How to run Control Panel tools by typing a command

Summary

This article describes how to run Control Panel tools in Windows by typing a command at a command prompt or in the Open box.

More Information

To run a Control Panel tool in Windows, type the appropriate command in the Open box or at a command prompt.

NOTE: If you want to run a command from a command prompt, you must do so from the Windows folder. Also, note that your computer may not have all of the tools listed in this article, as your Windows installation may not include all of these components.

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Control panel tool            Command
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Accessibility Options         control access.cpl
Add New Hardware              control sysdm.cpl add new hardware
Add/Remove Programs           control appwiz.cpl
Date/Time Properties          control timedate.cpl
Display Properties            control desk.cpl
FindFast                      control findfast.cpl
Fonts Folder                  control fonts
Internet Properties           control inetcpl.cpl
Joystick Properties           control joy.cpl
Keyboard Properties           control main.cpl keyboard
Microsoft Exchange            control mlcfg32.cpl
   (or Windows Messaging)
Microsoft Mail Post Office    control wgpocpl.cpl
Modem Properties              control modem.cpl
Mouse Properties              control main.cpl
Multimedia Properties         control mmsys.cpl
Network Properties            control netcpl.cpl
                              NOTE: In Windows NT 4.0, Network
                              properties is Ncpa.cpl, not Netcpl.cpl
Password Properties           control password.cpl
PC Card                       control main.cpl pc card (PCMCIA)
Power Management (Windows 95) control main.cpl power
Power Management (Windows 98) control powercfg.cpl
Printers Folder               control printers
Regional Settings             control intl.cpl
Scanners and Cameras          control sticpl.cpl
Sound Properties              control mmsys.cpl sounds
System Properties             control sysdm.cpl
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NOTE: The Scanners and Cameras applet (sticpl.cpl) cannot be run in Windows Millennium. It has been replaced by the Scanners and Cameras Folder, which is similar in function to folders like Printers and Dial-up Networking.

Windows substitutes the name of the tool you want to run for %1%. For example:

"rundll32.exe shell32.dll,Control_RunDLL appwiz.cpl".

To run the Users tool in Control Panel, type control Ncpa.cpl users, and then press ENTER.

To run the Users tool for Windows 95/98/Me, type "control inetcpl.cpl users" (without the quotation marks) and then press ENTER.

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