12.1.12 System Command Facts

The following table describes the various system commands that can be used in the Windows command prompt:

Command	Description
expand	The **expand** command is used to expand compressed .cab files. • **expand -d** *[source_file]* displays the contents of the specified .cab file. • **expand** *[source_file] [destination]* expands all the files in the specified .cab file to the chosen destination. • **expand** *[source_file]* **f:***[filename] [destination]* extracts a single file from the specified .cab file to the chosen destination.
tasklist	The **tasklist** command displays a list of the processes that are currently running on the system. The output of the **tasklist** command includes a process ID (PID) that can be used to end the process.
taskkill	The **taskkill** command is used to end running processes. • **taskkill /im** *[image_name]* kills the specified process by using its image name (e.g., mspaint.exe). • **taskkill /PID** *[pid_number]* kills the specified process by using its PID (e.g., 3572). Sometimes a process will not respond the **taskkill** command. If this is the case, use the **/f** option with the command, which forces the process to close.
mstsc	The **mstsc** command is used to establish a remote desktop session with another computer. To run the **mstsc** command, use the following syntax: • **mstsc /v:***[server_ip]*
gpupdate	The **gpupdate** command refreshes local and Active Directory-based Group Policy settings, including security settings. • **/target: { computer | user }** processes only the computer settings or the current user settings. By default, both the computer settings and the user settings are processed. • **/force** ignores all processing optimizations and reapplies all settings. • **/wait:** *value* identifies the number of seconds that policy processing waits to finish. The default is 600 seconds. 0 means "no wait"; -1 means "wait indefinitely." • **/logoff** logs off after the refresh has completed. This is required for those Group Policy client-side extensions that do not process on a background refresh cycle but that do process when the user logs on, such as user software installation and folder redirection. This option has no effect if there are no extensions called that require the user to log off. • **/boot** restarts the computer after the refresh has completed. This is required for those Group Policy client-side extensions that do not process on a background refresh cycle but that do process when the computer starts up, such as computer software installation. This option has no effect if there are no extensions called that require the computer to be restarted. • **/?** displays help at the command prompt. To run the **gpupdate** command, use the following syntax: • **gpupdate [/target:{computer|user}] [/force] [/wait:value] [/logoff] [/boot]**
gpresult	The **gpresult** command displays Group Policy settings and Resultant Set of Policy (RSOP) for a user or a computer. • **/s** *computer* specifies the name or IP address of a remote computer. (Do not use backslashes.) The default is the local computer. • **/u** *domain* **** *user* runs the command with the account permissions of the user that is specified by user or domain\user. The default is the permissions of the current logged-on user on the computer that issues the command. • **/p** *password* specifies the password of the user account that is specified in the /u parameter. • **/user** *target_user name* specifies the user name of the user whose RSOP data is to be displayed. • **/scope { user | computer }** displays either user or computer results. Valid values for the /scope parameter are user or computer. If you omit the /scope parameter, gpresult displays both user and computer settings. • **/v** specifies that the output display verbose policy information. • **/z** specifies that the output display all available information about Group Policy. Because this parameter produces more information than the /v parameter, redirect output to a text file when you use this parameter (for example, gpresult /z >policy.txt). • **/?** displays help at the command prompt. To run the **gpresult** command, use the following syntax: • **gpresult [/s** *computer* **[/u** *domain\user* **/p** *password***]] [/user** *target_user name***] [/scope {user|computer}] [/v] [/z]**
shutdown	

	The **shutdown** command is used to shutdown local and remote systems. The following options can be used with the **shutdown** command: • **/i** opens the Remote Shutdown Dialog graphical interface window. • **/l** logs off the current user from the local system. • **/r** shuts down and restarts the local computer. • **/h** causes the computer to hibernate. • **/t** *[xx]* sets a delay time (in seconds) before the computer shuts down.
exit	The **exit** command ends the current command prompt session and closes the Command Prompt window.

If you need further help with a particular command, type *[command_name]* **/?** to display information about the specified command (typing **help** *[command_name]* will also display help information).