

PREPARING A "WINDOWS.." COMPUTER FOR DONATION OR GIFTING

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pcbug



TuCS COMPUTER
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SOCIETY

**Web location for this
presentation:**

<http://aztcs.apcug.org>

Then click on

“Meeting Notes”

or contact me at

fchao2@yahoo.com

SUMMARY

Most used computers are donated or sold with all sorts of recoverable data files and photo files on their old hard drives and SSDs. You can use various free software programs to remove apps and data files from a computer prior to gifting or donating it.

TOPICS

- Reasons For Wiping Hard Drives and SSDs
- Decision Process Prior to Preparing a Computer for Donation or Gifting
- Actual Preparation Process Prior to Donating or Gifting the Computer

REASONS FOR WIPING HARD DRIVES & SSDs

- "Quick formats" leave all data files as recoverable files on a computer
- Deletes in "File Explorer" leave all data files at least temporarily on a computer
- Using "Windows.." settings screens to delete a "User" does not remove lots of their files

DECISION PROCESS PRIOR TO PREPARING A COMPUTER FOR DONATION OR GIFTING

- First you have decide whether you will give away the hard drive or SSD that contains the bootable C: partition
- Then you have to decide whether you want to donate or gift the legal copy of "Windows.." that is on the hard drive or SSD.

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER

Determine if the Windows.. computer is "Retail" channel, "..OEM.." channel, or "Volume" channel:

- Start up a "Command Prompt" or a "Windows Powershell" window
- At the prompt, type in `slmgr /dli`
- The pop-up notification box will say either "Retail", "Volume..", or "..OEM.."

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER

(continued)

- "Retail" channel means that you can legally transfer the copy of Windows.. to another computer or to someone else

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER

(continued)

- "..OEM.." channel means that the copy of "Windows.." is permanently bound to the computer's motherboard and the copy of "Windows.." cannot be transferred to another computer.

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER

(continued)

- "..Volume.." channel means that the copy of "Windows.." belongs to a business or other organizational entity and the copy of "Windows.." needs to be removed unless you have permission from the business or other or organizational entity to donate or gift it.

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

- If this is a **Windows 8.x computer**, get a copy of Belarc Advisor by using a Web browser to go to https://belarc.com/products_belarc_advisor

Then install it into the computer that you are planning to gift or donate.

Then use Belarc to locate the 25-character "Activation Key" and write it down.

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

- For a Windows 10.. computer, do the following to determine the exact type of "digital license" you have:
Go to "Settings"
Click on "Update & Security"
and
Click on "Activation"

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

- For a Windows 10.. computer, there are two types of digital activation:
 - ❑ Windows is activated with a digital license
 - ❑ Windows is activated with a digital license linked to your Microsoft account

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

If the following is in effect:

- Windows is activated with a digital license linked to your Microsoft account

and you wish to donate or gift this copy of "Windows 10", you should protect yourself and the recipient of the computer by "unlinking" the computer from your Microsoft account.

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

In other words:

Never gift or donate a Windows 10
computer that has

"Windows is activated with a digital
license linked to your Microsoft
account"

since a computer that is in this activation
status will keep bothering the new owner
to log in to your Microsoft account.

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

To unlink a Microsoft account from a digital activation, follow the instructions at <https://www.intowindows.com/how-to-unlink-windows-10-license-from-your-microsoft-account/>

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR

A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

- Use "Revo Uninstaller Portable" to remove all "Universal Windows Platform" software programs that you do not want to give away

For details on using "Revo Uninstaller Portable", see

http://aztcs.org/meeting_notes/winhard_sig/uninstaller/RevoUninstallerPortable.pdf

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

- Use
Ccleaner Portable's "Drive Wiper" tool
and/or
"Moo0 Disk Wiper" to clean "free
space:
- The best hard drive or SSD wipe
occurs when you use both of these
free drive wiping utilities!!

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

- To install "Ccleaner Portable", use a Web browser to go to <https://www.ccleaner.com/ccleaner/builds>
(We do not recommend the non-portable version of "Ccleaner".)

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

- To install "Moo0 Disk Wiper", use a Web browser to go to <https://www.moo0.com/?top=https://www.moo0.com/software/AntiRecovery/>

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

- Use the free "Recuva" program to make sure that no data files and digital photos are still present on the hard drive or SSD.

To download "Recuva", use a Web browser to go to

<https://www.ccleaner.com/recuva/download>

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

- Make a new Admin-level user called "User" with a password of "password"
(These are the defaults used by Microsoft when then they give out free virtual machines for people to test.)

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

- Log out of your user account and log into the computer with the new "User" account
- Go into "Users" in "Settings" and make sure that your new "User" account is an admin level account. If it is a regular level account, log back in with your original user account and elevate the User account to an admin level account

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

- While logged into the computer with your new "User" account, use "File Explorer" to delete all other "accounts" in
C:\Users\
in the computer.

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

- Use Microsoft's free "Autologon" utility to make the computer log automatically into the Windows "Desktop" when the future user powers up the computer:

To download and install "Autologon", use a Web browser to go to <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/sysinternals/downloads/autologon>

ACTUAL PREPARATION PROCESS FOR A WINDOWS.. COMPUTER (continued)

- Put a text file note on the Desktop" and attach a handwritten paper note on the computer to inform the future user that the username is "User" and the password is "password"

"REVO UNINSTALLER PORTABLE" FOR REMOVING "DESKTOP APPS" AND "UWP APPS" (continued)

- "Revo Uninstaller Portable" does a much better job of removing "UWP apps" compared to "Apps" in "Settings" in "Windows.." or the "Uninstall" menu option in some of the "UWP apps" listed in the "Start Menu" of "Windows 10.."

"REVO UNINSTALLER PORTABLE" FOR REMOVING "DESKTOP APPS" AND "UWP APPS" (continued)

- "Revo Uninstaller Portable" is free
- You can download it at
<https://www.revouninstaller.com/products/revo-uninstaller-free/>
- <https://www.revouninstaller.com/products/revo-uninstaller-free/>



Revo Uninstaller Free

Revo Uninstaller helps you to uninstall software and remove unwanted programs easily.



DOWNLOAD

**DOWNLOAD
FREE PORTABLE**

VERSION: 2.2.8



Help

System requirements: 32-bit and 64-bit versions of Windows XP, Vista, 7, 8, 8.1, 10 and Windows Server Editions, 1GB RAM

VERSION: 2.2.8



System requirements: 32-bit and 64-bit versions of Windows XP, Vista, 7, 8, 8.1, 10 and Windows Server Editions, 128MB RAM, 25MB HDD Free Space, 500MHz Pentium-Compatible CPU

Revo Uninstaller Free

Revo Uninstaller helps you to uninstall software and remove unwanted programs easily.

DOWNLOAD

**DOWNLOAD
FREE PORTABLE**

VERSION: 2.2.8

Revo Uninstaller

Free

Revo Uninstaller helps you to uninstall software and remove unwanted programs easily.

DOWNLOAD

**DOWNLOAD
FREE PORTABLE**

VERSION: 2.2.8

"REVO UNINSTALLER PORTABLE" FOR REMOVING "DESKTOP APPS" AND "UWP APPS" (continued)

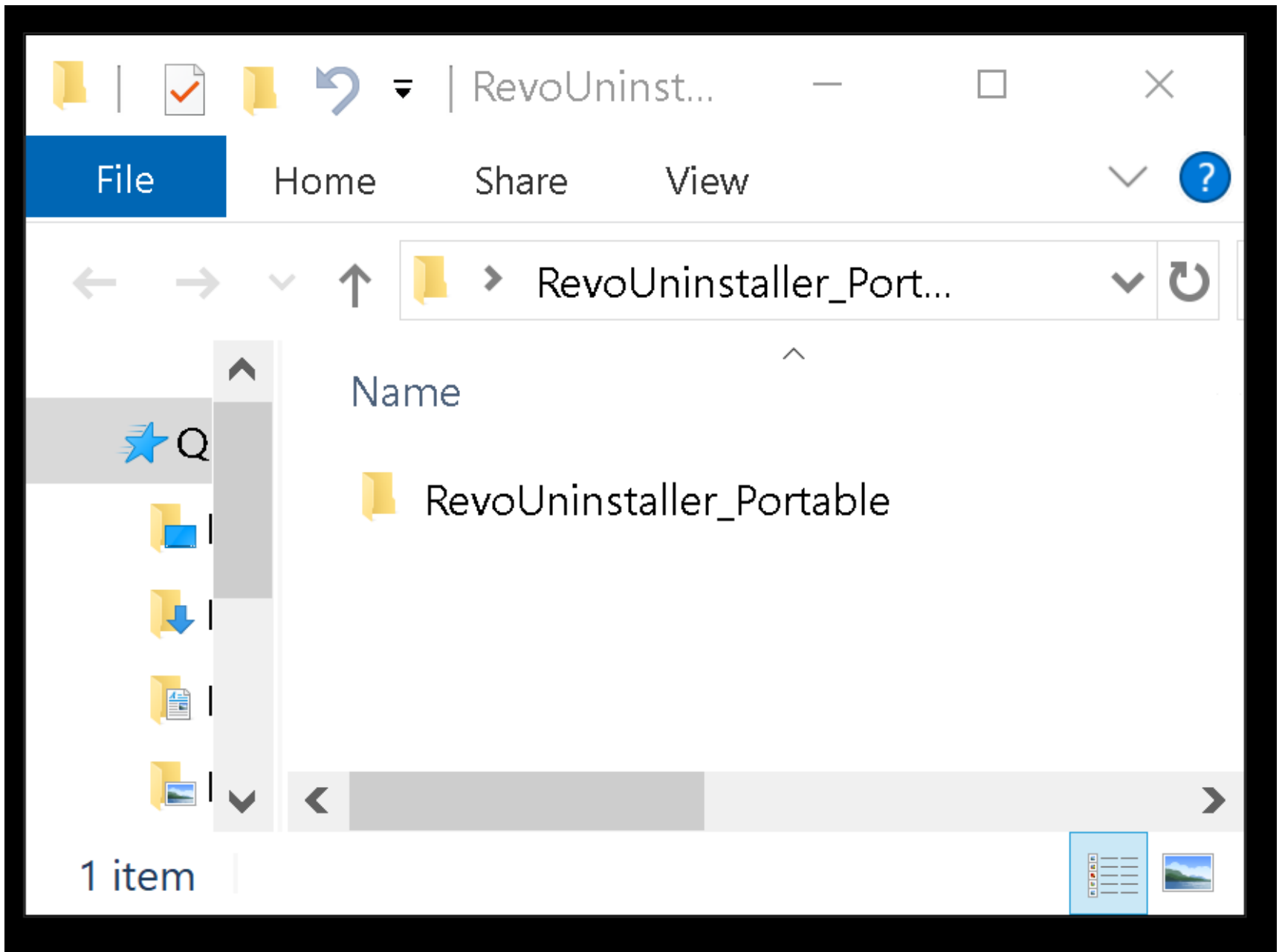
- When you start up "Revo Uninstaller Portable", it defaults to showing you the "desktop apps" that it can remove:

"REVO UNINSTALLER PORTABLE" FOR REMOVING "DESKTOP APPS" AND "UWP APPS" (continued)

- After you extract the downloaded .
RevoUninstaller_Portable.zip
file
and you right-click on it
and you click on "Extract All...", you
end up with a
"RevoUninstaller_Portable
folder:



RevoUninstall
er_Portable



"REVO UNINSTALLER PORTABLE" FOR REMOVING "DESKTOP APPS" AND "UWP APPS" (continued)

- After you double-click on the inner "RevoUninstaller_Portable" folder, you will see all the portable files and folders as follows:

↑ > RevoUninstaller_Portable > RevoUninstaller_Portable >

Name

Date modified



lang

6/25/2019 6:24 PM



x64

6/25/2019 6:24 PM



x86

11/12/2019 2:33 AM



ctrlbars.dat

11/12/2019 4:10 AM



LicenseAgreement.txt

6/25/2019 6:23 PM



Revo Uninstaller Help.pdf

6/25/2019 6:23 PM



RevoUPort.exe

6/25/2019 6:23 PM



settings.ini

11/12/2019 4:10 AM



un_report.dat

11/12/2019 4:10 AM










"REVO UNINSTALLER PORTABLE" FOR REMOVING "DESKTOP APPS" AND "UWP APPS" (continued)

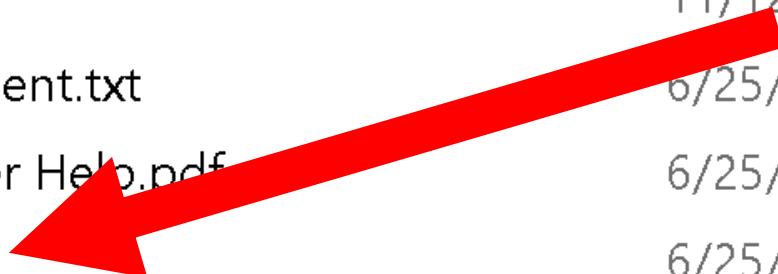
- Double-click on
RevoUPort.exe
to start up the app:

↑ > RevoUninstaller_Portable > RevoUninstaller_Portable >

Name

Date modified

 lang	6/25/2019 6:24 PM
 x64	6/25/2019 6:24 PM
 x86	11/12/2019 2:33 AM
 ctrlbars.dat	11/12/2019 4:10 AM
 LicenseAgreement.txt	6/25/2019 6:23 PM
 Revo Uninstaller Help.pdf	6/25/2019 6:23 PM
 RevoUPort.exe	6/25/2019 6:23 PM
 settings.ini	11/12/2019 4:10 AM
 un_report.dat	11/12/2019 4:10 AM



"REVO UNINSTALLER PORTABLE" FOR REMOVING "DESKTOP APPS" AND "UWP APPS" (continued)

- Click on the "Yes" button of the "User Account Control" box:



Do you want to allow this app to make changes to your device?



Revo Uninstaller Portable

Verified publisher: VS Revo Group Ltd.

File origin: Hard drive on this computer

[Show more details](#)

Yes

No

Do you want to allow this app to make changes to your device?



Revo Uninstaller Portable

Verified publisher: VS Revo Group Ltd.

File origin: Hard drive on this computer

[Show more details](#)

Yes

No

"REVO UNINSTALLER PORTABLE" FOR REMOVING "DESKTOP APPS" AND "UWP APPS" (continued)

- "Revo Uninstaller Portable" will now display a list of all of the "desktop apps" that it is capable of removing:

Revo Uninstaller 2.1.0 Portable

Uninstaller Windows Apps Tools Hunter Mode Options Uninstall Refresh View Help Upgrade to

Search

Search by:

Name

Application	Size	Versi...	Type	Install Date	Company
Google Chrome	446.93 MB	0.3904	32-bit	11/11/2019	Google L...
Microsoft Visual C++ 2015-2019 Redistri	23.17 MB	20.2750	32-bit	11/5/2019	Microsof...
Microsoft Visual C++ 2015-2019 Redistri	20.16 MB	20.2750	32-bit	11/5/2019	Microsof...
Opera Stable 64.0.3417.92	381.43 MB	0.3417	64-bit	11/9/2019	Opera So...
PyKaraoke	37.53 MB		32-bit	11/11/2019	
Recuva	9.97 MB	1.53	64-bit	11/12/2019	Piriform
vanBasco's Karaoke Player	2.04 MB		32-bit	11/11/2019	
VMware Tools	90.82 MB	0.1454	64-bit	11/5/2019	VMware, ...

"REVO UNINSTALLER PORTABLE" FOR REMOVING "DESKTOP APPS" AND "UWP APPS" (continued)

- To get "Revo Uninstaller Portable" to show the "UWP apps", click on the "Windows apps" button:

Revo Uninstaller 2.1.0 Portable

Uninstaller Windows Apps Tools Hunter Mode Options Uninstall Refresh View Help Upgrade to

Search

Search by:

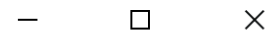
Name

Application	Size	Versi...	Type	Install Date	Company
Google Chrome	446.93 MB	0.3904	32-bit	11/11/2019	Google L...
Microsoft Visual C++ 2019 Redistri	23.17 MB	20.2750	32-bit	11/5/2019	Microsof...
Microsoft Visual C++ 2019 Redistri	20.16 MB	20.2750	32-bit	11/5/2019	Microsof...
Opera Stable 64.0.3417.92	381.43 MB	0.3417	64-bit	11/9/2019	Opera So...
PyKaraoke	37.53 MB		32-bit	11/11/2019	
Recuva	9.97 MB	1.53	64-bit	11/12/2019	Piriform
vanBasco's Karaoke Player	2.04 MB		32-bit	11/11/2019	
VMware Tools	90.82 MB	0.1454	64-bit	11/5/2019	VMware, ...

"REVO UNINSTALLER PORTABLE" FOR REMOVING "DESKTOP APPS" AND "UWP APPS" (continued)

- "Revo Uninstaller Portable" now show the you the "UWP apps" that it is capable of removing safely:

Revo Uninstaller 2.1.0 Portable



Uninstaller Windows Apps Tools Hunter Mode Options Uninstall Refresh Help Upgrade to Pro-\$14.99

Name	Size	Install Date	Version	Publisher
3D Viewer	71.90 MB	11/11/2019	7.1908.9012.0	Microsoft Corporation
Alarms & Clock	7.49 MB	11/10/2019	10.1909.2812.0	Microsoft Corporation
App Installer	3.16 MB	11/11/2019	1.0.32912.0	Microsoft Corporation
Calculator	4.83 MB	11/11/2019	10.1908.0.0	Microsoft Corporation
Candy Crush Friends	179.36 MB	11/11/2019	1.23.7.0	king.com
Candy Crush Saga	263.92 MB	11/11/2019	1.1630.7.0	king.com
Cooking Fever	268.01 MB	11/10/2019	6.0.0.3	Nordcurrent
Feedback Hub	37.80 MB	11/11/2019	1.1903.2331.0	Microsoft Corporation
Fitbit Coach	45.19 MB	2/16/2019	4.4.133.0	Fitbit
Get Help	9.45 MB	11/11/2019	10.1909.22691.0	Microsoft Corporation

Description Panel

The Windows App Store lists all installed Windows apps and helps you to uninstall any of them with a single click. One of the apps
 Total Apps: 47

"REVO UNINSTALLER PORTABLE" FOR REMOVING "DESKTOP APPS" AND "UWP APPS" (continued)

- Our step-by-step instructions for obtaining and using "Revo Uninstaller Portable" are located at http://aztcs.org/meeting_notes/winhardsig/uninstaller/RevoUninstallerPortable.pdf

"REVO UNINSTALLER PORTABLE" FOR REMOVING "DESKTOP APPS" AND "UWP APPS" (continued)

- If your computer locks up or you have a power outage while uninstalling a "desktop app" or a "UWP app", then the only way to get it totally removed is to:
 - 1) Re-install the "desktop app" and
 - 2) The use "Revo Uninstaller Portable" to remove the "desktop app"

"CCLEANER PORTABLE" FOR REGISTRY CLEANING AND WIPING "FREE SPACE"

- You can download "Ccleaner Portable" at <https://www.ccleaner.com/ccleaner/builds>
Be sure to pick the "Portable" version instead of the "top" version or the "slim" version.

"CCLEANER PORTABLE" FOR REGISTRY CLEANING AND WIPING "FREE SPACE"

- When you install some of the various versions of "Ccleaner", the installation wizard attempts to also install "Avast Antivirus" so be alert and uncheck their attempt to sneak a copy of "Avaast Antivirus" into your computer

"RECUVA" TO RECOVER "DELETED" FILES FROM "FREED UP SPACE" ON A HARD DRIVE

- You can download and install "Recuva" for free from <https://www.ccleaner.com/recuva>



Recuva v1.53 Setup

By installing this product you agree to our license agreement and privacy policy.

[View license agreement](#)

[View privacy policy](#)

Install

[Customize](#)



CCleaner

[View License Agreement](#)

Speed up and optimize your PC!

The #1 tool for protecting your privacy and making your computer faster and more secure.

- ✓ Faster Computer
- ✓ Secure Browsing
- ✓ Fix Errors & Crashes

Yes, Install CCleaner and make my computer faster

No thanks, I don't need CCleaner

"RECUVA" TO RECOVER "DELETED" FILES FROM "FREED UP SPACE" ON A HARD DRIVE (continued)

- During the installation of "Recuva", it tries to get you to also install a copy of "Ccleaner", so it is best to unselect this "option":



Recuva v1.53 Setup

By installing this product you agree to our license agreement and privacy policy.

[View license agreement](#)

[View privacy policy](#)

Install

[Customize](#)



CCleaner

[View License Agreement](#)

Speed up and optimize your PC!

The #1 tool for protecting your privacy and making your computer faster and more secure.

- ✓ Faster Computer
- ✓ Secure Browsing
- ✓ Fix Errors & Crashes

Yes, Install CCleaner and make my computer faster

No thanks, I don't need CCleaner

Speed up and optimize your PC!

The #1 tool for protecting your privacy and making your computer faster and more secure.

- ✓ Faster Computer
 - ✓ Secure Browsing
 - ✓ Fix Errors & Crashes
- Yes, Install CCleaner and make my computer faster**
 - No thanks, I don't need CCleaner

"RECUVA" TO RECOVER "DELETED" FILES FROM "FREED UP SPACE" ON A HARD DRIVE (continued)

- Click on the "Customize" link:



Recuva v1.53 Setup

By installing this product you agree to our license agreement and privacy policy.

[View license agreement](#)

[View privacy policy](#)

Install

[Customize](#)



"RECUVA" TO RECOVER "DELETED" FILES FROM "FREED UP SPACE" ON A HARD DRIVE (continued)

- Remove the checkmark from the two "..context menu.." options:



Recuva v1.53 Setup

Install Options

- Add Desktop Shortcut
- Add Start Menu Shortcuts
- Add 'Scan for deleted files' option to Recycle Bin context menu
- Add 'Scan for deleted files' option to Explorer context menu
- Automatically check for updates to Recuva

Install

[Back](#)

[More](#)

- Add Desktop Shortcut
- Add Start Menu Shortcuts
- Add 'Scan for deleted files' option to Recycle Bin context menu
- Add 'Scan for deleted files' option to Explorer context menu
- Automatically check for updates to Recuva

- Add Desktop Shortcut
- Add Start Menu Shortcuts
- Add 'Scan for deleted files' option to Recycle Bin context menu
- Add 'Scan for deleted files' option to Explorer context menu
- Automatically check for updates to Recuva

"RECUVA" TO RECOVER "DELETED" FILES FROM "FREED UP SPACE" ON A HARD DRIVE (continued)

- Remove the checkmark for "Automatically check for updates to Recuva":

- Add Desktop Shortcut
- Add Start Menu Shortcuts
- Add 'Scan for deleted files' option to Recycle Bin context menu
- Add 'Scan for deleted files' option to Explorer context menu
- Automatically check for updates to Recuva

- Add Desktop Shortcut
- Add Start Menu Shortcuts
- Add 'Scan for deleted files' option to Recycle Bin context menu
- Add 'Scan for deleted files' option to Explorer context menu
- Automatically check for updates to Recuva

"RECUVA" TO RECOVER "DELETED" FILES FROM "FREED UP SPACE" ON A HARD DRIVE (continued)

- Click on the "Install" button:

- Add Desktop Shortcut
- Add Start Menu Shortcuts
- Add 'Scan for deleted files' option to Recycle Bin context menu
- Add 'Scan for deleted files' option to Explorer context menu
- Automatically check for updates to Recuva

Install

- Add Desktop Shortcut
- Add Start Menu Shortcuts
- Add 'Scan for deleted files' option to Recycle Bin context menu
- Add 'Scan for deleted files' option to Explorer context menu
- Automatically check for updates to Recuva



Install

Recuva v1.53 Setup Completed

Recuva v1.53 has been successfully installed on your computer.

Run Recuva



View release notes