

# How we made Configurable Pester Tests **for SQL Server**

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# Rob Sewell

## Consultant, Sewells Consulting Ltd



/in/robsewellsqldb



@sqldbawithbeard

robsewell.info

### Sewells Consulting Limited

PowerShell Automator, PowerShell Trainer,  
Database DevOps

### MVP, Speaker and Organizer

Half a Best Speaker!!, PowerShell and SQL  
user groups, national and international  
events

### dbatools dbareports dbachecks

Loves Pester. Always available for help via  
the usual social media channels



# Chrissy LeMaire

## Sr. Systems Engineer

### GDIT @ NATO Special Ops HQ



/in/chrissylemaire



@cl

netnerds.net

SQL Data Pro – Since 1999

DBA, Developer and Architect

PowerShell MVP – Since 2015

Most PowerShell work revolves around SQL Server with a bit of VMware & SharePoint

PASS DevOps Virtual Chapter

Co-lead



**Lee Holmes** ✓

@Lee\_Holmes

Following



Hey @cl - remember that time you contributed code to PowerShell? :)



2:33 AM - 22 Jan 2018

1 Retweet 9 Likes



1



1



9



PowerShell since 2005



# Agenda

- Background
- Goals & Challenges
- Solutions
- Intro to module
- Demo



Background



# dbatools

- Community module founded by Chrissy
- Over 100 contributors
- 5 billion commands to work with SQL Server (no point putting an actual number in here it will change!!)
- Many commands to get information or check best practices
- Rob needed to validate estates at work
- Wrote Pester tests using dbatools
- More than a year discussing wondering the best way to enable configuration



# Challenges & Goals





# Main Challenge - Configuration

- Writing Pester Tests for one SQL instance is easy

```
Describe "SQL Instance Number 1 Config" {  
    It "Should have Max Memory set to 112Gb" {  
        (Get-DbamaxMemory -SqlInstance SQLPROD2).SqlMaxMb | Should -Be 114688  
    }  
}
```

- Writing slightly different Pester Tests for slightly different instances is copy and paste

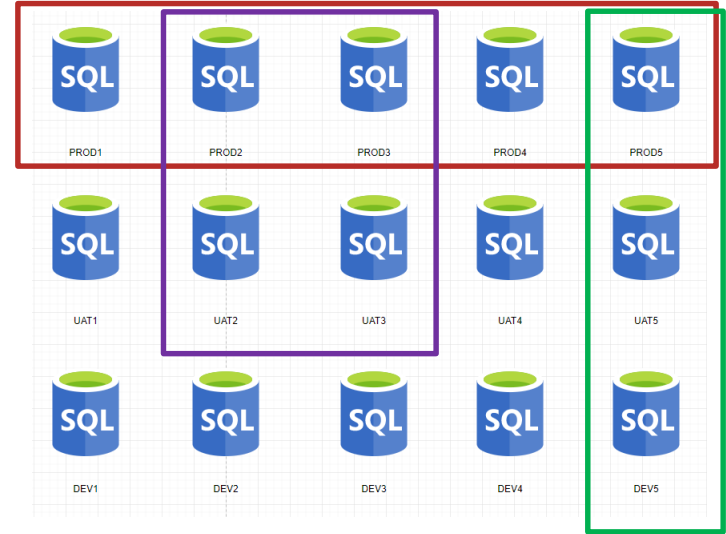
```
Describe "SQL Instance Number 2 Config" {  
    It "Should have Max Memory set to 56Gb" {  
        ([Get-DbamaxMemory -SqlInstance SQLPROD2]).SqlMaxMb | Should -Be 57344  
    }  
}
```

- It is possible to parameterize Pester tests (but not so easy to say!)



# Main Challenge - Configuration

- We wanted to be able to Pester test a SQL environment like Production, UAT, DEV - **horizontal**
- We wanted to be able to Pester test a whole applications SQL environments – **vertical**
- We wanted to be able to Pester test the SQL estate for a solution – **block**



# Challenge - Output

- DBAs may need output instantly

```
Executing script C:\Users\enterpriseadmin.THEBEARD\Documents\WindowsPowerShell\Modules\vmchecks\1.1.118\checks\VMOR.Tests.ps1

Describing Cluster cSQLClusterAG Health using Node sql1

Context Cluster nodes for cSQLClusterAG
  [+] Node SQL0 should be up 2.52s
  [+] Node SQL1 should be up 7ms

Context Cluster resources for cSQLClusterAG
  [+] Resource Cloud Witness should be online 257ms
  [+] Resource Cluster IP Address should be online 21ms
  [+] Resource Cluster Name should be online 83ms
  [+] Resource SQLClusterAG should be online 66ms
  [+] Resource SQLClusterAG_10.0.1.30 should be online 27ms
  [+] Resource SQLClusterAG_SQLClusterAG should be online 34ms

Context Cluster networks for cSQLClusterAG
  [+] Cluster Network 1 should be up 322ms

Context HADR status for cSQLClusterAG
  [+] HADR should be enabled on the node SQL0 196ms
  [+] HADR should be enabled on the node SQL1 79ms

Context Cluster Connectivity for Availability Group SQLClusterAG on cSQLClusterAG
  [!] Listener SQLClusterAG should be pingable 37.88s
  [+] Listener SQLClusterAG should be able to connect with SQL 21ms
  [+] Listener SQLClusterAG domain name should be TheBeard.local 51ms
  [+] Listener SQLClusterAG TCP port should be 1433 25ms
  [+] Replica SQL0 should be Pingable 1.25s
  [+] Replica SQL0 should be able to connect with SQL 10ms
  [+] Replica SQL0 domain name should be TheBeard.local 86ms
  [+] Replica SQL0 TCP port should be 1433 116ms
  [+] Replica SQL1 should be Pingable 5.25s
  [+] Replica SQL1 should be able to connect with SQL 9ms
  [+] Replica SQL1 domain name should be TheBeard.local 15ms
  [+] Replica SQL1 TCP port should be 1433 7ms

Context Availability group status for SQLClusterAG on cSQLClusterAG
  [+] SQL0 replica should not be in unknown availability mode 224ms
  [+] SQL1 replica should not be in unknown availability mode 116ms
  [+] SQL0 replica should be synchronised 9ms
  [+] SQL1 replica should be synchronised 37ms

Context Database availability group status for SQLClusterAG on cSQLClusterAG
  [+] Database WideWorldImporters should be synchronised on the replica SQL0 382ms
  [+] Database WideWorldImporters should be failover ready on the replica SQL0 28ms
  [+] Database WideWorldImporters should be joined on the replica SQL0 18ms
  [+] Database WideWorldImporters should not be suspended on the replica SQL0 32ms
  [+] Database WideWorldImporters should be synchronised on the replica SQL1 173ms
  [+] Database WideWorldImporters should be failover ready on the replica SQL1 8ms
  [+] Database WideWorldImporters should be joined on the replica SQL1 312ms
  [+] Database WideWorldImporters should not be suspended on the replica SQL1 250ms

Context Always On extended event status for replica SQL0 on cSQLClusterAG
  [+] Replica SQL0 should have an extended event session called AlwaysOnHealth 558ms
  [+] Replica SQL0 Always On Health extended event session should be running 21ms
  [+] Replica SQL0 Always On Health extended event session should be set to auto start 19ms

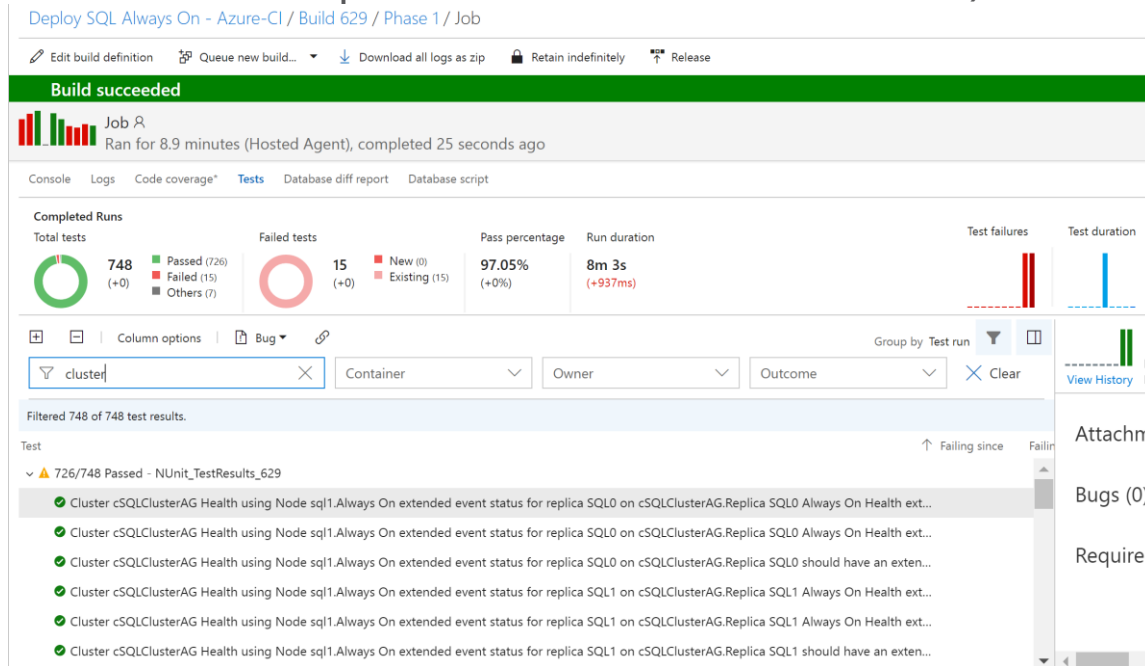
Context Always On extended event status for replica SQL1 on cSQLClusterAG
  [+] Replica SQL1 should have an extended event session called AlwaysOnHealth 294ms
  [+] Replica SQL1 Always On Health extended event session should be running 7ms
  [+] Replica SQL1 Always On Health extended event session should be set to auto start 6ms

Tests completed in 51.88s
Tests Passed: 40, Failed: 0, Skipped: 1, Pending: 0, Inconclusive: 0
PS C:\>
```



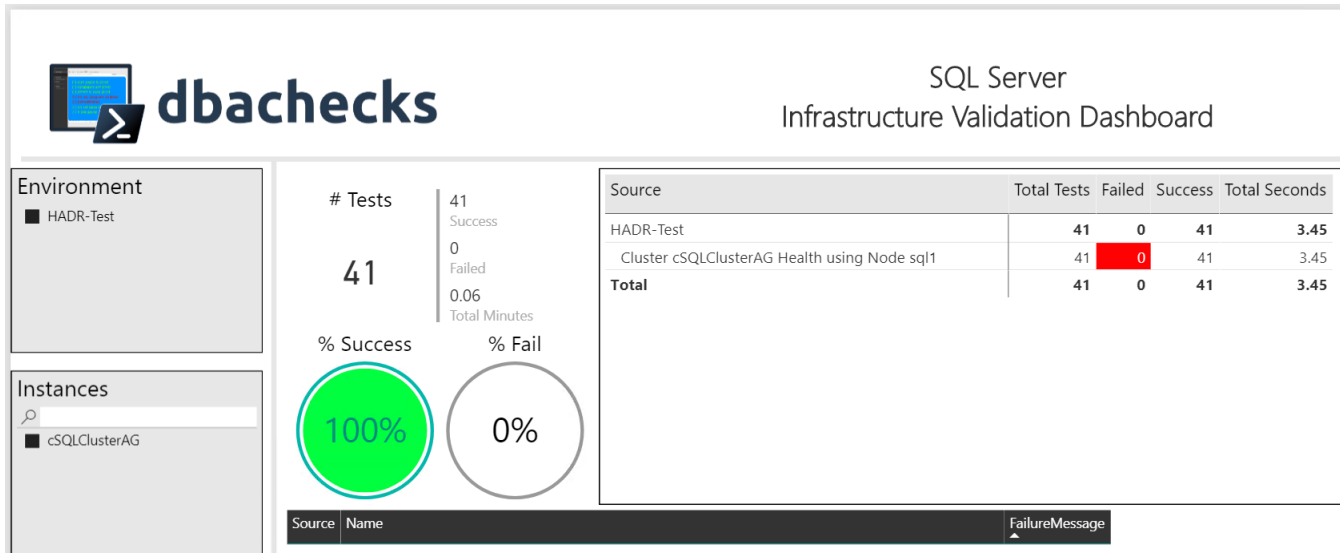
# Challenge - Output

- DBAs may want to automate and integrate with other solutions (DevOps, Daily Checks, Incident Response, Maintenance Windows)



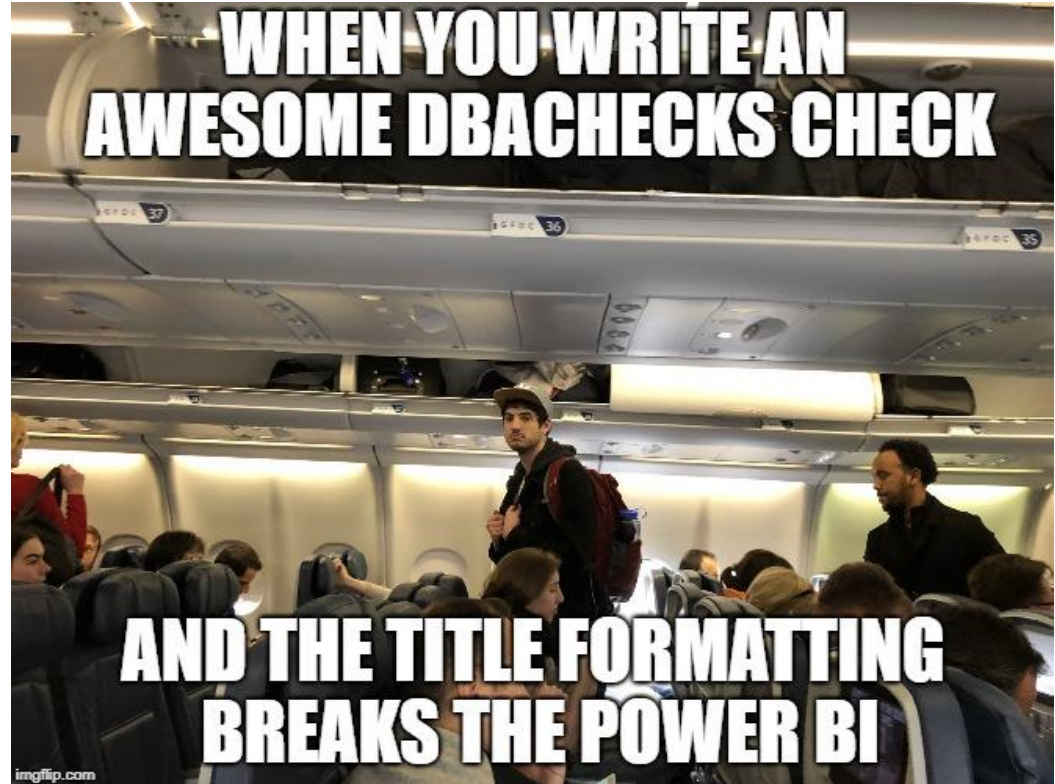
# Challenge - Output

- Management want output they understand



# Challenge - Output

- The Power Bi template requires a specific title configuration



# Challenge – User Simplicity

## End Users

- Need simplicity to enable easy adoption
- Need index for Checks
- Need index for Configuration
- Simplified output options
- File system access to work across many differing user environments and permissions



# Goals

- Create redistributable, easily configurable Pester tests using industry leaders checklists
- Enable output to suit the requirements of different types of end users human and machine
- Capability to provide response/resolution ?

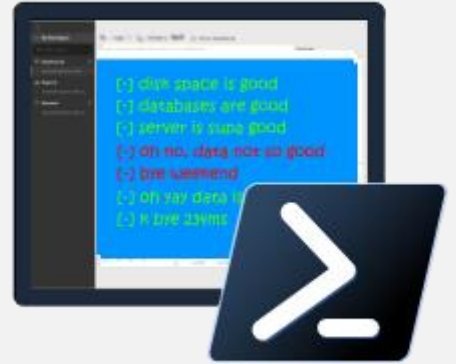




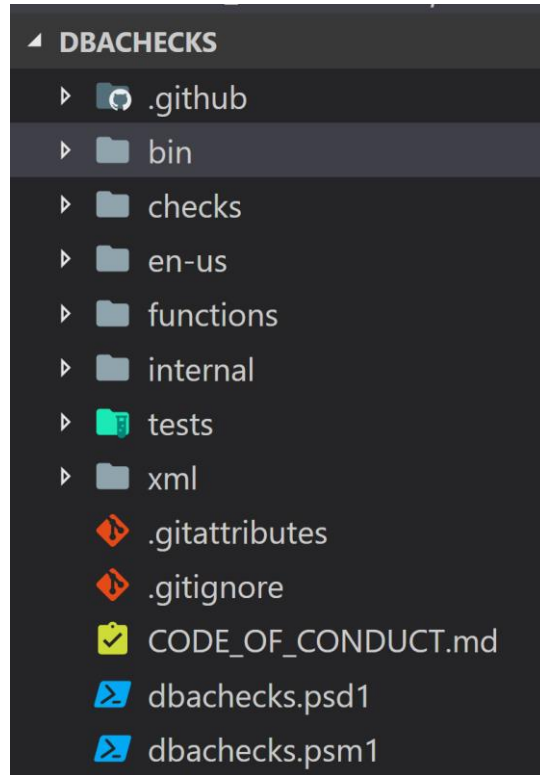
# Solution



# dbachecks



# dbachecks



# Dbachecks – Configuration

- Using PSFramework to create configuration items

```
Set-PSFConfig -Module dbachecks -Name app.sqlinstance -Value $null  
-Initialize -Description "List of SQL Server instances"
```

- Stored in registry



# Dbachecks – Configuration

- Enabling Users to set configuration

```
Set-DbcConfig -Name app.sqlinstance -Value sql2016, sql2017
```

```
Set-DbcConfig -Name app.sqlinstance -Value sqlcluster –Append
```

- Over 120 configuration items available right now (Apr 2018)



# Dbachecks – Configuration

## Using Configuration in Pester Tests

```
Describe "Network Latency" -Tag NetworkLatency, Connectivity, $filename {  
    $max = Get-DbcConfigValue policy.network.latencymaxms  
    @(Get-Instance).ForEach{  
        Context "Testing Network Latency on $psitem" {  
            @(Test-DbaNetworkLatency -SqlInstance $psitem).ForEach{  
                It "network latency Should Be less than $max ms on $($psitem.SqlInstance)" {  
                    $psitem.Average.TotalMilliseconds | Should -BeLessThan $max -Because 'You  
dont want to be waiting on the network'  
                }  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```



# Dbachecks – Configuration

Export and Import the config

```
Export-DbcConfig -Path C:\Users\Beard\git\PesterConfigs\Application1_PROD.json
```

```
Export-DbcConfig -Path C:\Users\Hair\git\PesterConfigs\Client1_System2_Quick.json
```

```
Import-DbcConfig -Path Git:\PesterConfigs\Application1_PROD.json
```

```
Invoke-DbcCheck
```

```
Import-DbcConfig -Path Git:\PesterConfigs\Client1_System2_Quick.json
```

```
Invoke-DbcCheck
```



# Dbachecks – User Simplicity

End user needs index

- Get-DbcCheck
- Get-DbcConfig
- Get-DbcTagCollection





# Dbachecks – User Simplicity

Get-DbcCheck | Out-GridView

Filter

+ Add criteria ▼

Group	Type	Description	UniqueTag	AllTags
Database	Sqlinstance	Auto Update Statistics	AutoUpdateStatistics	AutoUpdateStatistics, Database
Database	Sqlinstance	Auto Update Statistics Asynchronously	AutoUpdateStatisticsAsynchronously	AutoUpdateStatisticsAsynchronously, Database
Database	Sqlinstance	Datafile Auto Growth Configuration	DatafileAutoGrowthType	DatafileAutoGrowthType, Database
Database	Sqlinstance	Trustworthy Option	Trustworthy	Trustworthy, DISA, Database
Database	Sqlinstance	Database Orphaned User	OrphanedUser	OrphanedUser, Database
Database	Sqlinstance	PseudoSimple Recovery Model	PseudoSimple	PseudoSimple, Database
Database	Sqlinstance	Compatibility Level	CompatibilityLevel	CompatibilityLevel, Database
Domain	ComputerName	Active Directory Domain Name	DomainName	DomainName, Domain
Domain	ComputerName	Active Directory OU	OrganizationalUnit	OrganizationalUnit, Domain
HADR	ComputerName	Cluster Health	ClusterHealth	ClusterHealth, HADR
HADR	ComputerName	Cluster Server Health	ClusterServerHealth	ClusterServerHealth, HADR
HADR	ComputerName	Cluster Network Health	ClusterNetworkHealth	ClusterNetworkHealth, HADR
HADR	ComputerName	Availability Group Health	AvailabilityGroupHealth	AvailabilityGroupHealth, HADR
Instance	Sqlinstance	SQL Engine Service	SqlEngineServiceAccount	SqlEngineServiceAccount, ServiceAccount, Instance
Instance	ComputerName	SQL Browser Service	SqlBrowserServiceAccount	SqlBrowserServiceAccount, ServiceAccount, Instan...
Instance	Sqlinstance	TempDB Configuration	TempDbConfiguration	TempDbConfiguration, Instance
Instance	Sqlinstance	Ad Hoc Workload Optimization	AdHocWorkload	AdHocWorkload, Instance
Instance	Sqlinstance	Backup Path Access	BackupPathAccess	BackupPathAccess, Storage, DISA, Instance
Instance	Sqlinstance	Dedicated Administrator Connection	DAC	DAC, Instance
Instance	Sqlinstance	Network Latency	NetworkLatency	NetworkLatency, Connectivity, Instance
Instance	Sqlinstance	Linked Servers	LinkedServerConnection	LinkedServerConnection, Connectivity, Instance



# Dbachecks – User Simplicity

## Simplified output

- Send-DbcMailMessage
- Update-DbcPowerBiDataSource
- Start-DbcPowerBi



# Dbachecks – Output

Invoke-DbcCheck wraps Invoke-Pester so results available at command-line

Invoke-DbcCheck -Show Fails

```
PS dbachecks:\> Invoke-DbcCheck -Check Agent -Show Fails
Executing all tests in '.' with Tags Agent

Executing script C:\Program Files\WindowsPowerShell\Modules\dbachecks\checks\Agent.Tests.ps1

Describing SQL Agent Account

    Context Testing SQL Agent is running on localhost
    Context Testing SQL Agent is running on localhost\PROD1

Describing DBA Operators

    Context Testing DBA Operators exists on localhost
    Context Testing DBA Operators exists on localhost\PROD1

Describing Failsafe Operator

    Context Testing failsafe operator exists on localhost
    Context Testing failsafe operator exists on localhost\PROD1

Describing Database Mail Profile

    Context Testing database mail profile is set on localhost
    Context Testing database mail profile is set on localhost\PROD1

Describing Failed Jobs

    Context Checking for failed enabled jobs on localhost
    [-] Job That Fails's last run outcome on dbachecksdemo is success 23ms
        Expected: {Succeeded}
        But was:  {Failed}
        73:                                     $psitem.LastRunOutcome | Should -Be "Succeeded"
           at Invoke-Assertion, C:\Program Files\WindowsPowerShell\Modules\Pester\4.1.1\Functions\Assertions\Should.ps1: line 209
           at <ScriptBlock>, C:\Program Files\WindowsPowerShell\Modules\dbachecks\checks\Agent.Tests.ps1: line 73

    Context Checking for failed enabled jobs on localhost\PROD1

Executing script C:\Program Files\WindowsPowerShell\Modules\dbachecks\checks\Database.Tests.ps1
```



# Dbachecks – Output

Invoke-DbcCheck can output XML (Just like Invoke-Pester can)

Import-DbcConfig -Path

\$(System.WorkingDirectory)\PesterConfigs\Application.json

Invoke-DbcCheck -Show Summary -PassThru -OutputFile

\$(System.WorkingDirectory)\Test-Results.xml



# Dbachecks – Output

Invoke-DbcCheck for multiple scenarios all in one PowerBi 😊

```
Import-DbcConfig -path Git:\PesterConfigs\Application1_PROD.json
```

```
Invoke-DbcCheck -Show Summary -PassThru | Update-DbcPowerBiDataSource -Environment App1_Prod
```

```
Import-DbcConfig -path Git:\PesterConfigs\Application2_PROD.json
```

```
Invoke-DbcCheck -Show Summary -PassThru | Update-DbcPowerBiDataSource -Environment App2_Prod
```

```
Import-DbcConfig -path Git:\PesterConfigs\Application3_PROD.json
```

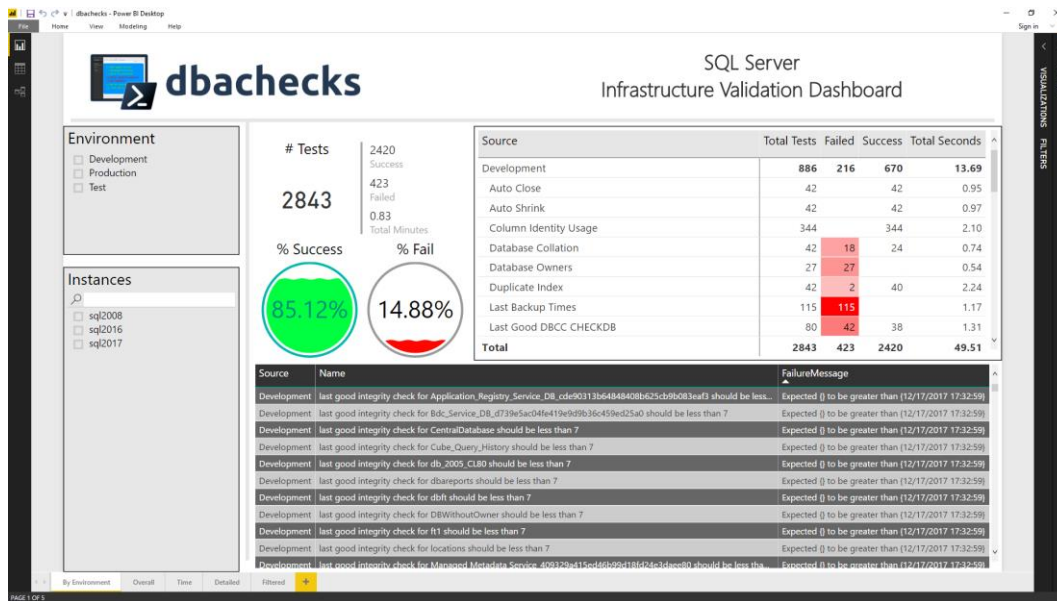
```
Invoke-DbcCheck -Show Summary -PassThru | Update-DbcPowerBiDataSource -Environment App3_Prod
```

```
Start-DbcPowerbi
```





# Dashboards galore



We use C:\Windows\Temp\dbachecks to simplify enabling instant refreshes



# Dbachecks – What we didn't do

Enable Output to

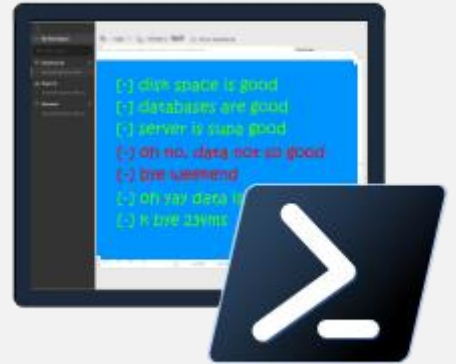
- Database
- MS Teams
- Slack
- Twitter
- JIRA



Because it's PowerShell so `Invoke-DbcCheck -PassThru` | ANYTHING

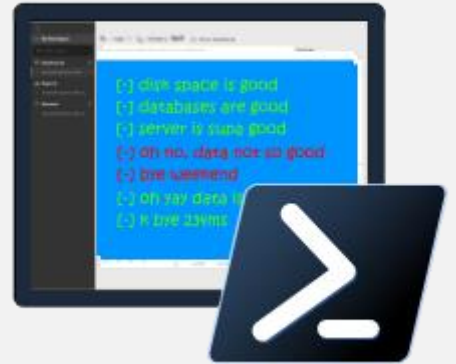


# demo time!





# questions

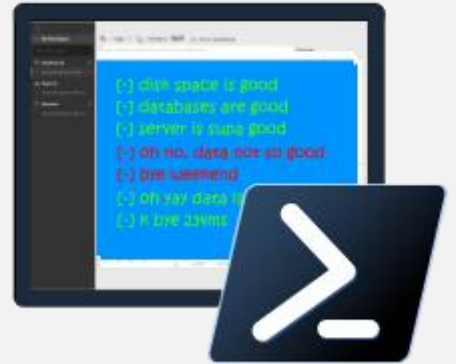


# Blog posts & Twitter

- [dbachecks.io/intro](https://dbachecks.io/intro)
- [dbachecks.io/deepdive](https://dbachecks.io/deepdive)
- [dbachecks.io/blog](https://dbachecks.io/blog)
- [dbachecks.io/twitter](https://dbachecks.io/twitter)



thank you!



# Install is easy

## POWERSHELL GALLERY

Install-Module dbachecks

Install-Module dbachecks –Scope CurrentUser

\* Automatically installs required modules



# Join our Slack channel

- Invite yourself to Slack
  - [dbatools.io/slack](https://dbatools.io/slack)
- Join #dbachecks and #dbatools
- Ask questions, possibly get answers in real time ;)



Pester  
♥  
SQL Server

