

You must have WinZIP Installed or a program that can handle the .zip filename extension! If you do not have WinZip you can download it free here: [[CLICK HERE to Download WinZIP](#)] You will need to "unZIP" the downloaded file before you can use the icons or graphics found on this site.

What is WinZip ?

Winzip is one of many utilities that compress files making them smaller so you don't wait as long for the file to download. If you have a PC and no compression software then WinZIP is recommended. They offer a [free trial version](#).

Okay I have WinZip installed. Now what ?

Once installed WinZip should automatically recognize any ".zip" files on your computer. Simply run WinZip on the files you download. When you unzip them you must specify a folder to UnZip the icon files to. Make sure you REMEMBER where you "unzip to". I usually create a folder on my desktop with a name that's easy to remember.

How do I Change my Windows Desktop Icons ?

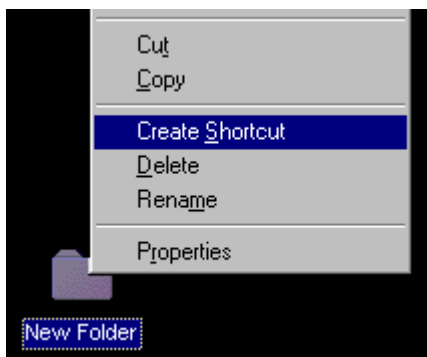
The example below (figure 1) is a portion of my own desktop in Windows. You can see there is "My Computer" , "My Network" , "Recycle Bin" and two folder desktop icons.

Is there any other way besides using software ?

Yes but the end result isn't as nice. It's the "Shortcut Icon" approach. See steps below:

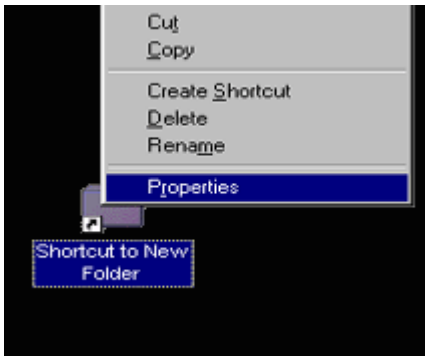
Procedure begins below:

1. Download the icon set you want. I recommend you download the file to someplace like your desktop so the file is easy to find. Then make a new file on your desktop called "new icons" or similar. Decompress/unzip the file to "new icons."
2. Create a new folder on your desktop or find a file that you want to change to one of the new icons.
3. Right click on the folder you have selected and choose "Create Shortcut." For this example we created a shortcut appearing on our desktop.



4. Once you have created a shortcut locate it on your desktop and then right click on it to get the

"Properties" option and go ahead and select properties.



5. Selecting the Properties option will bring you to another dialogue window where you can click on "Change Icon." After selecting Change Icon another window will appear showing numerous system icons you can choose from. Since your icons reside in another location (the file was placed on your desktop in this example) you need to "browse" and locate the file containing the icons.



6. The rest is pretty simple: click on your desired icon (you should see the filename at the bottom of the window for the icon you have selected), then click on "open." At this point another window should open confirming your selected icon. Click on "okay" and new icon you have chosen should show. Since the original folder and the shortcut folder both reside on your desktop (in this example) you may want to hide the original folder someplace safe so you don't have too much redundancy. After all, why would you have a shortcut to something that is already right there on your desktop.



This describes how to customize the appearance of your desktop by changing the icon size on the desktop. [[back to top](#)]

- Microsoft Windows XP 64-Bit Edition
- Microsoft Windows XP Home Edition
- Microsoft Windows XP Professional

Details...

In **Windows XP**, you can personalize the look and feel of your desktop by changing the size of **icons**.

To change **SIZE** follow these steps:

1. > Right-click an empty area of your desktop, and then click **Properties**.
2. > Click the **Appearance** tab, and then click **Advanced**.
3. > In the **Item** list or in the preview window, click the Window element that you want to change. You can select from any of the following items:

- 3D Objects
- Active Title Bar
- Active Window Border
- Application Background
- Caption Buttons
- Desktop
- Icon**
- Icon Spacing (Horizontal)
- Icon Spacing (Vertical)
- Inactive Title Bar
- Inactive Window Border
- Menu
- Message Box
- Palette Title
- Selected Items
- ToolTip
- Window

4. Do any of following to achieve the look that you want:
 - Under **Item**:
 - In the **Size** box, specify the size that you want to use for the item.

When you are finished making the changes that you want, click **OK** twice to save your settings.