PowerShell says "execution of scripts is disabled on this system."

Asked 10 years ago Active 1 month ago Viewed 2.4m times



I am trying to run a cmd file that calls a PowerShell script from cmd.exe, but I am getting this error:

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1

Management_Install.ps1 cannot be loaded because the execution of scripts is disabled on this system.

I ran this command:

Set-ExecutionPolicy -ExecutionPolicy Unrestricted

When I run Get-ExecutionPolicy from PowerShell, it returns Unrestricted.

PS C:\Users\Administrator\> Get-ExecutionPolicy Unrestricted

C:\Projects\Microsoft.Practices.ESB\Source\Samples\Management Portal\Install\Scripts> powershell .\Management Install.ps1 1

WARNING: Running x86 PowerShell...

File C:\Projects\Microsoft.Practices.ESB\Source\Samples\Management Portal\Install\Scripts\Management_Install.ps1 cannot be loaded because the execution of scripts is disabled on this system. Please see "get-help about_signing" for more details.

At line:1 char:25

- .\Management Install.ps1 <<<< 1
 - CategoryInfo: NotSpecified: (:) [], PSSecurityException
 - FullyQualifiedErrorld : RuntimeException

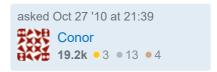
C:\Projects\Microsoft.Practices.ESB\Source\Samples\Management Portal\Install\Scripts> PAUSE

Press any key to continue . . .

The system is Windows Server 2008R2.







Its worth pointing out that Execution Policy carries several scopes, and running PowerShell in different ways can get you different policies. To view the list of policies, run Get-ExecutionPolicy -List . – Bacon Bits Mar 9 '18 at 16:26

32 Answers

Active Oldest Votes



2 Next



If you're using <u>Windows Server 2008</u> R2 then there is an *x64* and *x86* version of PowerShell both of which have to have their execution policies set. Did you set the execution policy on both hosts?



2421

As an *Administrator*, you can set the execution policy by typing this into your PowerShell window:



Set-ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned

For more information, see *Using the Set-ExecutionPolicy Cmdlet*.

When you are done, you can set the policy back to its default value with:

Set-ExecutionPolicy Restricted

edited Feb 16 at 6:14



answered Oct 28 '10 at 1:16



- Set-ExecutionPolicy Restricted seems to be the way to undo it if you want to put the permissions back to as they were: technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ee176961.aspx. The temporary bypass method by @Jack Edmonds looks safer to me: powershell -ExecutionPolicy ByPass -File script.ps1 SharpC Nov 4 '14 at 10:39 /*
- For a more secure policy, scope it to the actual user: Set-ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned -Scope CurrentUser Nuno Aniceto Jul 7 '15 at 13:18

Set-ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned cannot be the first line in your script. If it is, highlight it and run selected only INITIALLY before running the rest of your script. – ozzy432836 Jun 21 '17 at 13:36

I came across a similar question on SF site, <u>"Powershell execution policy within SQL Server"</u> asked Oct 10 '14. The answers there included Get-ExecutionPolicy -List which helped me to see the different scopes. The cmd Get-ExecutionPolicy does not show all the scopes. Import-Module SQLPS is now working with policies changed as follows: {Undefined-

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You can bypass this policy for a single file by adding -ExecutionPolicy Bypass when running PowerShell

764



powershell -ExecutionPolicy Bypass -File script.ps1



edited Dec 27 '19 at 12:48

TPAKTOPA

2,155 • 1 • 17 • 25

answered Feb 6 '12 at 21:28



- This is also really handy if you're on a non-administrator account. I made a shortcut to %SystemRoot%\system32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe -ExecutionPolicy ByPass on my taskbar. zek19 Jan 14 '15 at 12:15 /
- Note that Microsoft Technet stylizes it as "Bypass", not "ByPass". See: technet.microsoft.com/nl-nl/library/hh849812.aspx Jelle Geerts Mar 1 '16 at 1:57
- This doesn't work for me, I get the same permission denied as if I called it normally. Calling a ps1 from a .bat by doing type script.ps1 | powershell does work though. Some_Guy Oct 19 '17 at 17:56
- 9 The purpose to Execution Policy is to prevent people from double-clicking a .ps1 and accidentally running something they didn't mean to. This would happen with .bat files Kolob Canyon Nov 7 '17 at 17:38
- A parameter cannot be found that matches parameter name 'File' Command: Set-ExecutionPolicy -ExecutionPolicy Bypass -File .\file.ps1 - Devil's Advocate Jan 21 at 17:31



I had a similar issue and noted that the default cmd on Windows Server 2012, was running the x64 one.

186



For Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows 10, Windows Server 2008 R2 or Windows Server 2012, run the following commands as Administrator:

1

x86 (32 bit)

Open C:\Windows\SysWOW64\cmd.exe

Run the command powershell Set-ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned

x64 (64 bit)

Open C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe

Run the command powershell Set-ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned

You can check mode using

- In CMD: echo %PROCESSOR_ARCHITECTURE%
- In Powershell: [Environment]::Is64BitProcess

edited Mar 15 '19 at 13:29

answered Aug 30 '13 at 13:10



1 Good solution. Thanks – Lova Chittumuri Aug 21 at 16:54



149

Most of the existing answers explain the *How*, but very few explain the *Why*. And before you go around executing code from strangers on the Internet, especially code that disables security measures, you should understand exactly what you're doing. So here's a little more detail on this problem.



From the TechNet About Execution Policies Page:

Windows PowerShell execution policies let you determine the conditions under which Windows PowerShell loads configuration files and runs scripts.

The benefits of which, as enumerated by <u>PowerShell Basics - Execution Policy and Code Signing</u>, are:

- Control of Execution Control the level of trust for executing scripts.
- Command Highjack Prevent injection of commands in my path.
- Identity Is the script created and signed by a developer I trust and/or a signed with a certificate from a Certificate Authority I trust.
- Integrity Scripts cannot be modified by malware or malicious user.

To check your current execution policy, you can run Get-ExecutionPolicy. But you're probably here because you want to change it.

To do so you'll run the <u>Set-ExecutionPolicy</u> cmdlet.

You'll have two major decisions to make when updating the execution policy.

Execution Policy Type:

- Restricted † No Script either local, remote or downloaded can be executed on the system.
- Allsigned All script that are ran require to be digitally signed.
- RemoteSigned All remote scripts (UNC) or downloaded need to be signed.
- Unrestricted No signature for any type of script is required.

- LocalMachine † The execution policy affects all users of the computer.
- CurrentUser The execution policy affects only the current user.
- Process The execution policy affects only the current Windows PowerShell process.

† = Default

For example: if you wanted to change the policy to RemoteSigned for just the CurrentUser, you'd run the following command:

```
Set-ExecutionPolicy -ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned -Scope CurrentUser
```

Note: In order to change the Execution policy, you must be running **PowerShell As Adminstrator**. If you are in regular mode and try to change the execution policy, you'll get the following error:

Access to the registry key
'HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\PowerShell\1\ShellIds\Microsoft.P
owerShell' is denied. To change the execution policy for the default (LocalMachine)
scope, start Windows PowerShell with the "Run as administrator" option.

If you want to tighten up the internal restrictions on your own scripts that have not been downloaded from the Internet (or at least don't contain the UNC metadata), you can force the policy to only run signed sripts. To sign your own scripts, you can follow the instructions on Scott Hanselman's article on <u>Signing PowerShell Scripts</u>.

Note: Most people are likely to get this error whenever they open Powershell because the first thing PS tries to do when it launches is execute your user profile script that sets up your environment however you like it.

The file is typically located in:

You can find the exact location by running the powershell variable

```
$profile
```

If there's nothing that you care about in the profile, and don't want to fuss with your security settings, you can just delete it and powershell won't find anything that it cannot execute.

edited Apr 23 '15 at 13:25



trivial to <u>get around execution policy</u> with something as simple as Get-Content .\MyFile.ps1 | powershell.exe -NoProfile - . - Bacon Bits Mar 29 '16 at 12:52

- Given the existence of -ExecutionPolicy ByPass though, what is the purpose of this policy anyway? Is it just to prevent users from accidentally opening a powershell console and running a malicious script? Couldn't the attacker just use an executable or a batch script if they wanted to get around this? Even after reading @BaconBits comment I'm not quite sure what scenario this policy is meant to prevent... Ajedi32 Jul 19 '16 at 16:29
- @Ajedi32 Say I have a task that runs a script on a network share. When I invoke my script, I want my process to verify that the script is signed. I want my code to double check that the script I'm going to run is the code I trust to run. I don't care if you can run my code. Stopping that is access rights' job. I just want to prevent you from making me run code that I didn't write. Access rights means the operating system prevents you from modifying my code when you're logged on. Code signing and execution policy means my script hasn't been modified when I go to run it. Bacon Bits Jul 19 '16 at 21:46

how about showing how to sign the script rather then how to disable security? Is that an option? – gman Aug 14 at 9:23 🖍

@gman, I think that's a fair point. To crowdsource the work, you can certainly add that answer or append to this one. – KyleMit Aug 15 at 15:43



In Windows 7:

- 45 Go to Start Menu and search for "Windows PowerShell ISE".
- Right click the x86 version and choose "Run as administrator".
- In the top part, paste Set-ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned; run the script. Choose "Yes".

Repeat these steps for the 64-bit version of Powershell ISE too (the non x86 version).

I'm just clarifying the steps that @Chad Miller hinted at. Thanks Chad!

answered Dec 4 '12 at 5:25



15.7k • 23 • 126 • 235

In Windows 8 too, this worked. I set Set-ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned; in Windows Powershell only, by running it as administrator. Didn't need to repeat the procedure for x86 version. – Avani Khabiya Oct 14 at 9:20



Also running this command before the script also solves the issue:

41

set-executionpolicy unrestricted



edited Mar 9 '16 at 18:16



Peter Mortensen
26.7k ● 21 ● 92 ● 122

answered Mar 27 '12 at 6:11



manik sikka 491 ● 4 ● 2 and why it isn't working. You can set unrestricted as a last resort, but it shouldn't be your starting point. – KyleMit Nov 16 '14 at 8:08

- 4 Thanks for pointing out this option too. With all due respect to security needs for production purposes, in the times when quick prototyping ability demand is so high, all the policies and security really get in the way of getting stuff done. − tishma Apr 2 '16 at 12:27 ✓
- Regarding the comment re prototyping, I'm afraid that this is why crappy code gets into production. Of course this is just a trivial example, but if you can't solve something this trivial during development, it's a worry for release. Also, for bespoke code, and if you can, know the target environment we set the majority of our internal systems as Remotesigned . TrixM Feb 12 '17 at 13:43



If you are in an environment where you are not an administrator, you can set the Execution Policy just for you, and it will not require administrator.





Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope "CurrentUser" -ExecutionPolicy "RemoteSigned"



or

```
Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope "CurrentUser" -ExecutionPolicy "Unrestricted"
```

You can read all about it in the help entry.

```
Help Get-ExecutionPolicy -Full
Help Set-ExecutionPolicy -Full
```

edited Dec 1 '14 at 19:49



Peter Mortensen
26.7k ● 21 ● 92 ● 122

answered Nov 19 '13 at 19:13



Micah 'Powershell Ninja'
429 • 4 • 4

Worked great for me in Windows 8, even when Set-ExecutionPolicy Unrestricted as an admin didn't seem to "unrestrict" enough to actually help. — patridge Aug 21 '14 at 15:32

- I believe what you may be experiencing is a GPO or something else overwriting your setting of the "LocalMachine" level of ExecutionPolicy. You cannot overwrite what a Domain Policy has in place with the Set-ExecutionPolicy command. However, but setting the "CurrentUser" level of access, you and only you will have the specified Execution Policy. This is because the computer looks at the CurrentUser for execution policy before it looks at the LocalMachine setting. Micah 'Powershell Ninja' Sep 25 '14 at 14:57
- Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope "CurrentUser" -ExecutionPolicy "Unrestricted" is the only solution that worked for me. Thank you Paulj Aug 23 '16 at 19:43



We can get the status of current ExecutionPolicy by the command below:



Get-ExecutionPolicy;



By default it is Restricted. To allow the execution of PowerShell scripts we need to set this

We can set the policy for Current User as Bypass or Unrestricted by using any of the below PowerShell commands:

```
Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope CurrentUser -ExecutionPolicy Bypass -Force;

Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope CurrentUser -ExecutionPolicy Unrestricted -Force;
```

Unrestricted policy loads all configuration files and runs all scripts. If you run an unsigned script that was downloaded from the Internet, you are prompted for permission before it runs.

Whereas in **Bypass** policy, nothing is blocked and there are no warnings or prompts during script execution. Bypass ExecutionPolicy is more relaxed than Unrestricted.





2,880 • 2 • 24 • 27

- Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope CurrentUser -ExecutionPolicy Bypass -Force; AKA quick and dirty way to tell VS2015 to stop complaining and run my bloody script. thanks. lifesaver. Eon Sep 8 '16 at 13:48
- 1 The trailing semicolons on the ends of your commands are superfluous. Bill_Stewart Nov 27 '18 at 21:57



RemoteSigned: all scripts you created yourself will be run, and all scripts downloaded from the Internet will need to be signed by a trusted publisher.

33



OK, change the policy by simply typing:

(1)

Set-ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned



answered Jul 20 '11 at 12:37



As recommended in other posts: it's wise to include "-Scope CurrentUser" for a more secure policy, when that makes sense. – clusterdude Nov 6 '19 at 19:54



I'm using **Windows 10** and was unable to run any command. The only command that gave me some clues was this:

27



[x64]

- 1. Open C:\Windows\SysWOW64\cmd.exe [as administrator]
- 2 Run the commands nowershall Set-EvecutionPolicy Unrestricted

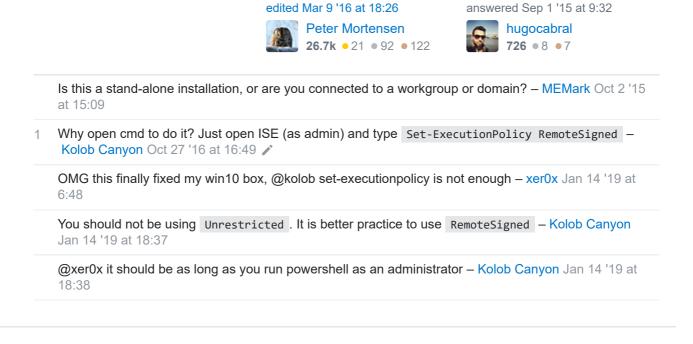
But this didn't work. It was limited. Probably new security policies for Windows10. I had this error:

Set-ExecutionPolicy: Windows PowerShell updated your execution policy successfully, but the setting is overridden by a policy defined at a more specific scope. Due to the override, your shell will retain its current effective execution policy of...

So I found another way (solution):

- 1. Open Run Command/Console (Win + R)
- 2. Type: gpedit.msc (Group Policy Editor)
- 3. Browse to Local Computer Policy -> Computer Configuration -> Administrative Templates -> Windows Components -> Windows Powershell.
- 4. Enable "Turn on Script Execution"
- 5. Set the policy as needed. I set mine to "Allow all scripts".

Now open PowerShell and enjoy;)



14

Then revert changes like:

powershell Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope "CurrentUser" -ExecutionPolicy "RemoteSigned"

R and type copy paste command and press OK:





1. Open powershell as administration

11

Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope "CurrentUser" -ExecutionPolicy "RemoteSigned"



(I)

use this command

answered May 31 at 20:08





Setting the execution policy is environment-specific. If you are trying to execute a script from the running x86 <u>ISE</u> you have to use the x86 PowerShell to set the execution policy. Likewise, if you are running the 64-bit ISE you have to set the policy with the 64-bit PowerShell.



10







answered Aug 25 '12 at 0:33





You can also bypass this by using the following command:

10

PS > powershell Get-Content .\test.ps1 | Invoke-Expression



You can also read this article by Scott Sutherland that explains 15 different ways to bypass the PowerShell Set-ExecutionPolicy if you don't have administrator privileges:

15 Ways to Bypass the PowerShell Execution Policy

edited Jun 26 '18 at 19:54



answered Dec 30 '16 at 14:45



This is probably one of the more compelling guides to troubleshoot and understand this restriction. – Osvaldo Mercado Jul 26 '19 at 19:42



- 1. Open Run Command/Console (Win + R) Type: **gpedit. msc** (Group Policy Editor)
- 2. Browse to Local Computer Policy -> Computer Configuration -> Administrative Templates -> Windows Components -> Windows Powershell.
- 2 Enable "Turn on Corint Execution" Set the policy of peeded Leet mine to "Allow all

Now run the run command what ever you are using. Trust this the app will runs. Enjoy:)

answered Jun 16 at 7:43





you may try this and select "All" Option

Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope CurrentUser -ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned



edited Feb 13 at 6:51



answered Feb 13 at 6:32





I have also faced similar issue try this hope it helps someone As I'm using windows so followed the steps as given below Open command prompt as an administrator and then go to this path



6

C:\Users\%username%\AppData\Roaming\npm\



Look for the file ng.ps1 in this folder (dir) and then delete it (del ng.ps1)

You can also clear npm cache after this though it should work without this step as well. Hope it helps as it worked for me.

Hope it helps

answered Jul 11 at 20:05



this one worked, i just removed a few .ps1 extension files and it started working - Arun Prasad E S Sep 1 at 18:08

Cheers man worked a charm. – Maximillion Bartango Oct 3 at 22:45



- 1. Open PowerShell as Administrator and run **Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope CurrentUser**
- 2. Provide **RemoteSigned** and press Enter



3. Run Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope CurrentUser



4. Provide **Unrestricted** and press Enter

(1)

answered Apr 19 '18 at 5:11

In the PowerShell <u>ISE</u> editor I found running the following line first allowed scripts.

4

Set-ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned -Scope Process



edited Mar 9 '16 at 18:18



answered May 29 '15 at 14:50





In PowerShell 2.0, the execution policy was set to disabled by default.

2 From then on, the PowerShell team has made a lot of improvements, and they are confident that users will not break things much while running scripts. So from PowerShell 4.0 onward, it is enabled by default.

In your case, type Set-ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned from the PowerShell console and say yes.





Peter Mortensen
26.7k ● 21 ● 92 ● 122

answered Oct 28 '15 at 19:12





I had the same problem today. 64-bit execution policy was unrestricted, while 32-bit was restricted.

2

Here's how to change just the 32-bit policy remotely:

1

Invoke-Command -ComputerName \$servername -ConfigurationName Microsoft.PowerShell32 scriptblock {Set-ExecutionPolicy unrestricted}

edited Jun 26 '18 at 19:44



Peter Mortensen **26.7k** • 21 • 92 • 122

answered Nov 10 '17 at 13:49



rko281 **69** • 5



Go to the registry path

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\PowerShell\1\ShellIds\Microsoft.PowerShell and set ExecutionPolicy to RemoteSigned.



1

edited Jun 26 '18 at 19:55



sur

sunish surendran.k
71 • 2 • 14

answered Oct 8 '16 at 19:20

1. Open PowerShell as Administrator and run **Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope CurrentUser** 2. Provide **RemoteSigned** and press Enter 3. Run **Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope CurrentUser** 4. Provide

I get another warning when I tryit to run Set-ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned

2

I solved with this commands



Set-ExecutionPolicy "RemoteSigned" -Scope Process -Confirm:\$false Set-ExecutionPolicy "RemoteSigned" -Scope CurrentUser -Confirm:\$false

answered Feb 9 at 15:16





If you're here because of running it with Ruby or Chef and using "system execution, execute as follows:



`powershell.exe -ExecutionPolicy Unrestricted -command [Environment]::GetFolderPath(\'mydocuments\')`

1

That command is for getting "MyDocuments" Folder.

-ExecutionPolicy Unrestricted does the trick.

I hope it's helpful for someone else.

edited Dec 1 '14 at 19:50



Peter Mortensen **26.7k** • 21 • 92 • 122 answered Oct 20 '14 at 0:09



3,568 • 3 • 22 • 41

Should the enclosing `` really be there? – Peter Mortensen Dec 1 '14 at 19:52 🖍



Several answers point to execution policy. However some things require "runas administrator" also. This is safest in that there is no permanent change to execution policy, and can get past administrator restriction. Use with schedtask to start a batch with:



runas.exe /savecred /user:administrator powershell -ExecutionPolicy ByPass -File script.ps1

from both Jack Edmonds above, and Peter Mortensen / Dhana of post How to run an application as "run as administrator" from the command prompt?

edited May 23 '17 at 11:55



answered Jan 16 '16 at 1:40



Kirt Carson

others had no issues without this line in my PowerShell scripts: Set-ExecutionPolicy -ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned -Force -Scope Process edited Mar 9 '16 at 18:22 answered Jul 2 '15 at 13:03 Peter Mortensen WIlliamT Open the Powershell console as an administrator, and then set the execution policy Set-ExecutionPolicy -ExecutionPolicy Remotesigned edited Mar 8 at 15:38 answered Mar 5 at 16:40 Avi Parshan lokeshbandharapu **1,251** • 2 • 16 • 23 You can use a special way to bypass it: 0 Get-Content "PS1scriptfullpath.ps1" | Powershell-NoProfile -It pipes the content of powershell script to powershell exe and executes it bypassing the **(1)** execution policy. answered Jan 13 at 17:04 Wasif Hasan **7,524** • 2 • 6 • 27 This solved my issue Open Windows PowerShell Command and run below query to change ExecutionPolicy 0Set-ExecutionPolicy -ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned -Scope CurrentUser if it ask for confirm changes press 'Y' and hit enter.

answered Jan 31 at 6:15

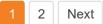


Run Set-ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned command

()

answered Apr 6 at 6:45





Highly active question. Earn 10 reputation in order to answer this question. The reputation requirement helps protect this question from spam and non-answer activity.