\Application\chrome.exe)
  - o More Info (e.g., device label SanDisk Ultra, file parameters, user profile path)







# **Conclusion:**

The exercise was successfully completed using LastActivityView to generate a chronological timeline of user and system activity. Key events—program executions, file/document access, USB connections, and startup/shutdown—were identified and exported as a report. Crosschecks with Prefetch and Event Logs confirmed the timeline's accuracy, making the findings suitable for inclusion as forensic evidence.