Using Surface Dock and Surface docking stations

Applies to: Surface Devices

Note

Some products might not be available in your country or region.

Connect your Surface to external devices.

- Get to know the Surface Dock and Surface docking stations
- Docking station models
- Set up Surface Dock and docking stations

Get to know the Surface Dock and Surface docking stations

You can use a docking station to transform your Surface into a full desktop PC. Use it to connect your Surface to a full-size monitor, Ethernet connection, external speakers, and more while also charging your Surface.

There are two types of docking stations available for Surface:

- Surface Dock (compatible with Surface Book, Surface Pro 4, and Surface Pro 3) is a port replicator with a compact design that doesn't require you to dock your Surface. Your Surface simply connects to a Surface Dock through a single magnetic SurfaceConnect cable. Surface Dock supports high-speed transfer of video, audio, and data. Its compact design gives you flexibility and keeps your desktop clutter-free.
- The docking stations for Surface Pro 3, Surface 3, Surface Pro 2, and Surface Pro hold your Surface in a frame. To dock your Surface, you place it in the frame of the docking station and slide the sides of the docking station into the sides of your Surface.

Docking station models

There are four Surface docking station models.

- Surface Dock (available for Surface Book, Surface Pro 4, and Surface Pro 3)
Docking station for Surface Pro 3
- Docking station for Surface Pro and Surface Pro 2

- Docking station for Surface 3
Charging or Power port

The external power supply recharges your Surface and provides additional power to charge connected USB devices.

The Mini DisplayPort lets you connect one or more external monitors to your Surface. Depending on your monitor’s connectors, you may need a video adapter (sold separately).

Notes

Mini DisplayPorts

- The Surface Dock (for Surface Book, Surface Pro 4, and Surface Pro 3) has two Mini DisplayPorts.
- The Mini DisplayPort on Surface Pro 3 and Surface Pro 4 and the Mini DisplayPorts on Surface Dock are all available for use while your Surface is connected to Surface Dock.
- If you’re using Surface Dock with Surface Book, the Mini DisplayPort on your Surface Book is covered by the connector and isn’t available. This is by design, as you can use only three screens at one time (two external monitors and the screen on Surface Book).
- With a Surface Pro 3 Docking Station, the Mini DisplayPorts on your Surface and docking station are available for use while your Surface is in the docking station.

Transfer large files to an external drive, connect a USB printer or headset, charge accessories, and more.

- Surface Dock has four USB 3.0 ports.
- Surface Pro 3 Docking Station has three USB 3.0 ports and two USB 2.0 ports. The USB 3.0 port on your Surface Pro 3 is available for use when your Surface is in the docking station.
- Surface 3 Docking Station has two USB 3.0 ports and two USB 2.0 ports.
- Docking Station for Surface Pro and Surface Pro 2 have one USB 3.0 port and three USB 2.0 ports.

Connect your favorite audio accessories to the 3.5-mm audio port on Surface Dock.

### Audio ports

Note

The audio port on Surface Dock is used for audio output only. You use the built-in microphone on your Surface for recording and online conversations.

### Ethernet port

When you need the reliability of a wired network connection, you can use the Ethernet port on Surface Dock to connect your Surface to a wired network.

### SurfaceConnect cable

**Surface Dock only.** This magnetic cable connects your Surface to your Surface Dock and enables high-speed transfer of audio, video, and data.

## Set up Surface Dock and docking stations

Here’s how to set up your docking station to use for the first time.

### Set up your work space

1. Plug the AC end of the power cord for the Surface Dock or other docking station into an electrical outlet or power strip, and plug the other end into the power port on the Surface Dock or other docking station.
2. If you want to use a wired network connection, connect a network cable to the Ethernet port.
3. Connect your computer peripherals to the USB ports.
4. Connect a cable from your monitor to the Mini DisplayPort.
   If your monitor cable doesn’t have a Mini DisplayPort connector, you’ll need to buy another cable or an adapter. For more info on adapters, see [Connect Surface to a TV, monitor, or projector](#).
5. Connect any audio accessories like speakers or headphones. Without external speakers, you may not hear audio when you’re using your Surface. If this is the case, see Troubleshoot Surface Dock to learn how to switch to the built-in speakers on your Surface.

**Connect your Surface to Surface Dock or other docking station**

1. Unplug the Surface power supply and remove any attached accessories from your Surface. You can leave a microSD card in the microSD card slot.

   **Notes**
   
   - If you have a Surface Pro 4, Surface Pro 3, or Surface 3, you can leave anything you may have connected to the Mini DisplayPort.
   - If you're using Surface Pro 4 with the Surface Pro 3 Docking Station, you'll need the Surface Pro 4 Adapter for Surface Pro 3 Docking Station for your Surface to fit properly. See Using Surface Pro 4 with your Surface Pro 3 Docking Station.

2. Do one of the following:
   
   - If you're using Surface Dock, connect your Surface using the cable provided.
   - If you're using a docking station that holds your Surface, slide your Surface down into the docking station and slide the sides of the docking station into the sides of your Surface.

   **Notes**
   
   If you don’t have a Typing Cover attached to your Surface, you’ll need to connect a USB (wired or wireless) or Bluetooth® keyboard before you can start typing.

**Get the latest Surface and Windows updates**
To make sure your Surface is working properly, get the latest updates. For more info, see Install Surface and Windows updates. When updating, make sure your Surface is connected to Surface Dock or another docking station and is getting power.

Notes

For Surface Dock only: If you have trouble updating your Surface Dock, see Update your Surface Dock for Surface Book, Surface Pro 4, and Surface Pro 3.

Set up your monitor

After you’ve connected your Surface and your external monitor to Surface Dock or other docking station, you can choose what to display on each screen. Here’s how:

1. Go to Start and select Settings > System > Display.
2. Under Multiple displays, choose one of the following options:
   - **Duplicate these displays**: Your full screen image appears on two screens.
   - **Extend these displays**: Your full screen image is spread over two screens, and you can drag items between the two screens.
   - **Show only on__**: Your full screen image appears on the selected screen, and the other screen is blank.