Aero Effects
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Aero Effects are part of the Windows 7 interface, and they apply to both visual and practical features.

Windows 7 Editions
The following editions of Windows 7 include Aero Effects:

- Windows 7 Home Premium
- Windows 7 Professional
- Windows 7 Ultimate
- Windows 7 Enterprise

The following editions of Windows 7 do not include Aero Effects:

- Windows 7 Home Basic
- Windows 7 Starter

Aero and Basic Themes
Certain Aero Effects are only available when using an Aero Theme, as opposed to using a Basic Theme. Some Aero Effects can be used with a Basic Theme; however, they will not be utilized to the fullest. To use an Aero Theme:

1. **Right-click the mouse** to open the drop-down window, and then click **Personalize**.
2. In the **Personalization** menu, choose any of the themes listed under **Aero Themes**.

3. **Close** the Personalization menu.
**Aero Peek**

Aero Peek allows you to quickly look at the desktop without having to minimize or close any of your windows. This feature is especially useful if you are using Desktop Gadgets. Aero Peek is only available when using an Aero Theme.

To use Aero Peek:

1. Navigate to the right side of the Taskbar and right-click the Show desktop button.

2. Make sure there is a check (✓) mark is inserted in front of Peek at desktop.

3. Simply hover your mouse over the Show desktop button to turn all of the open windows transparent.
4. Move your mouse cursor away from the Show desktop button to bring the windows back.

Aero Shake

Aero Shake is a feature that allows you to minimize all windows except for a window you would like to keep open. Aero Shake is available when using a Basic Theme.

To use Aero Shake:

1. Choose the window you would like to keep open, and navigate to the top of the window.
2. **Left-click and hold** your mouse on the window to grab the window.

3. Using the mouse, “**shake**” the window from side to side.

4. All other windows will minimize.
Aero Snap

Aero Snap is a feature that allows you to instantly resize a window. It is especially useful if you want to view two windows at once.

Differences between Aero and Basic Themes

Aero Snap is available in a Basic Theme; however the functionality is a little bit different.

- **When using a Basic Theme** – The area which the window will cover will be highlighted, and there is no Aero Snap animation when you reach the edge of the screen.
- **When using an Aero Theme** – There area which the window will cover will be shown with a transparent window, and you will see an Aero Snap animation when you reach the edge of the screen.
Using Aero Snap
Here is how to use Aero Snap:

- Drag the window to any one of the four sides of the screen.
  - While using an Aero Theme, you will see an animation when you reach the edge of the screen.
- Dragging the window to the top will **maximize** the window.

- When **resizing the bottom** of the window, and dragging it all the way to the bottom, the window will **maximize vertically**.
Dragging the window to the side will cause the window to fill half of the screen. You can then take a second window and fill the opposite side in order to view two windows at once.

Move the window away from the edge to restore the window to its original size.
Aero Flip

Aero Flip allows you to navigate through every active window on your desktop.

Differences between Aero and Basic Themes

You are able to use Aero Flip while using a Basic Theme, however it is not as useful as it is when using an Aero Theme.

- **When using an Aero Theme** – You will get thumbnail previews of each window. You will also get a full-screen preview of the window you are currently selecting.
- **When using a Basic Theme** – You will get the program icon for each window as opposed to a thumbnail. You will not have any full-screen previews when selecting a window.
On a similar note, this applies to the **Taskbar** as well. With a Basic Theme, you get icons, however with an Aero Theme, you get thumbnails and full-screen previews.

**Using Aero Flip**
Here is how to use Aero Flip:

1. While holding the **Alt** key, press the **Tab** key.
2. The Aero Flip menu will appear. **Be sure to keep the Alt key held down.** Navigate through your windows with the **Tab** key, or with the **mouse**.

3. Choose your window by either **clicking the window** with the mouse, or by **releasing the Alt key** when you are viewing the window you would like to work in.

**Aero Flip 3D**
Similar to Aero Flip, **Aero Flip 3D** allows you to navigate through all of the active windows on the desktop; however you navigate using a 3D model. Aero Flip 3D is only available when using an Aero Theme.

To use Aero Flip 3D:

1. While holding the **Windows** key, press the **Tab** key.
2. The Aero Flip 3D menu will appear. **Be sure to keep the Windows key held down.** Navigate through your windows with the **Tab** key, or with the **mouse wheel**.

3. Choose your window by either **clicking the window** with the mouse, or by **releasing the Windows key** when the window you want to work in is in front.