Windows PowerShell equivalents for common networking commands (IPCONFIG, PING, NSLOOKUP)

Network troubleshooting is part any System Administrator's life. Maybe you need to check the IP address of a machine or test if its networking connection is working. Maybe you need to see if DNS is properly configured or check the latency between two hosts.

If you have been in this field long enough, you probably have a few favorite commands that you learned years ago and use on a regular basis, like IPCONFIG or PING.

There are literally hundreds of networking-related PowerShell cmdlets in Windows these days. Just try out this command on your machine: Get-Command -Module Net* | Group Module

But more important than knowing every one of them, is to know the most useful cmdlets that have the potential to replace those old commands that you can't live without.

And it's when you combine the many networking cmdlets in ways that only PowerShell can do that you'll find amazing new troubleshooting abilities...

IPCONFIG

Description: This command has many options, but the most common usage is just to show the IP address, subnet mask and default gateway for each network adapter in a machine.

PowerShell: Get-NetIPAddress

Sample command lines:

- Get-NetlPAddress | Sort InterfaceIndex | FT InterfaceIndex, InterfaceAlias, AddressFamily, IPAddress, PrefixLength -Autosize
- Get-NetlPAddress | ? AddressFamily -eq IPv4 | FT -AutoSize
- Get-NetAdapter Wi-Fi | Get-NetIPAddress | FT -AutoSize

Sample output:

PS C:\> Get-NetIPAddress | Sort InterfaceIndex | FT InterfaceIndex, InterfaceAlias, AddressFamily, IPAddress, PrefixLength -Autosize

InterfaceIndex InterfaceAlias	AddressFamily	IPAddress	PrefixLength
1 Loopback Pseudo-Interface 1	IPv6	::1	128
1 Loopback Pseudo-Interface 1	IPv4	127.0.0.1	8
3 Wi-Fi	IPv6	fe80::88f2:9970:4082:4118%3	64
3 Wi-Fi	IPv6	fded:b22c:44c4:1:f188:1e45:58e3:9242	128
3 Wi-Fi	IPv6	fded:b22c:44c4:1:88f2:9970:4082:4118	64
3 Wi-Fi	IPv4	192.168.1.2	24
4 Ethernet	IPv6	fe80::ce6:97c9:ae58:b393%4	64
4 Ethernet	IPv4	169.254.179.147	16
6 Bluetooth Network Connection	IPv6	fe80::2884:6750:b46b:cec4%6	64
6 Bluetooth Network Connection	IPv4	169.254.206.196	16
7 Local Area Connection* 3	IPv6	fe80::f11f:1051:2f3d:882%7	64
7 Local Area Connection* 3	IPv4	169.254.8.130	16
8 Teredo Tunneling Pseudo-Interface	IPv6	2001:0:5ef5:79fd:1091:f90:e7e9:62f0	64
8 Teredo Tunneling Pseudo-Interface	IPv6	fe80::1091:f90:e7e9:62f0%8	64
9 isatap.{024820F0-C990-475F-890B-B42EA24003F1}	IPv6	fe80::5efe:192.168.1.2%9	128

PS C:\> Get-NetIPAddress | ? AddressFamily -eq IPv4 | FT -AutoSize

ifIndex	IPAddress	PrefixLength	PrefixOrigin	SuffixOrigin	AddressState	PolicyStore
7	169.254.8.130	16	WellKnown	Link	Tentative	ActiveStore
6	169.254.206.196	16	WellKnown	Link	Tentative	ActiveStore
3	192.168.1.2	24	Dhcp	Dhcp	Preferred	ActiveStore
1	127.0.0.1	8	WellKnown	WellKnown	Preferred	ActiveStore
4	169.254.179.147	16	WellKnown	Link	Tentative	ActiveStore

PS C:\> Get-NetAdapter Wi-Fi | Get-NetIPAddress | FT -AutoSize

ifIndex	IPAddress	PrefixLength	PrefixOrigin	SuffixOrigin	${\tt AddressState}$	PolicyStore
3	fe80::88f2:9970:4082:4118%3	64	WellKnown	Link	Preferred	ActiveStore
3	fded:b22c:44c4:1:f188:1e45:58e3:9242	128	RouterAdvertisement	Random	Preferred	ActiveStore
3	fded:b22c:44c4:1:88f2:9970:4082:4118	64	RouterAdvertisement	Link	Preferred	ActiveStore
3	192.168.1.2	24	Dhcp	Dhcp	Preferred	ActiveStore

PING

Description: Checks connectivity to a specific host. Commonly used to check for liveliness, but also used to measure network latency.

PowerShell: Test-NetConnection

Sample command lines:

- Test-NetConnection www.microsoft.com
- Test-NetConnection -ComputerName www.microsoft.com -InformationLevel Detailed
- Test-NetConnection -ComputerName www.microsoft.com | Select -ExpandProperty PingReplyDetails | FT Address, Status, RoundTripTime
- 1..10 | % { Test-NetConnection -ComputerName www.microsoft.com -RemotePort 80 } | FT -AutoSize

Sample output

PS C:\> Test-NetConnection www.microsoft.com

```
ComputerName : www.microsoft.com
RemoteAddress : 104.66.197.237
InterfaceAlias : Wi-Fi
SourceAddress : 192.168.1.2
PingSucceeded : True
PingReplyDetails (RTT) : 22 ms
```

PS C:\> Test-NetConnection -ComputerName www.microsoft.com -InformationLevel Detailed

```
ComputerName : www.microsoft.com
RemoteAddress : 104.66.197.237
AllNameResolutionResults : 104.66.197.237
2600:1409:a:396::2768
```

2600:1409:a:396::2768 2600:1409:a:39b::2768

InterfaceAlias : Wi-Fi
SourceAddress : 192.168.1.2
NetRoute (NextHop) : 192.168.1.1
PingSucceeded : True
PingReplyDetails (RTT) : 14 ms

PS C:\> Test-NetConnection -ComputerName www.microsoft.com | Select -ExpandProperty PingReplyDetails | FT Address, Status, RoundTripTime -Autosize

Address	Status	RoundtripTime
104.66.197.237	Success	22

PS C:\> 1..10 | % { Test-NetConnection -ComputerName www.microsoft.com -RemotePort 80 } | FT -AutoSize

ComputerName	RemotePort	RemoteAddress	PingSucceeded	PingReplyDetails (RTT)	TcpTestSucceeded
www.microsoft.com	80	104.66.197.237	True	17 ms	True
www.microsoft.com	80	104.66.197.237	True	16 ms	True
www.microsoft.com	80	104.66.197.237	True	15 ms	True
www.microsoft.com	80	104.66.197.237	True	18 ms	True
www.microsoft.com	80	104.66.197.237	True	20 ms	True
www.microsoft.com	80	104.66.197.237	True	20 ms	True
www.microsoft.com	80	104.66.197.237	True	20 ms	True
www.microsoft.com	80	104.66.197.237	True	20 ms	True
www.microsoft.com	80	104.66.197.237	True	15 ms	True
www.microsoft.com	80	104.66.197.237	True	13 ms	True

NSLOOKUP

Description: Name server lookup. Mostly used to find the IP address for a given DNS name (or vice-versa). Has many, many options.

PowerShell: Resolve-DnsName

Sample command lines:

- Resolve-DnsName www.microsoft.com
- Resolve-DnsName microsoft.com -type SOA
- Resolve-DnsName microsoft.com -Server 8.8.8.8 –Type A

Sample output

PS C: > Resolve-DnsName www.microsoft.com

```
Section
                                                    NameHost
Name
                             Type TTL
www.microsoft.com
                             CNAME 6
                                          Answer
                                                    toggle.www.ms.akadns.net
toggle.www.ms.akadns.net
                             CNAME 6
                                                    www.microsoft.com-c.edgekey.net
                                          Answer
                                                    www.microsoft.com-c.edgekey.net.globalredir.akadns.net
www.microsoft.com-c.edgekey.ne CNAME 6
                                         Answer
www.microsoft.com-c.edgekey.ne CNAME 6
                                         Answer
                                                    e10088.dspb.akamaiedge.net
t.globalredir.akadns.net
          : e10088.dspb.akamaiedge.net
QueryType : AAAA
       : 6
TTL
Section : Answer
IP6Address: 2600:1409:a:39b::2768
          : e10088.dspb.akamaiedge.net
Name
QueryType : AAAA
TTL
        : 6
Section : Answer
IP6Address : 2600:1409:a:396::2768
```

Name : e10088.dspb.akamaiedge.net

QueryType : A TTL : 6

Section : Answer

IP4Address : 104.66.197.237

PS C:\> Resolve-DnsName microsoft.com -type SOA

Name	Type

TTL	Section	CLIOII FIIMALYSELVEL		eAdministrator	SerialNumber	

microsoft.com SOA 2976 Answer ns1.msft.net msnhst.microsoft.com 2015041

801

PS C:\> Resolve-DnsName microsoft.com -Server 8.8.8.8 -Type A

Name	Type	TTL	Section	IPAddress
microsoft.com	A	1244	Answer	134.170.188.221
microsoft.com	A	1244	Answer	134.170.185.46

ROUTE

Description: Shows the IP routes in a given system (also used to add and delete routes)

PowerShell: Get-NetRoute (also New-NetRoute and Remove-NetRoute)

Sample command lines:

- Get-NetRoute -Protocol Local -DestinationPrefix 192.168*
- Get-NetAdapter Wi-Fi | Get-NetRoute

Sample output:

PS C:\WINDOWS\system32> Get-NetRoute -Protocol Local -DestinationPrefix 192.168*

PS C:\WINDOWS\system32> Get-NetAdapter Wi-Fi | Get-NetRoute

ifIndex	DestinationPrefix	NextHop	RouteMetric	PolicyStore
2	255.255.255.32	0.0.0.0	256	ActiveStore
2	224.0.0.0/4	0.0.0.0	256	ActiveStore
2	192.168.1.255/32	0.0.0.0	256	ActiveStore
2	192.168.1.5/32	0.0.0.0	256	ActiveStore
2	192.168.1.0/24	0.0.0.0	256	ActiveStore
2	0.0.0.0/0	192.168.1.1	0	ActiveStore
2	ff00::/8	::	256	ActiveStore
2	fe80::d1b9:9258:1fa:33e9/128	::	256	ActiveStore
2	fe80::/64	::	256	ActiveStore
2	fded:b22c:44c4:1:d1b9:9258:1fa:33e9/128	::	256	ActiveStore
2	fded:b22c:44c4:1:c025:aa72:9331:442/128	::	256	ActiveStore
2	fded:b22c:44c4:1::/64	::	256	ActiveStore

TRACERT

Description: Trace route. Shows the IP route to a host, including all the hops between your computer and that host.

PowerShell: Test-NetConnection –TraceRoute

Sample command lines:

- Test-NetConnection www.microsoft.com –TraceRoute
- Test-NetConnection outlook.com -TraceRoute | Select -ExpandProperty TraceRoute | % { Resolve-DnsName \$_-type PTR -ErrorAction SilentlyContinue }

Sample output:

PS C:\> Test-NetConnection www.microsoft.com -TraceRoute

PS C:\> Test-NetConnection outlook.com -TraceRoute | Select -ExpandProperty TraceRoute | % { Resolve-DnsName \$_ - type PTR -ErrorAction SilentlyContinue }

Name	Type	TTL	Section	NameHost
125.144.85.68.in-addr.arpa	PTR	7200	Answer	te-0-1-0-10-sur02.bellevue.wa.seattle.comcast.net
142.96.86.68.in-addr.arpa	PTR	4164	Answer	be-1-sur03.bellevue.wa.seattle.comcast.net
6.164.139.69.in-addr.arpa	PTR	2469	Answer	be-40-ar01.seattle.wa.seattle.comcast.net
165.93.86.68.in-addr.arpa	PTR	4505	Answer	be-33650-cr02.seattle.wa.ibone.comcast.net
178.56.167.173.in-addr.arpa	PTR	7200	Answer	as8075-1-c.seattle.wa.ibone.comcast.net
248.82.234.191.in-addr.arpa	PTR	3600	Answer	ae11-0.co2-96c-1a.ntwk.msn.net

NETSTAT

Description: Shows current TCP/IP network connections.

PowerShell: Get-NetTCPConnection

Sample command lines:

- Get-NetTCPConnection | Group State, RemotePort | Sort Count | FT Count, Name –Autosize
- Get-NetTCPConnection | ? State -eq Established | FT –Autosize
- Get-NetTCPConnection | ? State -eq Established | ? RemoteAddress -notlike 127* | % { \$_; Resolve-DnsName \$_.RemoteAddress -type PTR ErrorAction SilentlyContinue }

Sample output:

```
PS C:\> Get-NetTCPConnection | Group State, RemotePort | Sort Count | FT Count, Name -Autosize
```

```
Count Name
   1 SynSent, 9100
   1 Established, 40028
   1 Established, 65001
   1 Established, 27015
   1 Established, 5223
   1 Established, 49227
   1 Established, 49157
   1 Established, 49156
   1 Established, 12350
   1 Established, 49200
    2 Established, 5354
   2 TimeWait, 5357
   2 Established, 80
   3 Established, 443
   36 Listen, 0
```

PS C:\> Get-NetTCPConnection | ? State -eq Established | FT -Autosize

LocalAddress	LocalPort	RemoteAddress	RemotePort	State	AppliedSetting
127.0.0.1	65001	127.0.0.1	49200	Established	Internet
192.168.1.2	59619	91.190.218.57	12350	Established	Internet
192.168.1.2	57993	213.199.179.175	40028	Established	Internet
192.168.1.2	54334	17.158.28.49	443	Established	Internet
192.168.1.2	54320	96.17.8.170	80	Established	Internet
192.168.1.2	54319	23.3.105.144	80	Established	Internet
192.168.1.2	54147	65.55.68.119	443	Established	Internet
192.168.1.2	49257	17.143.162.214	5223	Established	Internet
127.0.0.1	49227	127.0.0.1	27015	Established	Internet
127.0.0.1	49200	127.0.0.1	65001	Established	Internet
192.168.1.2	49197	157.56.98.92	443	Established	Internet
127.0.0.1	49157	127.0.0.1	5354	Established	Internet
127.0.0.1	49156	127.0.0.1	5354	Established	Internet
127.0.0.1	27015	127.0.0.1	49227	Established	Internet
127.0.0.1	5354	127.0.0.1	49157	Established	Internet
127.0.0.1	5354	127.0.0.1	49156	Established	Internet

PS C:\> Get-NetTCPConnection | ? State -eq Established | ? RemoteAddress -notlike 127* | % { \$_; Resolve-DnsName \$_.RemoteAddress -type PTR -ErrorAction SilentlyContinue }

LocalAddress	LocalPort	RemoteAddress	RemotePort	State	AppliedSetting
192.168.1.2 192.168.1.2 192.168.1.2 192.168.1.2	59619 57993 54334 54320	91.190.218.57 213.199.179.175 17.158.28.49 96.17.8.170	12350 40028 443 80	Established Established Established Established	Internet Internet
Name : 170.8.17.96.in-addr.arpa QueryType : PTR TTL : 86377 Section : Answer NameHost : a96-17-8-170.deploy.akar		ogies.com			
192.168.1.2	54319	23.3.105.144	80	Established	Internet
Name : 144.105.3.23.in-addr.arg QueryType : PTR TTL : 7 Section : Answer NameHost : a23-3-105-144.deploy.sta		itechnologies.com			
192.168.1.2	54147	65.55.68.119	443	Established	Internet
Name : 119.68.55.65.in-addr.arm QueryType : PTR TTL : 850 Section : Answer NameHost : snt404-m.hotmail.com	pa				
192.168.1.2	49257	17.143.162.214	5223	Established	Internet
192.168.1.2	49197	157.56.98.92	443	Established	Internet

Name : 92.98.56.157.in-addr.arpa

QueryType : PTR
TTL : 3600
Section : Answer

NameHost : bnlwns1011516.wns.windows.com