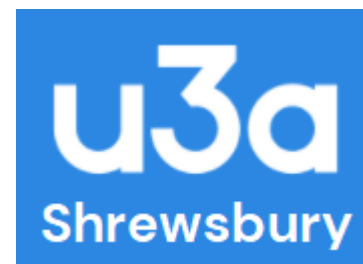


Keeping your Windows device sweet



1 Installed Apps (Settings → Apps → Installed Apps)

This is always **Step 1** because uninstalling apps often removes:

- scheduled tasks
- services
- background updaters
- startup entries
- leftover folders
- telemetry components

What to do:

- Scroll through the list slowly
- Ask: *“Do I actually use this on this machine?”*
- Remove OEM junk
- Remove unused language packs
- Remove old versions of apps
- Remove trial software
- Remove duplicate tools
- Keep runtimes (Visual C++, .NET, WebView2)
- Keep Windows components
- Keep remote-support tools you use
- Keep browsers you use
- Keep cycling / Zwift tools on the shed PC
- Keep anything tiny and harmless if unsure

Goal:

A clean, purposeful list — like Geoff’s 88-app baseline.

2 Scheduled Tasks (Task Scheduler)

This is **Step 2**, because uninstalling apps often clears their tasks automatically.

Where to look:

- Task Scheduler Library
- Microsoft → Windows
- Vendor folders (Dell, Adobe, HP, Lenovo, etc.)

What to remove or disable:

- Updaters for apps you’ve uninstalled
- Telemetry tasks you don’t need
- OEM junk (Dell, HP, Lenovo assistants)
- Adobe background tasks
- Old leftover tasks from software you removed years ago
- Anything that runs at logon but you don’t use

What to keep:

- Windows maintenance tasks
- Defender tasks
- OneDrive tasks
- RemotePC tasks
- Anything tied to software you actively use

Goal:

A predictable, quiet system with no surprise background jobs.

3 Control Panel → Programs and Features

This is **Step 3**, because it often shows:

- older installers
- legacy components
- drivers
- redistributables
- things not shown in the modern Apps list

What to do:

- Remove old versions of apps you've replaced
- Remove leftover components from old hardware
- Remove duplicate runtimes (but keep one of each version)
- Keep Visual C++ redistributables
- Keep .NET runtimes
- Keep device drivers
- Keep anything tied to hardware you still use

Goal:

A clean legacy list with only essential components.

★ THE CORRECT ORDER FOR COMPUTER CLUB

Order matters. Here's the order you should follow:

1 Installed Apps

Clear the junk first. This often removes scheduled tasks automatically.

2 Scheduled Tasks

Clean up leftovers. Disable anything unnecessary.

3 Programs and Features

Remove legacy components and old installers.

4 Startup Apps (Task Manager)

Optional but useful. Disable anything that doesn't need to run at boot.

5 Services (optional advanced section)

Only if you want to show them. Don't let members disable Windows services

