

Windows Icon Galleries

This applies to Windows 10 and 11

Situation:

You have shortcuts that you wish to change the icons of, to make it easier to identify the shortcut you wish to click. You select Change Icon from the shortcut's Properties page and a Change icon window will open usually to the system32.dll file and the icons in that file. While there are a lot of icons in that file, none seem right for the shortcut. What now? Accept an icon that really doesn't do what want or create your own custom icon? No, look at the many other icons Windows has in its galleries (other dll files like the shell32.dll except with different icons). These other dll files can specialize in the kind of icons in its file such as all audio or all network icons. The chart below lists Windows icon galleries with Path address to the file and brief description of the types of icons in the file.

In the Change Icon window enter the Path Address (copy & paste) and press the Enter key to view and select if desired the icons in that file.

Windows Icon Galleries

Path Address	Types of Icons
%systemroot%\system32\accessibilitycpl.dll	Accessibility feature type icons
%systemroot%\system32\aclui.dll	Checkmark and X icons
%systemroot%\system32\actioncentercpl.dll	Single waving flag icon
%systemroot%\system32\autoplay.dll	Single Play icon
%systemroot%\system32\calc.exe	Single calculator icon
%systemroot%\system32\cleanmgr.exe	Couple icons of a brush cleaning a HDD
%systemroot%\system32\cmd.exe	Single icon of a command window
%systemroot%\system32\comctl32.dll	Several attention getting icons
%systemroot%\system32\compstui.dll	Various classic icons from older versions of Windows – light bulbs, rotary dial phones, etc.
%systemroot%\system32\comres.dll	Few icons with colored checkmarks and Xs
%systemroot%\system32\control.exe	Single Control Panel icon
%systemroot%\system32\ddores.dll	Many icons for hardware devices such as speakers, headphones, printers, computers. Includes white border icons for dark background.
%systemroot%\system32\dmdskres.dll	Several disk management style icons
%systemroot%\system32\dsuiext.dll	Several icons about network services with people, networked computers, servers and printers.
%systemroot%\system32\filemgmt.dll	A few icons of gears folder and alert
%systemroot%\system32\fsquirt.exe	Single Bluetooth icon
%systemroot%\system32\ieframe.dll	Collection of old Internet Explorer icons and several blank icons
%systemroot%\system32\imageres.dll	Many icons of all types including document file types.
%systemroot%\system32\mmcndmgr.dll	Vintage icons from older versions of windows
%systemroot%\system32\mmres.dll	Nice collection of audio icons such as headphones and speakers.

%systemroot%\system32\moricons.dll	Vintage icons from MS DOS times.
%systemroot%\system32\msconfig.exe	Single icon of computer with commands on screen
%systemroot%\system32\mssvp.dll	Several message type (envelopes) icons.
%systemroot%\system32\mstsc.exe	Few network related icons
%systemroot%\system32\mstscax.dll	Several network related icons. Real clean and sharp.
%systemroot%\system32\ncpa.cpl	Single network control panel icon
%systemroot%\system32\netcenter.dll	Few network related icons. Icons of signal strength bars.
%systemroot%\system32\netshell.dll	Many Network type icons
%systemroot%\system32\networkexplorer.dll	Several networked device peripherals
%systemroot%\system32\pifmgr.dll	Icons from windows 95 and 98 with odd objects like ball and pencil.
%systemroot%\system32\pnidui.dll	Windows 10 only. Several network type icons that are transparent and white for dark backgrounds
%systemroot%\system32\sensorscpl.dll	Several sensor pad type icons
%systemroot%\system32\setupapi.dll	Several unique icons of hardware devices
%systemroot%\system32\shell32.dll	The largest collection of all types of icons
%systemroot%\system32\taskmgr.exe	Unique collection of icons including transparent white and transparent black icons.
%systemroot%\system32\url.dll	A few web oriented icons
%systemroot%\system32\wiashtext.dll	Several camera and video recorder type icons
%systemroot%\system32\wmploc.dll	Many icons of the CD and music type
%systemroot%\system32\wpdshext.dll	Odd collection of phones and battery icons
%systemroot%\system32\wscript.exe	Few distinctive script type icons
%systemroot%\system32\wizard.dll	Single wizard type icon
%systemroot%\explorer.exe	Several Explorer type icons
%systemroot%\notepad.exe	Single Notepad and box X icons
%systemroot%\regedit.exe	Few different Registry type icons

Almost all installed apps come with a distinctive icon and many have several to choose from. Enter the Path address to the app's exe file into the Change Icon window to see the icons available for that app.