**Common Tasks with Run**

Below are a list of commands you can type into the Run dialog:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Run Calculator | **calc** |
| Run Command Prompt | **cmd** |
| Run Firefox (if installed) | **firefox** |
| Run Internet Explorer | **iexplore** |
| Run Microsoft Word (if installed) | **winword** |
| Run Microsoft Excel (if installed) | **excel** |
| Run Microsoft Outlook (if installed) | **outlook** |
| Run Notepad | **notepad** |
| Run Wordpad | **wordpad** |
| Open Control Panel | **control panel** |
| Open Program Files folder | **%programfiles%** |
| Shutdown Windows | **shutdown** |
| Restart Windows | **shutdown -r** |
| Log Off Windows | **logoff** |
| Registry Editor | **regedit** |
| Task Manager | **taskmgr** |
| Windows Update Launches | **wupdmgr** |

**Creating Your Own Run Commands**

If you are like me, you will use a few programs very frequently. One way to make them start faster is to give them their own Run command:

1. **Win+R** to open the Run dialog
2. Enter **%windir%** to open the Windows directory
3. **Alt+F W S** to open the File menu, choose the New menu item, then the Shortcut menu item
4. Go through the wizard to create a shortcut to the desired program
5. The name you give the shortcut is what you type in the Run dialog to start the program

**Infrequently Used Run Commands**

Below are a list of commands you can type into the Run dialog, split into several categories: programs, control panels, computer administration tools, and special folders.

**Programs**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Character Map | **charmap** |
| Check Disk Utility | **chkdsk** |
| Clipboard Viewer | **clipbrd** |
| Free Cell | **freecell** |
| Hearts Card | **mshearts** |
| Microsoft Chat | **winchat** |
| Minesweeper | **winmine** |
| On Screen Keyboard | **osk** |
| Remote Desktop | **mstsc** |
| Spider Solitare | **spider** |
| Telnet Client | **telnet** |
| Windows Magnifier | **magnify** |

**Control Panels**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Accessibility Controls | **access.cpl** |
| Add Hardware Wizard | **hdwwiz.cpl** |
| Add/Remove Programs | **appwiz.cpl** |
| Administrative Tools | **control admintools** |
| Automatic Updates | **wuaucpl.cpl** |
| Date and Time | **timedate.cpl** |
| Display Properties | **desk.cpl** |
| Folders Properties | **control folders** |
| Fonts | **control fonts** |
| Fonts Folder | **fonts** |
| Game Controllers | **joy.cpl** |
| Internet Properties | **inetcpl.cpl** |
| Keyboard Properties | **control keyboard** |
| Mouse Properties | **control mouse** |
| Network Connections | **control netconnections** |
| Network Setup Wizard | **netsetup.cpl** |
| ODBC Data Source Administrator | **odbccp32.cpl** |
| Password Properties | **password.cpl** |
| Phone and Modem Options | **telephon.cpl** |
| Power Configuration | **powercfg.cpl** |
| Printers and Faxes | **control printers** |
| Printers Folder | **printers** |
| Regional Settings | **intl.cpl** |
| Scanners and Cameras | **sticpl.cpl** |
| Security Center | **wscui.cpl** |
| Sounds and Audio | **mmsys.cpl** |
| User Account Management | **nusrmgr.cpl** |
| Windows Firewall | **firewall.cpl** |

**Computer Administration Tools**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Computer Management | **compmgmt.msc** |
| Device Manager | **devmgmt.msc** |
| Disk Cleanup Utility | **cleanmgr** |
| Disk Defragment | **dfrg.msc** |
| Disk Management | **diskmgmt.msc** |
| Disk Partition Manager | **diskpart** |
| Dr. Watson System Troubleshooting | **drwtsn32** |
| Driver Verifier Utility | **verifier** |
| Event Viewer | **eventvwr.msc** |
| Group Policy Editor (XP Prof) | **gpedit.msc** |
| Local Security Settings | **secpol.msc** |
| Local Users and Groups | **lusrmgr.msc** |
| Performance Monitor | **perfmon** |
| Resultant Set of Policy | **rsop.msc** |
| Scheduled Tasks | **control schedtasks** |
| Services | **services.msc** |
| Shared Folders | **fsmgmt.msc** |
| System Configuration Editor | **sysedit** |
| System Configuration Utility | **msconfig** |
| Utility Manager | **utilman** |
| Windows System Security Tool | **syskey** |

**Computer Administration Tools**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Application Data Folder | **%appdata%** |
| Home Directory Drive | **%homedrive%** |
| Home Directory | **%homepath%** |
| Shared Home Directory | **%homeshare%** |
| Temporary Folder | **%temp%** |
| Windows Root Drive | **%systemdrive%** |
| Windows Root Directory | **%windir%** |