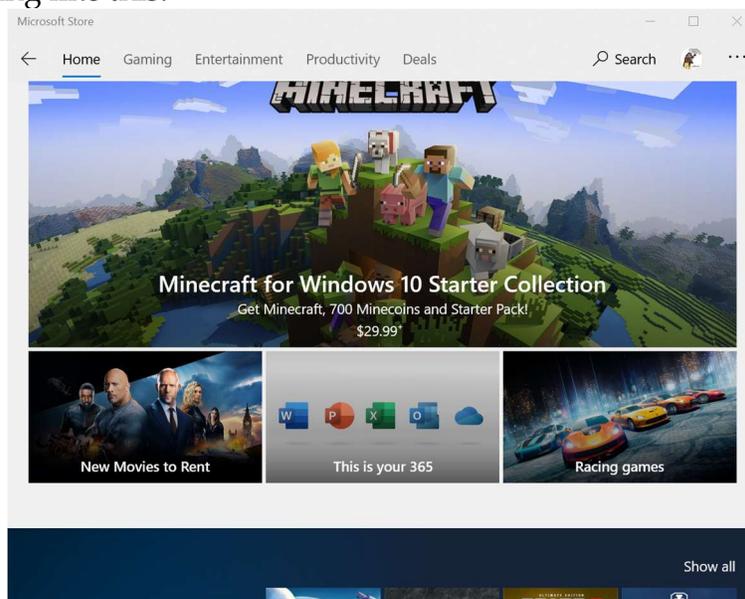


## Windows Tips and Tricks

### What is the Windows Store and What's In It

Windows has an app store just like Apple and Google. It is called the Microsoft Store. They also have a place for buying hardware and software also called, confusingly, the Microsoft Store. While not as extensive as Apple or Google it has some useful things available. It has a combination of free and paid apps which can be downloaded to your PC.

Open the Microsoft Store by clicking on its icon on the start page or on the taskbar. By default, the Store appears on your taskbar unless you have removed it. Once opened it will look something like this.



There are four categories: Gaming, Entertainment, Productivity and Deals.

The Gaming section has action games such as Minecraft and Grand Theft Auto, fun games such as Angry Birds and Candy Crush, and card games such as Mahjongg and poker.

In the entertainment section you can find apps for Netflix, Hulu, NPR, the VLC app to listen to music and watch videos and movies. The VLC app is good if you want to be able to watch DVDs, since Microsoft no longer includes a DVD player. In the store you can also rent or buy movies and music.

In the productivity section you can buy Office or find other apps, things such as Video editing, creating or working with PDF files, picture editing and sound recording and editing.

Be cautious when downloading from the store since anyone can create an app and post it on the store. While Microsoft tries to make sure apps are safe, sometimes things slip thru. Be sure to read reviews and make sure there are many downloads. Also be cautious about paying for things you might otherwise get for free, for example there are paid versions of paint.net, Open Office and Libre Office which can be downloaded for free from the web.

Give the store a try and see if there is something that appeals to you.