

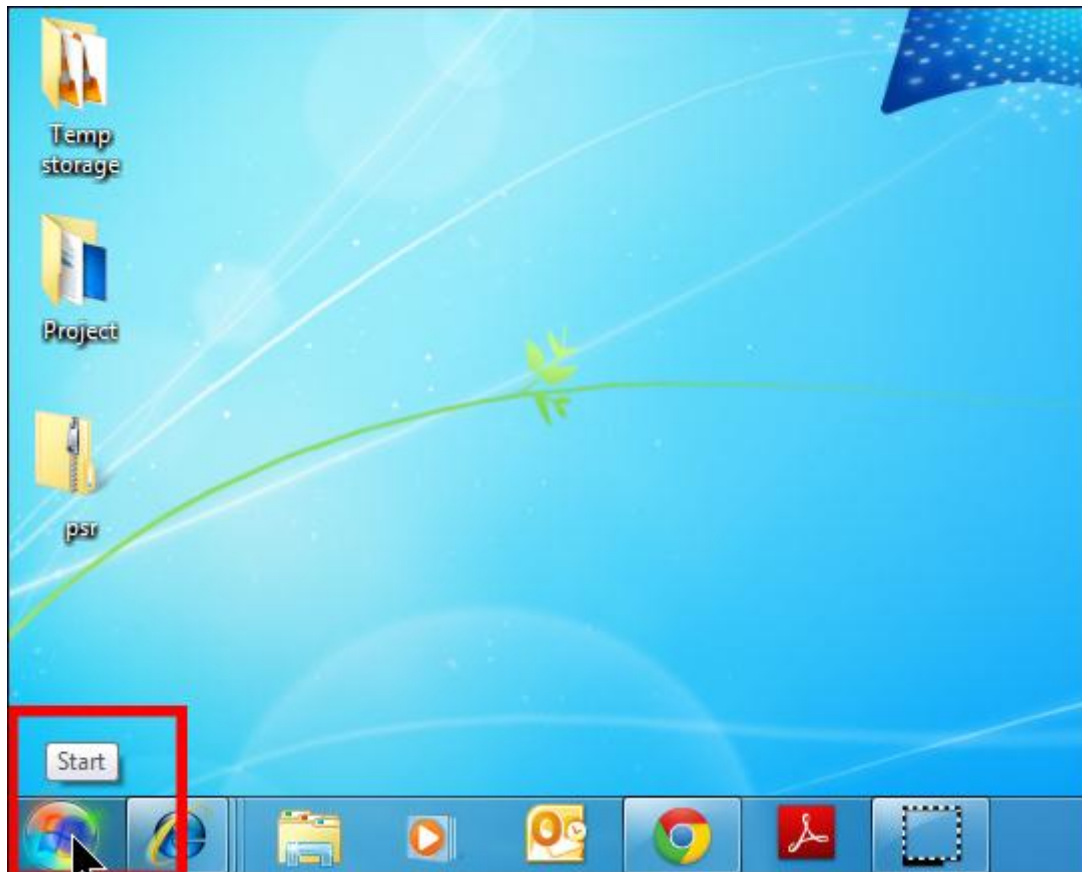
PC Powersave

How to select the Power Saver plan in Windows 7

A graphical illustration of the method to select the Power Saver setting in Windows 7.

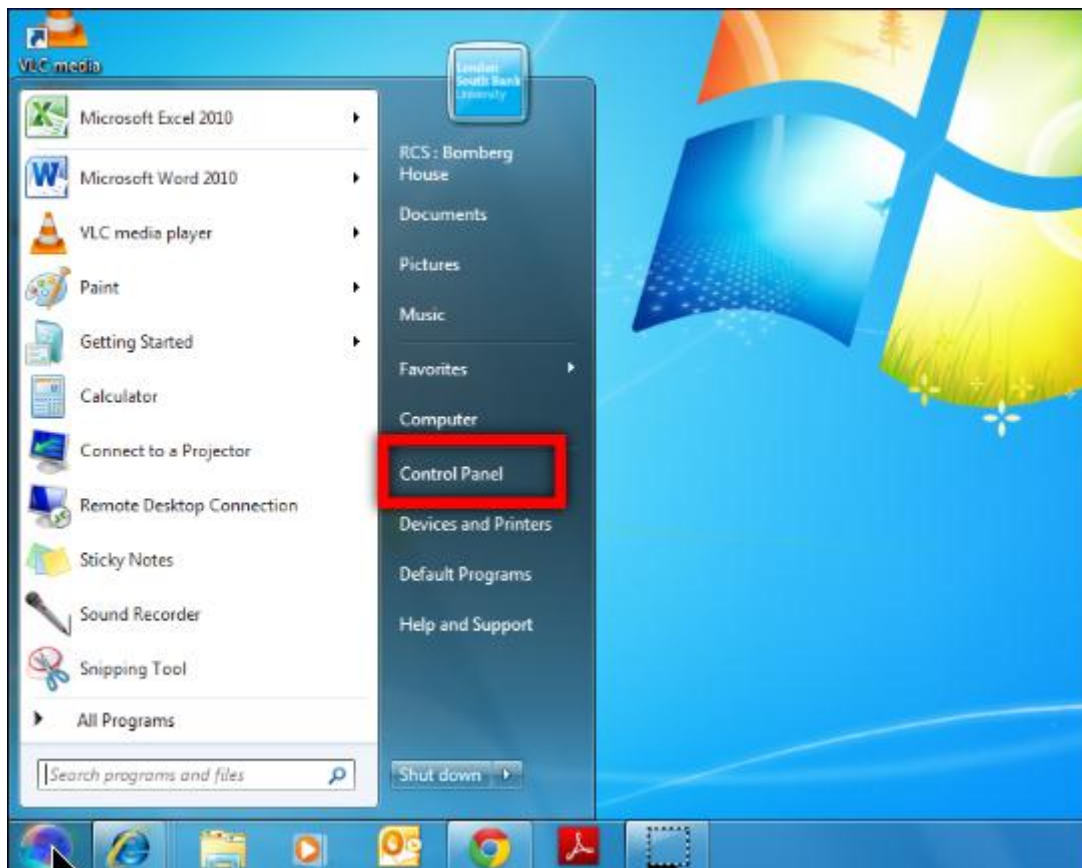
Created by Michael Jones

1. Start



Click on the Start button in the bottom-left corner to open the Start menu.

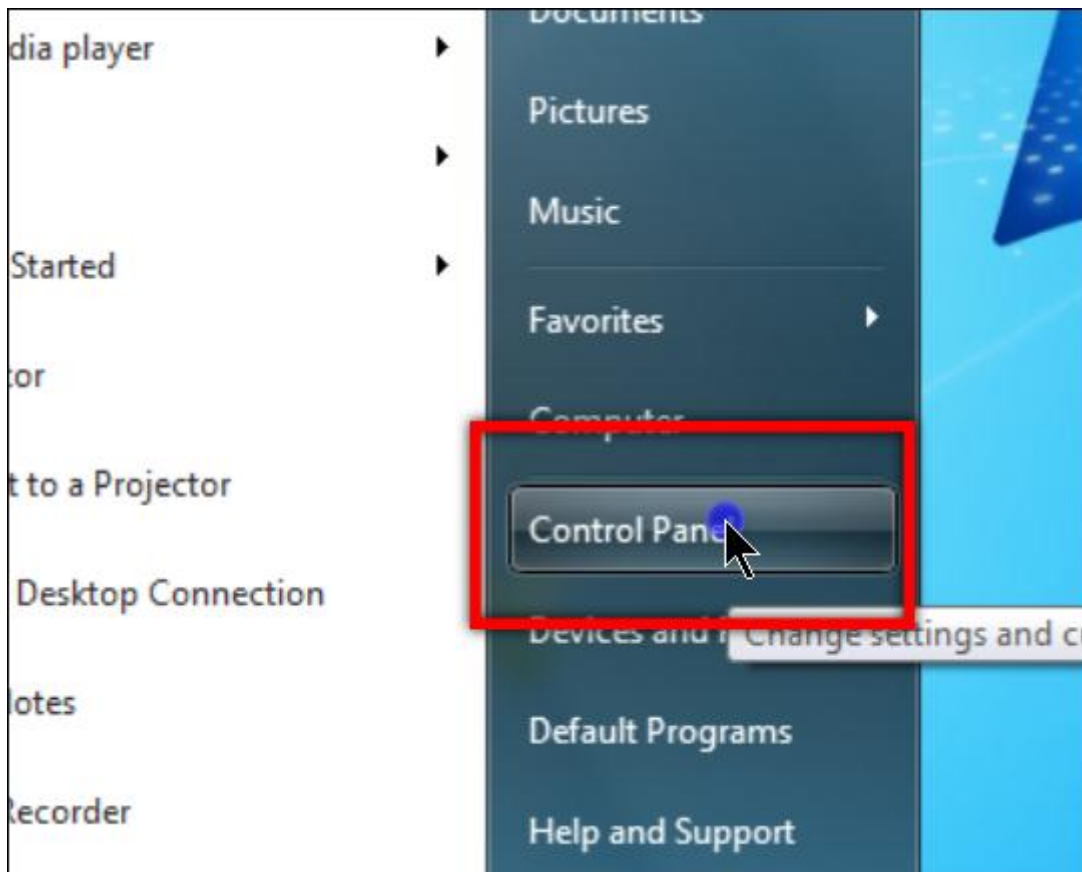
2. Start menu



The Start menu will open.

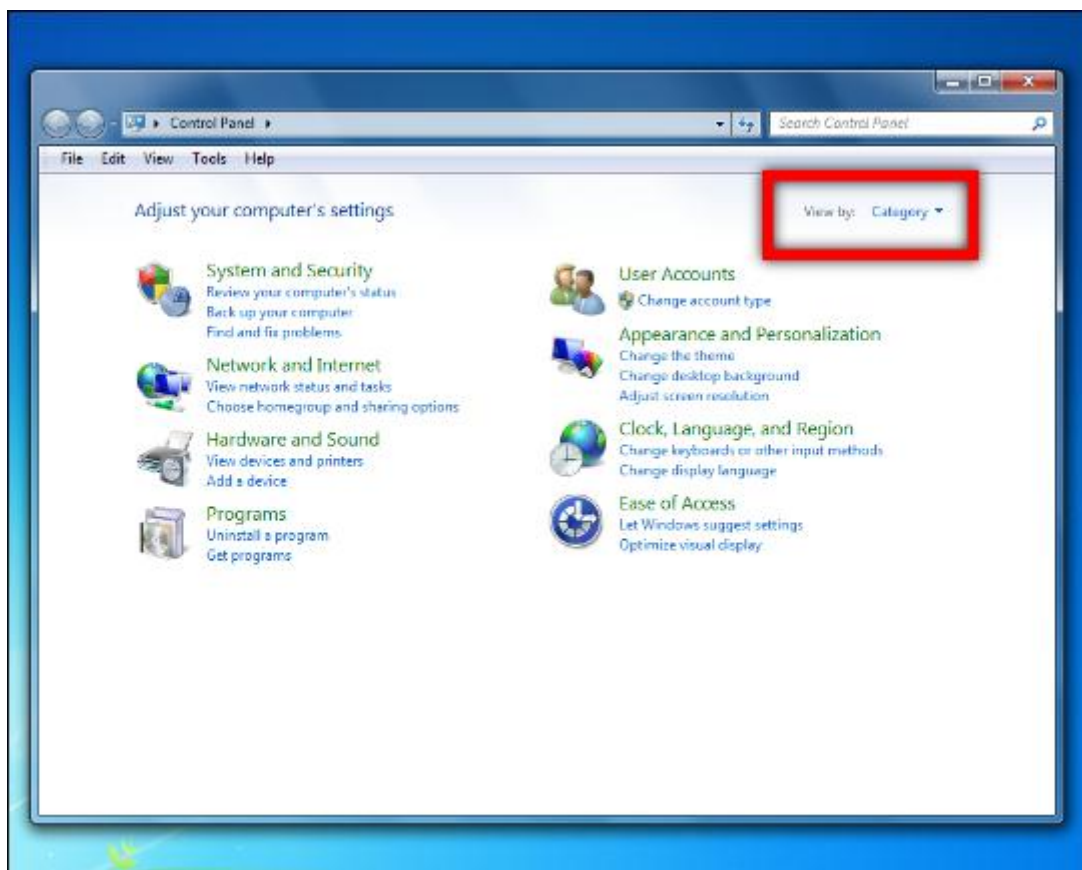
You will see 'Control Panel' in the right-hand column.

3. Select 'Control Panel'



Click on 'Control Panel'.

4. Control Panel

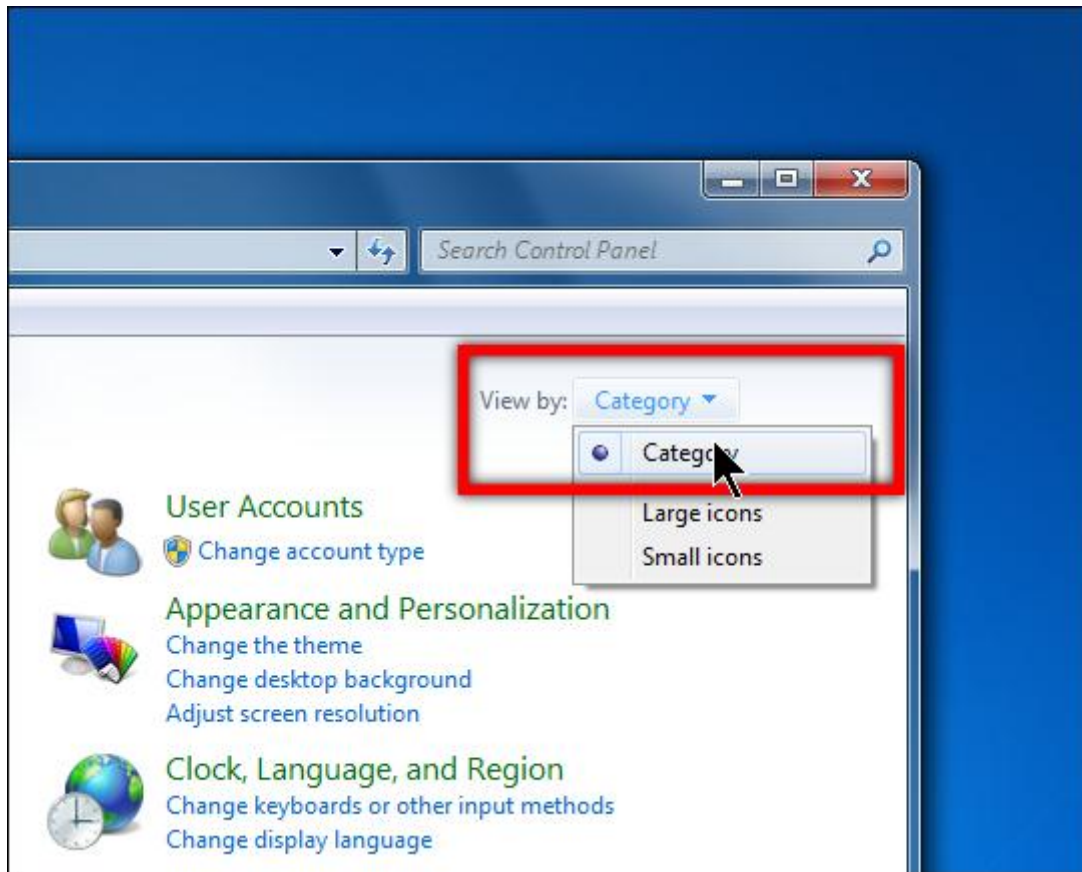


The Control Panel will open up.

Check the View status in the upper-left.

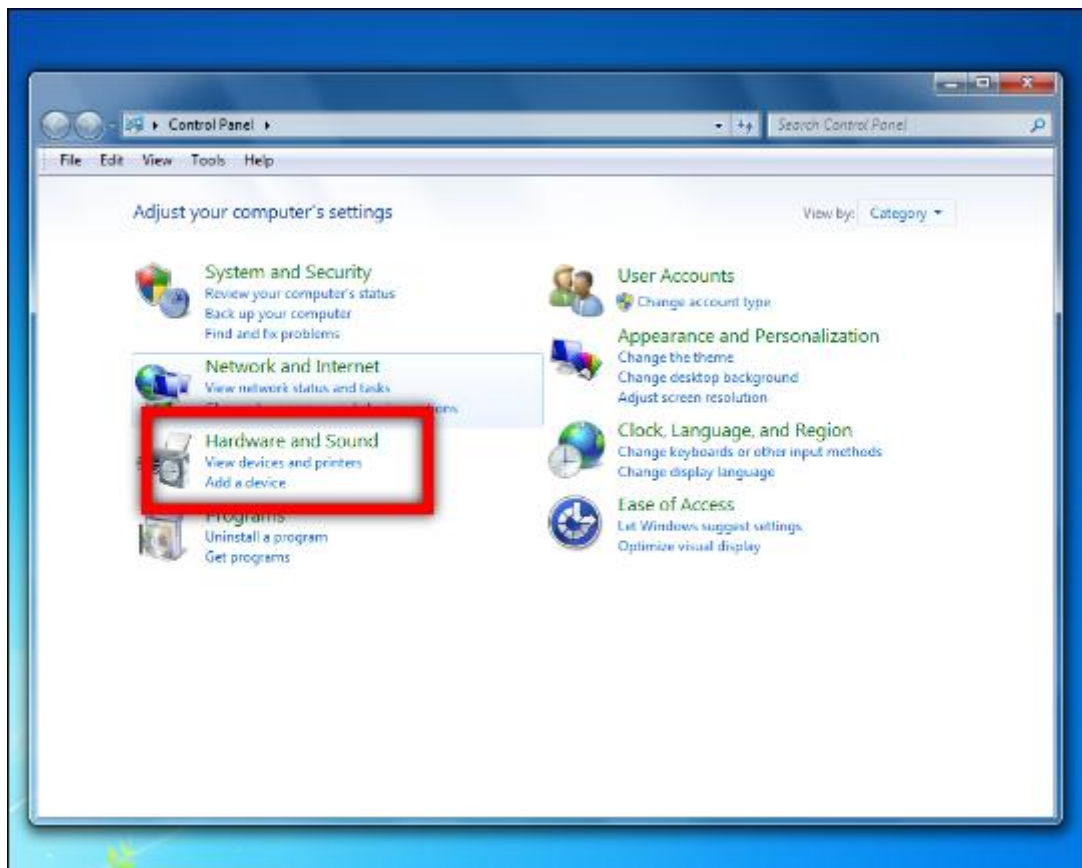
For this tutorial, we want it set to 'Category'.

5. Category



If View is not set to 'Category'. click the drop down arrow and select "Category."

6. Hardware and Sound



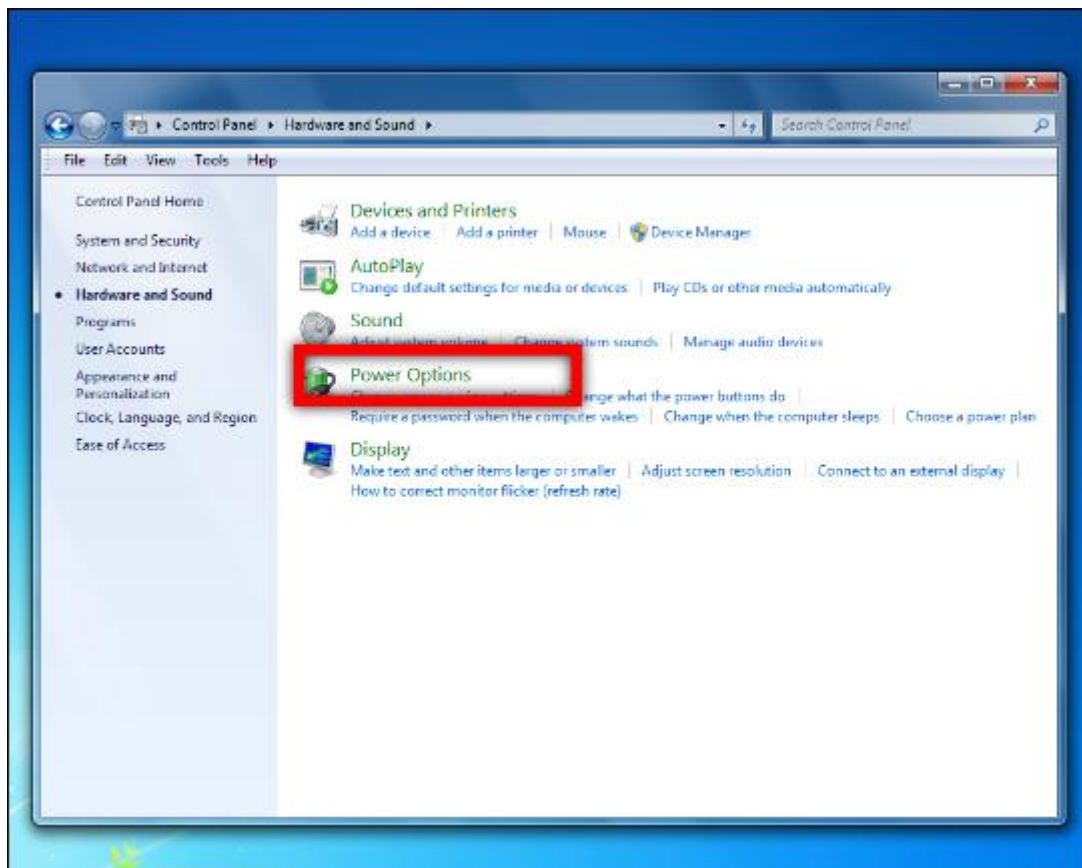
In the Control Panel, look for 'Hardware and Sound'.

7. Select 'Hardware and Sound'



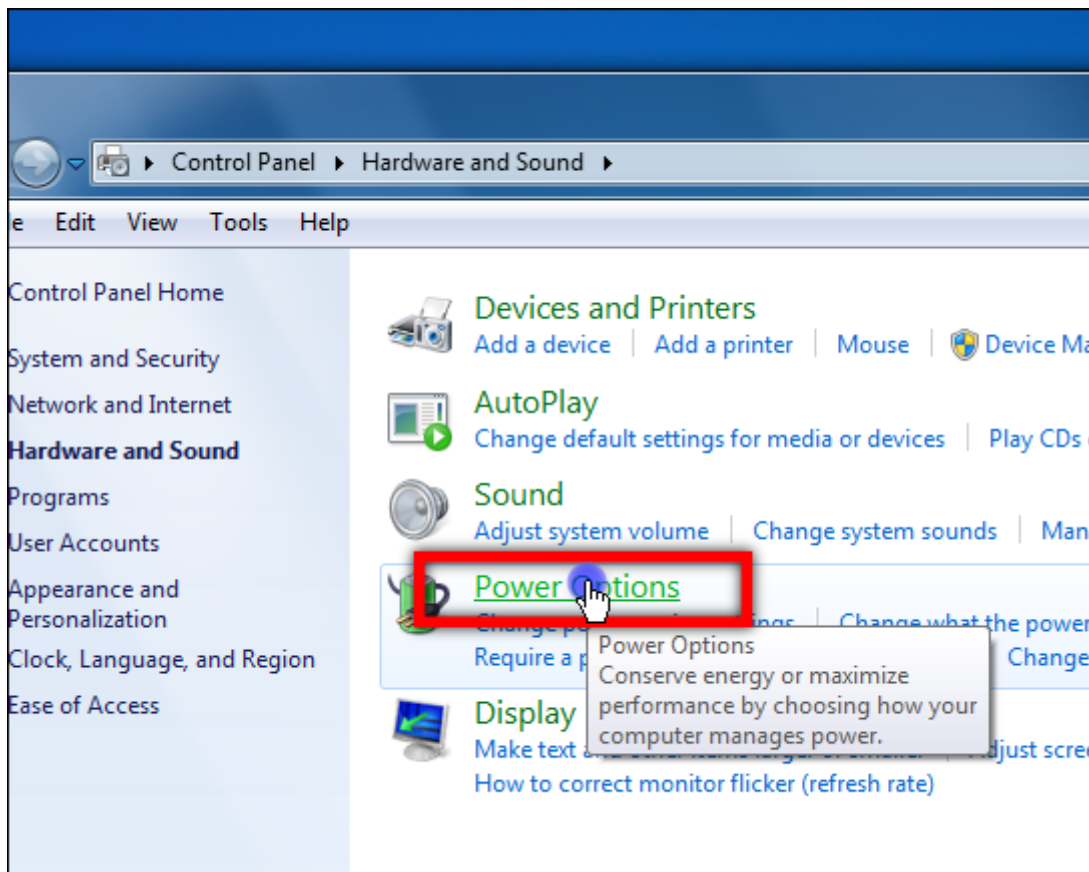
Click on the green 'Hardware and Sound' link.

8. Power Options



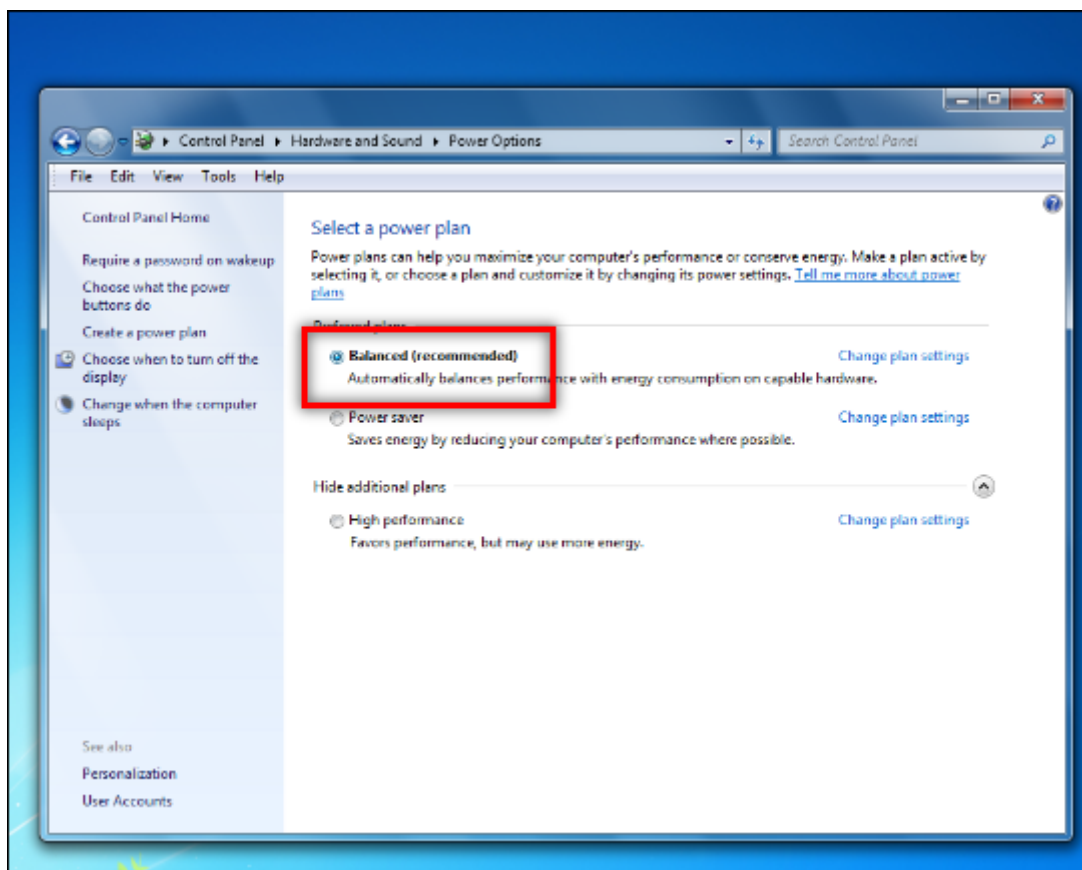
In the Hardware and Sound panel, look for 'Power Options'.

9. Select 'Power Options'



Click on the green 'Power Options' link.

10. Power Options

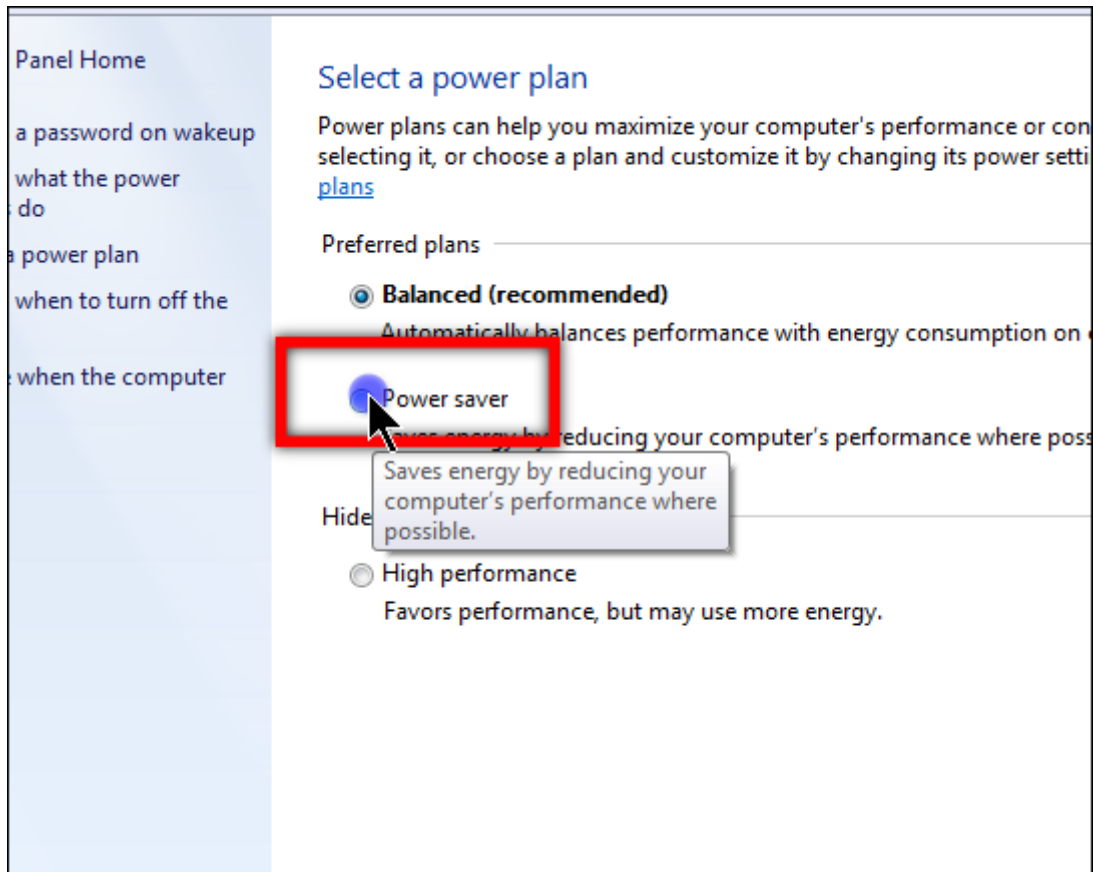


The Power Options panel will open up.

Here we can select you can select your preferred plan.

'Balanced' is probably already selected, but you probably want to change that to 'Power Saver'.

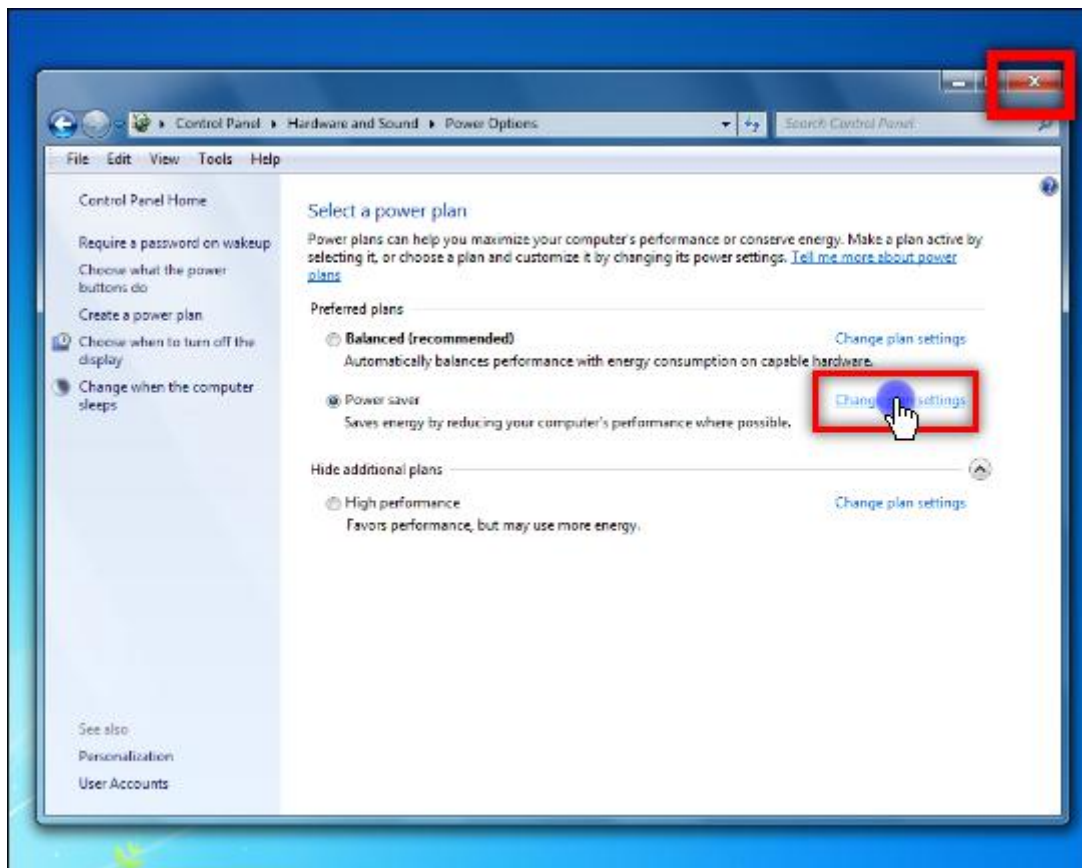
11. Power Saver



If it is not already selected, click on the **Power Saver** button.

This will change your Power Plan from 'Balanced' to 'Power saver'.

12. Plan settings

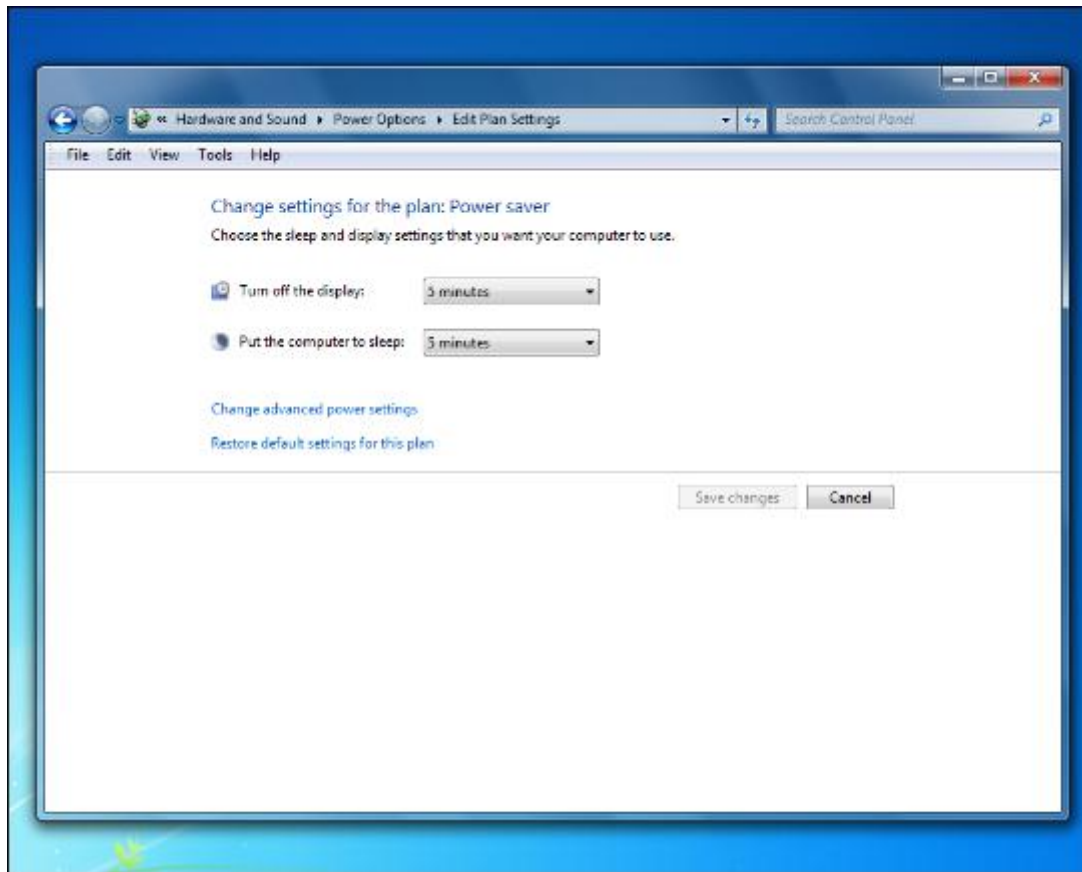


By selecting 'Power Saver', you have changed your Power plan, and you do not need to do anything else.

Just close the Control Panel window by clicking the red 'x' close button in the top-right.

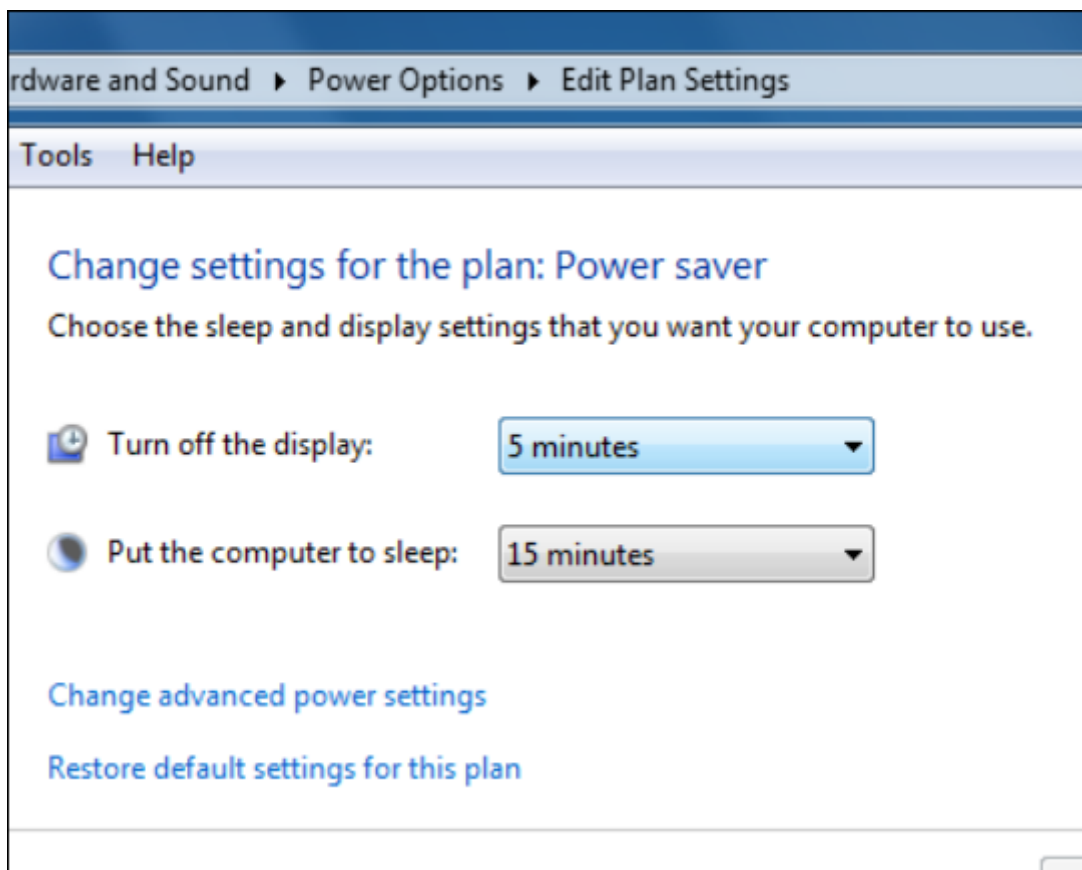
However, if you wish, you can look at the settings for the Power Saver plan (and make adjustments to it) by clicking 'Change plan settings' on the right.

13. Edit Plan Settings



The 'Edit Plan Settings' panel lets you change the settings for your selected plan.

14. Edit Plan Settings: Power saver



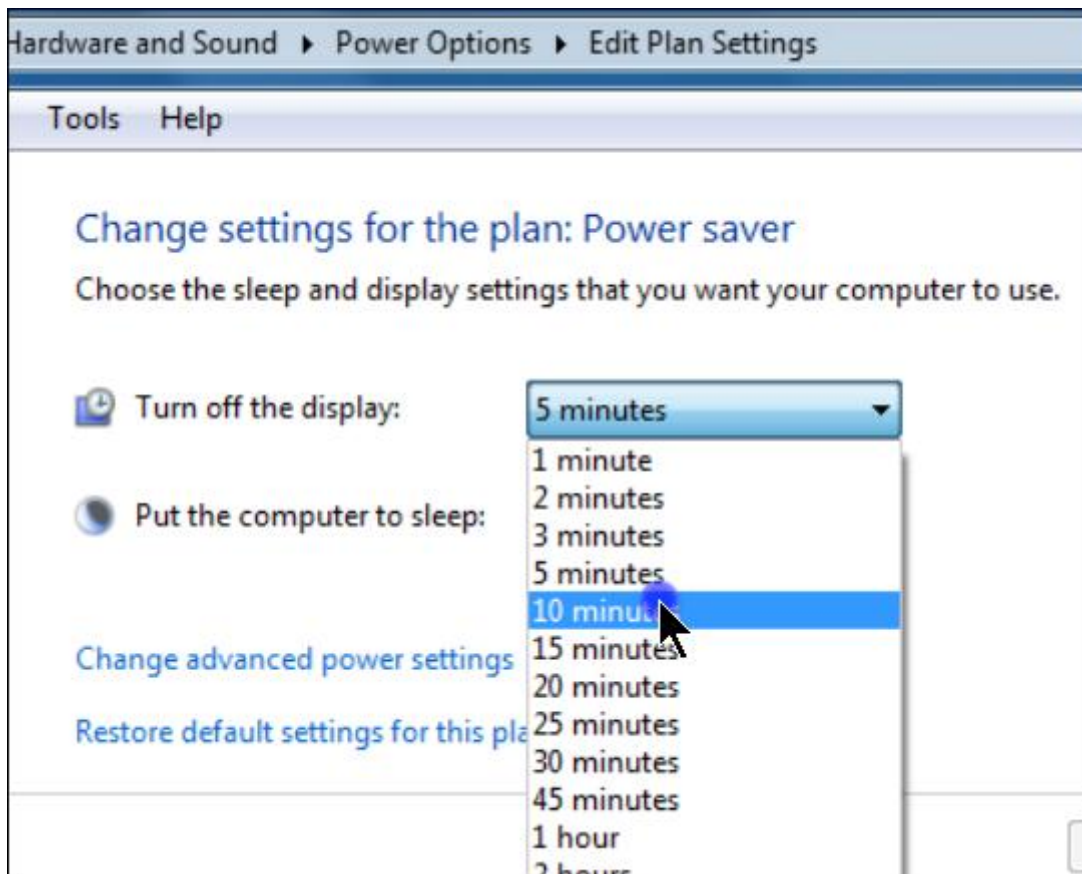
Here we can see that the default settings for the 'Power Saver' plan will:

- Turn off the display after 5 minutes of inactivity
- Put the computer to sleep after 15 minutes of inactivity.

A period of 'Inactivity' is a period when there is no input from the mouse or keyboard.

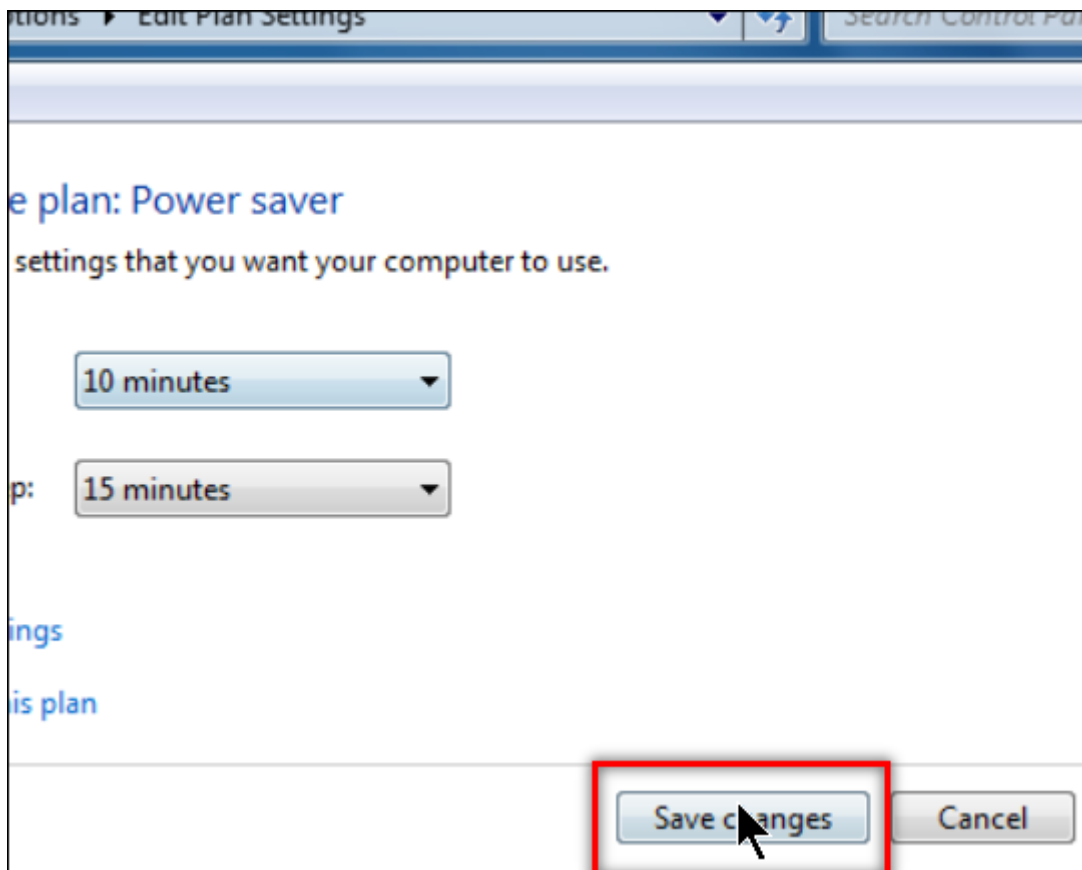
So, for example, if you do not move or click your mouse and do not press a key on your keyboard for 5 minutes, your display will turn off.

15. Manually edit settings



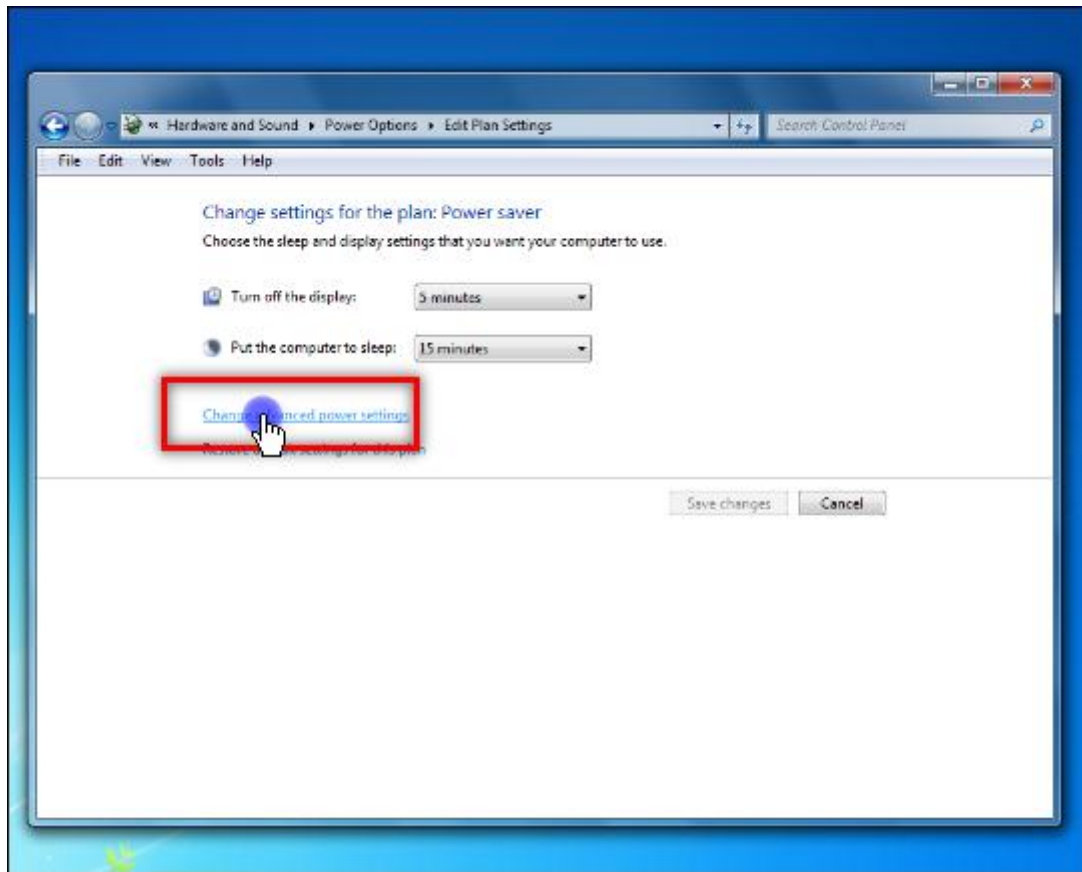
If you find that the settings do not suit the way you use the computer, you can change them yourself by clicking the drop down menus.

16. Save changes



If you make any changes to the plan, make sure you click 'Save changes'

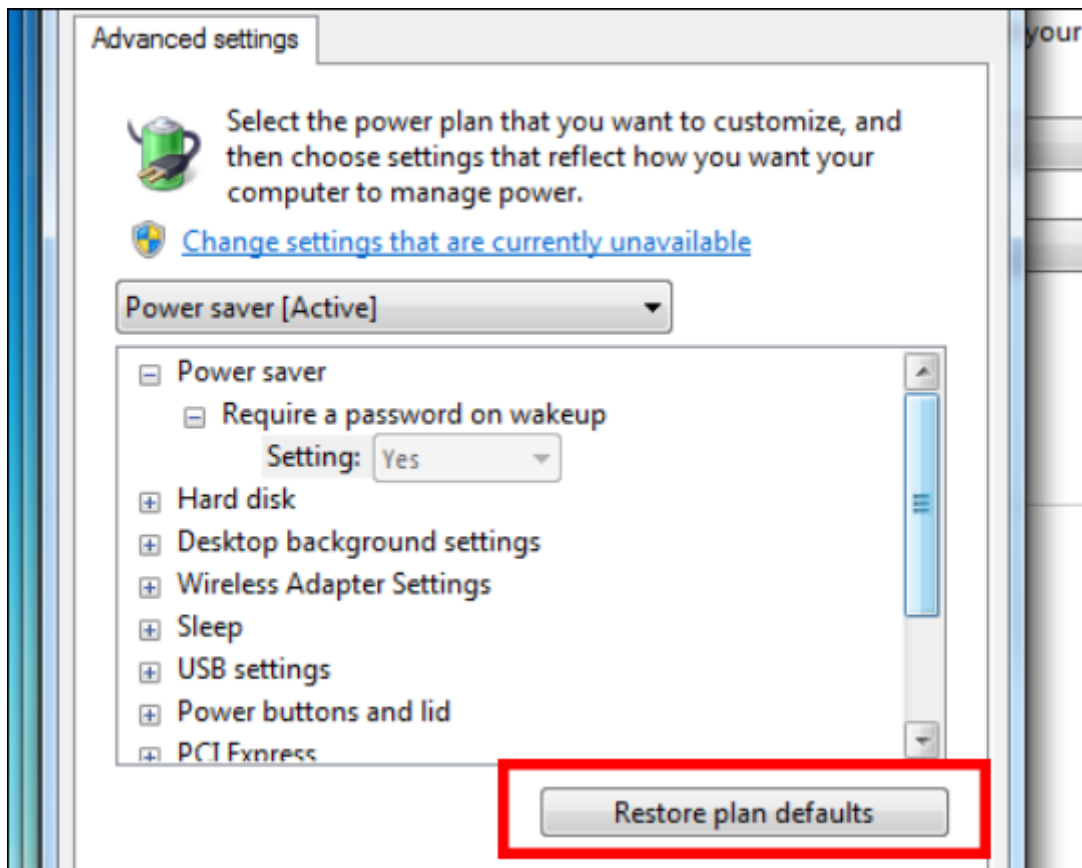
17. Change advanced power settings



There is an option to change advanced power settings.

Click on the link if you are curious or very brave.

18. Advanced settings



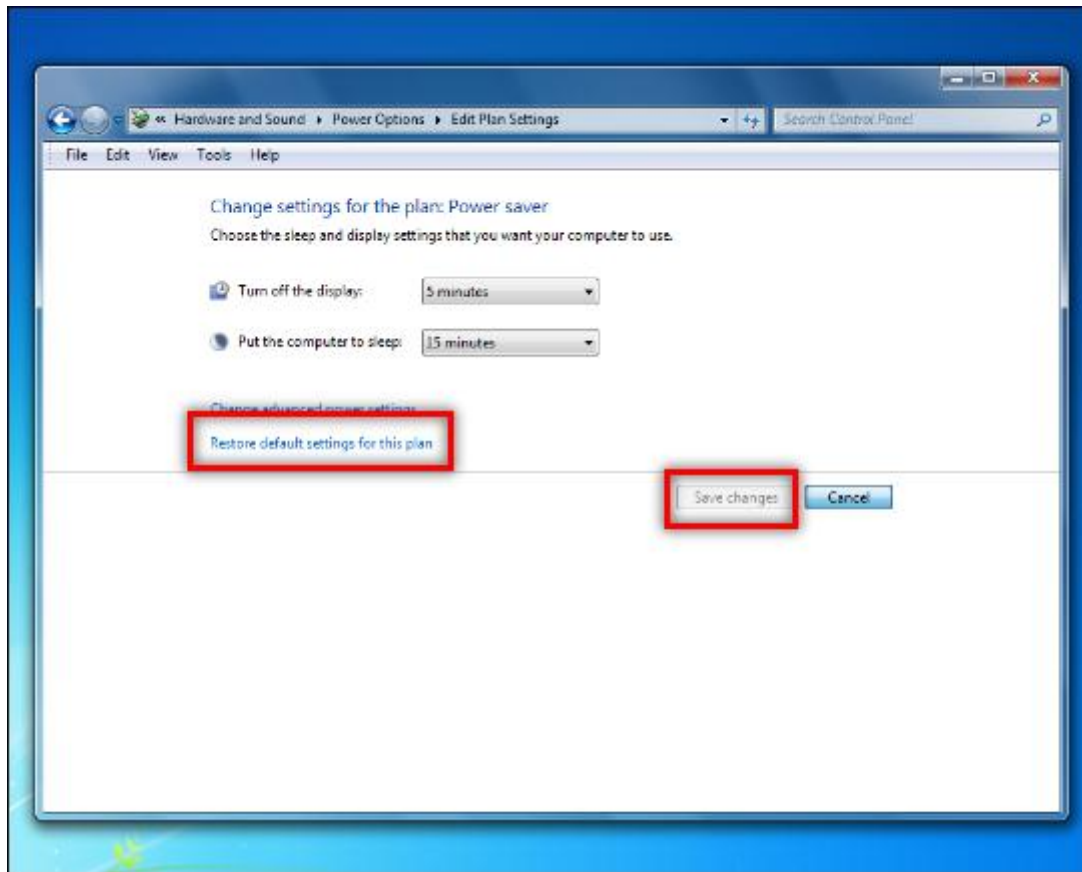
In the 'Advanced settings' menu, you can change power settings for individual systems and components of your PC.

Do not make any changes to these settings unless you really know what you're doing.

So - look but don't touch.

(If you do change something 'by accident', restore the defaults by clicking the 'Restore plan defaults' button.)

19. Restore default settings

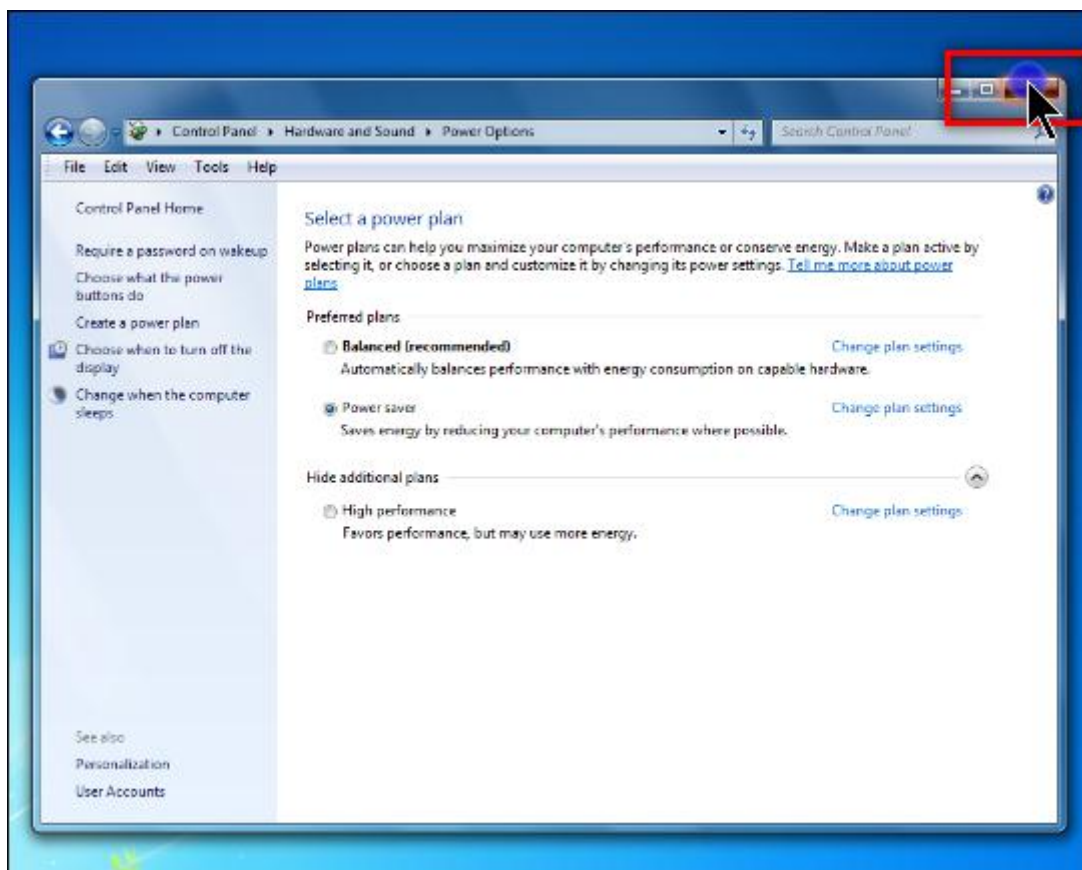


If you want to restore the default settings for your selected plan, click the link at the bottom of the 'Edit Plan Settings' panel.

For example, this will restore the Power Saver display setting to 5 minutes and the sleep setting to 15 minutes.

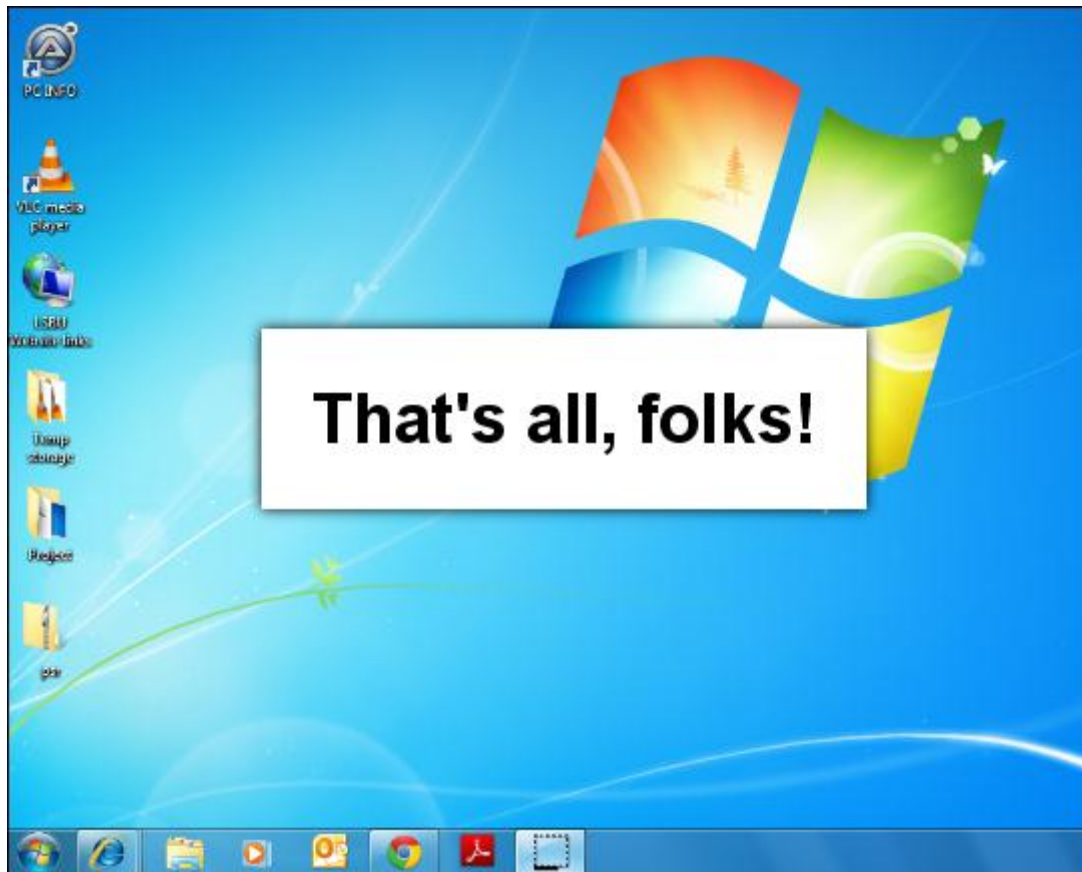
Don't forget to save any changes if you need to.

20. Close Control Panel



When you have finished, close the Control Panel by clicking the red 'x' close button in the top-right corner of the panel widow.

21. Finished



That's it. All done.

**You are now
officially an eco-
warrior.**

**The ice caps are a
little bit safer.**

**Now you've
adjusted your
power settings, you
can go and put
your feet up and
have a cup of tea.**

**The polar bears
thank you.**