



Bypassing Windows OOBE-NRO

What the heck does that mean?
Why and How too.

December 10, 2025

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1 What did you say?

If you are in the dark or still using *Windows 10*, you may not know that *Windows 11* now [requires you to sign into a Microsoft account](#) when 1) creating a user, and 2) installing *Windows 11*. Some people may find fault with this, I being one of many.

1.1 What is OOBE-NRO?

For the *OOBE* part of the phrase, [Microsoft](#), on their website¹, means “Out of Box Experience”.²

The *OOBE* has been a part of *Windows 10* and *Windows 11*.¹ It allows you to preconfigure an installation of *Windows 10 or 11* to make the deployment and reinstallation of potentially many devices. This is a great time saver if you are, for example, deploying a computer fleet for a company.

As for the *NRO* part, that’s harder to answer, as Microsoft does not show any, nor have we found any extrapolation of the acronym. From [Rinkratt](#) on the [LTT forms](#), definitively defines it as being “Network Readiness Operations”; Although this answer smells a little of AI. No matter what it stands for, it is the process that requires you to use a *Microsoft* account.²

2 How

2.1 How as of December 10, 2025

As of the above date, this method(s) works for bypassing the OOBE-NRO, on *Windows 11*. The following sources were used:

How-To Geek	site	wayback	
Pureinfotech	site	wayback	
Chris Titus	site	wayback	Fixing Microsoft's Removal of BypassNRO
Windows Forum	site	wayback	Set Up Local Accounts Without Microsoft Login

The procedure can be generalized to: 1) opening *cmd.exe*, 2) modify registry, 3) prevent internet access.

Very few of these steps, in their exact replication, have changed from the above articles. But the steps are generally the same. Do check those articles, they go more in-depth. [Chris Titus](#) also has a script that completely bypasses the OOBE-NRO.

¹ You can set up OOBE to create a custom *Out of Box Experience* for a *Windows 10 or 11* installation. There are many sources to do this; here are two: [Customize the Out of Box Experience \(OOBE\)](#), [Ask Leo - Set up OOBE for Windows](#).

² What this means is most definitely answered, for me, on this form post on [Linus Tech Tips](#): [“What does OOBE\BYPASSNRO stand for?”](#)

1) The first step, opening up the *cmd.exe*, is really easy: *Shift + F10*. It may require you to use the *Fn*.

2) Once you have the *cmd.exe* window open, you can enter the following to bypass the OOBE-NRO:

```
oobe\bypassnro
```

3) Now you will need to ensure that your computer is completely disconnected from the network. You can do this by declining to select and connect to a network, unplugging your Ethernet, and/or using the following command:

```
ipconfig /release
```

2.1.1 Alternatives

There are always alternatives to how things are done, this, of course, follows this trend.

Custom OOBE	site	wayback	
Custom ISO			
Create <i>unattend.xml</i>	site	wayback	<i>“Modify Windows Settings During Setup”</i>
Custom Rufus Image			<i>Use Rufus to burn a customized Windows image to the USB</i>
Create “localonly” Account	site	wayback	<i>Set Up Local Accounts Without Microsoft Login</i>

There are definitely others. Each with their own niche, for example, using Rufus to burn a customized image.