

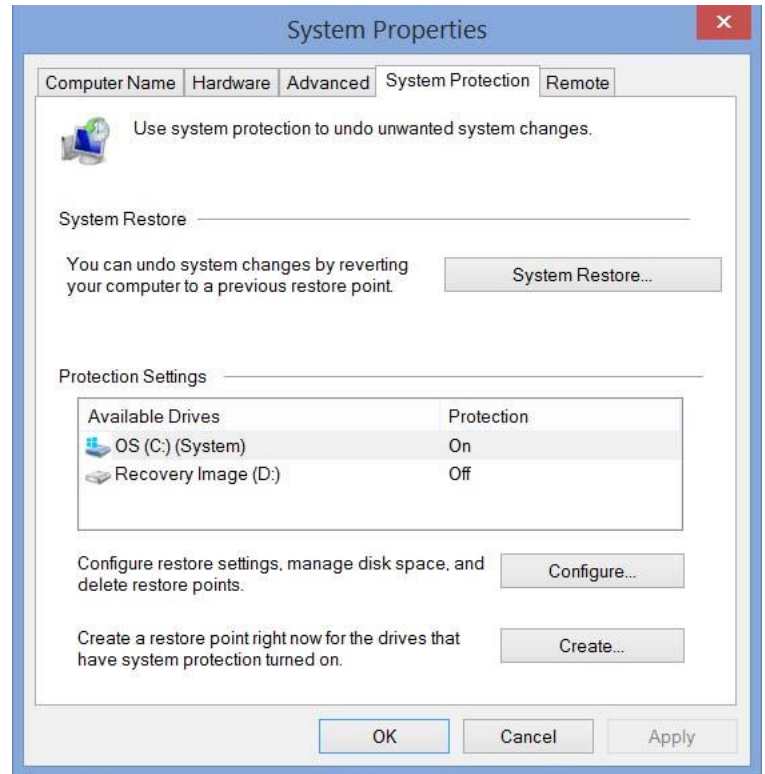
## Using System Restore – Windows 7

Windows 7 includes a utility called System Restore, which allows you to roll your computer back to a point when it was working properly. Restore points are created automatically when changes are made to the system, but you can manually create one whenever you'd like if you intend on making some changes yourself.

**To create a restore point, follow these steps:**

1. Click the start Icon and type “System Restore” in the text box at the bottom of the Start panel
2. Click Create a Restore Point.
3. The System Properties window appears, opened to the System Protection tab which lists options for System Restore. Look for the Create button near the bottom.
4. Click the Create button to fetch the System Protection window.
5. Type a description for your new restore point, and then click the System Protection Create button to save the restore point.

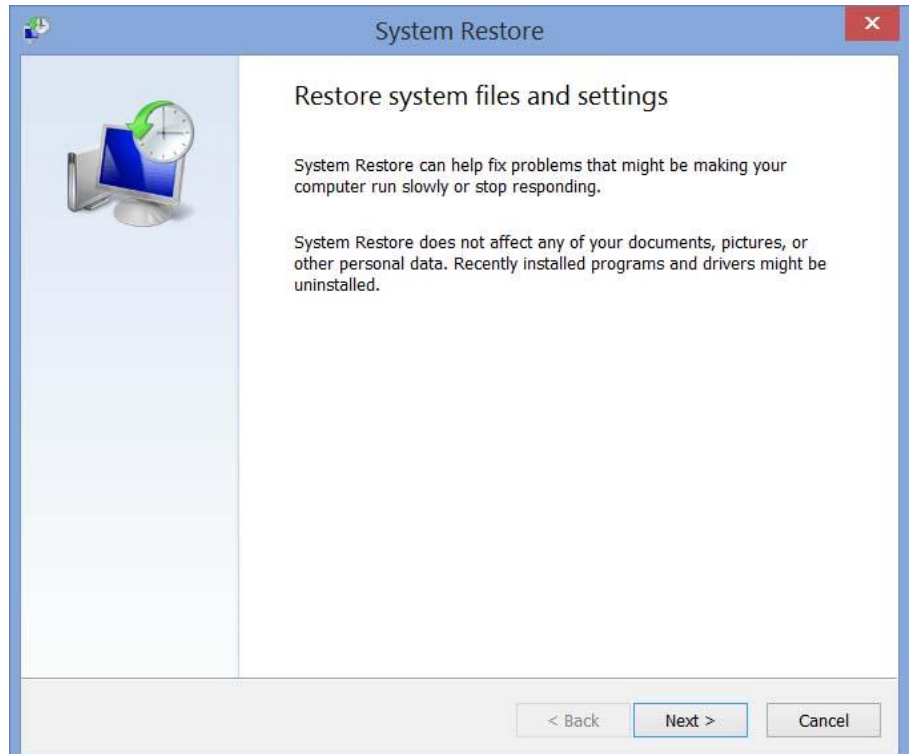
Windows 7 creates a restore point with your description, leaving you some open windows to close.



**To return Windows 7 to a previous state, using System Restore, follow these steps:**

Do steps 1 & 2 as in creating a restore point. Then, when the System Properties window appears, look for the System Restore button and click or tap it to get to the System Restore window.

3. Click the Next button.
4. Click the restore point you want to use from those in the list that now appears.
5. Click the Next button.
6. Confirm the restore point you want to use on the “Confirm your restore point” window and then click the Finish button.
7. Click Yes to the “Once started, System Restore cannot be interrupted. Do you want to continue?” question.



System Restore will now begin returning Windows 7 to the state it was in at the date and time logged with the restore point that you chose in Step 4. You'll see a small System Restore window that says Preparing to restore your system..., after which Windows 7 will almost completely shut down.

Next, on a mostly empty screen, you'll see a Please wait while your Windows files and settings are being restored message. You'll also see various messages appear underneath, like System Restore is initializing..., System Restore is restoring the registry..., and System Restore is removing temporary files.... This will probably take around 15 minutes.

**Important:** What you're sitting through here is the actual System Restore process. **Do not turn off or restart your computer during this time. Wait while your computer restarts.**

8. Sign in to Windows 7 as you normally do and then go to the Desktop.
9. There you should see a small System Restore window that says System Restore completed successfully. The system has been restored to [date time]. Your documents have not been affected...
10. Click the Close button.

Now that the System Restore is complete, check to see that whatever issue you were trying to fix is actually corrected.

If System Restore did not correct the problem, you can either a) repeat the steps above, choosing an even older restore point, assuming one is available, or b) continue troubleshooting the problem.

If this System Restore caused an additional problem, you can undo it. To undo a System Restore in Windows 7, repeat steps 1 through 3 above and choose Undo System Restore.