



Windows 10 – Background Scrolling for Inactive Windows

If you moved to Windows 10 without a lot of fanfare, you may not be aware of a new feature. With more and more of us using dual monitors, we have lots of windows open at the same time. Being able to quickly glance through content without needing to “select it” can be a real timesaver.

Background Scrolling – What is It?

In previous versions of Windows, if you wanted to scroll through an open window that was not the active one, you had to first click into that window to select it. Consider the situation when you’re working on a Word document and want to be able to view a large Excel spreadsheet to view relevant data. By having both windows open, you can maintain the focus on the Word document and easily scroll through the spreadsheet.

Simply hover over an open window (don’t click!) and use the mouse wheel to scroll up or down. As long as you don’t click, the focus will remain on your original window – in this case, the Word document.

Background Scrolling – How to Enable/Disable It

As with many features, there are options that allow for personal preference. While Background Scrolling is turned On by default, some people report accidentally scrolling when positioned over an inactive window and would prefer to turn it Off.

To change the setting:

1. From the Windows Start menu, select **Settings**.
2. Choose **Devices**.
3. Select **Mouse (or Mouse & Touchpad)** from the left-hand pane.
4. Move the *Scroll inactive windows when I hover over them* to the desired position (On or Off).

