Changing the Mouse and Text Cursor in Windows 7

Mada Assistive Technology Center
Tel: 00 974 44594050
Fax: 00 974 44594051
Email: info@mada.org.qa
Changing the mouse and text cursor in Windows 7

Introduction
Some people find the standard mouse cursor too small to see on screen and can have trouble finding it. There are several ways to make it easier to see and use. Most of these changes are made in the mouse properties in the Control Panel.

To use the links below hold down the Control key and click on one or press the PageDown key to see the topics

- Enlarge the Mouse Pointer using the mouse
- Enlarge the Mouse Pointer using the keyboard
- Enlarge the Mouse Pointer using the Ease of Access Centre
- Help with finding the Mouse Pointer
- Make the text cursor bigger
- Free large coloured Cursors
- Free cartoon character mouse pointer - MM Follow
- How computer adjustments affect other users of a shared computer

Note:
- Instructions for mouse users have black bullet points
- Instructions for keyboard users have arrow shaped bullet points

To get to the Mouse properties in the Control Panel

- Click on the Start menu
  Or
  ➢ Press the Windows key
- Click on the Control Panel in the Start menu
  Or
  ➢ Type Control Panel into the search box at the bottom of the Start menu and press Enter
Changing the mouse and text cursor in Windows 7

In the Control Panel

- If you do not see the mouse icon you are in Category view, change this by left clicking on View by Category (top left) and choose large icons.
  
  Or
  
  - Press *Shift* and *Tab* to highlight View by category
  - Then press *Spacebar* and then the *down cursor key* to Large icons and press *Enter*

- Then double click on the Mouse Icon
  
  Or
  
  - Press M and then the *cursor keys* to get to the mouse icon and press *Enter*
Changing the mouse and text cursor in Windows 7

Enlarge the Mouse Pointer using the mouse

Open the mouse properties icon in the control panel, see instructions above.

- You will see the mouse pointers menu
- Click on the Pointers Tab
- Or
  - Press Control and Tab to get to the Pointers Tab

- Underneath "Scheme" is a drop down box which contains different mouse pointers.
- Click on this box and pick one of the Large, Extra Large or Inverted schemes.
- Click on Apply
- Or
  - Press Tab to get to the Scheme Dialogue box and press the down cursor key to choose a Large, Extra Large or Inverted scheme.
  - Then Tab to the Apply button and press Enter

Enlarge the Mouse Pointer using the Ease of Access Centre

- Go to the control panel, see instructions on Page 1
- Once in the control panel Double click on the Ease of Access centre
- Or
  - Press the windows key and U
Changing the mouse and text cursor in Windows 7

- Click on Make your mouse easier to use
  Or
  - *Tab* to Make your mouse easier to use and press *Enter*

- Click on a scheme you like
  - Click on Apply
  Or
  - *Tab* to Mouse Pointers then use the *cursor keys* to choose a scheme
  - *Tab* to the Enter button and press *Enter*

**Pointer Trails in Windows**
You can make the mouse pointer more visible by adding pointer trails.

**To do this:**
- Go to the mouse properties see instructions on Page 1
- Click on the Pointer Options Tab
- Click on the Mouse Trails box
- Click Apply
  Or
  - Go to the mouse properties see instructions on Page 1
  - Press *Control* and *Tab* to get to Pointer Options Tab
  - *Tab* to the Mouse Trails box and press the *Spacebar*
  - *Tab* to the Apply button and press *Enter*
Changing the mouse and text cursor in Windows 7

Help with finding the Mouse Pointer
If you lose the mouse on screen, turning on Control key location helps you find it.

To do this
- Follow instructions on Page 1 to go to the mouse properties
- Click on the Pointer Options Tab
- Click on the box next to Show location of the pointer
- Click Apply

Or
- Follow instructions on Page 1 to go to the mouse properties
- Press Control and Tab to get to Pointer Options
- Tab to the Show location box and press the Spacebar
- Tab to Apply and press Enter

Press the Control key and see what happens

Make the text cursor bigger
When typing it can be very hard to find the text cursor on screen, the small vertical line that shows you where you are typing, however you can make it larger to make it easier to see

To do this
- Go to the control panel, see instructions on Page 1 and click on the Ease of Access centre
- Click on Make the computer easier to see

Or
- Press the windows key and U
- Tab to Make the computer easier to see
- Press Enter
Changing the mouse and text cursor in Windows 7

In the Make the computer easier to see screen

- Left click on Make the focus rectangle thicker to insert a √
- Choose the thickness you want
- Click Apply

Or

- Tab to Make the focus rectangle thicker and press the Spacebar to insert a √
- Tab to the Set Thickness Box and press the down cursor key to choose a size
- Tab to Apply and press Enter

Free Resources

Chunky Cursors
For children and people with visual difficulties adding a large coloured cursor can be really helpful. You can download coloured cursors from [add link]

Download the zip file and extract into the Windows/Cursors folder and then you can choose the cursor you like.
Changing the mouse and text cursor in Windows 7

**MM Follow**

MM Follow adds a cartoon character to the mouse cursor. It is easy to find the mouse cursor and obviously adds a little fun to using the computer.

In use, the application adds an icon to the Windows Taskbar area, right click on this icon, you can change the character.

**How computer adjustments affect other users of a shared computer**

- Any changes made may affect other people who use the computer, especially if there is no log on screen.
- Please tell other people what you have changed so they understand what is happening.
- If you have your own computer logon, changes will just affect your computer use.
- Please see the Information Sheet on Themes and User Profiles in Windows 7 on setting up the computer for different users.

“This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/).”
“This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License. We request attribution to Mada and all other authors of original materials is retained”