

Self Help in PowerShell

Information

Use the Cmdlet Get-Help < CMDLET > to show the general help for a Cmdlet.

Use Get-Command -Noun *<KEYWORD>*1 to get a list of all Cmdlets dealing with the <KEYWORD>.

Use Get-Command -Verb <ACTION>*2 to show all Cmdlets available that implement the action <ACTION>.

These Cmdlets are useful if one does not know (or remember) the exact name of the desired Cmdlet. If the object that is to be manipulated is already known, the parameter -Noun can be used. If the object (keyword) is known, but not the exact action that should be performed on the object, the parameter -Verb is useful.

Exercise 1

For each of the following exercises note the appropriate Cmdlet in PowerShell. Search for the given keyword resp. the desired action. Afterwards execute the found Cmdlet and take notes of interesting aspects of



a. Print the current date. (Keyword: *Date*)



- b. Print the computer's time zone. (Keyword: *Time*)
- c. Print details of the current IP configuration (Keyword: IPConfiguration) (Bonus: page the output).



- d. Clear the content (more precise: the buffer) of PowerShell³. (Action: *Clear*)
- e. Print detailed information about the system configuration. (Keyword: Computer)



Exercise 2

Use Get-Help to find out which parameters are available for the cmdlets from Exercise 1. Which parameters are available for all Cmdlets?

¹ The asterisks ("stars") are part of the command and must not be omitted. They are called wildcards in technical terms.

² See above

³ More precisely the buffer of output channel 1, the so-called *stdout* is flushed.



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Exercise 3



- a. Execute the command *Update-Help -UICulture en-US -Force* on your system.
 - b. Print the help for *Get-Service*. Compare the output if no parameters are given with the output when specifying the parameter -Detailed, -Full or -Examples.



- c. Find out which Cmdlets can use the parameter -Verb.
- d. Print the examples for the usage of the *Get-Process* Cmdlet.

Exercise 4



- a. Determine which Cmdlets use the verb Import as the action.
 - b. Which properties of services can be shown by Get-Service?
 - c. Find the meaning of the parameter *-Format* for the Cmdlet *Get-Date*.



d. Determine properties are provided by *Get-Module*.

Exercise 5 (Bonus)

The PowerShell syntax highlighting can be persistently removed by deleting or renaming the folder *PSReadLine* at the location C:\Program Files\WindowsPowerShell\Modules 4.

To temoporarily deactivate syntax highlighting, use the Cmdlet Remove-PSReadLine (if available on your system).

⁴ Renaming is recommended, e.g. name the folder *PSReadLine.bak*, such that syntax highlighting can be turned on again without having to re-install the complete PSReadLine module.