Lab - System Utilities

Introduction

In this lab, you will use Windows utilities to configure operating system settings.

Recommended Equipment
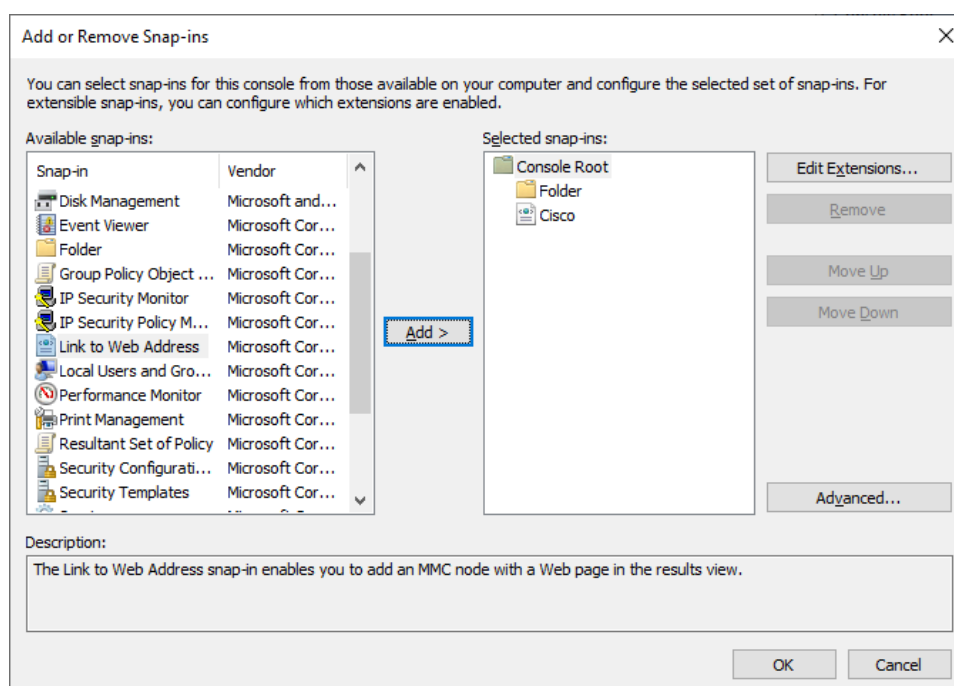
- A computer running Windows
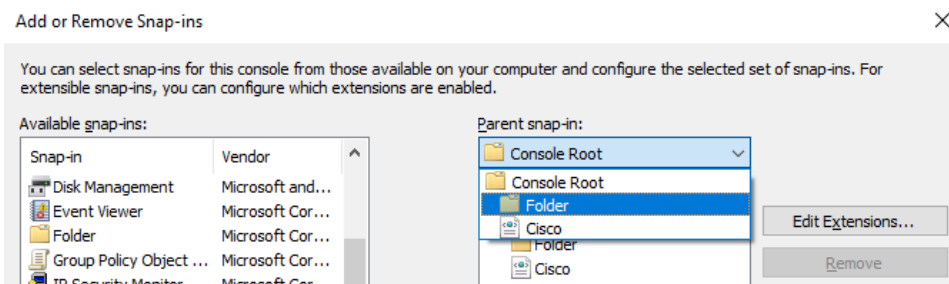
Instructions

Part 1:   Custom Management Console

Step 1: Explore the management console.

a. To open the Microsoft Management Console, click **Start**, and search for **mmc**. Click **Yes** to allow Microsoft Management Console to make changes to the computer.

b. In the **Console1 - [Console Root]** window, you can build a custom console. Click **File > Add/Remove Snap-in**.

c. In the **Add or Remove Snap-ins** window, you can add a folder snap-in. Scroll down the Available snap-ins: pane to locate the **Folder** snap-in. Select **Folder** and click **Add>**.

d. To add the **Link to Web Address** snap-in, scroll down the Available snap-ins: pane and select **Link to Web Address**. Click **Add>**. In the **Link to Web Address** wizard window, enter http://www.cisco.com in the **Path or URL:** field, click **Next>** to continue.

e. In the Friendly name for the Link to Web Address snap-in box, enter Cisco and click Finish to continue.

Step 2: Create a custom management console.

a. To add snap-ins to the folder snap-in, click **Advanced**.

b. The Advanced window opens. Select Allow changing the parent snap-in. Click OK.

c. A drop-down menu appears for **Parent snap-in**. In the **Parent snap-in** box, select **Folder**.

d. Add the following snap-ins from the Available snap-in: pane: **Computer Management**, **Device Manager**, and **Disk Management**. In each of the snap-in windows, click **Finish** to select to use the snap-in to manage the Local Computer or This computer.

e. Click **OK** to continue to exit the Add or Remove Snap-ins window.

f. In the **Console1** window, right-click the **Folder** icon and select **Rename**. Change the name of the folder to **Management Tools**.

g. To save the custom console, click **File > Save As**. Change the file name to your name. Example: **John's Console**. Change the **Save in** box to **Desktop**. Click **Save**.

h. Close all open windows.

i. On the desktop, double-click the **Console** icon that contains your name to re-open the console with your snap-ins. Click **Yes** to allow this application to make changes to your device as necessary.

j. Review the **Management Tools** folder by double-clicking on the tools.

k. Within your custom console, navigate to the Event Viewer.

Question:

What was the path you use to navigate to the Event Viewer?

⁻Opened up the console root then to the management tools

l. Close the **Console** window when you finish your review. Click **No** when prompted to save the changes.

Part 2: Registry Editor

Step 1: Change your desktop background settings.

a. Right-click the Desktop > select **Personalize**.

Question:

What is the background picture?

-Random default windows wallpapers

b. In Windows 10, select **Solid color** in the Background drop-down list. Choose a **blue** background color.

In Windows 8.1 and 7, click **Desktop Background**. Select **Solid Colors** in the Picture Location drop-down list. Choose a **blue** background color.
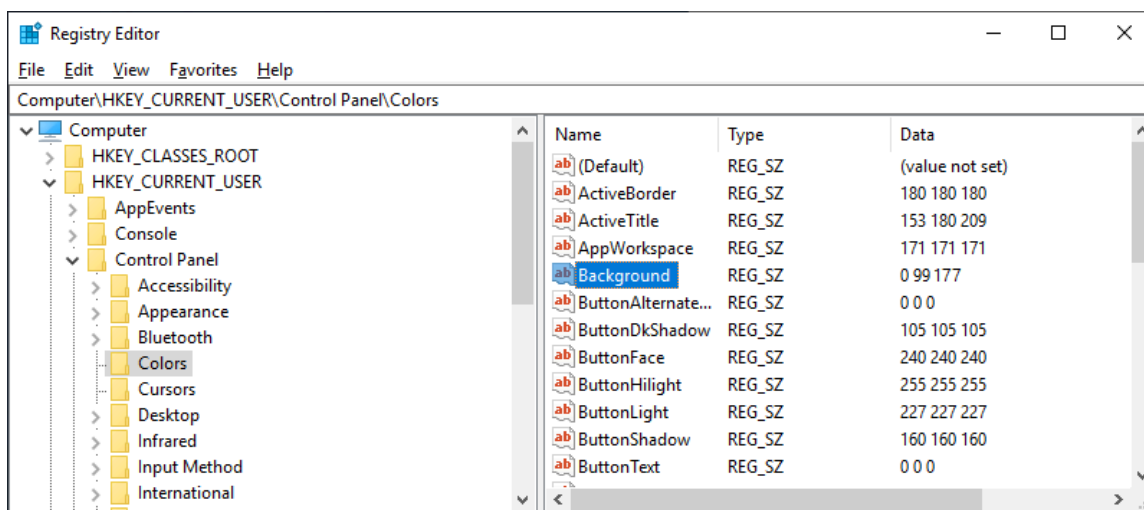
c. Click **Save changes**. The computer screen should now have a blue background. If not, ask the instructor for assistance.

d. Close all open windows.

Step 2: Open the registry editor.

a. To open the **Registry Editor**, click **Start** and type **regedit**. Click **Yes** to allow Registry Editor to make changes to the computer.

Note: Do not make any changes in the Registry Editor without instructor permission.

b. Select and expand the **HKEY_CURRENT_USER** entry.

c. Expand **Control Panel**. Click **Colors**. Click **Background** in the right panel.

Question:

What is the data value of the Background (hint – it has three numbers that correspond to red, green, and blue)?

-**0 0 255**

Step 3: Export a registry key.

You will export the **HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\Colors** folder.

a. In the left pane, select the **Colors** folder and click **File > Export**.

b. Save the file to the Desktop with the name **BlueBKG**.

c. At the desktop, right-click the **BlueBKG.reg** icon and select **Edit**.

d. Notepad opens displaying the contents of **BlueBKG.reg**.

Question:

What is the data value of the **Background**?

-0 0 255

e. Close the **BlueBKG.reg – Notepad** window.

f. Open the Personalization window by right-clicking the **Desktop > Personalize > Desktop Background**. Select a **red** background color.

g. Click **Save** changes. Close the **Personalization** window.

h. The desktop background should be red. Click the **Registry Editor** window.

i. On your keyboard, press **F5** to refresh the **Registry Editor** window.

Question:

What is the data value of the Background? Compare the new value in the Registry to the value saved in BlueBKG.reg.

-255 0 0

Step 4:   Import a registry file.

You will import the **BlueBKG.reg** file to change the Desktop ground back to blue.

a. Click the **Registry Editor** window.

b. Click **File** > **Import**. Locate and click the **BlueBKG.reg** file then click **Open**.

c. The **Registry Editor** informational message opens letting you know that keys and values have been successfully added to the registry. Click **OK**.

d. Select the **Registry Editor** window.

Questions:

What is the data value of the Background?

-Still comes up as 0 0 255

What is the color of the desktop?

-Blue.

e. Restart the computer.

Question:

What is the color of the desktop?

-Still blue after restarting

f. Reset **Display Properties Background** to the original settings.

g. Close all open windows.

h. Delete the custom console and BlueBKG file on the desktop.

Reflection Question

1. Why would it be beneficial to add snap-ins to the mmc that are for other computers on the network?

    -Snap-ins make it easier to manage these computers on the network remotely.

2. After restarting the computer, why was the desktop color changed?

    -On my end it did not change color but for others if it did change then the reason behind it is because the registry import restored the saved background RGB value.