

How to make Apex your default program for opening STL files

It is easy enough to load an STL file into Apex using the 'open file' feature, but in many cases, double-clicking an STL file will attempt to open said file in a different program. There are two ways to make Apex the default opener, one through the installation, and the second through user settings local to your computer. For this tutorial, I will assume you are using Windows 10 and a clean installation of Airwolf's Apex slicer.

Method 1: During the installation

1) Begin the installation.



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MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

- + Windows 8 or newer
- + Core i3 or higher/AMD Athlon 64bit or higher
- + 2GB RAM or higher
- + 500MB free disk space
- + OpenGL 2 compatible

OLDER DOWNLOADS

Previous versions for Windows can be found [here](#).



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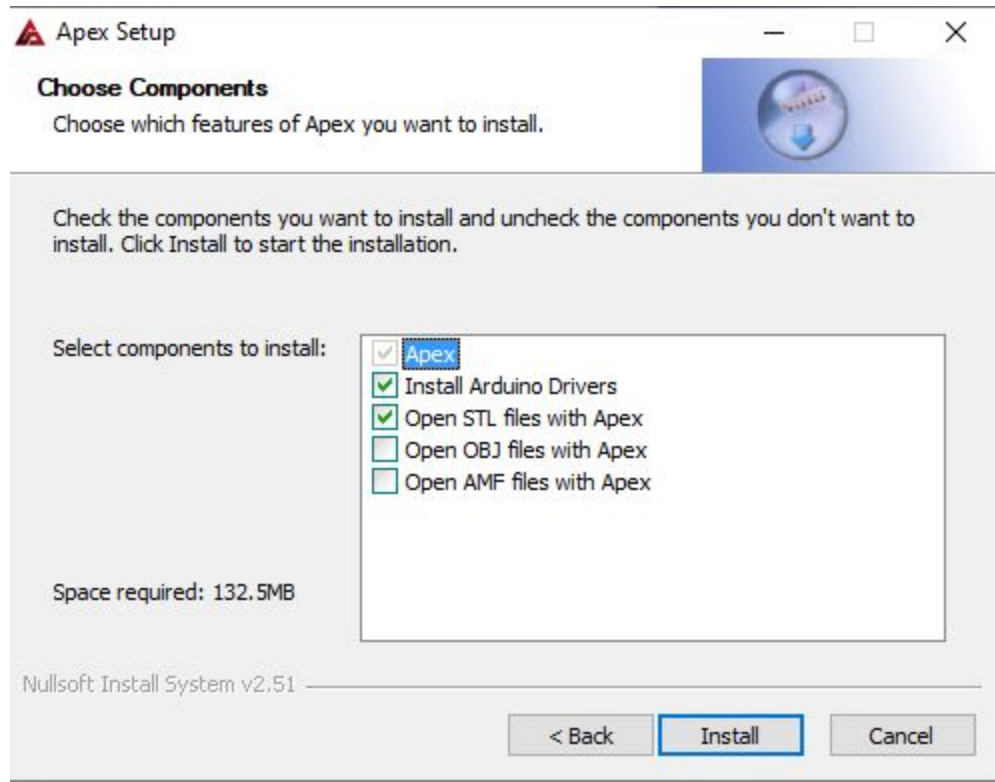
MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

- + Mac Version 2013 or later
- + Mac OS X Yosemite or later (Sierra preferred)
- + Core i5 or higher
- + 8GB onboard memory
- + 500MB free disk space

OLDER DOWNLOADS

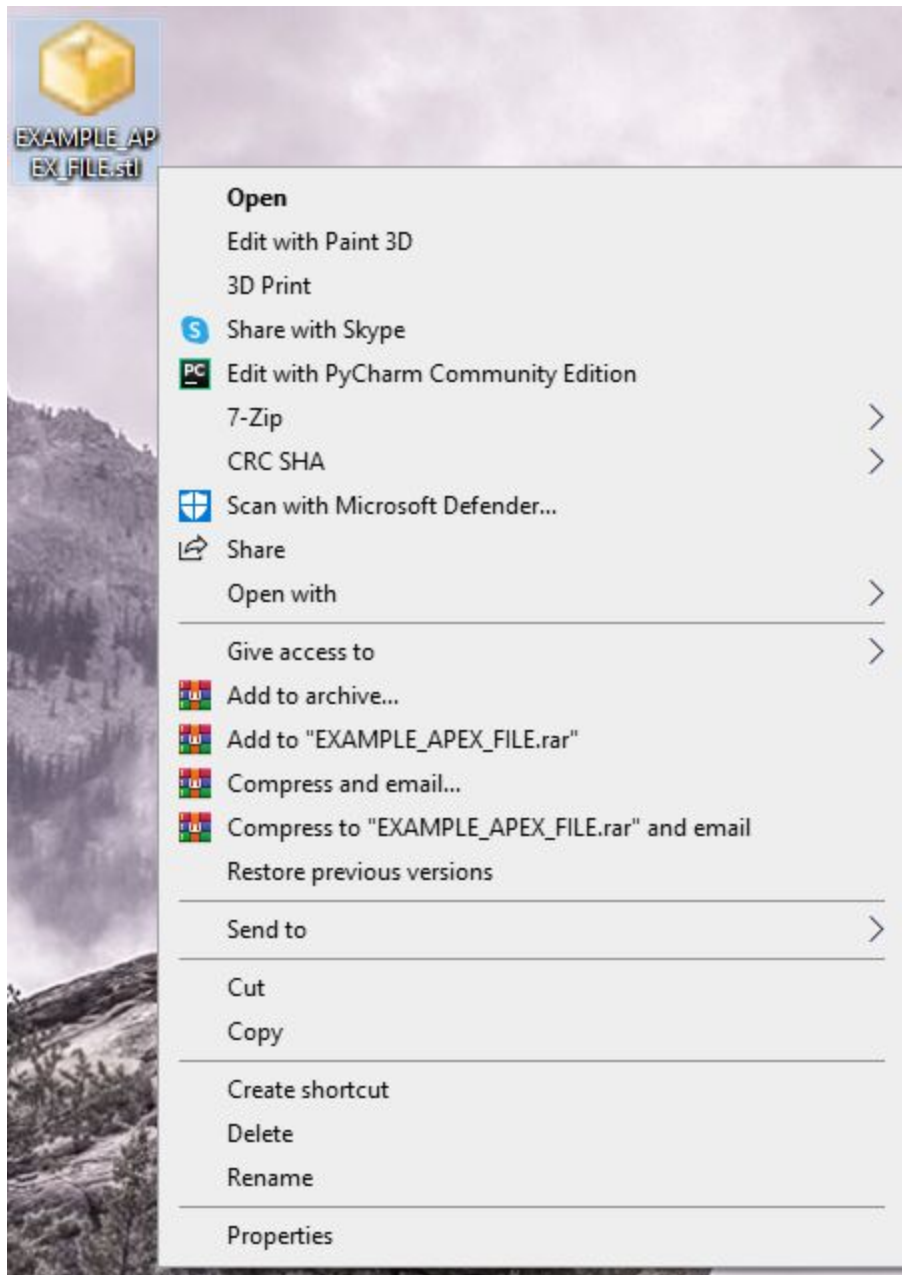
Previous versions for Mac can be found [here](#).

- 2) The only thing necessary for this method is to make sure “Open STL files with Apex” is checked during the installation.

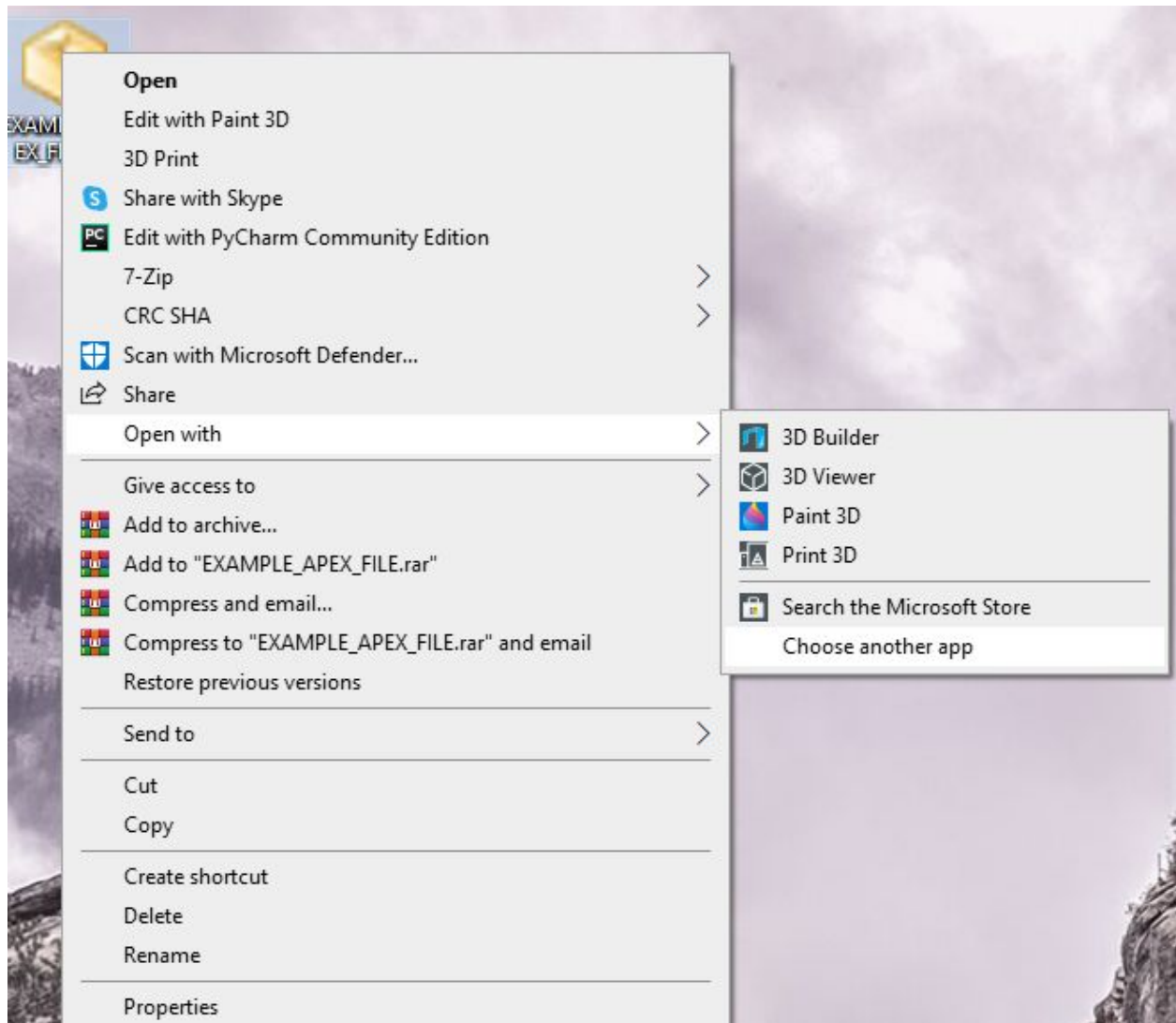


Method 2: Post-Installation

- 1) Method 1 may fail if you already have other programs installed that also want to be the default STL opener. It may also be that you've already installed Apex and don't want to go through the process again. This method is slightly more in-depth, but nothing about it should be too complicated.
- 2) Begin by finding an STL file and right-clicking on it.



- 3) Hover over “Open with” until a menu appears. If apex is on the list, click it. If not, click “choose another app.”



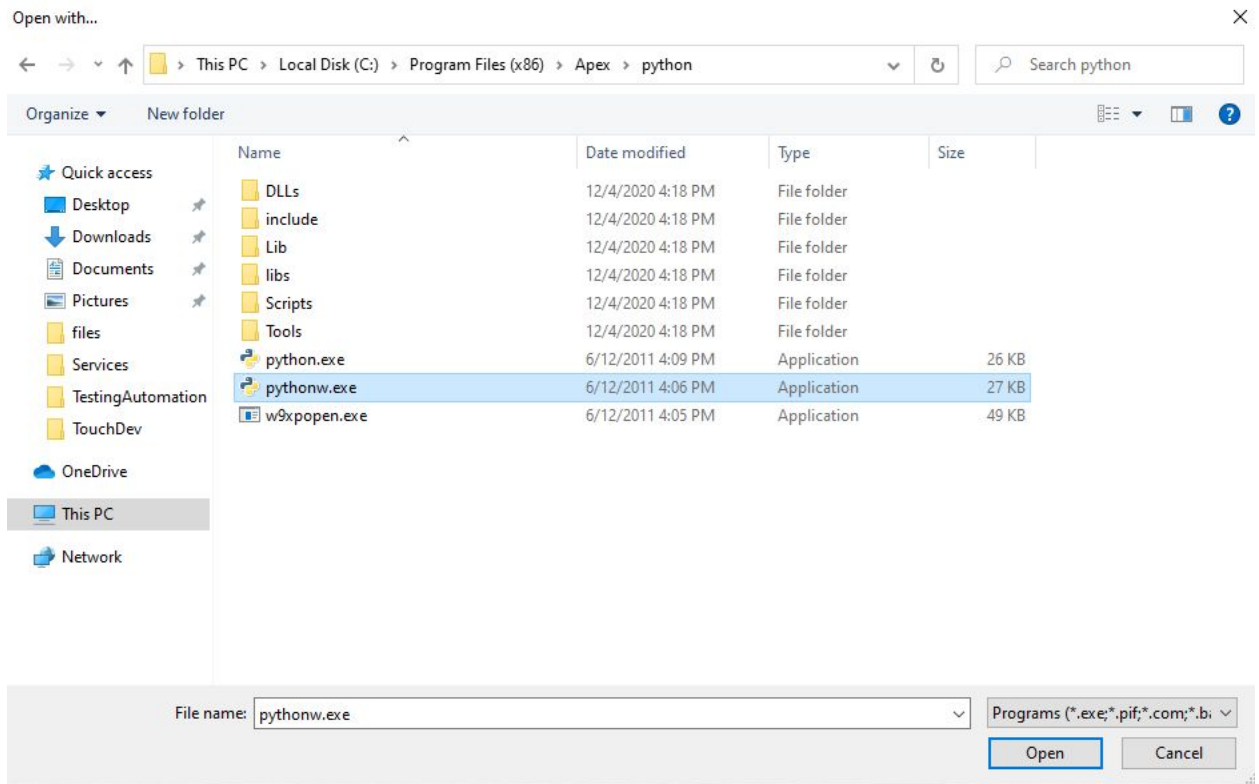
- 4) Select “more apps,” then check “always use this app to open .stl files,” and select “Look for another app on this PC.”

Look for another app on this PC

☐ Always use this app to open .stl files

OK

5) Go to “C:\Program Files (x86)\Apex\python” and double-click pythonw.exe



6) The file should open and you should be able to double-click on other STL files to open them using Apex as well.