



Get-Help


PowerShell includes a rich help subsystem

- Syntax
- Parameter Details
- Examples

Easy to discover

Supports wildcards

Supports 3rd party vendors



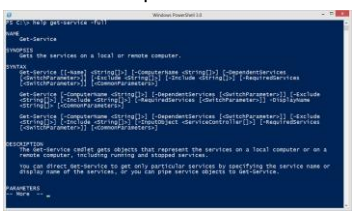
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Get-Help

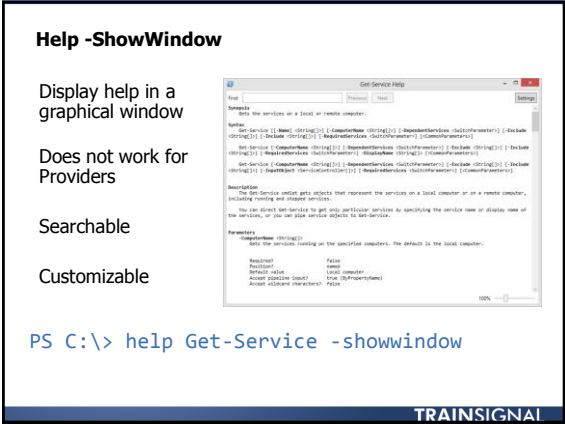
Supports scripts and modules

Latest help available online

Some PowerShell 2.0 help affected in 3.0.



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About Topics

- Conceptual help topics
- Search with wildcards
- Supports 3rd party tools and scripts

```
PS C:\> help about_switch
```

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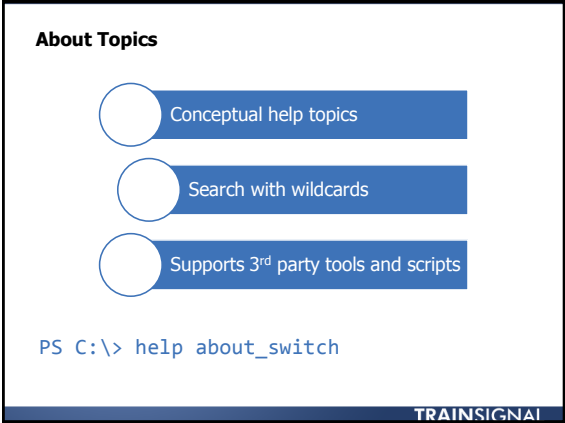
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PowerShell Help Demo

Introducing Updateable Help

Help files not necessary on server platforms

Difficult to update help because PowerShell is part of the OS

PowerShell 3.0 ships with minimal help

PowerShell 3.0 lets you choose:

- When to update help content
- What content to update
- Where to update help

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Using Update-Help

Default is for all discovered modules
...or specific module(s)

Requires administrator privileges

PS C:\> Update-Help



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Updateable Help Limitations

Requires an Internet connection

Requires an administrator credential

Only updates once a day
- ...unless you use -Force

Not all help is localized
- Use EN-US culture

Only installs help for installed modules – not snap-ins

Not all modules support updateable help

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Saving Help

Save help to a central location

Same requirements (and limitations) as Update-Help

Create a Windows 8 machine with RSAT

Setup a scheduled PowerShell job to save help

```
PS C:\> Save-Help -destination \\chi-fp01\pshelp
```

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Updating Help from a Local Source

Specify a source path

Same requirements (and limitations) as "regular" Update-Help

Only updates local modules

Read more about my PowerShell Help Update System:

<http://bit.ly/PowerShell-Help-System>

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Updateable Help Demo

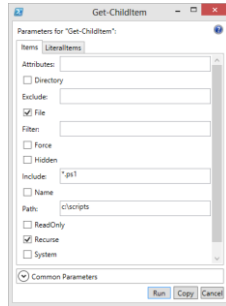
Show-Command

GUI-based tool launched from a PowerShell console prompt

...integrated into the PowerShell ISE

Use as a "wizard" to create a PowerShell command

```
PS C:\> show-command dir
```



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Show-Command Demo

Lab

1. Run update help for your computer.
2. From your computer save help to a shared folder.
3. Update help again from the shared folder for your computer or another computer.

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