



Working with the Registry

Information

Be careful when making changes to the registry. Incorrect or deleted entries may result in malfunctions of the operating system. Reverting those changes is often difficult. Hence it is considered best practice to solve these exercises which involve changing registry keys in a virtual environment (VM).

Exercise 1

- a. List all *PSDrives* on your system. Which ones belong to the Windows registry?
- b. List only those *PSDrives* that belong to the Windows registry.
- c. Which registry hives are not displayed? Map one of these hives as a new *PSDrive*.

Exercise 2

Run a PowerShell as administrator.

- a. Set your working directory to *HKLM\Software\Microsoft* in the registry.
- b. Print all keys whose names begin with the letter ,W'.
- c. Print all keys whose names begin with the letter ,W' and end with the letter ,R' and have subkeys in the second level (,grandchildren') which also have a name beginning with the letter ,W'.

Exercise 3

Run a PowerShell as administrator.

- a. Navigate to the registry path for AutoStart¹.
- b. Read the value of the key *Run* by using *Get-ItemProperty*.
- c. Define a new registry entry that automatically starts the editor Notepad when someone logs on to the system. To this end use the parameters *-LiteralPath*, *-Name*, *-Value* and *-Type*
- d. Test the new entry by logging off and on again or by starting a remote session with your computer.

¹ The path to the AutoStart key in the registry is: *HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion*