How to start Windows 8 in Safe Mode

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If you have a problem with your PC, you can troubleshoot by starting it in safe mode. Safe mode starts Windows with a minimal set of drivers and services. This makes Safe Mode very useful for diagnosing hardware driver problems and computer infections in Windows 8.
To access Safe Mode in Windows 8, you need access the Advanced Startup options menu. To do this, you will need to go to the Windows 8 Start Screen and type **Advanced**. When the search results appear click on the **Settings** category as shown below.

Now click on the option labeled **Advanced startup options** and you will be brought to the General PC Settings screen. Scroll down to the bottom until you see an option labeled **Advanced startup**.

Click on the **Restart now** button and Windows 8 will restart your computer and go directly into the Advanced Startup options menu.

Now click on the **Troubleshoot** button and then the **Advanced options** button. You will now be at the Advanced options screen where you should click on the **Startup settings** option.

At the Startup Settings screen, click on the **Restart** button. Your computer will be restarted and brought into the Startup Settings menu as shown below.

You can start Safe Mode in Windows 8 from this screen. There are 3 possible Safe Modes options that you can choose from, which are described below:

Enable Safe Mode
This version of Safe Mode starts Windows 8 using the most basic drivers that are required to get Windows to run. It will not start any programs or the networking system.

Enable Safe Mode with Networking
This version of Safe Mode starts Windows 8 using the most basic drivers that are required to get Windows to run. It will not start any programs automatically, but **will** start the networking subsystem so that you can access the Internet. This is the most useful Safe Mode version as it allows you to download any tools that you may require as well as the ability to update anti-virus programs in case you wish to scan your computer.

Enable Safe Mode with Command Prompt
This version of Safe Mode starts Windows 8 using the most basic drivers that are required to get Windows to run, but does not start the Windows shell. This means that you will not see the desktop, but will instead be shown the command prompt screen where you can type commands. This version will also not start any programs or the networking subsystem. This Safe Mode method can be useful if you are cleaning up an infection that is started when the Windows shell, or Desktop, is started.
Please select the Safe Mode option by pressing the corresponding option number. Windows will then boot into the Safe Mode version that you requested where you will

be able to login. Once you login, you will be at the classic Windows desktop, which will have the words Safe Mode written in each of the corners.

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