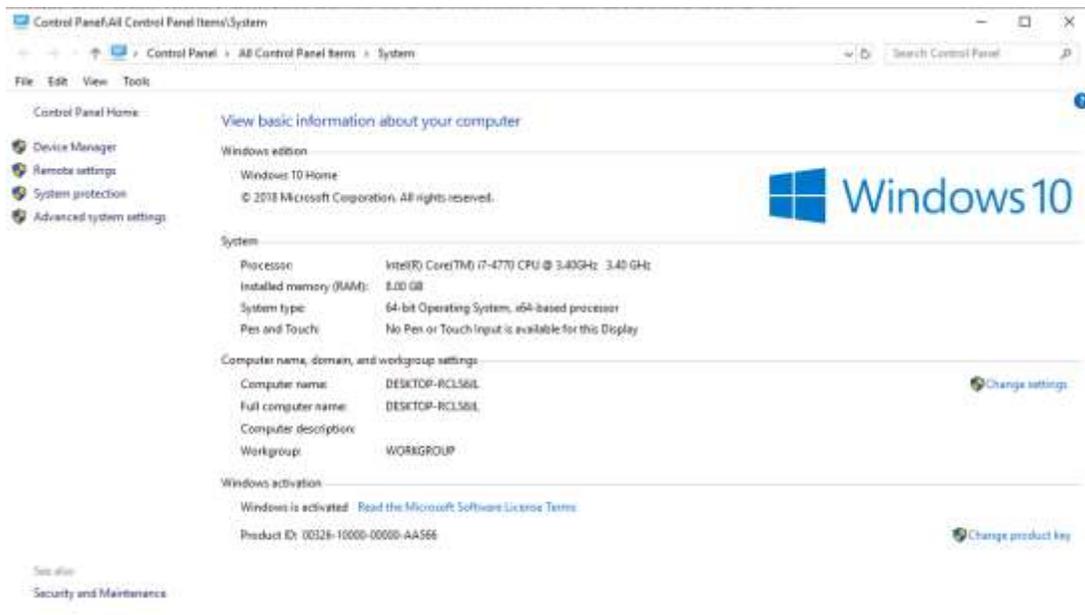


# Improve Performance by Turning Off Some Visual Effects

There are nearly 20 visual effects that you can adjust, but there's also a means to have the computer decide what's best. Or, if you prefer, you can simply indicate that you want things adjusted for the best performance, and Windows will select which elements should be adjusted.

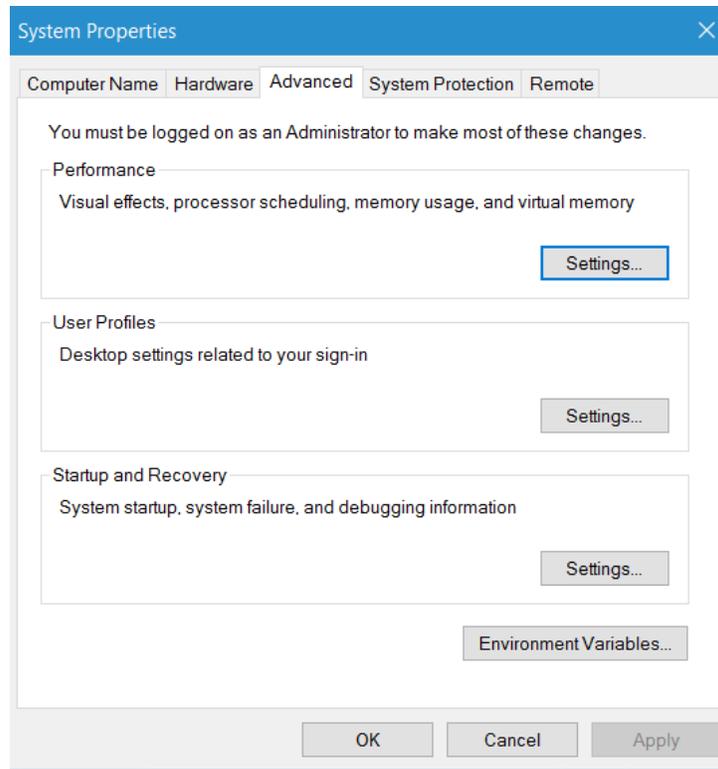
In order to get to the point where you can adjust your effects, use a little-known Keyboard shortcut: Windows key + Pause/Break.



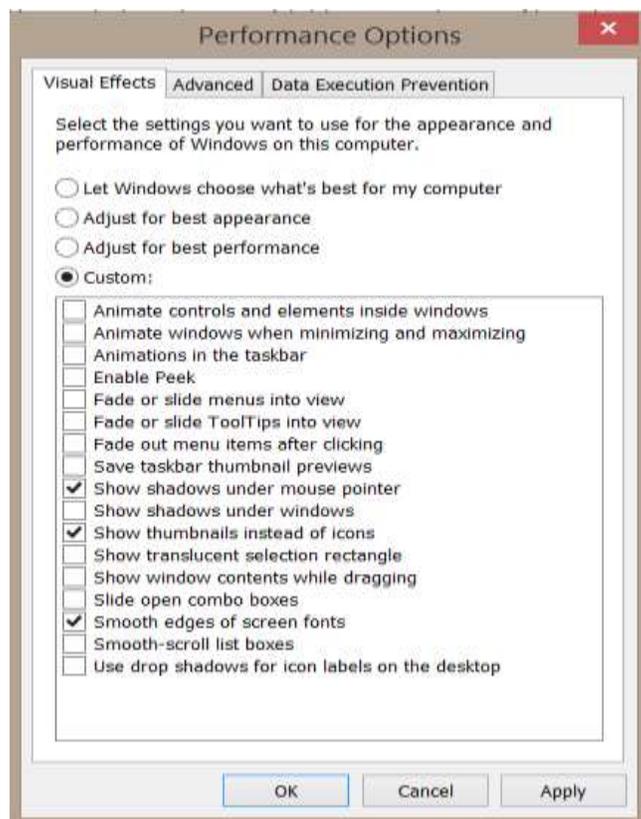
From the System Screen (see above figure) click *Advanced system settings* (left column).

Click *Yes* to give permission to open the Advanced system settings.

The Advanced tab will open in the System Properties window. From here, click on *Settings* from within the Settings area. (see figure immediately below)



The following dialog box will appear, showing four choices.



The Visual Effects tab of the Performance Options dialog box.

There is a custom combination that provides optimum use of CPU speed and visualization. (Show shadows under mouse pointer; Show thumbnails instead of icons; and Smooth edges of screen fonts.)

Once you have your options the way you want them, click OK to have them immediately go into effect.