

Windows 10 may cut speed of browsing

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STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: The latest version of Windows 10 seems to be reducing my internet speed. What can I do?

— Bruno, Woodland Park, Colo.

A: The newest versions of Windows 10 can slow down your internet browsing because of how it handles software updates and controls the flow of data.

You can reduce the slowdowns by adjusting the latest incarnations, which are the Creators Update, introduced in April, and the Fall Creators Update, introduced in October.

The first thing to adjust is a Windows 10 feature called "auto-tuning," which debuted in 2016's Anniversary Update of the operating system. Auto-tuning makes the Windows app store more responsive to your PC's needs, but it does so by giving app downloads and updates priority use of your internet connection. Whenever app updates are active, your Web browsing will be slowed. You can correct this by disabling auto-tuning (see tinyurl.com/yawr6wry).

Another way to increase your internet speed is to change the "quality of service" settings within the operating system's "local group policy editor." You should set incoming internet data (called "inbound TCP traffic") to "maximum throughput."

Besides adjusting settings to increase your browsing speed, make sure you have the proper software drivers for the latest versions of Windows 10. For example, an internet slowdown could be caused by an outdated driver for your PC's network card. (To check, see tinyurl.com/y8hs06so).

It's also a good idea to check the other equipment that stands between you and the internet. If you use a wireless router, adjusting its Wi-Fi settings may speed up your Web browsing. See "modify the network configuration" at tinyurl.com/yawr6wry for specifics.

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