

Disable Phone Link App in Windows 10

What

Windows Phone Link app in Windows 10 and 11 by default loads at start up and utilizes your RAM memory. If you do not use this app, you can disable this app and free the resources this unused app uses. The app is disabled in Pro versions via a Group Policy edit, while the app is disabled in the Home versions via a Registry edit. The following instructions is for the Registry edit for Home versions.

Why

The Phone Link app in Windows 10 is for Android phones and does not work with iPhones; however, Phone Link app will work with iPhones in Windows 11. Thus for a Windows 10 user that does not use an Android phone this app is wasting resources. While the impact of this app loading on each start up is very small, every bit of resources you free up makes your machine run that much better (especially for low powered PCs). This is just another item of things to do to improve the performance of your PC for how you use it.

How

Notice: For Pro versions with Local Group Policy Editor the setting to Configure to Disable is:
Computer Configuration\Administrative Templates\System\Group Policy-Phone-PC linking on this device

Registry Edit to Disable Phone Link App

This Registry edit does not require you to open the Registry or use the Registry Editor.

- Open Notepad to a new blank document.
- Copy the text below without adding extra lines. Paste into Notepad so the first line of text is at the top left corner of the document.

Windows Registry Editor Version 5.00

**[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft\Windows\System]
"EnableMmx"=dword:00000000**

- Select *File > Save as* to open the Save as window.
- Select a location to save the file. Click the drop down arrow next to *Save as type:* and select *All files (*.*)*. In File name: box enter **Phone Link Off.reg** (the .reg must be included in the file name).
- Use File Explorer to go to where you saved this Phone Link Off.reg file and right click the file name. Select *Merge*. Windows will give a warning about editing the Registry and ask to confirm to run the file. Click Yes and the edit will occur. Windows will let you know that the edit had been done.
- You must restart the PC for this change to take effect.

Comments

- This edit does not uninstall the Phone Link which you can still manually start. This edit prevents Phone Link app for starting every time you boot up.
- This edit does not affect other connections of an iPhone to the PC such as download photos are Wi-Fi folder access.
- If you decide to have Phone Link start up all the time, change the **dword:00000000** in the text above to **dword:00000001**.