

Use MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint free on web?

Do you want to use Microsoft Office without paying for it? Try the free Office Online edition. As the name indicates, Office Online is an online version of Microsoft's popular software suite. Instead of installing Word, Excel, and PowerPoint on your computer, you tap into cloud-based varieties of the different programs; all you need is a web browser.

Instead of residing on your computer, files are saved to Microsoft OneDrive, the company's cloud-based storage service. The only catch is that Office Online isn't as feature-packed as the desktop edition. You'll find all the basic editing commands but not much more. If that satisfies your needs, however, it's an option worth trying.

<https://www.pcmag.com/news/354975/how-to-use-microsofts-free-office-online-software>

Windows 10 October 18 Update

What's New in Windows 10's October 2018 Update
How-To Geek – August 10, 2018

<https://www.howtogeek.com/353165/whats-new-in-windows-10s-redstone-5-update-available-fall-2018/>

Windows 10's October 2018 Update is Out Now: The Best Features and How to Get It
How-To Geek – October 2, 2018

<https://www.howtogeek.com/367828/windows-10s-october-2018-update-is-out-now-the-best-features-and-how-to-get-it/>

Bug in Windows'10's Latest Update Might Be Deleting Files, Back Up Your Data Now
How-To Geek – October 4, 2018

<https://www.howtogeek.com/fyi/bug-in-windows-10s-latest-update-might-be-deleting-files-back-up-your-data-now/>

Microsoft Pulls the Windows 10 October 2018 Update for Deleting Files
How-To Geek – October 7, 2018

<https://www.howtogeek.com/fyi/microsoft-pulls-the-windows-10-october-2018-update-for-deleting-files/>

Windows 10 October update's new public rollout nears as Microsoft fixes more bugs
ZDNet – October 17, 2018

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/windows-10-october-updates-new-public-rollout-nears-as-microsoft-fixes-more-bugs/>

NetReseT

Reset cable modem and router every day for increased security?

<https://www.netreset.com/>

NetReseT is a device that power cycles (reboots) your modem and router in sequential order on a daily basis. The sequential power cycle allows your equipment to receive updated information from you internet service provider, auto-correct issues, and maximize internet speeds due to a fresh connection.

Does this really help?

Found information on a few websites indicating that leaving any electronic device on indefinitely can cause problems and rebooting occasionally might be helpful but didn't find any site that indicated it was necessary to do this every day.

How-To Geek article on rebooting router.

<https://www.howtogeek.com/165110/do-i-really-have-to-unplug-my-cable-modem-for-at-least-10-seconds/>

While this article focuses on routers, if you are going to reboot the router, might as well reboot modem at same time.

Note: While reading the How-To Geek article, a red window appeared indicating a Google Security warning. Had multiple websites open in browser and expect the warning came from an ad on one of the websites. Immediately powered down the computer. On restart, browser automatically launched but quickly x'd out of all open websites, closed the browser, and then re-opened it. After re-accessing the above page, left it open for several minutes and did not get the fake warning.

For some of us, the modem and router are not convenient to access so rebooting the devices can be a major hassle. I don't have an electrical outlet in close proximity to the router/modem that would allow me to use a device like the NetReseT.

Note: rebooting means turning power button off and on, or, in cases where there is no power button, unplugging the power cord.

Do NOT reset modem or router. A resets returns device to factory default settings and you will lose any personalized settings. Some websites refer to turning power off as hard reset but that is incorrect terminology.

Rather than unplugging from the electrical outlet, it might be easier to unplug from the back of the modem and router. Be careful: the plug that goes into the modem and router may look the same but it is important to use the correct plug for the device. Suggest labeling them before unplugging.

To reboot devices manually:

- for combo modem/router, turn off or unplug the device, wait 10 to 20 seconds, plug it back in or turn it on
- for separate modem and router, turn off or unplug both devices. Wait 10 to 20 seconds. Plug in or turn on the modem first and wait about a minute or until the "normal" lights are on. Then plug in or turn on the router. It could take a couple minutes for the router to complete start-up and fully connect to the modem.

Windows 10 in S mode?

Have been seeing computers with Windows 10 S mode operating system pre-installed, including lower priced Surface tablet.

What is Windows 10 in S Mode?

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/s-mode>

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/4020089/windows-10-in-s-mode-faq>

Windows 10 was previously available in a version called “Windows 10 S” but that it is now a mode of Windows 10 (called “s mode”).

Starting with the April 2018 Update, Windows 10’s “S Mode” replaces Windows 10 S. Windows 10 S worked similarly, but it was technically a separate “edition” of Windows 10 instead of a “mode.”

Most editions of Windows 10 can be placed into S Mode (by the PC’s manufacturer). You can buy PCs with either Windows 10 Home in S Mode or Windows 10 Professional in S Mode, and organizations can use Windows 10 Enterprise in S Mode. Most Windows 10 PCs don’t ship in S Mode.

If shopping for a new computer, check the specs to determine if it has Windows 10 or Windows 10 S mode pre-installed. If you want full Windows 10 functionality, probably best to purchase Windows 10. If purchasing a computer with “s mode” pre-installed, can switch to Windows 10 but, once having switched, cannot switch back to “s mode”.

<https://www.theverge.com/2018/2/3/16968024/microsoft-windows-10-s-mode-editions-features>

<https://www.howtogeek.com/354057/what-is-windows-10-in-s-mode/>

Misc

Using Microsoft Edge as pdf reader, on one computer couldn't open pdf files from Network Attached Storage Drive. Research indicates may not be able to open html files either. Solution: Search for Internet Settings- Security tab - trusted sites and add link for NAS device, e.g., <https://192.168.1.xxx> where xxx is last octet of NAS device. Can also use the NAS name <https://myNAS/files> for example.

Not sure what the determining factor is but only happened on one computer.

Look Out: Windows 10's 'Free Up Space' Can Empty Your Downloads Folder

<https://www.howtogeek.com/fyi/look-out-windows-10s-free-up-space-can-empty-your-downloads-folder/>

Prilock Security

If you are looking for a way to test / increase your security knowledge, or you know someone you would like to “gift” with this information, Prilock could be a good, inexpensive option. Saw this advertised on a Windows Weekly episode on Leo LaPorte’s network.

Enter “LEO” and get an additional 30% off.

<https://www.prilock.com/personal-product.php>

Why Our Security Awareness Training?

Prilock’s training was designed with you in mind. Most people don’t want to be computer experts and they don’t want to listen to a bunch of technical talk and do’s and don’ts. Just show me how my devices and information are targeted and what to do to be safe.

Imagine you found out your 20 something son was an expert hacker. After the shock wore off, he might say, mom and dad, let me show you how to be safe online so other hackers won’t bother you. That would be the best lesson you could get, and that’s what Prilock has done.

\$39.99 for one year

Safely Test with Real Phish in the Wild

- Access Lesson for 1 full year
- Receive latest scam alerts and breaking threats with avoidance instructions
- Monthly Phish Testing with Real Phish
- Full access to learning portal resources
- Print Certificate of Completion Upon Passing Final Assessment

History in an Hour (auditbooks and ebooks)

<http://www.historyinanhour.com/hiah-shop/>

This site lists all the books but directs to Amazon UK.

On Amazon, search for History in an Hour, Kindle editions, \$0.99 to \$3.99.

On Audible, search for History in an Hour, \$2.06 to \$2.57

Search on Amazon and Audible will include results for books that are not part of this series.

Miscellaneous Musical Websites

Wintergatan - Marble Machine (music instrument using 2000 marbles)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvUU8joBb1Q>

"Resonant Chamber" - Animusic.com

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=toXNVbvFXyk>

The most unusual musical instruments of the world!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oCYHMVIQezA>

How-To Geek

How to Fix a PC Stuck on "Don't Turn Off" During Windows Updates

<https://www.howtogeek.com/356953/how-to-fix-a-pc-stuck-on-dont-turn-off-during-windows-updates/>

Reminder: Your Smart TV is Almost Certainly Spying on You

<https://www.howtogeek.com/fyi/reminder-your-smart-tv-is-almost-certainly-spying-on-you/>

How to Stop Your Smart TV From Spying On You

<https://www.howtogeek.com/233742/how-to-stop-your-smart-tv-from-spying-on-you/>

How to Use YouTube's New Incognito Mode to Hide Your Watch History

<https://www.howtogeek.com/fyi/how-to-use-youtubes-new-incognito-mode-to-hide-your-watch-history/>

How to Use a Windows Laptop as a Wireless Monitor (for Another PC)

<https://www.howtogeek.com/359471/how-to-use-a-windows-laptop-or-tablet-as-a-wireless-monitor/>

You Can Now Send Text Messages From Your PC
(Android phones only and may require Android 7.0)

<https://www.howtogeek.com/fyi/you-can-now-send-text-messages-from-your-pc/>