

Get Rid of Flash—Completely!

Many experts are advising to uninstall Adobe Flash Player from Windows. The third-party application provides an open door for bad guys to implant malware into computers without our knowledge.

To find it, go to **Settings**, then **Apps**. Then click on **Apps and Features**, and finally **Programs and Features**. If you see it there, right-click and select Uninstall. If not found, it's already been removed. Now move on to the next step: disable Flash in your web browsers.

In the Chrome browser, go to Settings. Click "Show advanced settings" at the bottom of the page, then click the "Content settings" button under Privacy. Scroll down to Plugins section, and select "Let me choose when to run plugin content". This will prompt you each time Flash is needed on a page, and you can decide if you want to proceed. To disable Flash completely (which is what many experts recommend) click the "Manage individual plugins" link and then click the Disable link under Adobe Flash Player.

In Firefox, click Settings, then Addons, then Plugins. Look for any Adobe Shockwave or Flash-related items, you'll see a drop-down menu. Click on it, and select either "Ask to Activate" or "Never Activate." If you don't see any Adobe items listed there, Flash has already been removed.

In Internet Explorer, go to Settings, then select "Manage add-ons". Under the "Show:" label, select "All add-ons." Right-click any Flash-related entries, and select Disable. IE does not offer the option to selectively enable the Flash plugin.

If you set the browser plug-in to play Flash content only when you right-click on that grey box with the jigsaw puzzle piece, you're still taking a risk. There's no guarantee that Flash content will run safely, even on a trusted website.

In Edge, go to Settings and More (three horizontal dots), Settings, Advanced Settings, and turn off Use Flash.