

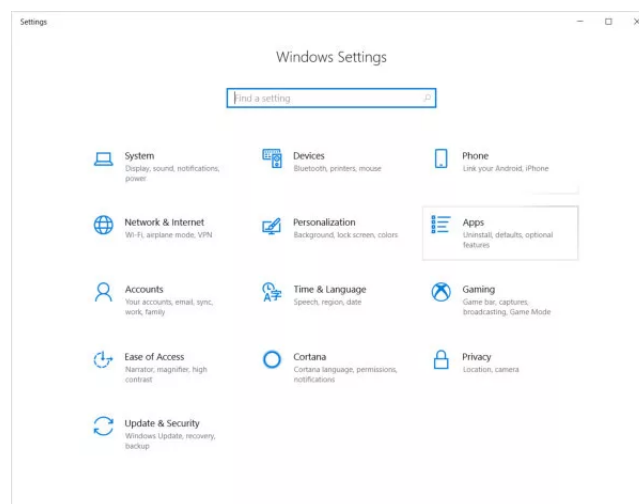
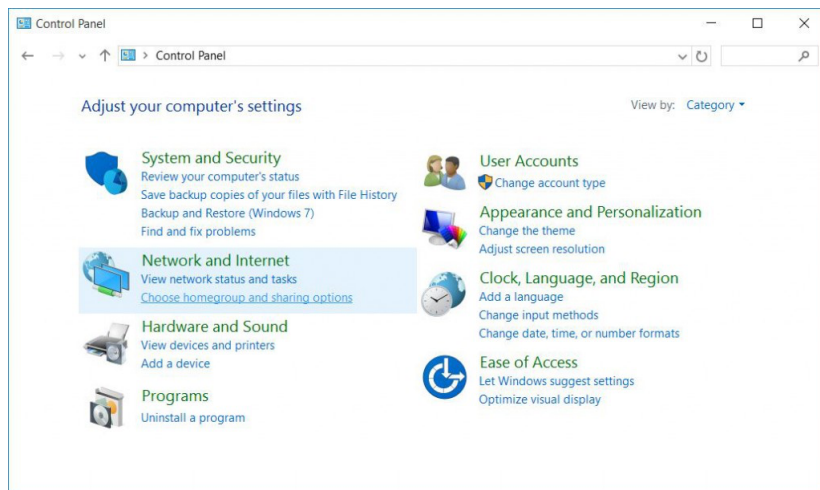
IPM 1st Assignment

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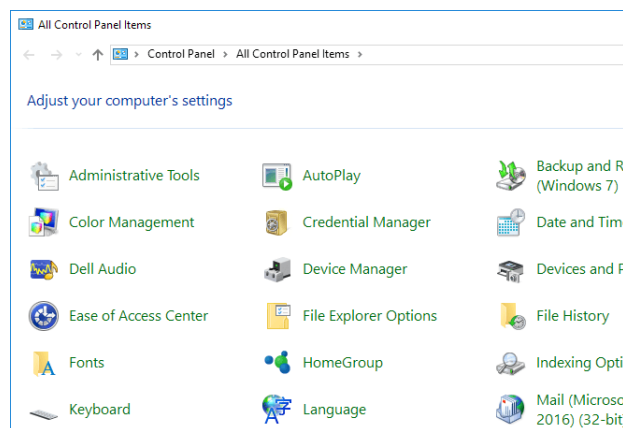
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1. Bad Design: Windows 10's Many Settings Pages

One of the biggest problems with the most recent versions of Windows (except Windows 11), has been the inconsistency with the OS settings. In previous versions of Windows, you used to access the Control Panel to change the OS settings. With Windows 8, the settings app was introduced. The problem with this is that now you can't change all OS settings with control panel, and you can't change all computer settings with the settings app, so the user is required to go "looking for what it needs changing", most times just being overwhelmed and confused, having to resort to internet searches.



If this wasn't enough reason, in control panel, to show all control panel items you still have to click somewhere, which becomes a big issue to users that are not used to working with computers.

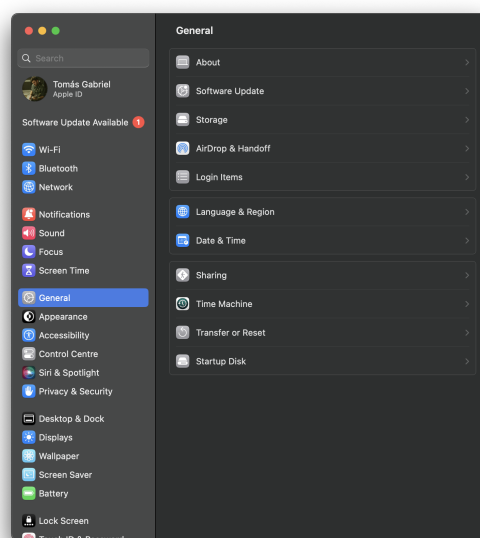


The main reason this is a bad design, is because if you want to change settings on an application (in this case, the application is the OS), you shouldn't have to open completely different pages that don't have any type of hierarchy. You should be able to access all application settings from one single page, and then be able to branch out to different settings categories.

2. Good Design: MacOS' Settings Page

All though Windows 11 fixed most of the problem with Windows 10's settings page, it's still not a good solution, because many of the system's basic settings (like changing refresh rate on the monitor), are still very difficult to access.

With that said, I present the best settings app I've seen on an operating system, the MacOS' settings page. This approach is much better, since all of the systems settings are accessible through it.



There is a zone in which the different settings are displayed and grouped by type of setting, for instance Network and Bluetooth are in the same group because both of them are about connectivity, and connecting your computer to something. With this the user can change every setting of their computer in just one page. If the user is searching for a specific setting and doesn't find it on this list, they can at least try to generalize that setting and search in that specific tab, so that the user doesn't have to go back and forth between two different pages searching for a needle in a haystack.