

Configure Power Options

Introduction

Windows provides the following plans to help you manage your computer's power:

- **Balanced** – This plan offers full performance when it is needed. It saves power during periods of inactivity. This is the best power plan for most people.
- **Power Saver** – With this plan, power is saved by reducing system performance and screen brightness. This plan can help laptop users get the most from a single battery charge.
- **High Performance** – To maximize screen brightness and increase the computer's performance in some circumstances use this plan. This plan uses a lot more energy and will reduce the amount of time that a laptop battery lasts between charges.

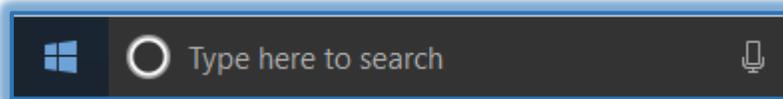
These power plans define how the computer uses power. All of the plans determine how long the computer will remain idle before the display is turned off and the computer is placed in Sleep mode. When working on a portable computer that is running on battery power, the Power Saver plan will increase the length of time the battery charge lasts. The default settings are defined in the following table.

Power Plan	Turn off Display	Activate Sleep Mode
Balanced	10 minutes	30 minutes
Power Saver	5 minutes	15 minutes
High Performance	15 minutes	Never

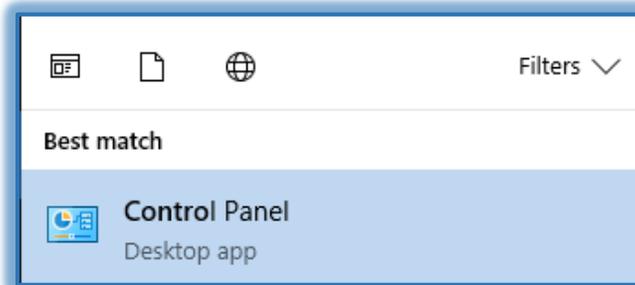
If the built-in Power Saver plans don't meet your needs, a custom Power Plan can be created.

Access Power Options

In the **Search** box to the right of the **Start Button** input **Control Panel**.

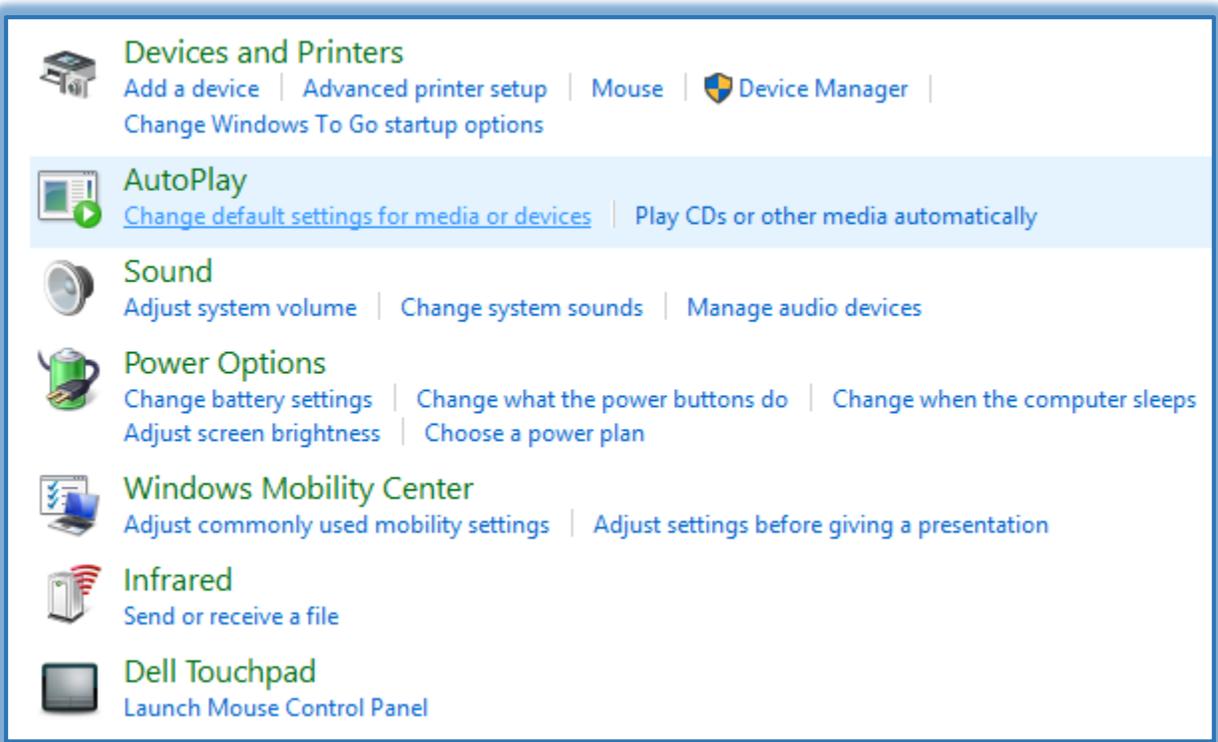


- ✦ Click the **Control Panel** link at the top of the **Start Menu**.

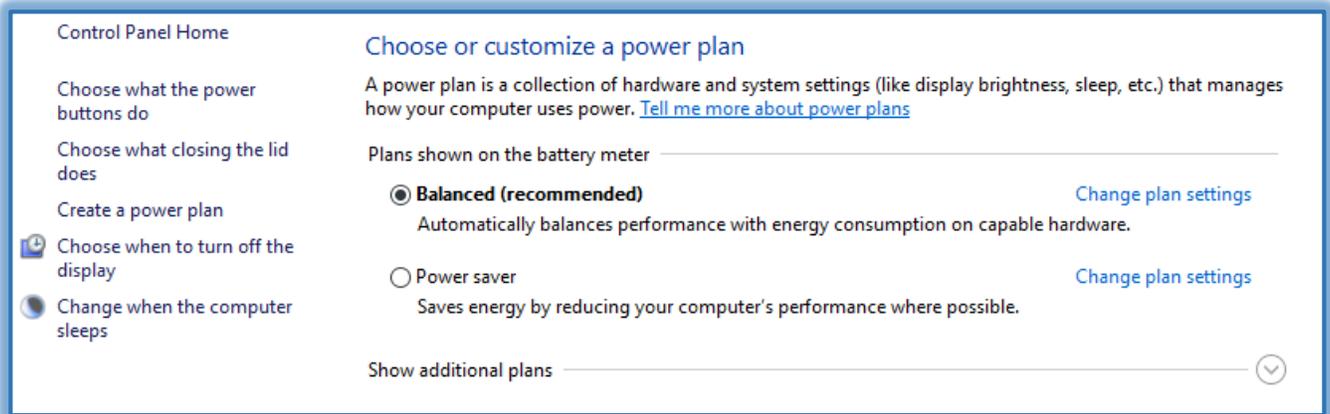


Choose What Power Button Does

- ✦ Click the **Hardware and Sound** link.
- ✦ The **Hardware and Sound** window will display.
- ✦ Click the **Power Options** link.
- ✦ The **Power Options** window will display.



✦ Click **Choose What the Power Button Does**.



- ✦ The **Define Power Buttons** window will display (see illustration on next page).
- ✦ Under **Power and Sleep Buttons and Lid Settings**, select how power should work when on battery or when the computer is plugged in for the following options.
 - ✦ When I press the power button.
 - ✦ When I press the sleep button.
 - ✦ When I close the lid.
- ✦ Click the **Change settings that are currently unavailable**, to activate the options under **Shutdown Settings**.
- ✦ When all the changes have been made, click the **Save Changes** button.

Define power buttons and turn on password protection

Choose the power settings that you want for your computer. The changes you make to the settings on this page apply to all of your power plans.

Power and sleep buttons and lid settings

	On battery	Plugged in
When I press the power button:	Sleep	Sleep
When I press the sleep button:	Sleep	Sleep
When I close the lid:	Sleep	Do nothing

Shutdown settings

- Turn on fast startup (recommended)**
This helps start your PC faster after shutdown. Restart isn't affected. [Learn More](#)
- Sleep**
Show in Power menu.
- Hibernate**
Show in Power menu.
- Lock**
Show in account picture menu.

Create a Power Plan

- + In the left frame of this window, click the **Create a Power Plan** link.
- + The **Create a Power Plan** window will display.

Create a power plan

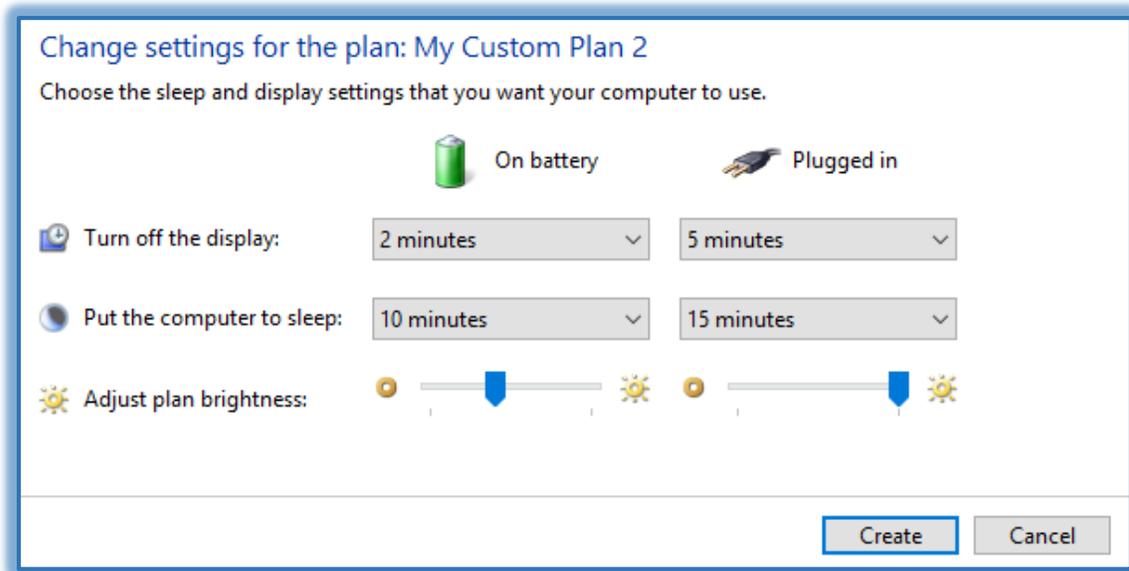
Start with an existing plan and give it a name.

- Balanced (recommended)**
Automatically balances performance with energy consumption on capable hardware.
- Power saver**
Saves energy by reducing your computer's performance where possible.
- High performance**
Favors performance, but may use more energy.

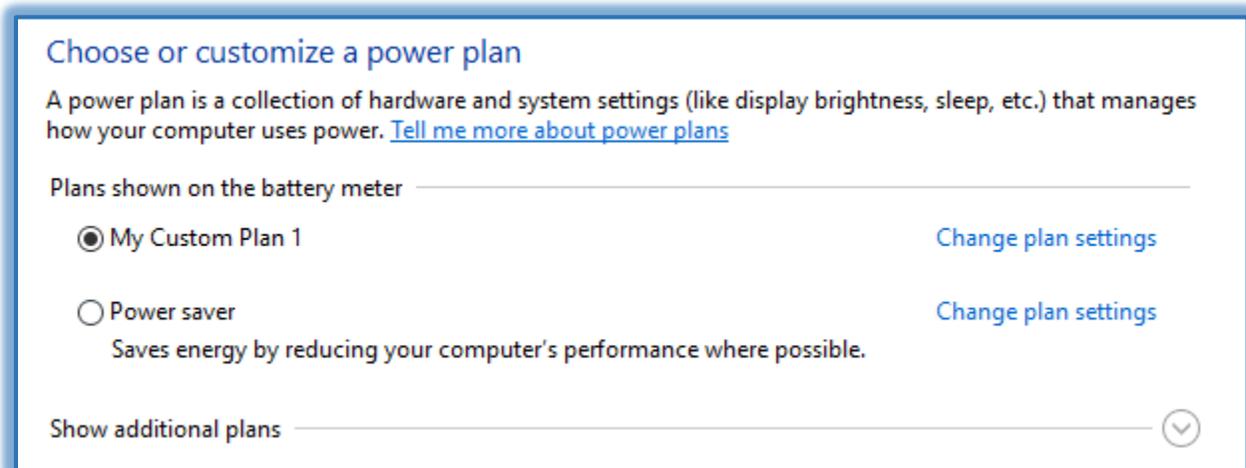
Plan name:

- + In this window, click one of the plans.
- + Click the **Next** button.

- ✦ The **Change Settings for the Plan** window will display.



- ✦ Select the **Sleep and Display Settings** for your computer.
- ✦ Click the **Create** button.
- ✦ The **Choose or Customie a Power Plan** window will display.



- ✦ Select the plan that is to be used.
- ✦ Click the **Change Plan Settings** link to make changes to the plan.