# **Bug Documentation**

**Bug 1: "Find Previous" (Shift + F3) doesn't work in Notepad++ v8.6.7**

**Issue ID:** #15239

**Status:** Closed (Fixed)

## **Problem Description:**

In Notepad++ version 8.6.7, the "Find Previous" feature (shortcut **Shift + F3**) was **not working**.

When users tried to search backward, nothing happened — even clicking "Find Previous" from the menu didn’t work.

The "Backward" option in the Find window was also disabled.

## **Steps to Reproduce:**

1. Open Notepad++ (v8.6.7).
2. Press **F3** to search forward — it works.
3. Press **Shift + F3** to search backward — **nothing happens**.
4. Open the Find window: notice that the "Backward" checkbox is disabled.

## **Root Cause:**

* The **Search Mode** was set to **Regular Expression (Regex)**.
* **Backward search is not supported** when using **Regex** mode in Notepad++.
* The user didn’t realize Regex mode was active, causing confusion.

## **Resolution:**

* Notepad++ added a **warning message** when users try to search backward while in Regex mode.
* Now, users are informed that **backward searching** is **disabled** in **Regex** mode, instead of nothing happening silently.

## **Timeline:**

* **Reported:** June 4, 2024
* **Fixed:** June 6, 2024 (commit 07e9503)
* **Developer Actions:**
  + A message box was added.
  + Issue was marked as a duplicate of #14647 but accepted for a better UX improvement.

## **Additional Notes:**

* This bug caused confusion because no error or feedback was given initially.
* After the fix, users get **clear information** if they attempt a backward search while in Regex mode.

**Bug 2: Double-click on URL includes extra character (e.g., apostrophe) in browser navigation**

**Issue ID:** #16453

**Status:** Open (Under review or not yet resolved)

## **Problem Description:**

When the user **double-clicks on a URL** inside Notepad++ (e.g., in a code file), the **default browser opens the link**, but the **URL includes an unwanted character** (like a ' apostrophe), which causes an error.

## **Steps to Reproduce:**

1. Write or open code with a URL surrounded by quotes.
2. Double-click the URL (e.g., '<http://www.google.com/>').
3. Notepad++ opens the browser with the ' included in the URL.
4. Browser shows an error.

## **Current Behavior:**

* The full string with the **extra quote/apostrophe** is passed to the browser.
* This causes navigation to a **broken or invalid URL**.

## **Expected Behavior:**

* When double-clicking a URL, Notepad++ should **select and open only the actual URL**, without quotes, commas, or other characters.
* It should **ignore** any ', ", or , around the URL.

## **Debug Info:**

* No specific debug info was provided in the report.
* Contributor commented that the issue **might already be fixed** in a newer version (**v8.7.9**) and this bug may be a **duplicate of #14978**.

## **Notes:**

* Users are encouraged to provide version details using ? > Debug Info in Notepad++.
* This bug mainly affects developers or users working with code or logs that include URLs in strings.

**Bug 3: Vertical Toolbar Turns Horizontal on Startup in v8.7.9**

**Issue ID:** #16439

**Status:** Open (Still unresolved or under investigation)

## **Problem Description:**

In **Notepad++ v8.7.9**, if the **toolbar is set to vertical orientation**, it **resets to horizontal** after restarting the application.  
Also, the toolbar buttons lose their **labels/text**, making it confusing.

## **Steps to Reproduce:**

1. Go to **Settings > Preferences > General > Toolbar**.
2. Check the **"Vertical"** option.
3. Close and reopen Notepad++.
4. Toolbar appears **horizontal**, **not vertical**.
5. Toolbar buttons show **no labels**.

## **Current Behavior:**

* The toolbar resets to **horizontal** every time the app is reopened.
* Labels/text on the toolbar buttons are missing.

## **Expected Behavior:**

* The toolbar should **stay vertical** (as set by the user).
* The **labels** should remain visible as normal.

## **Debug Info (from user report):**

* Version: Notepad++ v8.7.9 (64-bit)
* OS: Windows 10 Pro N (64-bit)
* Plugins: mimeTools, NppConverter, NppExport

## **Notes:**

* The issue **does not occur** in version **v8.7.8** — works fine there.
* Contributor mentioned this is a **duplicate of issue #16385**.
* A screenshot was attached by the reporter showing the broken toolbar (not included here).

**Bug 4: Errors on Startup: Incompatible Plugins on ARM64 Notepad++**

**Issue ID:** #16413

**Status:** Open (Notepad++ core not at fault, plugin compatibility issue)

## **Problem Description:**

When opening **Notepad++ v8.7.9 (ARM64 version)**, the app shows **errors related to incompatible plugins**.  
 Even though the error appears, **Notepad++ works normally** after clicking **"No"** on the warning popup.

## **Error Messages:**

* Cannot load ARM64 Plugin jsontools.dll
* Cannot load ARM64 Plugin NPPXMLtreeviewPlugin.dll
* Cannot load ARM64 Plugin XMLtools.dll  
   Each ends with:

*"Do you want to remove the plugin from the plugins directory to prevent this message from the next launch?"*

## **Steps to Reproduce:**

1. Install **Notepad++ v8.7.9 ARM64 version**.
2. Ensure older plugins (like JSON/XML tools) are present in the plugins folder.
3. Launch Notepad++.
4. Error messages appear.

## **Current Behavior:**

* Notepad++ shows **plugin compatibility errors** at startup.
* Clicking **"No"** lets the app continue running normally.
* Some plugin features still seem to work despite the error.

## **Expected Behavior:**

* Notepad++ should **start without error messages**.
* Plugins should either work fully or be clearly unsupported without confusion.

## **Root Cause:**

* The listed plugins (e.g., XML Tools, JSON Tools) are **not built for ARM64 architecture**.
* One plugin (NPPXMLtreeviewPlugin) uses **.NET Framework**, which is **not supported on ARM64**.
* The mismatch between plugin architecture and Notepad++ architecture (ARM64) causes the error.

## **Debug Info (Key Details):**

* Notepad++ Version: **v8.7.9 ARM 64-bit**
* OS: **Windows 11 Enterprise 24H2**
* Affected Plugins:
  + ComparePlus (1.2)
  + mimeTools (3.1)
  + NppConverter (4.6)
  + NppExport (0.4)
  + NPPJSONViewer (2.1.1)

## **Notes:**

* Contributors confirmed the issue is **not a core Notepad++ bug**, but due to **unsupported third-party plugins**.
* There are **no ARM64 versions** of the problematic plugins.
* Running x64 plugins on ARM64 requires a special build process that **Notepad++ does not currently support**.

**Bug 5: Black Highlight Appears on Line After Using Compare Plugin**

**Issue ID:** #16400

**Status:** Open (known issue with duplicates)

## **Problem Description:**

When using the **"Compare" plugin** in Notepad++ and then closing one of the compared files, the **selected line shows a black background**, which makes it hard to read the text.

## **Steps to Reproduce:**

1. Open a file using **"Edit with Notepad++"** from the right-click context menu.
2. Open another file the same way.
3. Use **"Move to Other View"** to split the view.
4. Press **Ctrl+Alt+C** to run the **Compare plugin**.
5. Close one of the files.
6. The remaining file now has a **black background on the selected line**.

## **Current Behavior:**

* After closing one of the compared files, the selected line appears with a **black highlight**, making text hard to see.

## **Expected Behavior:**

* The background of the selected line should return to normal, and **not be black**.

## **Workaround:**

To fix it manually:

1. Go to **Settings → Style Configurator**.
2. Select **Default Style → Colour Style → Foreground colour**.
3. Change the foreground color back to **Black** or a readable color.

## **Debug Info (Key Details):**

* **Notepad++ Version:** v8.7.8 (64-bit)
* **OS:** Windows 11 Pro (23H2)
* **Plugin Involved:** ComparePlugin (v2.0.2)
* Other Plugins:
  + CSVLint, HexEditor, JsonTools, mimeTools, NppConverter, NppExport

## **Related/Duplicate Issues:**

* #14592 – Highlight background hiding text after using a theme
* #14657 – Black highlight cursor after Compare operation
* #14382 – Active line background turns black after using Compare plugin