

How to Find System Specs

Ever wondered where your computer stores all the info about itself?

This is an article on how to find the current specifications (specs) of your Windows PC and save them if you want to.

Steps

1 Assuming your PC is on, click on the Start Menu and then click "Run" (it's near the bottom). If you don't see Run on the Start Menu, then you most likely have that option disabled. If you already have it, skip this part and go straight to step 2. Simply right-click the start menu or taskbar and then click properties. There should be a tab that says "Start Menu". Click that one and look for something like "Customize". That should pull up a list of all the options for your start menu. Look for Run and make sure it is checked. "OK" out of the current window but make sure you "Apply" on the last one, otherwise your changes won't take affect.

2 Click the start menu again, and once you have the Run option, click it. You will see a small box come up with an address bar and a few buttons.

3 Type the following into the address bar: `msinfo32`

4 Hit enter. Depending on how fast your PC is, you should soon see a larger window pop up that says System Information. If nothing happens or you get an error message, you likely typed it wrong. Try again or copy and paste the command from this webpage.

- On the main page, there will be a System Summary of the basics of your system, usually starting with the operating system. This is where you get most of the basic info that you're looking for.

5 Try exporting the info. If you want, instead of having to click each drop-down menu that you want to see, you can export all the information to a text file that you can read one page at a time.

6 First, make sure you have selected the first entry in the left panel: System Summary. If you don't, then you won't save all your computer's info, only the part you happen to be in.

7 Click File near the top left, and then click Export.

8 Find a good place to put the file you are exporting to. The Desktop is a good place because it's easy to find (however, habitually putting large files on your Desktop can slow your PC).

9 Check the current directory that you are in (look at the address bar at the top), and find one that you can get to easily or that you visit frequently.

10 If you just want to go all the way to the Desktop without having to click, just type .. (that's 2 periods) into the file name bar near the bottom (not the address bar near the top) and hit Enter on the keyboard.

- This nifty little trick will take you to the directory (file folder) above the one were in. Depending on how deep you are in your files, doing this a couple times will usually get you to your Desktop (you'll know this when you type the 2 periods, hit enter, and nothing happens because you are as high as you can go).

11 Pick a descriptive file name such as: "My computer's info" so you'll now what it is when you look for it later.

12 Type your chosen file name into the file name bar at the bottom and hit Enter.

- Depending on how fast your PC is and how old it is (the amount of system info, errors, and logs that have piled up), you will soon have a Notepad file (.txt) that contains everything there is to know about your PC.

13 Go find where you saved it, then go ahead and open it (I hope you picked a descriptive name!).

- The first page will have the basics and after that it tends to get really messy and doesn't make any sense. A professional computer technician would be able to understand it, but for mere mortals like ourselves, it's just gibberish.

14 Keep looking. But if you look long enough, you will find some useful information such as: any devices that aren't working properly, error logs from when programs crashed (there will be a lot of these!), and some info about your hardware.

- With the right skills, you could likely diagnose your computer's problems using this system information log.

Add your own method

Name your method

Add your steps using an ordered list. For example:

1. Step one
2. Step two
3. Step three

Save

Tips

- If you don't want to use the Run option or you can't find it, you can also access this from the command prompt. Click the Start menu and then click Programs. Look for Accessories near the top and click it. You should see a little black icon and the words: "Command Prompt". Click it and you should soon see the old MS-DOS style, black command prompt. Type msinfo32 like before and the System Information window should pop up. Repeat steps 5 - 13.
- There are a couple more ways to see the system information besides the method explained in the main part of the article, but this one is usually safer because nothing can be modified or changed, only read. This keeps you from accidentally changing something important on your PC, and causing it to become inoperable (won't work right).
- Msinfo32 depends on the "Help and Support" service. If that service is disabled, you will need to start it before starting these steps.
- You can also access *System Information* by clicking the Start menu then All Programs then click on Accessories then system tools and finally click on System Information.

Warnings

- Be careful with what you type into the command prompt or Run box. Certain commands can do things that you aren't familiar with. Only type what you know, don't fool around with it.

Article Info

Categories: [Internal Components](#) | [Operating Systems](#)

Recent edits by: [Dakinijones](#), [BR](#), [AskingAlexandria4Lifee](#)

In other languages:

Español: [Cómo encontrar las especificaciones del sistema](#)

Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 58,497 times.