

WINDOWS 7/8 – HOW TO QUICKLY EMPTY RECYCLE BIN FROM ALL USER ACCOUNTS

SCENARIO

On one of my test computers I run Windows 7 Ultimate edition and have created three user accounts to easily share that PC with my family. Except my user account, rest two accounts do not have a password. So, I can easily access other accounts, if required.



Recently I noticed that the “C:” drive was running out of free space and so decided to free up some disk space by emptying **Recycle Bin** and then deleting other junk files on my desktop. To empty Recycle Bin present in other accounts, I decided to use a good old command that lets you easily empty Recycle Bin from all user accounts in a jiffy.

The command comes in handy if you are the administrator of a multi-user **Windows 7** or **Windows 8** computer.

In this guide, I will show you how to use the Command Prompt to easily empty **Recycle Bin** from all user accounts:

IMPORTANT: Use this command with caution. Executing wrongly typed command may cause damage to your system and data.

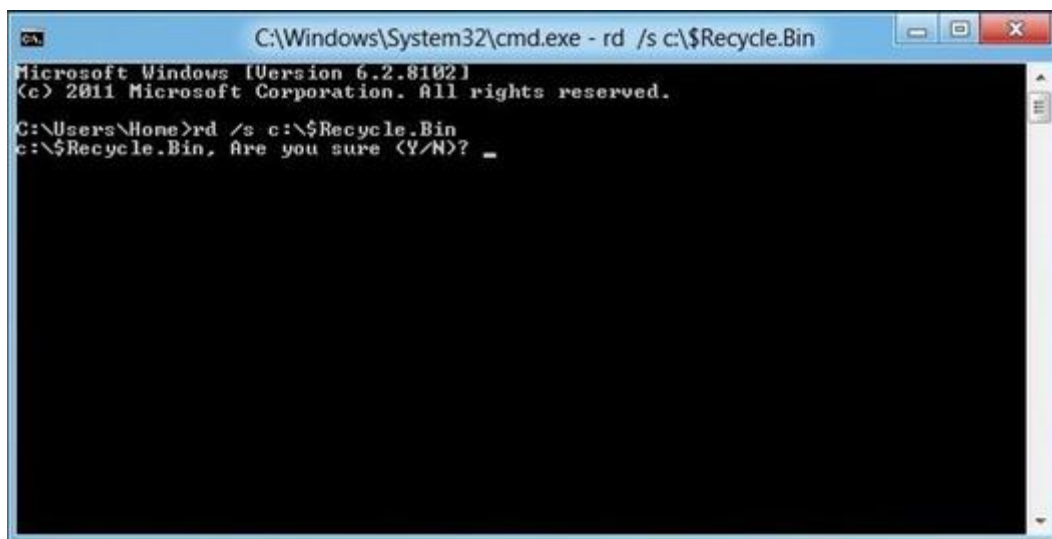
Procedure

- **Step 1:** Launch elevated Prompt. To do this, type **CMD** in Windows 7 Start menu search box and simultaneously press **Ctrl + Shift + Enter** keys. **Windows 8** users can simply type **CMD** in Start screen and then press **Ctrl + Shift + Enter** to launch Command Prompt with admin rights.
- **Step 2:** In the elevated prompt, type the following command:

```
rd /s c:\$Recycle.Bin
```

(In the above command, “c:” is your Windows drive)

- Press **Enter** key.



```
C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe - rd /s c:\$Recycle.Bin
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.2.8102]
(c) 2011 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\Hone>rd /s c:\$Recycle.Bin
c:\$Recycle.Bin, Are you sure (Y/N)? _
```

Press **Y** key to confirm and empty **Recycle Bin**. You are done! Type **Exit** and press enter key again to close the prompt.

There might be some other third-party tools to do this job, but this is the easiest way to empty **Recycle Bin** and free up some disk space. We tested this command in **Windows 8** as well and can confirm that it works!