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Windows 7: Default File Type Associations - Restore

Page 1 of 83 **1** 2 3 11 51 > Last »



Default File Type Associations - Restore

Restore Default Windows 7 File Extension Type Associations

Published by **Brink**
04 Aug 2009

Restore Default Windows 7 File Extension Type Associations



Information

The downloads below will allow you to restore the Windows 7 default registry entries and program associations of the selected file extension type.



Note

This can be helpful for example when a file extension type opens with the wrong program by default, has

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Brink



the wrong icon, or is missing or corrupted in the registry. Downloading the .reg file for the selected file extension in the tutorial below, will restore that file extension back to default for all of these items above.

Since there are so many default file extension types in Windows 7, it may take a bit to have a complete list of them below. If the file extension type you need to restore is not listed below yet, then please post a request for it. I'll be happy to add it to the list. 😊



Warning

Default program associations for file extensions are a per user setting by default, so you will need to be logged on to the effected user account to be able to restore the default associations of the file extension for that specific user account.

If you are logged in as a **standard user** and this still does not help, then have the administrator also merge the needed .reg for the file extension below while logged into their administrator account.

These default file extensions should only be used in Windows 7.

Here's How:

1. Click on a listed **file extension** below the blue NOTE box that you would like to restore the default associations of. This will be for the downloadable **.reg** file for the listed file extension.
2. Save the **.reg** file to your desktop.
3. Right click on the downloaded **.reg** file, and click on **Merge**.

NOTE: If you wish to see what changes will be made by the REG file, then you can right click on the extracted REG file and click on **Edit** to see the default registry entries that will be added. REG files are just text files. The "Edit" function

just opens them in Notepad.



Tip

If you do not see a **Merge** option when you right click on the REG file, then you will need to check in **Default Programs** to set the **reg** file extension to have it's **Current Default** program set as **Registry Editor** (C:\Windows\regedit.exe). Afterwards, try merging the REG file again.

4. If prompted, click on **Run, Yes** (UAC), **Yes**, and **OK**.

NOTE: If you are logged in a **standard user** account, then you will get a **Cannot import** type error. Just click on **OK** for it. This is normal since what cannot be imported can only be done so by an administrator account instead. It will still restore the default association of the file extension though.

5. When finished, you can delete the downloaded **.zip** or **.reg** files on the desktop if you like.

6. Log off and log on, or restart the computer to apply.

Default Windows 7 File Extension Types:



Note

To download all available file extension fixes below in one ZIP folder, click on the Download button below and save the ZIP file to your desktop. Open the ZIP file, and extract (drag and drop) the REG file for the file extension you want to restore to your desktop. Now you could just pick up at step 3 above.



3GP - Audio and video container format developed by the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP); designed as a multimedia format for transmitting audio and video files between 3G cell phones and over the Internet; commonly used by mobile phones that support video capture. The default program is Windows

Media Player.

3GPP - Audio and video container format developed by the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP); designed as a multimedia format for transmitting audio and video files between 3G cell phones and over the Internet; commonly used by mobile phones that support video capture. The default program is Windows Media Player.

aac - ADTS audio file. The default program is Windows Media Player.

ai - AI file.

ani - Windows animated cursor file.

aspx - A file with the ASPX file extension is an ASP.NET Source file.

asf - Advanced Streaming Format (ASF) is an open file format specification for streaming multimedia files containing text, graphics, sound, video, and animation. The default program is Windows Media Player.

asx - Advanced Stream Redirector (.asx) play list files, also known as Windows Media Metafiles, are text files that provide information about a file stream and its presentation. The default program is Windows Media Player.

AudioCD - Audio CD protocol associations.

avi - Audio Video Interleave files. The default program is Windows Media Player.

bas - BASIC source code file.

bak - Usually used to rename a file extension with to make it a backup copy. bak as no associations by default, so this will remove all associations for the bak file extension.

bat - Batch files.

bin - Binary file. By default in Windows 7, .bin files are not associated to be opened by a default program.

bmp - Bitmap image files. The default program is Windows Photo Viewer.

Briefcase - New Briefcase file.

cab - Cabinet files.

cer - Security Certificate file

chm - Microsoft compiled HTML help files.

cmd - Windows command script files.

com - MS-DOS application files.

Contact - Contact file. Default program is Windows Contacts.

cpl - Control Panel item.

cpp - Program source code written in the C++ programming language; may be a standalone program or one of many files referenced within a programming project; can be viewed with a text editor, but most software development programs will display the text with helpful syntax highlighting

crt - Security Certificate file

CSS - Cascading Style Sheet Document file. The default program is Notepad.

cur - Windows File Cursor animation files used for the Microsoft Windows mouse pointer image.

dat - Generic data file created by a specific application; typically accessed only by the application that created the file; may contain data in text or binary format; text-based DAT files can be viewed in a text editor.

der - Security Certificate file

db - Data base file.

dic - The .DIC file extension is a Dictionary file (text file) which can be used as an alternate dictionary on top of the Microsoft Windows Dictionary and may contain an optional set of personalized words which the user has opted to add for spell- checking purposes.

Directory - Directory protocol associations

dll - A Dynamic Link Library (dll) file is a support file used by one or more programs.

drive - Drive protocol associations.

dvr-ms - Microsoft Recorded TV Show file. The default program is Windows Media Center.

exe - Executable application files.

folder - Folder protocol associations.

gif - GIF (Graphics Interchange Format) image files. The default program is Internet Explorer.

gz - Usually associated with Gzip. By default, there is no associated program for this in Windows 7.

h - C or C++ program language header file normally with .C or .CPP file. In computer programming, particularly in the C and C++ programming languages, a header file or include file is a file, usually in the form of source code, that is automatically included in another source file by the compiler. Typically, header files are included via compiler directives at the beginning (or head) of the other source file.

hlp - Help file

hta - HTML (Hypertext Mark-up Language) application. The default program is Microsoft (R) HTML Application host (mshta.exe)

htm - HTML (Hypertext Mark-up Language) document files. The default program is Internet Explorer.

html - HTML (Hypertext Mark-up Language) document files. The default program is Internet Explorer.

ico - Icon files. The default program is Windows Photo Viewer.

img - CD or DVD image file, essentially equivalent to an ISO file.

inf - Setup information files. The default program is Notepad.

ini - The INI file type is primarily associated with 'Initialization/Configuration File'. These files are typically ASCII text with various configuration options set into sections.

iso - Image file.

jnt - Journal document file. Default program is Windows Journal.

jpe - JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) image files. The default program is Windows Photo Viewer.

jpeg - JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) image files. The default program is Windows Photo Viewer.

jpg - JPG (Joint Photographic Group) image files. The default program is Windows Photo Viewer.

js - Java Script file. The default program is Microsoft Windows Based Script Host (C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe).

JSE - JScript encoded script file. The default program is Microsoft Windows Based Script Host (C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe).

library-ms - Library folder.

NOTE: *To restore the default icons, you may need to do these as well.*

- [How to Change a Library Icon in Windows 7](#)
- [How to Change the Default Libraries Icon in Windows 7](#)

Ink - Shortcut link (LNK) files.

log - LOG is a file extension associated with Log files. It is a text file.

M2T - High-definition video recording format used by many HD camcorders; commonly referred to as "HDV;" uses MPEG-2 compression to store HD video data on DV or MiniDV tapes; supports resolutions of 720p and 1080i.

M2TS - Blu-ray BDAV Video File. Video file saved in the high-definition Blu-ray BDAV format; used for saving video data on Blu-ray discs; based on the MPEG-2 transport stream and supports 720p and 1080i formats. BDAV stands for "Blu-ray Disc Audio/Visual," while the M2TS extension refers to "MPEG-2 Transport Stream."

m3u - The M3U file type is primarily associated with 'MP3 Playlist File'. Generally known as a "Winamp" Playlist file, this format has been adopted by a wide variety of MP3 players. The default program is Windows Media Player.

m4a - MPEG-4 audio file. The default program is Windows Media Player.

M4V - MPEG-4 file extension used for videos downloaded from the Apple iTunes store; includes TV episodes, full-length movies, and music videos; similar to an .MP4 file, but may be copy-protected using Apple's FairPlay DRM copyright protection.

manifest - A XML file that contains information about accompanying files in the same archive.

mapimail - Mail service.

mhtml - MHTML document file. The default program is Internet Explorer.

mkv - A Matroska Multimedia Container file is a video format similar to the .AVI, .ASF, and .MOV formats. By default Windows 7 does not have support for opening this file type and has no association. **DivXPlayer** is a good free program to install that does support playing this file extension. This download will set this file extension back to the default unassociated state in Windows 7.

mov - Movie file. The default program is Windows Media Player.

mp3 - MP3 sound format file. The default program is Windows Media Player.

mp4 - MPEG-4 movie file. The default program is Windows Media Player.

mpa - MPEG audio file. The default program is Windows Media Player.

mpe - MPEG movie file. The default program is Windows Media Player.

mpeg - MPEG (Moving Picture Experts Group) video file. The default program is Windows Media Player.

mpg - MPEG video file. The default program is Windows Media Player.

msc - Microsoft Common Console document files.

msi - Microsoft Windows Installer installation package file.

msp - Microsoft Windows Installer Patch file.

MTS - MadTracker 2 Sample File. High-definition MPEG Transport Stream video format, commonly called

"AVCHD" (Advanced Video Codec High Definition); used by Sony, Panasonic, and other HD camcorders; based on the MPEG-2 transport stream and supports 720p and 1080i HD video formats. MTS files can typically be opened and edited using the software included with Sony and Panasonic HD camcorders. The default program in Windows 7 is Windows Media Player.

nfo - System Information File

obj - Object file.

otf - Open Type Font file. The default program is Windows Font Viewer.

Package - Package protocol.

pbk - Dial-Up Phonebook file. The default program is Remote Access Phonebook.

pdf - Portable Document Format (PDF) is a file format created by Adobe Systems. By default, Windows 7 does not support reading this file type. Using this to restore the default PDF association in Windows 7 will remove all associations for the pdf file extension. You will need to install a 3rd party program like **Adobe Reader** or **Foxit Reader** to be able to open and read pdf files in Windows 7.

png - Portable Network Graphics (PNG) is a bitmap compression method for image files. PNG supports 16.7 million colors, it is lossless and also supports index color, grayscale, true color, transparency, and is streamable. It is thus the best compression method (better than GIF or JPEG) for use on the web.

ps1 - Microsoft Windows PowerShell command line shell and scripting language file. The default program used to open with is Notepad.

psd - The PSD file format, created by Adobe, contains graphics/photos created by image editing software such as Adobe Photoshop.

reg - Registry file.

NOTE: You may need to set the **default program** as **Registry Editor** (C:\Windows\regedit.exe) for **reg** file extensions, or **enable regedit** before you will be able to use this REG file.

rtf - Rich Text document files. The default program is WordPad.

scr - Screen Saver files.

Search - Windows Search protocol.

svg - SVG document. The default program is Internet Explorer.

tar - Tape Archive file. By default, there is no associated program for this in Windows 7.

theme - A Windows theme file.

themepack - A .themepack file is a **Windows Theme Pack** file used to share themes with others.

tif - Tagged Image files Format. The default program is Windows Photo Viewer.

tiff - Tagged Image files Format. The default program is Windows Photo Viewer.

tmp - Temp file. By default, this file extension does not have a program associated with it.

TS - Video Transport Stream file used for storing video on a DVD; compresses video data using standard MPEG-2 (.MPEG) video compression. TS files are often saved as multiple files on a DVD, i.e. "movienam1.ts," "movienam2.ts," "movienam3.ts," etc. They can be played back by various software DVD players and video editing tools

ttf - True Type font file. The default program is Windows Font Viewer.

TTS - A .tts file is a text file (an ini file) that corresponds to your book. The ToolBook Translation System (TTS) creates the .tts file for you when you set the book's TTS Identifier through the Setup Sources window.

txt - Text document files. The default program is Notepad.

Type - To remove association with blank file extension.

Unknown - Unknown file types.

url - Internet website shortcut link. The default program is Internet Explorer.

vbs - Visual Basic Script files. The default program is Microsoft Windows Based Script Host (C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe).

vob - Movie data file from a DVD disc, typically stored in the VIDEO_TS folder; contains the majority of data stored on the disc including video, audio, and subtitles; usually formatted as an MPEG-2 system stream and can be opened by various video playback programs.

wav - Wave audio file. The default program is Windows Media Player.

wma - Windows Media Audio files. The default program is Windows Media Player.

wmv - Windows Media Audio/Video file. The default program is Windows Media Player.

wsf - Windows Script Files. The default program is Microsoft Windows Based Script Host (C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe).

xml - Excel Macro files. The default program is Internet Explorer.

xps - XML Paper Specification document files. The default program is XPS Viewer (C:\Windows\System32\XPSViewer\XPSViewer.exe).

xsl - A eXtensible Stylesheet Language file that defines the style of text, tables, and other objects within a XML document; similar to a .CSS file used by .HTML documents. The default program is Internet Explorer.

zip - ZIP file extensions is a archival and data compression format used to compress one or more files to reduce the size of the file. The default program is Compressed Folders.

Related Tutorials

- [How to Associate a File Type or Protocol Default Program in Window 7](#)
- [How to Set Default Associations for a Program in Windows 7](#)
- [How to Hide or Show Known File Type Extensions in Windows 7](#)
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- [How to Fix "Open with" Opening with Notepad or Error Message](#)
- [How to Restore Default Services in Windows 7](#)

04 Aug 2009

#1

**mickey
megabyte**

ultimate 64 sp1

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nice work shawn, but...

as .reg files are so small, do you really need to zip them up?

it just means more work for you in the first place, and another step for the end-user.

My System Specs ▼

04 Aug 2009

#2

Brink

Hi Mickey,

I had the same thoughts, but there were some folks that had security programs that would not allow REG files to be downloaded and would allow ZIP files. It was done for the most compatibility.

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Oklahoma

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05 Aug 2009

#3

**mickey
megabyte**

i should have realised you had a good reason for it! 😊

ultimate 64 sp1

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05 Aug 2009

#4

Brink

LOL, no problem. 😊

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08 Sep 2009

#5

camelgrassWindows 7 Ultimate
4 posts

Hello, I was wondering if anyone can help me restore PHP file extension type to default association?

Thank you!

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#6

Tews64-bit Windows 8.1
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HinterlandsThere is a program called Associate This that will make it easy for you ... [Download](#)

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08 Sep 2009

#7

Brink64-bit Windows 10
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Oklahoma

“ Quote: Originally Posted by camelgrass ♦

*Hello, I was wondering if anyone can help me restore PHP file extension type to default association?**Thank you!*”

Hello Camelgrass,

By default there it not a **PHP** file extension in the registry. Instead only a **PHP3** file extentions.

You can open regedit and open and expand to **HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT** key. If you have a **php** (not php3) key entry listed in the left pane, you can right click on it and click on Delete to remove it and reset it back as unassociated. Restart the computer to apply.

Hope this helps,
Shawn

My System Specs ▼

08 Sep 2009

#8

camelgrass

Windows 7 Ultimate

[4 posts](#)

Thanks for your help.

Actually that didn't work. In regedit there is the key
HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\php_auto_file\shell\open\command

Under "command" I see the current association. Is it safe to delete php_auto_file key?

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08 Sep 2009

#9

Brink



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Oklahoma

It should be, but please post a screenshot of the entry **php_auto_file** selected in the left pane with all of it's contents shown in the right pane first to see if it may have anything located elsewhere for it.

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Page 1 of 83 **1** 2 3 11 51 > Last »

Default File Type Associations - Restore

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MS Office 2010 default file associations missing Running Windows 7 64bit Pro with Office 2010 32bit. It's a new computer and when transferring office documents from one user to another the file associations are missing. You can't open up office documents on the new computer unless you manually associate it. This occurs with all user profiles...	Microsoft Office
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How can i fix ppt and pptx file type Associations? i can not open powerpoint file with double click , how can i fix ppt and pptx file type Associations	Microsoft Office

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