

Setting Up Your Microsoft Account

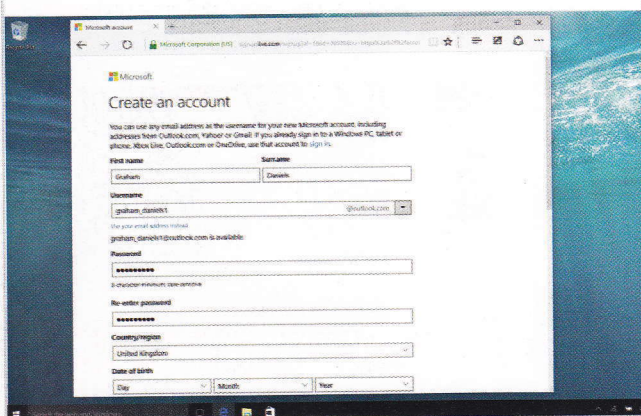
When you sign into Windows 10, you'll be asked whether you want to do so with a Microsoft account. You can still have a local account to use Windows if you wish. You'll also need an account to download from the Windows Store.

Setting Up and Configuring

Microsoft prefers its users to have a single main account. If you don't have a Microsoft account, it's really easy to get one. Here we'll show you how, as well as look at any other further settings you might need.

How to Get a Microsoft Account

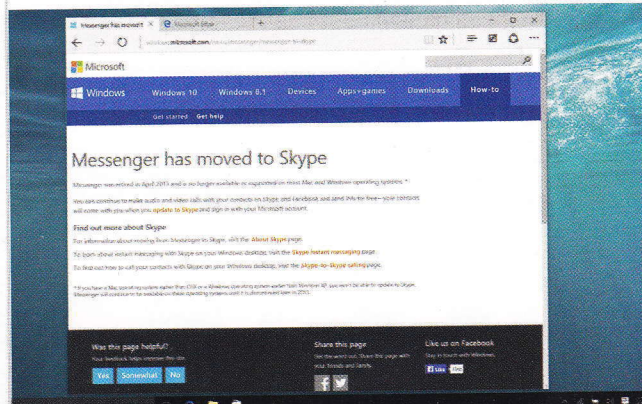
Although you can sign up for an account when you install or initialise Windows 10 for the first time, you can also create one at <https://account.microsoft.com>. This is also where you can customise your account settings, which we'll come onto shortly.



Do You Already Have an Account?

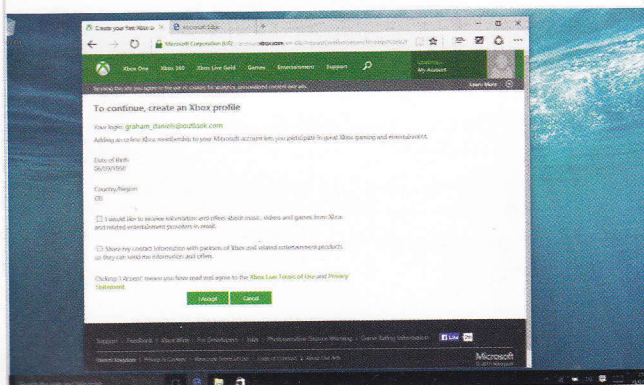
Even if you think you

haven't got a Microsoft account, it's quite possible that you do have one. Ever had a Hotmail or Outlook.com address? Or did you use MSN or Windows Live Messenger? You can sign in with those same credentials.



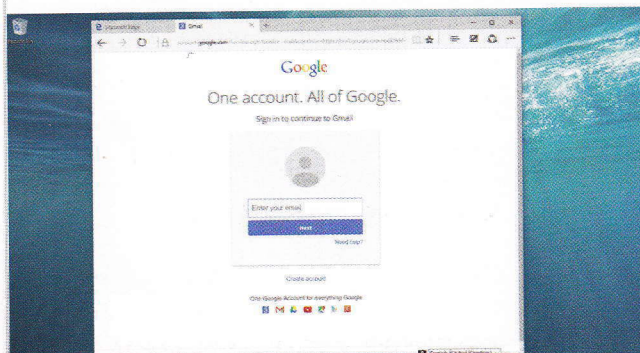
What Does an Account Get You Access to?

As well as Windows and Outlook.com, you can also use your account across all Microsoft services including Xbox Live, Skype, Office and Bing as well as Windows-powered phones (your Contacts are automatically synchronised with your account, too).



Do You Need an Outlook.com Email Address?

Contrary to popular belief, you can create a Microsoft account with any email address – you don't need to have an Outlook.com (formerly Windows Live Mail and Hotmail) email address. So even if you use Gmail, you can still get a Microsoft account. It's optional whether you have a new Outlook.com email account as well.



What is a Microsoft account?

A Microsoft account is your online identity, and is used to access online services such as email, cloud storage and instant messaging.

How to Sign into Windows with an Account

During the initialisation process for Windows 10, you'll be asked to sign in using your Microsoft account (so don't click Sign in with a Local Account instead). Microsoft will then go and fetch any information connected to your account (such as your profile picture).

Make it yours

Your Microsoft account opens up a world of benefits. Sign in for your personalised experience. Learn more.

graham.daniels@outlook.com

Forgotten my password

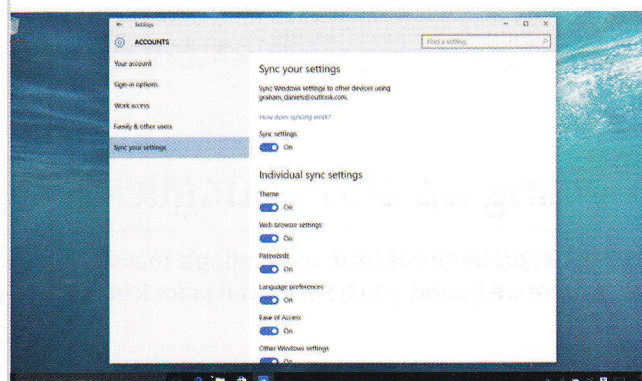
No account? Create one.

Skip this step

Microsoft Privacy Statement

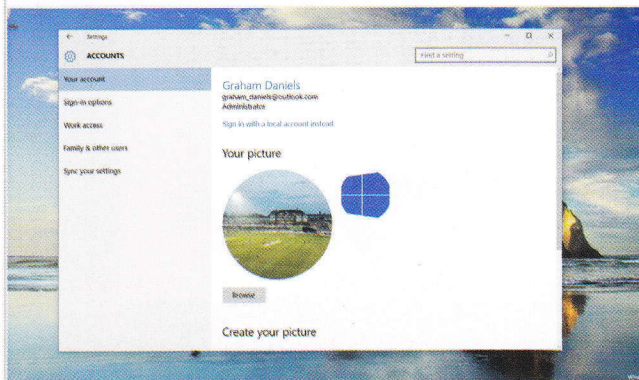
Sync Your Settings

In Settings > Accounts > Sync your Settings, you can also tell your PC what details you want it to synchronise to your Microsoft account. A lot of the synchronisations are to do with desktop customisations, but you can also decide whether you want your stored passwords to be synchronised using your account.



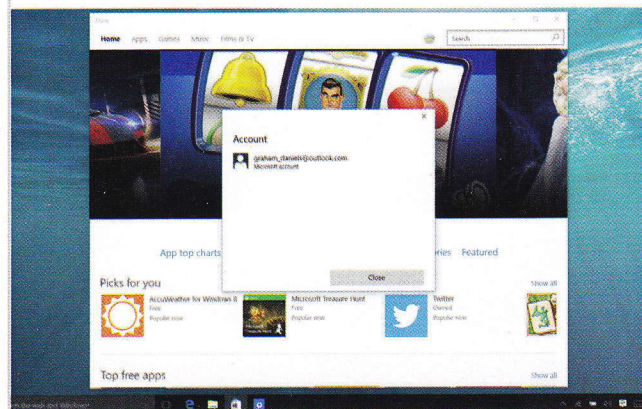
Account Settings

Once you've signed in using your Microsoft account, you can configure your account within Windows 10. Go to the Settings app and choose Accounts. You can change options to do with the account itself here as well as how often your computer should require you to sign in.



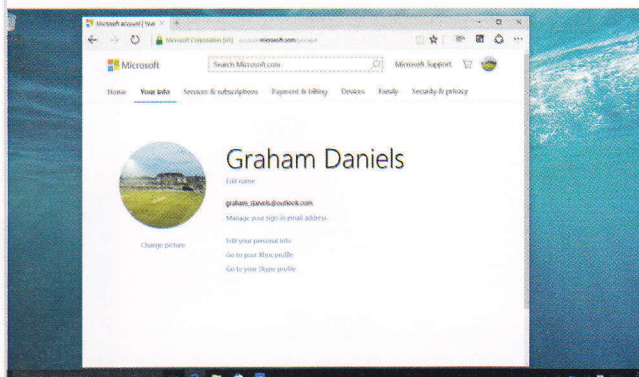
Buy Apps and More

Services within Windows that use your Microsoft account – such as Mail or the Windows Store – will automatically have your account details ready for you. You'll be able to get access to your purchase history and more via the individual apps.



Manage Your Account

Clicking Manage your Account will take you to your account page online. You may see an update to your account terms and conditions when you do this for the first time. Here you can see recent purchases, your devices, personal info (plus payment info) and change your password.



Add Family Members

Also within Settings > Accounts you can add family members to your PC so they use their own login. You don't really want other people using your Microsoft account to sign in. You can specify time limits and restrict the type of games that can be played. You're also able to add people that aren't in your family group.

