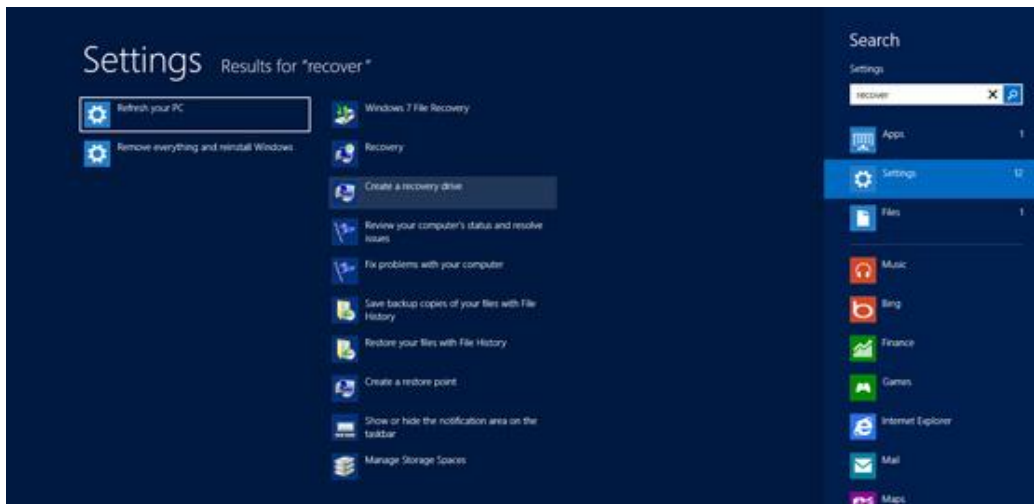


When you receive a new Windows 8-based PC, one of the first things you should do is **create recovery media**. The purpose is to repair your computer incase the hard drive malfunctions.



This process has changed a bit since Windows 7. To find the Windows 8 recovery media creator, enter recovery in Start "Metro" screen, and then click Settings. The option you're looking for is listed as **"Create a recovery drive"** in the search results.

The Recovery Media Creator is a desktop-based wizard that will enable you to create recovery media. In the first step of the Create Recovery Drive window, you'll see an option checked by default to copy the Restore partition files to the recovery drive. When you unchecked this, the create repair disk on CD/DVD appears.

After clicking Next, you'll be prompted to connect a USB flash drive, or you'll see a list of available drives. If you'd rather use optical media (CD-RW or recordable DVD), you can click the link titled Create a system repair disk with a CD or DVD instead. (This was the only option in Windows 7.)

The wizard will prepare and format the drive, and then copy over the utilities and other files that make up the recovery environment. And ... that's it. If your PC isn't booting properly, you can boot it from the recovery media to access a recovery environment that includes several useful tools.

You can also use it to reload the entire operating system (Windows 8) to a new hard drive.

