

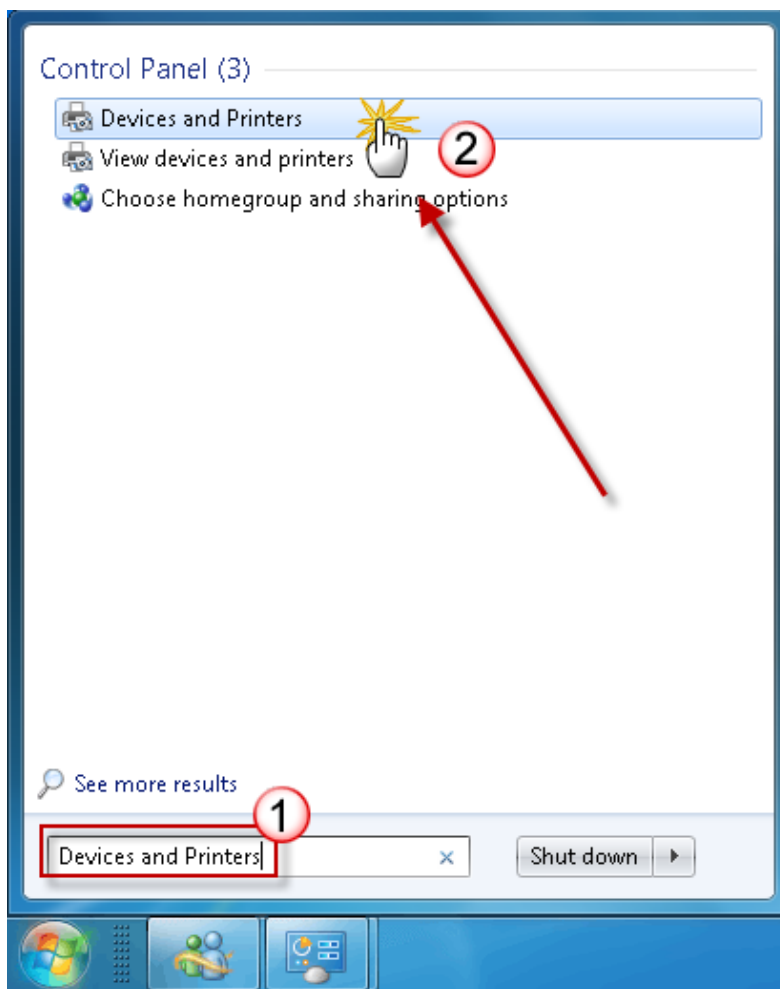
How to stop Windows 7 automatically installing drivers

Summary

By default, Windows 7 automatically installs drivers for the devices that are connected to the computer. However, if you do not want Windows 7 to automatically install the drivers, you can use one of the methods listed in this article.

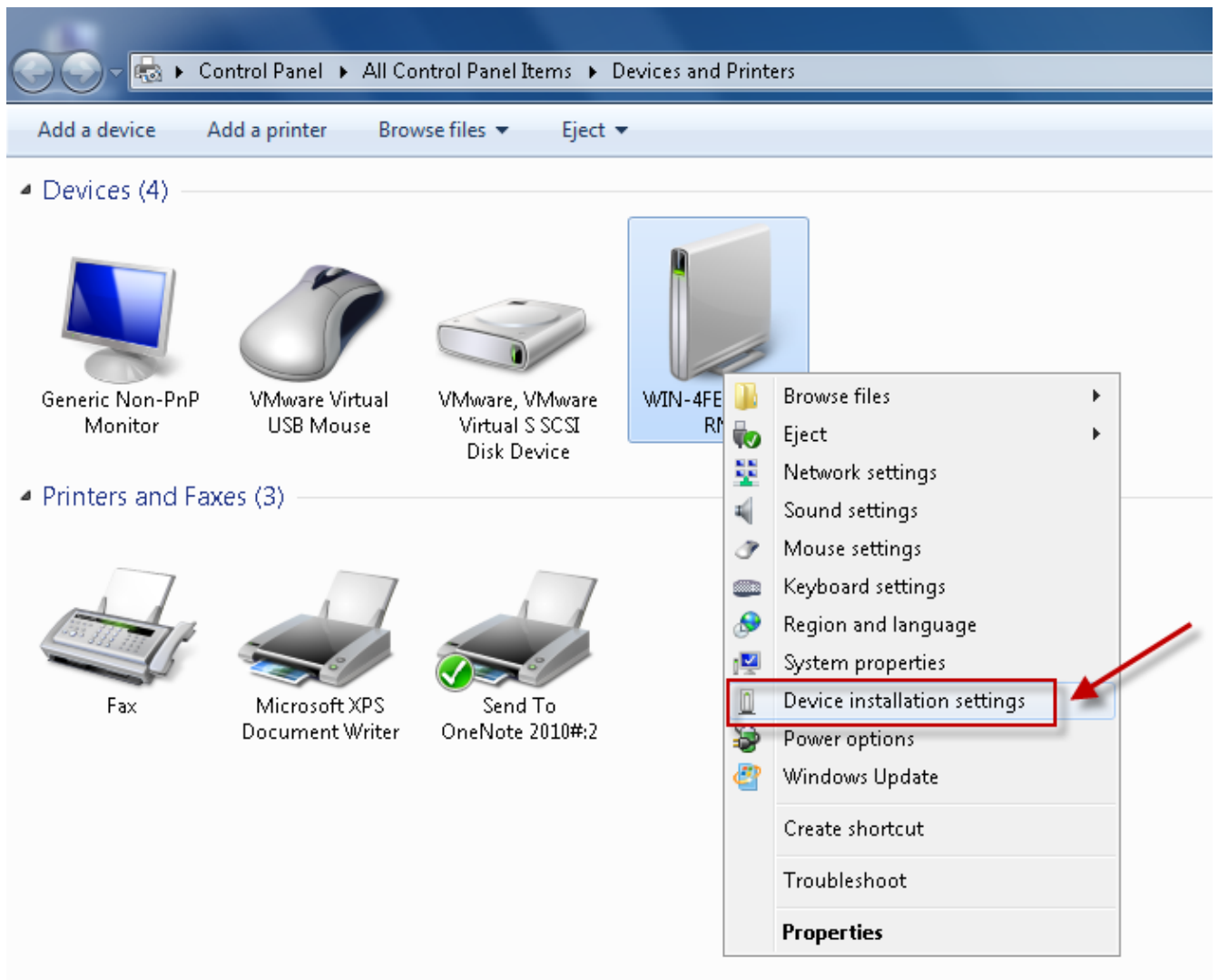
Methods 1: Change device installation setting

1. Click **Start**, type devices and printers in the search box, and then click **Devices and Printers**.



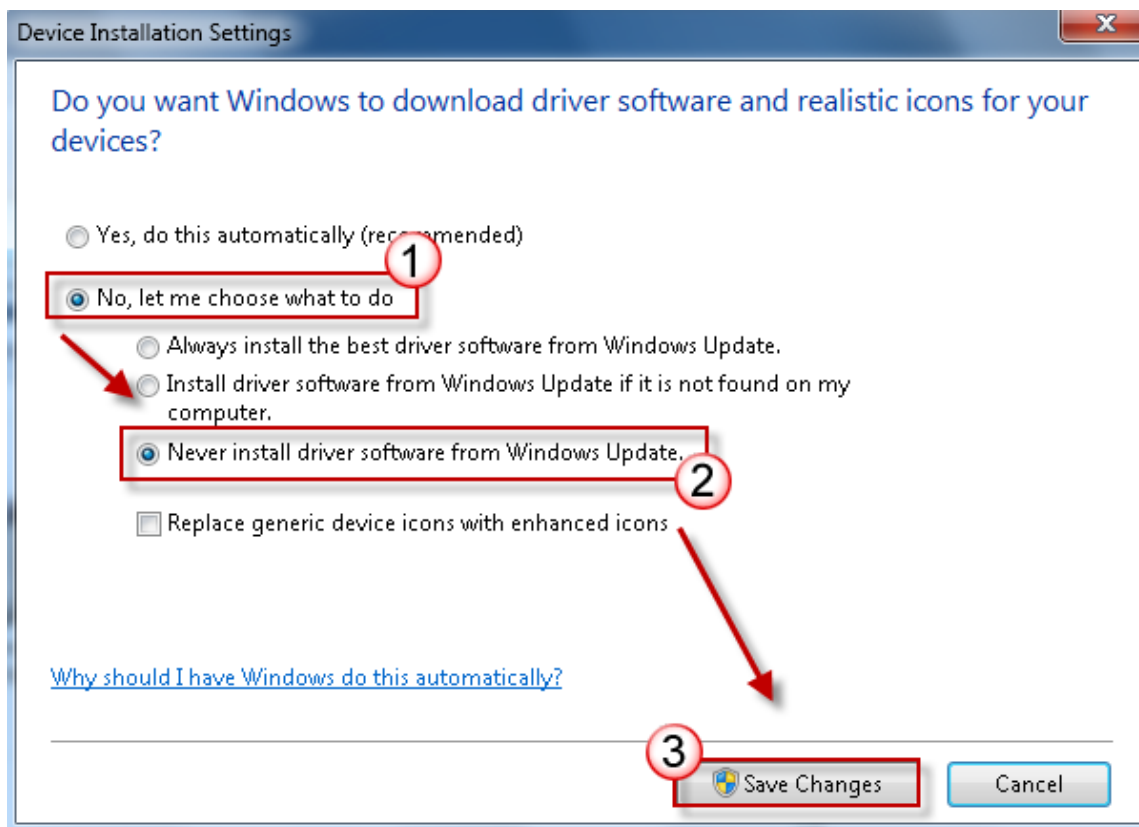
2. All the devices connected to the computer are listed, including monitor, keyboard, mouse, printer, and so on.

Under **Devices**, right-click the icon for the computer, and then click **Device installation settings**.

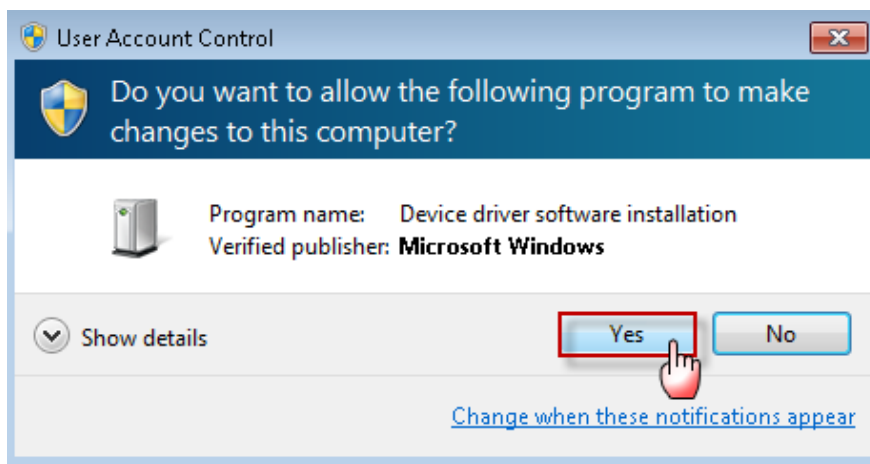


3. A new window pops up asking you whether you want Windows to download driver software.

Click to select **No, let me choose what to do**, select **Never install driver software from Windows update**, and then click **Save Changes**.



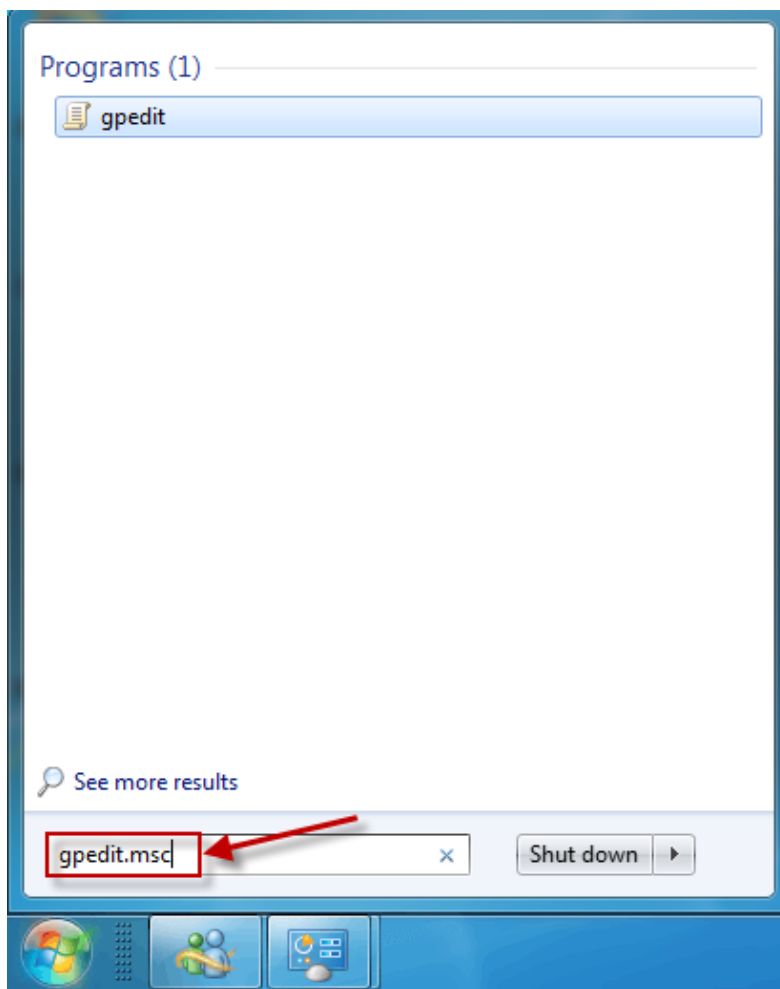
4. Click **Yes** when you are prompted for confirmation.



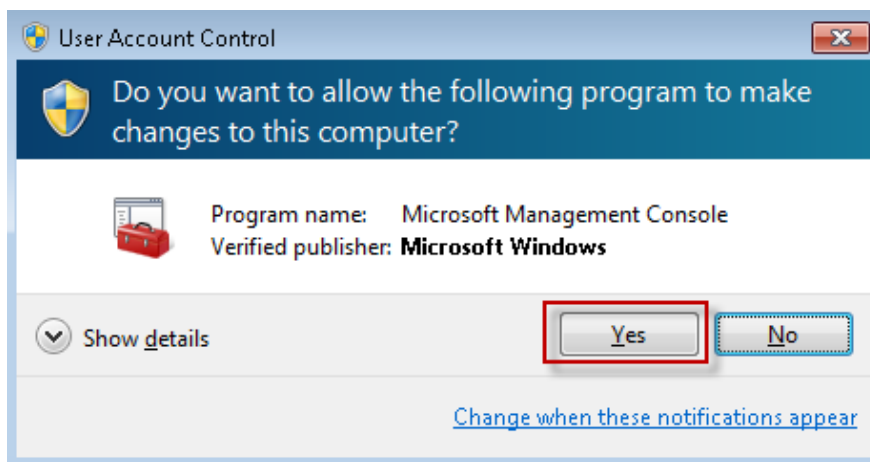
Methods 2: Configure group policy settings

Note This method only applies to Windows 7 Professional, Windows 7 Ultimate, and Windows 7 Enterprise.

1. Click **Start**, type **gpedit.msc** in the search box, and then press ENTER. This step opens the Local Group Policy Editor.

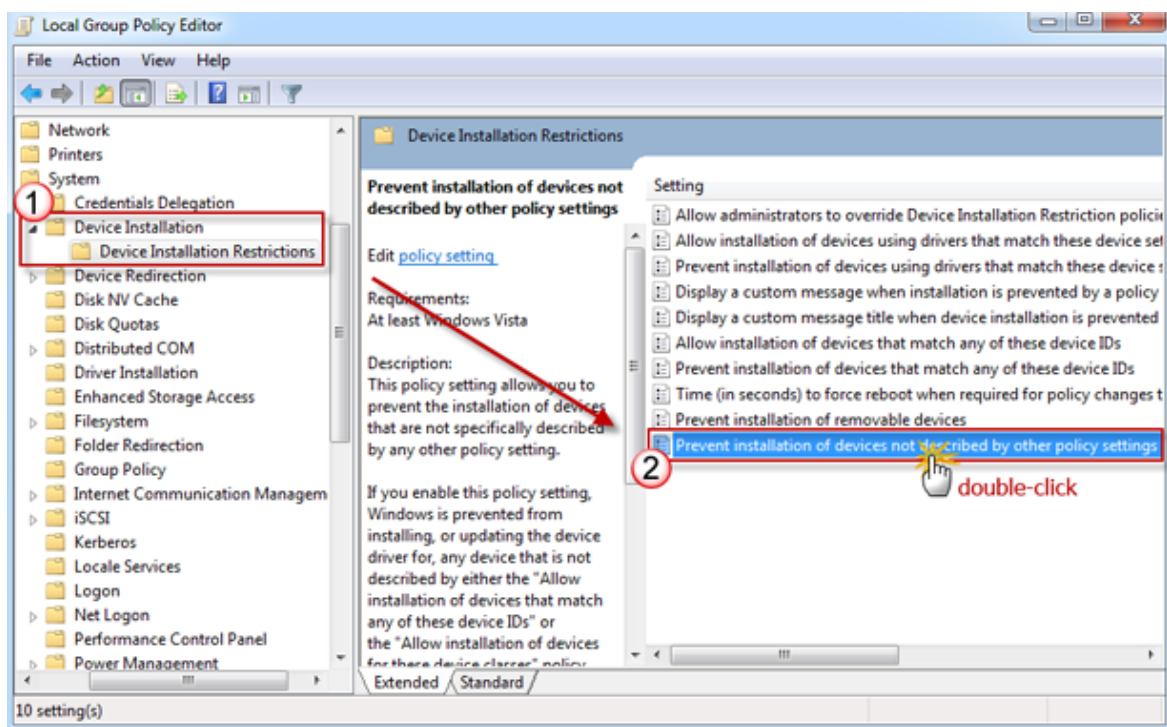


(Click **Yes** if you are prompted.)

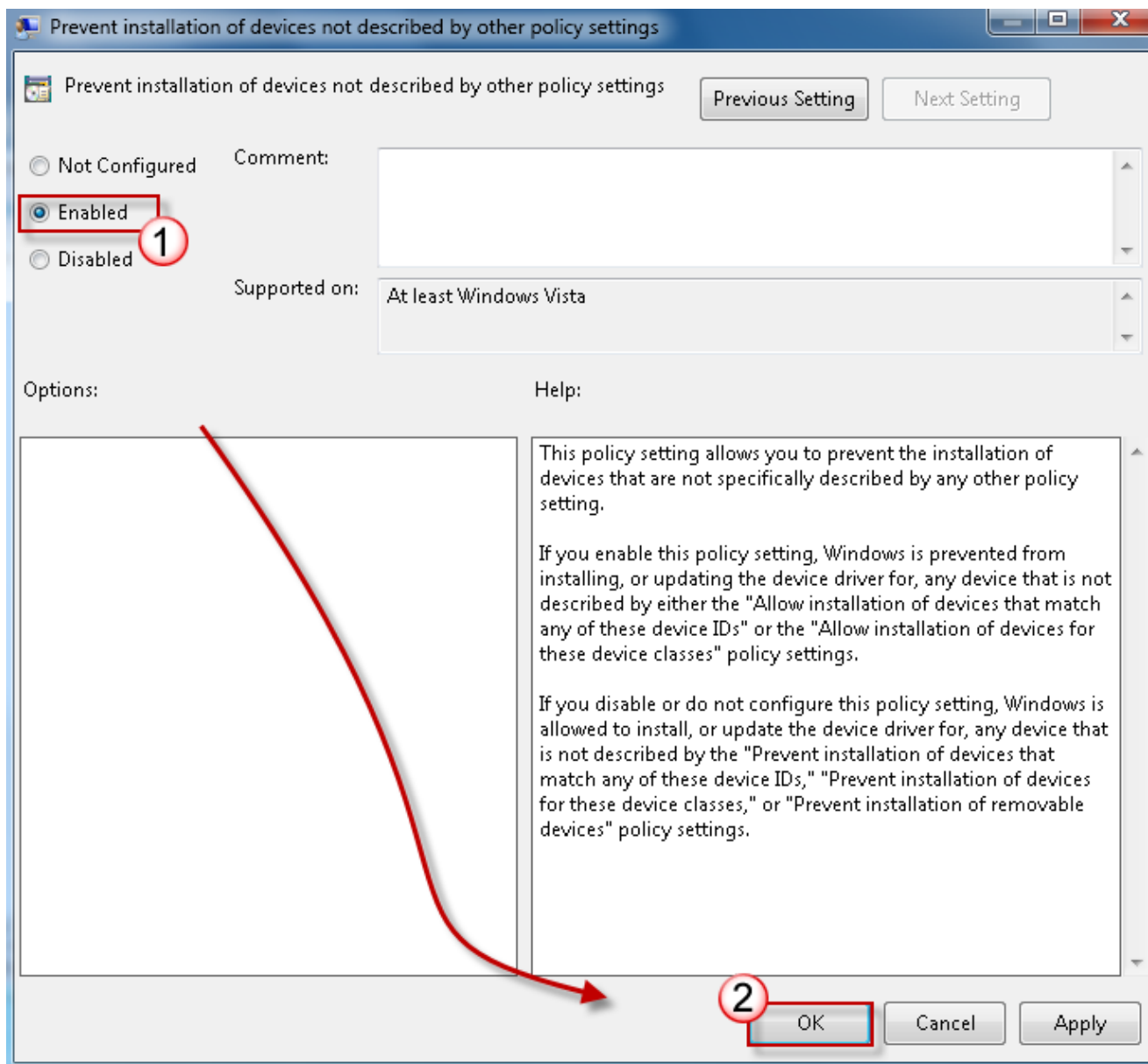


2. Expand **Computer Configuration**, expand **Administrative Templates**, expand **System**, expand **Device Installation**, and then click **Device Installation Restrictions**.

In the right window, double-click **Prevent installation of devices not described by other policy settings**.



3. Click to select **Enabled**, and then click **OK**.



4. Restart the computer.

Properties

Article ID: 2500967 - Last Review: 06/21/2014 15:12:00 - Revision: 4.0

Applies to

Windows 7 Home Premium, Windows 7 Professional, Windows 7 Ultimate, Windows 7 Enterprise

Keywords:

kbinfo kbhowto kbstepbystep kbexpertisebeginner KB2500967

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