

Connect to Brown's Key Management Service (KMS) to activate Windows

Chris DeBlois - 2025-08-05 - Comments (0) - Windows and PC Computers

If you need to activate Windows on a Brown-owned computer, you will need to connect to Brown's Key Management Service (KMS) with the following steps:

1. Review the [list of operating systems](#) and select the product key that matches your intended edition
2. If you are off campus, make sure you are connected to the [Brown VPN](#).
3. In the search bar next to the start menu, type cmd
4. The Command Prompt icon will appear in the search window. Right-click the icon and select "Run as Administrator"
5. Click "Yes" to "allow the app to make changes"
6. In the Command Prompt window, type the following commands, pressing the enter key after each:
`slmgr.vbs -upk`
`slmgr.vbs -ipk <product key>`
`slmgr.vbs -skms pkmscit.ad.brown.edu:1688`
`slmgr.vbs -ato`
`slmgr.vbs -dlv`
7. This should open a new window with this text output:
Activating Windows(R),.....Product activated successfully.
Click OK on this window.
8. Close the Command Prompt window.