

75+ Vital Windows Commands

Every Cybersecurity Analyst Should Master

Open the Command Prompt by pressing Win + R, typing "cmd", and pressing Enter.

No		Explanation	Sample Usage
1	ipconfig	Displays IP configuration information	<pre>ipconfig /all ipconfig /?</pre>
2	systeminfo	Displays system information	systeminfo
3	netstat	Displays network statistics	netstat -ano
4	whoami	Displays current user	whoami
5	getmac	Displays MAC address /v switch adds verbose output, providing more detailed information	getmac /v
6	hostname	Displays computer name	hostname
7	ver	Displays Windows version	ver
8	winver	Displays Windows version and build	winver
9	ping	Tests network connectivity Replace n [number] with the number of pings you want to send	ping google.com ping -n 13 google.com
10	tracert	Traces route to a destination	tracert microsoft.com
11	nslookup	Queries DNS servers	nslookup google.com
12	tasklist	Lists running processes	tasklist
13	taskkill	Terminates processes /IM stands for "Image Name" The /F flag forces termination of the process	<pre>taskkill /IM notepad.exe /F taskkill /PID process_id /F taskkill /IM chrome* /F taskkill /PID PID1 /PID PID2 /F</pre>
14	sfc	Scans and repairs system files	sfc /scannow

15	chkdsk	Checks disk for errors	chkdsk C: /f
16	diskpart	Manages disks and partitions	diskpart then list disk
17	format	Formats a disk	format C: /fs:ntfs
18	хсору	Copies files and directories	xcopy C:\source D:\dest /E
19	robocopy	Advanced file copy utility	robocopy C:\source D:\dest /E
20	dir	Lists files and directories	dir C:\
21	cd	Changes directory	cd C:\Users
22	md	Creates a new directory	md NewFolder
23	rd	Removes a directory	rd OldFolder
24	del	Deletes files	del C:\file.txt
25	сору	Copies files	copy C:\file.txt D:\
26	move	Moves files	move C:\file.txt D:\
27	ren	Renames files or directories	ren oldname.txt newname.txt
28	type	Displays contents of a text file	<pre>type C:\file.txt</pre>
29	find	Searches for a text string in files	find "error" C:\log.txt
30	findstr	Searches for strings in files	ipconfig /all findstr DNS
31	sort	Sort the contents of a file named "names.txt" alphabetically.	sort < names.txt
32	comp	Compares contents of two files	comp file1.txt file2.txt
33	fc	Compares files and displays differences	fc file1.txt file2.txt
34	tree	Displays directory structure graphically	tree C:\

35	attrib	Changes file attributes	attrib +r C:\file.txt
36	cipher	Displays or alters file encryption	cipher /e C:\SecretFolder
37	compact	Displays or alters file compression	compact /c C:\folder
38	powercfg	Manages power settings	powercfg /energy
39	shutdown	Shuts down or restarts computer	shutdown /r /t 0
40	gpupdate	Updates Group Policy settings	gpupdate /force
41	gpresult	Displays Group Policy results	gpresult /r
42	net user	Manages user accounts	net user JohnDoe newpassword
43	net localgroup	Manages local groups	net localgroup Administrators
44	net start	Starts a network service	net start "Print Spooler"
45	net stop	Stops a network service	net stop "Print Spooler"
46	netsh	Network configuration tool	netsh wlan show profiles
47	sc	Manages Windows services	sc query
48	reg	Manages registry	reg query HKLM\Software
49	runas	Runs a program as a different user	runas /user:Admin cmd
50	schtasks	Schedules commands and programs	schtasks /create /tn "MyTask" /tr notepad.exe /sc daily

51	wmic	Windows Management Instrumentation Command-line, It is a powerful Windows utility that can be used for both legitimate system administration tasks and potentially abused by attackers.	wmic os get name, version, buildnumber This retrieves basic OS information. Software inventory: wmic product get name, version This lists installed software. Remote code execution: wmic /node: "victim_ip" process call create "powershell.exe -enc base64_encoded_payload" This executes a malicious PowerShell script on a remote system. Malware persistence: wmic startup create name="malware", command="C:\malw are.exe" This adds malware to the startup folder. Evasion technique: wmic process where name="antivirus.exe" delete Attackers may try to terminate security software.
52	assoc	Displays or modifies file extension associations	assoc .txt
53	ftype	Displays or modifies file types	ftype txtfile
54	driverquery	Displays installed device drivers	driverquery
55	msinfo32	Displays system information	msinfo32
56	mmc	Opens Microsoft Management Console	mmc
57	eventvwr	Opens Event Viewer	eventvwr

59	devmgmt.msc	Opens Device Manager	devmgmt.msc
60	diskmgmt.msc	Opens Disk Management	diskmgmt.msc
61	taskmgr	Opens Task Manager	taskmgr
62	perfmon	Opens Performance Monitor	perfmon
63	resmon	Opens Resource Monitor	resmon
64	msconfig	Opens System Configuration	msconfig
65	control	Opens Control Panel	control
66	mstsc	Opens Remote Desktop Connection	mstsc
67	cleanmgr	Opens Disk Cleanup	cleanmgr
68	defrag C:	Defragments a drive	defrag C:
69	fsutil fsinfo drives	File system utility	fsutil fsinfo drives
70	path	Displays or sets PATH environment variable	path
71	set	Displays, sets, or removes environment variables	set
72	echo	Displays messages or turns command echoing on/off	echo Hello World
73	cls	Clears the screen	cls
74	query	Displays information about processes that are running on a Remote Desktop Session Host (RD Session Host) server.	query process * To show all processes
75	winget	Winget is Microsoft's official package manager for Windows 10 and Windows 11. It allows users to easily discover, install, upgrade, remove and configure applications from the command line.	List installed applications: winget list Search for an application: winget search <app name=""> Install an application: winget install <app id=""> Upgrade an application: winget upgrade <app id=""></app></app></app>

76 pathping	Pathping is a command-line utility that combines functionality of the ping and tracert commands. It traces the route between a source and destination while providing detailed information about network latency and packet loss at each hop along the path	pathping -q 10 -n -p 100 example.com This sets 10 queries per hop, disables hostname resolution, and sets 100ms between pings
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