

Install Windows 10 11 22H2 without Microsoft account

<https://4sysops.com/archives/install-windows-10-11-22h2-without-microsoft-account/>

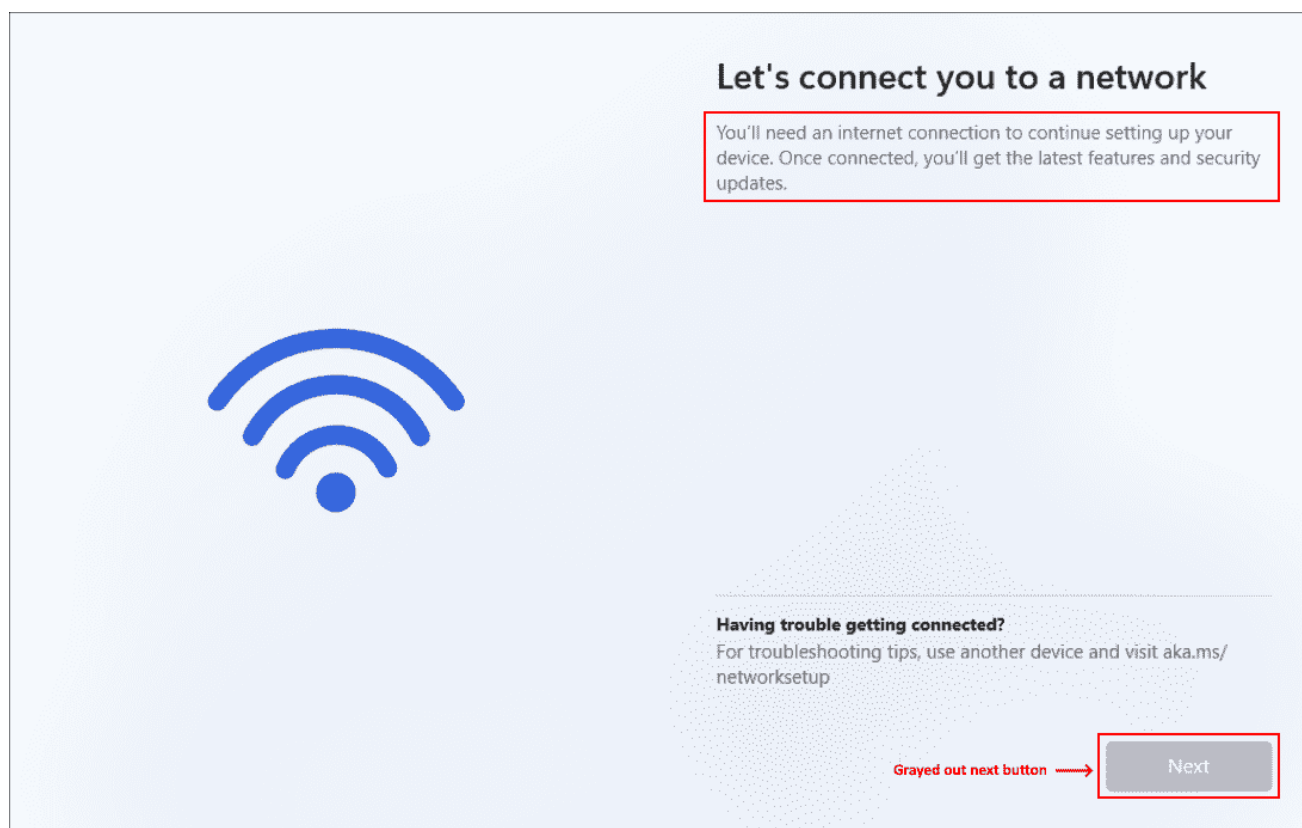
With earlier versions of Windows 10 and 11, you always had the option to skip the creation of a Microsoft account and use a local user account. However, with the recent 22H2 update, Microsoft is now forcing customers to use a Microsoft account.

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If you start the Windows 11 setup without an internet connection, you will likely get stuck on the *Let's connect you to a network* screen with a grayed out Next button and the following message:

You'll need an internet connection to continue setting up your device. Once connected, you'll get the latest features and security updates.



You'll need an internet connection to continue setting up your Windows 11 device

As you can see in the screenshot, the Next button is grayed out, and there is no apparent way to bypass this screen. This will also prevent you from creating a local user account and using your device without a Microsoft account if you do not have an internet connection.

However, there is a way to bypass the internet requirement during Windows 11 22H2 setup.

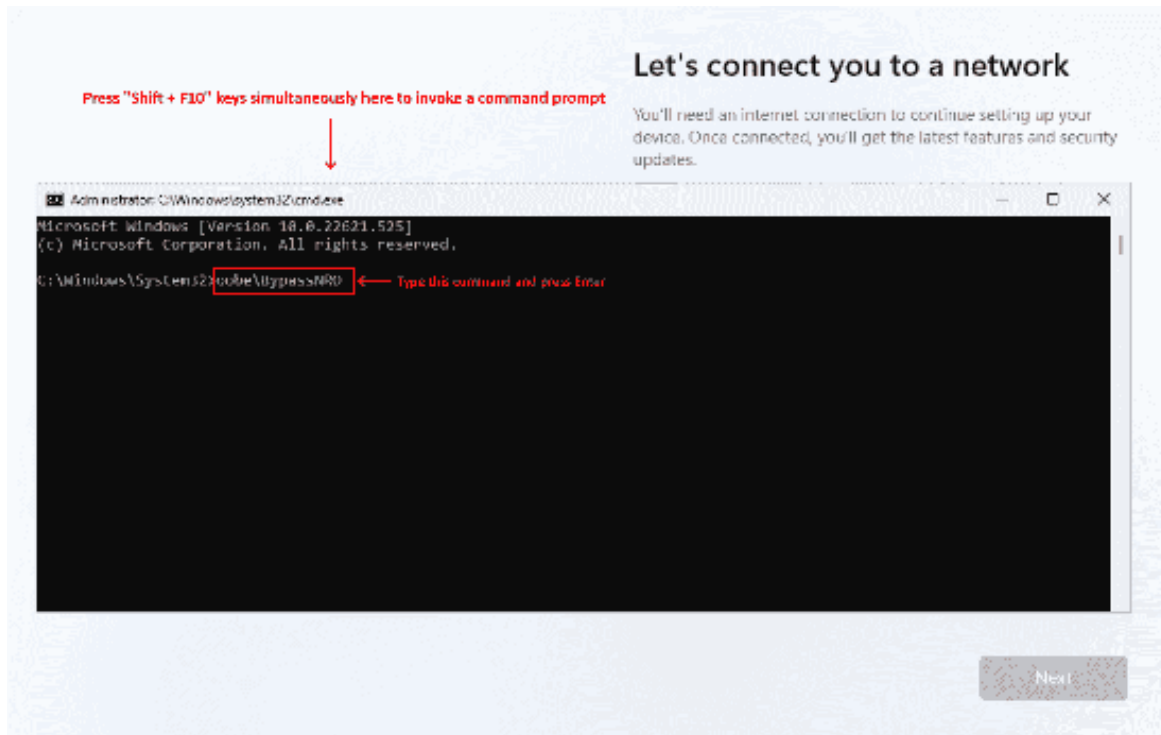
Running the OOBE BypassNRO command

To bypass the internet requirement and use Windows 11 with a local user account, follow these steps:

1. Start the Windows 11 setup.
2. When you see the *Let's connect you to a network* screen with the grayed-out Next button, press **Shift + F10**. This launches a command prompt.

3. Now run the following command at the command prompt:

`oobe\BypassNRO`



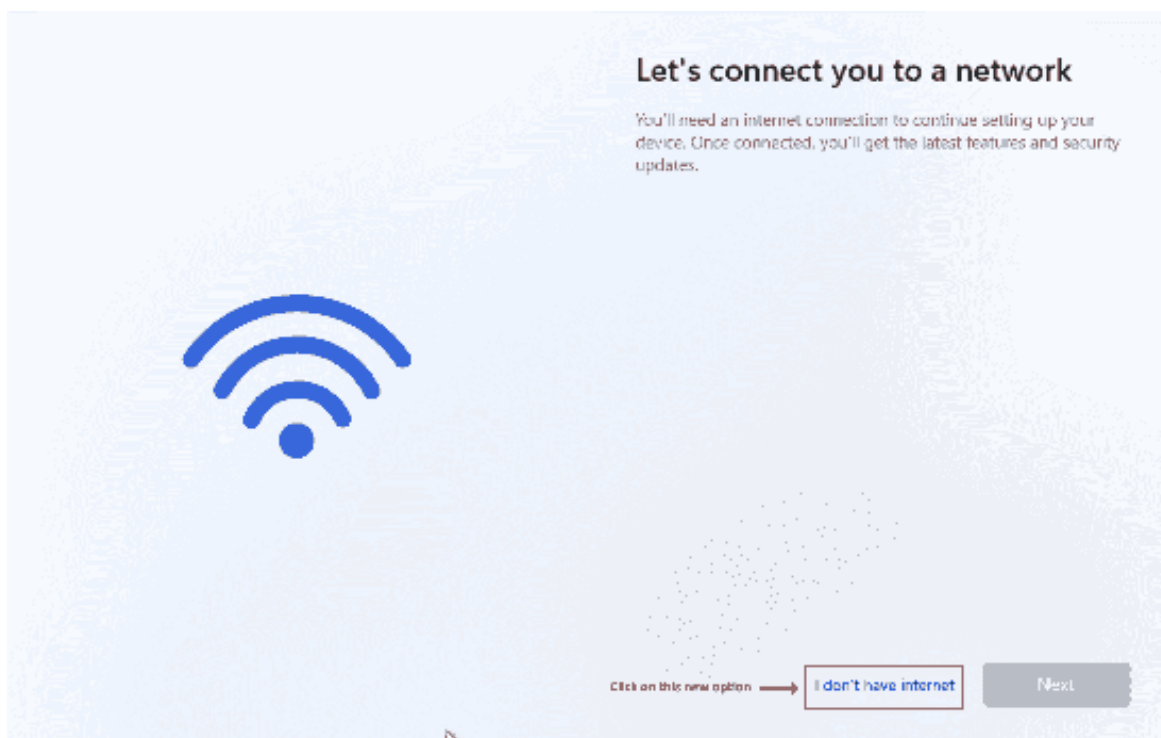
Running the Oobe BypassNRO command to bypass the network requirement during Windows 11 setup

4. After you execute this command, your system will restart. Alternatively, you can run the following commands instead:

`reg add HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\OOBE /v BypassNRO /t REG_DWORD /d 1 /f`

`shutdown /r /t 0`

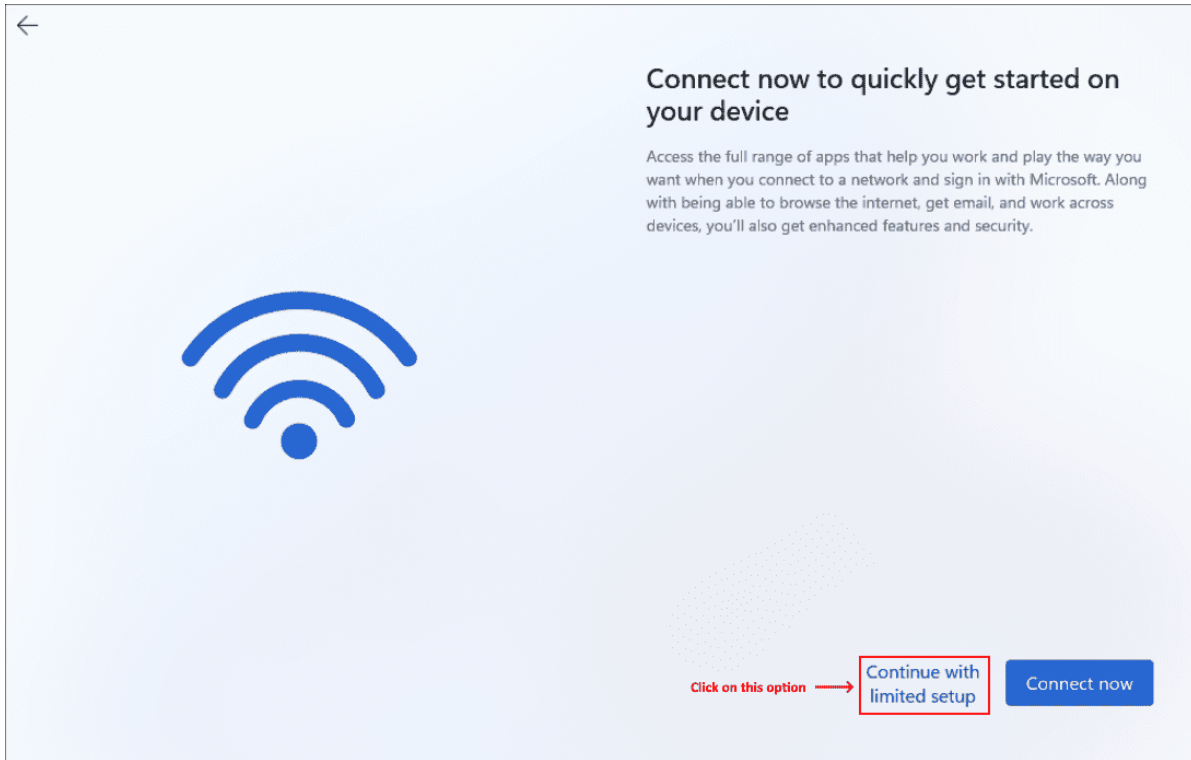
After your system restarts, you need to select your region and keyboard layout once again. But this time, on the *Let's connect you to a network* screen, you will see a new *I don't have internet* option. See the screenshot below.



Windows 11 setup I dont have internet

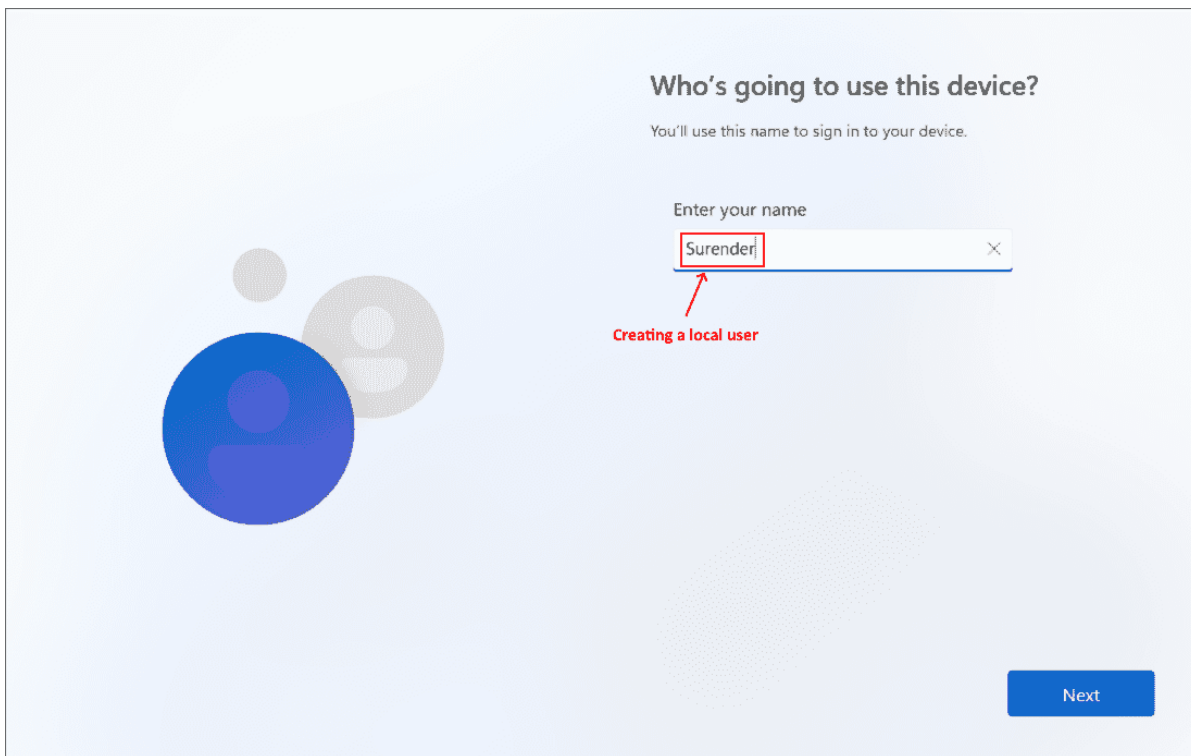
If you are installing the Windows Enterprise edition, you get this option by default, so there is no need for any workaround.

5. Just click the *I don't have internet* option, and then click the *Continue with limited setup* option, as shown below:



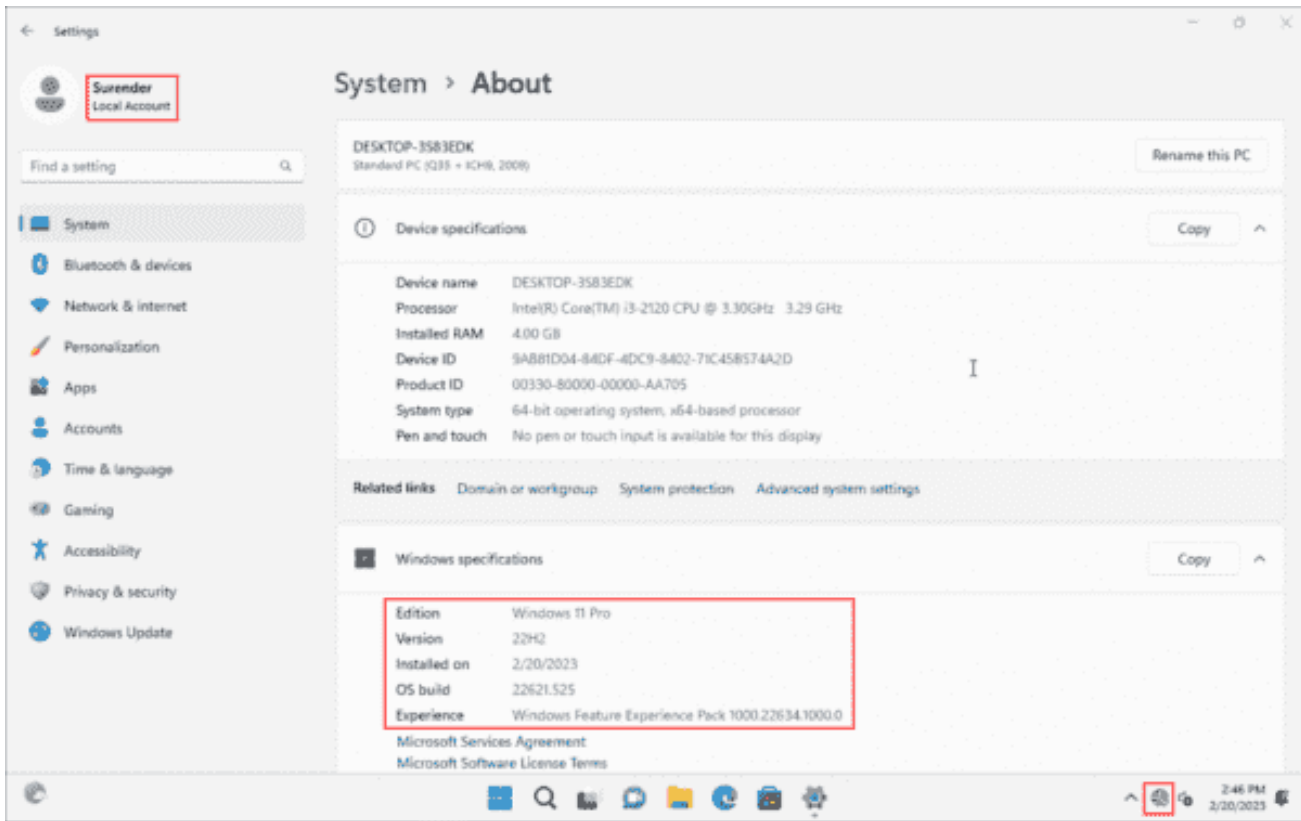
Windows 11 setup continue with limited setup

6. Create a local user account. The setup continues.



Windows 11 setup create a local user

The following screenshot shows that I was able to run Windows 11 22H2 with a local user without an internet connection.



Windows 11 running with a local user and without internet connection

Windows 11 running with a local user and without an internet connection

Conclusion

You just learned how to bypass the internet connection requirement during Windows 11 setup. Please share your opinion about Microsoft's increasing pressure to force Windows to create a Microsoft account.