

Disable blue arrows icon on folders and files in Windows 10

In Windows 10, you might notice a blue arrows overlay icon for some folders and files. It looks like a pair of blue arrows pointing at each other. You might be curious what this overlay icon indicates and how to disable it. You will find the answer in this article.



The blue arrows overlay icon on a folder or a file indicates that it is compressed using NTFS file system compression to save disk space. The addition of the overlay icon itself is new to Windows 10 File Explorer.

If you are not happy to see this blue overlay icon, here is how you can disable it.

1. Download the ZIP archive which contains the empty icon. It will be used instead of the blue arrows icon.

[Download empty icon](#)

In the archive, you also will find the ready-to-use Registry files to avoid the manual Registry editing and save your time.

2. Extract and put the blank.ico file to any folder you want. For example, let's use the following path:

[C:\Windows\blank.ico](#)

3. Open [Registry Editor](#).

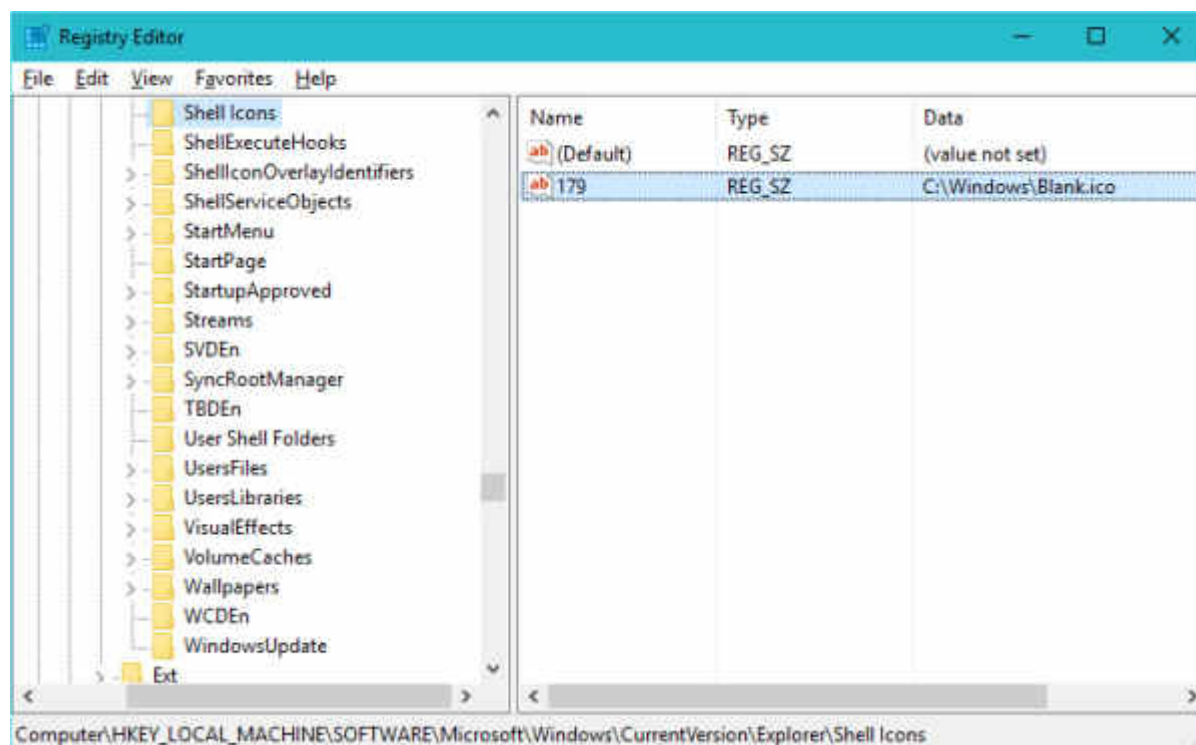
4. Go to the following path:

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer](#)

5. Create a new subkey named *Shell Icons*.

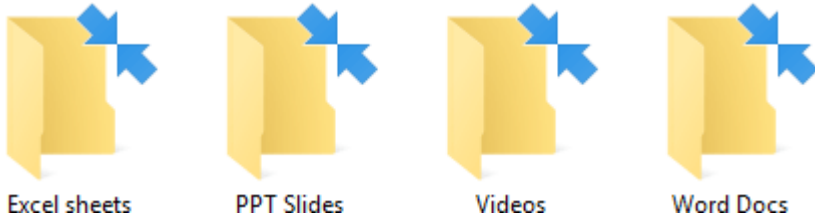
6. Under the Shell Icons subkey, create a new string value and name it **179**. Set its value to the full path the "blank.ico" file. In my case I have to set it to

[C:\Windows\blank.ico](#)

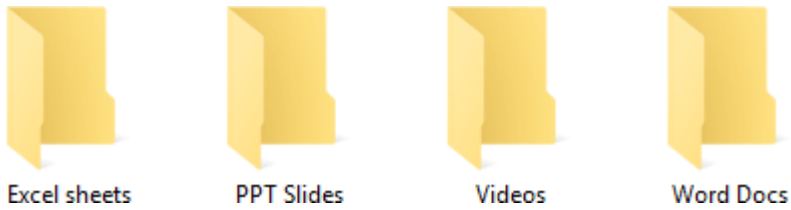


7. [Sign out](#) from your Windows session or [restart the Explorer shell](#).

You are done. Before:

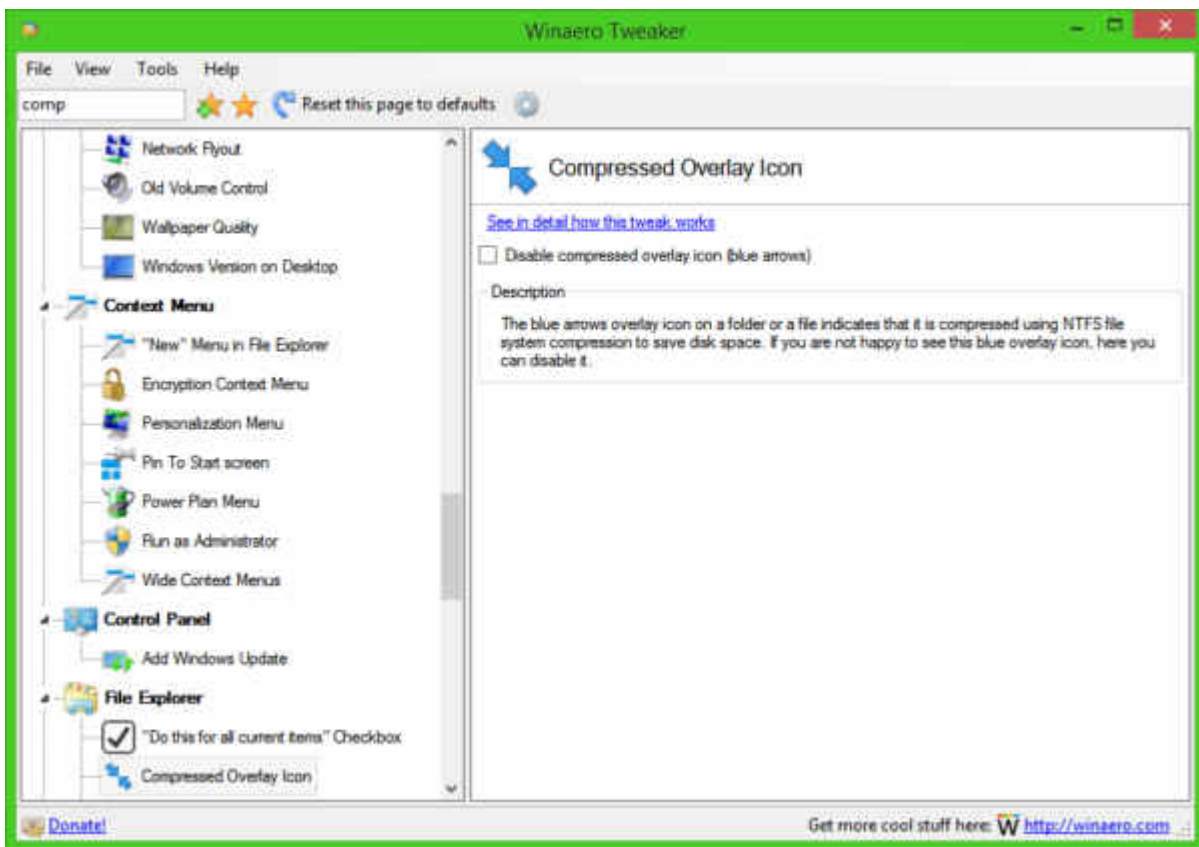


After:



To undo this change, you need to delete the mentioned "179" value.

The same can be done with Winaero Tweaker:



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