

# **MAKING SHORTCUTS TO APPS IN WINDOWS 11, 10, AND 8**

by Francis Chao  
fchao2@yahoo.com



Web location for this  
presentation:

<http://aztcs.apcug.org>

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# SUMMARY

The newer "Universal Windows Platform Apps (such as the "Phone Link" app) do not allow you to right click on them to place a shortcut into the Windows 11, 10, or 8 "Desktop". To create shortcuts to all apps in Windows 11, 10, or 8, you have to run "shell:appsfolder" in a "Run" command box.

# TOPICS

- Registry hacks are not recommended
- USE the shell:appsfolder command to make shortcuts to apps

# REGISTRY HACKS ARE NOT RECOMMENDED

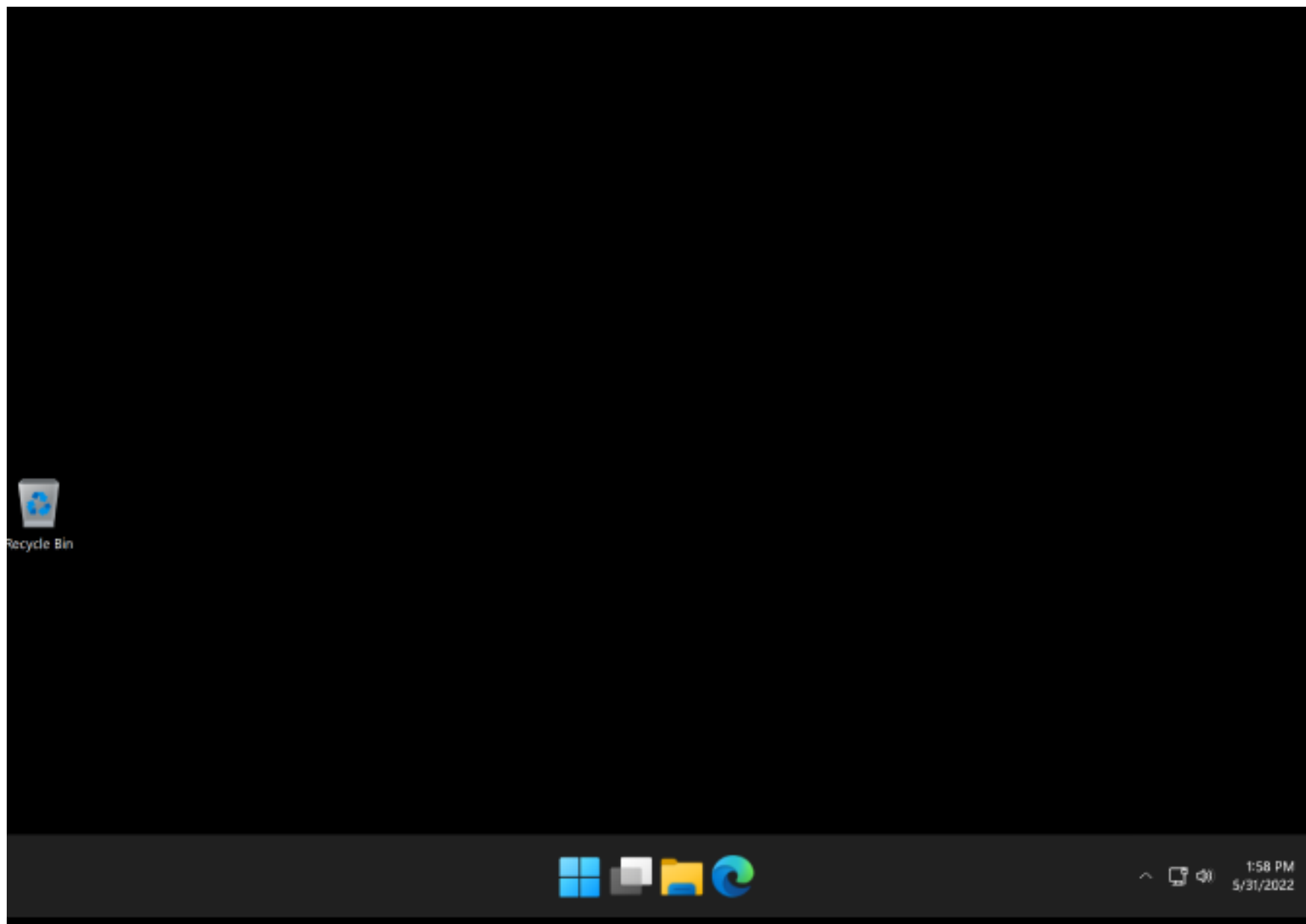
- "Universal Windows Platform" apps reside in a secure folder at C:\Program Files\WindowsApps
- Many registry hacks have been posted on the Web to help Windows 11, 10, and 8 users get access to the programs that reside at this location
- We do not recommend any of them

# USE THE `shell:appsfolder` COMMAND INSTEAD..

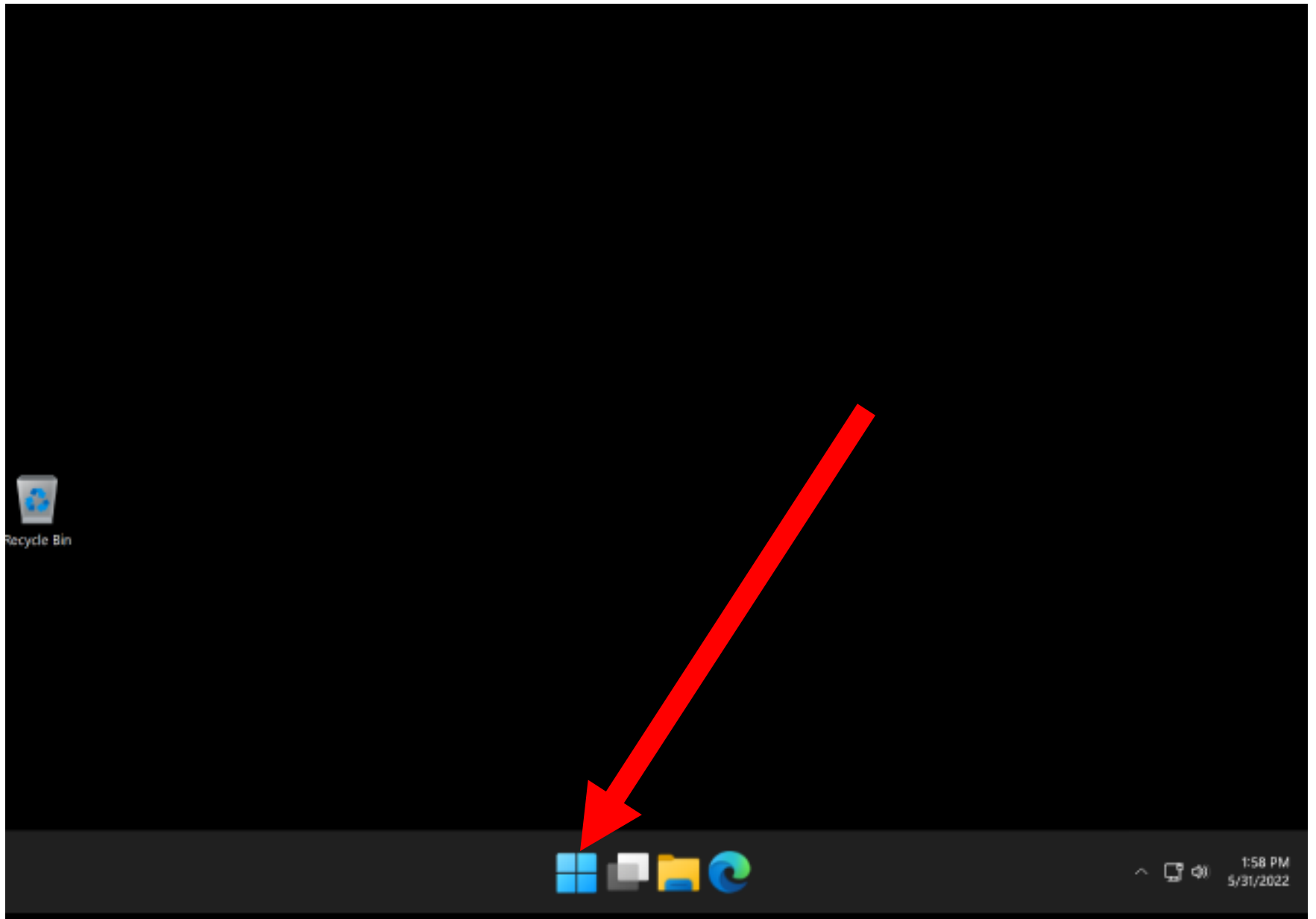
- ..to make shortcuts to all apps,  
including UWP apps in Windows 11,  
10, or 8,  
you can run the  
`shell:appsfolder`  
command in either a "Search" box or a  
"Run" box in Windows 11, 10, or 8

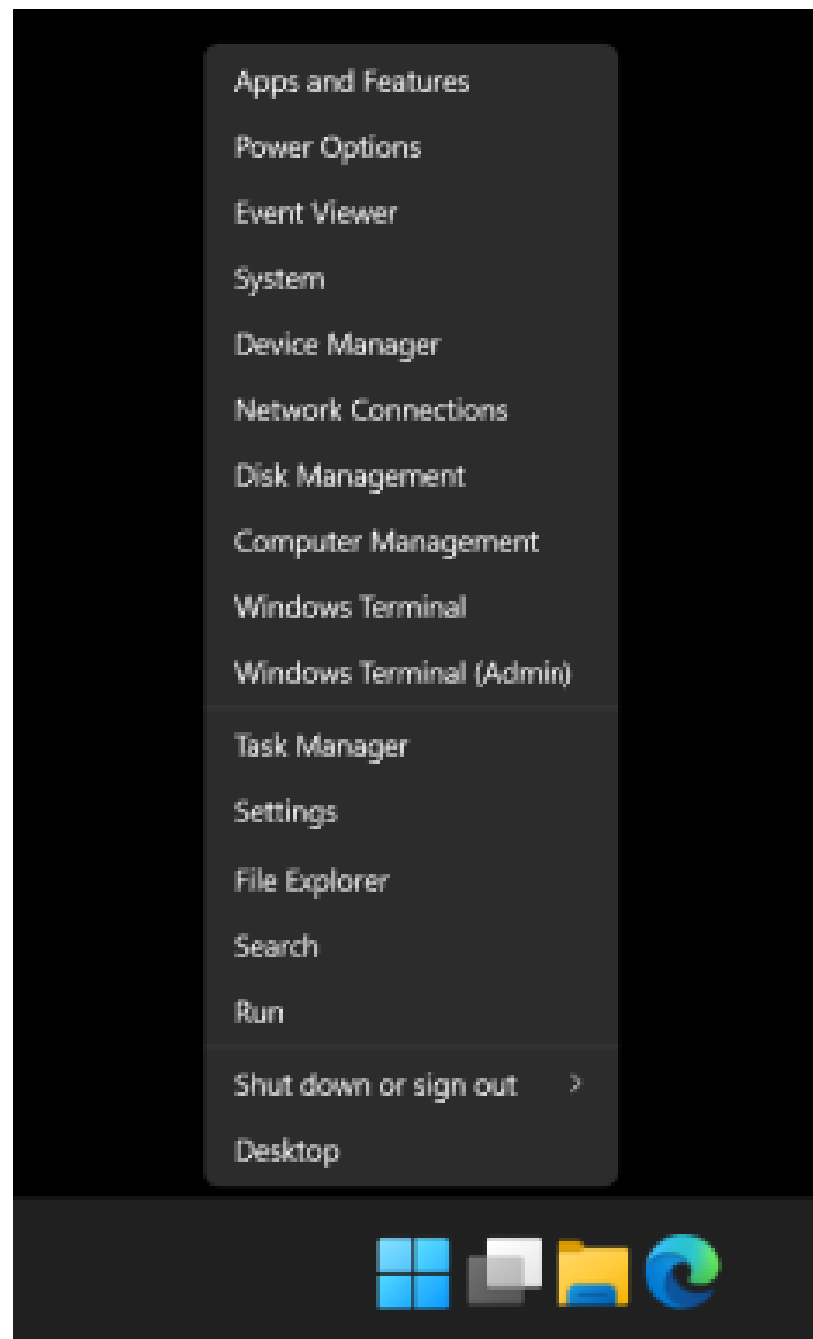
# USE THE shell:appsfolder COMMAND INSTEAD.. (continued)

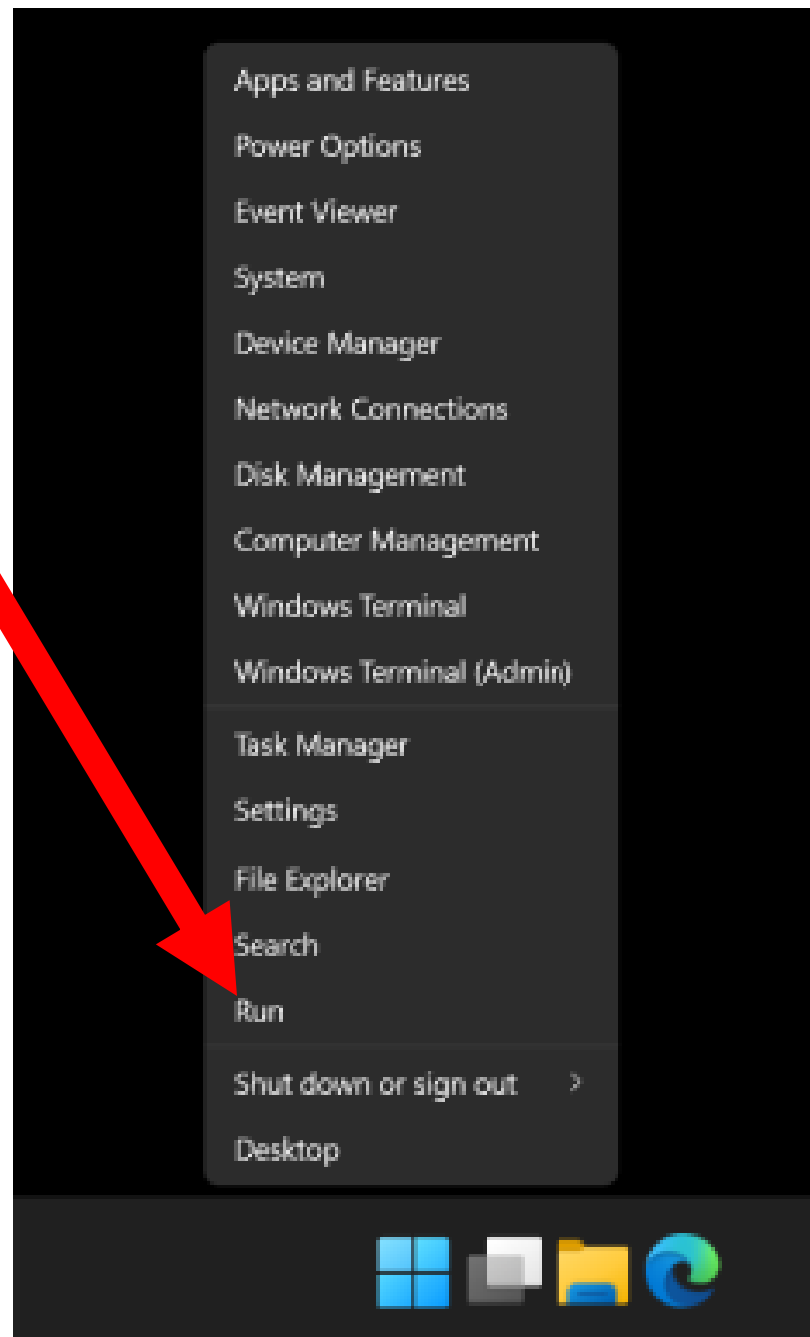
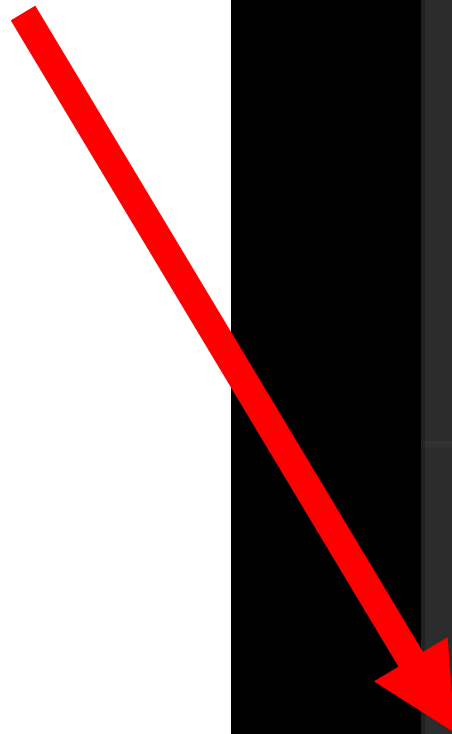
- To get to a "Run" box or a "Search" box in Windows 11, 10, or 8, use the RIGHT mouse button to click on the "Start" menu:

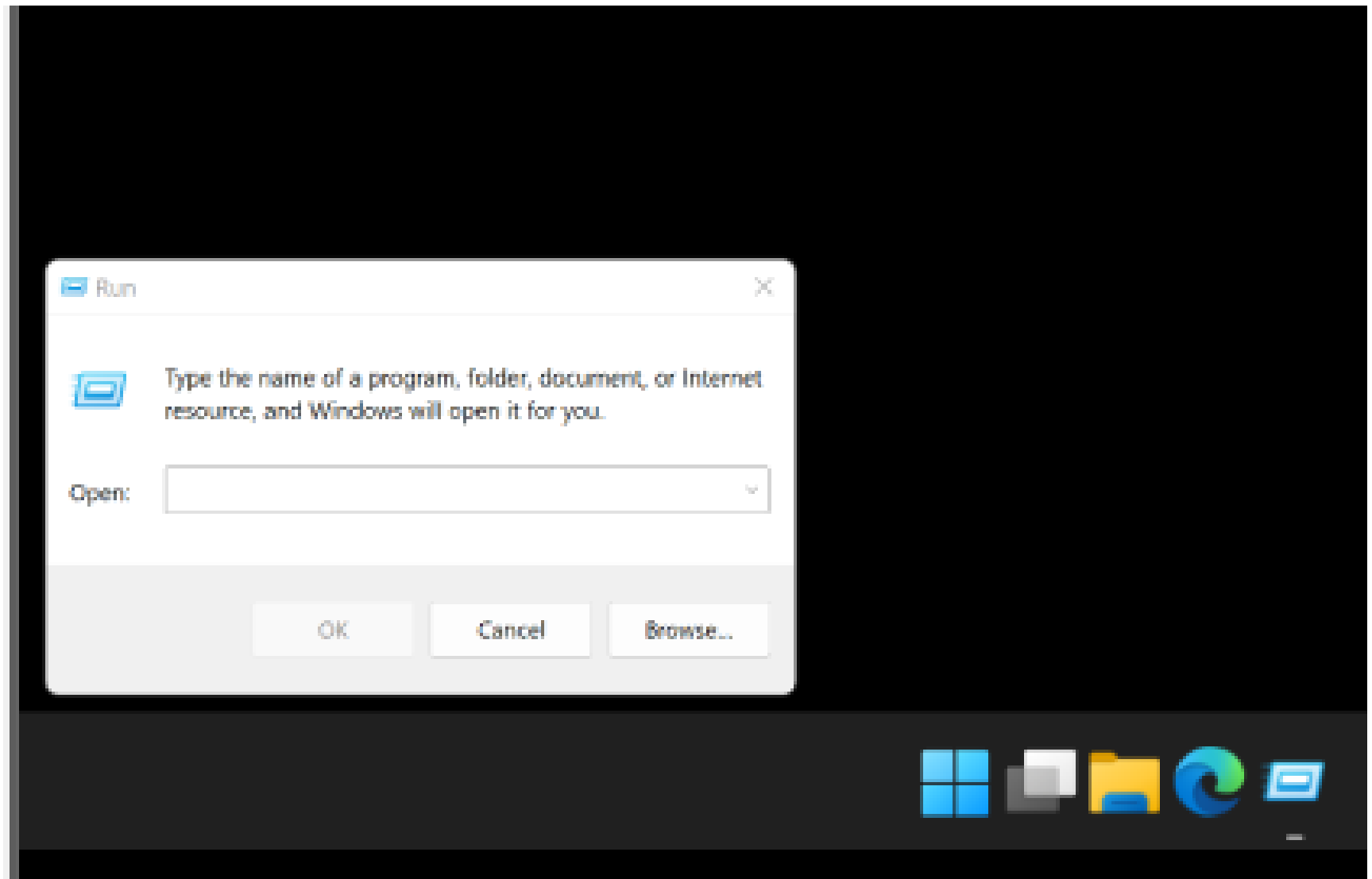












 Run



Type the name of a program, folder, document, or Internet resource, and Windows will open it for you.

Open:

OK

Cancel

Browse...

 Run



Type the name of a program, folder, document, or Internet resource, and Windows will open it for you.

Open:

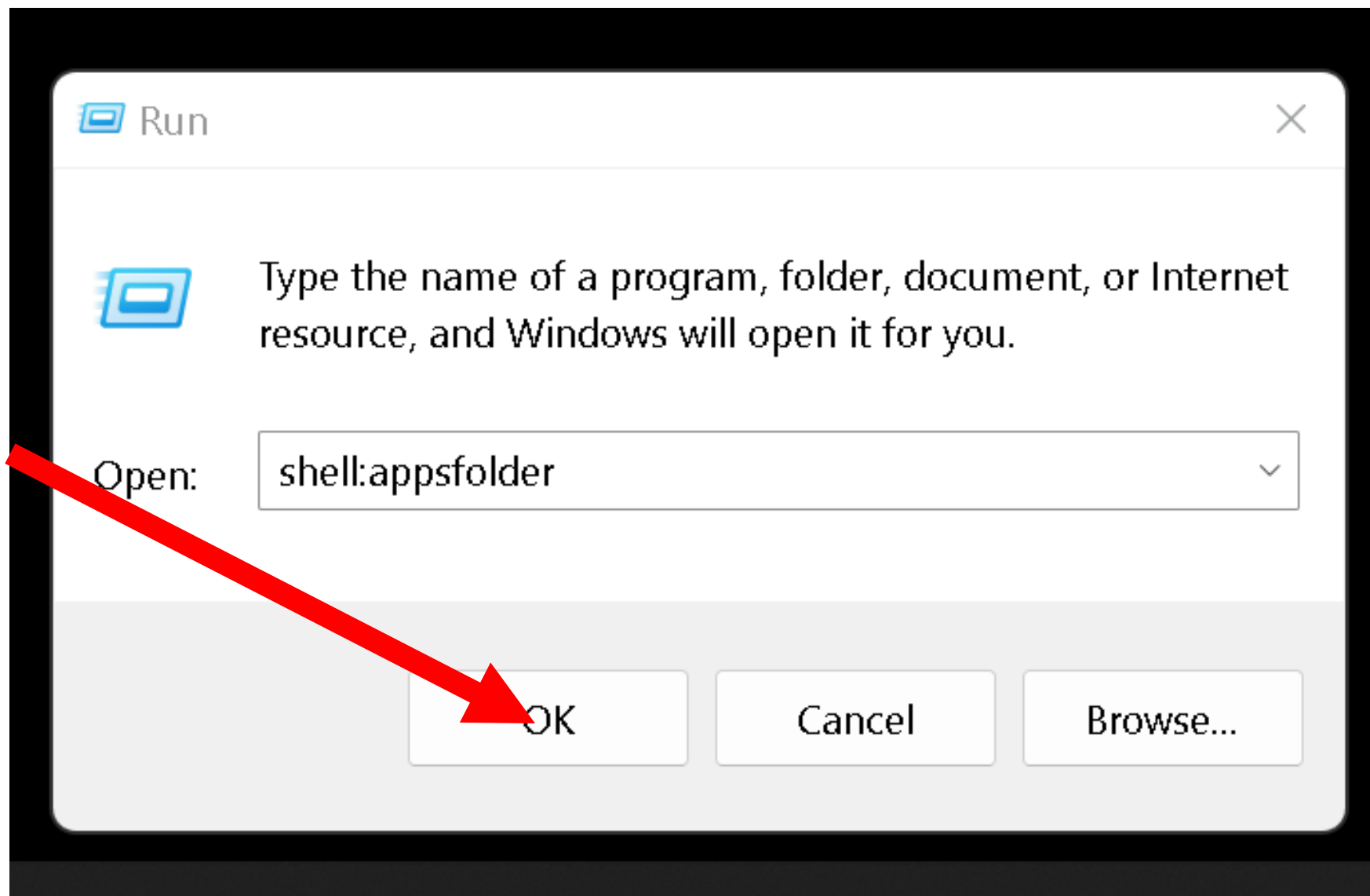
shell:appsfolder

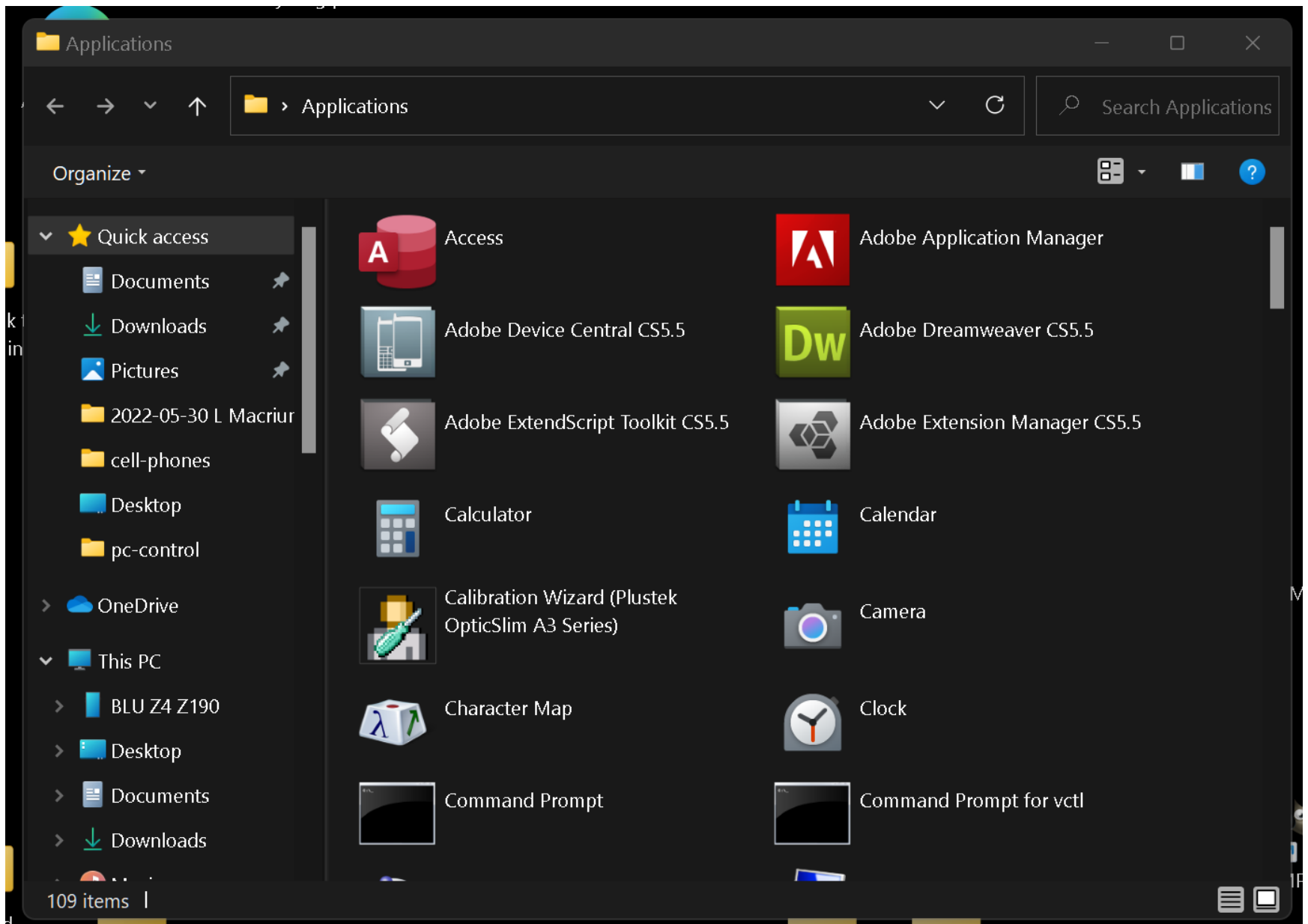


OK

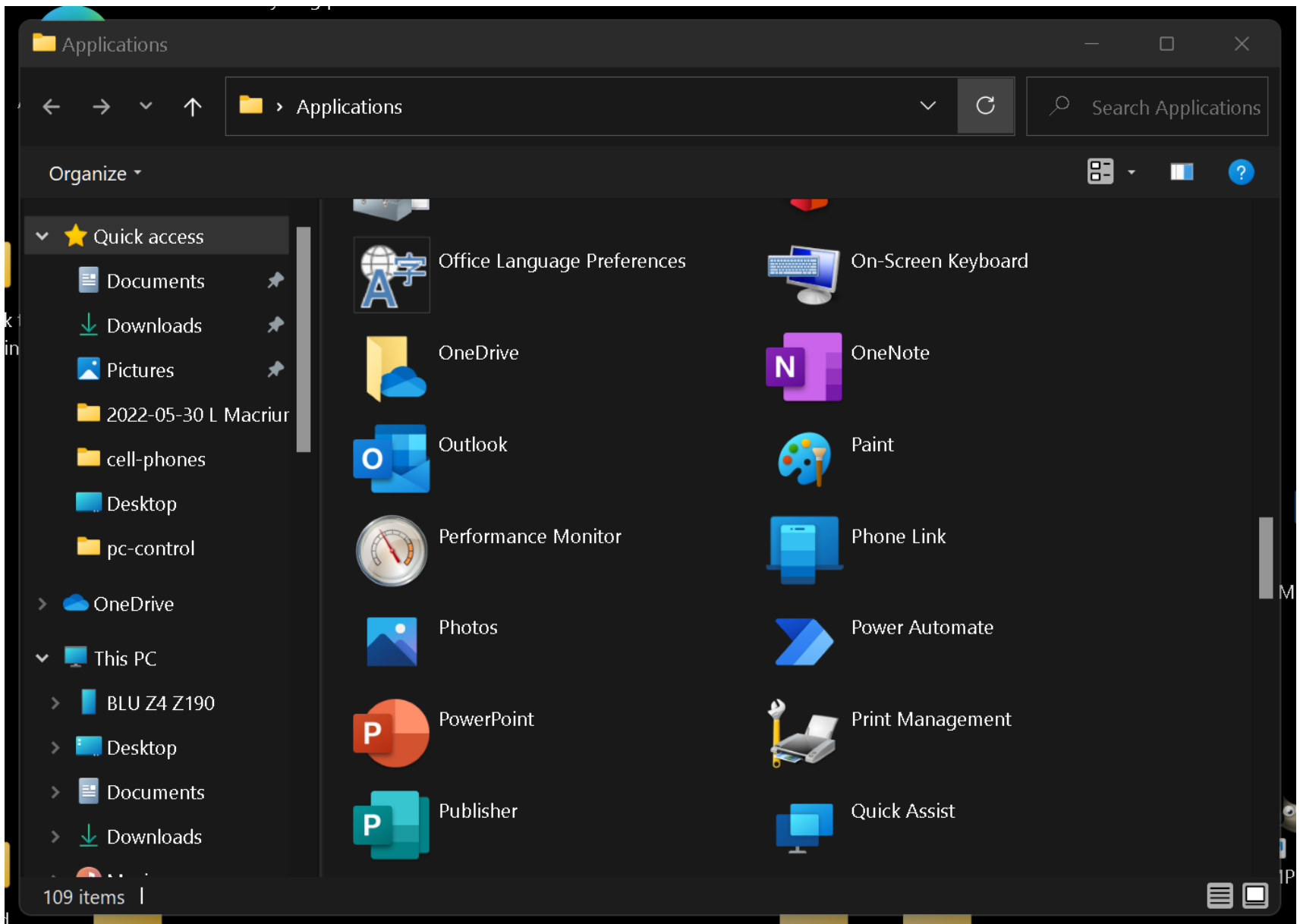
Cancel

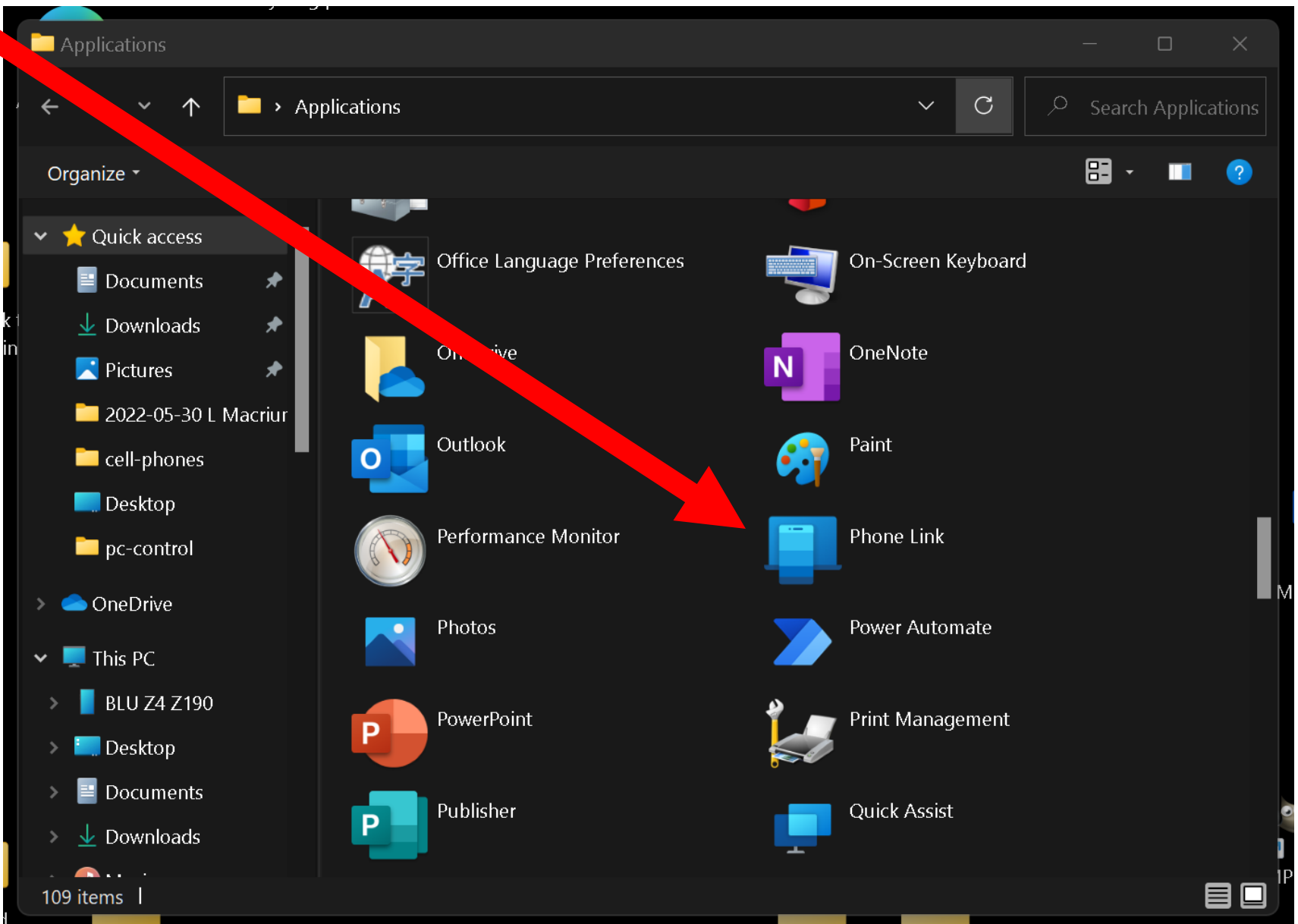
Browse...













Phone Link



PowerShell



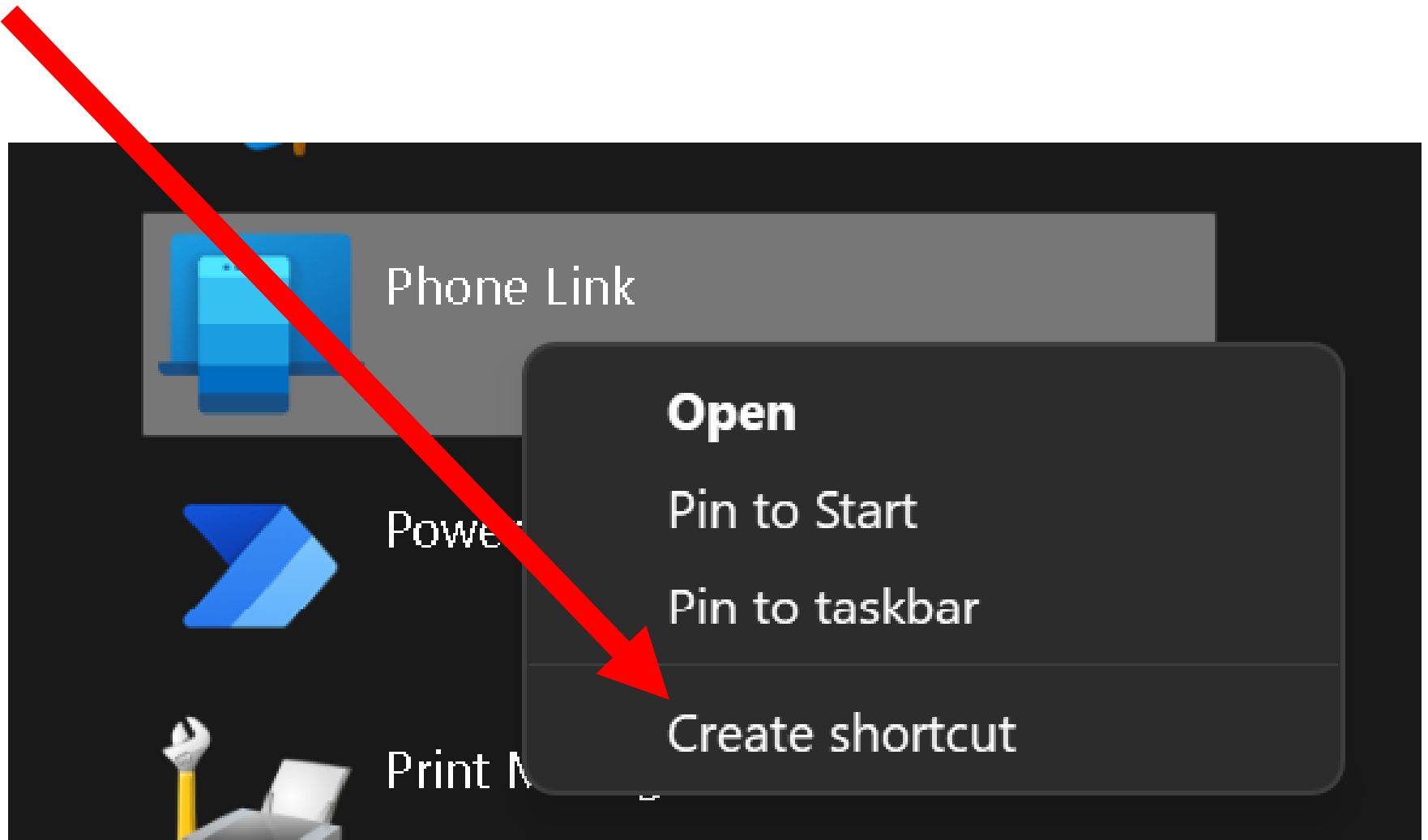
Print Manager

**Open**

Pin to Start

Pin to taskbar

Create shortcut



## Shortcut



Windows can't create a shortcut here.

Do you want the shortcut to be placed on the desktop instead?

Yes

No

## Shortcut



Windows can't create a shortcut here.

Do you want the shortcut to be placed on the desktop instead?

Yes

No

New



Phone Link -  
Shortcut

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- <https://www.techrepublic.com/article/how-to-use-the-shell-command-to-view-all-your-applications-in-file-explorer/>





