

## 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.

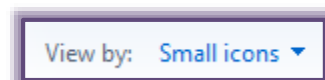
These power plans define how the computer uses power. All of the plans determine how long the computer will remain idle before the display is turned off and the computer is placed in Sleep mode. When working on a portable computer that is running on battery power, the Power Saver plan will increase the 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.

### Configure Power Options

- ✦ Click the **Start Button** (see illustration at right).
- ✦ Click the **Control Panel** link.
- ✦ If the **Small Icons** list is not displayed, click the **View by** link and then click **Small Icons**.
- ✦ Click the **Performance and Information Tools** link.
- ✦ The **Rate and improve your computer's performance** window will display (see illustration on next page).
- ✦ In the left frame of this window, click the **Adjust power settings** link.
- ✦ The **Select a Power Plan** window will display (see illustration on next page).
- ✦ In this window, click one of the plans.
- ✦ To display the **High Performance** option, click the **Show additional plans** arrow.
- ✦ To create a new plan, click the **Create a power plan** link in the left frame.
- ✦ Click any of the other options in the left frame to make changes.
- ✦ When all the changes have been made do one of the following:
  - ✧ Click the **Close** button in the upper-right corner of the window.
  - ✧ Click the **Control Panel Home** link in the left frame.




Control Panel Home



- Adjust visual effects
- Adjust indexing options
- Adjust power settings**
- Open disk cleanup
- Advanced tools


See also  
Action Center


## Rate and improve your computer's performance


The Windows Experience Index assesses key system components on a scale of 1.0 to 7.9.

Component	What is rated	Subscore	Base score
<b>Processor:</b>	Calculations per second	6.9	 Determined by lowest subscore
<b>Memory (RAM):</b>	Memory operations per second	7.2	
<b>Graphics:</b>	Desktop performance for Windows Aero	4.9	
<b>Gaming graphics:</b>	3D business and gaming graphics performance	6.3	
<b>Primary hard disk:</b>	Disk data transfer rate	5.9	



 What do these numbers mean?
  [View and print detailed performance and system information](#)

 [Tips for improving your computer's performance.](#)

 [Learn more about scores and software online](#)

Your scores are current  
Last update: 8/29/2013 3:35:43 PM  [Re-run the assessment](#)

Control Panel Home

- Require a password on wakeup
- Choose what the power buttons do
- Choose what closing the lid does
- Create a power plan
-  Choose when to turn off the display
-  Change when the computer sleeps

See also  
Personalization  
Windows Mobility Center  
User Accounts

## Select a power plan

Power plans can help you maximize your computer's performance or conserve energy. Make a plan active by selecting it, or choose a plan and customize it by changing its power settings. [Tell me more about power plans](#)

Plans shown on the battery meter

- Balanced (recommended)** [Change plan settings](#)  
Automatically balances performance with energy consumption on capable hardware.
- Power saver [Change plan settings](#)  
Saves energy by reducing your computer's performance where possible.

Show additional plans 