

# Installing Windows

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### Useful Commands

### Skip Account Creation

```
start ms-cxh:localonly
```

### Also Skip Network Requirement

```
oobe\bypassnro
```

## Windows To Go

**Windows To Go** creates a portable, bootable Windows environment on a USB drive. For Windows 11, **Rufus** is required for a portable installation.

## Installation

- **Insert Drive:** Open Rufus and select your USB.
- *Tip:* Press **Alt + F** to show all external drives.
- **Load ISO:** Click **Select** and pick your Windows ISO.
- **Mode:** Set **Image option** to **Windows To Go**.
- **Format:** Choose **GPT** (UEFI) or **MBR** (BIOS).
- **Customize:** Click **Start** and ensure you **uncheck** "Prevent Windows To Go from accessing internal disks" (if you want your internal files visible).
- **Finish:** Select your Windows edition and click **OK** to flash.

## Fixing Freezing On External NVMe

### Paging File

- Run `sysdm.cpl` in **Win + R**.

- Navigate to Advanced > Performance > Settings... > Advanced > Virtual Memory > Change...
- Uncheck `Automatically manage paging file size for all drives`, then select `No paging file` and click `Set`.

## Power Management

- **Power Options:** Set `USB selective suspend` to **Disabled** and `PCI Express Link State Power Management` to **Off**.
- **Device Manager:** Under `Universal Serial Bus controllers`, right-click **USB Root Hubs** > Properties > Power Management > Uncheck "**Allow the computer to turn off this device.**"

## Disk Performance Policies

- **Device Manager:** `Disk drives` > [Your NVMe] > Properties > Policies.
- **Selection:** Choose **Better performance** and check **Enable write caching on the device**.

## Service Optimization

Disable these in `services.msc` to stop 100% disk spikes:

- **SysMain:** Stop and set to **Disabled**.
- **Windows Search:** Stop and set to **Disabled**.
- **Connected User Experiences and Telemetry:** Stop and set to **Disabled**.

## OS & Hardware Tweaks

- **Notifications:** Settings > System > Notifications > Additional settings > Uncheck "**Get tips and suggestions.**"
- **TRIM:** Run "**Defragment and Optimize Drives**"; ensure drive is detected as "Solid state drive" and click **Optimize**.
- **File System:** Run `chkdsk C: /f /r` from an Admin Command Prompt.
- **Hardware Check:** Verify use of a **USB 3.2 Gen 2 (10Gbps)** cable and port to avoid bandwidth throttling.

## WinBoat

RDP ports are taken from a pool: 47000-47009!