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Quick Start Guide: Running Linux on Windows with Command Line

You don't need a separate computer to try Linux. Windows now includes a feature called Windows Subsystem for Linux (WSL) that lets you run Linux side-by-side with your normal programs. Follow these steps:

1. Turn on WSL

- 1. Click the Start Menu, type PowerShell.
- 2. Right-click Windows PowerShell → choose Run as administrator.
- 3. In the blue window, type:

wsl --install

This tells Windows to install WSL and a popular version of Linux called Ubuntu.

4. Restart your computer when asked.

2. Finish Linux Setup

- 1. After restart, a black window labeled Ubuntu will pop up.
- 2. It will ask you to create:
- A username (this is your Linux account).
- A password (note: nothing shows while typing, but it's working).
- 3. When finished, you'll see a prompt like:

username@computer:~\$

This is your Linux command line.

3. Try Your First Commands

Here are a few basics: See files in your folder:

ls

Move into a folder:

cd foldername

Update Linux software:

sudo apt update && sudo apt upgrade

To reopen Linux later: click Start Menu \rightarrow search for Ubuntu.

4. Bonus Tips

To see what Linux versions you can install:

```
wsl --list --online
```

To install a different one (for example, Debian):

```
wsl --install -d Debian
```

To edit text files, use a simple editor like:

```
nano myfile.txt
```

- You're done! You now have a working Linux terminal on Windows.
- Learn more with tutorials on our YouTube channel: Coding4Docs

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