

Step by step process of ACT (Application Compatibility Toolkit):

Steps to evaluate your application compatibility using application compatibility toolkit:

- Collect – Create your data collection package
- Analyze – Rationalize, categorize, prioritize, filter your compatibility data
- Test and Mitigate – Use the test tools to understand compatibility issues to develop a plan for mitigation

Step by step process of ACT (Application Compatibility Toolkit):

Download the Application Compatibility Toolkit

Step 1: Download and Install ACT

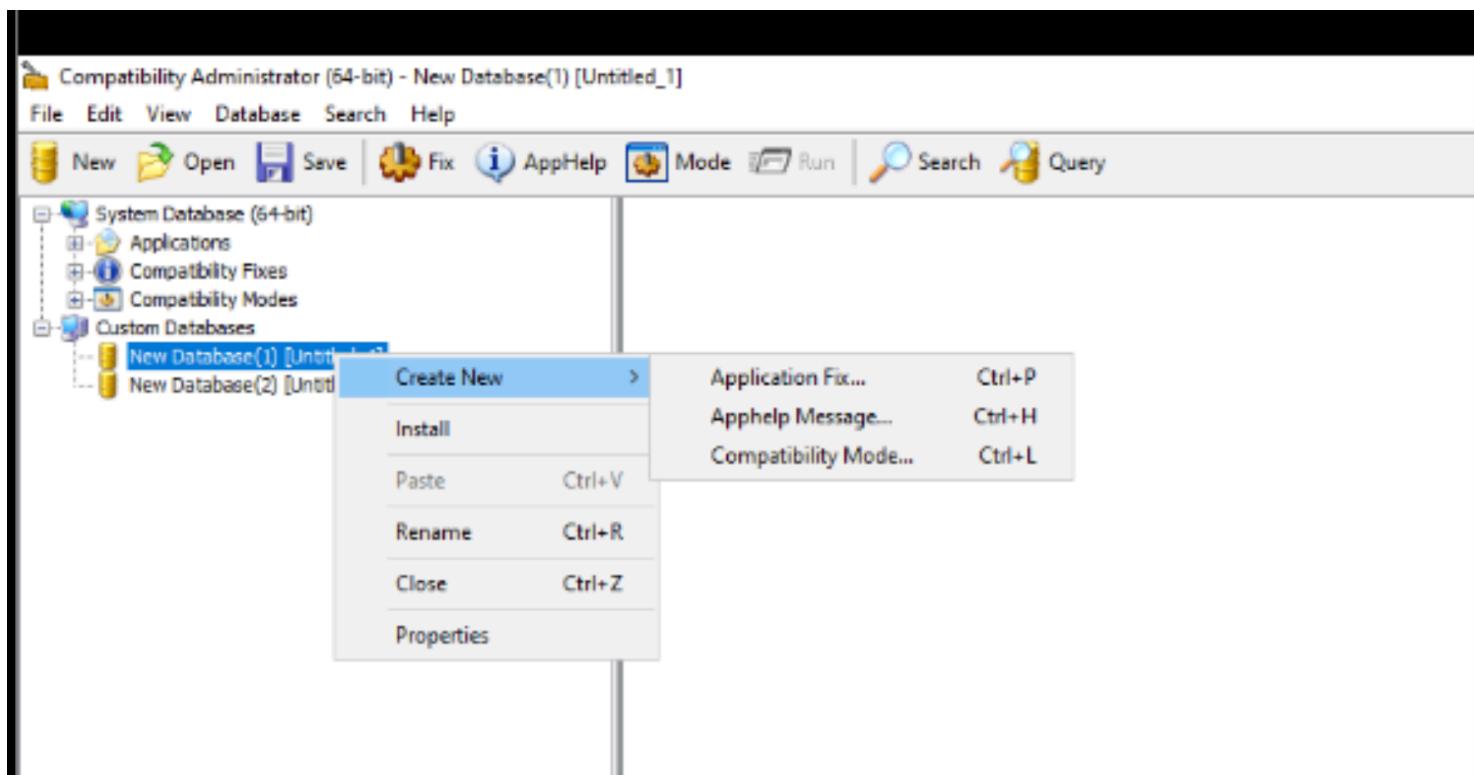
- Go to Microsoft's official website or search for “**Microsoft Application Compatibility Toolkit download**” (it's part of the Windows ADK - Assessment and Deployment Kit).
- Install the toolkit by running the installer.
- During setup, ensure the following features are selected:
 - *Application Compatibility Toolkit*
 - *Compatibility Administrator*
 - *Standard User Analyzer (optional)*

Step 2: Launch the Compatibility Administrator

- 1. Open **Compatibility Administrator** (32-bit or 64-bit depending on your application).
- o Start > All Programs > Microsoft Application Compatibility Toolkit > Compatibility Administrator

Step 3: Create a New Database

1. In the left panel, right-click **Custom Databases** and select **New**.
2. Right-click your new database and choose **Create New > Application Fix**.



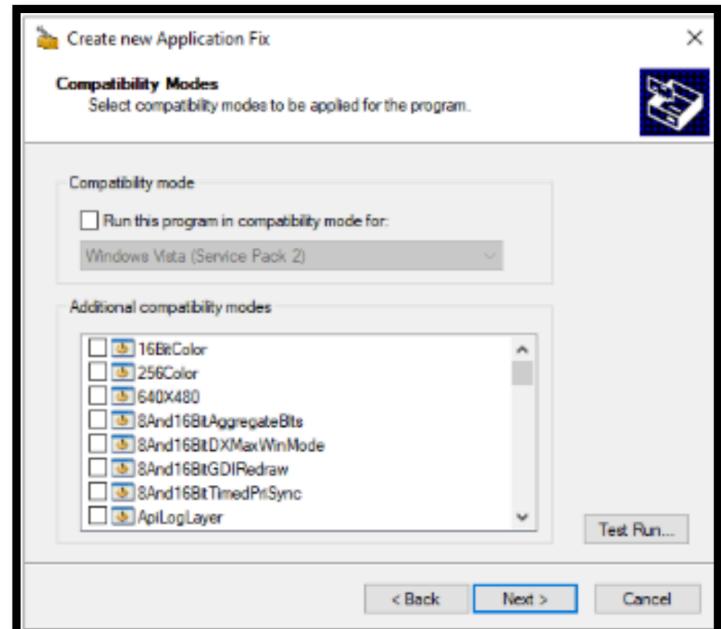
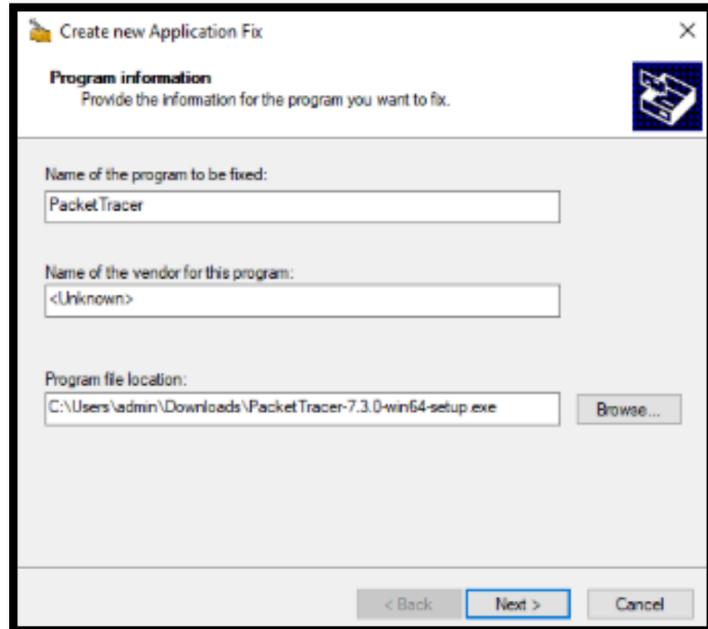
Step 4: Configure the Application Fix

1. **Name** your application.
2. **Browse** to select the executable (.exe) file for the app.
3. Click **Next**.

Step 5: Select Compatibility Modes

1. Choose from a list of predefined **compatibility modes** (e.g., Windows XP SP3, Windows 7, etc.).

2. Click **Next**.

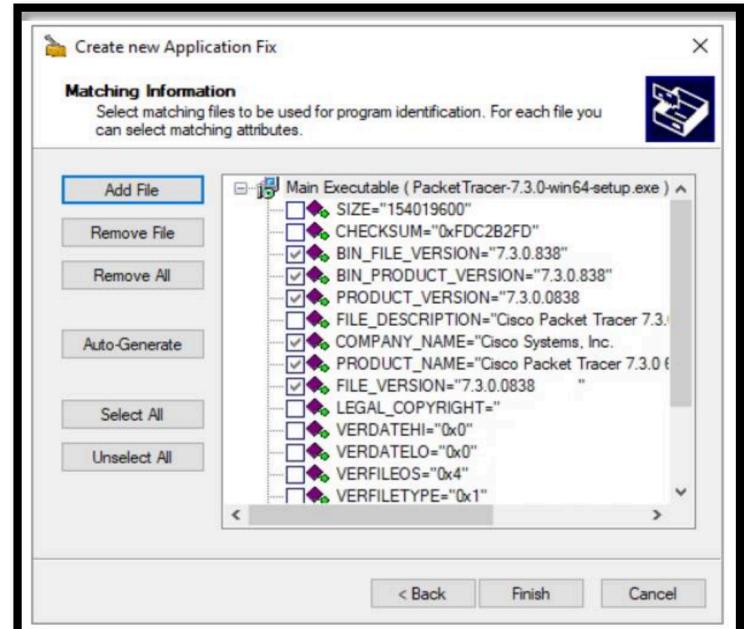
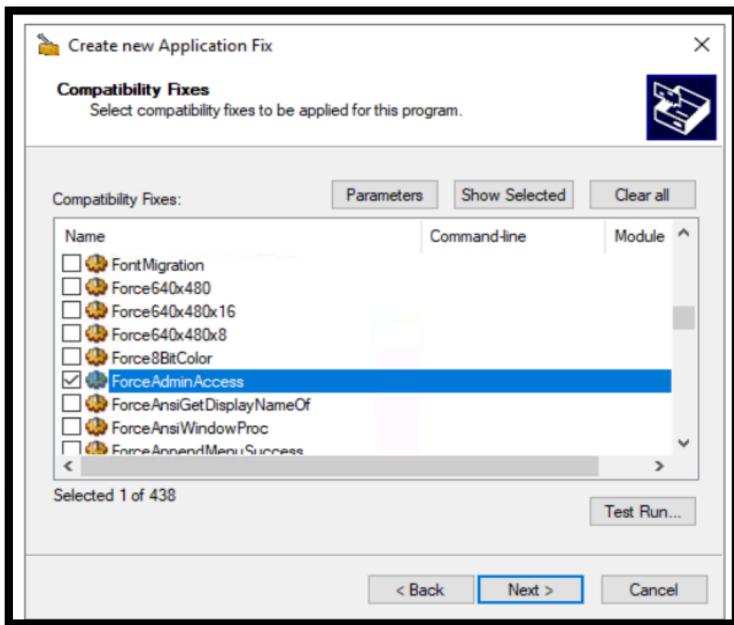


Step 6: Select Compatibility Fixes

1. Check one or more **fixes** (shims) as needed.

2. You can also test them later to see which ones resolve the issue.

3. Click **Next**.



Step 7: Matching Information

1. Set criteria for when the fix should apply:

- Filename
- size
- Checksum, etc

2. Click **FINISH**

Step 8: Save and Install the Fix

1. Go to **File > Save As** to save the .sdb file.
2. Use **Command Prompt (Admin)** and run:
 - nginx
 - CopyEdit
 - sdbinst yourfile.sdb

This installs the fix on the system.

```
[Administrator: Command Prompt]
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.19045.5555]
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>sdbinst "C:\Users\admin\Downloads\MyFixes.sdb"
Installation of Packet1 complete.

C:\Windows\system32>
```

Step 9: Test the Application

- 1.Run the application and verify that the compatibility fix resolves the issue.
- 2.Use tools like **Standard User Analyzer** if needed to test for UAC issues or permissions.

Step 10: Manage or Uninstall Fixes

- To remove a fix:

nginx

CopyEdit

sdbinst -u yourfile.sdb

- To view installed fixes, use Compatibility Administrator or check the registry path:

CopyEdit

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\WindowsNT\CurrentVersion\AppCompatFlags

To collect your software and hardware inventory

- 1. On the taskbar, click **Start**, point to **All Programs**, point to **Microsoft Application Compatibility Toolkit 5.6**, and then click **Application Compatibility Manager**.
- 2. On the **Collect** screen, click **File** from the toolbar, and then click **New**.

The New <DCP_Name> dialog box appears.

- 3. In the **Package Name box**, type **Inventory_Collection**.
- 4. In the **Evaluate compatibility when** area, click **Deploying a new Operating System or Service Pack**.
- 5. Click **Advanced**.

The Advanced Settings dialog box appears.

- 6. Clear the **User Account Control Compatibility Evaluator** and **Windows Compatibility Evaluators** check boxes, and then click **OK**.

The Advanced Setting dialog box closes.

- 7. In the **When to monitor application usage** area, do not change the default options, but change the **Duration** to **10 Minutes**.
- 8. In the **Output Location** box, do not change the default value, previously specified in the ACT Configuration Wizard.
- 9. On the **File** menu, click **Save and Create Data Collection Package**.
- 10. Save the compiled DCP to your desktop.
- 11. Determine which method you will use to deploy your DCP. For information about the various deployment options, see [Deploying a Data Collection Package](#).
- 12. By using the method determined in the previous step, deploy the DCP to your specified client computers' desktops.
- 13. Double-click the packaged DCP from each identified client computer's desktop.

The DCP runs on the client computer.

Shims

Shims: Shims, registry edits, and virtualization are techniques used to enhance application compatibility and persistence on Windows systems.

Shims are compatibility layers that modify application behavior to run on different versions of Windows.

Registry edits, or modifying the Windows registry, can be used to configure software or bypass security features.

Shims are designed to address application compatibility issues by providing a layer of *compatibility between applications and the Windows operating system*.