

Aspire S7

User's Manual



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Aspire S7 User's Manual

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SAFETY AND COMFORT

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Read these instructions carefully. Keep this document for future reference. Follow all warnings and instructions marked on the product.

Turning the product off before cleaning

Unplug this product from the wall outlet before cleaning. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosol cleaners. Use a damp cloth for cleaning.

WARNINGS

Accessing the power cord

Be sure that the power outlet you plug the power cord into is easily accessible and located as close to the equipment operator as possible. When you need to disconnect power to the equipment, be sure to unplug the power cord from the electrical outlet.

Disconnecting the power source

Observe the following guidelines when connecting and disconnecting power to the power supply unit:

Install the power supply unit before connecting the power cord to the AC power outlet.

Unplug the power cord before removing the power supply unit from the computer.

If the system has multiple sources of power, disconnect power from the system by unplugging all power cords from the power supplies.

Using electrical power

- This product should be operated from the type of power indicated on the marking label. If you are not sure of the type of power available, consult your dealer or local power company.
- Do not allow anything to rest on the power cord. Do not locate this product where people will walk on the cord.

- If an extension cord is used with this product, make sure that the total ampere rating of the equipment plugged into the extension cord does not exceed the extension cord ampere rating. Also, make sure that the total rating of all products plugged into the wall outlet does not exceed the fuse rating.
- Do not overload a power outlet, strip or receptacle by plugging in too many devices. The overall system load must not exceed 80% of the branch circuit rating. If power strips are used, the load should not exceed 80% of the power strip's input rating.
- This product's AC adapter is equipped with a three-wire grounded plug. The plug only fits in a grounded power outlet. Make sure the power outlet is properly grounded before inserting the AC adapter plug. Do not insert the plug into a non-grounded power outlet. Contact your electrician for details.
- **Warning! The grounding pin is a safety feature. Using a power outlet that is not properly grounded may result in electric shock and/or injury.**
- **Note:** *The grounding pin also provides good protection from unexpected noise produced by other nearby electrical devices that may interfere with the performance of this product.*
- The system can be powered using a wide range of voltages; 100 to 120 or 220 to 240 V AC. The power cord included with the system meets the requirements for use in the country/region where the system was purchased. Power cords for use in other countries/regions must meet the requirements for that country/region. For more information on power cord requirements, contact an authorized reseller or service provider.

Bundled dummy cards

- **Note:** *Information in this section may not apply to your computer.*

Your computer shipped with plastic dummies installed in the card slots. Dummies protect unused slots from dust, metal objects or other particles. Save the dummies for use when no cards are in the slots.

General

- Do not use this product near water.

- Do not place this product on an unstable cart, stand or table. If the product falls, it could be seriously damaged.
- Slots and openings are provided for ventilation to ensure reliable operation of the product and to protect it from overheating. These openings must not be blocked or covered. The openings should never be blocked by placing the product on a bed, sofa, rug or other similar surface. This product should never be placed near or over a radiator or heat register, or in a built-in installation unless proper ventilation is provided.
- Never push objects of any kind into this product through cabinet slots as they may touch dangerous voltage points or short-out parts that could result in a fire or electric shock. Never spill liquid of any kind onto or into the product.
- To avoid damage of internal components and to prevent battery leakage, do not place the product on a vibrating surface.
- Never use it under sporting, exercising, or any vibrating environment which will probably cause unexpected short current or damage rotor devices, HDD, Optical drive, and even exposure risk from lithium battery pack.
- The bottom surface, areas around ventilation openings and AC adapter may get hot. To avoid injury, ensure they do not come in contact with your skin or body.
- Your device and its enhancements may contain small parts. Keep them out of the reach of small children.
- The surface temperature of the base will rise during normal operation, particularly when AC power is present. Allowing sustained contact with exposed skin can cause discomfort or burn.

Product servicing

Do not attempt to service this product yourself, as opening or removing covers may expose you to dangerous voltage points or other risks. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.

Unplug this product from the wall outlet and refer servicing to qualified service personnel when:

- The power cord or plug is damaged, cut or frayed.

- Liquid was spilled into the product.
- The product was exposed to rain or water.
- The product has been dropped or the case has been damaged.
- The product exhibits a distinct change in performance, indicating a need for service.
- The product does not operate normally after following the operating instructions.
- **Note:** *Adjust only those controls that are covered by the operating instructions, since improper adjustment of other controls may result in damage and will often require extensive work by a qualified technician to restore the product to normal condition.*

Guidelines for safe battery usage

This computer uses a Lithium-ion or Lithium-polymer battery. Do not use it in a humid, wet or corrosive environment. Do not put, store or leave your product in or near a heat source, in a high temperature location, in strong direct sunlight, in a microwave oven or in a pressurized container, and do not expose it to temperatures over 60° C (140° F). Failure to follow these guidelines may cause the battery to leak acid, become hot, explode or ignite and cause injury and/or damage.

Do not pierce, open or disassemble the battery. If the battery leaks and you come into contact with the leaked fluids, rinse thoroughly with water and seek medical attention immediately.

For safety reasons, and to prolong the lifetime of the battery, charging will not occur at temperatures below 0° C (32° F) or above 40° C (104° F).

The full performance of a new battery is achieved only after two or three complete charge and discharge cycles. The battery can be charged and discharged hundreds of times, but it will eventually wear out. When the operation time becomes noticeably shorter than normal, refer to qualified service personnel. Use only the approved batteries, and recharge your battery only with the approved chargers designated for this device.

Never use any charger or battery that is damaged.

The capacity and lifetime of the battery will be reduced if the battery is left in hot or cold places, such as in a closed car in summer or winter. Always try to keep the battery between 15°C and 25°C (59°F and 77°F). A device with a hot or cold battery may not work temporarily, even when the battery is fully charged. Battery performance is especially limited in temperatures well below freezing.

Do not dispose of batteries in a fire as they may explode. Batteries may also explode if damaged. Dispose of batteries according to local regulations. Please recycle when possible. Do not dispose as household waste.

- **Note:** Please refer to **www.acer.com** for battery shipping documents.
- **Warning! Batteries may explode if not handled properly. Do not disassemble or dispose of them in fire. Keep them away from children. Follow local regulations when disposing of used batteries.**

RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE

- **Warning! For safety reasons, turn off all wireless or radio transmitting devices when using your laptop under the following conditions. These devices may include, but are not limited to: wireless LAN (WLAN), Bluetooth and/or 3G.**

Remember to follow any special regulations in force in any area, and always switch off your device when its use is prohibited or when it may cause interference or danger. Use the device only in its normal operating positions. This device meets RF exposure guidelines when used normally. It should not contain metal and you should position the device the above-stated distance from your body. To successfully transmit data files or messages, this device requires a good quality connection to the network. In some cases, transmission of data files or messages may be delayed until such a connection is available. Ensure that the above separation distance instructions are followed until the transmission is completed. Parts of the device are magnetic. Metallic materials may be attracted to the device, and persons with hearing aids should not hold the device to the ear with the hearing aid. Do not place credit cards or other magnetic storage media near the device, because information stored on them may be erased.

MEDICAL DEVICES

Operation of any radio transmitting equipment, including wireless phones, may interfere with the functionality of inadequately protected medical devices. Consult a physician or the manufacturer of the medical device to determine if they are adequately shielded from external RF energy or if you have any questions. Switch off your device in health care facilities when any regulations posted in these areas instruct you to do so. Hospitals or health care facilities may be using equipment that could be sensitive to external RF transmissions.

Pacemakers. Pacemaker manufacturers recommend that a minimum separation of 15.3 centimeters (6 inches) be maintained between wireless devices and a pacemaker to avoid potential interference with the pacemaker. These recommendations are consistent with the independent research by and recommendations of Wireless Technology Research. Persons with pacemakers should do the following:

- Always keep the device more than 15.3 centimeters (6 inches) from the pacemaker
 - Not carry the device near your pacemaker when the device is switched on.
- If you suspect interference, switch off your device, and move it.

Hearing aids. Some digital wireless devices may interfere with some hearing aids. If interference occurs, consult your service provider.

VEHICLES

RF signals may affect improperly installed or inadequately shielded electronic systems in motor vehicles such as electronic fuel injection systems, electronic anti-skid (anti-lock) braking systems, electronic speed control systems, and air bag systems. For more information, check with the manufacturer, or its representative, of your vehicle or any equipment that has been added. Only qualified personnel should service the device, or install the device in a vehicle. Faulty installation or service may be dangerous and may invalidate any warranty that may apply to the device. Check regularly that all wireless equipment in your vehicle is mounted and operating properly. Do not store or carry flammable liquids, gases, or explosive materials in the same compartment as the device, its parts, or enhancements. For vehicles equipped with an air bag, remember that air bags

inflate with great force. Do not place objects, including installed or portable wireless equipment in the area over the air bag or in the air bag deployment area. If in-vehicle wireless equipment is improperly installed, and the air bag inflates, serious injury could result. Using your device while flying in aircraft is prohibited. Switch off your device before boarding an aircraft. The use of wireless teledevices in an aircraft may be dangerous to the operation of the aircraft, disrupt the wireless telephone network, and may be illegal.

POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE ENVIRONMENTS

Switch off your device when in any area with a potentially explosive atmosphere and obey all signs and instructions. Potentially explosive atmospheres include areas where you would normally be advised to turn off your vehicle engine. Sparks in such areas could cause an explosion or fire resulting in bodily injury or even death. Switch off the device at refueling points such as near gas pumps at service stations. Observe restrictions on the use of radio equipment in fuel depots, storage, and distribution areas; chemical plants; or where blasting operations are in progress. Areas with a potentially explosive atmosphere are often, but not always, clearly marked. They include below deck on boats, chemical transfer or storage facilities, vehicles using liquefied petroleum gas (such as propane or butane), and areas where the air contains chemicals or particles such as grain, dust or metal powders. Do not switch the computer on when wireless phone use is prohibited or when it may cause interference or danger.

EMERGENCY CALLS

- **Warning! You cannot make emergency calls through this device. To make an emergency call you shall dial out through your mobile phone or other telephone call system.**

DISPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

Do not throw this electronic device into the trash when discarding. To minimize pollution and ensure utmost protection of the global environment, please recycle. For more information on the Waste from Electrical and Electronics Equipment (WEEE) regulations, visit **www.acer-group.com/public/Sustainability/sustainability01.htm**



ENERGY STAR



ENERGY STAR

Acer's ENERGY STAR qualified products save your money by reducing energy cost and protecting the environment without sacrificing features or performance. Acer is proud to offer our customers products with the ENERGY STAR mark.

What is ENERGY STAR?

Products that are ENERGY STAR qualified use less energy and prevent greenhouse gas emissions by meeting strict energy efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Acer is committed to offering products and services worldwide that help customers save money, conserve energy and improve the quality of our environment. The more energy we can save through higher energy efficiency, the more we reduce greenhouse gases and the risks of climate change. More information refers to **www.energystar.gov** or **www.energystar.gov/powermanagement**.

- **Note:** *Information in this section may not apply to your computer.*

Acer ENERGY STAR qualified products:

- produce less heat and reduce cooling loads in warmer climates.
- automatically go into "display Sleep" and "computer Sleep" mode after 10 and 30 minutes of inactivity, respectively.
- wake from "Sleep" mode if the keyboard is pressed or mouse is moved.
- save more than 80% energy when in "Sleep" mode.

ENERGY STAR and the ENERGY STAR mark are registered U.S. marks.

TIPS AND INFORMATION FOR COMFORTABLE USE

Computer users may complain of eyestrain and headaches after prolonged use. Users are also at risk of physical injury after long hours of working in front of a computer. Long work periods, bad posture, poor work habits, stress, inadequate working conditions, personal health and other factors greatly increase the risk of physical injury.

Incorrect computer usage may lead to carpal tunnel syndrome, tendonitis, tenosynovitis or other musculoskeletal disorders. The following symptoms may appear in the hands, wrists, arms, shoulders, neck or back:

- Numbness, or a burning or tingling sensation.
- Aching, soreness or tenderness.
- Pain, swelling or throbbing.
- Stiffness or tightness.
- Coldness or weakness.

If you have these symptoms, or any other recurring or persistent discomfort and/or pain related to computer use, consult a physician immediately and inform your company's health and safety department.

The following section provides tips for more comfortable computer use.

Finding your comfort zone

Find your comfort zone by adjusting the viewing angle of the monitor, using a footrest, or raising your sitting height to achieve maximum comfort. Observe the following tips:

- Refrain from staying too long in one fixed posture.
- Avoid slouching forward and/or leaning backward.
- Stand up and walk around regularly to remove the strain on your leg muscles.
- Take short rests to relax your neck and shoulders.
- Avoid tensing your muscles or shrugging your shoulders.
- Install the external display, keyboard and mouse properly and within comfortable reach.
- If you view your monitor more than your documents, place the display at the center of your desk to minimize neck strain.

Taking care of your vision

Long viewing hours, wearing incorrect glasses or contact lenses, glare, excessive room lighting, poorly focused screens, very small typefaces and low-contrast displays could stress your eyes. The following sections provide suggestions on how to reduce eyestrain.

Eyes

- Rest your eyes frequently.
- Give your eyes regular breaks by looking away from the monitor and focusing on a distant point.
- Blink frequently to keep your eyes from drying out.

Display

- Keep your display clean.
- Keep your head at a higher level than the top edge of the display so your eyes point downward when looking at the middle of the display.
- Adjust the display brightness and/or contrast to a comfortable level for enhanced text readability and graphics clarity.
- Eliminate glare and reflections by:
placing your display in such a way that the side faces the window or any light source,
minimizing room light by using drapes, shades or blinds,
using a task light,
changing the display's viewing angle,
using a glare-reduction filter,
using a display visor, such as a piece of cardboard extended from the display's top front edge.
- Avoid adjusting your display to an awkward viewing angle.
- Avoid looking at bright light sources for extended periods of time.

Developing good work habits

The following work habits make computer use more relaxing and productive:

- Take short breaks regularly and often.

- Perform some stretching exercises.
- Breathe fresh air as often as possible.
- Exercise regularly and maintain a healthy body.
- **Warning! We do not recommend using the computer on a couch or bed. If this is unavoidable, work for only short periods, take breaks regularly, and do some stretching exercises.**
- **Note:** *For more information, please refer to "Regulations and safety notices" on page 99.*

FIRST THINGS FIRST

We would like to thank you for making an Acer notebook your choice for meeting your mobile computing needs.

Your guides

To help you use your Acer notebook, we have designed a set of guides:

First off, the **setup poster** helps you get started with setting up your computer.

The **Quick Guide** introduces you to the basic features and functions of your new computer. For more on how your computer can help you to be more productive, please refer to the **User's Manual**. This guide contains detailed information on such subjects as system utilities, data recovery, expansion options and troubleshooting. In addition it contains general regulations and safety notices for your notebook. It is available from Desktop; double-click the Help icon and click **User's Manual** in the menu that opens.

Basic care and tips for using your computer

Turning your computer on and off

To turn the power off, do any of the following:

- Use the Windows shutdown command: Press the *Windows key* + <C>, click **Settings > Power** then click **Shut Down**.

If you need to power down the computer for a short while, but don't want to completely shut it down, you can put it into *Hibernate* by pressing the power button.

You can also put the computer in sleep mode by pressing the sleep hotkey **<Fn> + <W>**.

Note: *If you cannot power off the computer normally, press and hold the power button for more than four seconds to shut down the computer. If you turn off the computer and want to turn it on again, wait at least two seconds before powering up.*

Taking care of your computer

Your computer will serve you well if you take care of it.

- Do not expose the computer to direct sunlight. Do not place it near sources of heat, such as a radiator.
- Do not expose the computer to temperatures below 0° C (32° F) or above 50° C (122° F).
- Do not subject the computer to magnetic fields.
- Do not expose the computer to rain or moisture.
- Do not spill water or any liquid on the computer.
- Do not subject the computer to heavy shock or vibration.
- Do not expose the computer to dust or dirt.
- Never place objects on top of the computer.
- Do not slam the computer display when you close it.

- Never place the computer on uneven surfaces.

Taking care of your AC adapter

Here are some ways to take care of your AC adapter:

- Do not connect the adapter to any other device.
- Do not step on the power cord or place heavy objects on top of it. Carefully route the power cord and any cables away from foot traffic.
- When unplugging the power cord, do not pull on the cord itself but pull on the plug.
- The total ampere ratings of the equipment plugged in should not exceed the ampere rating of the cord if you are using an extension cord. Also, the total current rating of all equipment plugged into a single wall outlet should not exceed the fuse rating.

Cleaning and servicing

When cleaning the computer, follow these steps:

1. Turn off the computer.
2. Disconnect the AC adapter.
3. Use a soft, moist cloth. Do not use liquid or aerosol cleaners.

If either of the following occurs:

- The computer has been dropped or the body has been damaged;
- The computer does not operate normally

Please refer to **"Frequently asked questions" on page 86.**

YOUR ACER NOTEBOOK TOUR

After setting up your computer as illustrated in the setup poster, let us show you around your new Acer computer.



Acer Aspire S7

Screen view



#	Icon	Item	Description
1		Ambient light sensor	Controls the keyboard and monitor backlights.
2		Touchscreen	Displays computer output, supports multi-touch input.

#	Icon	Item	Description
3		Power indicator	Indicates the computer's power status.
		Battery indicator	Indicates battery status. Charging: <i>The light is amber when the battery is charging.</i> Fully charged: <i>The light is blue.</i>
4		Webcam	Web camera for video communication. <i>A light next to the webcam indicates that the webcam is active.</i>

Keyboard view



#	Icon	Item	Description
1		Keyboard	For entering data into your computer. Caution: Do not use a keyboard protector or similar cover as the keyboard includes ventilation intakes for cooling.

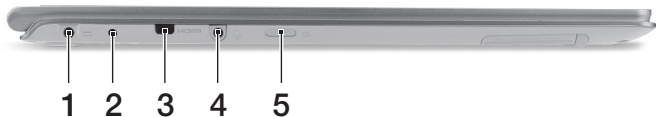
#	Icon	Item	Description
2		Touchpad	Touch-sensitive pointing device. The touchpad and selection buttons form a single surface. <i>Press down firmly on the touchpad surface to perform a left click.</i> <i>Press down firmly on the lower right corner to perform a right click.</i> <i>Swipe the right-hand edge of the touchpad inward to access the charms.</i>

Front view



#	Icon	Item	Description
1		Microphone	Internal microphone for sound recording.

Left view



#	Icon	Item	Description
1		DC-in jack	Connects to an AC adapter.
2		Secondary battery jack	Connects to the optional secondary battery.
3		HDMI Micro port	Supports high-definition digital video connections.
4		Headset/speaker jack	Connects to audio devices (e.g., speakers, headphones) or a headset with microphone.
5		Power button	Turns the computer on and off. Note: The computer will also turn on by opening the lid.

Right view



#	Icon	Item	Description
1		2-in-1 card reader	Accepts one Secure Digital (SD or SDHC) card or MultiMediaCard (MMC). Note: To remove the card, simply pull it from the slot.
2		USB port	Connects to USB devices.
3		USB port with power-off charging	If a port is black it is USB 2.0 compatible, if it is blue it is also USB 3.0 compatible (see below).

Information on USB 3.0

- Compatible with USB 3.0 and earlier devices.
- For optimal performance, use USB 3.0-certified devices.
- Defined by the USB 3.0 specification (SuperSpeed USB).
- Supports power-off USB charging, allowing you to charge supported mobile devices while the notebook is switched off.

Base view



#	Icon	Item	Description
1		Battery reset pinhole	Simulates removing and reinstalling the battery <i>Insert a paperclip into the hole and press for four seconds to reset the computer.</i>
2		Speakers	Deliver stereo audio output.

TOUCHPAD

The built-in touchpad is a pointing device that senses movement on its surface. This means the cursor responds as you move your finger across the surface of the touchpad. The central location on the palmrest provides optimum comfort and support.

Touchpad basics

The following items show you how to use the touchpad.

- Move your finger across the touchpad to move the cursor.
- Press the touchpad down, or tap, to perform a click, which will select or start an item.
- Place you finger in the bottom right corner of the touchpad and press to perform a right click.

The bottom left and bottom right corners of the touchpad are similar to the left and right buttons on a mouse.



Function	Bottom left corner	Bottom right corner	Main touchpad
Open	Quickly press twice		Press or tap twice (at the same speed as double-clicking a mouse button)
Select	Press once		Press or tap once
Drag	Press and hold, then use finger on the touchpad to drag the cursor		Press or tap twice (at the same speed as double-clicking a mouse button); rest your finger on the touchpad on the second tap and drag the cursor
Access context menu		Press once	

Note: When using the touchpad, keep it — and your fingers — dry and clean. The touchpad is sensitive to finger movement; hence, the lighter the touch, the better the response. Tapping harder will not increase the touchpad's responsiveness.

Windows function

The touchpad can perform a Windows-specific function.

- Swipe the right-hand of the edge of the touchpad inward to access the charms.

USING THE KEYBOARD

The keyboard has full-sized keys and an embedded numeric keypad, separate cursor, lock, Windows, function and special keys.

Hotkeys

The computer employs hotkeys or key combinations to access most of the computer's controls like screen brightness and volume output.

To activate hotkeys, press and hold the <Fn> key before pressing the other key(s) in the hotkey combination.

Hotkey	Icon	Function	Description
<Fn> + <Q>		Communication key	Enables / disables the computer's communication devices. (Communication devices may vary by configuration.)
<Fn> + <W>		Sleep	Puts the computer in Sleep mode.
<Fn> + <E>		Display toggle	Switches display output between the display screen, external monitor (if connected) and both.

Hotkey	Icon	Function	Description
<Fn> + <R>		Display off	Turns the display screen backlight off to save power. Press any key to return.
<Fn> + <T>		Touchpad toggle	Turns the built-in touchpad on and off.
<Fn> + <Y>		Speaker toggle	Turns the speakers on and off.
<Fn> + <U>		Decrease backlight brightness	Decreases the brightness of the keyboard backlight
<Fn> + <I>		Increase backlight brightness	Increases the brightness of the keyboard backlight.
<Fn> + <U> + <I>		Backlight toggle	Turns the keyboard backlight on and off.
<Fn> + <O>		Rotate screen	Rotates the image displayed on the screen.
<Fn> + <▷>		Brightness up	Increases the screen brightness.
<Fn> + <◁>		Brightness down	Decreases the screen brightness.
<Fn> + <△>		Volume up	Increases the sound volume.

Hotkey	Icon	Function	Description
<Fn> + <▽>		Volume down	Decreases the sound volume.

Windows keys

The keyboard has two keys that perform Windows-specific functions.

Key	Description
 Windows key	Pressed alone it returns to the Start screen. It can also be used with other keys for special functions, please check Windows Help.
 Application key	This key has the same effect as clicking the right mouse button; it opens the application's context menu.

RECOVERY

If you are having trouble with your computer, and the frequently asked questions (see page 86) do not help, you can 'recover' your computer - i.e. return it to an earlier state.

This section describes the recovery tools available on your computer. Acer provides *Acer Recovery Management*, which allows you to create a *recovery backup*, a *drivers and applications backup*, and to start recovery options, either using Windows tools, or the recovery backup.

Note: *Acer Recovery Management is only available with a pre-installed Windows operating system.*

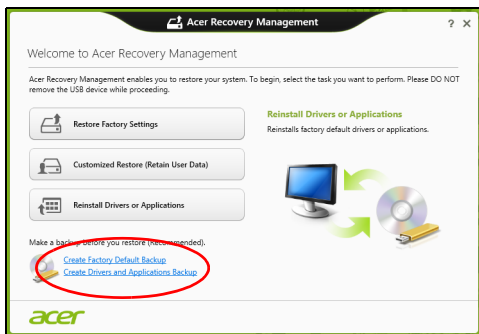
Important: We recommend that you create a ***Recovery Backup*** and ***Drivers and Applications Backup*** and as soon as possible. In certain situations a full recovery will require a USB recovery backup.

Creating a recovery backup

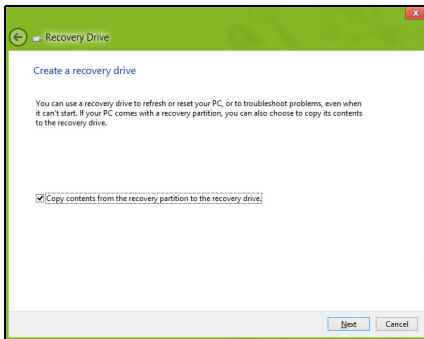
To reinstall from a USB storage drive, you must first create a recovery backup. The recovery backup includes the entire original contents of your computer's hard drive, including Windows and all factory-loaded software and drivers. Using this backup will restore your computer to the same state as when you purchased it, while giving you an option to retain all settings and personal data.

Note: *Make sure you have a USB drive with a capacity of at least 16 GB.*

1. From *Start*, type 'Recovery' and then click **Acer Recovery Management** in the list of apps.



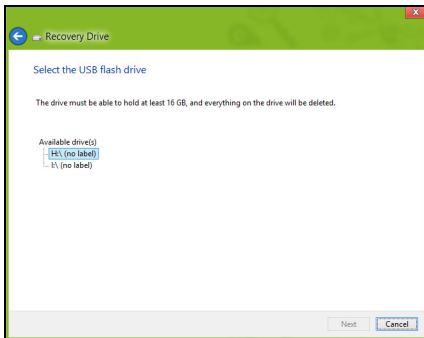
2. Click **Create Factory Default Backup**. The *Recovery Drive* window opens.



Make sure **Copy contents from the recovery partition to the recovery drive** is selected. This provides the most complete and safest recovery backup.

3. Plug in the USB drive then click **Next**.

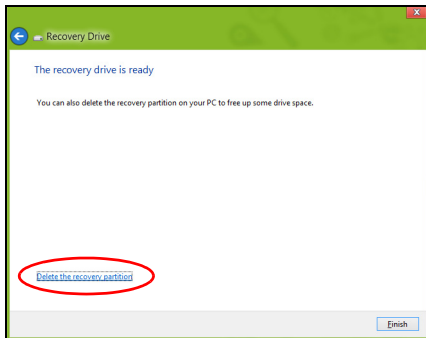
- Make sure your USB drive has enough capacity before continuing. The recovery backup requires at least 16 GB of storage



4. You will be shown the backup progress on the screen.

5. Follow the process until it completes.

6. After creating the recovery backup, you can choose to delete the recovery information on your computer. If you delete this information, you can only use the USB recovery backup to restore your computer, if you lose or erase the USB drive, you cannot restore your computer.



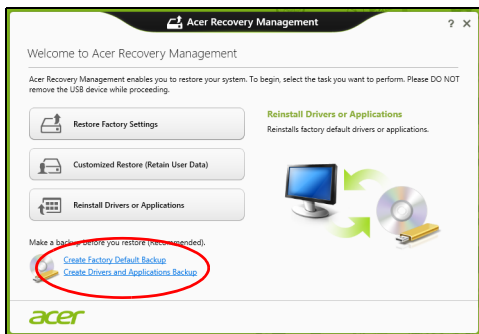
7. Unplug the USB drive and label it clearly.

Important: Write a unique, descriptive label on the backup, such as 'Windows Recovery Backup'. Make sure you keep the backup in a safe place that you will remember.

Creating a drivers and applications backup

To create a Drivers and Applications Backup, that contains the factory-loaded software and drivers needed by your computer, you may use either a USB storage drive or, if your computer features a DVD recorder, one or more blank recordable DVDs.

1. From *Start*, type 'Recovery' and then click **Acer Recovery Management** in the list of apps.



2. Click **Create Drivers and Applications Backup**.

Plug in the USB drive or insert a blank DVD into the optical drive, then click **Next**.

- If you are using a USB drive, make sure your USB drive has enough capacity before continuing.



- If using DVDs, it will also show the number of blank, recordable discs you will need to complete the recovery discs. Make sure that you have the required number of identical, blank discs.



3. Click **Start** to copy files. You will be shown the backup progress on the screen.
4. Follow the process until it completes:
 - If you are using optical discs, the drive ejects each disc as it completes burning it. Remove the disc from the drive and mark it with a permanent marker.
If multiple discs are required, insert a new disc when prompted, then click **OK**. Continue until the process is complete.
 - If you are using a USB drive, unplug the drive and label it clearly.
Important: Write a unique, descriptive label on each backup, such as 'Drivers and Applications Backup'. Make sure you keep the backup in a safe place that you will remember.

Recovering your system

To recover your system:

1. Perform minor fixes.

If only one or two items of software or hardware have stopped working correctly, the problem may be solved by reinstalling the software or the device drivers.

To reinstall software and drivers that were pre-installed at the factory, see **"Reinstalling drivers and applications" on page 39**.

For instructions on reinstalling software and drivers that were not pre-installed, see that product's documentation or support Web site.

2. Revert to a previous system condition.

If reinstalling software or drivers does not help, then the problem may be

solved by returning your system to a previous state when everything was working correctly.

For instructions, see **"Returning to an earlier system snapshot" on page 42.**

3. Reset your operating system.

If nothing else has solved the problem and you want to reset your system, but keep your user information, see **"Returning your system to its factory condition" on page 43.**

4. Reset your system to its factory condition.

If nothing else has solved the problem and you want to reset your system to factory condition, see **"Returning your system to its factory condition" on page 43.**

Reinstalling drivers and applications

As a troubleshooting step, you may need to reinstall the applications and device drivers that came pre-installed on your computer from the factory. You can reinstall using either your hard drive or the backup you have created.

- Other applications - If you need to reinstall software that did not come pre-installed on your computer, you need to follow that software's installation instructions.
- New device drivers - If you need to reinstall device drivers that did not come pre-installed on your computer, follow the instructions provided with the device.

If you are reinstalling using Windows and the recovery information stored on your computer:

- From *Start*, type 'Recovery' and then click **Acer Recovery Management** in the list of apps.



- Click **Reinstall Drivers or Applications**.

- You should see the **Contents** section of the **Acer Resource Center**.



- Click the **install** icon for the item you want to install, then follow the onscreen instructions to complete the installation. Repeat this step for each item you want to reinstall.

If you are reinstalling from a Drivers and Applications Backup on a DVD or USB drive:

1. Insert the **Drivers and Applications Backup** into the disc drive or connect it to a free USB port.
 - If you inserted a DVD wait for **Acer Resource Center** to start.
 - If **Acer Resource Center** does not start automatically, press the **Windows key + <E>**, then double-click on the optical drive icon.
 - If you are using a USB drive, press the **Windows key + <E>**, then double-click on the drive that contains the backup. Double-click on **ResourceCenter**.

2. You should see the **Contents** section of the **Acer Resource Center**.



3. Click the **install** icon for the item you want to install, then follow the onscreen prompts to complete the installation. Repeat this step for each item you want to reinstall.



Returning to an earlier system snapshot

Microsoft System Restore periodically takes a 'snapshot' of your system settings and saves them as restore points. In most cases of hard-to-resolve software problems, you can return to one of these restore points to get your system running again.

Windows automatically creates an additional restore point each day, and also each time you install software or device drivers.

Note: For more information about using Microsoft System Restore, from *Start*, type 'Help' and then click **Help and Support** in the list of

apps. Type 'Windows system restore' in the Search Help box, then press **Enter**.

Returning to a restore point

1. From *Start*, type 'Control Panel' and then click **Control Panel** in the list of apps.
2. Click **System and Security > Action Center**, then click **Recovery** at the bottom of the window.
3. Click **Open System Restore**, then **Next**.
4. Click the latest restore point (at a time when your system worked correctly), click **Next**, then **Finish**.
5. A confirmation window appears; click **Yes**. Your system is restored using the restore point you specified. This process may take several minutes, and may restart your computer.

Returning your system to its factory condition

If your computer experiences problems that are not recoverable by other methods, you may need to reinstall everything to return your system to its factory condition. You can recover from either your hard drive or the recovery backup you have created.

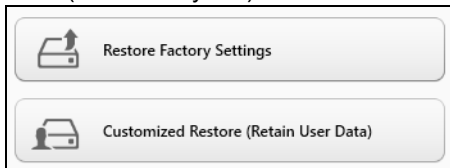
- If you can still run Windows and have not deleted the recovery partition, see **"Recovering from Windows" on page 44**.
- If you cannot run Windows, your original hard drive has been completely re-formatted or you have installed a replacement hard drive, see **"Recovering from a recovery backup" on page 48**.

Recovering from Windows

Start Acer Recovery Management:

- From *Start*, type 'Recovery' and then click **Acer Recovery Management** in the list of apps.

Two options are available, **Restore Factory Settings** (Reset my PC) or **Customized Restore** (Refresh my PC).

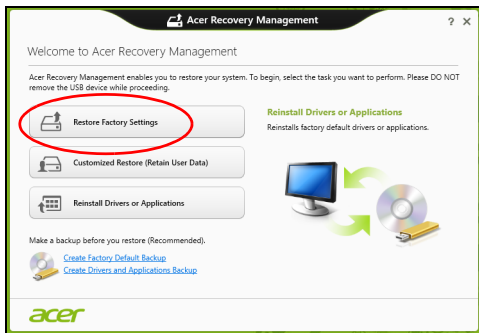


Restore Factory Settings deletes everything on your hard drive, then reinstalls Windows and all software and drivers that were pre-installed on your system. If you can access important files on your hard drive, back them up now. See "**Restore Factory Settings with Acer Recovery Management**" on page 45.

Customized Restore will attempt to retain your files (user data) but will reinstall all software and drivers. Software installed since you purchased your PC will be removed (except software installed from the Windows Store). See "**Customized Restore with Acer Recovery Management**" on page 47.

Restore Factory Settings with Acer Recovery Management

1. Click **Restore Factory Settings**.

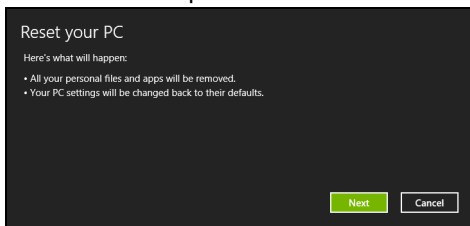


Caution: 'Restore Factory Settings' will erase all files on your hard drive.

2. If your computer is configured with two operating systems (only available on certain systems), a window opens with the option to restore either Windows 7 or Windows 8. If you choose Windows 7, your computer will restart and restore Windows 7. If you choose Windows 8, *Reset your PC* opens, as described below.

Note: To fully enjoy Windows 8 features after changing from Windows 7, enter the BIOS (press <Fn> + <2> when starting your computer) and change Boot Mode to **UEFI**. If you reinstall Windows 7, you must change Boot Mode back to **Legacy** before restarting your computer.

3. The **Reset your PC** window opens.



Images for reference only.

4. Click **Next**, then choose how to erase your files:

- a. **Just remove my files** quickly erases all files before restoring your computer and takes about 30 minutes.
- b. **Fully clean the drive** completely cleans the drive after each file is erased, so no files can be viewed after the recovery. Cleaning the drive takes much longer, up to 5 hours, but is much more secure as old files are completely removed.

5. Click **Reset**.

6. The recovery process begins by restarting your computer, then continues by copying files to your hard drive.

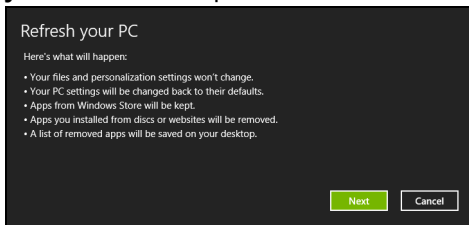
7. After the recovery has finished, you can start using your computer by repeating the first-start process.

Customized Restore with Acer Recovery Management

1. Click **Customized Restore (Retain User Data)**.



2. The **Refresh your PC** window opens.



3. Click **Next**, then **Refresh**.

4. The recovery process begins by restarting your computer, then continues by copying files to your hard drive. This process takes about 30 minutes.

Recovering from a recovery backup

To recover from a recovery backup on a USB drive:

1. Find your recovery backup.
2. Plug in the USB drive and turn on your computer.
3. If it is not already enabled, you must enable the *F12 Boot Menu*:
 - a. Press **<Fn> + <2>** when starting your computer.
 - b. Use the left or right arrow keys to select the **Main** menu.
 - c. Press the down key until **F12 Boot Menu** is selected, press **<Fn> + <5>** to change this setting to **Enabled**.
 - d. Use the left or right arrow keys to select the **Exit** menu.
 - e. Depending on the type of BIOS your computer uses, select **Save Changes and Exit** or **Exit Saving Changes** and press **Enter**. Select **OK** or **Yes** to confirm.
 - f. Your computer will restart.
4. During startup, press **<Fn> + <=>** to open the boot menu. The boot menu allows you to select which device to start from, select the USB drive.
 - a. Use your arrow keys to select **USB Device**, then press **Enter**.
 - b. Windows starts from the recovery backup instead of the normal startup process.
5. Select your keyboard type.
6. Select **Troubleshoot** and then choose the type of recovery to use:

- a. Click **Advanced** then **System Restore** to start Microsoft System Restore:

Microsoft System Restore periodically takes a 'snapshot' of your system settings and saves them as restore points. In most cases of hard-to-resolve software problems, you can return to one of these restore points to get your system running again.

- b. Click **Reset your PC** to start the reset process:

Reset your PC deletes everything on your hard drive, then reinstalls Windows and all software and drivers that were pre-installed on your system. If you can access important files on your hard drive, back them up now. See "**Reset your PC from the recovery backup**" on **page 50**.

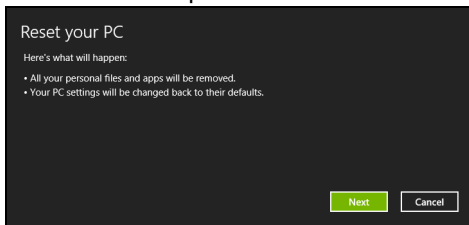
- c. Click **Refresh your PC** to start the refresh process:

Refresh your PC will attempt to retain your files (user data) but will reinstall all software and drivers. Software installed since you purchased your PC will be removed (except software installed from the Windows Store). See "**Refresh your PC from the recovery backup**" on **page 51**.

Reset your PC from the recovery backup

Caution: Reset your PC will erase all files on your hard drive.

1. The **Reset your PC** window opens.



Images for reference only.

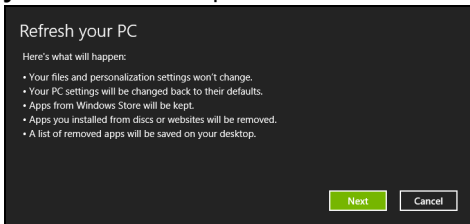
2. Click **Next**.
3. Select the operating system to recover (normally only one option is available).
4. Choose to keep any changes to the hard drive:
 - a. If you have deleted the recovery partition or otherwise changed the partitions on the hard drive and want to keep these changes, select **No**.
 - b. To completely restore your computer to Factory Settings, select **Yes**.
5. Choose how to erase your files:
 - a. **Just remove my files** quickly erases all files before restoring your computer and takes about 30 minutes.
 - b. **Fully clean the drive** completely cleans the drive after each file is erased, so no files can be viewed after the recovery. Cleaning the

drive takes much longer, up to 5 hours, but is much more secure as old files are completely removed.

6. Click **Reset**.
7. After the recovery has finished, you can start using your computer by repeating the first-start process.

Refresh your PC from the recovery backup

1. The **Refresh your PC** window opens.



2. Click **Next**.
3. Select the operating system to recover (normally only one option is available).
4. Click **Refresh**.
5. The recovery process begins by restarting your computer, then continues by copying files to your hard drive. This process takes about 30 minutes.

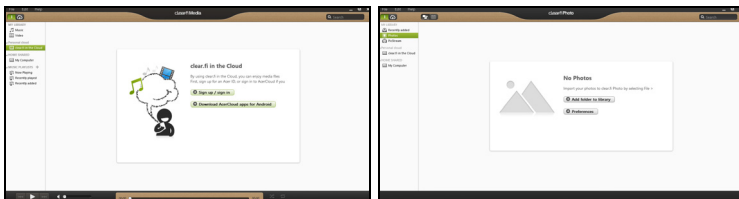
ACER CLEAR.FI

Note: Only for certain models.

With Acer clear.fi, you can enjoy videos, photos and music. Stream media from, or to, other devices with Acer clear.fi installed.

Note: All devices must be connected to the same network.

To watch videos or listen to music open **clear.fi Media**, to browse photos open **clear.fi Photo**.



Important: When you first open a clear.fi application, Windows Firewall will ask for permission to allow clear.fi to access the network. Select **Allow Access** in each window.

Navigating media and photos

The list in the left panel shows your computer ('My Library'), then other devices if any are connected to your network ('Home Shared').

To view files on your computer, select one of the categories under 'My Library', then browse the files and folder on the right.

Shared files

Devices connected to your network are shown in the **Home Shared** section. Select a device, then select the category to explore.

After a short delay, shared files and folders are shown on the right. Browse to the file you want to play, then double-click to start playback.

Use the media controls in the bar across the bottom of the screen to control playback. For example, when music is selected, you can play, pause or stop playback, and adjust the volume.



Note: You must activate sharing on the device that stores the files. Open *clear.fi* on the device that stores the files, select **Edit** then make sure **Share my library on local network** is active.



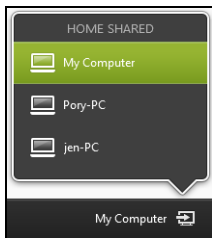
Which devices are compatible?

Certified Acer devices with clear.fi or DLNA software can be used with the clear.fi software. These include DLNA-compliant PCs, smartphones, and NAS (Network Attached Storage) devices.

Playing to another device

If you want to play the media on another device, you need to do the following:

1. In the bottom right corner, select **Play to.** 
2. Select the remote device that will be used to play the file.



Note: Only devices optimised for playback are available in this list, certain PCs and storage devices will not appear. To add a Windows PC to this list, open Windows Media Player, select **Stream** and **Allow remote control of my Player...**

3. Select a file in the main window, then use the media controls in the bar across the bottom of the screen to control the remote device.

For more help, go to <http://www.acer.com/clearfi/download/>.

POWER MANAGEMENT

This computer has a built-in power management unit that monitors system activity. System activity refers to any activity involving one or more of the following devices: keyboard, mouse, hard disk, peripherals connected to the computer, and video memory. If no activity is detected for a period of time, the computer stops some or all of these devices in order to conserve energy.

Acer Green Instant On

Note: *For selected models only.*

The Acer Green Instant On feature allows your computer to wake up from Sleep mode in less than the time it takes to open the lid. When you close the lid, or leave your computer for a while, your computer enters Sleep mode. While the computer is in Sleep mode, the power indicator LED will flash orange.

Open the lid or press any key to wake the computer from Sleep mode.

After a certain amount of time in Sleep mode, the computer will automatically enter Deep Sleep to preserve battery life. When the computer is in Deep Sleep, the power indicator LED will be turned off. In this state, battery remains ready to use for many weeks.

Press the power button to wake up from Deep Sleep.

Note: *Once in Deep Sleep, your PC will consume significantly less power compared with Sleep mode, but it will take a little longer to wake up from Deep Sleep.*

Deep Sleep and Sleep mode work together to ensure that your computer saves as much power as possible while still enabling quick, instant on access.

To save more power, your computer will typically enter and stay in Deep Sleep during times when it will not be frequently accessed, for example, during the middle of the night. To provide quicker access, your computer will enter and stay in Sleep mode during times when it will be frequently accessed, for example, during working hours.

Saving power

Disable Fast startup

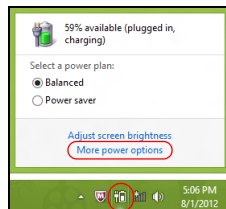
Your computer uses Fast startup to start quickly, but also uses a small amount of power to check for signals to start. These checks will slowly drain your computer's battery.

If you prefer to reduce your computer's power requirements and environmental impact, turn off Fast startup:

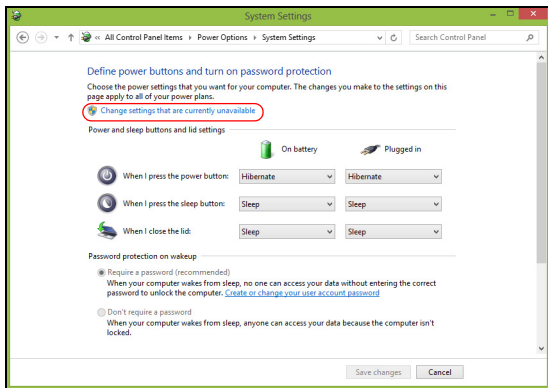
Note: *If Fast startup is off, your computer will take longer to start from Sleep. If your computer features Acer Instant On or Acer Always Connect, these will also be turned off.*

Your computer will also not start if it receives an instruction to start over a network (Wake on LAN).

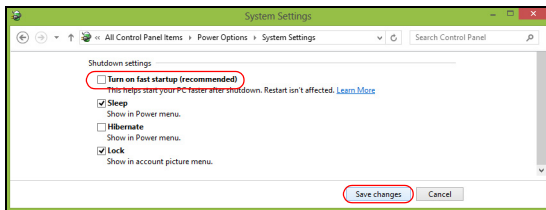
1. Open the Desktop.
2. Click **Power Options** in the Notification area.
3. Select **More Power Options**.



4. Select **Choose what the power buttons do**.
5. To access Shutdown Settings, select **Change settings that are currently unavailable**.



6. Scroll down and disable **Turn on fast startup**.



7. Select **Save changes**.

BATTERY PACK

The computer uses an embedded battery pack that gives you long use between charges.

Battery pack characteristics

The battery pack has the following characteristics:

- Employs current battery technology standards.
- Delivers a battery-low warning.

The battery is recharged whenever you connect the computer to the AC adapter. Your computer supports charge-in-use, enabling you to recharge the battery while you continue to operate the computer. However, recharging with the computer turned off results in a significantly faster charge time.

Charging the battery

To charge the battery, first make sure that it is correctly installed in the battery bay. Plug the AC adapter into the computer, and connect to a mains power outlet. You can continue to operate your computer on AC power while your battery is charging. However, charging the battery with the computer turned off results in a significantly faster charge time.

Note: *You are advised to charge the battery before retiring for the day. Charging the battery overnight before traveling enables you to start the next day with a fully charged battery.*

Conditioning a new battery pack

Before you use a battery pack for the first time, there is a conditioning process that you should follow:

1. Connect the AC adapter and fully charge the battery.
2. Disconnect the AC adapter.
3. Turn on the computer and operate using battery power.
4. Fully deplete the battery until the battery-low warning appears.
5. Reconnect the AC adapter and fully charge the battery again.

Follow these steps again until the battery has been charged and discharged three times.

Use this conditioning process for all new batteries, or if a battery hasn't been used for a long time.

Warning! Do not expose battery packs to temperatures below 0° C (32° F) or above 45° C (113° F). Extreme temperatures may adversely affect the battery pack.

By following the battery conditioning process you condition your battery to accept the maximum possible charge. Failure to follow this procedure will prevent you from obtaining the maximum battery charge, and will also shorten the effective lifespan of the battery.

In addition, the useful lifespan of the battery is adversely affected by the following usage patterns:

- Using the computer on constant AC power.

- Not discharging and recharging the battery to its extremes, as described above.
- Frequent use; the more you use the battery, the faster it will reach the end of its effective life. A standard computer battery has a life span of about 300 charges.

Optimizing battery life

Optimizing battery life helps you get the most out of battery operation, prolonging the charge/recharge cycle and improving recharging efficiency. You are advised to follow the suggestions set out below:

- Use AC power whenever possible, reserving battery for on-the-go use.
- Eject a PC Card if it is not being used, as it will continue to draw power (for selected models).
- Store your PC in a cool, dry place. The recommended temperature is 10° C (50° F) to 30° C (86° F). Higher temperatures cause the battery to self-discharge faster.
- Excessive recharging decreases the battery life.
- Look after your AC adapter and battery.

Checking the battery level

The Windows power meter indicates the current battery level. Rest the cursor over the battery/power icon on the taskbar to see the battery's present charge level.

Battery-low warning

When using battery power pay attention to the Windows power meter.

Warning! Connect the AC adapter as soon as possible after the battery-low warning appears. Data will be lost if the battery to become fully depleted and the computer shuts down.

When the battery-low warning appears, the recommended course of action depends on your situation:

Situation	Recommended Action
The AC adapter and a power outlet are available.	1. Plug the AC adapter into the computer, and then connect to the mains power supply. 2. Save all necessary files. 3. Resume work. Turn off the computer if you want to recharge the battery rapidly.
The AC adapter or a power outlet is unavailable.	1. Save all necessary files. 2. Close all applications. 3. Turn off the computer.

TRAVELING WITH YOUR COMPUTER

This section gives you tips and hints to consider when moving around or traveling with your computer.

Disconnecting from the desktop

Follow these steps to disconnect your computer from external accessories:

1. Save any open files.
2. Remove discs from optical drive(s).
3. Shut down the computer.
4. Close the display cover.
5. Disconnect the cord from the AC adapter.
6. Disconnect the keyboard, pointing device, printer, external monitor and other external devices.
7. Disconnect the Kensington lock if you are using one to secure the computer.

Moving around

When you are just moving within short distances, for example, from your office desk to a meeting room.

Preparing the computer

Before moving the computer, close and latch the display cover to place it in Sleep mode. You can now safely take the computer anywhere you go within the building. To bring the computer out of Sleep mode, open the display; then press and release the power button.

If you are taking the computer to a client's office or a different building, you may choose to shut down the computer:

Press the *Windows key* + <C> and click **Settings > Power** then click **Shut Down**.

Or:

You can put the computer in Sleep mode by pressing <Fn> + <W>. Then close the display.

When you are ready to use the computer again, open the display; then press and release the power button.

Note: *The computer may enter Hibernation or Deep Sleep mode after being in Sleep mode for a period of time.*

What to bring to meetings

If your meeting is relatively short, you probably do not need to bring anything with you other than your computer. If your meeting will be longer, or if your battery is not fully charged, you may want to bring the AC adapter with you to plug in your computer in the meeting room.

If the meeting room does not have an electrical outlet, reduce the drain on the battery by putting the computer in Sleep mode. Press <Fn> + <W> or close the display cover whenever you are not actively using the computer.

Taking the computer home

When you are moving from your office to your home or vice versa.

Preparing the computer

After disconnecting the computer from your desktop, follow these steps to prepare the computer for the trip home:

- Check that you have removed all media and compact discs from the drive(s). Failure to remove the media can damage the drive head.
- Pack the computer in a protective case that can prevent the computer from sliding around and cushion it if it should fall.

Caution: Avoid packing items next to the top cover of the computer. Pressure against the top cover can damage the screen.

What to take with you

Unless you have some items at home, take the following items with you:

- AC adapter and power cord.
- The printed setup poster.

Special considerations

Follow these guidelines to protect your computer while traveling to and from work:

- Minimize the effects of temperature changes by keeping the computer with you.
- If you need to stop for an extended period of time and cannot carry the computer with you, leave the computer in the trunk of the car to avoid exposing the computer to excessive heat.
- Changes in temperature and humidity can cause condensation. Allow the computer to return to room temperature, and inspect the screen for condensation before turning on the computer. If the temperature change is greater than 10° C (18° F), allow the computer to come to room temperature slowly. If possible, leave the computer for 30 minutes in an environment with a temperature between outside and room temperature.

Setting up a home office

If you frequently work on your computer at home, you may want to purchase a second AC adapter for use at home. With a second AC adapter, you can avoid carrying the extra weight to and from home.

If you use your computer at home for significant periods of time, you might also want to add an external keyboard, monitor or mouse.

Traveling with the computer

When you are moving within a larger distance, for instance, from your office building to a client's office building or traveling locally.

Preparing the computer

Prepare the computer as if you were taking it home. Make sure that the battery in the computer is charged. Airport security may require you to turn on your computer when carrying it into the gate area.

What to take with you

Take the following items with you:

- AC adapter
- Additional printer driver files if you plan to use another printer

Special considerations

In addition to the guidelines for taking the computer home, follow these guidelines to protect your computer while traveling:

- Always take the computer as carry-on luggage.
- If possible, have the computer inspected by hand. Airport security X-ray machines are safe, but do not put the computer through a metal detector.

Traveling internationally with the computer

When you are moving from country to country.

Preparing the computer

Prepare the computer as you would normally prepare it for traveling.

What to bring with you

Bring the following items with you:

- AC adapter.
- Power cords that are appropriate for the country to which you are traveling.
- Additional printer driver files if you plan to use another printer.
- Proof of purchase, in case you need to show it to customs officials.
- International Travelers Warranty passport.

Special considerations

Follow the same special considerations as when traveling with the computer.

In addition, these tips are useful when traveling internationally:

- When traveling in another country, check that the local AC voltage and the AC adapter power cord specifications are compatible. If not, purchase a power cord that is compatible with the local AC voltage. Do not use converter kits sold for appliances to power the computer.
- If you are using the modem, check if the modem and connector are compatible with the telecommunications system of the country you are traveling in.

SECURING YOUR COMPUTER

Your computer is a valuable investment that you need to take care of. Learn how to protect and take care of your computer.

Using passwords

Passwords protect your computer from unauthorized access. Setting these passwords creates several different levels of protection for your computer and data:

- Supervisor Password prevents unauthorized entry into the BIOS utility. Once set, you must enter this password to gain access to the BIOS utility. See **"BIOS utility" on page 85**.
- User Password secures your computer against unauthorized use. Combine the use of this password with password checkpoints on boot-up and resume from Hibernation (if available) for maximum security.
- Password on Boot secures your computer against unauthorized use. Combine the use of this password with password checkpoints on boot-up and resume from Hibernation (if available) for maximum security.

Important: Do not forget your Supervisor Password! If you forget your password, please get in touch with your dealer or an authorized service center.

Entering passwords

When a password is set, a password prompt appears in the center of the display screen.

- When the Supervisor Password is set, a prompt appears when you press <Fn> + <2> to enter the BIOS utility at boot-up.
- Type the Supervisor Password and press <Enter> to access the BIOS utility. If you enter the password incorrectly, a warning message appears. Try again and press <Enter>.
- When the User Password is set and the password on boot parameter is enabled, a prompt appears at boot-up.
- Type the User Password and press <Enter> to use the computer. If you enter the password incorrectly, a warning message appears. Try again and press <Enter>.

Important: You have three chances to enter a password. If you fail to enter the password correctly after three tries, the system halts. Press and hold the power button for four seconds to shut down the computer. Then turn on the computer again, and try again.

ACER THEFT SHIELD

Note: *This feature is only available on certain models.*

Acer Theft Shield is a tool for your computer that helps prevent theft by alerting you if your computer is moved out of range of your Android cellphone or the selected wireless network.

To start Acer Theft Shield, double-click the *Acer Theft Shield* icon on *Desktop*, or from *Start* simply start typing 'Acer Theft Shield' to open *Search* and list the results.

Note: *Acer Theft Shield needs a Windows Log On password. If you have not set a password, you will be reminded to set one.*

Once Acer Theft Shield is running, you will be asked to select the type of detection you wish to use. You may select:

- **Use an Android phone.**

- **Use a Wi-Fi network.**



If you select **Use an Android phone**, you will be shown a QR (Quick Reference) code that you can scan using your phone. The QR contains a link that will allow you to download the Android app to your phone.

Tip: If you do not select to use an Android phone at this stage, you can select to use an Android phone at any time from "**Settings**" on page **74**.

Note: If your phone does not have a barcode reader installed, you will need to download one before you can scan the QR code.



Once you have downloaded the Android app to your phone, click **Next** to start setting up Acer Theft Shield. Click **Start** to turn on your notebook's Wi-Fi hotspot feature, this will allow your phone to detect the notebook.

Using Acer Theft Shield

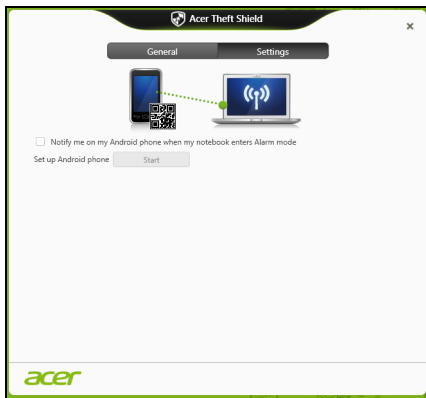
General

Once you have selected the method to use, you will be shown the *General* page which allows you to activate Acer Theft Shield and select a hotkey combination to activate Acer Theft Shield.

You can press the hotkey combination to protect your computer at any time.

Settings

The *Settings* page allows you to change alarm settings and also set up notifications on your Android phone.



Tap **Edit** under *Configure your notebook's Wi-Fi hotspot network* to change the SSID that your notebook will broadcast while linking to your Android cellphone.

You can also change the alarm notification duration from the drop-down menu under *Alarm mode settings*.

Tip: To view the QR code to download the Android app again, click the



icon.

WIRELESS NETWORKS

Connecting to the Internet

Your computer's wireless connection is turned on by default.

Windows will detect and display a list of available networks during setup. Select your network and enter the password if required.

Otherwise, open Internet Explorer and follow the instructions.

Please refer to your ISP or router documentation.

Acer Instant Connect

Instant Connect ensures a faster connection to any of the networks that your computer connects to most frequently.

Wireless networks

A wireless LAN or WLAN is a wireless local area network, which may link two or more computers without using wires. Setting up a wireless network is easy and allows you to share files, peripheral devices and an Internet connection.

What are benefits of a wireless network?

Mobility

Wireless LAN systems allow you and other users of your home network to share access to files and devices connected to the network, for example a printer or scanner.

Also you can share an internet connection with other computers in your home.

Installation speed and simplicity

Installing a wireless LAN system can be fast and easy and eliminates the need to pull cables through walls and ceilings.

Components of a wireless LAN

To set up your Wireless network at home you need to have the following:

Access point (router)

Access points (routers) are two-way transceivers that broadcast data into the surrounding environment. Access points act as a mediator between wired and wireless network. Most routers have a built-in DSL modem that will allow you access to a high speed DSL internet connection. The ISP (Internet Service Provider) you have chosen normally supplies a modem/router with the subscription to their services. Read carefully the documentation supplied with your Access point/router for detailed setup instructions.

USING A BLUETOOTH CONNECTION

Bluetooth is a technology enabling you to transfer data wirelessly over short distances between many different types of devices. Bluetooth-enabled devices include computers, cell phones, tablets, wireless headsets, and keyboards.

To use Bluetooth, you must ensure the following:

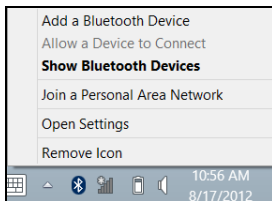
1. Bluetooth is enabled on both devices.
2. Your devices are "paired" (or connected).

Enabling and disabling Bluetooth

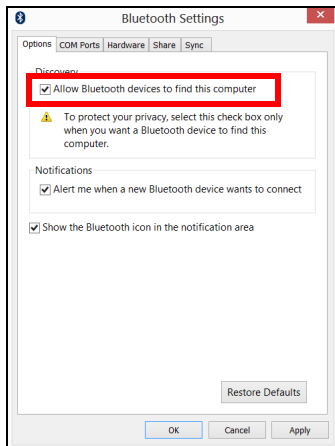
The Bluetooth adapter must be enabled on both devices. For your computer, this may be an external switch, a software setting, or a separate Bluetooth dongle plugged into the computer's USB port (if no internal Bluetooth adapter is available).

Note: Please check your devices owner's manual to determine how to turn on its Bluetooth adapter.

Then, from the notification area, click the Bluetooth icon, and select **Open Settings**.



Select the **Allow Bluetooth devices to find this computer** check box, click **Apply**, and then click **OK**.



The Bluetooth adapter in your computer is now enabled and ready for you to add Bluetooth devices.

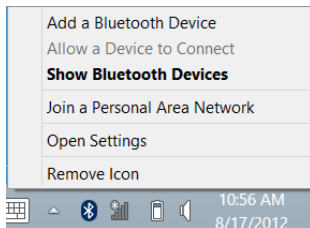
To disable your computer's Bluetooth adapter, do the following:

1. Press the *Windows key* + <W> and then type **Wireless**.
2. In the results, click on **Wireless**.
3. Click the toggle under **Bluetooth** to enable/disable it.

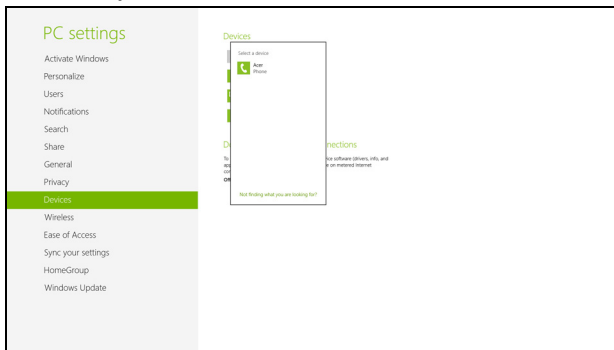
Adding a Bluetooth device

Every new device must first be "paired" with your computer's Bluetooth adapter. This means it must first be authenticated for security purposes. You only need to pair once. After that, simply turning on the Bluetooth adapter of both devices will connect them.

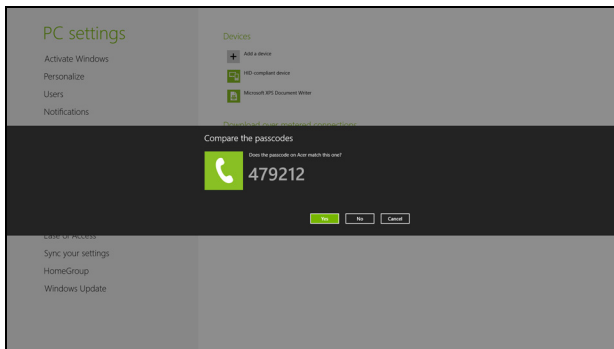
From the notification area, click the Bluetooth icon, and select **Add a Bluetooth Device**.



Click on the device you want to add.

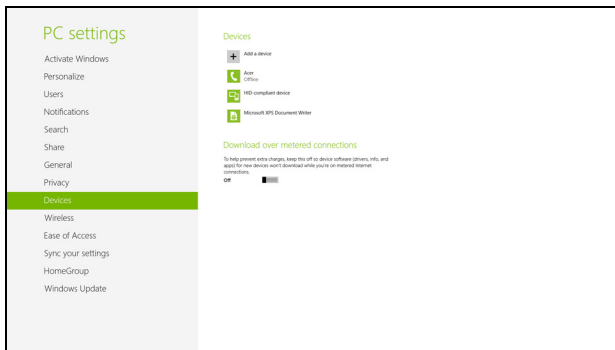


A code displays on your computer, which should match the code displayed on your device. Select **Yes**. Then, accept the pairing from your device.

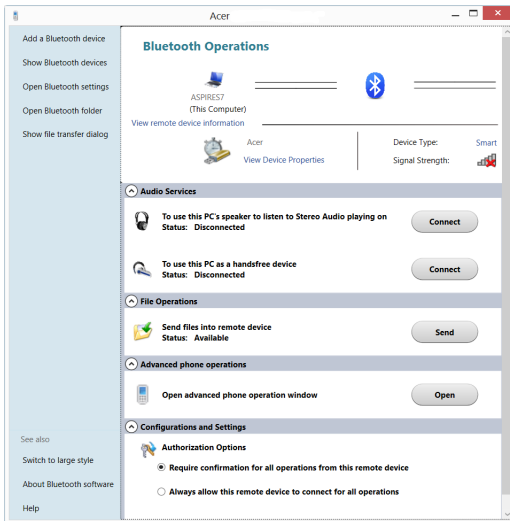


Note: Some devices using older versions of the Bluetooth technology require both devices to enter a PIN. In the case of one of the devices not having any inputs (as in a headset), the passcode is hardcoded into the device (usually "0000" or "1234"). Consult your device's user manual for more information.

Your device will show up in the list of devices if it was successfully paired. Open the **Control Panel** and under **Hardware and Sound** click on **View devices and printers**. Right click on your device and select **Advanced Operations > Connect to operation window**.



The operation window enables you to play music and audio from your device through your computer, send files to your device and change Bluetooth settings.



HDMI MICRO

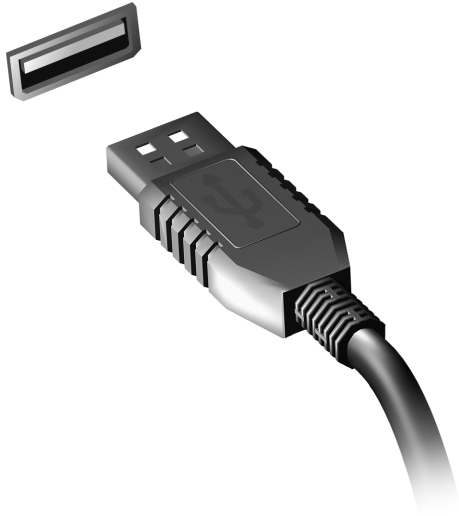
HDMI (High-Definition Multimedia Interface) is an industry-supported, uncompressed, all-digital audio/video interface. HDMI provides an interface between any compatible digital audio/video source, such as a set-top box, DVD player, and A/V receiver and a compatible digital audio and/or video monitor, such as a digital television (DTV), over a single cable.

Use the HDMI Micro port on your computer to connect with high-end audio and video equipment. Single cable implementation allows tidy setup and fast connection.



UNIVERSAL SERIAL BUS (USB)

The USB port is a high-speed serial bus which allows you to connect USB peripherals without taking up system resources.



BIOS UTILITY

The BIOS utility is a hardware configuration program built into your computer's BIOS.

Your computer is already properly configured and optimized, and you do not need to run this utility. However, if you encounter configuration problems, you may need to run it.

To activate the BIOS utility, press <Fn> + <2> during the POST while the computer logo is being displayed.

Boot sequence

To set the boot sequence in the BIOS utility, activate the BIOS utility, then select **Boot** from the categories listed at the top of the screen.

Enable disk-to-disk recovery

To enable disk-to-disk recovery (hard disk recovery), activate the BIOS utility, then select **Main** from the categories listed at the top of the screen. Find **D2D Recovery** at the bottom of the screen and use <Fn> + <5> and <Fn> + <6> to set this value to **Enabled**.

Setting passwords

To set a password on boot, activate the BIOS utility, then select **Security** from the categories listed at the top of the screen. Find **Password on boot:** and use <Fn> + <5> and <Fn> + <6> to enable this feature.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The following is a list of possible situations that may arise during the use of your computer. Easy solutions are provided for each one.

I turned on the power, but the computer does not start or boot up

Look at the power indicator:

- If it is not lit, no power is being supplied to the computer. Check the following:
 - If you are using on the battery, it may be low and unable to power the computer. Connect the AC adapter to recharge the battery pack.
 - Make sure that the AC adapter is properly plugged into the computer and to the power outlet.
- If it is lit, check the following:
 - Is a disc in the optical drive? Remove it and press <Ctrl> + <Alt> + to restart the system.
 - Do you have a USB storage device (USB disk or smartphone) plugged into your computer? Unplug it and press <Ctrl> + <Alt> + to restart the system.

Nothing appears on the screen

The computer's power management system automatically blanks the screen to save power. Press any key to turn the display back on.

If pressing a key does not turn the display back on, three things might be the cause:

- The brightness level might be too low. Press <Fn> + <▷> (increase) to adjust the brightness level.
- The display device might be set to an external monitor. Press the display toggle hotkey to toggle the display back to the computer.
- If the Sleep indicator is lit, the computer is in Sleep mode. Press and release the power button to resume.

No audio is heard from the computer

Check the following:

- The volume may be muted. In Windows, look at the volume control (speaker) icon on the taskbar. If it is crossed-out, click the icon and deselect the **Mute all** option.
- The volume level may be too low. In Windows, look at the volume control icon on the taskbar. You can also use the volume control buttons to adjust the volume.
- If headphones, earphones or external speakers are connected to the line-out port on the computer, the internal speakers automatically turn off.

I want to eject the optical drive tray without turning on the power

There is a mechanical eject hole on the optical drive. Simply insert the tip of a pen or paperclip into the hole and push to eject the tray.

The keyboard does not respond

Try attaching an external keyboard to a USB port on the computer. If it works, contact your dealer or an authorized service center as the internal keyboard cable may be loose.

The printer does not work

Check the following:

- Make sure that the printer is connected to a power outlet and that it is turned on.
- Make sure that the printer cable is connected securely to a USB port and the corresponding port on the printer.

Requesting service

International Travelers Warranty (ITW)

Your computer is backed by an International Travelers Warranty (ITW) that gives you security and peace of mind when traveling. Our worldwide network of service centers are there to give you a helping hand.

An ITW passport comes with your computer. This passport contains all you need to know about the ITW program. A list of available, authorized service centers is in this handy booklet. Read this passport thoroughly.

Always have your ITW passport on hand, especially when you travel, to receive the benefits from our support centers. Place your proof-of-purchase in the flap located inside the front cover of the ITW passport.

If the country you are traveling in does not have an Acer-authorized ITW service site, you can still get in contact with our offices worldwide. Please visit **www.acer.com**.

Before you call

Please have the following information available when you call Acer for online service, and please be at your computer when you call. With your support, we can reduce the amount of time a call takes and help solve your problems efficiently. If there are error messages or beeps reported by your computer, write them down as they appear on the screen (or the number and sequence in the case of beeps).

You are required to provide the following information:

Name:

Address:

Telephone number:

Machine and model type:

Serial number:

Date of purchase:

Tips and hints for using Windows 8

We know this is a new operating system that will take some getting used to, so we've created a few pointers to help you get started.

Three concepts you might want to keep in mind

1. Start

The Start button is no longer available; you can launch apps from the Start screen.

2. Tiles

Live tiles are similar to thumbnails of the apps.

3. Charms

Charms allow you to perform useful functions, such as sharing content, turning off your PC or changing settings.

How do I access the charms?

Swipe the right-hand edge of the screen inwards.

How do I get to Start?

Press the Windows key; or swipe the right-hand edge of the screen inwards and tap the **Start** charm.

How do I jump between apps?

Swipe the left-hand edge of the screen inwards to cycle through apps that are currently running.

How do I turn off my computer?

Swipe the right-hand edge of the screen inwards, tap **Settings > Power** and select the action you'd like to take. Alternatively, from *Desktop*, tap **Acer Power Button** and select the action you'd like to take.

Why is there a new interface?

The new interface for Windows 8 is designed to work well with touch input. Windows Store apps will automatically use the whole screen and don't require closing in the traditional way. Windows Store apps will be displayed on Start using live-tiles.

What are 'live tiles'?

Live tiles are similar to thumbnails of the app that will be updated with new content whenever you're connected to the Internet. So, for example, you can view weather or stock updates without needing to open the app.

How do I unlock my computer?

Swipe the lock screen upwards and tap a user account icon to unlock the computer. If your account has a password set, you will need to enter the password to continue.

Tap and hold the *preview* icon to see the characters you've entered to ensure the password is correct.

How do I personalize my computer?

You can personalize *Start* with a different background image or by arranging the tiles to suit your personal needs.

To change the background, swipe the right-hand edge of the screen inwards and tap **Settings** > **Change PC settings** > **Personalize**. Tap **Start screen** at the top of the page and select a color and image.

How do I move tiles?

Tap and hold a tile to select it, then drag it to the place on *Start* that you want it to appear. Other tiles will be moved to accommodate the tile in its new location.

Can I make tiles bigger or smaller?

Tap and drag the tile downwards and release it. Select **Smaller** or **Larger** from the menu that appears at the bottom of the screen.

How do I personalize the Lock screen?

You can personalize the lock screen with a different image or to show you quick status and notifications to suit your personal needs.

To change the background, swipe the right-hand edge of the screen inwards and tap **Settings** > **Change PC settings** > **Personalize**. Tap **Lock screen** at the top of the page and select the image and apps you would like to see on the lock screen.

So, how do I close an app?

Swipe the window downwards from the top of the screen, and past the halfway point of the screen.

Can I change the screen resolution?

Swipe the right-hand edge of the screen inwards and tap **Search**, tap the text box to open the onscreen keyboard and start typing 'Control Panel' to display the results; tap **Control Panel > Adjust screen resolution**.

I want to use Windows in the way that I'm used to - give me my desktop back!

From *Start* tap the **Desktop** tile to see a traditional desktop. You can pin apps you frequently use to the taskbar to easily open them.

If you click a app that is not a Windows Store app, Windows will automatically open the app using *Desktop*.

Where are my apps?

Swipe the right-hand edge of the screen inwards and tap **Search**, type the name of the app you would like to open using the pop-up keyboard. Results will be displayed on the left-hand side of the screen.

To view the complete list of apps, swipe upwards from the bottom of the screen and tap **All apps**.

How do I make an app appear on Start?

If you're in *All apps* and you want to make a app appear on *Start*, tap and drag the app downwards and release it. Tap **Pin to Start** from the menu that appears at the bottom of the screen.

How do I remove a tile from Start?

Tap and drag the app downwards and release it. Tap **Unpin from Start** from the menu that appears at the bottom of the screen.

How do I make an app appear on my taskbar in Desktop?

If you're in *All apps* and you want to make a app appear on the taskbar in *Desktop*, tap and drag the app downwards and release it. Select **Pin to taskbar** from the menu that appears at the bottom of the screen.

How do I install apps?

You can download Windows Store apps from *Store*. You will need to have a Microsoft ID to purchase and download apps from *Store*.

I can't find apps like Notepad and Paint! Where are they?

Swipe the right-hand edge of the screen inwards and tap **Search**, type the name of the app you would like to open using the pop-up keyboard. Alternatively, open *All apps* and scroll to 'Windows Accessories' to see the list of legacy programs.

What is a Microsoft ID (account)?

A Microsoft account is an email address and password that you use to sign in to Windows. You can use any email address, but it is best if you choose the one you already use to communicate with friends and sign in to your favorite websites. When you sign in to your PC with a Microsoft account, you'll connect your PC to the people, files, and devices you care about.

Do I need one?

You do not need a Microsoft ID to use Windows 8, but it makes life easier because you can sync data across different machines you sign in to using a Microsoft ID.

How do I get one?

If you've already installed Windows 8 and didn't sign in with a Microsoft account or you don't have a Microsoft account and want to get one, swipe the right-hand edge of the screen inwards and tap **Settings > Change PC settings > Users > Switch to a Microsoft account**, and follow the onscreen instructions.

How do I add a favorite to Internet Explorer?

Internet Explorer 10 doesn't have traditional favorites, instead you can pin shortcuts to *Start*. Once you have the page open, swipe upwards from the bottom edge of the screen to open the menu at the bottom of the screen. Tap **Pin to Start**.

How do I check for Windows updates?

Swipe the right-hand edge of the screen inwards and tap **Settings > Change PC settings > Windows Updates**. Tap **Check for updates now**.

Where can I get more information?

For more information please visit the following pages:

- Windows 8 tutorials: www.acer.com/windows8-tutorial
- Support FAQs: www.acer.com/support

Troubleshooting

This chapter shows you how to deal with common system problems. Read it before calling a technician if a problem occurs. Solutions to more serious problems require opening up the computer. Do not attempt to open the computer yourself; contact your dealer or authorized service center for assistance.

Troubleshooting tips

This computer incorporates an advanced design that delivers onscreen error message reports to help you solve problems.

If the system reports an error message or an error symptom occurs, see "Error messages" below. If the problem cannot be resolved, contact your dealer. See **"Requesting service" on page 88**.

Error messages

If you receive an error message, note the message and take the corrective action. The following table lists the error messages in alphabetical order together with the recommended course of action.

Error messages	Corrective action
CMOS battery bad	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
CMOS checksum error	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.

Error messages	Corrective action
Disk boot failure	Insert a system (bootable) disk, then press <Enter> to reboot.
Equipment configuration error	Press <Fn> + <2> (during POST) to enter the BIOS utility, then press Exit in the BIOS utility to reboot.
Hard disk 0 error	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
Hard disk 0 extended type error	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
I/O parity error	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
Keyboard error or no keyboard connected	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
Keyboard interface error	Contact your dealer or an authorized service center.
Memory size mismatch	Press <Fn> + <2> (during POST) to enter the BIOS utility, then press Exit in the BIOS utility to reboot.

If you still encounter problems after going through the corrective measures, please contact your dealer or an authorized service center for assistance.