

How to Remove "Get Windows 10" App and Its Icon from Taskbar?

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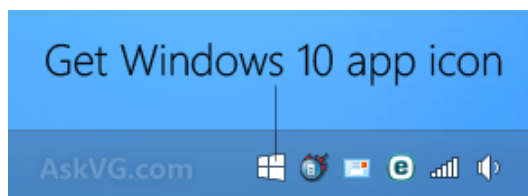
In recent topic we told you about the new "Get Windows 10" app and its White Windows flag icon present in Taskbar notification area:

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[\[FAQ\] Get Windows 10 App and Reserve Your Free Upgrade Notification Icon](#)

This new app has been released for **Windows 7** and **Windows 8.1** users via Windows Updates to help them in upgrading their computers to **Windows 10** for free.

But there is one problem in this app! Even if you reserve your free Windows 10 upgrade using this app or cancel your upgrade reservation, the app always keeps running in background and its White Windows flag icon is always visible in system tray of Taskbar. You can't close the app permanently. It just hides the window and sits in system tray.



Although a small icon in Taskbar is not a major problem but sometimes people find it annoying to have an extra process running in background and consuming system resources for no good reason.

Also many people may not want to upgrade their computers to Windows 10, in that case this app will be unnecessary for them and removing the app will be the best option for them as it may download the huge Windows 10 setup files (around 3GB) in future.

So today in this tutorial, we'll tell you different ways to get rid of this Windows flag from Taskbar as well as completely remove "Get Windows 10" app from your system.

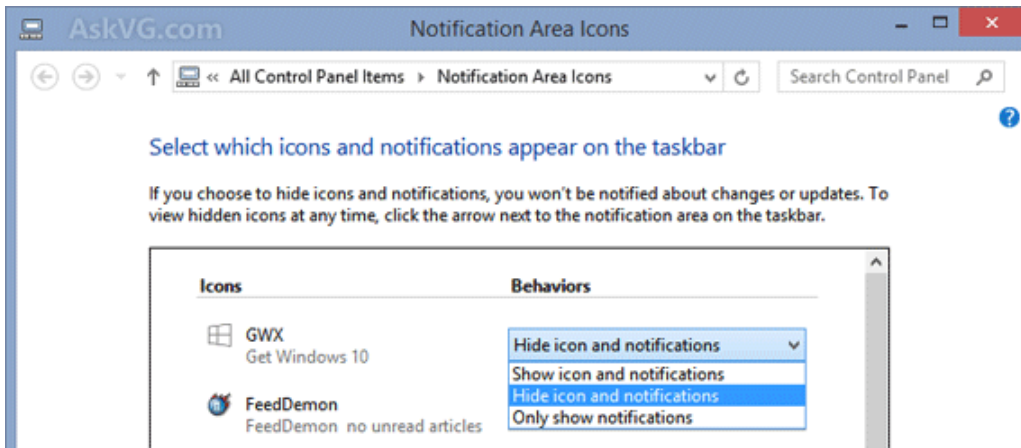
So without wasting time lets start the tutorial:

METHOD 1: Hide "Get Windows 10" Icon in Taskbar

This is the easiest way to get rid of the icon. You can right-click on the date/time in Taskbar system tray and select "**Customize notification icons**" option. It'll open a new window. Now look for **GWX (Get Windows 10)** entry in the list and change its value to "**Hide icon and notifications**" using the drop-down box.

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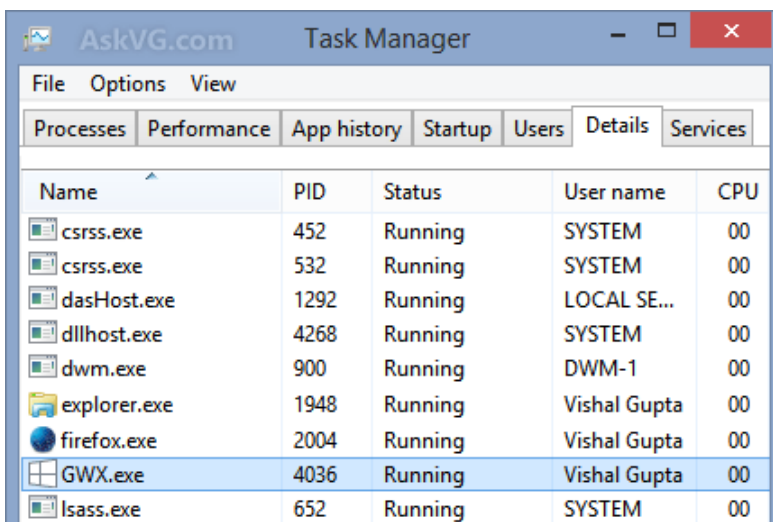
Apply the changes and it'll hide the White Windows flag icon in Taskbar notification area.

PS: If the options (drop-down boxes) to change behaviors are grayed out or disabled, then uncheck "**Always show all icons and notifications on the taskbar**" checkbox and it'll allow you to customize icons behaviors.

METHOD 2: Kill "Get Windows 10 (GWX)" Process Using Task Manager

If you don't want to use the above mentioned method, you can kill the process related to "Get Windows 10" app and it'll automatically remove the icon from Taskbar.

1. Right-click on Taskbar and select **Task Manager** option. It'll open Task Manager. You can also directly launch Task Manager by pressing **Ctrl+Shift+Esc** keys together.
2. Now go to **Processes** or **Details** tab and select **GWX** process and then click on "**End Process**" button. You can also right-click on GWX process and select "End Process" or "End Task" option. Or you can simply select GWX process and press Delete key.



It'll kill GWX process and will also remove its icon from Taskbar notification area. If the icon is still visible, just hover mouse cursor over it and it'll magically disappear.

METHOD 3: Disable "Get Windows 10" Using Registry Editor

If you follow above mentioned method, it'll remove the app and its icon temporarily. After some time or next logon, the app and its icon might come back. Following Registry tweaks will disable "Get Windows 10" app and its Taskbar icon permanently:

Registry Tweak 1:

1. Type **regedit** in RUN or Start search box and press Enter. It'll open **Registry Editor**.

2. Now go to following key:

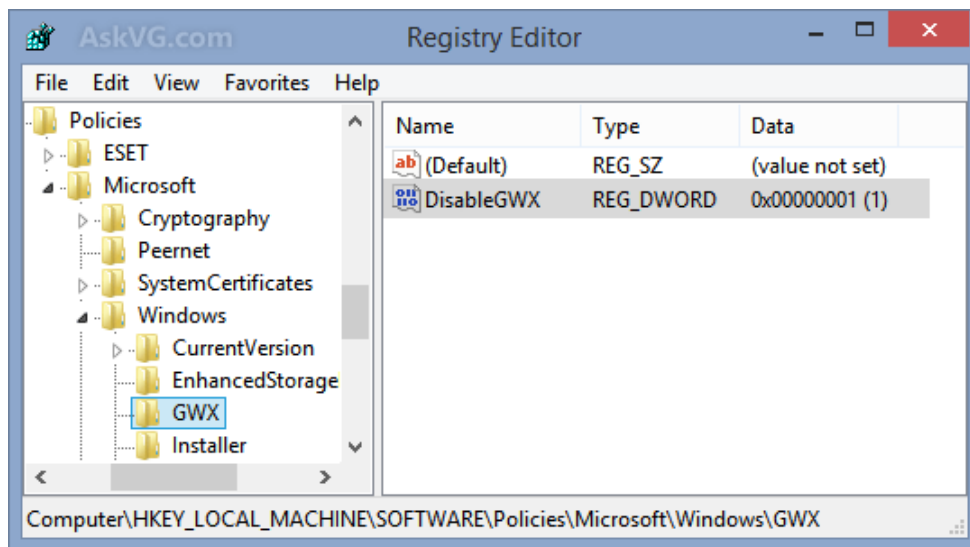
```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft\Windows
```

3. Create a new key under **Windows** key and set its name as **GWX**

So the final key path would be:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft\Windows\GWX
```

4. Now select **GWX** key and in right-side pane create a new DWORD **DisableGWX** and set its value to **1**



Registry Tweak 2:

1. Again in Registry Editor, go to following key:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft\Windows
```

2. Create a new key under **Windows** key and set its name as **WindowsUpdate**

So the final key path would be:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft\Windows\WindowsUpdate
```

3. Now select **WindowsUpdate** key and in right-side pane create a new DWORD

DisableOSUpgrade and set its value to **1**

Registry Tweak 3:

1. Again in Registry Editor, go to following key:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\WindowsUpdate
\OSUpgrade
```

2. In right-side pane, look for two DWORDs **AllowOSUpgrade** and **ReservationsAllowed** and change their values to **0**

After applying all these tweaks, close Registry Editor and restart your computer to take effect.

It'll permanently disable "Get Windows 10" app and will also remove its icon from Taskbar.

In future, if you decide to re-enable the app and its icon, simply delete the DWORDs created in above steps.

PS: If you are not familiar with registry editing tasks, we are also providing ready-made registry script to do the task automatically for your convenience. Just download following ZIP file, extract it and then run the given .REG files to enable/disable GWX app and its icon:

[Registry Script to Disable "Get Windows 10" App and Icon in Windows](#)

METHOD 4: Delete "Get Windows 10" Task from Task Scheduler

If you don't want to modify Registry, you can delete "Get Windows 10" app's task from Task Scheduler as there is a task present in Task Scheduler which automatically starts the "Get Windows 10" app at predefined time or events.

So to permanently get rid of the app and icon, you'll need to delete its task from Task Scheduler using following steps:

1. Press Win+R keys together to launch RUN dialog box, then type **taskschd.msc** in RUN box and press Enter.

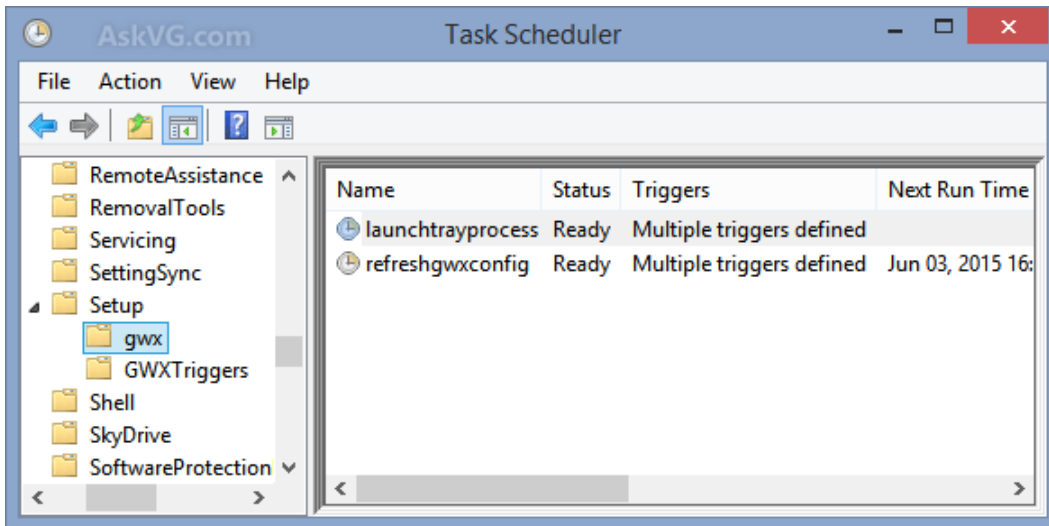
2. It'll open **Task Scheduler** program. Now go to:

Task Scheduler Library -> Microsoft -> Windows -> Setup

3. Under Setup key, you'll see 2 more sub-keys:

- **gwx**
- **GWXTriggers**

Both these keys contain various tasks related to "Get Windows 10" app which automatically launch the app at certain intervals.



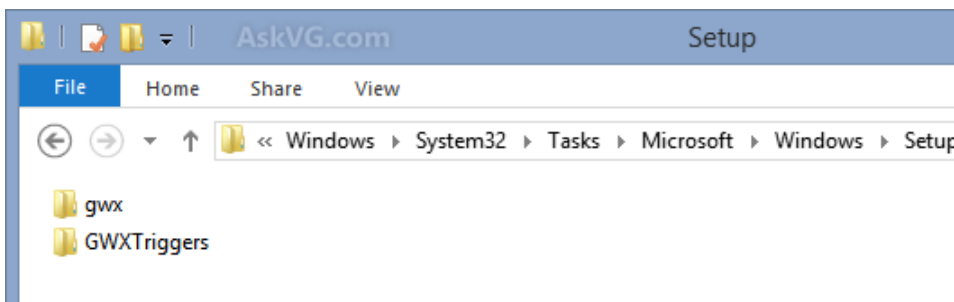
4. To permanently remove "Get Windows 10" app, you'll need to either disable or delete tasks present under both of the above mentioned keys. To disable the tasks, you can right-click on the task and select **Disable** option.

You'll be able to disable all tasks present under "gwx" key but Windows will not allow you to disable tasks present under "GWXTriggers" key due to permissions issue.

Don't worry! You can delete all tasks present under both gwx and GWXTriggers keys using following steps:

4. a. Type **tasks** in RUN dialog box and press Enter. It'll show permissions related message, click on Continue button. It'll open **C:\Windows\System32\Tasks** folder which stores all tasks listed in Task Scheduler program.

4. b. Now go to **Microsoft\Windows\Setup** folder and delete both **gwx** and **GWXTriggers** folders present inside it. If you face any permission related issue, take ownership of the folders first as mentioned in [this guide](#) and then delete them.



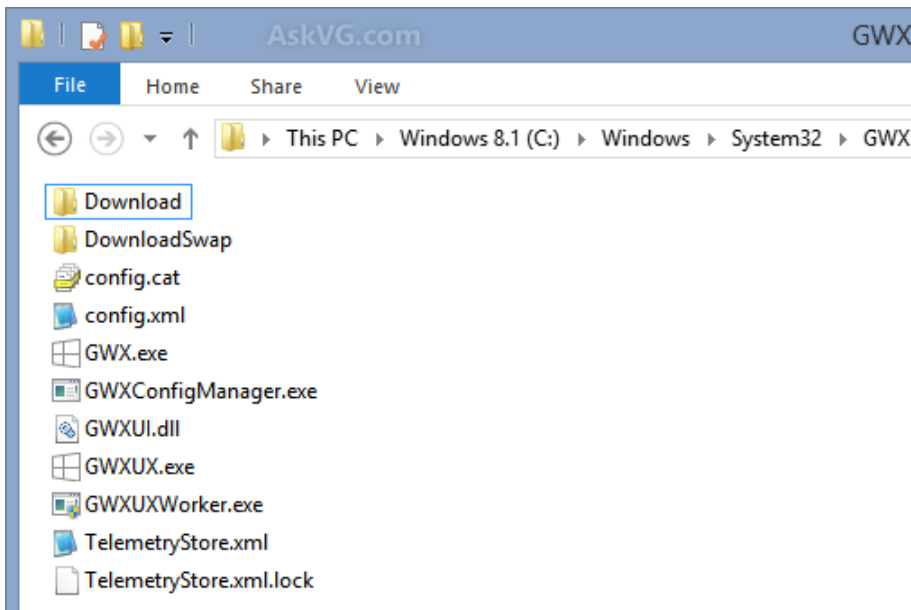
Now again open Task Scheduler and you'll see that "Task Scheduler Library -> Microsoft -> Windows -> Setup" is now empty. So no more "Get Windows 10" app and its icon in Taskbar.

METHOD 5: Delete the "Get Windows 10" app Files and Folder

Although after using the above mentioned method, you'll no longer see "Get Windows 10" app and its icon in Windows but if you are still worried about the app, you can delete its executable file and its folder to remove it completely from your computer:

The "Get Windows 10" app executable file is **GWX.exe** which is present in following 2 folders:

- C:\Windows\System32\GWX
- C:\Windows\SysWOW64\GWX (in 64-bit systems only)



So first end task of GWX.exe using Method 2 and then delete the entire GWX folder in both locations.

If Windows shows any permission related message, you'll need to take ownership of the folder first with the help of [this guide](#) and then delete the folder.

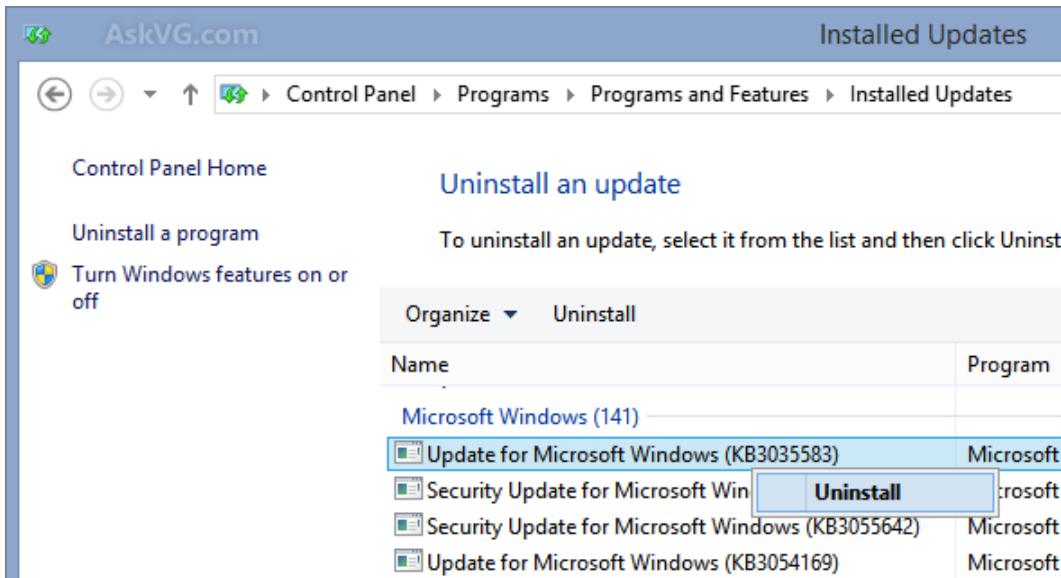
PS: If you don't want to delete the folders, you can rename them to a different name. It'll also work.

METHOD 6: Uninstall Windows Update Responsible for "Get Windows 10" App

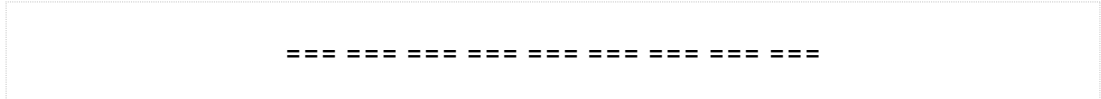
There is another alternative method to get rid of "Get Windows 10" app and its icon. You can uninstall the update which actually installed this app in your system. Once you uninstall the update, it'll automatically remove the "Get Windows 10" app from your computer.

The update is **KB3035583** and you can uninstall it using the same steps as given in following similar article:

[How to Stop Automatic Forced Upgrade from Windows 8 to Windows 8.1?](#)



After uninstalling the update, don't forget to hide it as mentioned in the Step 6 of above mentioned tutorial so that it doesn't install again in your computer.



That's it. You can try any of the above mentioned methods to remove "Get Windows 10" app and its icon from Taskbar in Windows 7 or Windows 8.1.

Also Check:

[\[Fix\] "Get Windows 10" Upgrade App Icon is Missing in Taskbar](#)

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Comments

Jeet Chowdhury

What Is The Problem If It's Run?

Marianne

So after completing Method 6 (and the linked example steps to hide the update) can I turn "install updates automatically" back on or do I have to leave it set on "download updates but let me choose to install" for good?

Kevin Glenn

I'm the SysAdmin at my office. Does anyone know if this icon and it's offer will appear for Domain joined computers? I can't have my users accepting an OS upgrade before we have had the chance to test and approve it. Can I just deny KB3035583 in WSUS and call it good or is there another better way to avoid this catastrophe?

Jon Caum

Kevin, I can confirm on our customers and our internal PCs that any chain joined computer will not run this app. The update 3035583 will be installed, but the treaty icon and updater doesn't run. So I can confirm that domain joined computers will not upgrade. I'm upset that Microsoft didn't describe the update more and alert system administrators not to worry about.

Loren

You're awesome.

Robben Hendrik

Windows 10 wil niet op mijn computer, de pc is alleen geschikt voor Windows XP Home en Windows 7 .

Met vriendelijk groet,
Hendrik Robben

Amria

@Jeet Chowdhury

Only if you want small useless white icon that sit every time you pc boot and also eating your ram (small amount actually but still wasting).

David XXX

Yeah... all suggestion it's ok but i have windows 7 and i don't want to disable the upgrade proposal but only leave this stupid icon from system tray.....

How i can do ?

JeremTheOuf

And if I want this update but I can't see it in Windows update (Windows 8.1 x64 FR) how do I get it ???

Lee

you forgot the biggest one. edit the registry and delete ALL references to "GWX". the name of that "tune" is "regedit.exe". uhh... be very careful though when traversing the registry file & hitting the big DELETE key (you may wanna back it up first).

Dennis Thompson

Method one only works until reboot. Then it comes back until you do method one again.

Tino

thank you soo muchx u help

JJR2

Can't get Method 1 to work on my Windows 7 computer because all the icon behavior drop-downs are greyed out.

Stu

Why do I mind Windows 10 messages spamming my computer?

I don't want Microsoft being able to have full access to my computer and they think they can do with it what they want including installing Windows 10. Their update program is no different than a hacker taking over my PC.

Jason

Method would be the ideal choice. You may have to repeat it on a restart, but that shouldn't be common. The real benefit is that you can simply run GWX.exe as July 29th approaches and be ready for updating to Windows 10.

Jason

Sorry, that should say "Method 2"... and no edits!

bobby

If you register to be notified and then remove the icon, will you still have the update download automatically when it is released? I imagine, maybe if you just disable the reminders it might still download in the background. But if you remove the app entirely, it probably won't?

What about changing the trigger to be one time on July 29th, so that you get the notification when it is actually being released?

Which triggers should you change, or all of them? It's very tricky to know since there are so many!

Pink

^_^ Thanks you for this information it help immensely <3

e

Hiding the icon doesn't work for long. It soon comes back by itself. I want to get the upgrade but I just want to remove the useless icon from my notification area...

hotigris

Both method 4 and method 5 failed with a message: permission needed from me myself (the user who is logged in). I mean method described in <http://www.askvg.com/guide-how-to-take-ownership-permission-of-a-file-or-folder-manually-in-windows/> didn't work out.

Be

Thank you so much for all the effort of providing this information. You're awesome. I was able to get rid of it just by following step by step guide.

scott

After deleting the folders from C:\Windows\System32\Tasks and confirming through Task Scheduler they were no longer present, I thought it did the trick, but this morning here it was again. GWX running and sitting in my tray and the "GWXTriggers" folder had been restored at C:\Windows\System32\Tasks. Any idea how to make this method permanent?

Pete

^^ Also follow method 5 in combination with method 4.

Mike Ungerman

I have Windows 7 and followed the above instructions successfully. For those even thinking of 'upgrading' from Windows 7 to Windows 10, DON'T DO IT. Do a fresh install, preferably on a new hard drive (they're cheap enough these days) and see how it works on your computer. You can always put your original hard drive in as a second one for more storage after you've gotten your data over to the new hard drive. Or even mount it in a USB case as an external backup drive. As for me, my main computer will remain on Windows 7 thank you Microsoft!

Chad in VB

I noticed even after deleting the files mention above there are still 49 files and folders that pertain to this "update" including:
an event log

12 file folders
3 winsxs\FileMaps
9 manifest files
3 GWX user Interface.dll
15 GWX.exe files
2 Config managers
2 migration setup files .inf

This thing is poised to take over my OS! Help!?

Billie Faulkner

Thanks so much!!! Your instructions were perfect and allowed me to finally get rid of that process once and for all. It was massively slowing down my computer.

Mark

Very helpful information. Microsoft has a lot of nerve. If you disable notifications for the icon, they still come back after a while. What's up with that?

mouse

who wrote this ?

i wish i could kiss this web page

thank you

typical microsoft

sticking garbage in our faces that we never wanted

marinus

Sorry- here's the update # i should've included, the one you have to be careful NOT to install. I don't know how long you'll have to be on guard against it, but you know how persistent MS is when they want you to do something: KB3035583

marinus

Well fudge, The first part of my message seems to have gotten lost in the ozone: so here it is again.

I managed to remove the W10 app fine. But the next day, after d/l'ing some Windows 7 updates, i found to my horror that this digital t*rd had reinstalled itself [was one of a dozen non-malware updates- Microsoft is so sneaky].

Bottom line here: they won't take no for answer, will continue trying to annoy you into trying it.

FIX: set updates to manual only, NOT "install all recommended updates automatically". You'll get a red X flag in your tray [Danger Will Robinson!] but ignore it, if you remember to install manually you'll be fine. [PS: you'll probably have go into services.msc > windows update > right click properties > disable, to stop that blasted TrustedInstaller from returning.]

And if it gets in despite all that, root it out from Review Installed Updates list [KB3035583.

It's a little like Van Helsing discussing the best methods of killing vampires isn't it!?

Steve Taylor

Hi Guys,

I've just right clicked on KB3035583 but it does not give me the option to remove/delete it. Just view/copy details. Is there a permissions thing I have to do first to get the delete option?

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Belay the last post. I was looking in the list where I select updates for installation not in:

Control Panel\All Control Panel Items\Programs and Features\Installed Updates

Incidentally if you view details it does not mention Windows 10

Nikra

Go in to windows update: Locate (KB3035583). Right click and delete.

Nikra

Oh and after that Microsoft actual screwed me over by restore the same thing again as an important update. but after that it's gone for good

SonicBlue

I Don't Want Windows 10 v2.0

github.com/rn10950/I-Dont-Want-Windows-10/releases/tag/2.0

Tony

I can confirm that Method 4 will work and you can disable all tasks in the GWX and GWX Triggers folders by right clicking Task Scheduler and run as an administrator.

Also re enabling those tasks puts the Icon back.

It also stops Gwx.exe running saving a small amount of memory.

By the way I had loads of aggro to get the Get Windows 10 Icon in the first place.

I finally downloaded dropbox.com/s/0u0au9xgy6ss18p/win10fix_full.zip?dl=0

Right click and Extracted the win10fix_full.zip file

Right click and run win10fix_full.bat as an administrator and follow the instructions. In my case namely option 1 and 2.

Bingo I have the Icon, My copy of windows 10 is reserved and I have received confirmation email from Microsoft.

Hope this helps

Greg

Thanks for the instructions that even a "Luddite" could follow!

I hate Windows 8 - why would I want Windows 10? Yes, I am one of those people who are annoyed by the little white window in my taskbar...

butts

THANK YOU SO MUCH

Beryl Lerner

you can not use DWORD in a 64bit system

Beryl Lerner

Just rename the GWX folder to GWX-NO

Jamie

I could just kiss you! THANK YOU!!!

Bilski

I don't even know when the update installed but yes, it is annoying. It does use resources and how ever little, I did not ask for it. I didn't realise Microsoft could just throw any old advertising material in an update? I paid for the software, not ads! I just uninstalled the update. Problem solved. It will definitely impact any decision I make in regards to updates in the future. I almost feel like my Dell was raped.

DOODX

The deal breaker for Windows 10 is lack of custom color options Windows 7 had awesome color schemes with Windows 10 you can have either a dark or light theme.

People just like Windows 10 cause it's FREE

I have a gaming PC and don't want some flimsy universal thing

Some of my programs won't work in Win 10 which is why I'm keeping Windows 8.1 for a good few year until the Beta test that is Windows 10 is over with.

Basically everyone is Beta tester for this version but guess what Windows has been around for decades..... only to be downgraded in functionally and ease of use.

Himself

Thanks very much for this information, although its not such a bad thing just having an icon on

screen, its like you said its another task running and using system resources forced upon us by the high and mighty Microsoft :(annoys me as didn't even ask if I wanted to be nagged to upgrade from Win 7 and as I'm sure many will agree when I do want to upgrade my operating system I will look for it and not have it rammed down my throat. Once again very helpful tutorial and using the regedit solution was a breeze as the instruction provided are easy to follow. :D

David Provan

How can I defend my computer against ever having Win10 imposed on it? Chances are that MS will sneak it in as an 'Update' to my Win7 one of these days, as they have the 'Get Win10' icon.

Wouldn't it be nice if one of the options under thgis was 'Go away and don't bother me. If I ever want Win10 I'll ask for it.'

David, wistfully

DaleB

We are using Windows 7, 64-bit Home Premium.

Method 1 does not work.

The "Get Windows 10" icon reappears on the Taskbar after rebooting the computer...usually after a cold boot.

Pauli (Bangor Samaritans, N. Wales)

Very helpful advice, THANK YOU ! I used your method one and was able to hide the wretched icon.

This will prevent unwary Volunteers from encouraging Windows 10 to 'invade' out space !

Schtick

WUSA /Uninstall /KB:3035583 (METHOD 6) - the only right decision.

All the rest - duct tape.

Johnny Bob

I've done all of the above but the nag remains when I goto Windows Update. How do I get rid of it there? (W8.1Pro)

Anne N Emous

This app running in the background is not a problem. It uses no resources from your PC when in the background. 0 Processing power. 0 RAM. It has no negative effects. It runs in the background so that it can notify you when you can install Windows 10. If you end it's process, you won't be notified.

R Thornton

Thanks a lot Miss Ann N Emous. I'm really grateful for people like you looking after us less than average users. A great public service. You were the first option on Google's search. It was really easy and your directions were great.

ronbeckmann

Outstanding

Kate L

While I am very grateful for this wonderful, WONDERFUL post explaining how to get rid of the damn thing, I (like a few others) noticed a few lurking files starting with GWX. Is it safe to just delete these to get rid of them and their potential threat? The thing is making me paranoid now...

VG

^^ You can safely delete GWX files if you don't want Windows 10 upgrade. Check Method 5.

Kate L

Thank you, VG. My paranoia got the better of me and I missed that.

Brett

Anyone know how to uninstall Windows 10? Since upgrading from Windows 8.1 my Start Menu button doesn't work. When I click it, nothing happens. Also, when I type in the 'Search the web and Windows', nothing happens there either. I've seen other articles on how to uninstall Windows 10 which involves clicking Start, then Settings, Recovery and then 'Go back to an earlier build' - but this assumes that your Start Menu button works! Anyone know the command line for this?

KkFalse

@Brett> This website gives 2 methods to rollback to previous version:

- Logout (shutdown /l /f on command line)
- Hold down the shift key on your keyboard while clicking the Power button on the screen
- Continue to hold down the shift key while clicking Restart
- Continue to hold down the shift key until the Advanced Recovery Options menu appears
- Click Troubleshoot
- Click Advanced options
- Click Go back to the previous version of Windows

...

VG

@Brett

KkFalse is right. You can use Advanced startup screen method to restore previous Windows version as mentioned in following tutorial:

<http://www.askvg.com/how-to-restore-previous-windows-version-after-upgrading-to-windows-10/>

FOCUSGuy

These were some of the clearest PC related instructions I've ever seen on the internet!

Method 4 worked like a champ.

Kudos.

I

There were file remanence left over here:

C:\Users\YOUR_USER_NAME\AppData\Local\GWX

BKCorbett

I ill-advisedly told Windows to send me the update. After seeing details of how it would look and work, I decided I didn't want it. I tried to cancel, but Windows kept starting a download-and-install every time I turned the computer on (we shut down over night) and at seemingly random times during the day when people were trying to use the computer. It wouldn't accept my instructions to cancel the download unless I went into task manager and cancelled it that way *every single time*! So this "notification" that my Windows 10 is available for download is really a forced install by Windows.

I've used every method above to get rid of this monster and I've got my fingers crossed that it will stay gone this time.

Thanks for the step-by-step instructions as well as some of the comments above. I couldn't figure out how to uninstall the update (KB3035583) until someone commented that you need to go in through the 'control panel-programs-view installed updates' to uninstall. (If you just go to 'View windows updates' from the main menu it doesn't give the option of uninstalling -- just 'View details' or 'Copy details'.) I believe that you can't kill this beast without uninstalling that particular update.

Anne

A blessing on your house! Thank you for showing me how to easily remove that awfully annoying Microsoft message. --A.

Ole Kloster

Thank you - Thank you - thank you

Kate

I've killed GWX and deleted the update (KB3035583) quite a few times, and it keeps popping back up. So annoying.

It's late, and I'll be following your instructions to permanently sort this tomorrow, when I am fresh. I really appreciate your clear instructions -step by step and in clear English and that you took all the time and trouble to make this very sought after solution. Thank you!

I am book marking this page and your blog front page as well.
You are a real blessing, sir!

Alexis

Hi guys, i downloaded the registry script to permanently get rid of the windows icon. I only used the disable GWX. DO i also need to use the enable GWX???

Andrew

Just my 2 cents. I've updated a home 2-in-1 from 8 to 10 and so far it's not so bad. However, For the person who posted that it doesn't prompt on domain joined computers, I have had it show up on 2 computers.

I used the add/remove to remove the update 3035583, but you have to make sure that you go back into Windows Updates after the next reboot, and hide the update so it doesn't automatically re-install.

Dan

Method #2 worked just fine for me:

- a) started Task Bar Manager > Processes tab
- b) killed GWX via "kill process tree"
- c) went to GWX folder location in C:\Windows\System32\GWX
- d) deleted C:\Windows\System32\GWX folder using "Unlocker 1.9.2" freeware, downloadable from

<http://www.askvg.com/download-unlocker-file-unlocking-utility-for-windows/>

Bill W

I performed methods 3,4,5&6 which eliminated all traces of the Get Win 10 icon, GWX, etc. BUT when I now run Windows Update to install ordinary security updates, the program still displays the big "Downloading Windows 10" banner. Win 10 is not, in fact, being downloaded, the standard updates are being downloaded and installed but the incorrect banner is quite annoying and should be eliminated.

Is there any fix for the remaining problem? This whole mess imposed on us by MSFT is most annoying.

Connie G

After following all directions 1 to 5 go into control panel and right click KB3035583 ,choose uninstall and it goes right away without a whimper and no reboot. :)

jojo

The download file worked for me thanks. It did it in about 2sec THANK YOU,,,,,,,,,

Sandy

Thank you so much for all the effort of providing this information. I was able to get rid of it just by following this step by step guide. I did have to get UNLOCKER, which worked beautifully. I used method 5 and 6. GWX is gone! Thank you!!

Bill W

Connie,

I did uninstall KB3035583 but Windows Update still says Downloading Win 10 every time I install new ordinary updates. As I noted above, Win 10 is not actually being downloaded and the new updates are installed correctly but it is most annoying that the Downloading Win 10 banner keeps appearing.

Greg

Is there any way to get rid of this in windows update?

YOUR UPGRADE TO WINDOWS 10 IS READY

You need to restart your PC to begin the installation. This might take a while, but we'll let you know when it's done.

Restart now

Thanks,

Greg

Emry

The GWX file (and the chance on getting the windows 10 update) is completely removed from my computer. Think method 5 indicates it.

Am i still able to somehow retrieve the file or update and still instal the new version on my pc?

NAS

Thanks, this was fantastically helpful. these stupid updates are so intrusive, so happy to shut them up!

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