

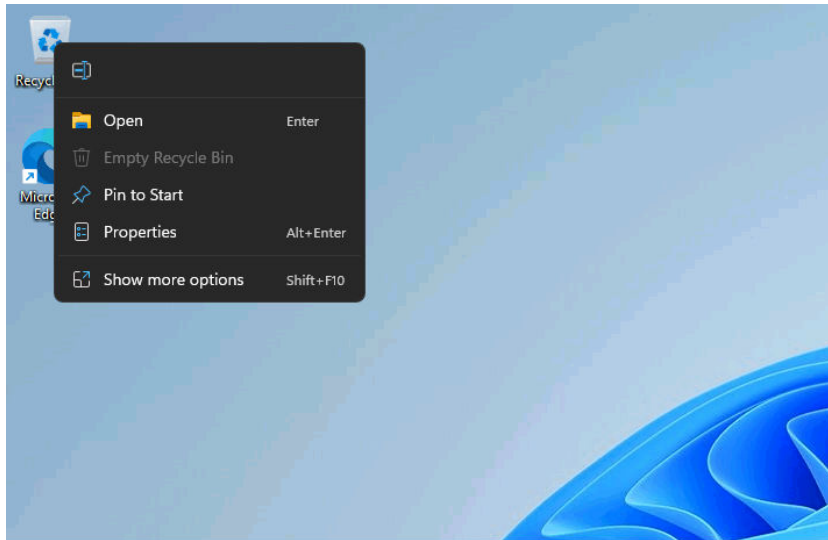
SD [Sumit D - VM](#)

Created on September 30, 2021

Article Author

## Restore old Right-click Context menu in Windows 11

Starting with Windows 11, the context menu in the File Explorer is refreshed, which is compact and is based on Modern design. However, the refreshed context menu shows fewer items compared to the Legacy Context menu. This article discusses how to restore the Legacy Context menu in Windows 11, showing up by default.



Recycle bin modern context menu

You can show the **Legacy Right Click** Context menu by clicking **Show more options** at the end of the list or pressing **Shift+F10**. If you want it by default, you need to **add a registry entry below** so that every time you right-click a File or Folder, it shows the **Legacy Context menu** by default.

### Forum Article Info

Last updated March 25, 2025

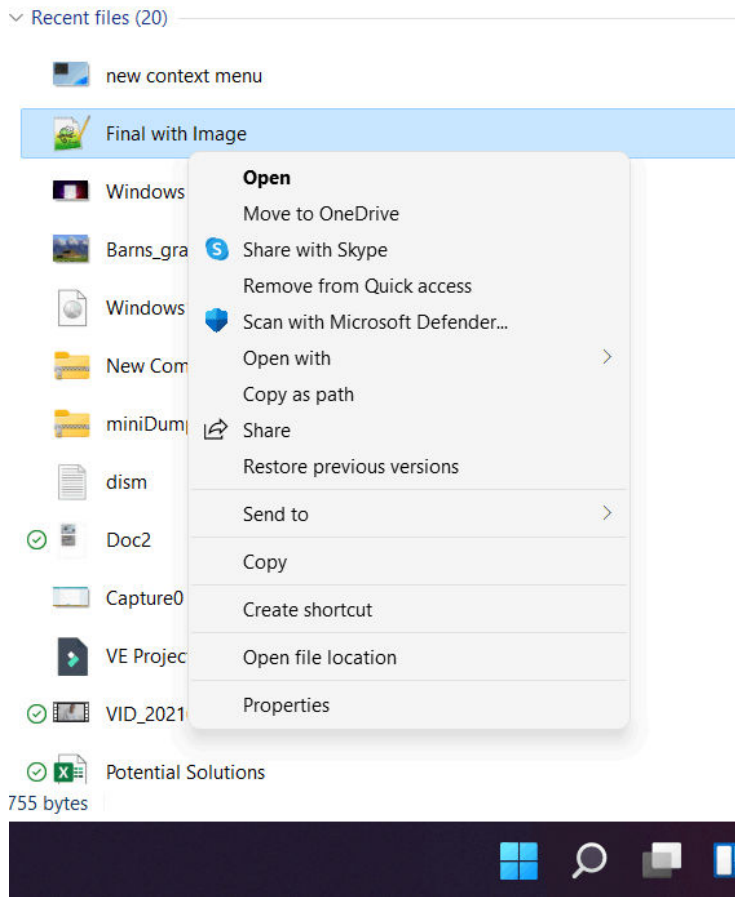
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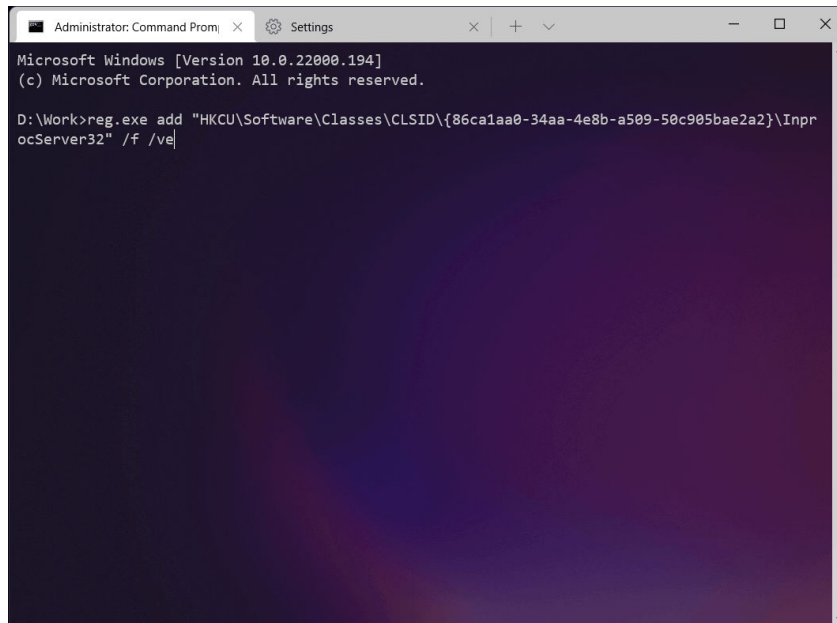
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### Restore the old Context Menu in Windows 11

1. Right-click the Start button and choose **Windows Terminal**.
2. Copy the command from below, paste it into Windows Terminal Window, and press enter.
  1. `reg.exe add "HKCU\Software\Classes\CLSID\{86ca1aa0-34aa-4e8b-a509-50c905bae2a2}\InprocServer32" /f /ve`
3. **Restart File Explorer** or your computer for the changes to take effect.
4. You would see the Legacy Right Click Context menu by **default**.



Command in Windows Terminal to Restore old context menu

The Registry change masks the new COM object that executes the compact menus with the "Show more options" entry. Once you get this performed, Explorer reverts to the Legacy context menu.

### Restore Modern Context menus in Windows 11

To undo this change, in a Terminal Window, execute this command:

```
reg.exe delete "HKCU\Software\Classes\CLSID\{86ca1aa0-34aa-4e8b-a509-50c905bae2a2}" /f
```

**Restart** the File Explorer or Computer for the changes to take effect.

These steps can help you to enable the old context menu in Windows 11.



[Sumit \(@\\_sumitdh\) / X](#)

Also read:

- [Recovery options in Windows 11 - Your Windows Guide](#)
- [How to: Use Snap Layouts and Snap groups in Windows 11 - Microsoft Community](#)
- [How to create a Local Account in Windows 11 - Microsoft Community](#)
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## Comments (356)

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AU

[A. User](#)

Replied on January 1, 0001

Comment

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MI

[MikeD\\_127](#)

Replied on March 1, 2022

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The number of people that I work with and game with that have complained about this is innumerable. How this has not been removed by a windows update is extremally discouraging.

Yeah, I know my comment/feedback means nothing... I think all of us "users" feel the same way. If we want this to actually change in the future than alot of people are going to have to speak up - online, instead of telling me on discord or the phone....

Comment

2732 people found this comment helpful · Was this comment helpful?

[Yes](#) [No](#)

SF

[SFlatty](#)

Replied on March 13, 2022

[Report abuse](#)

↳ [In reply to MikeD\\_127's post on March 1, 2022](#)

I agree. The context menu has changed for the worse. I don't like it. It's not intuitive. Or is it quick with the double step process of getting to all of the context menu items.

Comment

804 people found this comment helpful · Was this comment helpful?

[Yes](#) [No](#)

CH

[chrisd37](#)

Replied on April 27, 2022

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There's nothing wrong with the new look or having abbreviated contents on the context menu, but for God's sake, why doesn't it learn what to put on the short menu? Or at least let me pick what to put on there? Selecting file to compare and selecting 2nd file to compare to first file, what a PITA now. Does anybody at Microsoft use Microsoft products for doing their actual work? It kind of seems less and less like that happens.

Comment

698 people found this comment helpful · Was this comment helpful?

Yes No

SD

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Article Author

Replied on April 27, 2022

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↳ [In reply to chrisd37's post on April 27, 2022](#)

It is actually developers' responsibility to use new WinUI controls and as a result the new context menu. WinRAR recently did that.

That being said, you can edit yourself too:

[Add Custom Context Menu items to Windows 11's File Explorer menu - gHacks Tech News](#)

Mark Yes below the post if it helped or resolved your problem

Opinions expressed are solely my own and do not represent the views or opinions of Microsoft.

Comment

45 people found this comment helpful · Was this comment helpful?

Yes No

LE

[LeeEwing02](#)

Replied on May 25, 2022

[Report abuse](#)

Thank you so much!!

Comment

17 people found this comment helpful · Was this comment helpful?

Yes No

MR

[MrHabcdefg](#)

Replied on June 21, 2022

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Please actually fix this option and not just provide a registry workaround. Users who do not have admin access on work computers are stuck with this dumbed down menu version. Please consult actual computer users before making UI changes in future.

Comment

754 people found this comment helpful · Was this comment helpful?

Yes No

CH

[ch22222222](#)

Replied on July 10, 2022

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This is what happens when you try to reinvent the wheel. Stick with standards, copy

and paste get used all the time. It is unacceptable to modify the registry to fix it. I don't feel comfortable and I have been a developer for 45 years. This should be a option in control panel or somewhere. I don't understand the mentality here, make more space, for what ? ads will be next on the context menus.

Comment

570 people found this comment helpful · Was this comment helpful?

Yes No

JO

[JorgeToledo5](#)

Replied on July 28, 2022

[Report abuse](#)

Thanks a lot really works

Comment

16 people found this comment helpful · Was this comment helpful?

Yes No

MY

[mylawacad](#)

Replied on August 4, 2022

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Confirm that new Windows context menu is not comfortable

Comment

209 people found this comment helpful · Was this comment helpful?

Yes No

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