File & Monitor Handler Updates for Windows

Mike has updated the handlers to maximise security and compatibility with the latest versions of the operating system.

Technical details Only if you're curious!

1. Java has been updated - currently version 24 as of April 2025.

2. The shortcuts to install and open the handlers have been updated from .vbs (VBScript) format to .js (JavaScript). This is because Microsoft has deprecated VBscript and it will eventually be removed from Windows.
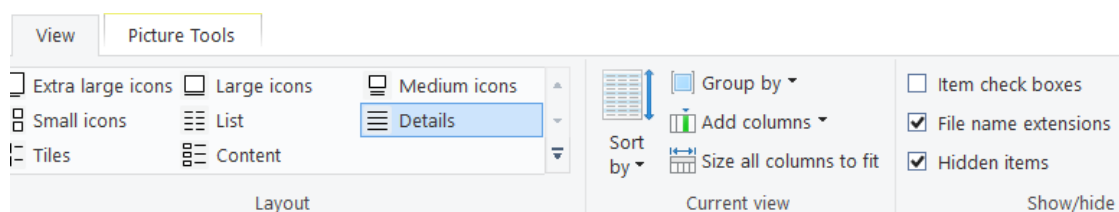
Updating

Should be quick to do!

1. Download the new handler.

2. Create a new folder for the update. It can be anywhere you like on your computer. For example:
   `C:\Users\<your name>\File Handler`
   or
   `C:\Users\<your name>\Monitor Handler`

3. Extract the downloaded files to your new folder.

4. Check the handler works by double-clicking on `file-handler.js` or `monitor-handler.js`.

5. The handler should open with all the details as you last saw them.

6. Double-click on `filehandler-installer.js` or `monitorhandler-installer.js` to update the shortcuts on your desktop and in the Start menu.

7. You can now delete your old handler folder.

Tip

If you see `filehandler` but not `filehandler.js` then you have the file extensions turned off. It is recommended to turn them on for security reasons. This prevents accidentally opening a malicious file such as `dodgy.docx` which is, in fact, `dodgy.docx.exe`.

In File Explorer, click on View then tick `File name extensions`.

Problems or Questions?

Post in the AL ICT and eTMA forum or email me at steve.mayer@open.ac.uk

Steve Mayer   April 2025