Tiling Windows

This is a handy feature if you want to work with a couple windows side by side. I often use this when I’m copying files from one folder to another and want to be able to compare the contents of each while I’m working. I’m sure there are countless other uses as well.

Windows Help’s instructions are succinct but might leave a little to be desired so I’ve enhanced the text a bit and added some screen captures to aid the understanding, or confuse matters even more.

To arrange all open windows on your desktop you need to right-click an empty area on the taskbar. This can be tricky if your taskbar is full of buttons but with a little effort you can do it. If all else fails try placing your cursor arrow just to the right of the green “start” button. The image below doesn’t show the cursor but, trust me, it was just right of the “start” button, the point of the arrow at the lower left corner of the resulting pop-up window.

Now you can choose to cascade your open windows (not something I’ve ever had much use for but feel free to try it) or tile them either horizontally or vertically. The more windows you have open, the more unpredictable your results will be. You might get two windows on the left side and three windows on the right or something else. Also, windows that are reduced to taskbar buttons will not be displayed.

This is how I find it most useful; just two windows at a time (I can drag and drop files or folders and see the results immediately):
This shows you what five open windows can look like (good luck with that):

When you’re done doing whatever you wanted to do make sure to restore your windows to their previous state by right-clicking an empty area on the taskbar and then clicking “Undo Cascade” or “Undo Tile”. If you don’t do this then all your windows will remember their new sizing (this should make sense once you play with it) and you’ll have to resize everything to get them back to how they were.

I hope this proves useful to some of you.