

Windows 10 - IMPROVE DISPLAY READABILITY ©

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Windows10_EasyRead.lwp

Build 21H1 or higher

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This sheet explains how to make the Text, Icons, Pointers, & Cursors bigger, bolder, and easier to read on a typical Display. *NOTE: If your monitor is running at a resolution higher than 1366x768, you will need to set all my recommended values to a higher number to get the best effect. Experiment and see what looks best to you.*

NOTE: The directions below assume that the Control Panel is set to "Large Icons"

NOTE: The Settings Icon no longer says "Settings". It is just a GEAR Icon ⚙.

THEME: (Start > Settings > Personalization > Themes > Theme settings).

- Choose a desired theme before continuing. Then click "Save theme", name your theme and click "Save". Be sure to *save the Theme again at the end of this checklist.*
- *NOTE: Themes affect visuals, sounds, mouse, and other system elements as well as the speed that the PC runs. WARNING: Changing to a new Theme may undo any customizations that you have made on this checklist.*

COMPACT VIEW: In File Explorer, View tab, check the box for:

- Decrease space between items (compact mode). **CHECK THIS!**

DESKTOP WALLPAPER BACKGROUND: Choose a Picture from the available settings or from the Pictures folder, or download a picture.

WINDOW ACCENT COLOR: (Start > Settings > Personalization > Colors) By default, the Taskbar and other backgrounds are BLACK. I suggest you make the following changes:

- Choose a desired accent color that suits the Wallpaper picture.
- Turn OFF "Transparency effects".
- Turn ON "Show color on Start, taskbar, and action center".
- Turn ON "Show color on Title Bar".

MAKE EVERYTHING LARGER - (CHANGE SCREEN RESOLUTION): (Start > Settings > System > Display). *Scale and layout > Resolutio*.. By lowering the resolution you can make EVERYTHING larger and hopefully easier to read.

WARNING 1: This change may affect all Users on this PC!

WARNING 2: Doing this can worsen the video clarity on some displays and also affect the shape of everything.

MAKE ALL TEXT, APPS, AND OTHER ITEMS LARGER: (Start > Settings > System > Display > Scale and layout. *Change the size of text, apps, and other items*). Click on "Custom scaling".

- Choose 110-125%. Setting it to larger than 125% may make things too big.

WARNING: If you make this value too large, it will cause text box in some programs to only display the first few words of the sentence.

DESKTOP ICON SIZE: Desktop Icons can be resized by holding the Control key down and scrolling the Mouse. **NOTE: This does not affect the Icon Text size.**

SCROLLBAR:

- **WIDTH INCREASE:** Use the WINAERO utility to increase the Scrollbar width.
- **DISABLE AUTOHIDE:** (Settings > Ease of access > Display). Turn off Automatically hide scroll bars (After Spring 2018 update)

TEXT SIZE: MAKE SOME TEXT LARGER: (*Build 21H1 and later*)

NOTE: You must modify the Registry to change text characteristics. To increase the size and boldness of some individual text items, I recommend using the free WINAERO TWEAKER program. (See Below).

WINAERO TWEAKER:

- This is a free Utility that helps you easily improve readability on Windows 10 build 1703 or higher. It has a very intuitive user interface.
- **Make sure you click the “Apply Changes” button after each change or nothing will happen.**
- To see any changes you must Sign-off the current user and sign back on again. You may even have to do a Restart.
- If the program seems to be unresponsive, click on “Reset this page to defaults”.
- Download site: <http://winaero.com/download.php?view.1796>

CLEARTYPE TUNE: You should turn on ClearType for better readability. (*search for cleartype or Run=cttune*). Check: " Turn on ClearType", click "Next" and follow the instructions.

CURSOR WIDTH: INCREASE CURSOR VISIBILITY WHILE IN TEXT MODE: (*Control Panel > Ease of Access Center > Make the computer easier to see*). Scroll way down until you see "Set the thickness of the blinking cursor". Set the width as wide as you need. Then click “Apply”. A setting of "4" works best for me.

MOUSE POINTER / TOUCHPAD: (*Settings > Devices > Mouse > Additional Mouse options*).

- **Buttons** Tab: Set the “double-click” speed as slow as it will go (*Bar to the left*).
- **Pointers** Tab.
 - ✓ Choose the "Magnified (system scheme) Pointer Scheme, then if desired find a custom "Normal Select" pointer using the <Browse> button.
 - ✓ Un-check the box for Enable Pointer shadow.
 - ✓ Click Apply.
- **Pointer Options** Tab: Check the box for " Automatically move the pointer to the default button in a dialog box. Check the box for " Show location of pointer when I press the <Ctrl> key. Click OK to exit.
- If the PC has a TRACKPAD, you may want to turn off “Tapping” or “Tap to Click”.

SAVE YOUR “CUSTOMIZED” THEME: (*Settings > Personalization < Themes*). Click “Save theme”, name your theme, and then click “Save”. *Now, if you make any changes in the future that make you unhappy, you can put things back in one click.*

FIREFOX VISIBILITY:

- There are some add-ons like “NoSquint” that improve the readability of websites.
- Also, The key combination of <Ctrl> and + keys will make most web content larger each time your press it. To go smaller, hold <Ctrl> and press the “-” Key (minus/dash key).