

PRINTABLE GUIDE

Set up a new Windows 11 computer

Keep the computer connected to power and allow time for updates. Setup screens differ by manufacturer and Windows edition; work devices may need administrator instructions.

Windows 11 | 2 min read | 5 steps

Before you start

- ☐ The supplied charger or power cable
- ☐ Your home Wi-Fi details and account sign-in information

1. Connect and start

Put the computer on a stable surface with vents clear. Connect its charger; connect the monitor, keyboard and mouse on a desktop. Press the power button once and wait for the setup screen.

- ☐ Done this step

2. Follow the setup questions

Choose your region and keyboard layout, then connect to your own Wi-Fi. Follow the account screen. Keep your password private and choose a sign-in PIN you can remember; a device PIN is different from the account password.

- ☐ Done this step

3. Read the optional choices

Review privacy, backup and subscription offers before accepting them. Choose only services you want. If restoring an existing backup, confirm the correct account and computer rather than selecting an unfamiliar backup.

- ☐ Done this step

4. Install available updates

After reaching the desktop, open Start > Settings > Windows Update > Check for updates. Let downloads finish and restart when requested. Keep the power connected during this process.

☐ Done this step

5. Make one useful check

Open your browser, visit a familiar website and check that sound and the keyboard work. Locate Documents in File Explorer. Save a small practice file so you know where future work will go.

☐ Done this step

Try it for yourself

Open File Explorer and find your Documents folder.

☐ I tried the task.

My notes

Will setup move my old files automatically?

Only if you choose and complete a supported transfer or restore. Check important files on the new computer before retiring the old one.

Official help and the online guide

Windows 11 basics - <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/meet-windows-11-easily-switch-to-windows-11-3a2aa0a7-9559-431f-91a0-d9ca0a1eb0a5>

Find files and apps in Windows - <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/experience/storage-filemanagement/find-your-files-and-apps-in-windows>

Read online: <https://plaintech-guides.pages.dev/guides/prepare-new-windows-computer/>