

Register Firefox Portable with Default Apps or Default Programs in Windows

Last Updated on: September 3, 2022

Mozilla Firefox®, Portable Edition is the popular Mozilla Firefox web browser bundled with a [PortableApps.com](https://portableapps.com) Launcher as a portable app, so you can take your bookmarks, extensions, and saved passwords with you.



This article lists two methods with which you can register Mozilla Firefox Portable Edition with Default Apps or Default Programs in Windows Vista through Windows 10/11.

RELATED: [Register Thunderbird Portable with Default Apps or Default Programs](#)

Register Firefox Portable with Default Apps

Method 1: Using a VBScript

1. Download the script [firefoxportable.vbs](#).

1	'Registers Firefox Portable with Default Programs or Default Apps in Windows
2	'firefoxportable.vbs - created by Ramesh Srinivasan for Winhelponline.com
3	'v1.0 17-July-2022 - Initial release. Tested on Mozilla Firefox 102.0.1.0.
4	'v1.1 23-July-2022 - Minor bug fixes.
5	'v1.2 27-July-2022 - Minor revision. Cleaned up the code.
6	'Suitable for all Windows versions, including Windows 10/11.
7	'Tutorial: https://www.winhelponline.com/blog/register-firefox-portable-with-default-a
8	
9	Option Explicit

```

10 Dim sAction, sAppPath, sExecPath, sIconPath, objFile, sbaseKey, sbaseKey2, sAppDesc
11 Dim sClsKey, ArrKeys, regkey
12 Dim WshShell : Set WshShell = CreateObject("WScript.Shell")
13 Dim oFSO : Set oFSO = CreateObject("Scripting.FileSystemObject")
14
15 Set objFile = oFSO.GetFile(WScript.ScriptFullName)
16 sAppPath = oFSO.GetParentFolderName(objFile)
17 sExecPath = sAppPath & "\FirefoxPortable.exe"
18 sIconPath = sAppPath & "\App\Firefox\firefox.exe"
19 sAppDesc = "Firefox delivers safe, easy web browsing. " & _
20 "A familiar user interface, enhanced security features including " & _
21 "protection from online identity theft, and integrated search let " & _
22 "you get the most out of the web."
23
24 'Quit if FirefoxPortable.exe is missing in the current folder!
25 If Not oFSO.FileExists (sExecPath) Then
26     MsgBox "Please run this script from Firefox Portable folder. The script will now qu
27         vbOKOnly + vbInformation, "Register Firefox Portable with Default Apps"
28     WScript.Quit
29 End If
30
31 If InStr(sExecPath, " ") > 0 Then
32     sExecPath = """" & sExecPath & """"
33     sIconPath = """" & sIconPath & """"
34 End If
35
36 sbaseKey = "HKCU\Software\"
37 sbaseKey2 = sbaseKey & "Clients\StartmenuInternet\Firefox Portable\"
38 sClsKey = sbaseKey & "Classes\"
39
40 If WScript.Arguments.Count > 0 Then
41     If UCase(Trim(WScript.Arguments(0))) = "-REG" Then Call RegisterFirefoxPortable
42     If UCase(Trim(WScript.Arguments(0))) = "-UNREG" Then Call UnRegisterFirefoxPortable
43 Else
44     sAction = InputBox ("Type REGISTER to add Firefox Portable to Default Apps. " & _
45         "Type UNREGISTER To remove.", "Firefox Portable Registration", "REGISTER")
46     If UCase(Trim(sAction)) = "REGISTER" Then Call RegisterFirefoxPortable
47     If UCase(Trim(sAction)) = "UNREGISTER" Then Call UnRegisterFirefoxPortable
48 End If
49
50 Sub RegisterFirefoxPortable
51     WshShell.RegWrite sbaseKey & "RegisteredApplications\Firefox Portable", _
52         "Software\Clients\StartMenuInternet\Firefox Portable\Capabilities", "REG_SZ"
53
54     'FirefoxHTML registration

```

```

55 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxHTML2\\"", "Firefox HTML Document", "REG_SZ"
56 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxHTML2\EditFlags", 2, "REG_DWORD"
57 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxHTML2\FriendlyTypeName", "Firefox HTML Document
58 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxHTML2\DefaultIcon\"", sIconPath & ",1", "REG_SZ"
59 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxHTML2\shell\"", "open", "REG_SZ"
60 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxHTML2\shell\open\command\"", sExecPath & _
61 " -url " & " " & "%1" & " ", "REG_SZ"
62 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxHTML2\shell\open\ddeexec\"", " ", "REG_SZ"
63
64 'FirefoxPDF registration
65 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxPDF2\"", "Firefox PDF Document", "REG_SZ"
66 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxPDF2\EditFlags", 2, "REG_DWORD"
67 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxPDF2\FriendlyTypeName", "Firefox PDF Document",
68 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxPDF2\DefaultIcon\"", sIconPath & ",5", "REG_SZ"
69 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxPDF2\shell\open\"", "open", "REG_SZ"
70 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxPDF2\shell\open\command\"", sExecPath & _
71 " -url " & " " & "%1" & " ", "REG_SZ"
72
73 'FirefoxURL registration
74 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxURL2\"", "Firefox URL", "REG_SZ"
75 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxURL2\EditFlags", 2, "REG_DWORD"
76 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxURL2\FriendlyTypeName", "Firefox URL", "REG_SZ"
77 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxURL2\URL Protocol", " ", "REG_SZ"
78 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxURL2\DefaultIcon\"", sIconPath & ",1", "REG_SZ"
79 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxURL2\shell\open\"", "open", "REG_SZ"
80 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxURL2\shell\open\command\"", sExecPath & _
81 " -url " & " " & "%1" & " ", "REG_SZ"
82 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxURL2\shell\open\ddeexec\"", " ", "REG_SZ"
83
84 'Default Apps Registration/Capabilities
85 WshShell.RegWrite sbaseKey2, "Firefox Portable", "REG_SZ"
86 WshShell.RegWrite sbaseKey2 & "Capabilities\ApplicationDescription", sAppDesc, "REG
87 WshShell.RegWrite sbaseKey2 & "Capabilities\ApplicationIcon", sIconPath & ",0", "REG
88 WshShell.RegWrite sbaseKey2 & "Capabilities\ApplicationName", "Firefox Portable", "
89 WshShell.RegWrite sbaseKey2 & "Capabilities\FileAssociations\.pdf", "FirefoxPDF2",
90 WshShell.RegWrite sbaseKey2 & "Capabilities\StartMenu", "Firefox Portable", "REG_SZ
91 WshShell.RegWrite sbaseKey2 & "DefaultIcon\"", sIconPath & ",0", "REG_SZ"
92 WshShell.RegWrite sbaseKey2 & "shell\open\command\"", sExecPath, "REG_SZ"
93 WshShell.RegWrite sbaseKey2 & "shell\properties\"", "Firefox &Options", "REG_SZ"
94 WshShell.RegWrite sbaseKey2 & "shell\properties\command\"", sExecPath & " -preferenc
95 WshShell.RegWrite sbaseKey2 & "shell\safemode\"", "Firefox &Safe Mode", "REG_SZ"
96 WshShell.RegWrite sbaseKey2 & "shell\safemode\command\"", sExecPath & " -safe-mode",
97
98 ArrKeys = Array ( _
99 "FileAssociations\.avif", _

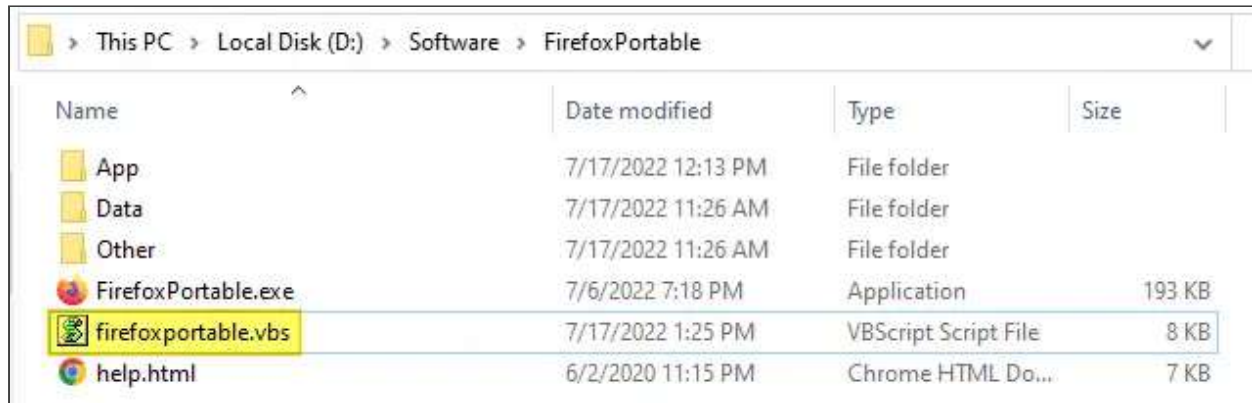
```

```

100 "FileAssociations\.htm", _
101 "FileAssociations\.html", _
102 "FileAssociations\.shtml", _
103 "FileAssociations\.svg", _
104 "FileAssociations\.webp", _
105 "FileAssociations\.xht", _
106 "FileAssociations\.xhtml", _
107 "URLAssociations\http", _
108 "URLAssociations\https", _
109 "URLAssociations\mailto" _
110 )
111
112 For Each regkey In ArrKeys
113     WshShell.RegWrite sbaseKey2 & "Capabilities\" & regkey, "FirefoxHTML2", "REG_SZ"
114 Next
115
116 'Override the default app name by which the program appears in Default Apps (*Optio
117 '(i.e., -- "Mozilla Firefox, Portable Edition" Vs. "Firefox Portable")
118 'The official Mozilla Firefox setup doesn't add this registry key.
119 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxHTML2\Application\ApplicationIcon", sIconPath &
120 WshShell.RegWrite sClsKey & "FirefoxHTML2\Application\ApplicationName", "Firefox Po
121
122 'Launch Default Programs or Default Apps after registering Firefox Portable
123 WshShell.Run "control /name Microsoft.DefaultPrograms /page pageDefaultProgram"
124 End Sub
125
126
127 Sub UnRegisterFirefoxPortable
128     sbaseKey = "HKCU\Software\"
129     sbaseKey2 = "HKCU\Software\Clients\StartmenuInternet\Firefox Portable"
130
131 On Error Resume Next
132 WshShell.RegDelete sbaseKey & "RegisteredApplications\Firefox Portable"
133 On Error GoTo 0
134
135 WshShell.Run "reg.exe delete " & sClsKey & "FirefoxHTML2" & " /f", 0
136 WshShell.Run "reg.exe delete " & sClsKey & "FirefoxPDF2" & " /f", 0
137 WshShell.Run "reg.exe delete " & sClsKey & "FirefoxURL2" & " /f", 0
138 WshShell.Run "reg.exe delete " & chr(34) & sbaseKey2 & chr(34) & " /f", 0
139
140 'Launch Default Apps after unregistering Firefox Portable
141 WshShell.Run "control /name Microsoft.DefaultPrograms /page pageDefaultProgram"
142 End Sub

```

2. Save the script to the **same** folder as FirefoxPortable.exe. It's an important step.

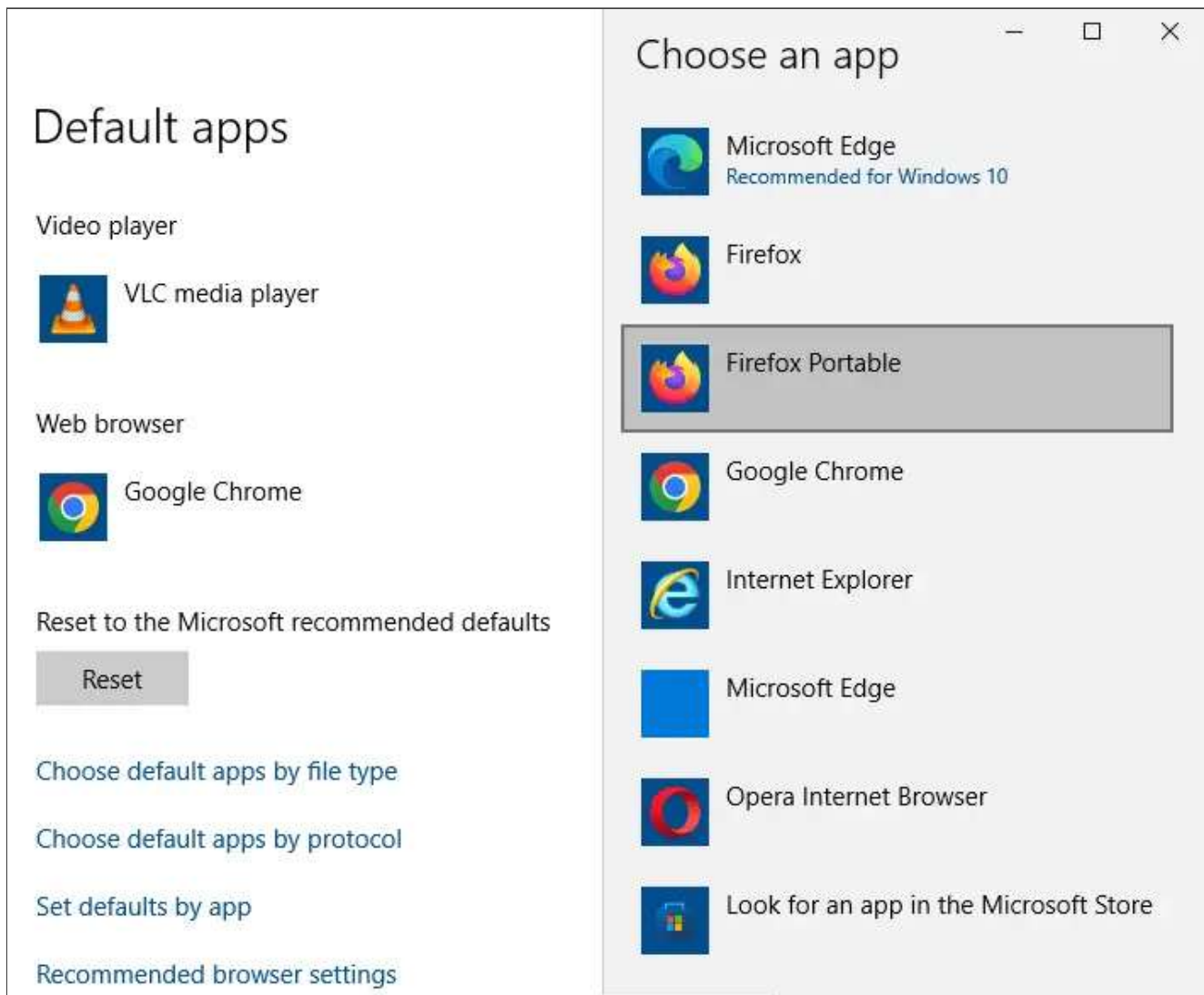


3. To add/register Firefox Portable with Default Apps or Default Programs, double-click `firefoxportable.vbs`



4. In the input box, type REGISTER, and click OK.

That's it! Firefox Portable is now listed on Default Apps



You can customize the default app name by which the program appears in Default Apps or Default Programs. To do so, use Notepad and edit the ApplicationName value data in line 120 of the VBScript.

RELATED:

- [Register Google Chrome Portable with Default Apps or Default Programs](#)
- [Register Opera Portable with Default Apps or Default Programs](#)

Method 2: Using a standalone utility

This method was originally written for Windows Vista but works on all versions of Windows. However, you need to install the legacy version of .Net Framework on

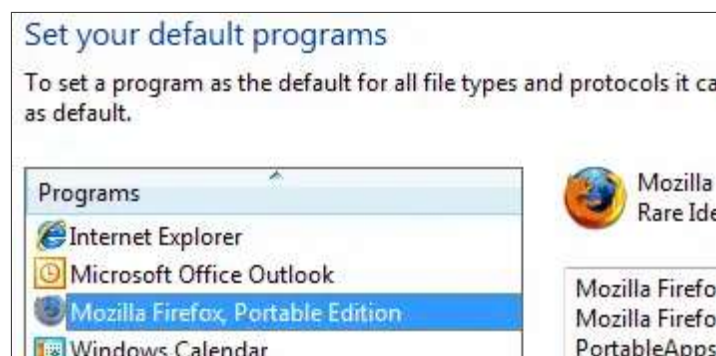
Windows 10/11 for this program to work.

1. Download [registerfp.zip](#) and save it to Desktop.
2. Unzip the archive and extract the contents to a folder.
3. Double-click the file RegisterFirefoxPortable.exe to run it.
4. When you see the User Account Control dialog, click Allow.

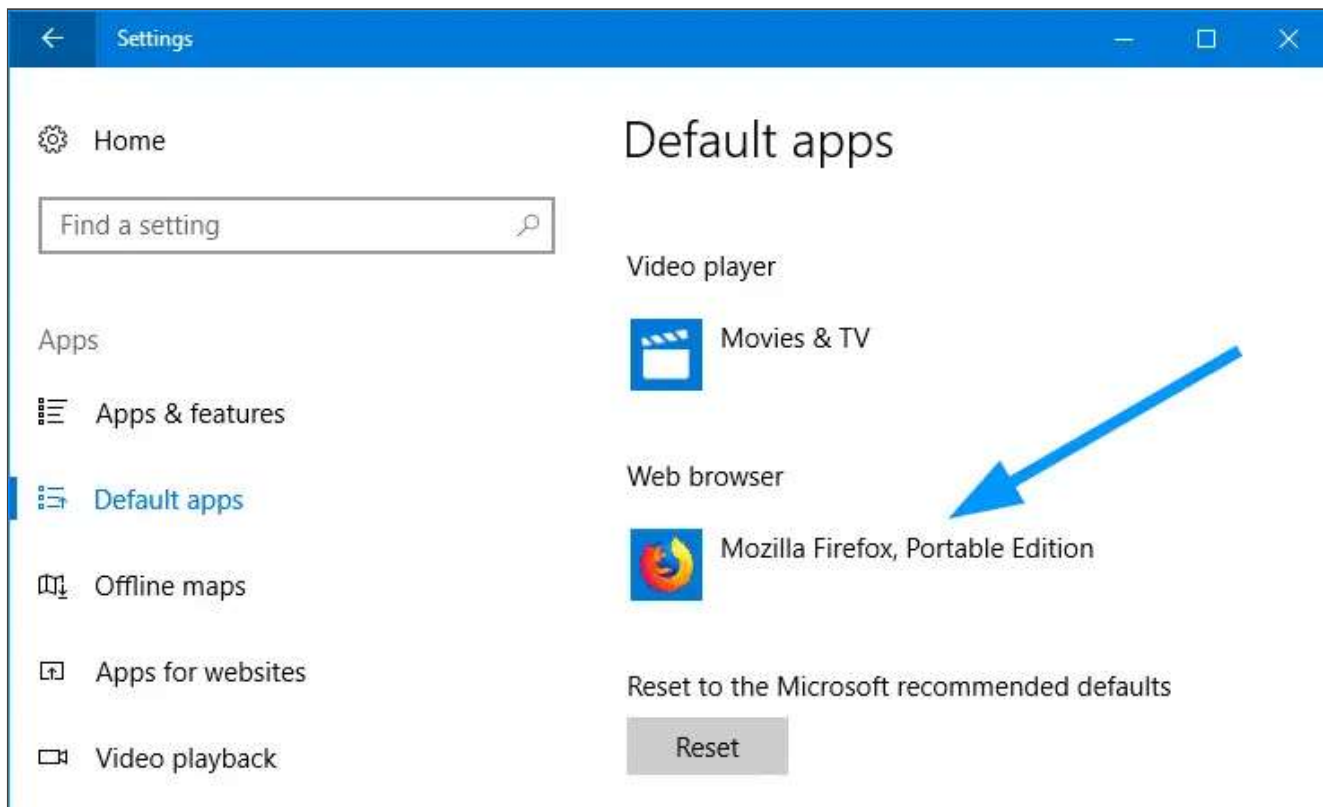


5. Click the Browse button and locate the Firefox Portable executable
6. Click **Register**

Firefox Portable is now registered with the Default Programs applet.



As you can see, “Mozilla Firefox, Portable Edition” entry is now listed on the Default Apps page in Windows 10 Settings. You’ll need to manually click on the web browsers entry in Default Apps and select “Mozilla Firefox, Portable Edition” to set it as default.



Firefox Portable registered with Default Apps

RELATED: [Change Default Apps and File Association via Command-line](#)

Editor's note: If the drive letter for your removable device (which contains Firefox Portable) changes, you'll need to re-register the program using the above script or utility.

One small request: If you liked this post, please share this?

One "tiny" share from you would seriously help a lot with the growth of this blog. Some great suggestions:

- Pin it!
- Share it to your favorite blog + Facebook, Reddit
- Tweet it!

So thank you so much for your support. It won't take more than 10 seconds of your time. The share buttons are right below. :)

 [Utilities](#) [default apps](#), [default programs](#), [firefox](#), [registry](#), [scripts](#)

About the author

Ramesh Srinivasan is passionate about Microsoft technologies and he has been a consecutive ten-time recipient of the Microsoft Most Valuable Professional award in the Windows Shell/Desktop Experience category, from 2003 to 2012. He loves to troubleshoot and write about Windows. Ramesh founded Winhelponline.com in 2005.



35 thoughts on “Register Firefox Portable with Default Apps or Default Programs in Windows”

**Peter**[April 22, 2010 at 9:46 pm](#)

worsk even for Opera@USB although the description still reads “Firefox portable”

[Reply](#)**John**[July 19, 2010 at 10:55 am](#)

It works great for me on Windows 7 Pro. Thanks for building this.

[Reply](#)

Johnny why

[July 20, 2010 at 5:18 am](#)

Someone on the portable apps site suggested the following. If this is the case, can you update your registerfp? THANKS!

Did you perhaps make a batch file that uses %1 as the input parameter?

If so, try changing the %1 to "%1" which will force Windows to NOT break the input string at the space (which is how it sees it as two parameters).

| Link: [portableapps . com/node/24299#comment-154531](http://portableapps.com/node/24299#comment-154531)

[Reply](#)

Kermonk

[August 25, 2010 at 1:30 am](#)

Very useful.

Now if only we could have a program which could do that for all portable programs



[Reply](#)

darren

[August 25, 2010 at 8:31 pm](#)

very useful. thank you

[Reply](#)

victorwoo

[March 27, 2011 at 8:34 pm](#)

Windows 2008 R2 SP1 + FirefoxPortable 4.0

After using your tool, the register process is ok. But when a FirefoxPortable is running, clicking the link from the 3rd program (eg. MSN), it prompts "Firefox is already running but is not responding". How to resolve it ?

Woo

[Reply](#)

Kingtut

[April 27, 2020 at 1:32 pm](#)

You have to point to the launcher for the portable browser not the opera.exe or whatever app, so using say orpera portable you choose launcher.exe not opera.exe, at least it works for me.

Pete[November 16, 2012 at 3:18 am](#)

Great. But what about Thunderbird as default Email Client?

Would be a great little app if it did both

Thank You

[Reply](#)**Ramesh**[July 23, 2022 at 4:55 pm](#)

@Pete: For Thunderbird, check out this page:

Register Thunderbird Portable with Default Apps or Default Programs:

<https://www.winhelponline.com/blog/register-thunderbird-portable-with-default-apps/>

KHENFALKO[December 5, 2012 at 7:43 pm](#)

It works perfectly in windows 8 professional 64 bit.

thank you very much

[Reply](#)**Flo**[February 21, 2013 at 9:43 pm](#)

It doesn't work when using Outlook 2013 when I try clicking on a link in a mail to be opened with FFportable on W8.

It still says "Your organization's policies are preventing us from completing this action for you."

[Reply](#)**Pablo Yunier**[April 21, 2013 at 7:30 am](#)

Hi, this is great app. Please can you do the same from Thunderbird Portable.

Thank You!!

PD: Sorry for my English

[Reply](#)**RubbaNoze**[October 3, 2013 at 6:55 pm](#)

I have used FF for almost a decade now, and got used to browse with my session saved – tabs, windows, and tab groups. And I would never use my main browser with facebook for example, because of tracking etc.

Also, it becomes annoying if you just want to open 1 link you got sent via instant messaging etc., in which case I use a installation of Firefox Portable, but had to start it manually before. Also, program installations and updates like to open the default browser unasked.

Your little tool fixed that for me, thank you very much! 😊

[Reply](#)

bud

[July 14, 2014 at 11:52 pm](#)

registerfp.zip did work, but the minute I open crappy chrome it makes itself the default browser

[Reply](#)

Howard

[August 7, 2014 at 12:36 pm](#)

It does not work correctly because essentially it doesn't really set it as the "Default Browser". When it does is only associating those files and protocols with ffp.

What it should have done is instead associate ffp with htmlfile, http, and https in classes registry.

[Reply](#)**Michael**[December 13, 2014 at 7:12 pm](#)

It works on Windows 8.1 too.

[Reply](#)**micknobrasil**[May 20, 2015 at 10:05 pm](#)

awsome!!!!!! works in Win 8.1

Used it on Opera portable (just point to launcher.exe in the directory where you keep Opera) then the Opera icon becomes available to associate file type (.htm/.html) and protocol (HTTP/HTTPS)

[Reply](#)**Didier L**[August 8, 2015 at 6:13 pm](#)

Works in Win 10 with Firefox portable, thanks Ramesh

[Reply](#)**John**[December 26, 2018 at 1:34 pm](#)

Is there a way to do this for other portable apps like VLC for example? Or maybe you could tell us how to do it in the registry on our own.

[Reply](#)**ich und ich**[December 11, 2019 at 10:54 pm](#)

After using your tool, the register process is ok. But when a FirefoxPortable is running, clicking the link from the 3rd program, it prompts "Firefox is already running but is not responding". How to resolve it ?

[Reply](#)**Ramesh**[December 12, 2019 at 2:55 am](#)

@ich: You may try this question in the FirefoxPortable forums.

<https://portableapps.com/node/8546>

Rick[January 29, 2020 at 8:16 pm](#)

Thank you very much. I have been using this for many years, working with just one Firefox in a multiboot environment.

No doubt you have spent much time and energy to find out how this works. Could you perhaps use that knowledge to make one for ThunderbirdPortable as well? I think it would be greatly appreciated.

[Reply](#)**Ramesh**[July 23, 2022 at 4:56 pm](#)

@Rick: For Thunderbird Portable, see:

<https://www.winhelponline.com/blog/register-thunderbird-portable-with-default-apps/>

Jan[March 25, 2020 at 8:58 am](#)

Worked, thank you!

[Reply](#)

OFF[April 12, 2020 at 5:27 am](#)

Download link for registerfp.zip is not working anymore, anyone kindly enough got a backup will be able to upload it? Much thanks!

[Reply](#)**Crs**[September 10, 2020 at 5:29 pm](#)

Old app an still works on all browsers

[Reply](#)**Shoji**[November 15, 2020 at 1:55 am](#)

when i use this to open certain links, it will says instance of firefox portable is already running, but it is working when i use chrome portable. is there any workaround?

[Reply](#)

Joreka[November 20, 2020 at 9:20 pm](#)

If you run this through VirusTotal it is detected as malicious. DO NOT use!!!

[Reply](#)**Ramesh**[November 21, 2020 at 3:12 am](#)

@Joreka: It's a false positive!

In VirusTotal.com, only one engine "SecureAge APEX" (incorrectly) flags it as malicious. It's cleared by all other virus scanning engines.

And, I find that the "SecureAge APEX" (a new AI engine) raises false flags for many other programs, too:

https://www.reddit.com/r/Malware/comments/g7rhuo/app_is_marked_malicious_on_vt/

https://www.reddit.com/r/antivirus/comments/et0h4p/secureage_apex_is_fp_or_i_have_problems/

https://www.reddit.com/r/antivirus/comments/iboews/secureage_apex_will_it_give_me_problems_how_do_i/

https://www.reddit.com/r/antivirus/comments/hpmylb/secureage_apex/

<https://github.com/molenzwiebel/Deceive/issues/11>

"If you see only a handful of positives you can assume that those are false positives."

I've anyway reported the false positive at SecureAge's website. Shall update once I get a report from them!

Needs old .NET[December 2, 2021 at 9:26 pm](#)

RegisterFP needs needlessly an old .NET which needs to be installed. For simple Reg hacks like this no bloated runtime lib should be needed.

[Reply](#)**SiL3NC3**[March 7, 2022 at 3:19 pm](#)

Thank you so much for this handy tool! It was indeed the only one, which does the job.

Inspired by this, I coded a new one, with configurable Names, types and protocols, to fit all required needs of you portable users.

Check it out:

<https://github.com/sil3nc3/PortableRegistrator>

[Reply](#)**JdS**[June 8, 2023 at 5:46 pm](#)

Great. This really worked. Thanks!

DJohnson[August 23, 2022 at 10:10 pm](#)

This works!

Thank you for providing the solution to get Firefox Portable registered as default web browser.

[Reply](#)**Ramesh**[August 23, 2022 at 10:23 pm](#)

You're most welcome, DJohnson.

Geoslake[March 7, 2023 at 5:01 pm](#)

THanks a million, works perfectly, Win 10 pro 22h2

[Reply](#)

Leave a Reply

Enter your comment here...

Search this site

Search...

Go

Useful Posts

[How to access Windows Recovery Environment \(WinRE\).](#)

[Error: WFS.exe is missing in Windows 10/11](#)

[How to Install Windows Sandbox](#)

[Windows 10: Latest Cumulative Update Direct Download Links](#)

[How to Take a Screenshot](#)

[Download Windows 10/11 Official ISO](#)

[Reinstall Windows Store Using the Appx Installer](#)

[About us](#) | [Contact us](#) | [Disclaimer & Terms of Use](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

© 2023 Winhelponline.com