



# Required and recommended Windows 11 settings


This document explains how to configure the required and the recommended settings for the Cornerstone\* Software when used with the **Microsoft\* Windows\* 11 operating system**. These steps apply to Cornerstone\* Software version 9.2 or later.

## Required options in Windows Settings



1. **To open the Windows Settings window:**
  - a. Click the **Windows** button .
  - b. Click the **Settings** icon .
2. **To disable Windows default printer management:**
  - a. On the left, click **Bluetooth & devices**.
  - b. Click **Printers & scanners**.
  - c. Toggle off the **Let Windows Manage My Default Printer** option (you may need to scroll to find this option).
3. **To set up automatic updates:**
  - a. On the left, click **Windows update**.
  - b. Click **Advanced options**.
  - c. Click **Active hours**, and then set the time range when you typically use this device.
  - d. Select **Receive updates for other Microsoft products**.
  - e. Click **Delivery Optimization**, and then select **On** and **Devices on my local network**.
4. **To set network location to private:**
  - a. On the left, click **Network & Internet**.
  - b. For Ethernet connections, click **Ethernet**, and then select **Private**.  
OR  
For wireless connections, click **Wi-Fi**, click your wireless network name properties, and then select **Private**.
  - c. Close the Windows Settings window.

## Required options in Control Panel

- To open the Control Panel window:**

Click the **Windows** button , type **Control Panel**, and press **Enter**.
- To enable file sharing:**
  - Click **Network and Sharing Center**, and then on the left click **Change advanced sharing settings**.
  - In the Private and Domain sections:
    - Select the **Turn on file and printer sharing** option.
    - Clear the **Turn on automatic setup of network connected devices** option.

**Note:** Depending on system configuration, some options may not be available.
  - Click **Save changes**.
- To disable network card power save settings:**
  - On the left, click **Change adapter settings**.
  - Right-click the connected network connection and select **Properties**.
  - Click the **Configure** button, and then click the **Power Management** tab.
  - Clear the **Allow the computer to turn off this device to save power** checkbox.

**Note:** This checkbox may not be present on some systems.
  - Click the **Advanced** tab.
  - Under Property, select **Energy Efficient Ethernet**.
  - Click the down-arrow under **Value** and select **Off**.
  - Click **OK**, and then close the Network Connections window.
  - Click **Back**  to redisplay the Control Panel.
- To disable power save settings:**
  - Click **Power Options**, and then on the left click **Create a power plan**.
  - Select **High Performance**.
  - In the **Plan Name** box, type *IDEXX Power*.
  - Click **Next**, and then click **Create**.
  - On the IDEXX Power row, click **Change plan settings**, and then click **Change advanced power settings**.
  - In the Power Options window, expand **Hard Disk**, and then expand **Turn off hard disk after**.
  - Click **Setting** and set the **Setting (Minutes)** to **0** (zero) OR if applicable set the **On battery (minutes)** option to **0** (zero).
  - Click **OK**, click **Back** , and then click **Control Panel Home** to redisplay the Control Panel window.
- To disable the Windows firewall:**


**Note:** IDEXX recommends a hardware firewall and Trend Micro\* Worry-Free\* Business Security Services, which includes a software firewall. IDEXX does not support and will not configure other firewalls.

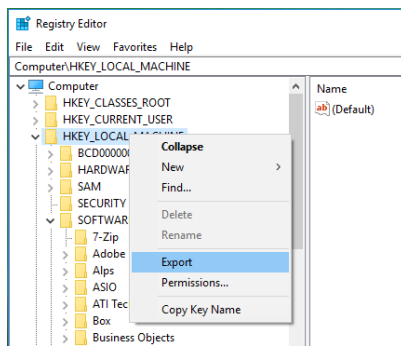
  - Click **Windows Defender Firewall**.
  - On the left, click **Turn Windows Defender Firewall on or off**.
  - Under both Domain network settings and Private network settings, select **Turn Off Windows Firewall (not recommended)**.
  - Click **OK**, and **then** close the Windows Firewall window (which also closes the Control Panel).

## Required options in the Windows registry

**Note:** The following changes to the Windows registry are required for computers used as dedicated or peer-to-peer servers. Workstations or terminal services servers that do **not** run the Cornerstone database and services do not require this change.



**IMPORTANT:** Changes to the Windows registry may cause unintended consequences that could result in the need to reload the operating system. Contact Cornerstone Support if you need help backing up or modifying the Windows registry as described below.

1. To open the Windows registry:
  - a. Click the **Windows** button .
  - b. Type **Regedit** and press **Enter**.
  - c. If a User Account Control prompt appears, click **Yes**.
2. To back up the Windows registry:
  - a. In the left pane of the Registry Editor, right-click the **HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE** key and select **Export**.




- b. In the Export Registry File window, under **Save in**, select **This PC > Local Disk C: > Windows > Temp**.
    - c. In the **Name** field, type an easily identifiable name for the exported registry file (for example, IDEXX Cornerstone Settings).
    - d. Ensure the **Selected Branch** option is selected in the Export Range area and that the branch being exported is HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE.
    - e. Click **Save**. The Export may take several seconds.
    - f. Browse to **C:\Windows\Temp**, and verify that the exported registry file is there.
3. To increase the memory allowance for noninteractive services (desktop heap memory):
  - a. From the **HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE** subtree, go to the following key:  
`\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\Session Manager\SubSystems`
  - b. Select the **Windows** value.
  - c. From the Edit menu, select **Modify**.
  - d. Under **Value data**, increase the third **SharedSection** parameter to **2048**.  
In other words, SharedSection uses the **xxxx,yyyy,zzzz** format to specify the system and desktop heaps; the **zzzz** value must be **2048**.

## Recommended options in the Settings window

1. **To open the Settings window:**
  - a. Click the **Windows** button .
  - b. Click the **Settings** icon .
2. **To disable screen saver:**
  - a. On the left, click **Personalization**.
  - b. Click **Lock screen**, and then select **Screen saver**.
  - c. Select **None** from the drop-down list and click **OK**.
3. **To add critical system icons to the desktop:**
  - a. On the left, click **Personalization**.
  - b. Click **Themes**.
  - c. Under Related Settings, click **Desktop icon settings**.
  - d. Check **Computer**, **Recycle Bin**, **User's Files**, and **Network**, and click **OK**.
4. **To set the size of text, apps, and other items:**
  - a. On the left, click **System**.
  - b. Click **Display**.
  - c. Under Scale and Layout, select **100% (Recommended)** from the drop-down list.
5. Close the Settings window.

## Recommended options in Control Panel

1. **To open the Control Panel window:** Click the Windows button , type **Control Panel**, and press **Enter**.
2. Click **File Explorer Options**, and then click the **View** tab.
3. **To show extensions for known file types:** Clear the **Hide extensions for known file types** checkbox.
4. **To disable the sharing wizard:** Clear the **Use Sharing Wizard (Recommended)** checkbox.
5. To show hidden files, folders, and drives, select the **Show hidden files, folders, and drives** option.
6. Click **OK**.
7. Close the Control Panel window.

For assistance, call Cornerstone Support at **1-800-695-2877**.