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How to Recover Permanently Deleted Files from PC.

Permanently deleted files from computer hard drive or external device by emptying recycle bin or clicking "Shift+ delete" button. No worry! You can restore permanently deleted files from Windows PC with Recoverit Data Recovery software.

Amy Dennis.

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Managing data has been a problem ever since the evolution of the internet. We tend to store multiple files on our PC's hard-drive, including temporary files and critical data. We are clearing temporary files, but we also delete the folder containing essential data by mistake. If these files are deleted while pressing "shift + delete," or you also cleared the recycle bin unknowingly, then these files will be permanently removed from the system. Don't panic; we have a solution to this tragic accident. Here we have provided a step-by-step process of how to recover permanently deleted files from PC .

Part 1: Reasons for permanent file loss.

Before starting the recovery part, let us first discuss why you need to recover permanently deleted files .

The most common reason for people who face this issue is because they deleted their data unknowingly. Another reason can be a data threatening virus or malware that has infected your files. Mechanical damage to your hard drive can also cause loss of data. But, in this case, it is nearly impossible to recover such files. System errors or power failures can also cause data corruption. Installation of unauthorized software can also result in data loss because much such software is available on the internet only to create data corruption.

Part 2: Is it possible to recover permanently deleted files?

There was a time when data is deleted, could not be recovered at any cost. But as technology is evolving, so are computers. There are currently hundreds of ways to recover a deleted file, which was once considered impossible. So, it is outstanding to say it is possible to recover permanently deleted files. This can be done by following several procedures that are easy to follow.

But these methods can recover data only where specific prerequisites are met. This recovery is only possible where there is no external damage to the storage drive. The computer should be able to read the storage drive for this to work.

Part 3: Recover permanently deleted files with Wondershare Recoverit.

There are many ways to restore permanently deleted files, but the easiest way is to use software dedicated to data recovery. Wondershare Recoverit is one of the best software you can use to recover permanently deleted files. It is an innovative data recovery software for windows. You can use it to recover permanently deleted files from a PC, USB drive, memory card, external hard drive, etc.

Guide to Recover Permanently Deleted Files from PC using Wondershare Recoverit:

Step 1: Install & Run Wondershare Recoverit.

Go to the official website of Wondershare Recoverit. Now download and install the software. Launch it then. Once it's open, you have to choose the location from where your file was deleted.

Step 2: Scan Location.

Click on "Start" and the program will begin to scan the selected location on your PC.

Step 3: Preview and Recover.

Check all the files correctly and preview files that you want to recover on your PC. Now select files that you want to restore and press on "Recover." Select the path where you want to store the recovered files. With that, you have successfully recovered the files that were deleted from your windows PC.

Video Tutorial on How to Recover Deleted Files on Windows 10/8/7 Easily?

Recent Videos from Recoverit.

Data loss could happen every minute, but keep backup of your important data files could prevent permanent data loss. But as above mentioned, you have a chance to get your deleted files back with the powerful recovery program. You can also learn how to recover a deleted file from Onedrive.

More Related Articles:

How to Undo Deleted Files on Windows 2020 How to Recover Permanently Deleted Files from Onedrive.

Part 4: Alternative free ways to recovery permanently deleted files.

If in case you don't want to use dedicated software, consider trying some alternative ways to restore permanently deleted files.

Recover with File History (Only for Windows 10)

The recent Windows 10 computers come with a unique feature. Here you can enable file history, which allows your computer to backup multimedia files automatically. This method can only be used when your file history option is enabled. To check this, follow the steps below. Step 1: Check whether File History is on or not.

Go to "Setting" & open "Update & Security."

Click on "Backup" from the left and check whether the "automatically back-up" files are on or not.

If the option is turned on you can move onto the next phase.

Step 2: Recover permanently deleted files using file history.

First of all, open any folder in the "file explorer."

Then click on the "home" tab present on the top ribbon. Then on the "History" tab. A folder will open with some folders that were backed-up in the file history. Here you can preview the folders you want to recover.

Select the files you want to restore with their specified timeframe. Then press on restore to the original location.

With that, you have successfully restored the deleted folder or file.

Recover previous versions.

For Windows 7 or above versions, you can also try the Previous Versions feature. However, it requires you have create a system restore point through Backup and Restore, or turn on Files History. Just follow the below steps to recover the deleted files. Step 1. Open File Explorer and find the folder containing the deleted file. Step 2. Right-click the folder, then select the Restore previous versions option.

Using System restore.

If that did not help, you could also try using the system restore option. This will move your computer back to the state when the system restore backup was created. But first, check whether system restore is enabled or not. Step 1: Check whether System Restore is on or not.

Open the "search index" and search for "control panel." Then click on the first option to open it. Now on the left side, you will see "Advanced System settings" click on it. Then check whether system restore is "on or not.

If it's on, move on to the next step.

Step 2: Recover permanently deleted files using system restore.

Press the Start icon and select the control panel in the search box type "control".

Then "search" for recovery on the control panel and open "Recovery." Here you have to click on the "Open system restore" option.

Now choose the appropriate restore point and click on "next."

To "confirm" your restore point, press on "finish", and your good to go.

Try Windows File Recovery.

Windows file recovery is free to use application available on the windows app store. It operates on some simple command line to recover permanently deleted files from your PC. You can use this tool to recover files from multiple storage devices like hard drives, memory cards, USB drives, etc. How to recover permanently deleted files with Windows File Recovery: Step 1: Install & Run Windows File Recovery.

Open the official website and "install" the application.

After you have installed the application on your windows, double click on it to launch the application.

Step 2: Use Windows File Recovery to recover Single File. If you know the exact name of the file, you deleted. You can use this step to recover a specific file. Just follow the steps mentioned below:

Just type the below command on the command box and press enter.

```
winfir C: D: /n \Users\XX\Documents\Reports\restorebackup.docx.
```

Note: Here , in the end, you have to replace the example with your file's name.

Step 3: Use Windows File Recovery to recover Multiple Specific Files If you're not sure about the name, try searching for a specific file type and

then search for your file among them.

The command for recovering a specific file type from a particular folder is as follows:

winfr C: /n \Users\XX\Pictures*.PNG \Users\XX\Pictures*.JPEG Step 4: Use Windows File Recovery to recover Complete Folder If you want to restore a complete folder from the backup you can follow these steps: winfr C: /n \Users\XX\Documents\Reports\

Check Cloud Backup (If you have)

Many users use cloud storage regularly. This can also be very helpful if you are one of them. You can restore the backup and get your files back on your computer without any trouble. Many cloud storage providers in the market like, Google Drive, Dropbox, OneDrive, etc., check each of your cloud storage and see if you have any backup present on them. If you have below, is the method to restore it: Steps to restore cloud backup from OneDrive:

Open OneDrive, and click on the “setting icon” on the top corner. Now click on the option that says “Restore your OneDrive.” Here choose the appropriate date and press on “restore.”

The Bottom Line.

Although there are many ways to recover permanently deleted files, we mentioned some of the easiest ways you do this task. Among those using the “Recoverit Data Recovery” is probably the best option for you. This software offers many additional benefits and takes lesser time to recover permanently deleted files. That was all for this guide to restore deleted files. We hope our guide was helpful to you. If you have any queries related to this guide feel free to comment below.

People Also Ask.

Where do permanently deleted files go?

The permanently deleted data is removed from the visible directory and moved to a hard-drive temporary space. It is stored there until another file overwrites the deleted file.

Can I recover deleted files that are too big for the recycle bin?

Yes, you can recover permanently deleted files that did not move to recycle bin. You can simply use Recoverit Data Recovery for this work.

Can I Recover permanently deleted files from Recycle Bin which was emptied.

Yes, it is possible with the help of useful software like Recoverit Data Recovery.

How to Recover Deleted Files from Downloads Folder.

If you have lost your files after accidentally deleting Download Folder, do not worry, learn how to recover deleted files from Download Folder in Windows 10/8/7 from backups or Previous Version, or using third-party data recovery software - EaseUS Data Recovery Wizard.

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"Recently, I deleted my entire Downloads Folder on my Windows 10 PC and then cleared out the recycling bin. Later, I realized that there were many useful files in the folder. But unfortunately, all the downloaded files were permanently gone while I emptied the recycle bin. I want to know is it possible to recover deleted files from the Download Folder in Windows 10? Thanks a lot!"

2 Ways to Recover Files from Downloads Folder in Windows 10/8/7.

Downloads folder is a default location in Windows for storing all files and apps that are downloaded from the internet. But due to some reasons, such as the C drive corruption/formatting, human-made accidental deletion, accidental deletion files, mistaken deletion of anti-virus software, the data in Downloads folder get removed. As a result, "Is there any way to undelete Downloads Folder and recover deleted files?" or "how can I recover deleted files from my Downloads folder?" becomes a hot problem. Here we will introduce you two effective solutions to recover files from Download Folder in Windows 10/8/7. Read on to see details.

Part 1. How to Recover Files from a Backup or Previous Versions.

If you can't find the Downloads folder on your computer or you accidentally deleted files from that folder, you can restore from a backup (if you're using Windows backup) or from a previous version. Previous versions.

Recover deleted files from a backup.

Connect the media or drive that your backup is saved to your computer. Click the "Start" button and search for "Control Panel". Select "System and Maintenance", and then choose "Backup and Restore". Choose "Restore my files", and then follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process.

Recover deleted files from previous versions.

Previous Versions are copies of files and folders that Windows automatically saves as part of a restore point, which can help you recover deleted files and folders from a previous state.

Right-click on the logical drive/folder which used to contain the Downloads folder. Click on "Restore Previous version" to list all the available previous versions of files and folders. Before restoring a previous version of a file or folder, select the previous version, and then click "Open" to view it to make sure it's the version you want. Next, click "Restore" to recover the deleted files.

Part 2. How to Recover Files with Deleted Files Recovery Software.

If the above ways fail, don't get discouraged, continue to try the most useful way - recover deleted files from Downloads Folder with EaseUS hard drive recovery software. This top-rank data recovery tool enables you to recover deleted, even permanently deleted files or folders from hard drive, external hard drive, USB flash drive, pen drive, SD card, CF card, etc. at high recovery rate.

Apart from deleted recovery, EaseUS Data Recovery Wizard also supports hard drive formatted recovery, recycle bin emptied data recovery, lost partition recovery, OS crash recovery, RAW partition recovery, and more. Now, download this green and reliable data recovery application to restore deleted files in the Downloads folder in Windows 10/8/7.

Step 1. Select location to scan.

If you lost files in Downloads folder, move your mouse on "Select Folder" and click "Browse". Select "This PC" > "Downloads", and click "OK".

If the whole Downloads folder is missing, select C: drive (the default location of the Downloads folder) and click "OK" to scan and find your lost Downloads folder.

Step 2. Check and preview the found Downloads folder.

When the scanning process finishes, use Search to find the "Downloads" folder with lost files.

Or, you can use the left pane and browse "Uses > UserName" or "Other Lost Files > Files Lost Original Name" to find files in the Downloads folder.

Step 3. Restore the Downloads folder and save it to a safe location.

Click "Recover" to save the Downloads folder to another safe location on your PC.

How to Recover Deleted Files.

Recover deleted files with recycle bin or file recovery software.

Tim Fisher has 30+ years' professional technology experience. He focuses on support and Microsoft topics but is an expert in all areas of tech. He's also the GM & VP of Lifewire.

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Recovering deleted files from your hard drive, media card, flash drive, iPhone, or some other device is possible and is not a crazy thing to try to do. No one can guarantee that your accidentally deleted file can be recovered but there's a good chance it can be, especially if it hasn't been too long since it's been deleted.

Here's the thing—files that get deleted aren't usually truly deleted but are instead just hidden, waiting to be overwritten by something else.

Two Preliminary Thoughts.

Aside from the specific tasks outlined below, the smartest thing you can do is to stop writing data to the drive that contained the deleted file. The only way the file you want to recover disappears completely is if the same physical space it occupied on the drive is overwritten. So, don't do anything that might cause that to happen.

Most "write heavy" tasks are things like installing software, downloading or streaming music or videos, etc. Doing those things won't necessarily overwrite your file but the chances go up the more you do them.

Next, restore the deleted files from the Recycle Bin. You've probably already looked in the Recycle Bin, but if not, do so now. If you're lucky enough to have not emptied it since you deleted the file, it might be here and in perfect working order.

Files you delete from media cards, USB-based drives, external hard drives of any kind, and network shares will almost never be stored in the Recycle Bin. The same goes, more obviously, for things like your smartphone. Very large files from any source are also often deleted outright, skipping the Recycle Bin.

How to Recover Deleted Files.

Follow the easy steps below, in order, to maximize your chances of recovering deleted files from your device:

Download a free file recovery program and use it to search for and recover your deleted files. If the files you're looking for have already been emptied from the Recycle Bin, a file recovery tool can help.

Recuva is our top pick in that list, but if you don't like it for some reason, or if you try it and it doesn't find the file you need to recover, by all means, work down the list.

We highly recommend downloading the "portable" version of Recuva, or whatever file recovery program you choose, directly to a flash drive or some drive other than the one with the missing file(s) on it.

Extract the portable version of the file recovery tool you chose. Portable programs usually come in ZIP format that Windows natively supports.

If you downloaded it to a flash drive, extracting it right there onto the flash drive is great. If you had no choice but to use your hard drive, extract it there. If you had to use your hard drive and choose an installable version of a file recovery tool, install it as directed.

Use the file recovery tool to scan for files that can be recovered, a process that could take a few seconds to several minutes or longer depending on how large the drive is.

The exact procedure differs from program to program but this typically involves choosing the drive you want to scan for deleted files on and then tapping or clicking a Scan button.

After the scan completes, locate the file from the list of recoverable files, select it, and then choose to Restore it.

Again, the details on recovering files you want to recover are specific to the tool you chose to use.

A data recovery program can't undelete anything ever deleted and sometimes may only recover part of a file. You can read a lot more about why this is and what you can do about it in our Data Recovery FAQ.

You should now have access to your recoverable files.

More Help Recovering Deleted Files.

The Recycle Bin should be the first place you look to recover deleted files.

Recovering files from devices like smartphones, music players, flash drives, and network drives are possible but can sometimes require some extra steps. See the FAQ, linked above, for some helpful tips.

You do not need to have a data recovery software program installed before you delete the file to use one, which is great news. It definitely helps to be prepared though.

A dead hard drive, or a non-working computer, presents an extra layer of trouble when you need to recover a file. While this is possible in most cases, follow our troubleshooting guide for a computer that won't turn on.

Are you sure the file has actually been deleted? It may have been moved to a different folder that you've since forgotten about, or maybe you copied it to a flash drive or other device no longer attached to your computer. Use a file search tool like Everything to comb through your whole computer for the file.

Restore Deleted Downloads Folder and Data in Windows 10/8/7.

Downloads folder gets deleted or disappeared in Windows 10. Relax! Here are the solutions. First, recover the Downloads folder with the help of EaseUS Data Recovery Wizard. This professional data recovery software can get back missing files and folder easily. Then, follow the three solutions in Part 2 to restore disappeared Downloads folder manually.

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Lost Downloads Folder, Help!

"Hey there, do you know how to restore Downloads folder in Windows 10? I accidentally got it deleted, and yesterday I was trying to download a movie online. But after downloading, I could not access the Downloads folder to find the downloaded program. So how can I restore the deleted Downloads folder? Help me please."

"Downloads folder icon is missing in Windows 10. I was trying to clean up the Downloads folder to leave more available useful space on my PC with faster running speed. But when I opened This PC, I could see no Downloads icon. It's missing. Do you know how to fix this issue?"

Windows Downloads folder is a default folder which is used to save downloaded stuff. You can access most downloaded files and data in the Downloads folder. It will also automatically store and save all downloaded files, programs and software for you. As a result, if you lost some previously downloaded files or folders, you can try to find them in the Downloads folder.

However, if the Downloads folder is deleted, disappeared or missing in Windows PC, you'll not be able to find any downloaded files or data anymore. When you try to download new files or program, you might not be able to access it either. So how to fix this issue? Here below, we'll provide you with effective methods to restore deleted Downloads folder in Windows 10/8/7 with ease now.

Part 1. Restore Lost Downloads Folder Data with Software.

If you indeed lost some important personal files and data in the Downloads folder, relax! The professional data recovery software will help. This trustworthy and highly recommended data recovery software - EaseUS Data Recovery Wizard shall be your best choice and you can directly download this software right here now:

EaseUS Data Recovery Wizard helps you to restore whatever you've lost in Windows 10/8/7 by deleting, formatting, virus attacking, system crash or other reasons within 3 simple steps. Install it and just follow the steps below to restore your lost Downloads folder data with ease now:

Step 1. Select location to scan.

If you lost files in Downloads folder, move your mouse on "Select Folder" and click "Browse". Select "This PC" > "Downloads", and click "OK".

If the whole Downloads folder is missing, select C: drive (the default location of the Downloads folder) and click "OK" to scan and find your lost Downloads folder.

Step 2. Check and preview the found Downloads folder.

When the scanning process finishes, use Search to find the "Downloads" folder with lost files.

Or, you can use the left pane and browse "Uses > UserName" or "Other Lost Files > Files Lost Original Name" to find files in the Downloads folder.

Step 3. Restore the Downloads folder and save it to a safe location.

Click "Recover" to save the Downloads folder to another safe location on your PC.

Part 2. Restore Disappeared Downloads Folder Manually.

Here in this part, we'd like to provide useful and effective methods to you to restore deleted, disappeared or missing Downloads folder in Windows 10, 8 or 7. You may selectively follow any one of the below-recommended methods to restore Downloads folder with ease now:

Method 1. Replace missing Downloads folder with File Explorer.

Open File Explorer and navigate to C:\Users\Default folder. Right-click on "Downloads" in the right side panel and select "Copy". Navigate to C:\Users\your name folder and right-click the folder. Select "Paste".

Then the missing Downloads folder shall be replaced and you'll be able to use it properly again.

Method 2. Restore the default Downloads folder through desktop.ini file.

This method is suitable for restoring all user folders in "C:\Users\%USERNAME%" folder, so if you lost other folders such as Music or Videos, etc folders, you can also apply below guide to restore lost folders.

Let's see how to restore default Downloads folder with the desktop.ini file now:

1. Press and hold Win +R to open the Run dialog.
2. Type: shell: downloads and hit Enter.
3. In Folder options, set protected operating system files to show.
4. Download the file desktop.zip containing the desktop.ini file; (You can directly Google to search and download the file.)
5. Extract desktop.zip content and right-click on the desktop.ini file which is a .txt file, select Properties.

6. In the General tab, click the Unlock button and select OK.

7. Replace the desktop.ini file in C:\Users\%USERNAME%\Downloads with the one you've extracted from the desktop.zip file and then close the folder.

8. Open an elevated command prompt and type: attrib +r -s -h %USERPROFILE%\Downloads /S /D and hit Enter.

9. Close the command prompt and restart Windows.

You'll be able to find and reuse the Downloads folder again.

Method 3. Restore Downloads folder to the original version by System Restore.

System Restore will help you fully solve Downloads folder lost, disappear or missing issue in Windows 10, 8 or 7. It's highly recommended for all Windows users to create system and data backup first in case of unexpected errors from happening.

Here below we'll guide you to perform a system restore in Windows 10 as an example to restore Downloads folder to the original version with ease now:

Go to the Microsoft software download website and create Windows 10 installation media. Insert the installation media with PC and restart PC. On the Install Windows screen, select Repair your computer. On the Choose an option screen, select Troubleshoot > Safe Mode > Advanced Options > System Restore.

There you'll be able to use the Download folder again without any further problems.

Completely remove downloaded files.

We all know how to delete downloaded files, but how to completely remove them from the disk so no data recovery programs will pick them up again. This post shares methods to wipe downloaded files clean.

Windows 10 has the reset everything function to completely remove all data except the operating system itself, but it's overkill to remove just the downloaded files, we don't need that long time on such request, instead, we'd like a small utility tool to wipe just we selected.

Data Wiper, the portable data cleaning tool, is the software we'll utilize today, it is capable of dealing with the following target and wipe them clean:

Recycle bin Free space Entire disk or partition.

The first two features will be used in this post, to be more specific, use the Wipe recycle bin function when it is not emptied, use the Wipe free space function instead if the recycle bin has already been emptied.

The theory of wiping recycle bin:

As you may have known that in order to improve the write and read of speed of new file, Windows won't really delete the file, it only removes the reference of the old file and mark the area it took as 'free', so new file will still use this area and write new directly to the old area. Real deletion is, on the other hand, will overwrite the area (block of sectors) with 1, 0, or 1 and 0. Deleted files are put into the recycle bin (if you didn't change the default setting), wiping recycle bin is to wipe both the reference and the content of old files, files in the recycle bin.

BTW, deleted data will turn into free space, although it may contain residue of the original data, it is still marked as 'free' to welcome new data. We'll wipe free space too using Data Wiper.

Wipe recycle bin in Data Wiper.

Download portable Data Wiper, run it and you'll see the main interface like below:

Data Wiper Free Edition (portable)

Now, we can use the steps below to wipe recycle bin if it's not being emptied:

Click the Recycle bin option in first section (marked as '1') And then choose a wiping method, an overwriting method from section 2 (marked as '2') Then choose files in the recycle bin to wipe, all are selected as default Click Wipe Now and Confirm

If the recycle bin is not emptied, Data Wiper will select all the files inside of it when you choose the function Recycle bin, and meanwhile, the Wipe Now button is activated.

Wipe free space in Data Wiper.

Some user would use this setting to recycle, "Don't move files to the Recycle Bin. Remove files immediately when deleted."

Recycle Bin Properties.

Setting this will always result in an empty recycle bin, then the Wipe recycle bin function will have nothing to wipe, but we get the Wipe free space function instead.

Tips: Wiping free space won't affect the existing data, feel free to continue your work while performing such steps, but it's still recommended to close all the running programs and wiping free space at the idle time since wiping free space takes longer time than wiping recycle bin.

Steps of wiping free space are almost the same as wiping recycle bin, only to choose the Free space only option in section 1 and click on a partition in the disk map before wiping.

Wipe free space in Data Wiper.

Can't delete downloaded file.

To wipe downloaded file in recycle bin with Data Wiper, we have to firstly delete the downloaded file, but sometime, we can't delete the downloaded file, press the Delete will pop up a warning message or an error dialog, please try the following solution to before perform the deletion.

Solutions to fix the can't delete downloaded file issue:

log in as administrator: when the warning message "you'll need to provide administrator permission to delete this folder" shows close the window/program: when "folder in use" error shows close windows explorer: opening file/folder but get stuck reboot windows: when you have done the previous operations use safe mode: Try safe mode when rebooting fails too copy and paste the file to another location: try to delete the file from another folder scan hard drive: check if there are bad sectors on the hard drive.

Clear the download folder.

Browsers have a default path to put downloaded files if it's not specified, the path is the /Download/ folder of C Drive, we can open a browser and press Ctrl + J to open it, browsers like Microsoft Edge, Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, and Opera use this shortcut, then click the Clear all option or the Clear downloads (Opera) option to remove the download record, but the downloaded files are still there, you can then use the above-listed method to remove them completely.

Tips: Download folder contains downloaded files like zip files, program installation package, and other temporary files, delete them to free up disk space if they won't be used anymore.

Clean Downloaded Software Distribution files.

Files in the C:\Windows\SoftwareDistribution\Download folder are not installed but taking up free space, we can safely delete them to fix the low disk space problem or just simply free up some space from them, you can navigate to the folder or copy the link to File Explorer and press enter to check the files in it (to quickly open File Explorer, press Win+E).

Downloaded Windows software distribution files.

We can directly delete those files by pressing the Shift + Del button instead of moving them to recycle bin, and there's no need to wipe this area again, it has nothing to do wipe person private data, just and only useful for the operating system.

Note: This folder is one of the few folders that can be directly deleted in C Drive, please don't touch other system related files, or Windows may fail to reboot. If you completely have no idea of what I'm referring to, simply use Data Wiper to wipe recycle bin will be safe and enough.