



USER'S MANUAL

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Predator Helios 300
Covers: PH315-54 / PH317-55
This revision: April 2021



Important

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Register your Predator product

If your new device runs on Windows OS, you may have had your product registered automatically while you start up your device with Windows OS.

Log in at www.acer.com/myproducts with the email address you registered for Windows OS to review your product record. (Reset your password if you do not know it.)

If the record is not found, please follow the steps below to register.

1. Ensure you are connected to the Internet.
2. Go to www.acer.com/register-product.
3. Sign in or sign up for an Acer ID.
4. Enter S/N or SNID of your device to register it.

Model number: _____

Serial number: _____

Date of purchase: _____

Place of purchase: _____



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Getting started...

In this section you will find:

- Useful information on caring for your computer and your health
- Where to find the power button, ports and connectors
- Tips and tricks for using the touchpad and keyboard
- How to create recovery backups
- Guidelines for connecting to a network and using Bluetooth
- Information on using Predator's bundled software

FIRST THINGS FIRST

We would like to thank you for making this Predator notebook your choice for meeting your mobile computing needs.

Your guides

To help you use your Predator notebook, we have designed a set of guides:

First off, the **Setup Guide** helps you get started with setting up your computer and introduces the basic features and functions of your new computer.

For more on how your computer can help you to be more productive, please refer to the **User's Manual**. This guide contains detailed information on such subjects as system utilities, data recovery, expansion options and troubleshooting.

Once you have connected to the internet, you can download updates for your computer from:

<http://go.acer.com/?id=17883>

1. The link will open the Predator Support webpage.
2. Scroll down to *Drivers and Manuals* and search for your model by pasting in or manually entering the serial number, SNID, or product model.
3. From this page you can also download and install the Predator identification utility that will automatically detect your computer's serial number and SNID and allow you to copy it to the clipboard.
4. Once you have found your product model, any updates, or documents will be listed.

Basic care and tips for using your computer

Turning your computer off

To turn the power off, do any of the following:

- Use the Windows shutdown command: Press the *Windows key* or select the *Windows Start button*, select **Power** > **Shut down**.
- Right-click the *Windows Start button* > **Shut down or sign out** > **Shut down**.

If you need to power down the computer for a short while, but don't want to completely shut it down, you can put it to *Sleep* by doing any of the following:

- Press the power button.
- Press the sleep hotkey.
- Press the *Windows key* or select the *Windows Start button*, select **Power** > **Sleep**.
- Right-click the *Windows Start button* > **Shut down or sign out** > **Sleep**.



Note

If you cannot power off the computer normally, press and hold the power button for up to ten seconds to shut down the computer. If you turn off the computer and want to turn it on again, wait at least two seconds before powering up.

Taking care of your computer

Your computer will serve you well if you take care of it.

- Only use the adapter provided with your device, or an Acer-approved adapter to power your device.
- Do not expose the computer to direct sunlight. Do not place it near sources of heat, such as a radiator.
- Do not expose the computer to temperatures below 0° C (32° F) or above 50° C (122° F).
- Do not subject the computer to magnetic fields.

- Do not expose the computer to rain or moisture.
- Do not spill water or any liquid on the computer.
- Do not subject the computer to heavy shock or vibration.
- Do not expose the computer to dust or dirt.
- Never place objects on top of the computer.
- Do not slam the computer display when you close it.
- Never place the computer on uneven surfaces.

Taking care of your AC adapter

Here are some ways to take care of your AC adapter:

- Do not connect the adapter to any other device.
- Do not step on the power cord or place heavy objects on top of it. Route the power cord and any cables away from where people walk.
- When unplugging the power cord, do not pull on the cord itself but pull on the plug.
- The total ampere ratings of the equipment plugged in should not exceed the ampere rating of the cord if you are using an extension cord. Also, the total current rating of all equipment plugged into a single wall outlet should not exceed the fuse rating.

Cleaning and servicing

When cleaning the computer, follow these steps:

1. Turn off the computer.
2. Disconnect the AC adapter.
3. Use a soft, moist cloth. Do not use liquid or aerosol cleaners.

If your computer is dropped or visibly damaged, or does not work normally, please contact your nearest authorized Acer service center.

Guidelines for safe battery usage



Warning

When using a charging cart or a small space to simultaneously charge or operate multiple devices, the area must be well-ventilated and the temperature kept between 0 °C (32 °F) to 35 °C (95 °F) and battery charging must be stopped when 100% capacity is reached.

Continuous charging can cause deformation or damage to the battery/device.

Precautions when charging batteries

The useful lifespan of a battery is adversely affected by the following behavior:

- Constantly charging the battery/device when already at full capacity.
- Charging the battery/device at temperatures above 35 °C (95 °F) or below 0 °C (32 °F).

To prevent damage, follow these precautions:

- Stop charging the battery once it reaches 100% capacity; regularly or frequently charging a fully charged battery for an extended period of time may cause battery deformation or damage. We recommend that you recharge the device when the battery level drops below 70% capacity.
- Do not charge battery in temperatures above 35 °C (95 °F) or below 0 °C (32 °F). Charging in abnormally high or abnormally low temperatures can cause battery deformation or damage.
- The charging port must be clean and free from debris and should only be used with Acer charging equipment. Use of a non-Acer battery or charging equipment can cause damage to the product and will void the warranty.
- If you plan to store the device for a long period of time, turn-off the device, remove AC power and store the product at room temperature (0 °C - 35 °C) in a dry (humidity: 45% - 80%), well-ventilated area. Avoid direct sunlight, high temperatures and high humidity. Do not

leave your device's battery completely discharged for a long period of time; this may cause battery deformation or damage. We recommend that the battery is checked and charged to approximately 50% capacity every 6 months.

- ONLY CHARGE THE BATTERY IN A CLEAN, WELL VENTILATED AREA.



Warning

Batteries may explode if not handled properly.

Do not disassemble or dispose of batteries in fire.

Do not short external contacts, crush, puncture or otherwise tamper with batteries. Keep batteries away from children.

Follow local regulations when disposing of used batteries.

Precautions when replacing the battery

Improper replacement or mishandling could damage the battery, cause overheating, result in injury, and risk fire or explosion.

- Device with built-in battery: A built-in battery must be replaced by an authorized service center. Do not attempt to replace or remove the battery by yourself.
- Device with removable battery: The battery should only be replaced with parts approved by Acer. Do not replace the battery with any parts other than approved ones.

This notebook uses a Lithium-based battery. Do not use it in a humid, wet or corrosive environment. Do not put, store or leave your product in or near a heat source, in a high temperature location, in strong direct sunlight, in a microwave oven or in a pressurized container, and do not expose it to temperatures over 50 °C (122 °F).

Failure to follow these guidelines may cause the battery to leak acid, become hot, explode or ignite and cause injury and/or damage. Do not pierce, open or disassemble the battery. If the battery leaks and you come into contact with the leaked fluids, rinse thoroughly with water and seek medical attention immediately. For safety reasons, and to prolong the lifetime of the battery, charging will must not

occur at temperatures below 0 °C (32 °F) or above 35 °C (95 °F).

The full performance of a new battery is achieved only after two or three complete charge and discharge cycles. The battery can be charged and discharged hundreds of times, but it will eventually wear out. When the operation time becomes noticeably shorter than normal, check an authorized reseller to purchase a new battery.

Use the battery only for its intended purpose. Never use any charger or battery that is damaged. Do not short-circuit the battery. Accidental short-circuiting can occur when a metallic object such as a coin, clip or pen causes direct connection of the positive (+) and negative (-) terminals of the battery. (These look like metal strips on the battery.) This might happen, for example, when you carry a spare battery in your pocket or purse. Short-circuiting the terminals may damage the battery or the connecting object.

The capacity and lifetime of the battery will be reduced if the battery is left in hot or cold places, such as in a closed car in summer or winter. Always try to keep the battery between 15° C and 25° C (59° F and 77° F). A device with a hot or cold battery may not work temporarily, even when the battery is fully charged. Battery performance is especially limited in temperatures well below freezing.

Do not dispose of batteries in a fire as they may explode. Batteries may also explode if damaged. Dispose of batteries according to local regulations. Please recycle when possible. Do not dispose as household waste.

Wireless devices may be susceptible to interference from the battery, which could affect performance.

**Note**

Please refer to www.acer.com for battery shipping documents.

Internal battery

- Do not attempt to replace a built-in rechargeable battery, battery replacement must be done by an Acer- authorized repair facility.

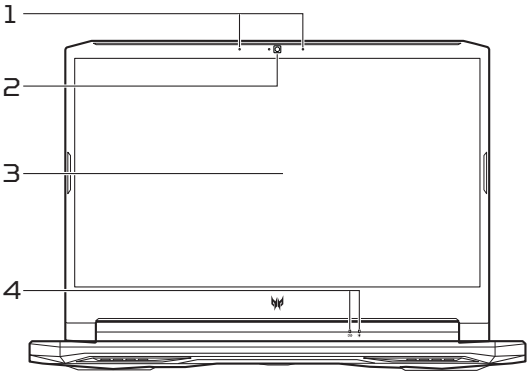
Recharge the battery by following the instruction included in the product documentation.

YOUR PREDATOR NOTEBOOK TOUR

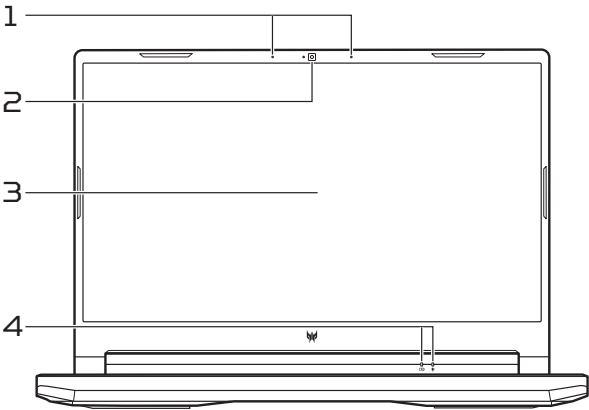
After setting up your computer as illustrated in the Setup Guide, let us show you around your new Predator computer.

Screen view

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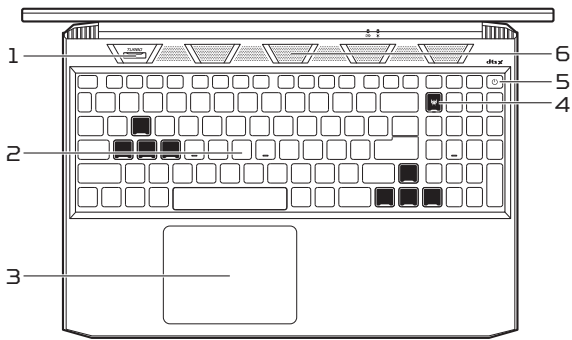


#	Icon	Item	Description
1		Microphones	Internal digital microphones for sound recording.

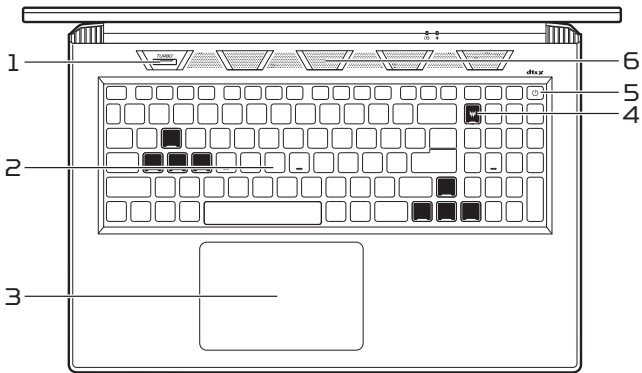
#	Icon	Item	Description
2		Webcam	Web camera for video communication. <i>A light next to the webcam indicates that the webcam is active.</i>
3		Screen	Displays computer output.
4		Battery indicator	Indicates the computer's battery status. <i>Amber when the battery is charging.</i> <i>Blue when fully charged (with the AC adapter plugged in).</i>
		Power indicator	Indicates the computer's power status.

Keyboard view

PH315-54



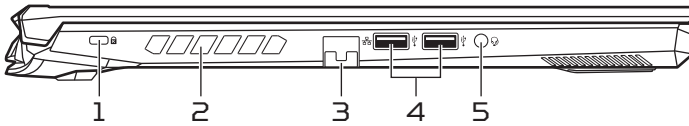
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#	Icon	Item	Description
1	<i>TURBO</i>	TURBO key	Switches overclocking and fan speed level.
2		Keyboard	For entering data into your computer. <i>See "Using the keyboard" on page 21.</i>

#	Icon	Item	Description
3		Touchpad	Touch-sensitive pointing device. <i>The touchpad and selection buttons form a single surface. Press down firmly on the touchpad surface to perform a left click. Press down firmly on the lower right corner to perform a right click.</i>
4		PredatorSense key	Launches PredatorSense application.
5		Power button	Turns the computer on and off.
6		Ventilation and cooling fan	Allows the computer to stay cool. <i>Do not cover or obstruct the openings.</i>

Left view

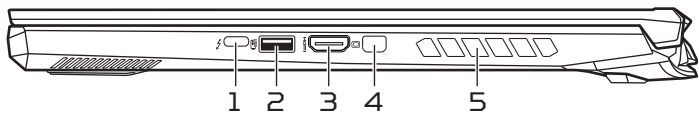


#	Icon	Item	Description
1		Kensington lock slot	Connects to a Kensington-compatible security lock.
2		Ventilation and cooling fan	Allows the computer to stay cool. <i>Do not cover or obstruct the openings.</i>
3		Ethernet (RJ-45) port	Connects to an Ethernet 10/100/1000Mbps/2.5Gbps-based network. <i>Pull the lip down to open the port fully.</i>
4		USB ports	Connect to USB devices.
5		Headset/speaker jack	Connects to audio devices (e.g., speakers, headphones) or a headset with microphone.

USB 3.2 Gen 1 information

- USB 3.2 Gen 1 compatible ports are blue.
- Compatible with USB 3.2 Gen 1 and earlier devices.
- For optimal performance, use USB 3.2 Gen 1-certified devices.
- Defined by the USB 3.2 Gen 1 specification (SuperSpeed USB).

Right view



#	Icon	Item	Description
1		USB Type-C / Thunderbolt 4 port	Connects to USB devices with a USB Type-C connector. Supports Thunderbolt™ 4 and displays.
2		USB port with power-off charging	Connects to USB devices.
3		HDMI port	Supports high-definition digital video connections.
4		Mini DisplayPort	Connects to an external display device.
5		Ventilation and cooling fan	Allows the computer to stay cool. <i>Do not cover or obstruct the openings.</i>

USB Type-C information

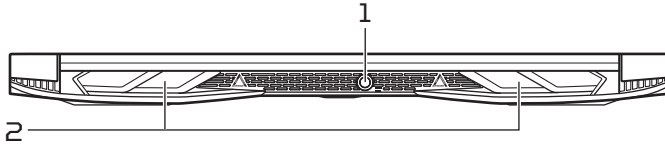
- USB 3.2 Gen 2 with transfer speeds up to 10 Gbps.
- Supports DisplayPort™ audio/video output.
- Compatible with Thunderbolt™ 4.
- Delivers up to 3 A at 5 V DC for USB charging.

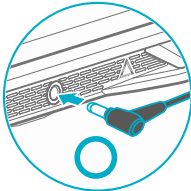
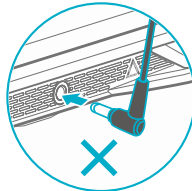
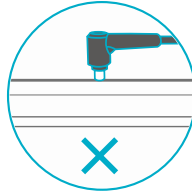
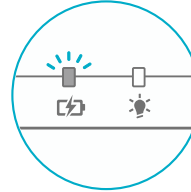
USB 3.2 Gen 2 information

- USB 3.2 Gen 2 compatible ports are blue.
- Compatible with USB 3.2 Gen 2 and earlier devices.

- For optimal performance, use USB 3.2 Gen 2-certified devices.
- Defined by the USB 3.2 Gen 2 specification (SuperSpeed USB).

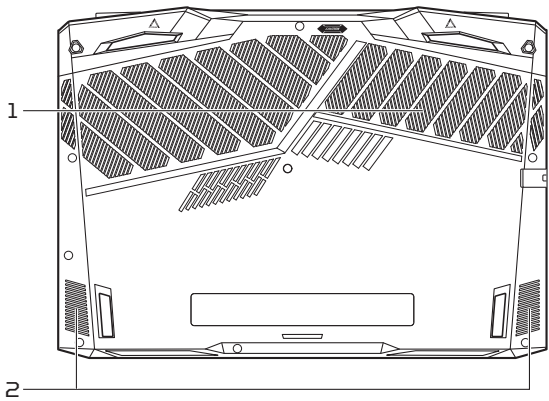
Rear view



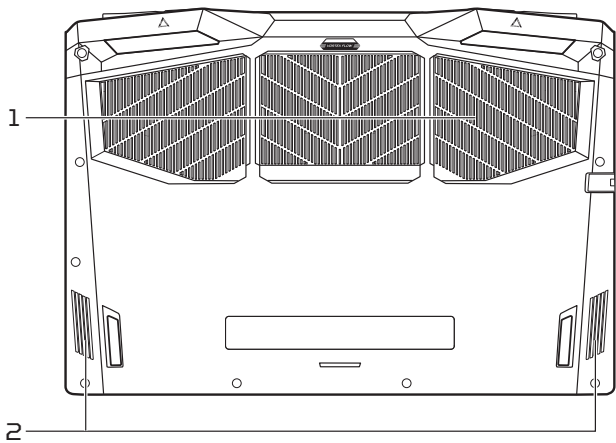
#	Icon	Item	Description
			Connects to an AC adapter.
1		DC-in jack	 
Note: Please press the AC adapter into the tunnel to the power connector. You will feel a click indicating it is connected. Then, check the light of battery indicator shows amber while charging.			
			  
2		Ventilation and cooling fan	Allows the computer to stay cool. <i>Do not cover or obstruct the openings.</i>

Base view

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#	Icon	Item	Description
1		Ventilation and cooling fan	Allows the computer to stay cool. <i>Do not cover or obstruct the openings.</i>
2		Speakers	Deliver stereo audio output.

USING THE KEYBOARD

The keyboard has full-sized keys, a numeric keypad, separate cursor, lock, Windows keys and hotkeys.

Lock keys

The keyboard has lock keys which you can use to turn keyboard functions on and off.

Lock key	Description
Caps Lock	When Caps Lock is on, all alphabetic characters typed are in uppercase.
Num Lock	When Num Lock is on, the keypad is in numeric mode. The keys function as a calculator (complete with the arithmetic operators +, -, *, and /). Use this mode when you need to do a lot of numeric data entry.
Scroll Lock	When Scroll Lock is on, the screen moves one line up or down when you press the up or down arrow keys respectively. Scroll Lock does not work with some applications.

Hotkeys

To activate hotkeys, press and hold the Fn key before pressing the other key in the hotkey combination.

Hotkey	Icon	Function	Description
Fn + F2		Touchpad toggle	Turns the built-in touchpad on and off.
Fn + F3		Flight mode	Turns on / off the computer's network devices.
Fn + F4		Sleep	Puts the computer in Sleep mode.
Fn + F5		Display toggle	Switches display output between the display screen, external monitor (if connected) and both.

Hotkey	Icon	Function	Description
Fn + F6		Display off	Turns the display screen backlight off to save power. Press any key to return.
Fn + F7		Microphone toggle	Turns the microphones on and off.
Fn + F8		Speaker toggle	Turns the speakers on and off.
Fn + F9		Keyboard backlight decrease	Decreases the intensity of the keyboard backlight.
Fn + F10		Keyboard backlight increase	Increases the intensity of the keyboard backlight.
Fn + F11	Pause	Pause	Sends a Break Command.
Fn + F12	Scr Lk	Scroll Lock	Turns Scroll Lock on or off.
Fn + Del	Ins	Insert	Turns Insert on or off.
Fn + Pg Up		Play/Pause	Plays or pauses a selected media file.
Fn + Pg Dn		Previous	Returns to the previous media file.
Fn + End		Next	Jumps to the next media file.
Fn + ▷		Brightness up	Increases the screen brightness.
Fn + ◁		Brightness down	Decreases the screen brightness.
Fn + △		Volume up	Increases the sound volume.
Fn + ▽		Volume down	Decreases the sound volume.

Windows keys

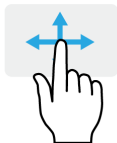
The keyboard has two keys that perform Windows-specific functions.

Key	Description
 Windows key	Pressed alone it returns to the Start screen or to return to the last open app.
 Application key	This key has the same effect as clicking the right mouse button.

USING THE PRECISION TOUCHPAD

The touchpad controls the arrow  (or 'cursor') on the screen. As you slide your finger across the touchpad, the cursor will follow this movement. The Precision Touchpad (PTP) is designed to provide a more uniform, smooth, and accurate touchpad experience. Many applications support precision touchpad gestures that use one or more fingers, however, some gestures may not be supported by the specific application or program you are using.

Touchpad gestures



Single-finger slide

Slide a finger across the touchpad to move the cursor.



Single-finger press or tap

Press the touchpad down, or lightly tap the touchpad with your finger, to perform a 'click', which will select or start an item. Quickly repeat the tap to perform a double tap or 'double click'.



Two-finger press

Lightly tap the touchpad with two fingers to perform a  'right click'. In the *Start* screen, this will toggle the app commands. In most apps this will open a context menu related to the selected item.



Two-finger slide

Swiftly scroll through web pages, documents and playlists by placing two fingers on the touchpad and moving both in any direction.



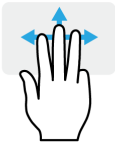
Two-finger pinch

Zoom in and out of photos, maps and documents with a simple finger-and-thumb gesture.



Three-finger press

Lightly tap the touchpad with three fingers to open the *Search Windows*.



Three-finger swipe

Swipe across the touchpad with three fingers.

- Swipe up to open *Task View*. Move the cursor over a window and tap the touchpad to select that window, or swipe downwards to exit *Task View*.
 - Swipe down to minimize all open windows and show *Desktop*; swipe upwards to restore the minimized windows.
 - Swipe left or right to switch between open windows.
-



Four-finger press

Lightly tap the touchpad with four fingers to open the *Action Center*.



Four-finger swipe

Swipe across the touchpad with four fingers.

- Swipe up to open *Task View*. Move the cursor over a window and tap the touchpad to select that window, or swipe downwards to exit *Task View*.
 - Swipe down to minimize all open windows and show *Desktop*; swipe upwards to restore the minimized windows.
-

The precision touchpad includes added technology features that help recognize and prevent unintentional gestures such as accidental taps, gestures, and pointer movement.



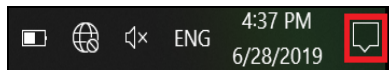
Note

The touchpad is sensitive to finger movement; the lighter the touch, the better the response. Please keep the touchpad and your fingers dry and clean.

Changing touchpad settings

To change the touchpad settings to suit your personal requirements, please do the following.

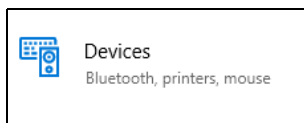
1. In the icon tray in the lower right-hand corner of the screen, select the *Notifications* icon to open the *Notifications* pane.



2. Select **All settings**.

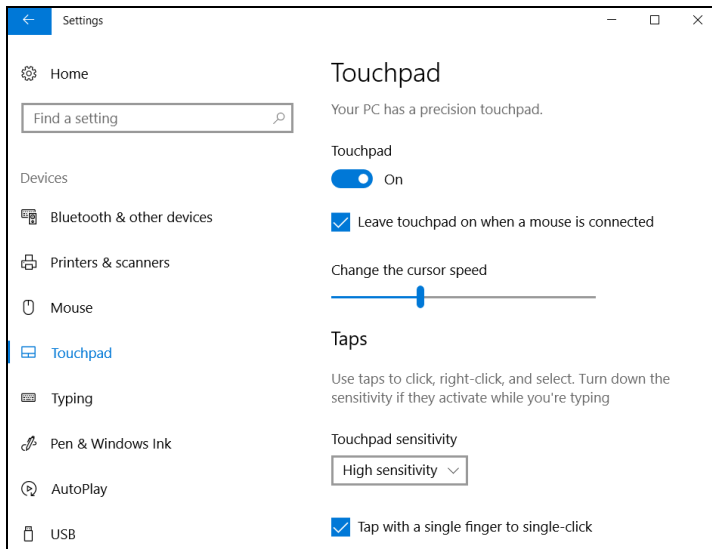


3. Select **Devices > Touchpad**



4. Now you can adjust the settings to suit your personal needs. You can switch off the touchpad if you prefer to use

a mouse. Or you can adjust the touchpad sensitivity to suit your needs. Scroll down to see more settings.



RECOVERY

If you are having trouble with your computer, and the frequently asked questions (see **Got a question?** on **page 77**) do not help, you can recover your computer.

This section describes the recovery tools available on your computer. Predator provides *Acer Care Center*, which allows you to reset your PC, refresh your PC, backup files/data or create a factory default backup. If you cannot access *Acer Care Center*, click **Settings** in the Start menu, select **Update & Security** and then click **Recovery**.



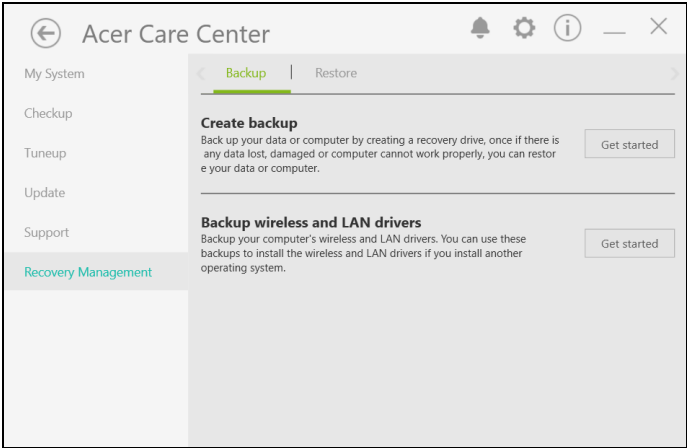
Note

Acer Care Center vary depending on model or Operating System.

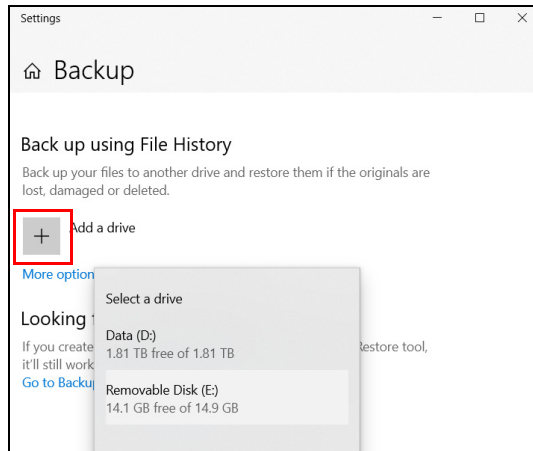
Creating a file history backup

Recovery Management allows you to quickly and easily back up your files and restore them if the originals are lost, damaged or deleted.

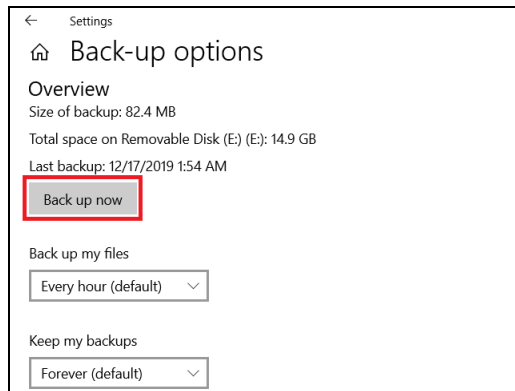
- 1. From **Start**, select **Care Center** then **Recovery Management**.
- 2. Select the *Backup* tab and click **Get started** for *Create backup* to open the *Backup* window.



3. Plug in the USB drive (or a portable external hard drive) and click **+** to add a drive. Select the USB drive from the drop-down list.



4. Click **More options** to select back-up options which best fit your needs, such as schedule the backup interval, how long you want to keep those backups (default is **Forever**), which folders to be backed up or be excluded. Click **Back up now** to continue.



5. Follow the process until it completes.

6. Unplug the USB drive (or a portable external hard drive) and label it clearly.



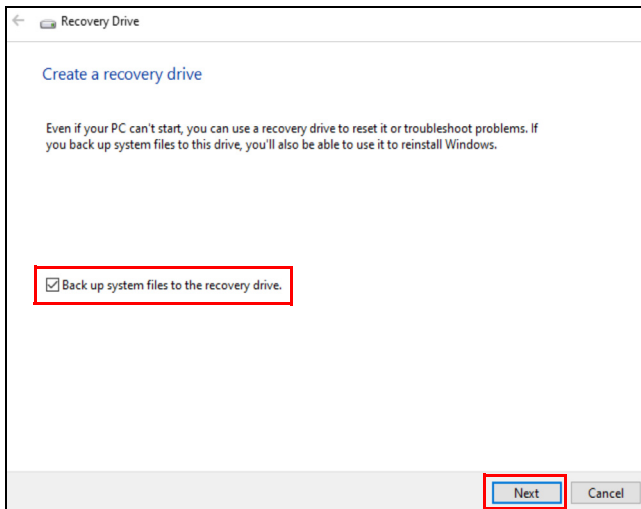
Important

Write a unique, descriptive label on the backup, such as 'File History Recovery Backup'. Make sure you keep the backup in a safe place that you will remember.

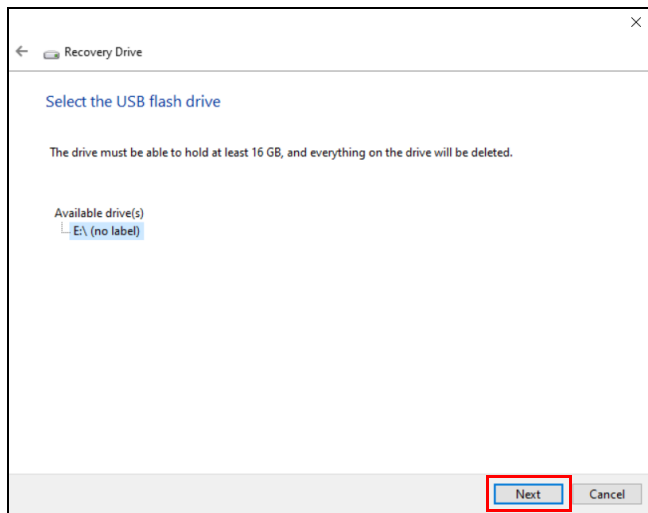
Creating a factory default backup

Recovery Drive allows you to quickly and easily back up your operating system, installed apps and data.

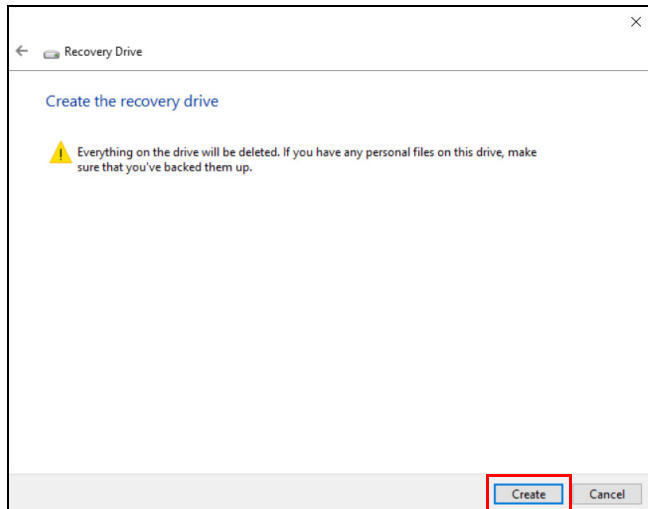
1. Type "**Recovery Drive**" in the search box and then open it.
2. Make sure **Back up system files to the recovery drive** is selected and click **Next**.



3. Plug in the USB drive and wait for the PC to detect the USB drive then click **Next**.



4. Everything on the drive will be deleted. Click **Create** to continue.



5. You will be shown the backup progress on the screen.
6. Follow the process until it completes.
7. Unplug the USB drive and label it clearly.

**Important**

Write a unique, descriptive label on the backup, such as 'Windows Recovery Backup'. Make sure you keep the backup in a safe place that you will remember.

**Note**

Since the recovery backup requires at least 8 GB of storage after formatting, it is recommended to use a USB drive with a capacity of 16 GB or larger.

Backing up your wireless and LAN drivers

Back up your wireless and LAN drivers. You can use these backups to install the wireless and LAN drivers if you install another operating system.

1. From **Start**, select **Care Center** then **Recovery Management**.
2. Select the *Backup* tab and click **Get started** for *Backup wireless and LAN drivers*. Choose a folder to save your drivers and select **OK**.
3. You will be shown the backup progress on the screen.

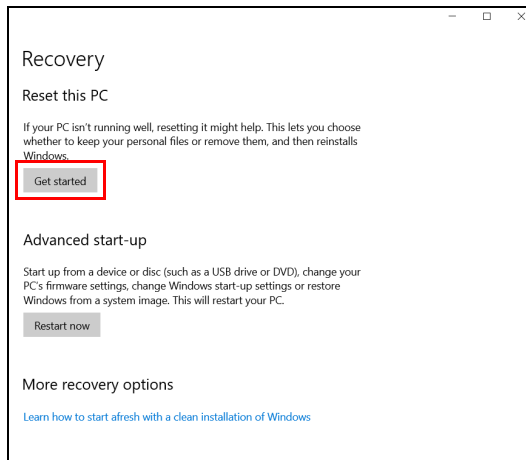
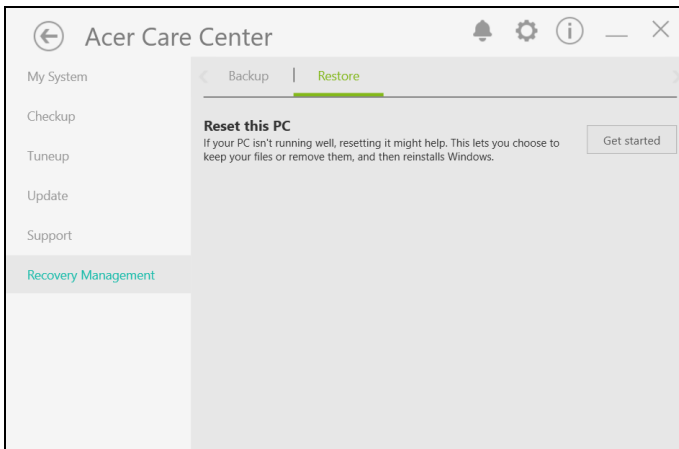
Restoring your computer

Recovery Management allows you to quickly and easily restore your computer back to its default status. You can choose to keep your files or remove them before reinstalling Windows.

Reset this PC and keep my files

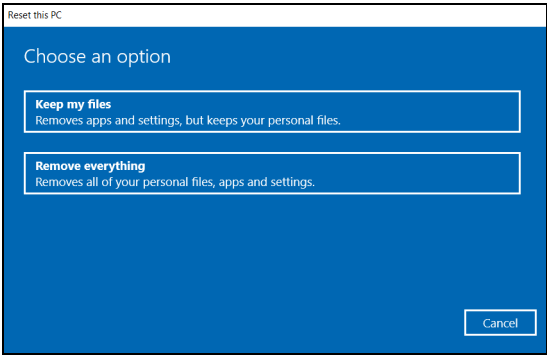
1. From **Start**, select **Care Center** then **Recovery Management**.

2. Select the *Restore* tab and click **Get started** to open the *Recovery* window.



3. Click **Get started** to *Choose an option*. Select **Keep my files** to refresh your PC and reinstall your operating

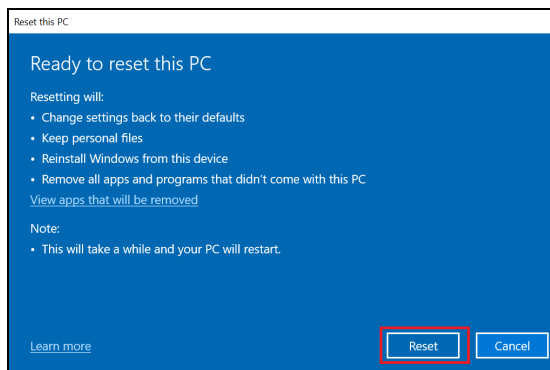
system without removing your personal files. Click **Next** to continue.



Important

If you have apps installed on your PC, they will be removed. If you'd like not to restore apps and setting that came with your PC, go to Change settings and turn off the option to not restore preinstalled apps that came with this PC before proceeding the restore progress. Click Confirm to continue.

4. Resetting the PC will reinstall Windows, change settings back to their factory defaults and remove all preinstalled apps and programs without removing your personal files. Click **Reset** to continue. This will take a while and your PC will restart.

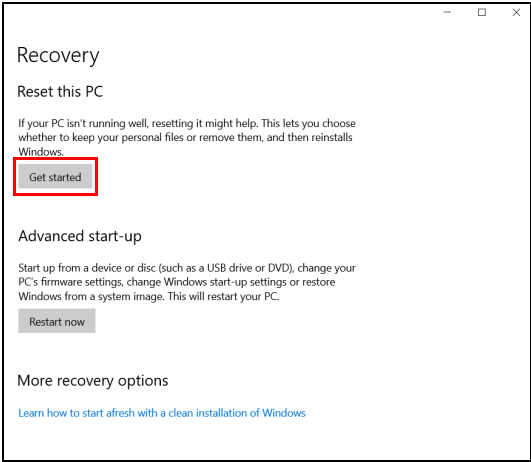
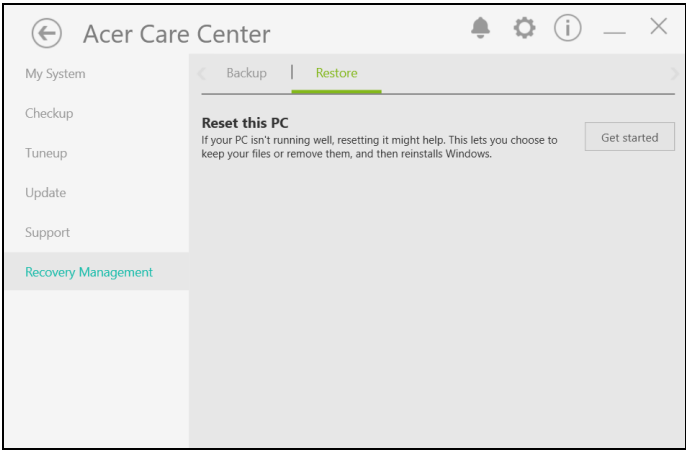


5. You will be shown the reset progress on the screen. The screen will turn off during the reset process.
6. The screen will turn back on when it is installing Windows. Your PC will restart several times during the reset process.
7. Follow the process until it completes.
8. When your PC has completed the reset process, Windows will have been reset back to its factory default settings without removing your personal files.

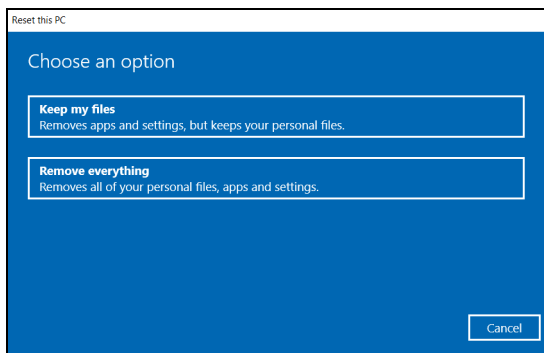
Reset this PC and remove everything

1. From *Start*, select **Care Center** then **Recovery Management**.

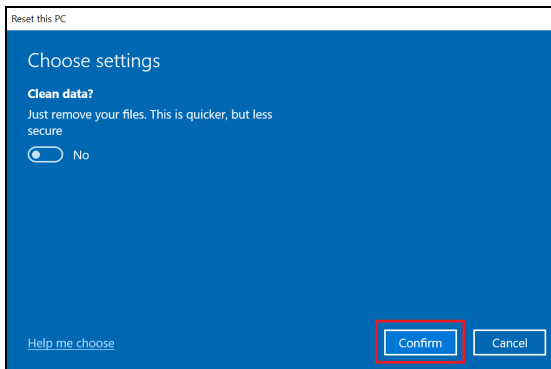
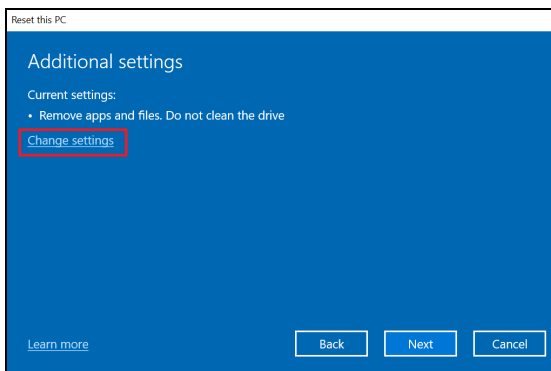
2. Select the *Restore* tab and click **Get Started** to open the *Recovery* window.



3. Click **Get started** to *Choose an option*. Select **Remove everything** to reset your PC back to its factory default.



4. Click **Change settings** to choose restore settings which best fit your needs. Then click **Confirm** to continue.



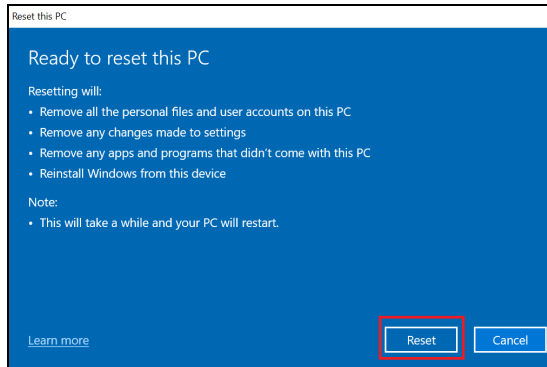
5. Make sure all settings are properly made, click **Next** to continue.



Warning

Turn on "*Clean data*" will remove all of your personal files and accounts, along with pre-existing drivers that may affect your Windows installation.

6. Click **Reset** to continue.



7. You will be shown the reset progress on the screen. The screen will turn off during the reset process.
8. The screen will turn back on when it is installing Windows. Your PC will restart several times during the reset process.
9. Follow the process until it completes.
10. When your PC has completed the reset process, Windows will use factory default settings.

USING A BLUETOOTH CONNECTION

Bluetooth is a technology enabling you to transfer data wirelessly over short distances between many different types of devices. Bluetooth-enabled devices include computers, cell phones, tablets, wireless headsets, and keyboards.

To use Bluetooth, you must ensure the following:

1. Bluetooth is enabled on both devices.
2. Your devices are "paired" (or connected).

Enabling and disabling Bluetooth

The Bluetooth adapter must be enabled on both devices. For your computer, this may be an external switch, a software setting, or a separate Bluetooth dongle plugged into the computer's USB port (if no internal Bluetooth adapter is available).



Note

Please check your devices owner's manual to determine how to turn on its Bluetooth adapter.

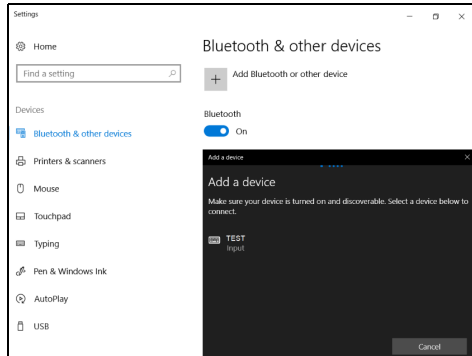
Enable Bluetooth and add a device

Every new device must first be "paired" with your computer's Bluetooth adapter. This means it must first be authenticated for security purposes. You only need to pair once. After that, simply turning on the Bluetooth adapter of both devices will connect them.

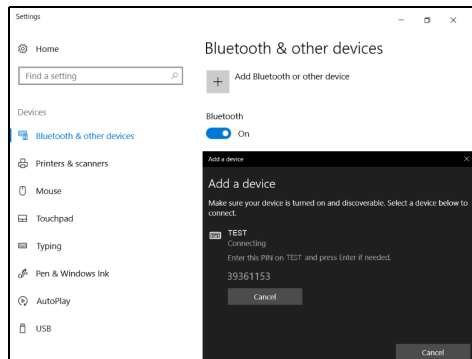
Bluetooth on your computer is disabled by default. To enable your computer's Bluetooth adapter, do the following:

1. Press the *Windows* key or select the *Windows Start button* > **Settings** > **Devices** > **Bluetooth & other devices**, and click the toggle under **Bluetooth** to enable/disable it.

2. Click on **Add Bluetooth or other device** then select the device that you want to add.
3. Your computer will automatically start searching for devices, as well as make itself visible to other devices.
4. Select the device you wish to pair from the list of discovered devices.



5. After pairing, if there is a code displaying on the screen, enter that code on the device to proceed the connection.



Note

Some devices using older versions of the Bluetooth technology require both devices to enter a PIN. In the case of one of the devices not having any inputs (as in a headset), the passcode is hardcoded into the device (usually "0000" or "1234"). Consult your device's user manual for more information.

You can also enter the Bluetooth settings by selecting the *Notifications* icon in the lower right-hand corner of the screen to open the *Notifications* pane. From here, you can enable or disable Bluetooth or right-click on **Bluetooth > Go to Settings** to enter the Bluetooth settings.

CONNECTING TO THE INTERNET

This chapter includes general information on types of connections, and getting connected to the internet. For detailed information, please refer to **Network connections on page 92**.

Your computer's built-in network features make it easy for you to connect your computer to the internet.

First though, in order to connect to the internet from home, you'll need to sign up for internet services from an ISP [Internet Service Provider] -- usually a phone or cable company -- that will have to go to your home or office to set up internet service. The ISP will install a small box, a router or modem, that will allow you to connect to the internet.

Connecting to a wireless network

Connecting to a wireless LAN

A wireless LAN (or WLAN) is a *wireless local area network*, which can link two or more computers without using wires. Once connected to WLAN, you can access the internet. You can also share files, other devices, and even your internet connection itself.

Your computer's wireless connection is turned on by default and Windows will detect and display a list of available networks during setup. Select your network and enter the password if required.



Warning

Using wireless devices while flying in aircraft may be prohibited. All wireless devices must be switched off before boarding an aircraft and during take-off, as they may be dangerous to the operation of the aircraft, disrupt communications, and even be illegal. You may turn on your computer's wireless devices only when informed that it is safe to do so by the cabin crew.

Predator notebook computers feature a *Flight mode* hotkey that turns the network connection on or off. You can use the network management options to turn your wireless network on/off or control what is shared over the network.

To connect to a wireless network, please follow the steps below.

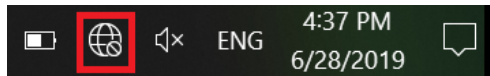
1. Ensure you have a wireless router/access point and current internet connection through the ISP of your choice. Make a note of the wireless network's name and password (if necessary). If you are trying to connect to a public network (such as at a coffeeshop), make sure you have the wireless network's name.



Note

Please refer to your ISP or router documentation for details on connecting to the internet.

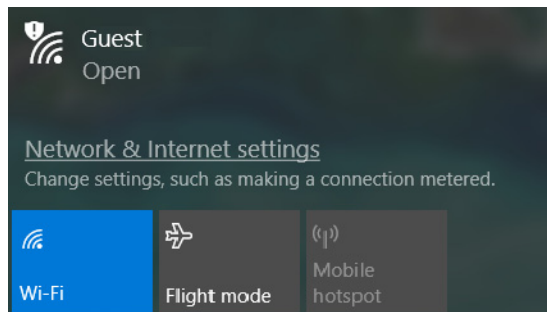
2. Click **Network** icon in the notification area.



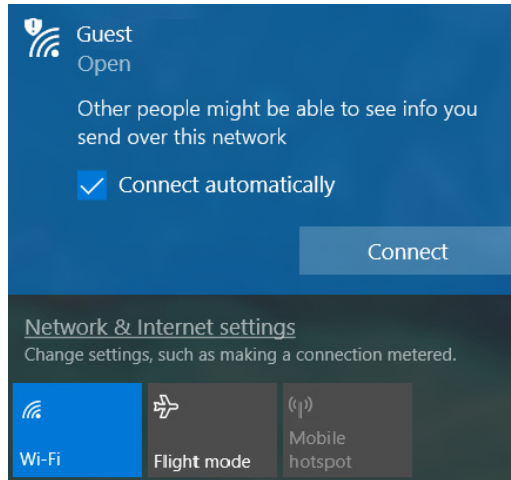
Note

*If Wi-Fi is turned off, please click **Wi-Fi** tile to turn it on.*

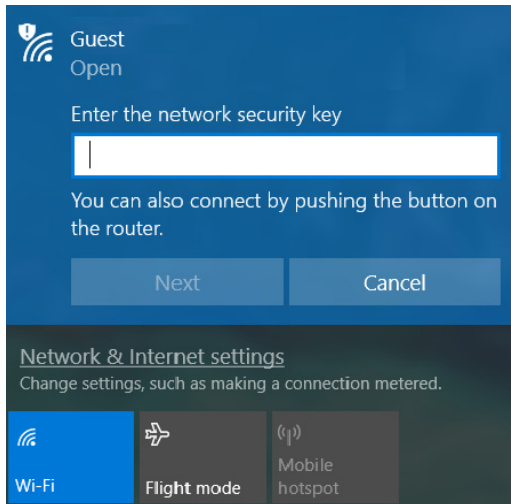
3. You will see a list of available wireless networks. Select the one you wish to use.



4. Once you select a wireless network, select **Connect**.



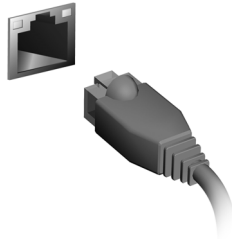
5. If required, enter the network's password.



Connecting with a cable

Built-in network feature

If your computer has a network port, plug one end of a network cable into the network port on your computer, and the other end into a port on your router (refer to the image below.) Then, you'll be ready to get online.



Connecting to a cellular network

If your computer has a SIM slot, you can connect to the internet using a cellular phone network. To do this, you must have a compatible SIM card and a data contract with your cellular provider. Contact your cellular provider for more information on connecting to the internet using a cellular network.