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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DOWNLOAD APEX FOR WINDOWS

MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

+ Windows 8 or newer + Core i3 or higher/AMD Athelon 64bit or higher

- + 2GB RAM or higher
 - + 500MB free disk space
 - + OpenGI 2 compatible

OLDER DOWNLOADS

Previous versions for Windows can be found here.



DOWNLOAD APEX FOR MAC

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.

Apex Setup		<u></u>		×
Choose Components Choose which features of Ape	G			
Check the components you wa install. Click Install to start the	ant to install and uncheck the co installation.	omponents you do	n't want to)
Select components to install:	Apex Install Arduino Drivers Open STL files with Apex Open OBJ files with Apex Open AMF files with Apex	x		
Space required: 132.5MB				
ullsoft Install System v2.51 —				
	< Back	Install	Cano	cel

Method 2: Post-Installation

- 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 and 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."

	Open			
	Edit with Paint 3D			
	3D Print			
3	Share with Skype			
PC	Edit with PyCharm Community Edition			
	7-Zip	>		
	CRC SHA	>		
+	Scan with Microsoft Defender			
R	Share			
	Open with	>	n	3D Builder
	Give access to	>	\bigcirc	3D Viewer
w	Add to archive			Paint 3D
w	Add to "EXAMPLE_APEX_FILE.rar"			Print 3D
w	Compress and email		6	Search the Microsoft Store
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	Create shortcut			
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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

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 Quick access Desktop Downloads Documents Pictures files Services TestingAutomation TouchDev OneDrive This PC Network 	Name DLLs include Lib libs Scripts Tools Python.exe Name	Date modified 12/4/2020 4:18 PM 6/12/2011 4:09 PM 6/12/2011 4:05 PM 6/12/2011 4:05 PM	Type File folder File folder File folder File folder File folder Application Application	Size 26 KB 27 KB 49 KB	

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.