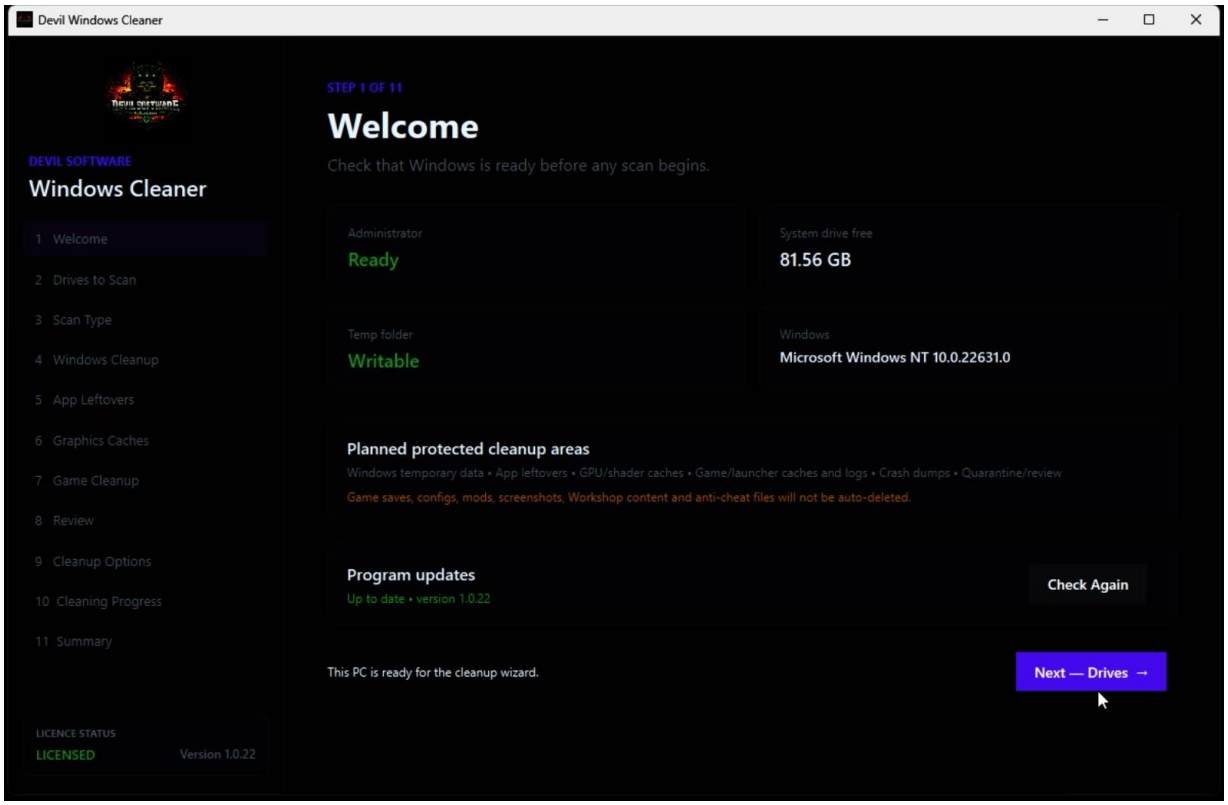
DEVIL WINDOWS CLEANER

Installation and User Manual

Version 1.0.22 • Windows 10 / 11 • 64-bit



Devil Windows Cleaner - Welcome screen

Devil Software

Installation, licensing, scanning, review, cleanup, updates and troubleshooting

Contents

A practical guide to installing, activating and using Devil Windows Cleaner.

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NOTE: Screenshots in this manual were taken from the supplied installation and usage video. Minor wording or layout may change in later program updates.

Quick Start

1. Download Devil Windows Cleaner from the Devil Software downloads site and obtain your licence token from the Client Area.
2. Run the installer as prompted by Windows and enter the licence token when Setup requests it.
3. Launch the cleaner. Confirm the Welcome page shows Administrator: Ready and Licence Status: LICENSED.
4. Choose the drives and scan type, work through the scan pages, then review the proposed cleanup items.
5. Choose the cleanup safety options, run the cleanup, and restart Windows if locked files are scheduled for deletion.

1. About Devil Windows Cleaner

Devil Windows Cleaner is a guided Windows maintenance utility for Windows 10 and Windows 11. It scans selected drives for supported temporary files, application leftovers, graphics caches, game and launcher caches, Windows cleanup locations and other disposable data, then gives you a review stage before anything is removed.

The program uses an 11-step wizard so the scan and cleanup process is visible from start to finish. It is designed to protect important user data such as game saves, configurations, mods, screenshots, Workshop content and anti-cheat files.

Main capabilities

- Detect and select internal and external fixed/removable drives for drive-based scans.
- Quick, Deep and Custom scan modes.
- Windows temporary-file and Windows Update download cleanup.
- Application cache and leftover scanning.
- DirectX, NVIDIA and AMD graphics-cache cleanup.
- Game and launcher cache/log/crash-data cleanup on selected drives.
- Review page with SAFE and REVIEW handling before deletion.
- Optional Windows restore point before cleanup.
- Optional Windows component-store (WinSxS) cleanup using DISM, not direct WinSxS deletion.
- Locked-file retry and optional delete-on-next-reboot handling.
- Cleanup summary and local report generation.
- Licensed operation and automatic update support.

SAFETY: Always read the Review page before starting cleanup, especially when manually selecting REVIEW items.

2. Before You Install

System requirements

- Windows 10 or Windows 11, 64-bit.
- An Administrator account or permission to approve Windows elevation.
- Internet access for initial licence validation and update checks.
- A valid Devil Windows Cleaner licence token from your Devil Software Client Area.
- Enough free disk space to install the program and create temporary update/cleanup files.

Before running a cleanup

- Save open work before starting a cleanup.
- Close applications that are actively using large cache folders when practical.
- Keep the computer connected to power during restore-point creation or Windows component-store cleanup.
- If the program reports files scheduled for deletion on reboot, restart Windows when convenient.

Getting your licence token

Sign in to the Devil Software downloads/client website and open the Tokens & Licences area. Generate or copy the licence token assigned to Devil Windows Cleaner. Keep the token private.

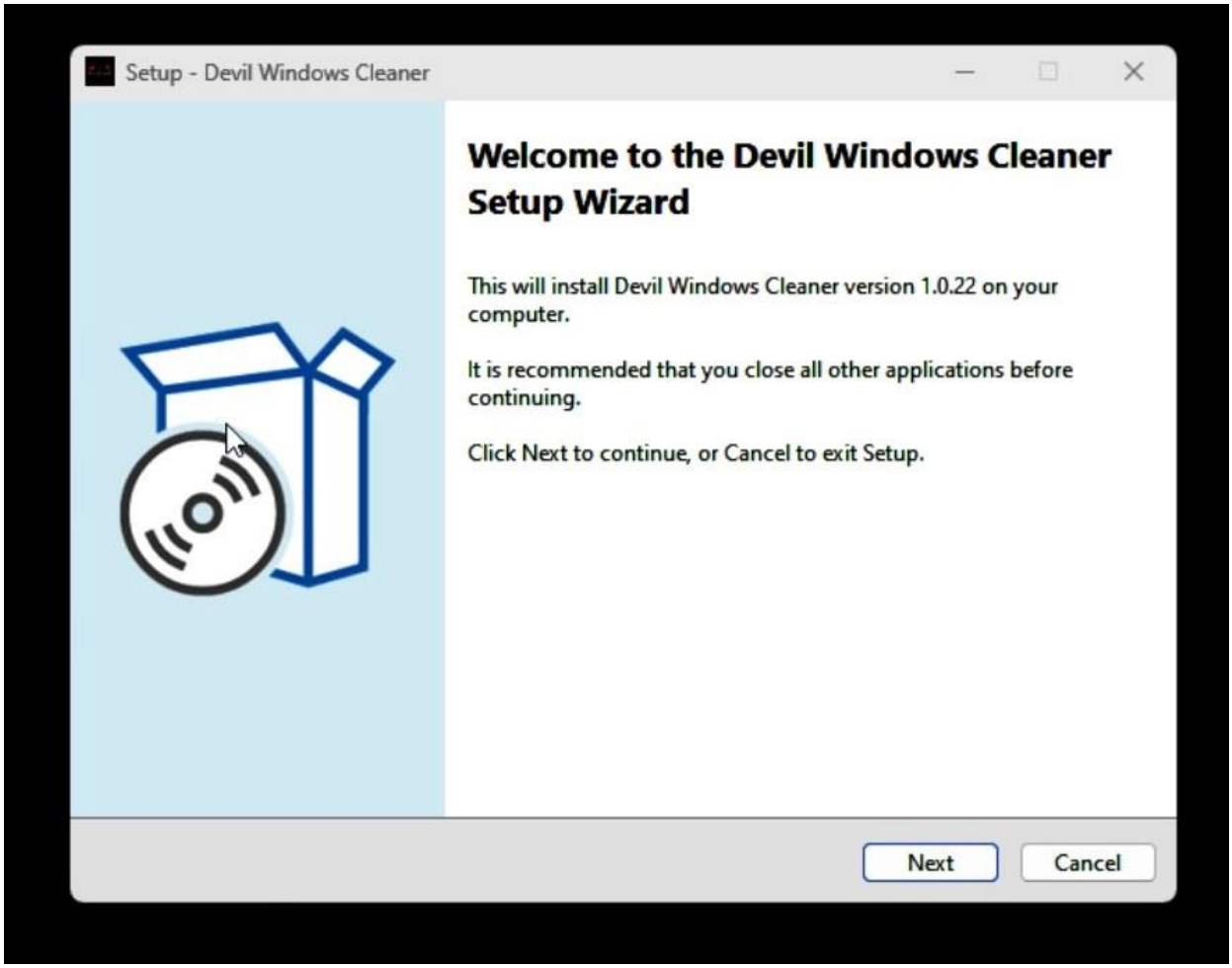
IMPORTANT: The installer validates the token before installation can continue. A token for a different Devil Software product will not activate Devil Windows Cleaner.

3. Installing Devil Windows Cleaner

The installer validates the licence before program files are installed.

Step 3.1: Start the installer

Run DevilWindowsCleaner.exe. Windows may display a User Account Control prompt because the application requires Administrator privileges. Approve the prompt to continue.

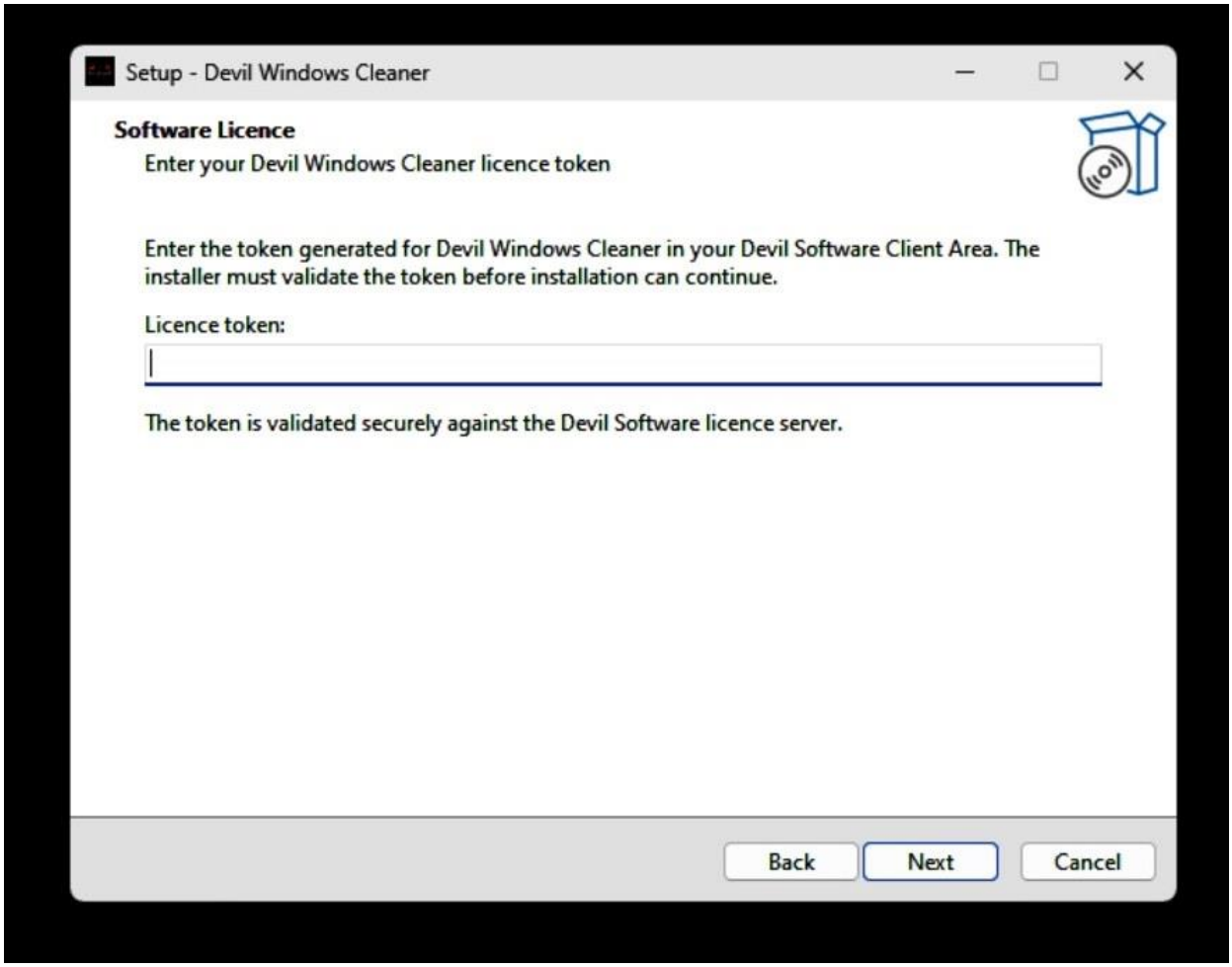


Installer welcome page

Step 3.2: Enter the licence token

On the Software Licence page, paste your Devil Windows Cleaner licence token into the Licence token field and click Next. The token field is masked so the token is not displayed on screen.

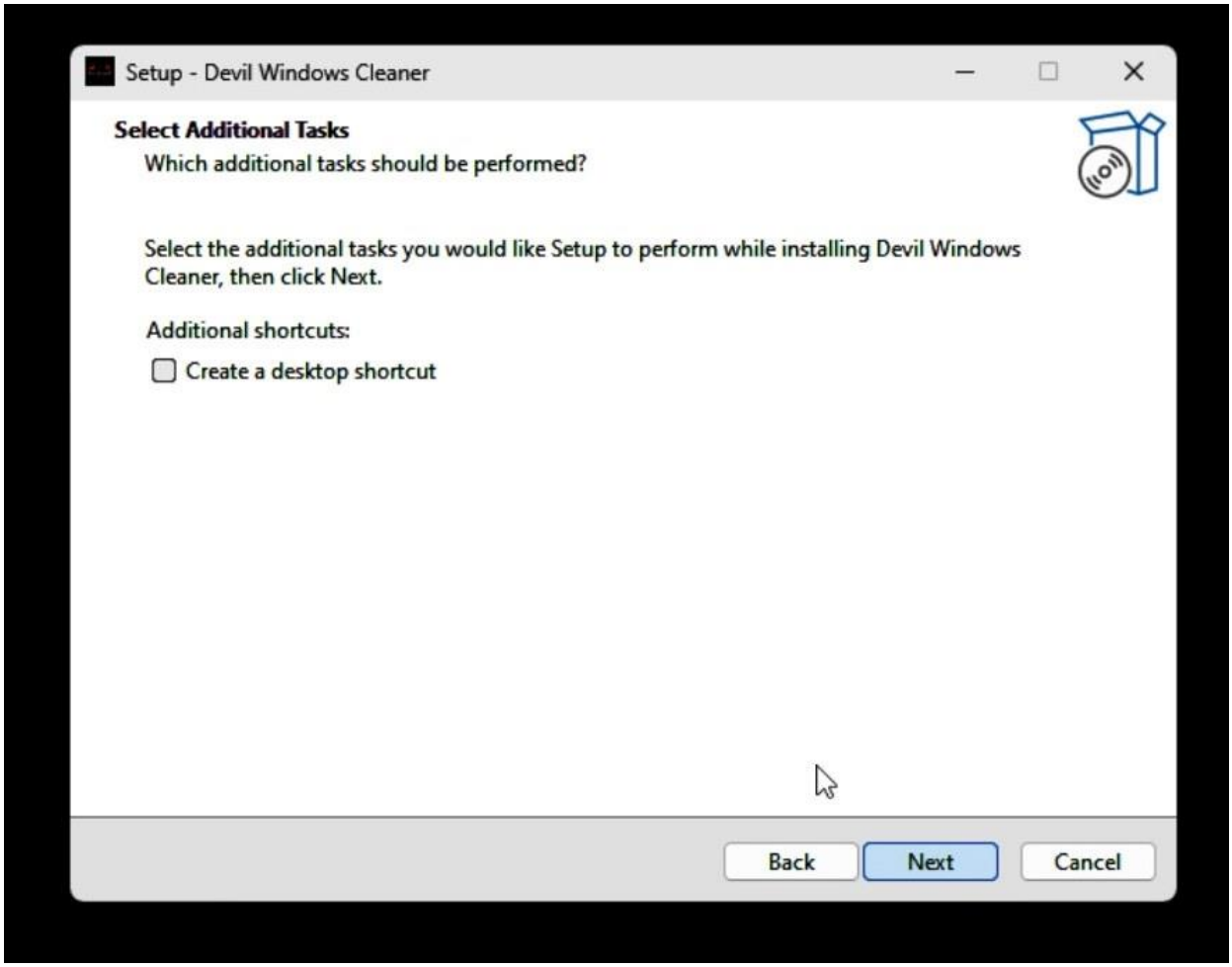
- The installer must be able to reach the Devil Software licence service.
- If validation fails, check the token and internet access, then try again.
- A successfully validated token is stored using the same secure local licence storage used by the application.



Licence token page - validation is required before installation continues

Step 3.3: Choose additional tasks

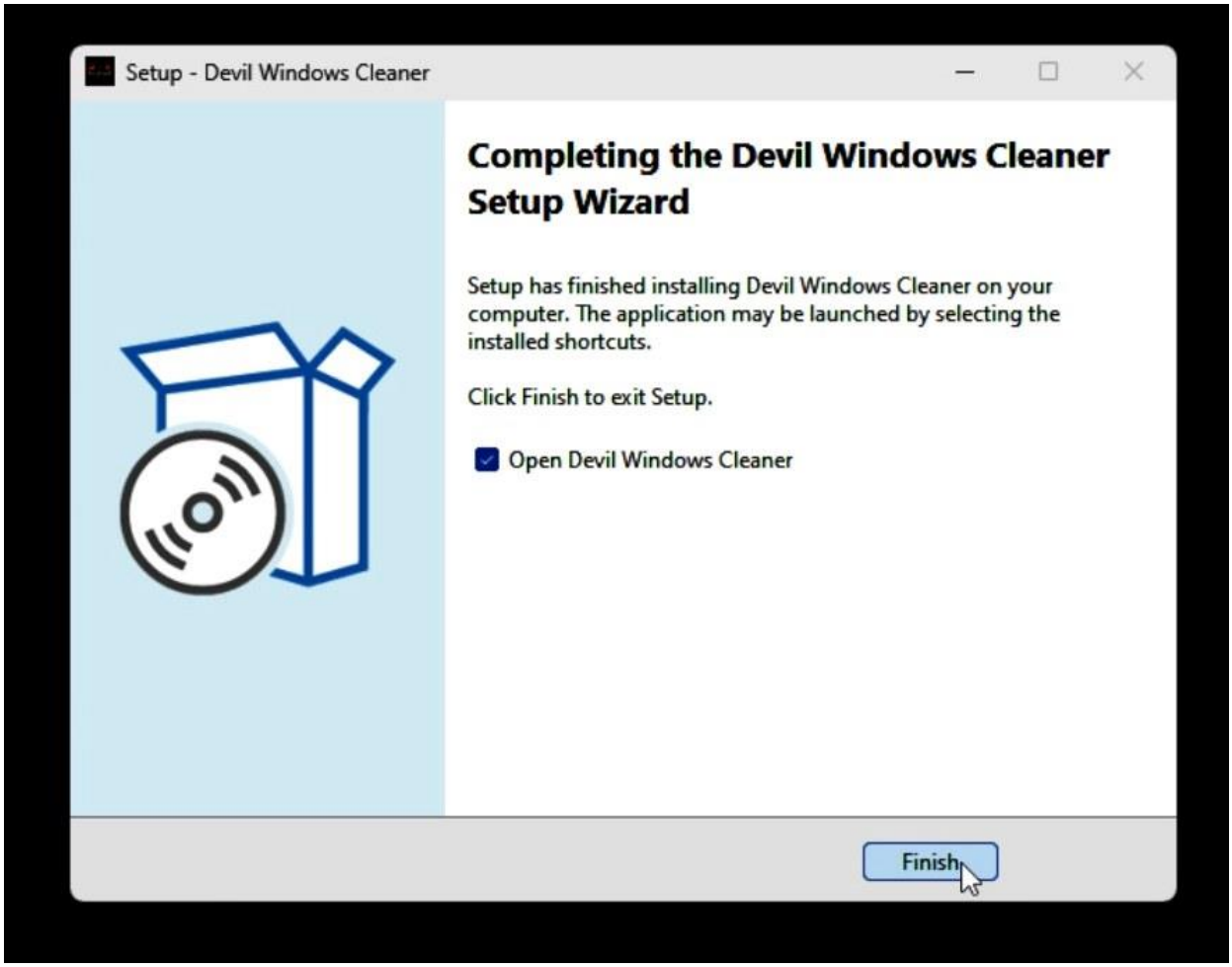
Choose whether Setup should create a desktop shortcut. The program is also available from the Windows Start Menu.



Optional desktop shortcut

Step 3.4: Install and finish

Continue through Setup and allow the files to be installed. On the final page, leave Open Devil Windows Cleaner selected if you want the program to start when Finish is clicked.



Finished page with Open Devil Windows Cleaner selected

NOTE: When Open Devil Windows Cleaner is selected, the program starts after Finish with the Administrator privileges it requires.

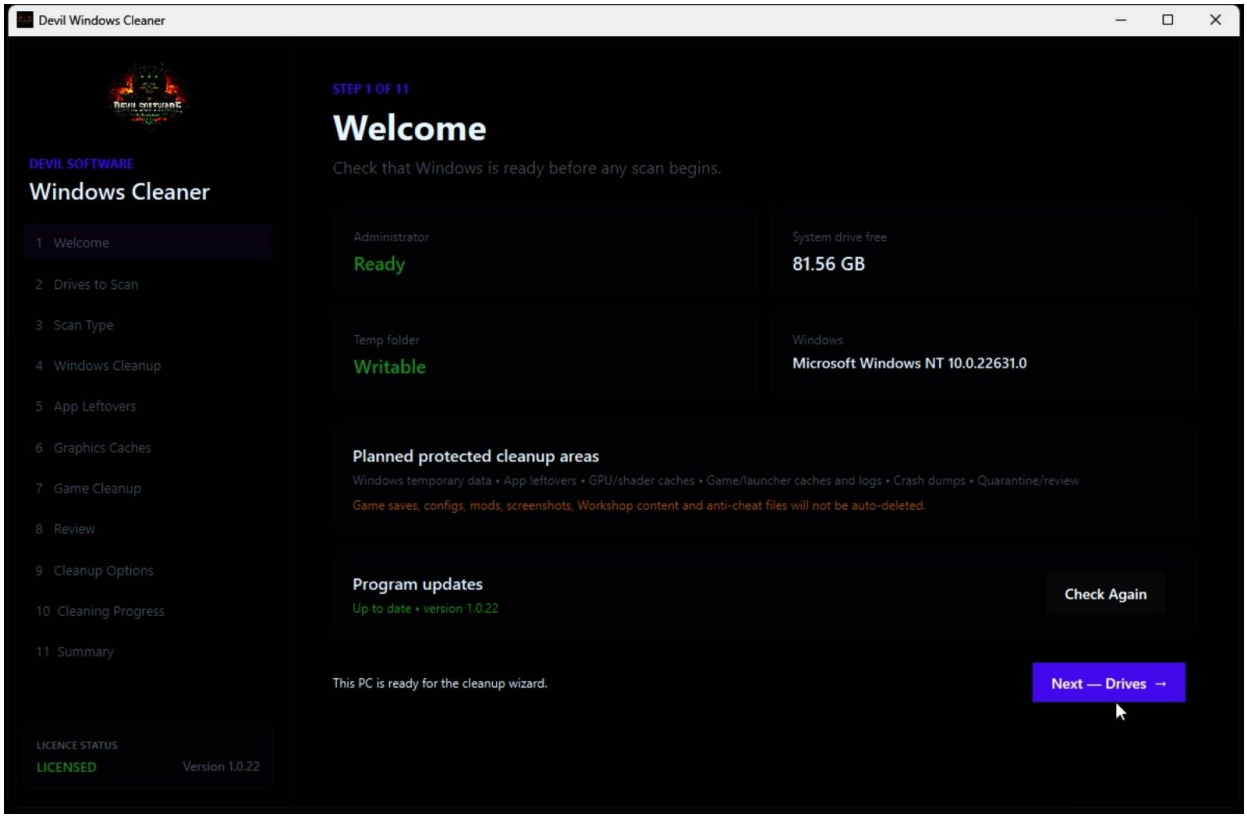
4. The 11-Step Cleanup Wizard

The left sidebar shows the current stage and the remaining steps.

Step 1 of 11: Welcome

The Welcome page checks whether the computer is ready. Confirm Administrator shows Ready, the temporary folder is writable, Windows is detected, and Licence Status is LICENSED. The page also shows the current update state.

- Use Check Again to repeat the update/readiness check.
- The protected cleanup areas notice explains the kinds of data the program will avoid deleting.

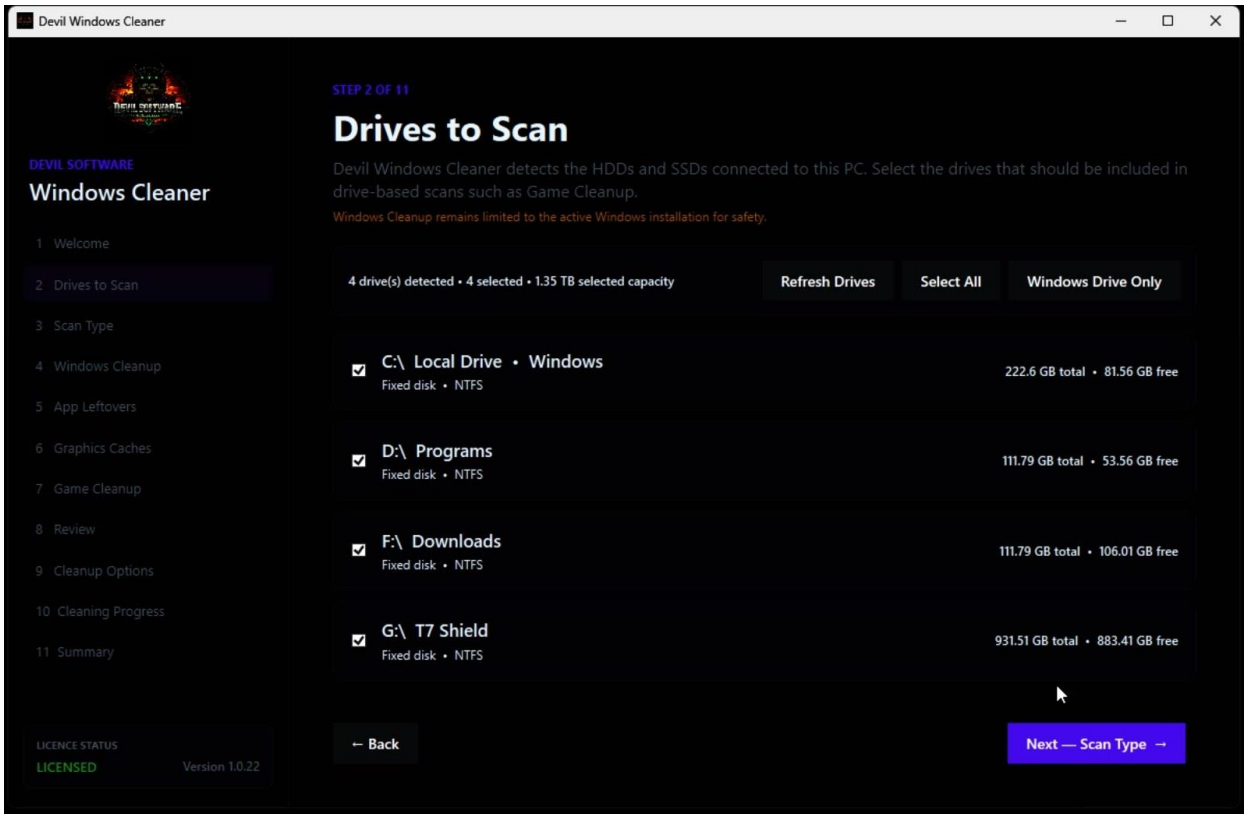


Step 1 - Welcome and readiness checks

Step 2 of 11: Drives to Scan

The cleaner detects supported fixed and removable drives. Select the drives that should be included in drive-based scans such as Game Cleanup. All detected drives are selected by default.

- Refresh Drives rescans connected storage.
- Select All selects every detected supported drive.
- Windows Drive Only limits drive-based scans to the active Windows drive.
- Windows cleanup itself remains limited to the active Windows installation for safety.

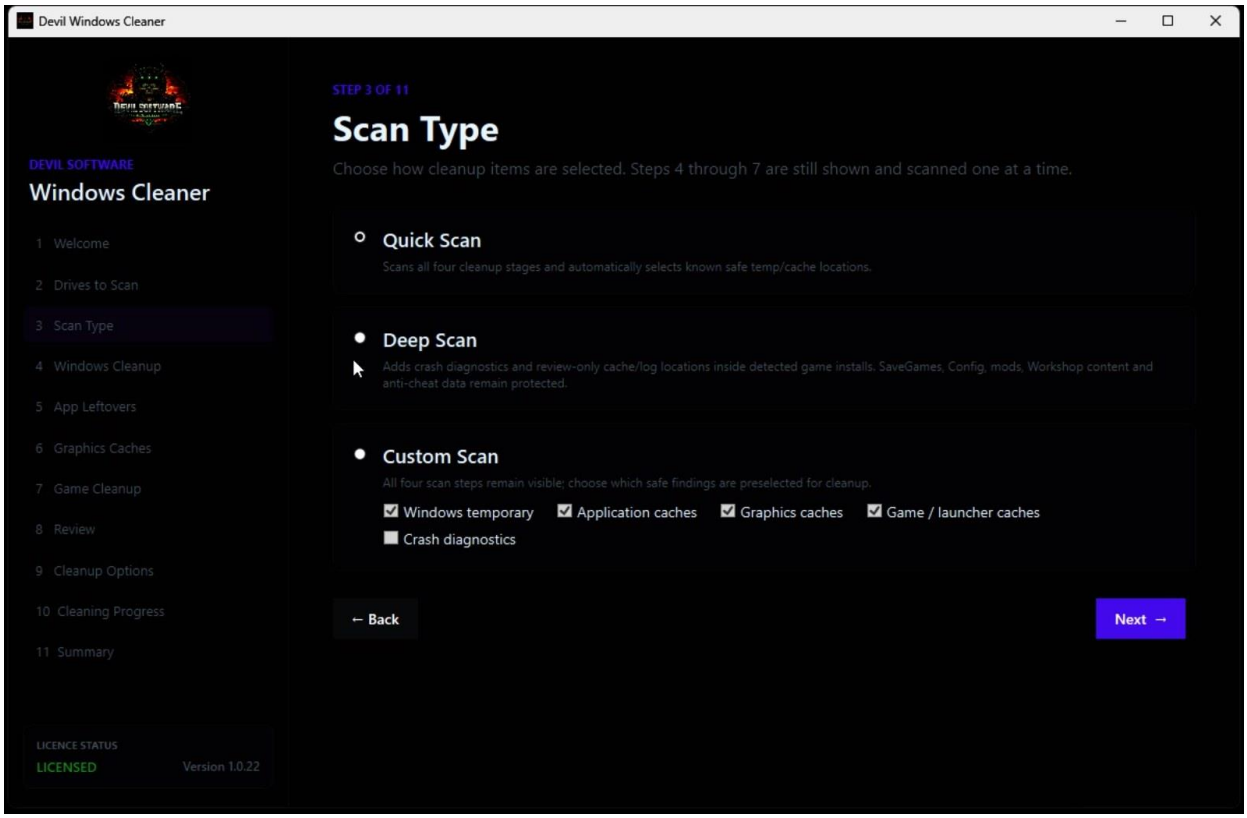


Step 2 - Choose the drives to scan

Step 3 of 11: Scan Type

Choose Quick Scan, Deep Scan or Custom Scan. Quick is the fastest routine option, Deep performs broader supported checks, and Custom lets you choose cleanup areas.

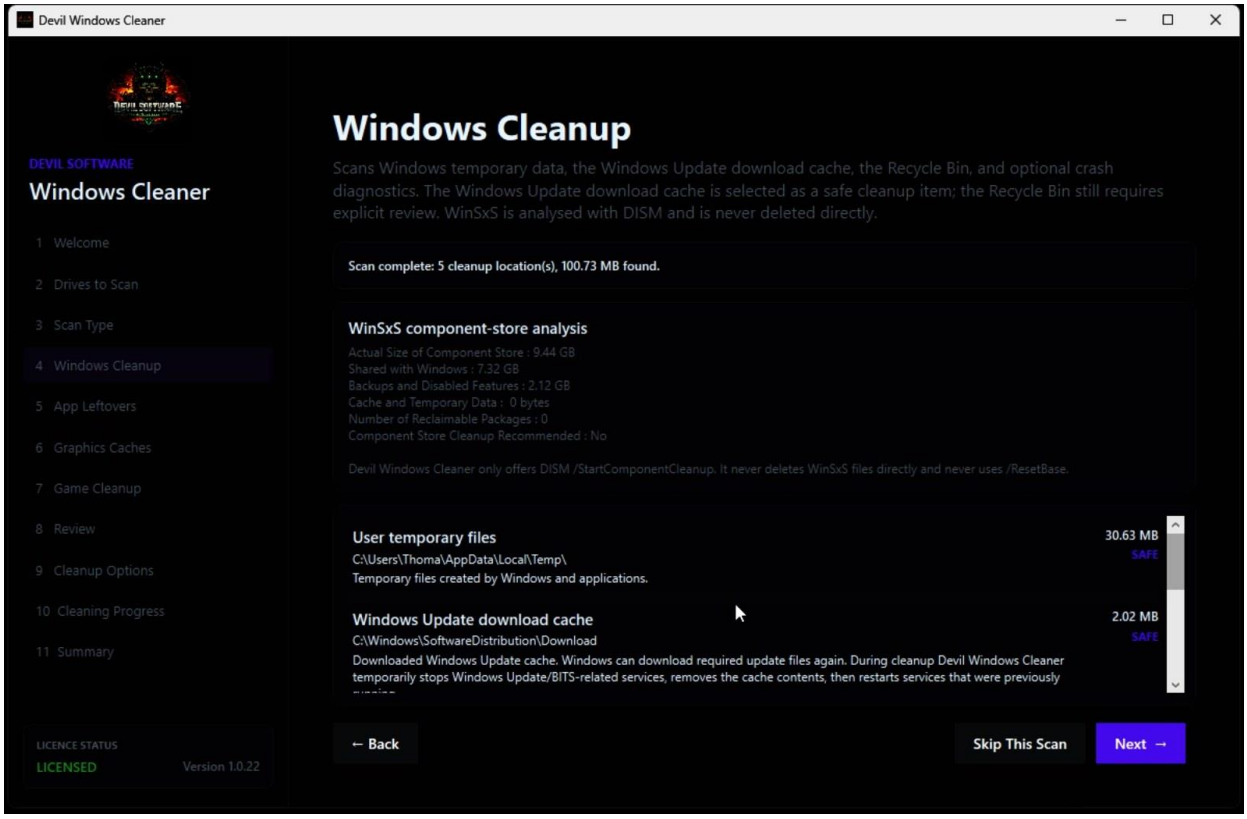
- Quick Scan is suitable for routine maintenance.
- Deep Scan is useful when you want a broader review.
- Custom Scan lets you enable only the categories you want to inspect.



Step 3 - Quick, Deep or Custom scan

Step 4 of 11: Windows Cleanup

This stage scans supported Windows cleanup locations. Depending on the selected scan mode, results can include user temporary files, Windows Temp, Windows Update download cache, Recycle Bin contents, crash/diagnostic data and component-store analysis.



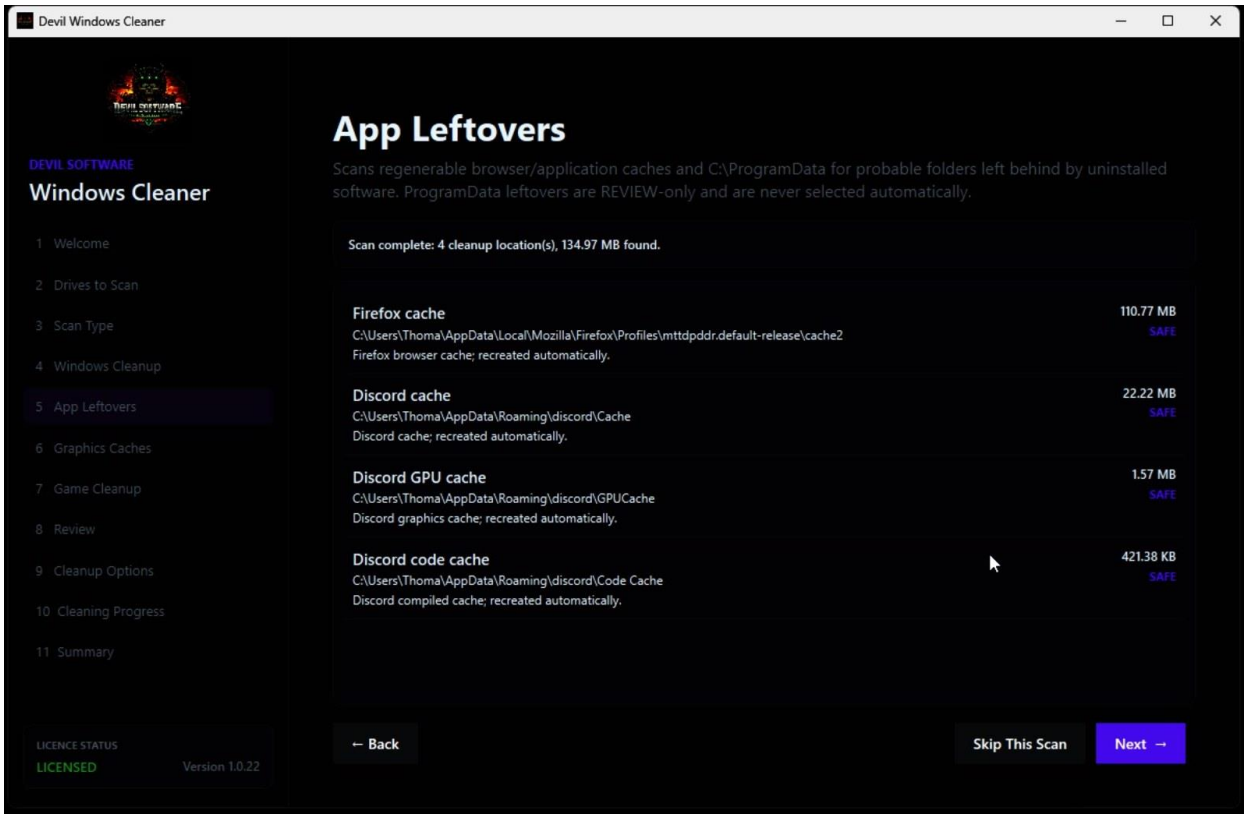
Step 4 - Windows Cleanup results

SAFETY: Recycle Bin contents are REVIEW items and are not automatically selected just because they were found.

Step 5 of 11: App Leftovers

This stage checks supported application caches and leftover locations. Examples can include browser caches, Discord cache folders and other supported app data. Conservative ProgramData leftovers may be shown for review when considered orphaned.

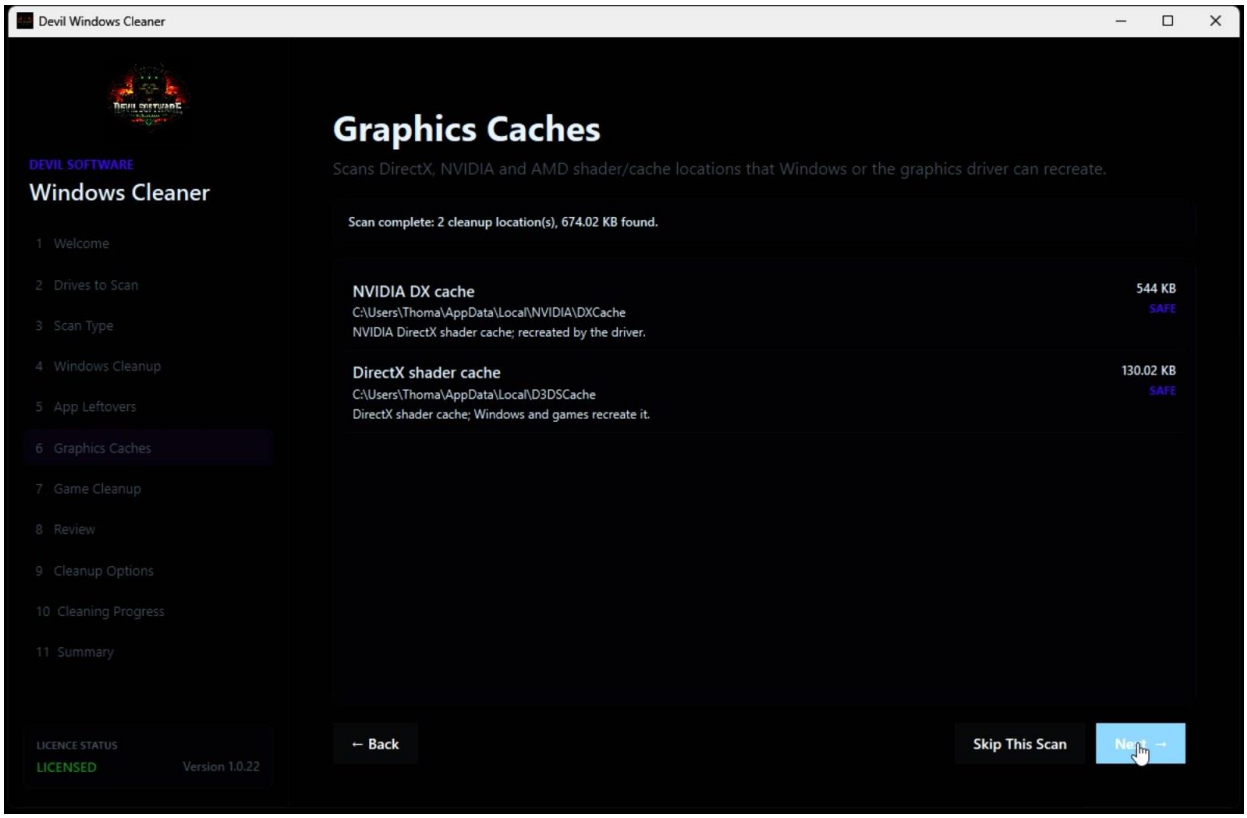
- ProgramData orphan candidates are REVIEW items rather than automatic deletions.
- Use Skip This Scan if you do not want this category included in the current run.



Step 5 - Application cache and leftover results

Step 6 of 11: Graphics Caches

Graphics caches are temporary data that Windows or GPU drivers can rebuild. The scanner can detect supported DirectX, NVIDIA and AMD cache locations.

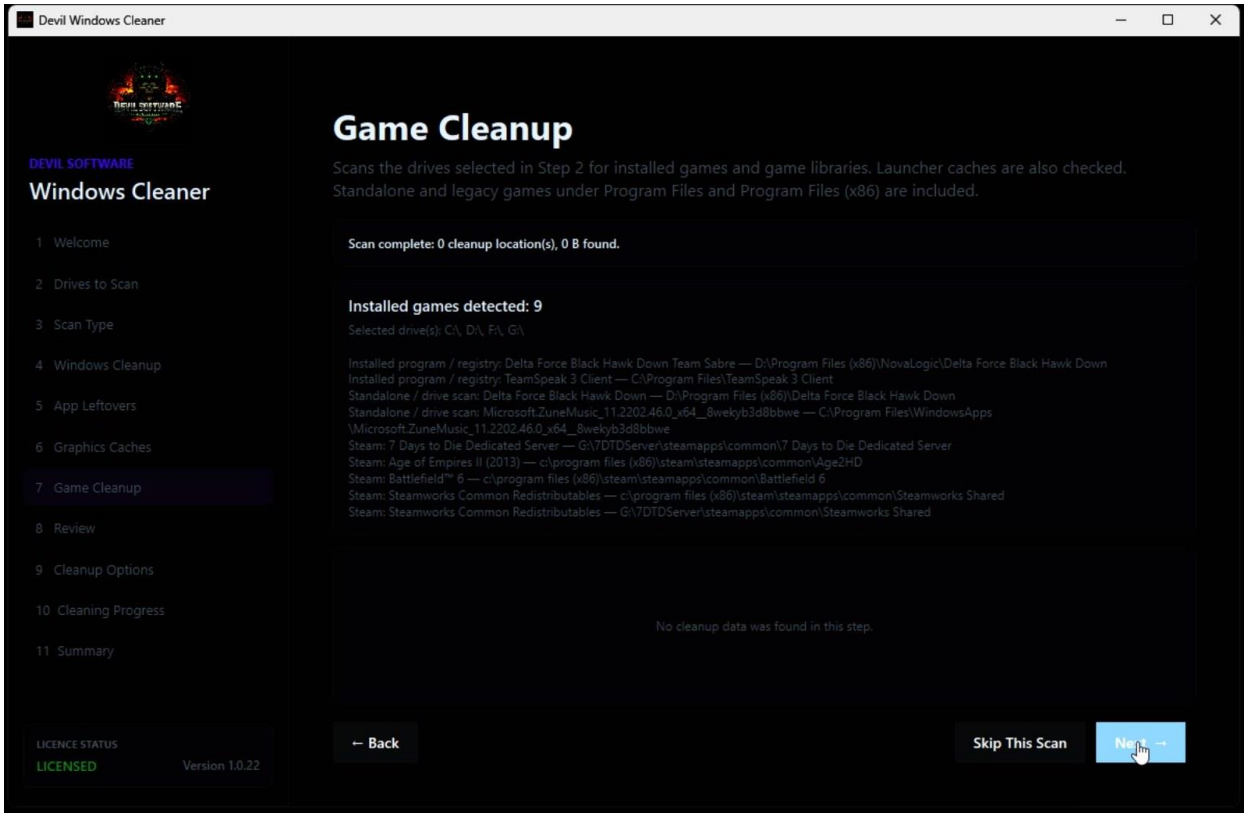


Step 6 - Graphics cache results

Step 7 of 11: Game Cleanup

Game Cleanup searches the selected drives for supported game installations, launchers and disposable cache/log/crash locations. It can inspect common Steam, Epic, Xbox, EA, Battle.net and standalone game paths.

- Game saves, configuration files, mods, screenshots, Workshop content and anti-cheat files are protected from automatic cleanup.
- The scan uses the drives chosen in Step 2.

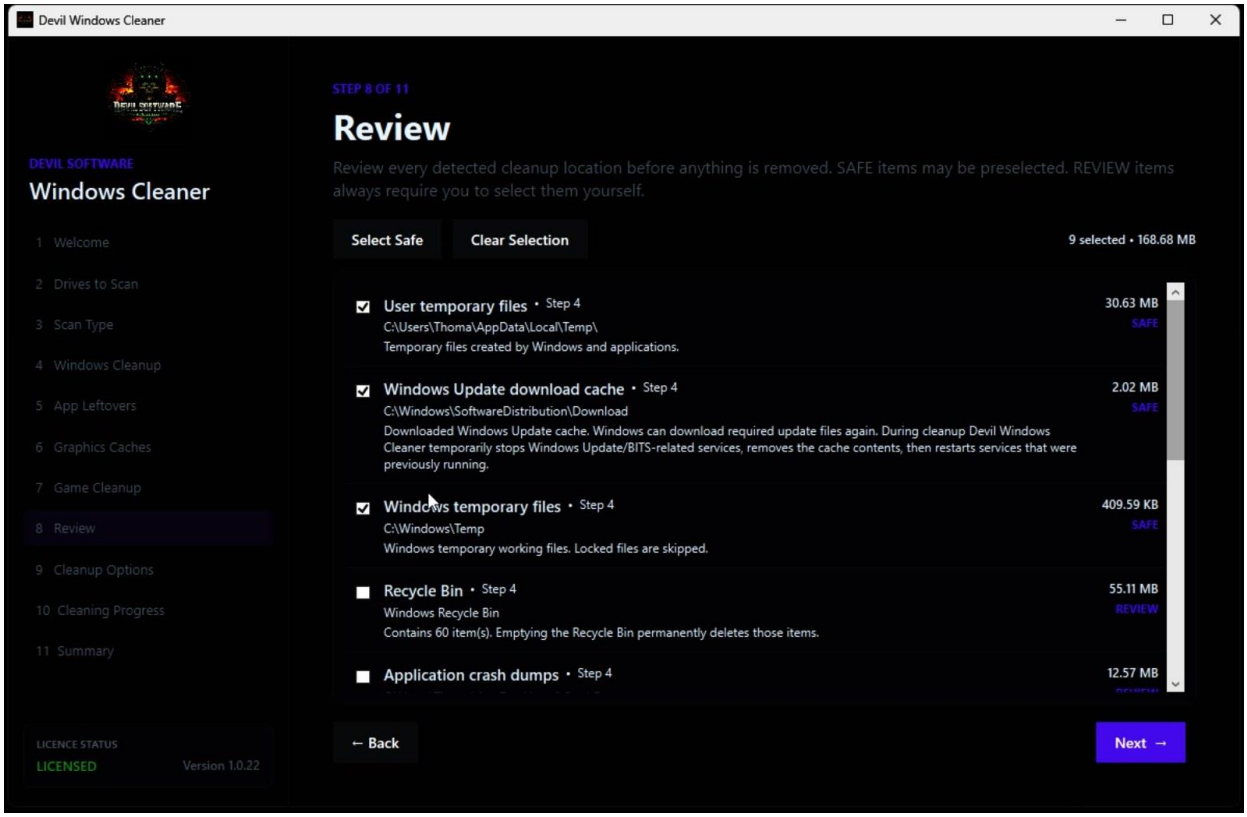


Step 7 - Game and launcher cleanup scan

Step 8 of 11: Review

Review is the decision point before deletion. Read the item name, location and description, then confirm the boxes that should be cleaned.

- SAFE items may be preselected according to the cleanup area.
- REVIEW items are not automatically selected.
- Select Safe quickly selects supported SAFE items.
- Clear Selection removes all current selections.

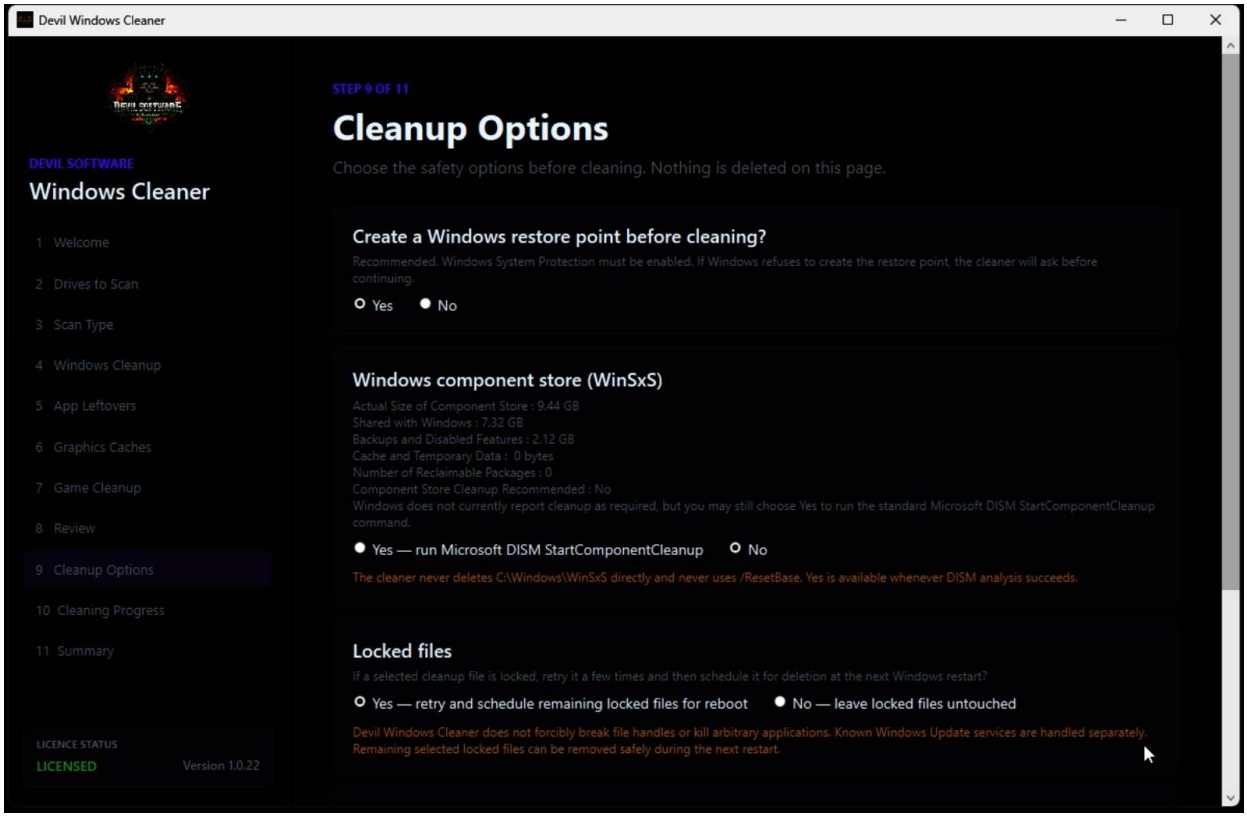


Step 8 - Review all proposed cleanup actions

Step 9 of 11: Cleanup Options

Choose the safety and system options that apply when the cleanup runs.

- Create a Windows restore point: Yes is the normal default.
- Windows component-store (WinSxS): No is the normal default. When enabled, the cleaner uses DISM StartComponentCleanup.
- Locked files: the default option retries deletion and schedules remaining selected locked items for removal at the next reboot.



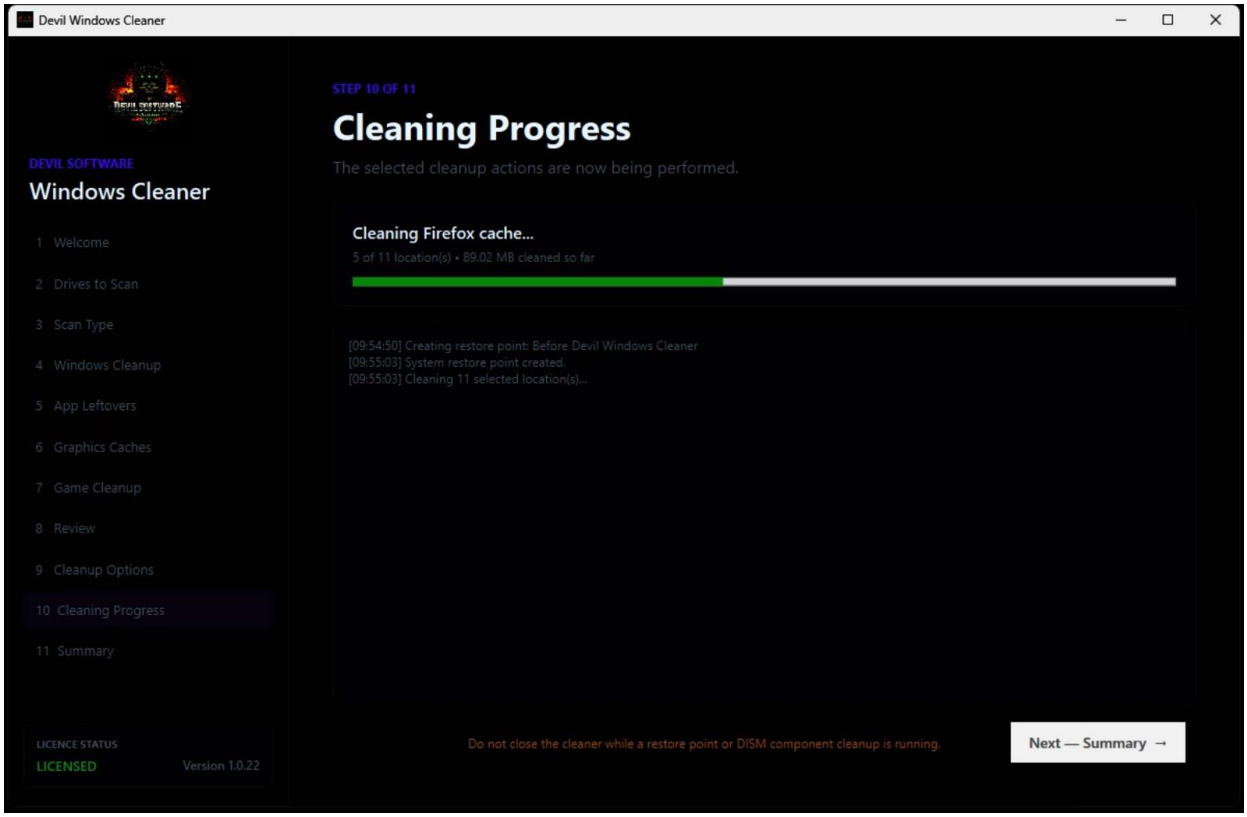
Step 9 - Restore point, WinSxS and locked-file options

SAFETY: The program does not directly delete C:\Windows\WinSxS and does not use DISM /ResetBase.

Step 10 of 11: Cleaning Progress

The program performs the selected actions and updates the progress bar and activity log. If selected, the restore point is created before cleanup and component-store cleanup is run through Windows servicing tools.

- Do not close the cleaner while a restore point or DISM component cleanup is running.
- Locked files may be retried and, when enabled, scheduled for deletion during the next Windows restart.

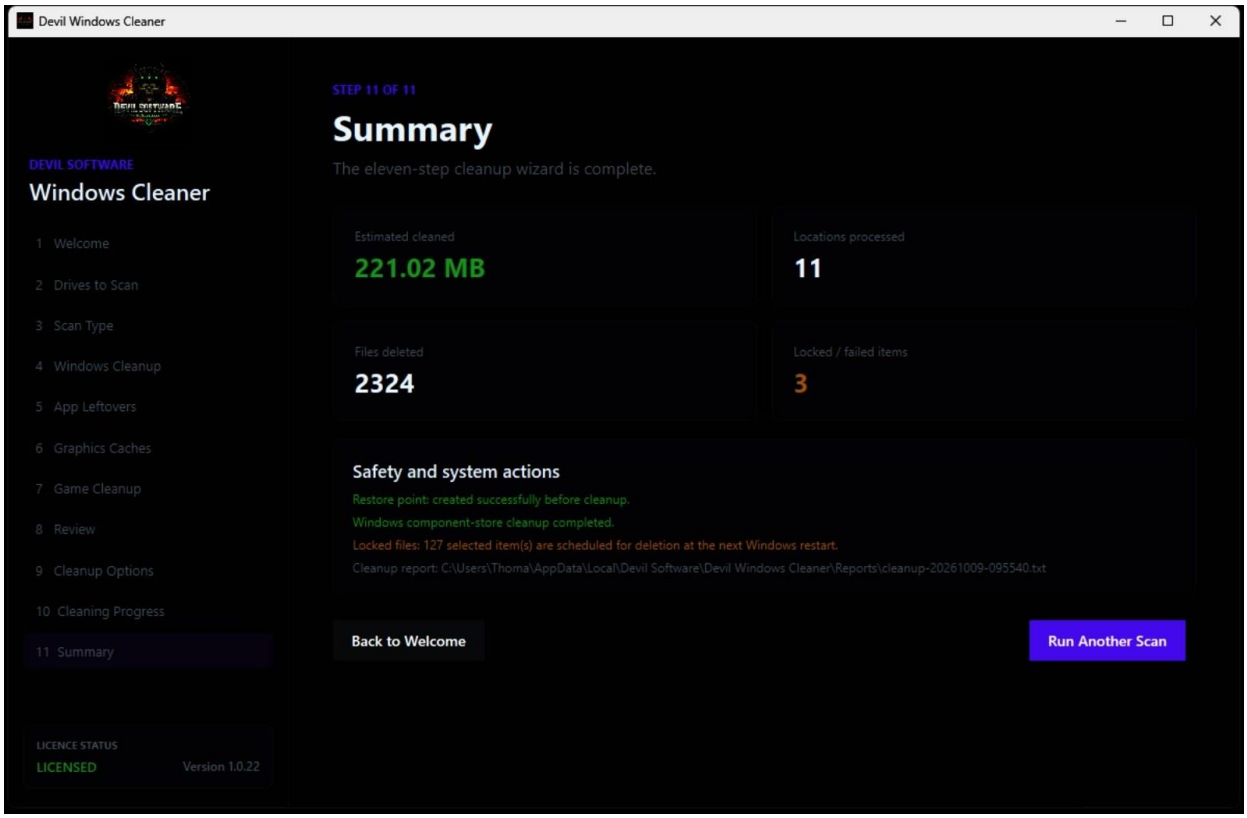


Step 10 - Cleaning progress

Step 11 of 11: Summary

The final page reports the estimated amount cleaned, locations processed, files deleted and any locked or failed items. Safety/system actions and the cleanup report location are also shown.

- Back to Welcome returns to the start screen.
- Run Another Scan starts another cleanup cycle.
- If locked items are scheduled for deletion, restart Windows to complete those removals.



Step 11 - Cleanup summary

5. Understanding Cleanup Categories

Category	What it means
Windows temporary data	User Temp and Windows Temp contain short-lived data created by Windows and applications.
Windows Update download cache	Downloaded update packages can be cleaned after use. The program handles the relevant Windows services when required.
Recycle Bin	A REVIEW category because cleaning it permanently removes files currently stored in the Recycle Bin.
Application caches	Supported browser, communication and application cache folders that can be recreated.
ProgramData leftovers	Conservative orphan candidates shown for review; these are not automatically selected.
Graphics caches	DirectX/NVIDIA/AMD shader and graphics caches that can be regenerated.
Game and launcher caches	Disposable launcher/game cache, log and crash folders found on selected drives.
WinSxS component store	Optional Windows component-store maintenance performed through DISM, never by directly deleting WinSxS files.

What Devil Windows Cleaner deliberately protects

- Game save data.
- Game/application configuration files.
- Mods and Workshop content.
- Screenshots.
- Anti-cheat files.
- Windows system roots and protected top-level program/data roots that should never be treated as generic cleanup folders.

6. Review and Safety Controls

SAFE versus REVIEW

SAFE and REVIEW are not the same thing. SAFE indicates a supported cleanup target that the cleaner considers suitable for normal cleanup. REVIEW means the item requires a conscious user decision and is not automatically selected.

IMPORTANT: Do not select a REVIEW item merely because it has a large size. Read the item name, location and description first.

Restore point

Creating a restore point before cleanup provides an additional Windows recovery checkpoint. The option is enabled by default in Cleanup Options. Restore-point creation can fail if Windows System Protection is disabled or Windows cannot create a restore point at that time.

Windows Update cleanup

When cleaning the Windows Update download cache, the cleaner can stop the relevant update services if they are running and restart only the services that were running before cleanup.

Component-store cleanup

When WinSxS cleanup is enabled, Devil Windows Cleaner uses the supported DISM component servicing command rather than deleting files directly from C:\Windows\WinSxS. The /ResetBase option is not used.

7. Cleaning, Locked Files and Reboots

What happens when a file is locked

Some cache files can remain open by Windows or another application. Devil Windows Cleaner retries selected locked files rather than forcibly breaking handles or terminating arbitrary programs.

1. The cleaner attempts the normal deletion.
2. If required, it retries the deletion several times with a short delay.
3. For a regular read-only file, it can clear the read-only attribute before retrying.
4. If the file is still locked and the reboot option is enabled, it is scheduled for deletion during the next Windows restart.
5. The Summary page reports locked/failed items and whether selected files are waiting for reboot deletion.

NOTE: A scheduled deletion does not mean the cleanup failed. Restarting Windows allows the operating system to remove the file before the locking application opens it again.

8. Reports, Licensing and Updates

Cleanup reports

Cleanup reports are stored under the current Windows user local application-data folder:

%LOCALAPPDATA%\Devil Software\Devil Windows Cleaner\Reports

Licence storage

After successful validation, the licence token is stored securely for the current Windows user at:

%LOCALAPPDATA%\Devil Software\Devil Windows Cleaner\license.dat

The installer and normal application use the same local licence storage. Updates and reinstalls are designed to keep the existing licence so the token normally does not need to be entered again.

Automatic updates

- The Welcome page checks the installed version against the update service.
- When a newer release is available, an UPDATE action can appear beside the version in the sidebar.
- The update is downloaded by the application with visible progress.
- The downloaded installer is checked against the expected SHA-256 hash before installation.
- The cleaner closes for the update, Setup installs the new version, and the updated application is relaunched.

NOTE: If an update cannot be downloaded, use Check Again after confirming internet access. A manually downloaded current installer can also be used without removing the existing licence.

9. Troubleshooting

Problem	What to do
Licence token is not accepted	Check that the token was generated for Devil Windows Cleaner, re-copy it from the Client Area, and confirm the computer can access the internet. Do not add spaces before or after the token.
Installer cannot continue	Run the installer again and approve the Windows Administrator/UAC prompt. Confirm there is enough free disk space and that security software is not blocking Setup.
A drive is missing from Drives to Scan	Confirm the drive is connected and ready in File Explorer, then click Refresh Drives. The cleaner targets ready fixed/removable drives.
Cleanup reports locked or failed files	Close applications that may be using the files. If the items were scheduled for reboot deletion, restart Windows and run another scan afterwards if needed.
Restore point was not created	Check Windows System Protection/restore-point settings. Decide whether to continue without a restore point.
Graphics/game cache comes back later	This is normal. Windows, drivers, games and launchers recreate caches as they are used.
Update check or download fails	Check internet access, firewall/security software and the system date/time. Use Check Again, then retry the update.
The program asks for Administrator rights	This is expected because supported system cleanup locations and Windows servicing operations require elevated permissions.

10. Uninstalling and Reinstalling

1. Close Devil Windows Cleaner.
2. Open Windows Settings.
3. Go to Apps > Installed apps.
4. Locate Devil Windows Cleaner and choose Uninstall.
5. Follow the uninstaller prompts.

The installed program files are removed from the Program Files installation folder. Licence data is intentionally kept in the user LocalAppData so a normal reinstall or upgrade can continue using the existing activation.

IMPORTANT: If you are changing computers or devices, use the Devil Software Client Area and licence controls rather than sharing the stored licence file.

Installed location

C:\Program Files\Devil Software\Devil Windows Cleaner

Recommended routine workflow

Quick Scan -> review SAFE items -> keep the restore point enabled -> clean -> review the Summary -> restart Windows if locked files are scheduled.