

Does this mean you won't be able to use OneDrive as a folder in explorer?



+ Create



```
@echo off
      cls
      set x86="%SYSTEMR00T%\System32\OneDriveSetup.exe"
      set x64="%SYSTEMR00T%\SysW0W64\OneDriveSetup.exe"
      echo Closing OneDrive process.
      echo.
      taskkill /f /im OneDrive.exe > NUL 2>&1
      ping 127.0.0.1 - n 5 > NUL 2 > \&1
      echo Uninstalling OneDrive.
      echo.
      if exist %x64% (
      %x64% /uninstall
      ) else (
      %x86% /uninstall
      ping 127.0.0.1 - n 5 > NUL 2 > \&1
      echo Removing OneDrive leftovers.
      echo.
      rd "%USERPROFILE%\OneDrive" /Q /S > NUL 2>&1
      rd "C:\OneDriveTemp" /Q /S > NUL 2>&1
      rd "%LOCALAPPDATA%\Microsoft\OneDrive" /Q /S > NUL 2>&1
      rd "%PROGRAMDATA%\Microsoft OneDrive" /Q /S > NUL 2>&1
      echo Removing OneDrive from the Explorer Side Panel.
      echo.
      REG DELETE "HKEY CLASSES ROOT\CLSID\{018D5C66-4533-4307-9B53-224DE2ED1FE6}\" /f >
      REG DELETE "HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\Wow6432Node\CLSID\{018D5C66-4533-4307-9B53-224DE2ED
      pause
← 127 ← Share
      rwsr-xr-x • 9y ago
      wow what? windows has file descriptors (2>&1) as well?
   — ← 20 ← Share
          Lurking_Grue • 9y ago
```

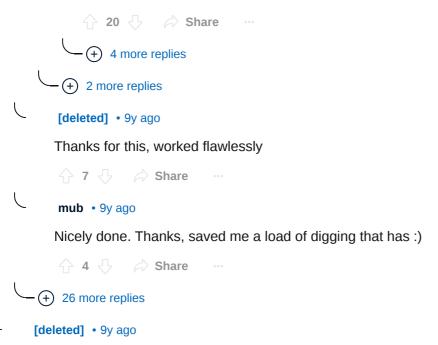
+ Create



us/redirection.mspx?mfr=true

Also NUL is the windows equivalent of /dev/null. Once I had a MSSQL server that had no love and the log files filled the entire drive. At the time the only solution to getting it running in a hurry was to back it up to NUL and let it free up the space. Proper backups were set up after that so it didn't do that ever again.

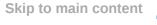
NUL is quite a handy thing even in windows.



That's my problem with this post. It tells people to change these settings to increase privacy, but does not explain what these changes actually do. No Onedrive integration, no Windows Defender, blocks Microsoft servers for diagnostics and feedback. It disables the p2p windows updates, which if I understand correctly could reduce bandwith usage if you have multiple computers in your network. I'm not going to do this on my computer, but I doubt Cortana is functional at all with all of these changes. Unplugging your PC is the most secure option, but you have to draw the line between functionality and security at some point. This post goes a bit further than I would like with disabling functionality.



You can have either Cortana or your privacy, not both. Same with Google Now. Sifting through your personal data is inherent in how these personal assistants work... and they're free so their makers must find ways to monetize the data as well.



+ Create



And Cortana is useful on mobile devices, not in desktop.

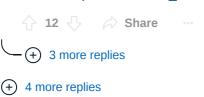
All I want is to use my apps like Firefox, PaintNet, HexChat, Telegram... without being tracked by my own OS.



The P2P updates can mean that you share updates with PCs on your LAN and the Internet, but you can also set it to only share updates with computers on your LAN and NOT the Internet.

https://cdn2.vox-

cdn.com/thumbor/01JqHe2Gack7VUhyWgxZezCfuds=/800x0/filters:no_upscale()/cdn0.vox-cdn.com/uploads/chorus asset/file/3505772/windows10p2pupdates1 1020.0.jpg



SORRYMYSHIFTKEYBROKE • 9y ago

there is an option for intranet-only p2p, but internet-wide p2p is on by default, aka you paying microsoft's data bills unwittingly. also cortana still has plenty of functionality without tracking your personal life and having extremely opaque sharing rights over said information.

feel free to write your own amateur-friendly post about this topic; that wasnt really the function of this post, which was for intermediate users with a certain level of literacy in regards to privacy, and their own custom bundle of preferred apps. it's not op's responsibility to provide that disclaimer, because the title is 'how to disable data logging,' not 'a beginner's guide to privacy in windows 10.' if you just think 'data logging sound bad, me follow guide,' you deserve whats coming.

anyway, imo this isn't really about drawing a line, it's about that line shifting. functionality is NOT directly proportional to loss of privacy, that is only the present status quo of the industry. you have to INSIST on privacy, and hack the functionality back in from that point. THEN, we set about convincing microsoft that it was in their interest the entire time to have done things that way in the first place.



[deleted] • 9y ago

The take ownership tweak isn't necessary. Just open your text editor as admin.



+ Create



Thesket • 9y ago

Up To You

- Replace Microsoft Edge/Internet Explorer with Firefox, Chromium, or any forks/variations of them.
- Replace Windows Media Player with VLC or MPC-HC
- Replace Photos/Windows Photo Viewer with ImageGlass or IrfanView.

How do these affect my privacy? I mean, the browser is obvious, but what about the media stuff. Is MS really using the media player to mine for music preference data? And what kind of data would they realistically try to get from my image viewer?



WMP has the following privacy settings. They been there for a long time, so this applies not just to Win 10.

Display media information from the Internet

Update music files by retrieving media information when I play or sync a file

Download usage rights automatically when I play or sync a file

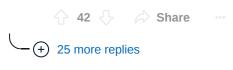
Send unique Player ID to content providers

I want to help make Microsoft software and services even better by sending Player usage data to Microsoft



That's my problem with this post. It tells people to change these settings to increase privacy, but does not explain what these changes actually do. No Onedrive integration, no Windows Defender, blocks Microsoft servers for diagnostics and feedback. It disables the p2p windows updates, which if I understand correctly could reduce bandwith usage if you have multiple computers in your network. I'm not going to do this on my computer, but I doubt Cortana is functional at all with all of these changes. Unplugging your PC is the most secure option, but you have to draw the line between functionality and security at some point. This post goes a bit further than I would like with disabling functionality.

Edit: Meant to reply to another comment with this, but oh well. It's here now.





+ Create



double click Turn Off Windows Defender, hit Enabled, then apply.

(Replace with a good Anti-Virus)

You also COMPLETELY missed Application Experience AND Customer Experience Improvement Program.

Right Click Start Menu > Computer Management > Expand 'Task Scheduler' > Expand 'Task Scheduler Library' > Expand 'Microsoft' > Expand 'Windows' > Click on 'Application Experience' > Disable all Tasks in Folder > Click on 'Customer Experience Improvement Program' > Disable all Tasks in Folder

Optional: Click on 'Task Scheduler Library' > Disable any Tasks you don't want Enabled.

You also didn't really cover Services, some of which slow the computer down considerably.

In Computer Management > Expand 'Services and Applications' > Click on 'Services' > Right Click on 'Windows Media Player Network Sharing Service' > Properties > Startup Type 'Disabled' > Stop if running.

(Unless you stream from Windows Media Player to another device, or share Music with other devices on the Network)

Ensure 'Windows Defender Service' is not running.

Disable / Stop 'Touch Keyboard and Handwriting Panel'

(Unless you are using a Touch Screen / Photoshop DrawPad thingy)

Disable / Stop 'Secondary Login'

(Unless you play Blizzard Entertainment Videogames, it needs this service to update / download games)

Disable / Stop 'Retail Demo Service'

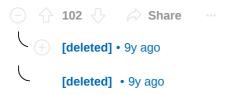
(Because WTF, this shouldn't be on here)

Ensure 'Remote Registry' is Disabled / Stopped

Hope this helped.

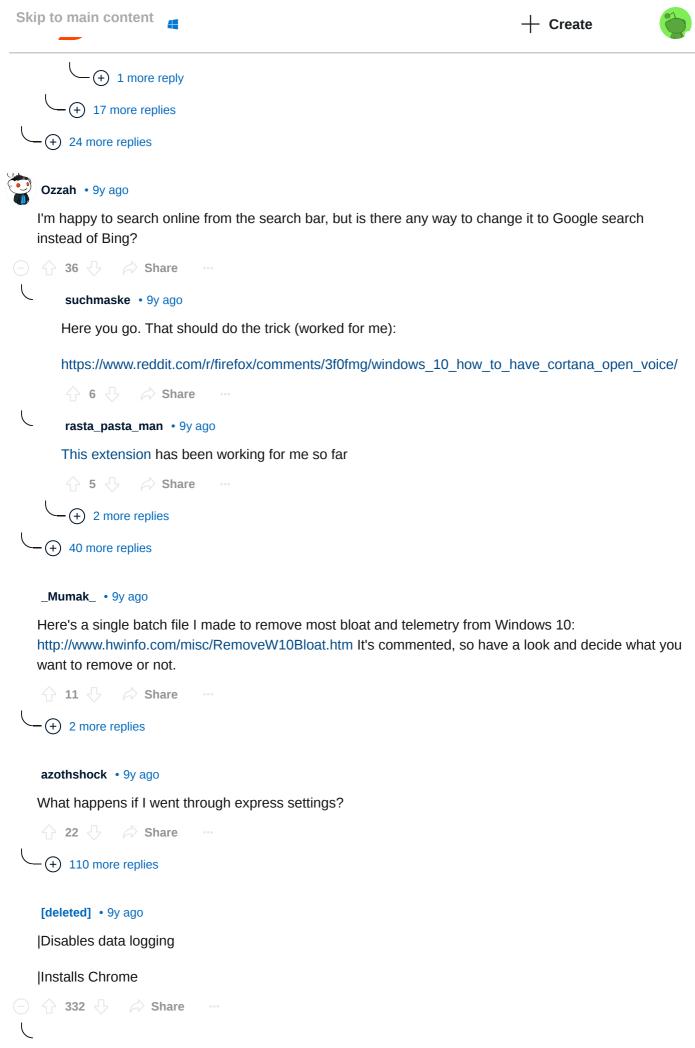
3 years of Virus Removal on Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8, and Windows 8.1 in case you were wondering. (Eagerly awaiting my first "Virusd' Up" Windows 10 Computer)

Can't wait for Halo: MCC for PC.



Good free AV recommendation, please? I have MalwareBytes premium but I assume that's not enough.













Sure, though pretty much any regular user will feel forced to download Chrome since the Chromium website doesn't carry any compiled builds nowadays and instead links to the Chrome website for download purposes. Most users in the dark will take this approach. A lot fewer will actually search for a site which carries the compiled binaries of Chromium.



Does chromium have regular users? Most people don't know what it is, anyone who does and actually cares about privacy would use Firefox, so I don't see a point for chromium besides a base open source engine for browser vendors. Or is there a normal use case?

Pretty much none on Windows. You used to be able to download Chromium easily from the official website but nowadays the only downloads available on Chrome or Chromium's sites are Chrome, Chrome Beta, Chrome Canary (basically alpha) and the source code for Chromium. Third-party build sites for Chromium does exist which carries the Windows binaries, though regular users rarely, if ever, use those.

Chromium does however have a couple of users on Linux, since a couple of distros prefer it over Chrome since Chrome includes Google's closed source stuff.



FYI, you can get official builds here:

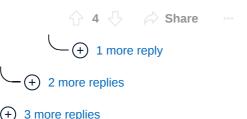
http://commondatastorage.googleapis.com/chromium-browser-snapshots/index.html

But the site is SLOOOOOW.

You may be able to hit it quicker via REST API but I haven't tried.



I've usually downloaded Chromium from the "Continuous" section on build.chromium.org, which seems to load way faster than the snapshots section you linked.











(+) 39 more replies

rjc523 • 9y ago

is it really so bad to have it enable? like for hentai, pirating, ects?



We will access, disclose and preserve personal data, including your content (such as the content of your emails, other private communications or files in private folders), when we have a good faith belief that doing so is necessary to", for example, "protect their customers" or "enforce the terms governing the use of the services".

https://edri.org/microsofts-new-small-print-how-your-personal-data-abused/



If I don't use OneDrive, Cortana, Windows Apps, log in to a Microsoft Account can they still access my files on my hard disk?

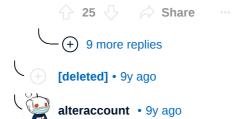
Thanks



Is having emulators, roms/isos and pirated movies on my computer going to be used to send me to federal prison?



No, but if the MPAA or somebody targets you, they now have a pile of proof that they can get from Microsoft. Why risk it if you don't have to?



Windows and office are probably two of the most pirated pieces of software in the history of personal computers, yet MS has never gone after a single consumer for it. They don't care if you're a pirate, unless you are a business.







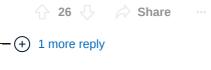


http://www.cnet.com/news/who-would-microsoft-sue-pirates-arrrr/

Ahem.



To be fair, that's a "customer" doing bulk / insane amounts of false / cracked / illegitimate activations in a PC repair shop level type of affair.



+ 7 more replies

Entegy • 9y ago

(+) 7 more replies

Nope, none of this affects that. Telemetry automatically tells Microsoft what's wrong/working, or what features people use. The other stuff personalizes your use of their services.

so it is safe to look up/do that kind of stuff then? lol

☐ ☐ 18 ☐ Share ····
Entegy • 9y ago

Yes. No one at Microsoft gives two shits about it. You will not be contacted. You will not be identified. Nothing happens.

cuddles_the_destroye • 9y ago

Can confirm, I read a fuckton of hentai in the technical preview and cortana doesn't give any shits.



Androids are Very Well Known for their acceptance of hentai.



+ 1 more reply

+ Create



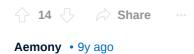
tinfoilwindows • 9y ago

I'm just wondering why there isn't a shitstorm about this. Didn't data logging and collection (yes yes nice "consumer-friendly and less scary" term is *telemetry*) use to be an opt-in item? I like that it's on by default now and you can't even opt-out COMPLETELY from data logging/collection (except with the Enterprise edition, which Microsoft just about never sells to Average Joe Consumer).

When the "keylogging" and telemetry thing came about when the Technical Preview first launched last year, I somehow had a gut feeling it would stick around in the actual, launched retail version. And I'll be a monkey's uncle, here it is.



It's been opt-out since at least Vista, and I can't remember but I think it was the same way in XP as well.



There isn't a shitstorm because it's a ton of neglectible data gathering that has been a part of Windows for almost a decade, combined with some minor concerns that users has already been made aware of through their web browsers.

That "keylogging" in the Technical Preview? That only kicked in if you submitted a problem to Microsoft and chose to record the issue occuring. The user hit record, the user recreated the issue while Microsoft logged everything, the user then also hit Stop when finished. Finally the user submitted the report to Microsoft. The whole shitstorm was basically for taking the wordings in the wrong light.

A lot of Win10's privacy concerns are the same. The three major complains for Win10 are forced updates (not privacy related), P2P-sharing updates, and Cortana while enabled shows search suggestions while searching for stuff on your computer. The first two isn't really privacy concerns, though the second is definitely a concern for data usage people. The third is exactly like pretty much any modern web browser works, but in the desktop scenario.

Pretty much all other telemetry and data gathering is just the same as in WinVista, Win7 and/or Win8.x.



No. When I was very young and dumb as box of hammers, I would pirate the bejesus out of everything while using Windows beta versions. And betas, unlike market release, actually track fucking everything you ever do.

Simply put, they don't give a shit. Never did, never will. They don't even care if you have pirated MS software.







Taking no action is not the same as not caring.

```
footpole • 9y ago
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Yep. They're not media companies so they only care if businesses use pirated software.



This is largely true. They used to put great efforts in trying to shore up any holes in their authentication. Nowadays they allow non-legit copies to update with critical updates, etc... The main reason for this is because MS knows that a lot of people will pirate Windows regardless, so if you have a bunch of pirates with older versions of Windows, it increases the vulnerability of ALL other Windows systems too.



```
ptd163 • 9y ago • Edited 9y ago
```

PulsedMedia • 9y ago

Just a small correction for your guide. Setting the Telemetry setting to 0 or Disabled outside of the Enterprise version is equivalent to setting the value to 1.

The only way to actually disable it is install the Enterprise version, set it to Enabled, and set the value to 0. Proof

Great guide nonetheless. It should be sidebared or stickied.









Someone needs to do some research on the actual network traffic of Win10.

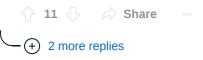




HarleyQuinn_RS • 9y ago • Edited 9y ago

Do you suggest turning off SmartScreen Filter and defering windows updates? .

And another important thing. Under Settings > Network & Internet > Wi-Fi > Manage Wi-Fi settings. Turn Off connect to suggested open hotspots and turn Off connect to networks shared by my contacts. That last Off option is pretty darn important.



graspee • 9y ago

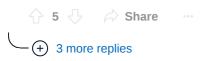
I just got Windows 10 install finished on my laptop overnight and played about a bit with it this morning. It's *mental* how every privacy option is turned on by default. I turned them all off but then it won't let you use Cortana.



[deleted] • 9y ago

•Open up the Group Policy Editor by launching gpedit.msc as an administrator. Go through Computer Configuration > Administrative Templates > Windows Components > Data Collection and Preview Builds. Double click Telemetry, hit Disabled, then apply. NOTE: This only truly works in the Enterprise edition, but the final step provides a decent enough workaround for Pro users.

We cant do this in W10 home, right?



[deleted] • 9y ago

Protip: If you use Hostsman (http://www.abelhadigital.com/hostsman), it automates the process of updating your hosts file.

I copied the hosts file entries from a post in this thread and uploaded them to Pastebin.

http://pastebin.com/raw.php?i=iGm5LXCg

Add these hosts to a text file somewhere and add the file as a source to your Hostsman configuration. Those entries will be added every time the blacklist is updated.







Rick2990 • 9y ago

Microsoft didn't know what I was doing on Windows 3.1 with no internet connection, it doesn't need to know what I'm doing on Windows 10 either. Thanks for assembling this useful list.



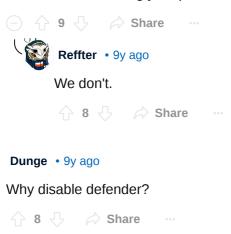


Reffter • 9y ago

Upvoted, will make sure that's good.



Agreed, this is great, but do we know whether this would actually prevent Microsoft from acting on the EULA and viewing your private files?



Gvaz • 9y ago

(+) 6 more replies

I also suggest:

In Local Group Policy Editor, set: Computer Configuration -> Administrative Templates -> Windows Components -> Windows Update -> Configure Automatic Updates -> 2 - Notify for download and notify for install

Computer Configuration -> Administrative Templates -> Windows Components -> Windows Update -> Turn on Software Notifications -> Enabled

Computer Configuration -> Administrative Templates -> Windows Components -> Windows Update -> Allow Automatic Updates immediate installation -> Disabled

Computer Configuration -> Administrative Templates -> Windows Components -> Windows Update -> Turn on recommended updates via Automatic Updates -> Enabled









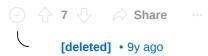


startup. I have a few others that I'm working on that I'll get up in the repo when they are done.

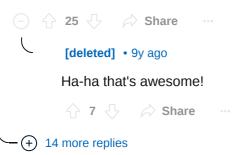


Renouille • 9y ago

Pros and cons of ImageGlass vs IrfanView?



ImageGlass comes with Vietnamese propaganda as its default image. Whether one considers that a pro or con is a matter of personal taste.



maffls • 9y ago

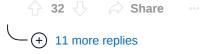
I have a lot of problems with what you've mentioned in this guide, but chief among them is that you've not explained why any of the above should be disabled, nor the repercussions of disabling them.

For instance, the hosts file edit you suggest will *completely* disable Windows Feedback and (honestly quite important!) diagnostic data that Microsoft is sent when things such as an application crash or windows bluescreen occur. By preventing access to these, you're essentially just cutting off your nose to spite your face - in the event that you encounter a problem, it is less likely to be fixed.

Additionally, you're telling people to disable OneDrive and Defender through the group policy editor, but not taking into consideration that some users will blindly follow instructions without paying attention, and will then wonder why they have no malware protection, or why OneDrive stopped working.

Finally, the 'sc delete' commands you're telling folk to run, will irreversibly remove those services; they should at worst be disabled. Fun fact: DiagTrack is a real, legitimate service that isn't new to Windows 10 and has, in one form or another, been part of windows at least since XP. Whenever you see "This program stopped responding" or similar, the information about that crash is collected and sent to Microsoft. This is done NOT to siphon user data and kill your privacies woohoohoo, it is done so that if there's actually a problem in windows or your software, it has a chance of being found and fixed.

By all means, do any and all of the things in the guide above, but don't blindly disable Bloody Fucking Everything in the name of privacy without being aware of what you're doing and why.







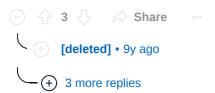




EliteDangerous • 9y ago

Are you required to have a MS Store account?

I understand windows 10 uses the Store account for authentication of your copy of windows but is there a way to run it with a local account?





Subsinuous • 9y ago

I accidentally clicked express, but went back and disabled everything per this guide, but the only thing I can't access is the "Slightly Complex" section. When I open the cmd prompt and enter the commands it says access denied. Is there any work-a-round for this?

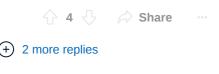


Try running cmd as administrator.



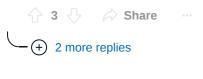
Easy way: Hold down the windows key and press X. On the menu that pops up in the lower left corner, click "Command Prompt (Admin)".

Note that if you aren't used to using the command prompt, running it as admin removes the protection that *not* running it as admin provided you.

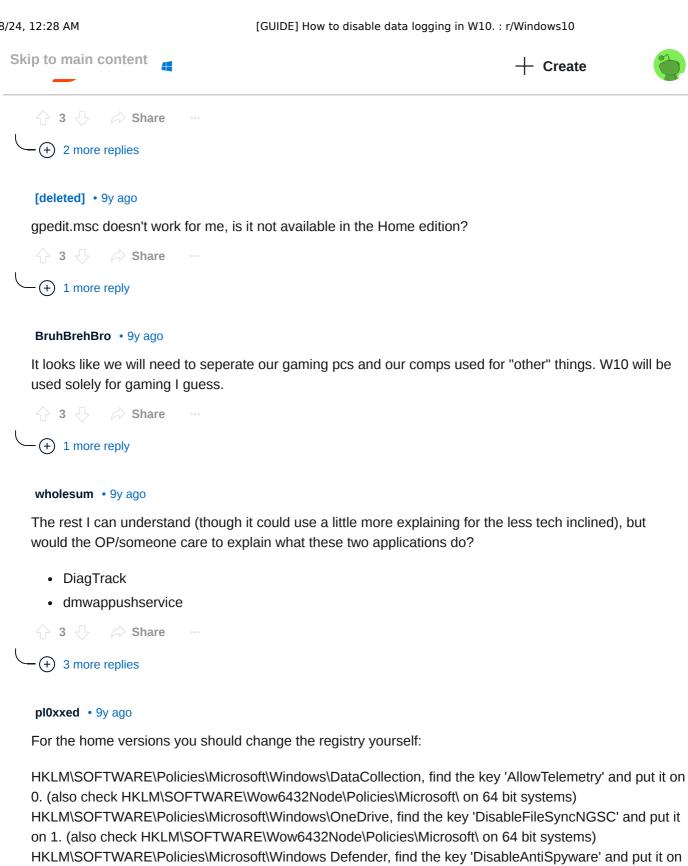


[deleted] • 9y ago

For music there's also AIMP, for images there's XNview and Honeyview, and for media players there's Potplayer. Just some more aletrnatives.

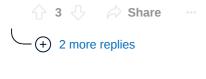


B-Knight • 9y ago



1. (also check HKLM\SOFTWARE\Wow6432Node\Policies\Microsoft\ on 64 bit systems)

https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=25250



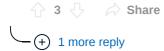
(+) [deleted] • 9y ago





+ Create





[deleted] • 9y ago

What are the advantages of changing the name of your PC?



Sjalabaisen • 9y ago

I turned off all the apps/programs that are allowed to run in the background. Firefox is my standard browser.

Nonethelsee, Edge Cache Database is running and has to be turned off every time I run CCleaner.

Why is it still on and how do I turn it off?



(+ [deleted] • 9y ago