

Reinstalling Ubuntu WSL on Windows from PowerShell

This is when you want to throw your build out the window and start fresh:

```
wsl --unregister Ubuntu
```

```
wsl --install -d Ubuntu
```

Now you can start with a fresh install of Ubuntu in Windows Subsystem for Linux.

To list all registered WSL distributions on your PC, run this command:

```
wsl --list --verbose
```

Or the shorthand:

```
wsl -l -v
```

This will show output like:

NAME	STATE	VERSION
* Ubuntu-22.04	Running	2
Debian	Stopped	2

- The `*` indicates the default distribution.
- You can then unregister any of them using:

```
wsl --unregister <DistributionName>
```

For example:

```
wsl --unregister Ubuntu-22.04
```

Make a backup of anything you need before removing it.

```
PS C:\Users\_\aonat> wsl -l -v
  NAME          STATE          VERSION
* Ubuntu-22.04  Stopped        2
PS C:\Users\_\aonat> wsl --unregister Ubuntu-22.04
Unregistering.
The operation completed successfully.

PS C:\Users\_\aonat>
```

Revision #3

Created 3 April 2024 07:01:20 by Nate Nash

Updated 7 June 2025 11:39:18 by Nate Nash