



# WinUpdate

(«Win» as «To win» -updater)

## User Manual

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## 1. Introduction

WinUpdate is a modern Windows application that simplifies software update management on your computer. The program is a user-friendly interface for the Windows Package Manager (winget) and gives you full control over which programs to update and when.

### 1.1 Key Features

- Automatic scanning for available updates
- Clear list of all available updates
- Ability to skip specific updates
- System tray icon with periodic scanning
- Multi-language support (Norwegian, English, Swedish)
- Visuell fremdriftsindikator under installasjon

### 1.2 System Requirements

- Windows 10 or later
- Windows Package Manager (winget) installed
- Administrator rights for installing updates



## 2. Getting Started

### 2.1 First Launch

When you start WinUpdate for the first hour, the application will automatically scan for available updates. This may take a few seconds depending on how many programs you have installed.

### 2.2 Main Window

Main Window i WinUpdate displays an overview of all available updates. Each line contains:

- Program Name - The full name of the program
- Current Version - The version installed on your system
- Available Version - The latest version available
- Source - Where the update comes from (usually winget)
- Skippe - Link to skip this update
- Exclude - Link to skip all updates for this software package

The screenshot shows the WinUpdate application window. At the top, there is a language dropdown set to "English (UK)", a title bar with the window name, and a menu bar with "Settings" and "About". Below the menu is a status message: "List last updated: 2026-01-12 10:08:06". The main area is a table with the following data:

Package	Installed	Available	Skip	Exclude
<input type="checkbox"/> Vulkan SDK 1.4.328.1	1.4.328.1	1.4.335.0	<a href="#">Skip</a>	<a href="#">Exclude</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> Appinstallasjonsprogram	1.27.350.0	1.27.440.0	<a href="#">Skip</a>	<a href="#">Exclude</a>

At the bottom of the window are four buttons: "Select all", "Update now", "Log", and "Refresh".



## 3. Basic Usage

### 3.1 Installing Updates

To install updates:

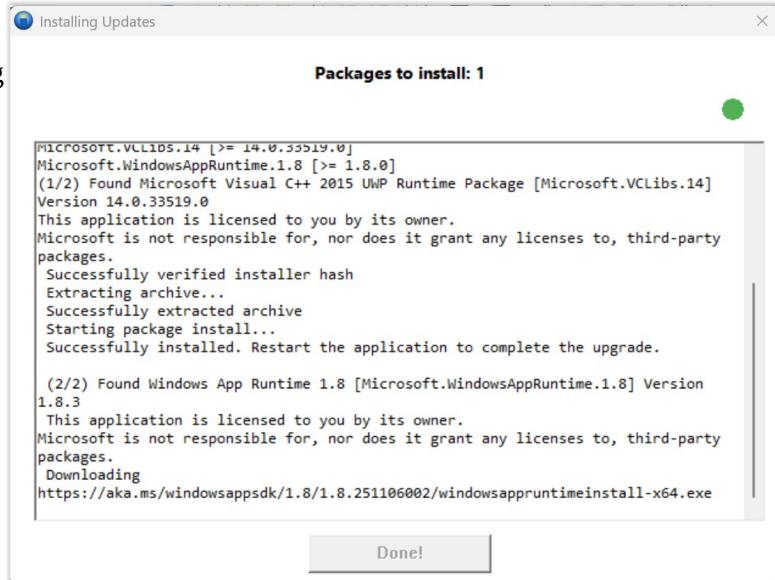
1. Check the updates you want to install by clicking the checkbox to the left of each program
2. Click the "Update now" button at the bottom of the window
3. Approve the UAC prompt (User Account Control) that appears
4. Wait while the updates are installed - you will see a progress indicator

 *Tip: You can use the "Velg alle"-button to quickly select all available updates.*

### 3.2 Installation Dialog

During installation, a separate dialog displays the following information:

- An animated download indicator that shows status:
  - Blue colour: Preparing or installing
  - Green colour: Downloading package
- Progress bar showing total progress (0-100%)
- Status text showing which package is being processed



### 3.3 Skipping Updates

If there is an update you do not want to install right now, you can skip it:

1. Click the "Skip"-link in the right column for that update
2. A confirmation dialog appears with information about the program and version
3. Klikk "Do it!" to confirm that you want to skip this update

The skipped update will no longer appear in the list until a newer version becomes available.



### 3.4 Unskipping Updates

If you have skipped an update and want to undo this:

1. Click the "Unskip"-button at the bottom of the window
2. A dialog shows all updates you have skipped
3. Check the updates you want to resume
4. Click "OK" to confirm.

The selected updates will now appear again in the Mayn list if they are still available.

### 3.5 Excluding Updates

If there is an update that you do not want to update again, you can exclude it:

1. Click the "Exclude" link in the right column for that update
2. A confirmation dialog appears with information about the program and version
3. Click "Do it!" to confirm that you want to exclude this program package from future updates

The skipped update will no longer appear in the list until you cancel the exclusion.

### 3.6 Undo package exclusion

If you have excluded a software package and want to undo this:

1. Click the "Settings" button
2. Click the "Manage excluded apps" button
3. A dialog shows all updates you have excluded
4. Check the box for the software package you want to resume
5. Click "OK" to confirm

The selected updates will now appear again in the Mayn list if they are still available.

### 3.7 Refresh

To search for new updates manually, click the "Refresh" button. This starts a new scan of all installed programs.



## 4. Seettings

Click the "Settings" button to open the settings dialog. Here you can customise how WinUpdate should work.

### 4.1 Operation Mode

WinUpdate can run in three different modes:

#### 4.1.1 Manual Mode (Default)

In manual mode, you must start WinUpdate yourself when you want to search for updates. The application does not add itself to the system tray and does not start automatically.

#### 4.1.2 Hidden Scan at Startup

In this mode, WinUpdate starts automatically when you log in to Windows. The application runs a scan in the background and shows a notification if updates are found. If the system is up to date, no message is displayed.

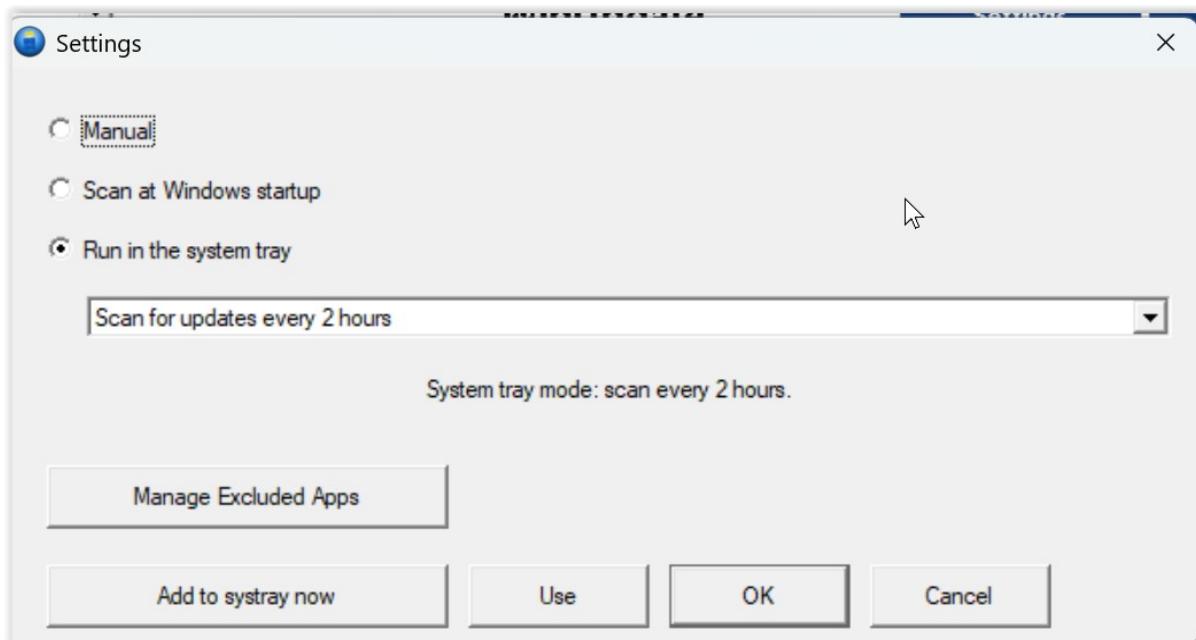
- The startup shortcut is created automatically with --hidden parameter
- No notification if no updates are found
- Perfect for users who want automatic checking without a permanent icon



#### 4.1.3 System Tray with Periodic Scanning

This is the most automated mode. WinUpdate adds itself to the system tray (next to the clock) and automatically searches for updates at regular intervals.

- Always available via system tray icon
- Automatic scanning based on selected interval
- Notification when updates are found
- Right-click the icon for context menu



## 4.2 Scanning Interval

When system tray mode is enabled, you can choose how often WinUpdate should search for updates:

- Every 2. hour
- Every 3. hour
- Every 5. hour
- Every 7. hour
- Every 11. time
- Every 13. hour
- Every 17. hour
- Every 19. hour
- Every 23. hour

Choose the interval that suits you best. A shorter interval keeps the system more up to date.



### 4.3 Language Selection

WinUpdate supports three languages:

- Norwegian (Bokmål) - nb\_NO
- English (British) - en\_GB
- Swedish - sv\_SE

The language change takes effect immediately when you click "OK" or "Use".

### 4.4 Add to System Tray Now

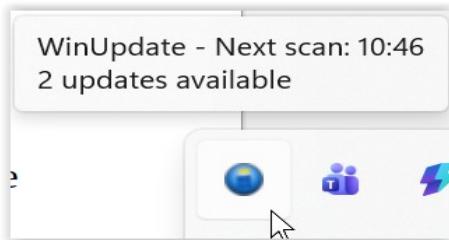
When you select system tray mode, an additional button appears: "Add to System Tray Now". This button allows you to immediately add the application to the system tray without having to restart it. This is for use if for some reason you need to exit the program completely.



## 5. System Tray Features

### 5.1 Tray Icon

When WinUpdate runs in the system tray, an icon appears next to the clock. This icon gives you quick access to the application's features.



### 5.2 Tooltip

Hover the mouse pointer over the system tray icon to see when the next automatic scan will take place. The tooltip shows:

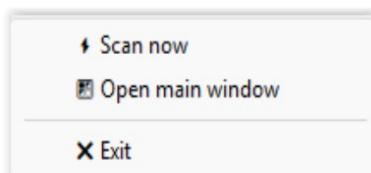
- Program Name (WinUpdate)
- Time of next scan (HH:MM)

The tooltip updates automatically every minute to show the correct hour.

### 5.3 Context Menu

Right-click the system tray icon to open the context menu. Here you have the following options:

- Scan Now! - Starts an immediate scan for updates
- Open Main Window - Shows the Mayn window with the update list
- Exit - Closes WinUpdate completely





## 5.4 Balloon Notifications

WinUpdate displays balloon notifications (balloon notifications) in the following situations:

- When automatic scanning finds available updates - shows the number of updates
- When manual scanning completes without finding updates - shows "You are up to date!"

Automatic scans that find no updates display no message to avoid unnecessary disturbances.

## 5.5 Window Behaviour

When Windows Update runs in system tray mode:

- Clicking the X button hides the window instead of closing the application
- The program continues to run in the background
- Reopen the window via the context menu or by clicking the notification
- To close the application completely, use "Exit" in the context menu



## 6. Advanced Features

### 6.1 Log Files

Click the "Log"-button to open the log folder. Here you will find detailed log files of all operations WinUpdate has performed during the last update:

- wup\_run\_log.txt - Main log file with all events
- Other diagnostic files for troubleshooting

The log files are useful if you experience problems and need to troubleshoot.

### 6.2 Settings Files

WinUpdate stores its settings in the following folder:

%APPDATA%\WinUpdate\

Important files:

- wup\_settings.ini - Main settings file (language, mode, interval)
- wup\_exclude.txt - List of skipped updates

### 6.3 Single Instance

WinUpdate allows only one running instance of the application. If you try to start the application while it is already running:

- The existing window will be brought to the foreground
- No new instance will be created
- This prevents conflicts and duplicate notifications

### 6.4 Automatic Startup Shortcut Verification

Every hour WinUpdate starts, the application verifies that the startup shortcut matches the configured mode:

- Manuell modus: Removes any startup shortcuts
- Startup mode: Ensures shortcut with --hidden parameter
- System tray mode: Ensures shortcut with --systray parameter

If discrepancies are detected, they are corrected automatically. This ensures the application always starts correctly.



## 7. Troubleshooting

### 7.1 Windows Defender False Positives

In some cases, Windows Defender may falsely warn that WinUpdate is malicious software. This is a false positive. WinUpdate is completely safe to use.

To resolve this:

1. Open DEFENDER\_SOLUTIONS.md-file in the program folder
2. Follow the instructions to add an exclusion in Windows Defender
3. Alternatively, you can run scripts/add\_defender\_exclusion.ps1 with administrator rights

You can also report the false positive to Microsoft by using scripts/submit\_false\_positive.ps1.

### 7.2 Winget Not Installed

WinUpdate requires Windows Package Manager (winget). If you get an error message that winget is not found:

1. Open Microsoft Store
2. Search for "App Installer"
3. Install or update App Installer
4. Restart WinUpdate

### 7.3 Installation Fails

If an update fails to install:

- Check that you have administrator rights
- Close the program to be updated if it is running
- Check the log file for detailed error messages
- Try to install the update manually via the command line: winget upgrade <pakke-id>

### 7.4 Tray Icon Not Visible

If the system tray icon does not appear in the system tray:

- Click the arrow (^) in the system tray to see hidden icons
- Drag the WinUpdate icon to the main area to make it permanently visible
- In Windows settings: System tray → Select which icons to show on the taskbar



## 8. About WinUpdate

Click the "About" button in the main window to see information about the application:

- Program version
- Licence information (GPLv2)
- Copyright information
- Contact information





## 9. Technical Details

### 9.1 Architecture

- Built with C++ and Win32 API
- Native Windows application (no additional dependencies)
- CMake build system with MinGW GCC 15.2.0
- Modular code structure for easy maintenance

### 9.2 Security

- ASLR (Address Space Layout Randomization) enabled
- DEP (Data Execution Prevention) enabled
- High-entropy ASLR for increased security
- Thread-safe access to shared state with mutex protection

### 9.3 File Locations

Program files:

- WinUpdate.exe - Main program
- winget\_helper.exe - Installation helper program
- closetray.exe - Tool to close the system tray instance
- locale/ - Language files (en\_GB.txt, nb\_NO.txt, sv\_SE.txt)

User data (%APPDATA%\WinUpdate):

- wup\_settings.ini - Settings
- wup\_exclude.txt - Skipd updates
- logs/ - Log Files



## 10. Licence

WinUpdate is free software licenced under GNU General Public License versjon 2 (GPLv2).

This means you are free to:

- Use the program for any purpose
- Study how the program works and adapt it
- Redistribute copies
- Improve the program and share the improvements

See GPLv2.md file in the program folder for full license information or click the "About" button, then the Licence button in the "About" window.

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