

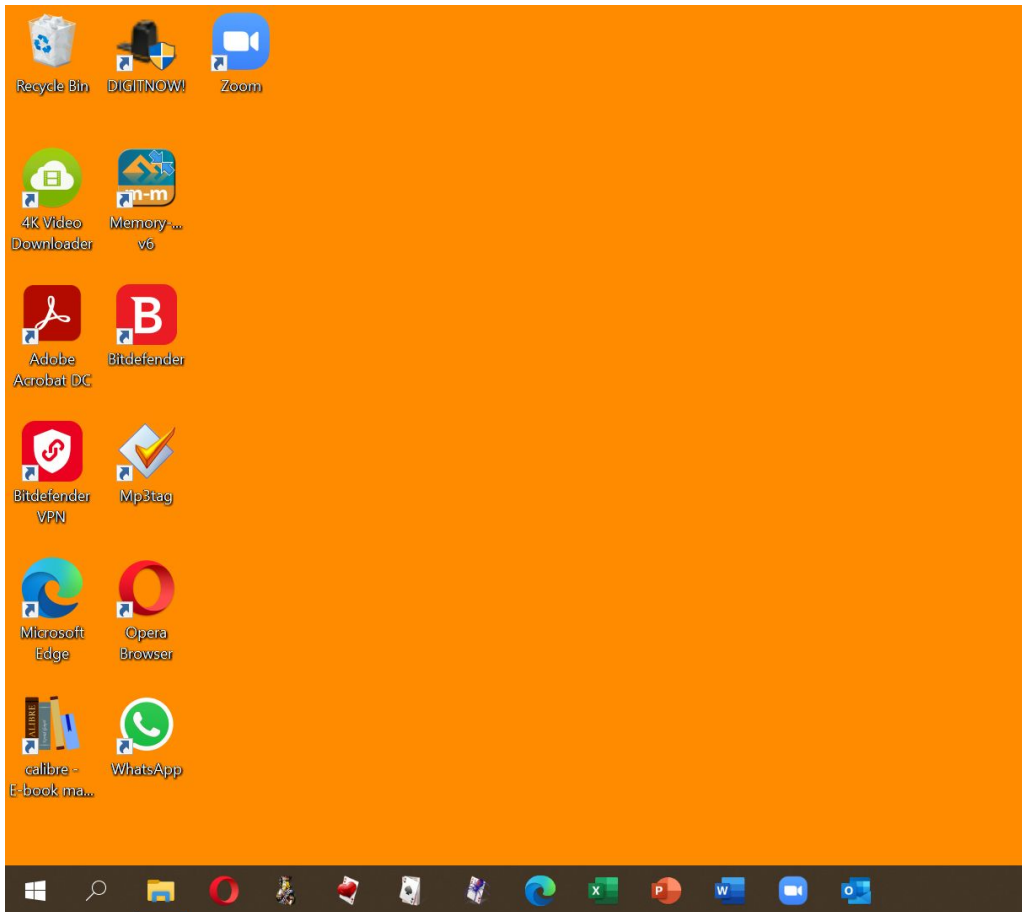


Higham and Rushden

Registered Charity Number 1164952

Uninstalling programs

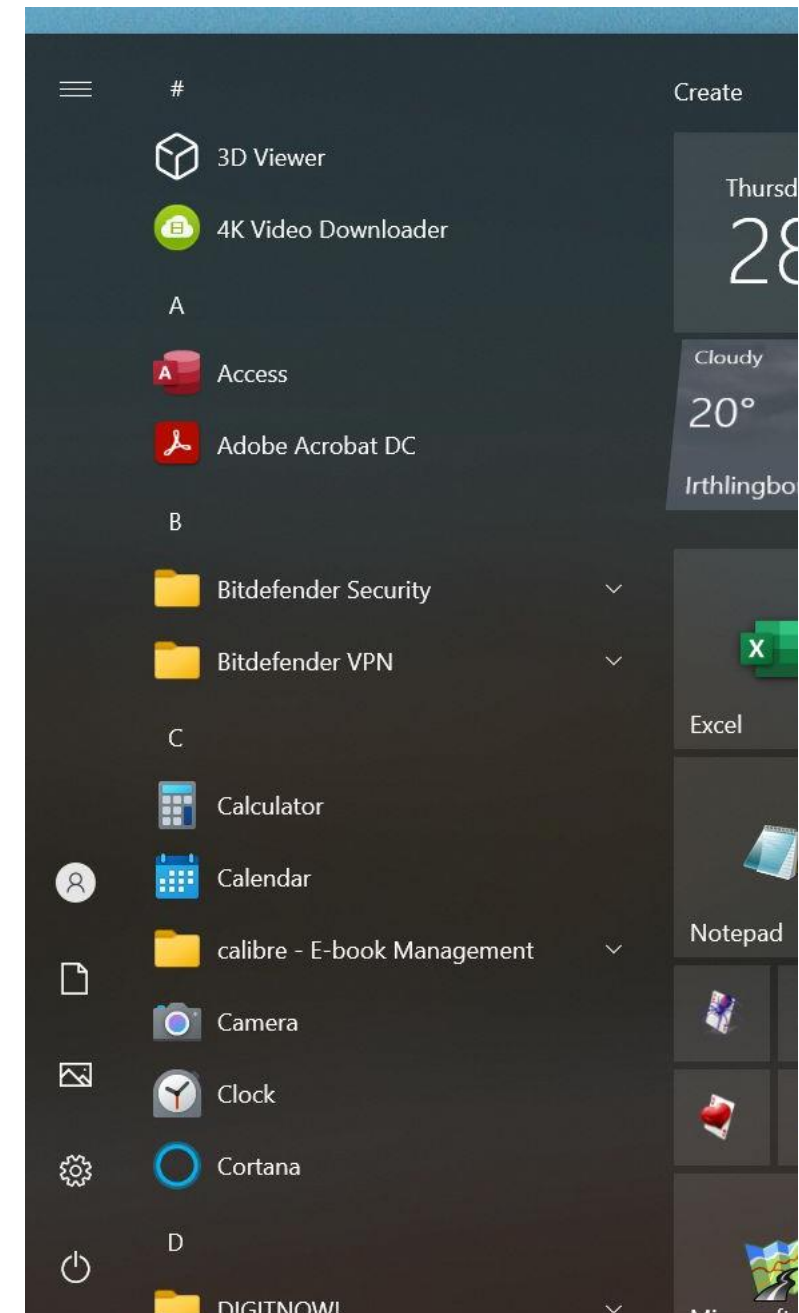
The longer you have your computer, and the more varied tasks you attempt with it, the more applications (programs) you are likely to have installed. Many programs install a shortcut on the desktop, which can become a lot more cluttered than this example! If there are no icons on your desktop it is likely that you have changed your settings to hide the icons, rather than that nothing has been installed.



It is important to note that icons on the desktop are only shortcuts to the actual programs, and deleting the shortcut does not remove the program.

Clicking on the Start button will open a screen like this one where all installed programs are listed alphanumerically in the left-hand column.

Folder icons with a down arrow can be expanded to show the actual contents: in some cases these are different programs which can be installed and uninstalled separately.



Before deciding whether to uninstall a program it is a very good idea to do the following:

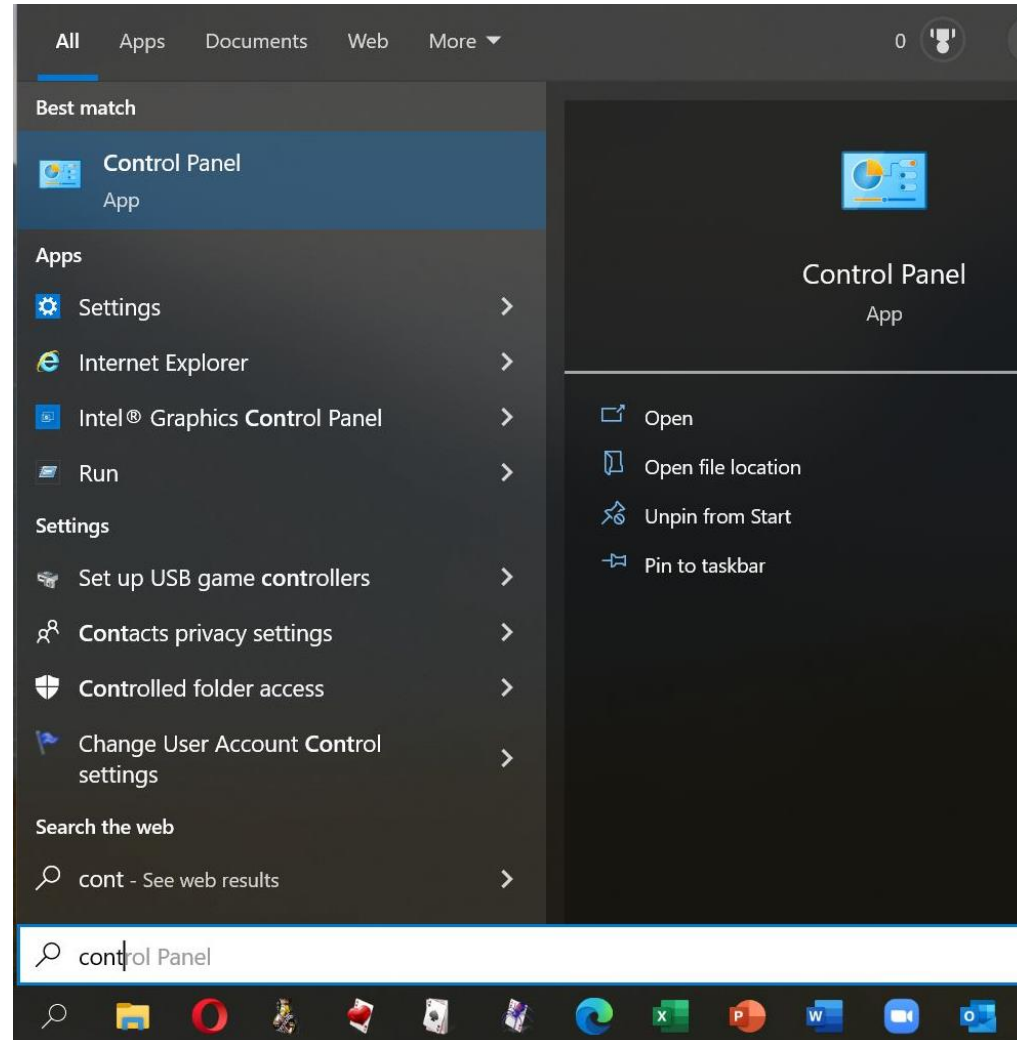
- Ensure you know what the program actually does. Rather than simply opening the program it is probably safer to do an internet search for the name of the program and look at both the manufacturer's website and any other useful site such as Wikipedia.
- You can also visit <https://www.shouldiremoveit.com/> or similar sites to see if anyone has had issues with the program or if removal would adversely impact other programs or Windows itself.
- If it is a program which you have purchased, try to locate (and store in a safe place) the email giving details of the purchase in case you decide to reinstall at a later date.

Many programs are installed by computer manufacturers as trial versions in the hope that you will buy the full version. These are referred to as “bloatware”.

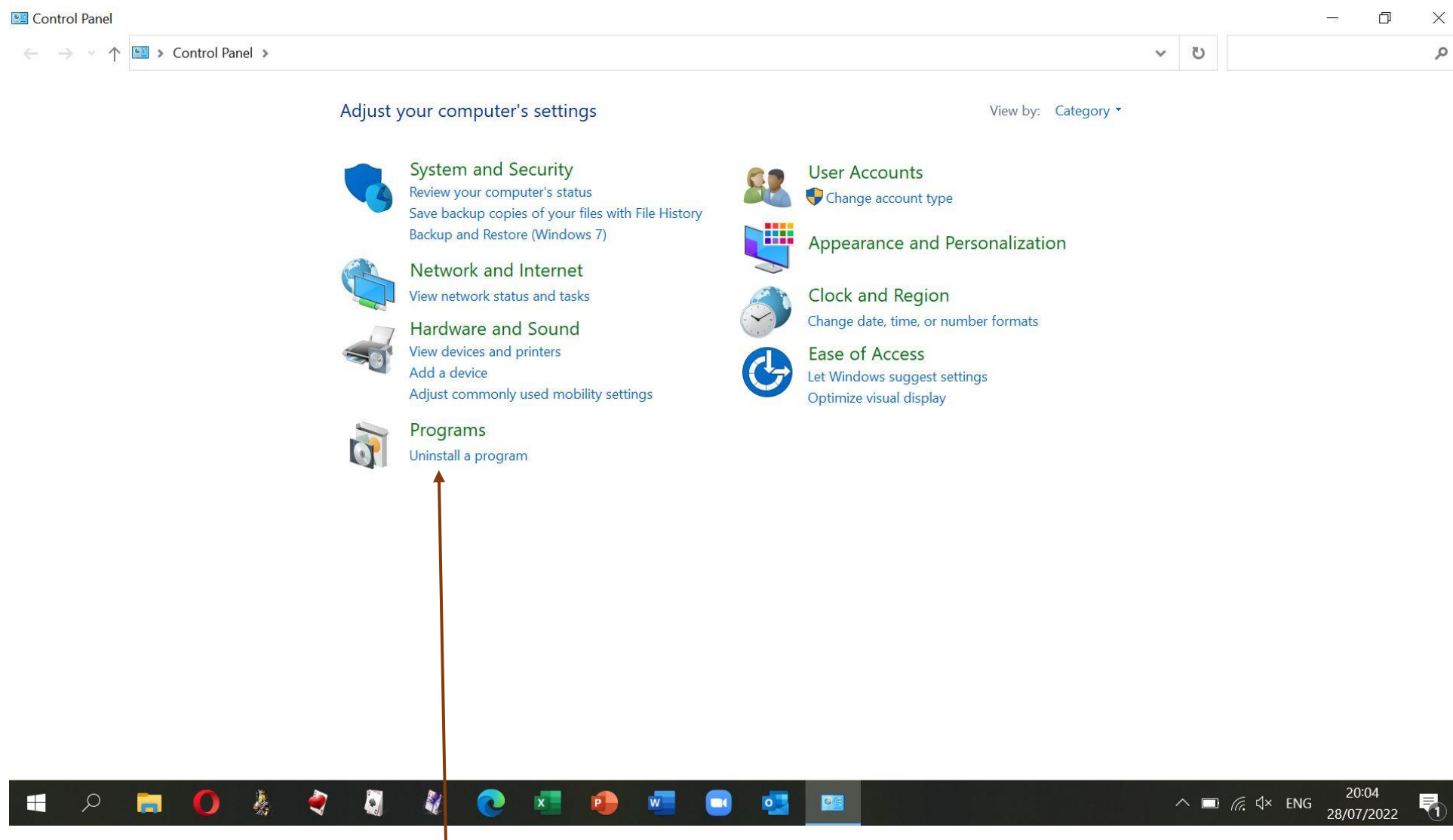
There are also many extras installed with Windows (like some games, Xbox, OneDrive) that many people do not want. The majority are not intrusive and do not take up too much space on your computer so can safely be left if you are worried about removing them or if space on your hard drive is not a problem.

Depending on how they were installed, different programs can be uninstalled in different ways. There is one method, however, which works in 99.9% of cases and that is the one we will look at now.

We need to open a part of Windows called the Control Panel. If you click on search (next to the Start button) and start typing “Control” Windows will suggest Control Panel very quickly.



When you click on Control Panel it will open like this:



You can now click on “Uninstall a program” in the Programs section.

The screen below will open, listing all the installed programs.

Programs and Features

Control Panel Home

View installed updates

Turn Windows features on or off

Uninstall or change a program

To uninstall a program, select it from the list and then click Uninstall, Change, or Repair.

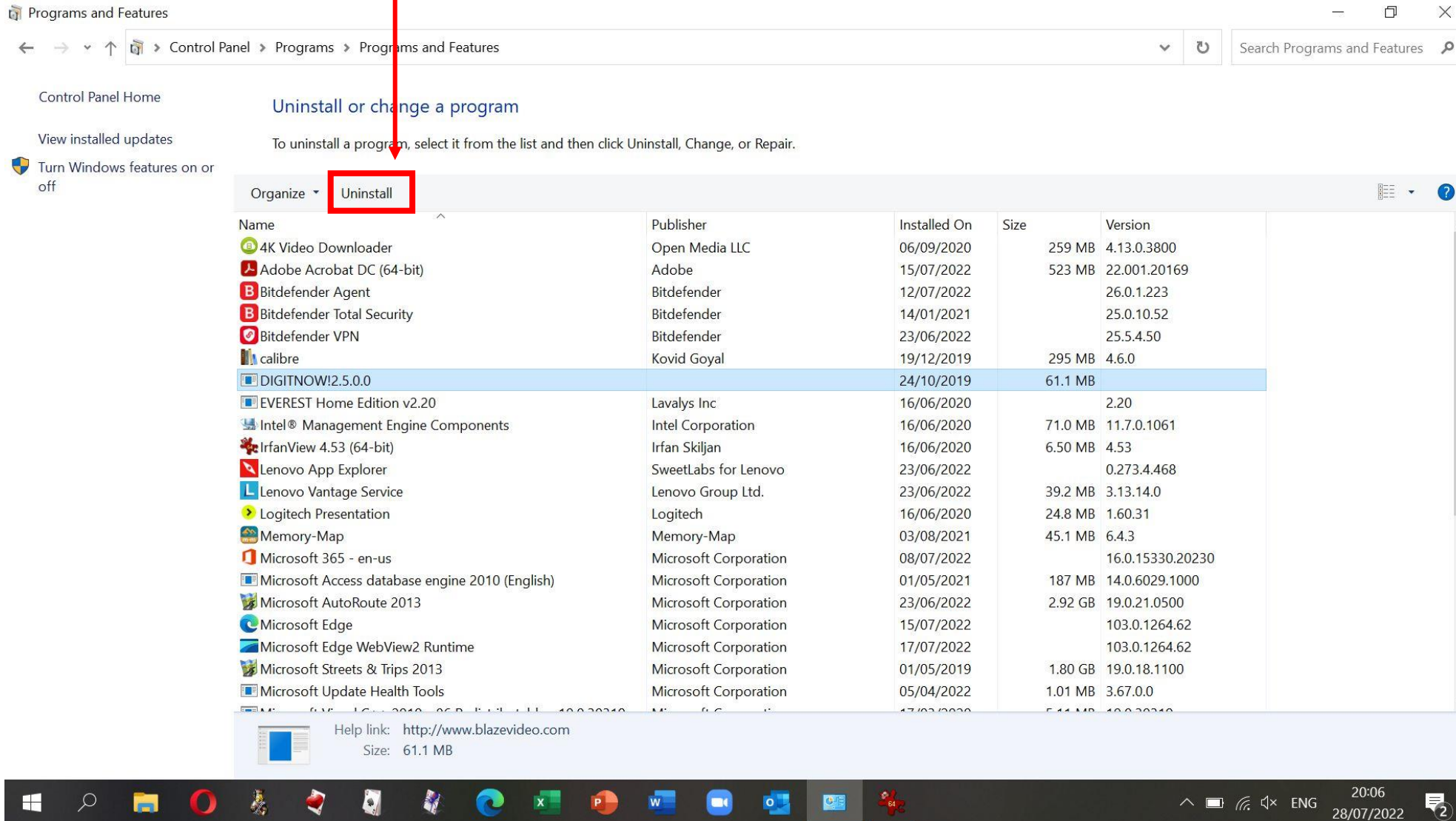
Organize

Name	Publisher	Installed On	Size	Version
4K Video Downloader	Open Media LLC	06/09/2020	259 MB	4.13.0.3800
Adobe Acrobat DC (64-bit)	Adobe	15/07/2022	523 MB	22.001.20169
Bitdefender Agent	Bitdefender	12/07/2022		26.0.1.223
Bitdefender Total Security	Bitdefender	14/01/2021		25.0.10.52
Bitdefender VPN	Bitdefender	23/06/2022		25.5.4.50
calibre	Kovid Goyal	19/12/2019	295 MB	4.6.0
DIGITNOW!2.5.0.0		24/10/2019	61.1 MB	
EVEREST Home Edition v2.20	Lavalys Inc	16/06/2020		2.20
Intel® Management Engine Components	Intel Corporation	16/06/2020	71.0 MB	11.7.0.1061
IrfanView 4.53 (64-bit)	Irfan Skiljan	16/06/2020	6.50 MB	4.53
Lenovo App Explorer	SweetLabs for Lenovo	23/06/2022		0.273.4.468
Lenovo Vantage Service	Lenovo Group Ltd.	23/06/2022	39.2 MB	3.13.14.0
Logitech Presentation	Logitech	16/06/2020	24.8 MB	1.60.31
Memory-Map	Memory-Map	03/08/2021	45.1 MB	6.4.3
Microsoft 365 - en-us	Microsoft Corporation	08/07/2022		16.0.15330.20230
Microsoft Access database engine 2010 (English)	Microsoft Corporation	01/05/2021	187 MB	14.0.6029.1000
Microsoft AutoRoute 2013	Microsoft Corporation	23/06/2022	2.92 GB	19.0.21.0500
Microsoft Edge	Microsoft Corporation	15/07/2022		103.0.1264.62
Microsoft Edge WebView2 Runtime	Microsoft Corporation	17/07/2022		103.0.1264.62
Microsoft Streets & Trips 2013	Microsoft Corporation	01/05/2019	1.80 GB	19.0.18.1100
Microsoft Update Health Tools	Microsoft Corporation	05/04/2022	1.01 MB	3.67.0.0

Currently installed programs Total size: 6.44 GB
34 programs installed

20:05
28/07/2022

When you highlight a program by clicking on it in the list in the window, the option to Uninstall will appear in the list header. For some programs “Change” and “Repair” are also available.



The screenshot shows the Windows 'Programs and Features' window. The title bar reads 'Programs and Features'. The breadcrumb navigation shows 'Control Panel > Programs > Programs and Features'. The left sidebar contains 'Control Panel Home', 'View installed updates', and 'Turn Windows features on or off'. The main area is titled 'Uninstall or change a program' with a subtitle 'To uninstall a program, select it from the list and then click Uninstall, Change, or Repair.' Below this is a table of installed programs. The 'Uninstall' button in the table's header is highlighted with a red box. A red arrow points from the text above to this button. The table lists various programs including 4K Video Downloader, Adobe Acrobat DC, Bitdefender Agent, Bitdefender Total Security, Bitdefender VPN, calibre, DIGITNOW!2.5.0.0, EVEREST Home Edition v2.20, Intel® Management Engine Components, IrfanView 4.53, Lenovo App Explorer, Lenovo Vantage Service, Logitech Presentation, Memory-Map, Microsoft 365 - en-us, Microsoft Access database engine 2010 (English), Microsoft AutoRoute 2013, Microsoft Edge, Microsoft Edge WebView2 Runtime, Microsoft Streets & Trips 2013, and Microsoft Update Health Tools. A tooltip for 'DIGITNOW!2.5.0.0' is visible at the bottom, showing a help link and size.

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When you click on “Uninstall” you will often get a message checking that you are sure.

You may have noticed a link saying “Turn Windows features on or off”. The screen to the right shows which background features are covered by this, but you will be very unlucky indeed if you ever need to tweak these settings.

