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In today’s digital world, stable network connectivity is crucial for productivity, communication, and entertainment. However, sometimes, users may encounter problems related to their network settings. Whether it’s slow internet speeds, inability to connect to Wi-Fi, or issues with wired connections, resetting network settings can often clear up these problems. Windows 11 provides several ways to reset network configurations, with the Command Prompt (CMD) being one of the most powerful and effective methods. In this article, we’ll delve into how to reset network settings in Windows 11 using the Command Prompt, along with tips and explanations to enhance your understanding. Understanding Network Settings Network settings in Windows 11 control how your device connects to the internet and communicates with other networks. These settings include configurations for Wi-Fi, Ethernet, VPNs, and more. When these settings become corrupted or misconfigured, users may experience various connectivity issues, ranging from dropped connections to complete inability to connect to a network. Resetting these settings can restore original configurations and help rectify problems. While a complete network reset can fix many issues, it can also remove saved Wi-Fi passwords and custom network configurations, so it’s essential to proceed with caution. Why Reset Network Settings Using CMD? Using the Command Prompt to reset network settings offers several advantages: Granular Control: CMD allows for specific commands that can reset individual network components, rather than a complete system reset. Accessibility: The Command Prompt is always available on Windows, and invoking it can sometimes bypass graphical interface issues. Efficiency: Executing network commands via CMD can be quicker than navigating through graphical user interfaces. Troubleshooting: CMD allows you to view detailed information about your network settings, which can help in diagnosing problems. Preparing to Reset Network Settings Before proceeding with resetting network settings through CMD, consider the following preparations: Backup Existing Settings: Take note of your current network configuration settings. If you’re connected to Wi-Fi, write down your SSID (network name) and password. Close Applications: Ensure that all applications utilizing network connections are closed to prevent loss of data during the reset process. Admin Rights: You will require administrative privileges to reset network settings using CMD. Ensure you’re logged in as an admin user. Steps to Reset Network Settings Using CMD Step 1: Open Command Prompt as Administrator To open CMD with administrative privileges, follow these steps: Press Windows + X: This will open the Quick Link menu. Click on Windows Terminal (Admin) or Command Prompt (Admin), depending on your setup. If prompted by User Account Control (UAC), click Yes to give administrative permissions. Step 2: Display Current Network Configurations Before making any changes, it is often useful to review your current network settings. To do this: In the Command Prompt window, type the following command and press Enter: ipconfig /all This command will display comprehensive information about all network interfaces, including IP addresses, subnet masks, and DNS servers. Step 3: Resetting TCP/IP Stack The TCP/IP stack is a suite of communication protocols used to interconnect network devices. Corruptions in this stack can lead to severe connectivity issues. Resetting it is usually one of the first steps in troubleshooting network problems. Type the following command and press Enter: netsh int ip reset After executing the command, you will see messages indicating that the reset has been completed. Tip: It’s a good practice to restart your computer after resetting TCP/IP to ensure that changes take effect. Step 4: Release and Renew Your IP Address Releasing and renewing your IP address can refresh your device’s connection with the network. Follow these commands: To release the current IP address, type: ipconfig /release After that, to renew the IP address, type: ipconfig /renew Again, results will be displayed indicating the success of these operations. Step 5: Resetting Winsock Catalog The Winsock catalog is responsible for handling network requests in Windows. A corrupted Winsock can result in issues like failure to connect to the internet or DNS misconfigurations. To reset the Winsock catalog, use the following command: netsh winsock reset Step 6: Flush the DNS Resolver Cache Sometimes, issues arise due to DNS caching. Flushing the DNS cache can resolve problems related to misdirected requests. Type the following command and press Enter: ipconfig /flushdns You should see a confirmation message indicating that the DNS resolver cache has been flushed. Step 7: Reset Network Adapter Settings In some cases, specific network adapters may require resetting. You can reset all network adapters by using the following command: netsh int reset This command restores all network adapters to their default state, removing any custom settings. Step 8: Restart Your Computer After executing all the necessary commands, it is crucial to restart your computer. This ensures that all changes made to network settings take effect. Step 9: Reconnect to Your Network Upon rebooting, you may need to reconnect to your Wi-Fi or wired network. If you had saved credentials, ensure they’re input correctly to re-establish the connection. Verifying Your Network Settings Once your system is back up, verify that you can connect to the network successfully: Click on the Network icon in the system tray. Choose your network and ensure you are connected. Test the internet connection by opening your browser and navigating to a website. If problems persist, there may be deeper issues at play, preferably related to hardware or external factors (e.g., router settings). Additional Tips for Network Troubleshooting Beyond the reset commands covered previously, here are some additional troubleshooting tips: Update Network Drivers: Outdated or corrupted drivers can affect network performance. You can check for updates in Device Manager. Check Firewall and Antivirus Settings: Sometimes, firewalls or antivirus applications may block network access. Temporarily disabling them can help identify if they are causing issues. Run the Network Troubleshooter: Windows offers an in-built troubleshooter which can help diagnose and fix common network problems. You can access this through Settings > Network & Internet > Status > Network troubleshooter. Router Configuration: Restart your router and check its settings. Sometimes, power cycling the router can solve networking issues. Check Cables and Hardware: Inspect Ethernet cables for damage and ensure all physical connections are secure. Reset Network Hardware: If using a modem/router, consider resetting it to factory settings. Be wary that this erases all configurations and you will need to set it up again. Check for System Updates: Ensure your Windows 11 system is updated for better stability and performance. Go to Settings > Update & Security > Windows Update to check for updates. Consult ISP: Sometimes, the problem may lie with your Internet Service Provider (ISP). Check if there are known outages or service disruptions in your area. Conclusion Resetting network settings in Windows 11 using the Command Prompt can resolve a plethora of network-related issues. This method allows for precise control over your network configurations, which is vital for troubleshooting and fixing connectivity problems. While the CMD route requires some comfort with commands, the methods outlined herein can assist even novice users in regaining stable internet access. As always, remember to back up current network settings before making changes, and be cautious of what is reset—specifically, saved passwords and custom configurations. Regularly checking and maintaining your network settings can help ensure that you enjoy hassle-free connectivity as you navigate the world through Windows 11. By understanding the nuances of network settings and the command-line tools available, you will become more proficient in managing your system and solving connectivity woes when they arise. How to connect, delete and manage WiFi networks using command prompt (cmd) in your Windows PC/laptop using netsh wlan commands Nowadays internet connectivity is everything. For the Internet, we have Wi-Fi connections that we manage and use through the network settings on Windows 7/8.1/10 computers. You can also connect, manage, and delete your WiFi networks using the command prompt. In fact, the command prompt offers many more features than the standard network connection settings in Windows 10. Also Read- A-Z Windows CMD Commands List To do this we only require a CMD(Command Prompt) with Administrator privileges and will have to use netsh wlan commands. How to connect to wifi using cmd with netsh wlan commands- Before we dive into the guide. You’ll need to open the Command Prompt with administrator rights to perform most of the commands. To do this, use the Windows key + X keyboard shortcut, and select Command Prompt (Admin). Or search cmd and right click run as administrator 1# View various wireless network profiles saved on your PC Command > Netsh WLAN show profiles Every time you connect to a wireless access point, the operating system creates a “wireless network profile”, and it’s stored on your computer, you can view all these profiles using the following command line on the Command Prompt Netsh WLAN show profiles. Alternatively, you can use the “interface” parameter to show the list of profiles for a particular wireless adapter: Netsh WLAN show profiles interface=”your WiFi interface name” 2# View WiFi adapter driver information Command > Netsh WLAN show drivers When you need to get driver information about your computer’s wireless adapter, you can use the the above command. The result will show the exact drivers being used, the WiFi radios on your PC/laptop alongwith driver version number. You can further use this command to check your WiFi capabilities. Type in the following command C:\Netsh WLAN show wirelesscapabilities The results will show you exactly what your WiFi connection is capable of including WiFi Direct service capabilities. 3# View wireless adapter settings Command > Netsh WLAN show interfaces You can see the details of your WiFi interfaces using above command. The results will show you description of the interface, SSID, BSSID, Cipher, authentication type, channel, average receive and transmit rate and radio type. If you have multiple WiFi connections saved on your PC, the “Show interfaces” command will display the information for all the wireless adapters on your computer. If you only need to see the information for one adapter, you can use the following command: Netsh WLAN show interface name=”your wifi connection name” 4# Recover your WiFi password from any of the WiFi connection profiles saved on your PC Command > Netsh WLAN show profile name=”your WiFi connection name” key=clear If you lost and cannot remember your network security key to connect another device to a particular Wi-Fi access point, you can use the above command to view your WiFi password. You can also use this command to see the data limits if you have set them. 5# Connecting to a WiFi network using command prompt Command > netsh wlan set hostednetwork mode=allow ssid=”your WiFi connection name” key=”your WiFi connection password” You can use the above command to sign into your WiFi network. The above command is particularly useful if your WiFi settings in Windows 10 is not visible/cannot be connected due to some reasons. The additional commands are C:etsh wlan start hostednet and C:etsh wlan stop hostednetwork These two commands will start and stop your WiFi hotspot connection. 6# Stop your PC connecting automatically to a wireless network out of range Command > Netsh WLAN set profileparameter name=”your WiFi connection name” connectionmode=manual Normally, you would have configured your Windows 10 PC to connect to different WiFi networks automatically. While this is the best way to connect, sometimes notice that your laptop connects automatically to a WiFi connection that has zero or poor connectivity instead of an available full network WiFi connection. In such a case you can use the above command to prevent your computer from connecting to different networks automatically. If you want to move again to the automatic mode use the following command C:\Netsh WLAN set profileparameter name=” your WiFi connection name” connectionmode=auto 7# Delete wireless network profile stored on your PC Command > Netsh WLAN delete profile name=”the WiFi connection you want to delete” When you no longer need to connect to a particular wireless network, the access point is no longer available, or you need to reset the network profile settings, you can also use Netsh WLAN to delete any profile stored on your computer using the above command. If you can’t remember the name of the network profile, you can use the C:\Netsh WLAN show profiles command to list all the available profiles and select the one you want to delete. 8# Export and import wireless network profiles Command > Netsh WLAN export profile key=clear folder=”the folder you want to save this report” Sometimes you need to export and import wireless profiles. The above command exports all your wireless network profiles available on your PC. If you want to export a specific WiFi connection profile to a specific location, use this command > C:\Netsh WLAN export profile name=”your WiFi connection name” key=clear folder=”the folder you want to save this report” 9# Generate a complete report of the wireless adapters on your PC/laptop Command > Netsh WLAN show WLANreport Trouble shooting WiFi connection problems is very difficult as Internet has lots of conflicting tutorials and troubleshooting guide. Also you should know the exact problem you are facing while connecting to WiFi. Using the above command will generate a full detailed WiFi networks report to the following location > C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\WLANReport\WLAN-report-latest.html. Once the WLAN report has been created, copy and paste the path into your web browser’s address bar to open the report. You can use this report to troubleshoot the problems, ask help on tech forums. The WLAN reports contain a graph with details of the connectivity status, including information, such as when the connection started, when it got disconnected, errors, and more. The report also summarizes network adapters information configured on your system, session success/failures, disconnect reasons, and a lot more. It’s a very detailed report that can help you to ping point many Wi-Fi connectivity issues. ALSO READ: CONCLUSION: So this was how to connect to wifi using cmd (command prompt) with netsh wlan commands If your computer suddenly can’t connect to the Internet—especially after changing your Internet Service Provider (ISP) or router—don’t panic! Resetting your network settings in Windows 10/11 can often resolve connection issues quickly. This guide will walk you through the steps. Step-by-Step Guide Step 1: Open Command Prompt as Administrator There are two ways to do this: Option 1: Click the Start menu, type CMD, right-click on Command Prompt, and select Run as administrator. Option 2: Press Win + R, type CMD, and press Enter. Step 2: Flush the DNS Cache Type the following command and press Enter: ipconfig /flushdns This clears the DNS cache, which may resolve some connectivity issues. Step 3: Reset Network Components Now type the following commands one at a time, pressing Enter after each: netsh winsock reset netsh winhttp reset proxy netsh winhttp reset tracing netsh winsock reset catalog netsh int ipv4 reset catalog netsh int ipv6 reset catalog These commands will reset key network configurations to their default state. Step 4: Restart Your Computer To apply the changes, restart your computer. Conclusion Resetting network settings via Command Prompt is a fast and effective way to fix many connectivity issues in Windows 10/11. This process: Clears old network configurations Resets the TCP/IP stack and Winsock Restores default proxy and tracing settings If you’re still experiencing problems after resetting, you may want to: Check your router or modem settings Try connecting with a different device Contact your ISP for further support Boost your productivity with the best AI tools → Try them Resetting your network adapter in Windows 10 using the Command Prompt is a straightforward process that can resolve various connectivity issues. By executing a few commands, you can refresh your network settings, effectively giving your adapter a fresh start. This task involves opening the Command Prompt with administrator privileges, running specific commands, and then restarting your device to ensure the changes take effect. Resetting your network adapter through Command Prompt can help fix persistent internet problems by clearing old configurations and setting up default network settings. Follow these steps to reset your network adapter in Windows 10 using CMD. To start, open the Command Prompt with administrative privileges. You can do this by typing “cmd” in the Windows search bar, right-clicking on ‘Command Prompt,’ and selecting ‘Run as administrator.’ This is crucial because some commands require elevated rights to execute. Type the command netsh winsock reset and press Enter. This command resets the Windows Socket API, which manages network communication. It clears the Winsock Catalog, effectively removing all settings and software that may be causing issues. Enter netsh int ip reset into the Command Prompt and press Enter. This command resets the TCP/IP stack, a configuration that can become corrupted over time. The reset will return it to its default settings, which helps resolve various network connection errors. Type ipconfig /flushdns and hit Enter. Flushing the DNS cache removes any outdated or incorrect entries that might be causing connectivity errors. It allows your computer to connect using updated DNS information. Finally, restart your computer to apply the changes. A restart ensures that all resets and changes take effect, allowing your network adapter to start fresh with default settings and configuration. After you complete these steps, your Windows 10 network adapter will have a clean slate. This process can resolve issues like slow internet speeds, failure to connect, or network drops. Always ensure your Command Prompt is running as an administrator before executing commands. Back up important network settings if you have a custom configuration to ensure you can restore them if needed. If you’re using a VPN or proxy, be aware that resetting might clear those settings. Make sure to save any work, as the restart will close all open applications. Use these commands sparingly to avoid unnecessary resets which might mask other underlying issues. A network adapter allows your computer to connect to a network or the internet, like a Wi-Fi or Ethernet connection. Resetting can fix various network-related problems by clearing old configurations and settings that might cause connectivity issues. No, it won’t delete your files, but it will reset your current network settings, so you might need to re-enter Wi-Fi passwords. Only reset it when you encounter network issues. Constant resetting is unnecessary and might hide other problems. Yes, you can also reset it through the Network & Internet settings in Windows 10, but CMD provides a more thorough reset. Open Command Prompt as Administrator. Enter the command to reset Winsock. Reset the IP stack. Flush the DNS cache. Restart your computer. Resetting your network adapter using Windows 10 CMD is a handy tool in your tech troubleshooting toolkit. Sometimes our computers are like finicky artists, getting stuck in their ways, and they need a little nudge to get back on track. By resetting the network adapter, you provide this nudge by clearing out old settings and giving your system a fresh start. Remember to use this technique when you face persistent network issues, as it can swiftly resolve most problems. However, be mindful of your specific configurations. This process might require you to re-enter certain settings, like Wi-Fi passwords. If you’re intrigued by network settings or face recurring issues, consider exploring further readings on network configurations and troubleshooting. And, of course, if the problem persists, seeking professional help might be the best course of action. Take charge of your connectivity, and keep surfing the web without interruptions! Matt Jacobs has been working as an IT consultant for small businesses since receiving his Master’s degree in 2003. While he still does some consulting work, his primary focus now is on creating technology support content for SupportYourTech.com. His work can be found on many websites and focuses on topics such as Microsoft Office, Apple devices, Android devices, Photoshop, and more. Have you ever had issues with your wireless adapter on your Windows 10 computer? It can be frustrating when you’re unable to connect to the internet or experiencing slow speeds. Thankfully, there’s a simple solution that can often fix these problems: resetting the wireless adapter through the command prompt. In this article, I’ll guide you through the steps to reset your wireless adapter using the command prompt in Windows 10. The first step is to open the Command Prompt as an administrator. To do this, right-click on the Windows Start button and select “Command Prompt (Admin)” from the context menu. This will open the Command Prompt with administrative privileges, allowing you to make changes to the system. Step 2: Identify the Name of Your Wireless Adapter Before you can reset your wireless adapter, you need to know the name of the adapter. To find this information, type the following command into the Command Prompt and press Enter: netsh wlan show interfaces This command will display a list of all network interfaces on your computer. Look for the name of the wireless adapter, which is usually labeled “Wi-Fi” or something similar. Make note of the name for the next step. Step 3: Reset the Wireless Adapter Now that you have the name of your wireless adapter, you can reset it using the following command: netsh interface set interface "Name of Adapter" admin=disable Replace “Name of Adapter” with the actual name of your wireless adapter. For example, if your adapter is named “Wi-Fi”, the command would be: netsh interface set interface "Wi-Fi" admin=disable After running this command, you should see a message confirming that the interface has been disabled. Step 4: Enable the Wireless Adapter Once the wireless adapter is disabled, you can re-enable it using the following command: netsh interface set interface "Name of Adapter" admin=enable Again, replace “Name of Adapter” with the actual name of your wireless adapter. For example: netsh interface set interface "Wi-Fi" admin=enable After running this command, you should see a message confirming that the interface has been enabled. Resetting your wireless adapter through the command prompt can be a useful tool when experiencing connectivity issues on your Windows 10 computer. By following the steps outlined in this article, you can quickly reset your wireless adapter and potentially resolve any connection problems you may encounter. Remember to always run the Command Prompt as an administrator and double-check the name of your wireless adapter before using these commands. If your computer can't connect (or won't stay connected) to your Wi-Fi router, disabling and re-enabling the Wi-Fi adapter can help. If your Wi-Fi problems are persistent no matter which access point you connect to, you might need to uninstall and reinstall your Wi-Fi drivers. For tougher internet connection issues, you can manually reset all of your network settings from the command prompt or in Network Connections. 1 Make sure Wi-Fi is enabled first. If you're resetting your wireless adapter because you can't access your wireless network, first make sure you haven't accidentally disabled Wi-Fi. To check, open your Windows Settings, click Network and Internet, and toggle on the Wi-Fi switch. Toggling Wi-Fi on and off may be all you need to do to fix your connection issues. 2 Right-click the Start button. This brings up a menu if you're using Windows 10. If you're using Windows 8, 7, or Vista, follow these steps instead: Click the Start menu and select Control panel. Click Network and Sharing Center. If you don't see it, click Network and Internet. You should find the Network and Sharing Center there. Click Change adapter settings in the left panel. Skip to Step 4. Advertisement 3 Click Network Connections. It's near the middle of the menu. 4 Click Change adapter options or More network adapter options. You'll see Change adapter options in Windows 10, and More network adapter options in Windows 11. A list of your connections will appear. 5 Right-click the Wi-Fi adapter and select Disable. This turns off the wireless adapter.[1] 6 Right-click the Wi-Fi adapter and select Enable. The adapter will restart and attempt to connect to your default Wi-Fi network.[2] If you're still having trouble with your connection, try connecting to a different wireless access point. If that works, the issue may be with your internet provider or Wi-Fi router. Advertisement 1 Press the Windows key and type cmd. If you're still having internet issues after resetting the adapter, you can try resetting the TCP/IP stack, release and renew the IP address, and flush and reset your DNS cache from the command line. When you type cmd, you'll see some search results appear. This method will delete all of your computer's network connections and settings, including the wireless adapter, and then reinstall them. If you’ve already tried disabling and re-enabling the wireless adapter and it didn't solve your problem, use this method on any version of Windows. 2 Right-click "Command prompt" and select Run as administrator. This gives you an elevated command prompt that allows you to perform administrative tasks. 3 Type netsh winsock reset and press ↵ Enter. This command resets your TCP/IP settings, which can help resolve internet issues.[3] 4 Type netsh int ip reset and press ↵ Enter. This essentially removes and re-adds TCP/IP by overwriting registry keys.[4] 5 6 Type ipconfig /renew and press ↵ Enter. This command attempts to reconnect to the router to acquire a new IP address.[6] 7 Type ipconfig /flushdns and press ↵ Enter. This final command purges any cached IP addresses and domain names.[7] 8 Restart your PC. Once your PC comes back up, you'll need to reconnect to your Wi-Fi network, which includes re-entering the password (if applicable).[8] If you're still having trouble with your connection, try connecting to a different wireless access point. If that works, the issue may be with your internet provider. Advertisement 1 Download the correct drivers for your Wi-Fi adapter from the manufacturer. If you're still having trouble after resetting your Wi-Fi adapter, you can try removing and reinstalling the wireless card drivers. But before uninstalling, you'll want to make sure you have the correct Wi-Fi adapter drivers saved to your PC.[9] To make sure you're downloading the correct driver, visit your PC manufacturer's support website and choose your exact PC model. If you're not sure of the model, press Windows key + Pause at the same time, or go to Settings > System > About. If you don't have internet access, you can download the drivers on another computer, save them to a USB flash drive, and then copy them to PC that's having problems. In some cases, your Wi-Fi adapter can use a generic driver that comes preinstalled with Windows. If you don't download a driver, you may be able to use the generic driver to get back online after uninstalling. Sometimes using the default driver can even resolve internet issues! But to be on the safe side, download your manufacturer's drivers—there's always a chance your card isn't compatible with the generic drivers. 2 Right-click the Start menu and select Device Manager. This opens the Device Manager, which allows you to add and remove hardware drivers. 3 Click the arrow next to "Network adapters." This displays all of the network adapters connected to your PC, including your Wi-Fi adapter. 4 Right-click your Wi-Fi adapter and select Uninstall device. A confirmation message will appear. 5 Click the checkbox next to "Attempt to remove the driver software for this device." This ensures that the driver is actually removed. 6 Click Uninstall to confirm. The previous driver is now removed. 7 Reboot your PC. Once your computer shuts down and restarts, Windows will attempt to install the best driver for your network card automatically. If prompted, allow the drivers to install. After the drivers are installed, try connecting to Wi-Fi.[10] If you're connected, great! If not, continue with this method to manually reinstall the drivers. 8 Install the drivers you downloaded. If you downloaded a file that ends with .exe, double-click the file and follow the on-screen instructions to install. This will automatically install the drivers for your Wi-Fi card.[11] If the file ends with .zip, you'll need to unzip the file first. Right-click the file, select Extract all, select a folder you'll remember, and then click Extract. If there's no file ending in .exe or you weren't able to download drivers, continue to the next step. 9 Install the new drivers manually. Here's how:[12] Right-click the Start button and select Device manager. Click the arrow next to "Network Adapters." Right-click the Wi-Fi adapter and select Update driver. Click Browse my computer for drivers. Click Browse and select the location of your drivers. Click Next and follow the on-screen instructions. Advertisement 1 Right-click the Start button. If you're still having trouble, you can use this method to reset all of your network adapters and settings at once. This should be your last resort, as it clears all settings—including saved Wi-Fi networks, passwords, and VPN settings. If you're having connection issues after upgrading to Windows 11 or can't connect to shared network drives, this method may resolve those issues.[13] 2 Click Network Connections. It's near the middle of the menu. 3 Click Advanced network settings (Windows 11 only). If you have Windows 10, you can skip this step. For Windows 11, click this option at the bottom of the right panel. 4 Click Network reset. You'll see this near the bottom of the right panel on both Windows 10 and Windows 11. Once you click this link, you'll see a message telling you that your network adapters will be removed and reinstalled and that you'll have to reconnect to the internet afterward. You may have to reinstall any VPN software you're currently running after the reset is complete. 5 Click Reset now and then Yes to confirm. This begins the full network adapter reset process. When the network adapters are uninstalled, your computer will restart and then re-install the adapters on its own. Once your PC restarts, you'll need to reconnect to your Wi-Fi and other networks.[14] Advertisement Add New Question Question How do I fix my wireless adapter permanently if I need to use the troubleshooter all the time? From Device Manager click on your adapter and go to the Advanced tab. Under the WiFi setting change 802.11b/g/n to 802.11b/g (So there is no "n" at the end). Also go to the Power Management tab and uncheck power saving. Ask a Question Advertisement Written by: wikiHow Technology Writer This article was co-authored by wikiHow staff writer, Nicole Levine, MFA. Nicole Levine is a Technology Writer and Editor for wikiHow. She has more than 20 years of experience creating technical documentation and leading support teams at major web hosting and software companies. Nicole also holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Portland State University and teaches composition, fiction-writing, and zine-making at various institutions. This article has been viewed 554,655 times. Co-authors: 12 Updated: March 25, 2025 Views: 554,655 Categories: Windows Print Send fan mail to authors Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 554,655 times. Are you experiencing internet connectivity issues on your Windows 10 PC? Follow these simple steps to reset your Wi-Fi adapter and get connected again. Key Takeaways: Resetting the Wi-Fi adapter can help resolve connectivity issues on Windows 10. There are three methods to reset the Wi-Fi adapter: disabling and enabling the adapter, resetting all network adapters, and using Command Prompt. Method 1: Disable and Enable Wi-Fi Adapter through Windows Settings. Method 2: Reset All Network Adapters through Windows Settings. Method 3: Reset Wi-Fi Adapter Using Command Prompt as an administrator. Resetting the Wi-Fi adapter will delete saved network profiles and restore settings to default. If the connectivity issue persists, further troubleshooting or contacting your internet provider may be necessary. Methods to Reset Wi-Fi Adapter in Windows 10 There are three methods you can use to reset your Wi-Fi adapter in Windows 10, depending on your preference and the severity of the connectivity issues you’re facing. Resetting the Wi-Fi adapter can often resolve common problems such as slow or unstable internet connections. Here are the methods: Method 1: Disable and Enable Wi-Fi Adapter 1. Open the Windows Settings by clicking on the Start menu and selecting the gear icon. Then, click on “Network & Internet” and choose “Change adapter options”. 2. In the Network Connections window, find your Wi-Fi adapter, right-click on it, and select “Disable”. Wait for a few seconds. 3. Right-click on the Wi-Fi adapter again and select “Enable”. The adapter will attempt to reconnect to the default Wi-Fi network. Method 2: Reset All Network Adapters 1. Open the Windows Settings by following the steps mentioned in Method 1. Click on “Network & Internet” and select “Network reset”. 2. In the Network reset window, click on the “Reset now” button and confirm the action. This will reset all network adapters on your computer. After the network adapters are reset, you may need to reconfigure your network settings, such as reconnecting to your Wi-Fi network. Additionally, you may need to reset TP-Link router if you use one as your network’s main access point. This can usually be done by pressing and holding the reset button on the router for a few seconds until the lights start flashing. Always remember to consult your router’s manual for specific instructions on how to reset TP-Link router. 3. Restart your computer to complete the reset process. Once your computer restarts, the Wi-Fi adapter will be reset to its default settings. Method 3: Reset Wi-Fi Adapter Using Command Prompt 1. Open Command Prompt as an administrator by right-clicking on the Start menu, selecting “Command Prompt (Admin)”. 2. In the Command Prompt window, type the command “netsh interface show interface” and press Enter. This will display the name of your Wi-Fi adapter. 3. To disable the Wi-Fi adapter, use the command “netsh interface set interface name=’networkadaptername’ admin=disabled”, replacing ‘networkadaptername’ with the actual name of your adapter. 4. To enable the Wi-Fi adapter again, use the command “netsh interface set interface name=’networkadaptername’ admin=enabled”. 5. The Wi-Fi adapter will restart and attempt to connect to the wireless network. It’s important to note that resetting the Wi-Fi adapter will delete any saved network profiles and restore the settings to their default values. If the connectivity issues persist after resetting, further troubleshooting or contacting your internet provider may be necessary.Conclusion Resetting the Wi-Fi adapter in Windows 10 can be a helpful step in troubleshooting and resolving connectivity issues, but it’s important to note that it will delete saved network profiles and restore settings to default. If you’re still experiencing problems after resetting the adapter, consider further troubleshooting or contacting your internet provider for assistance. Method 1: Disable and Enable Wi-Fi Adapter 1. Open the Windows Settings, click on Network & Internet, and select Change adapter options. 2. Right-click on the Wi-Fi adapter and choose Disable. Wait for a few seconds. 3. Right-click on the Wi-Fi adapter again and choose Enable. The adapter will attempt to reconnect to the default Wi-Fi network. Method 2: Reset All Network Adapters 1. Open the Windows Settings, click on Network & Internet, and select Network reset. 2. Click on the Reset now button and confirm the action. 3. Restart your computer to complete the reset process. Method 3: Reset Wi-Fi Adapter Using Command Prompt 1. Open Command Prompt as an administrator. 2. Use the command “netsh interface show interface” to find the name of the Wi-Fi adapter. 3. Disable the Wi-Fi adapter using the command “netsh interface set interface name=’networkadaptername’ admin=disabled” (replace ‘networkadaptername’ with the actual name of the adapter). 4. Enable the Wi-Fi adapter using the command “netsh interface set interface name=’networkadaptername’ admin=enabled”. 5. The Wi-Fi adapter will restart and attempt to connect to the wireless network. It’s important to note that resetting the Wi-Fi adapter will delete saved network profiles and restore settings to default. If the issue persists after resetting, further troubleshooting or contacting your internet provider may be necessary.To reset the Wi-Fi adapter in Windows 10, you can follow one of three methods – disabling and enabling the adapter through Windows Settings, resetting all network adapters using the Network reset option, or using the Command Prompt as an administrator to reset the adapter.To disable and enable the Wi-Fi adapter, open the Windows Settings, click on Network & Internet, select Change adapter options, right-click on the Wi-Fi adapter, choose Disable, wait for a few seconds, and then right-click on the adapter again and choose Enable. The adapter will attempt to reconnect to the default Wi-Fi network.To reset all network adapters, open the Windows Settings, click on Network & Internet, select Network reset, click on the Reset now button, and confirm the action. Restart your computer to complete the reset process.To reset the Wi-Fi adapter using Command Prompt, open Command Prompt as an administrator, use the command “netsh interface show interface” to find the name of the Wi-Fi adapter, disable the adapter using the command “netsh interface set interface name=’networkadaptername’ admin=disabled” (replace ‘networkadaptername’ with the actual name of the adapter), and enable the adapter using the command “netsh interface set interface name=’networkadaptername’ admin=enabled”. The Wi-Fi adapter will restart and attempt to connect to the wireless network.Yes, resetting the Wi-Fi adapter will delete saved network profiles and restore settings to default. If you have any saved network profiles, you will need to reconnect to the networks and enter the necessary credentials after resetting the adapter.If the issue persists after resetting the Wi-Fi adapter, it may be necessary to further troubleshoot the connectivity problem. You can try restarting your router, checking for any firmware updates, or contacting your internet provider for assistance. Is your laptop’s Wi-Fi network card no longer working correctly? Are the Ethernet settings on your Windows PC scrambled up, and you can’t make sense of anything? Do you have problems in general with network connectivity on your Windows laptop, PC, or tablet? Then, it is a good idea to reset your network adapter to its default settings and have it behave as new. Here’s how to do this both in Windows 10 and Windows 11: IMPORTANT: All the procedures in this guide require you to log in to Windows 10 or Windows 11 using an administrator account. If you’re using Windows 10, you can reset all network adapters and their settings by opening the Settings app (Windows + I). Then, click or tap Network & Internet. You should see the Status section selected on the left and your network status on the right, like in the screenshot below. The Network status section in Windows 10 Settings On the right side of the Settings window, scroll down past the Advanced network settings and click or tap the Network reset link. You can find it at the bottom of the window, just above the help options. Scroll down and click or tap Network reset This takes you to the Network reset window. You are informed that the reset procedure will remove and reinstall all your network adapters (Ethernet and Wi-Fi) and set other networking components back to their original settings. If you’re using virtual machine software and VPN clients on your Windows PC, you might need to reinstall their virtual network adapters when the reset procedure is over. To go ahead with the process, click or tap Reset now. Read what the network reset does and press Reset now You are asked to confirm that you want to reset your network settings. Click or tap Yes. Click or tap Yes to continue Windows 10 informs you that you are about to be signed out, and your PC or device will shut down in five minutes. If you don’t want to wait this long, click or tap Close. Then, close any open documents or apps you’re using and restart Windows 10. Windows 10 will shut down in 5 minutes The next time you sign it, all network adapters, both Wi-Fi and Ethernet, will be reset. The operating system won’t remember the connection details of your networks, the Windows 10 network profile set earlier, etc. From a networking perspective, it will be as if your computer is brand new and needs to be reconnected to all the networks you want to use. If you’re using a Windows 11 laptop, PC, or tablet, you can also reset all network adapters from the Settings app. Obviously, the first step is to open Settings (Windows + I). On the left, choose Network & internet. On the right, click or tap “Advanced network settings” at the bottom. Go to Network & internet and click or tap Advanced network settings You see a list with all your network adapters: Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, Ethernet, virtual, etc. In the More settings section, click or tap on Network reset. Click or tap Network reset You are informed about what the network reset process does. Read everything carefully, and if you’re OK to go ahead, click or tap Reset now. Read what the network reset does and press Reset now You are asked to confirm that you want to reset your network settings. Click or tap Yes. Click or tap Yes to go ahead Windows 11 informs you that it will shut down in five minutes. You can click or tap Close and do that yourself. Windows 11 shuts down in 5 minutes After you restart Windows 11 and sign in, all network adapters will be reset, losing all their previous network settings. If you prefer a command-line environment to reset your network adapters, you can open as an administrator any of the following applications: Command Prompt, PowerShell, or Windows Terminal. Then, in any of them, type the following command and press Enter: netcfg -d You should see the status of the command, like in the screenshot below. If everything is well, the last message should be “Please reboot the computer.” The netcfg -d command resets all network adapters Do as instructed, and the next time you sign in to Windows 10 or Windows 11, all your network adapters should be reset, both Wi-Fi and Ethernet adapters. If you want to know more about the netcfg command and its -d parameter, which performs a cleanup/reset on all networking devices, go to this page: netcfg | Microsoft Docs. IMPORTANT: Some websites on the internet also recommend you to run several commands as instructed by Intel in this troubleshooting guide in their Resetting the network stack section. Those commands DO NOT reset your network adapters, only some of their network settings. While they might help solve some problems, a full reset of your network adapters is performed only by using the command we shared above. Resetting your network adapters in Windows 10 and Windows 11 is not complicated, and it only requires a couple of steps. However, even if it is easy to run a Windows network reset, it might not be as easy to reconfigure your network connections again so that everything works as it should because all previous settings are lost. Therefore, if you’re on a laptop, you’ll need to reconnect to Wi-Fi and reconfigure all your network settings. If you want help with other networking-related topics, don’t hesitate to read the articles recommended below.