

Windows terminal

Introdução Engenharia Informática

Mário Antunes

September 29, 2025

Exercises

Exercise 1: Finding Your Way Around 🧭

This exercise covers basic navigation and information commands. Complete the steps in both **CMD** and **PowerShell**.

1. Open your terminal. Verify your starting location (your home directory).
 - **CMD:** `$ cd`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Get-Location` (or its alias `pwd`)
 2. List the contents of your home directory. Then, list them again showing **all** files (including hidden ones).
 - **CMD:** `$ dir` then `$ dir /a`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ ls` then `$ ls -Force`
 3. Navigate to the main Windows directory.
 - **CMD & PowerShell:** `$ cd C:\Windows`
 4. Find out your username and the current date.
 - **CMD:** `$ whoami` and then `$ date /t`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ whoami` and then `$ Get-Date`
 5. Return to your home directory using the quickest shortcut.
 - **CMD:** `$ cd %USERPROFILE%`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ cd ~`
-

Exercise 2: Exploring Key System Directories 🗺️

Visit important system directories to understand the Windows layout.

1. Navigate to the `System32` directory, which holds most of the core system executables.
 - **CMD & PowerShell:** `$ cd C:\Windows\System32`
 2. List its contents to see the vast number of system files.
 - **CMD:** `$ dir`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ ls`
 3. Get information about your Windows version.
 - **CMD:** `$ systeminfo | findstr /B /C:"OS Name" /C:"OS Version"`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Get-ComputerInfo | Select-Object OSName, OSVersion`
-

Exercise 3: Creating and Managing Files 📁

Create, copy, move, and delete files and directories.

1. From your home directory, create a new directory called `IEI`.
 - **CMD & PowerShell:** `$ mkdir IEI`
2. Navigate inside your new `IEI` directory.
 - **CMD & PowerShell:** `$ cd IEI`
3. Create an empty file called `notes.txt`.

- **CMD:** `$ echo. > notes.txt`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ New-Item notes.txt`
4. Add text to your file and then view its contents.
 - **CMD:** `$ echo My first line. > notes.txt` then `$ type notes.txt`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Set-Content -Path notes.txt -Value "My first line."` then `$ Get-Content notes.txt`
 5. Make a copy of the file named `notes_backup.txt`.
 - **CMD:** `$ copy notes.txt notes_backup.txt`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Copy-Item notes.txt notes_backup.txt`
 6. Rename `notes.txt` to `important_notes.txt`.
 - **CMD:** `$ ren notes.txt important_notes.txt`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Rename-Item notes.txt important_notes.txt`
 7. Clean up by deleting the backup file.
 - **CMD:** `$ del notes_backup.txt`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Remove-Item notes_backup.txt`
-

Exercise 4: Understanding File Attributes

Windows permissions can be complex. This exercise focuses on a simpler concept: the **read-only attribute**.

1. Inside `~/IEI`, create a file named `report.docx`.
 - **CMD:** `$ echo. > report.docx`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ New-Item report.docx`
 2. Set the file to be read-only.
 - **CMD:** `$ attrib +r report.docx`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Set-ItemProperty -Path report.docx -Name IsReadOnly -Value $true`
 3. Attempt to delete the file. The operation should fail or ask for confirmation because the file is read-only.
 - **CMD:** `$ del report.docx`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Remove-Item report.docx`
 4. Remove the read-only attribute so you can manage the file again.
 - **CMD:** `$ attrib -r report.docx`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Set-ItemProperty -Path report.docx -Name IsReadOnly -Value $false`
-

Exercise 5: Finding Files and Content

Search for files by name and for text within them.

1. Create a subdirectory and a new file within it.
 - **CMD:** `$ mkdir reports` and then `$ echo Confidential report. > reports\report-2025.txt`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ mkdir reports` and then `$ Set-Content reports\report-2025.txt "Confidential report."`
 2. Use the appropriate command to search for any file ending with `.txt` inside your `IEI` directory and its subdirectories.
 - **CMD:** `$ dir /s /b *.txt`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Get-ChildItem -Recurse -Filter "*.txt"`
 3. Search for the word "Confidential" inside the `reports` directory.
 - **CMD:** `$ findstr /i "Confidential" reports*`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Select-String -Path reports* -Pattern "Confidential"`
-

Exercise 6: Managing Processes

Learn to view and stop running programs.

1. Start a Notepad process from the terminal.
 - **CMD & PowerShell:** `$ notepad`

2. In the same terminal, find the Process ID (PID) of Notepad.
 - **CMD:** `$ tasklist | findstr /i "notepad"`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Get-Process -Name "notepad"`
 3. Terminate the Notepad process using its PID. Replace PID with the actual number from the previous step.
 - **CMD:** `$ taskkill /PID PID`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Stop-Process -Id PID`
-

Exercise 7: Managing Software with Winget

Install and remove a program using the **Windows Package Manager**. These commands work in both CMD and PowerShell.

1. Search for the popular 7zip utility.
 - `$ winget search 7zip`
 2. Install the package. You may need to agree to the source terms.
 - `$ winget install 7zip.7zip`
 3. List all your installed packages managed by Winget to verify the installation.
 - `$ winget list`
 4. Clean up by removing the package from your system.
 - `$ winget uninstall 7zip.7zip`
-

Exercise 8: Combining Commands (Pipes & Redirection)

Explore the power of the pipe (|) and redirection (>).

1. Use the pipe to find your own terminal process ("cmd.exe" or "powershell.exe").
 - **CMD:** `$ tasklist | findstr "cmd.exe"`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Get-Process | Where-Object { $_.Name -eq "powershell" }`
 2. Create a log file with one entry using >.
 - **CMD:** `$ echo %date% %time%: Starting work. > activity.log`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Set-Content activity.log "$(Get-Date): Starting work."`
 3. Use the append operator (>>) to add a second line without deleting the first.
 - **CMD:** `$ echo %date% %time%: Finished exercise. >> activity.log`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Add-Content activity.log "$(Get-Date): Finished exercise."`
 4. Verify that your log file contains both lines.
 - **CMD:** `$ type activity.log`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ Get-Content activity.log`
-

Exercise 9: Customizing Your Environment ✨

Create a handy shortcut (an alias).

- **CMD (Temporary Alias):**

1. Create an alias ll for the `dir /a` command using doskey. `$ doskey ll=dir /a`
2. Test your alias: `$ ll` (Note: This alias disappears when you close the CMD window.)

- **PowerShell (Permanent Alias):**

1. Open your PowerShell profile script in Notepad.

```
if (!(Test-Path -Path $PROFILE)) { New-Item -ItemType File -Path $PROFILE -Force }  
$ notepad $PROFILE
```
 2. Add the following line to the file, then save and close it. `Set-Alias -Name ll -Value Get-ChildItem -Force`
 3. Close and reopen PowerShell, then test your new alias: `$ ll`
-

Exercise 10: Understanding the \$PATH Variable

Discover how the shell finds commands.

1. View the current \$PATH variable.
 - **CMD:** `$ echo %PATH%`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ echo $env:Path`
 2. Create a simple Batch file in your ~/IEI directory named `hello.bat` containing one line: `@echo Hello from my custom script!`
 3. Try to run the script by name. It will fail because IEI is not in the \$PATH.
 - **CMD & PowerShell:** `$ hello`
 4. Run it using its relative path. This works.
 - **CMD & PowerShell:** `$.\hello.bat`
 5. Temporarily add your ~/IEI directory to the \$PATH. Now try running it by name again.
 - **CMD:** `$ set PATH=%USERPROFILE%\IEI;%PATH% then $ hello.bat`
 - **PowerShell:** `$ $env:Path = "$HOME\IEI;" + $env:Path then $ hello.bat`
-

Exercise 11: Scripting Challenge

Create a script that automates setting up a project structure.

• CMD (Batch Script):

1. Create a file named `setup_project.bat` in ~/IEI.
2. Add the following code, then save it.

```
@echo off
set PROJECT_DIR=%USERPROFILE%\IEI\my_project
if exist %PROJECT_DIR% (
    echo Error: Directory already exists.
    exit /b
)
mkdir %PROJECT_DIR%
mkdir %PROJECT_DIR%\assets
mkdir %PROJECT_DIR%\source
mkdir %PROJECT_DIR%\docs
echo Project setup complete!
```

3. Run the script: `$.\setup_project.bat`

• PowerShell Script:

1. Create a file named `setup_project.ps1` in ~/IEI.
2. Add the following code, then save it.

```
$ProjectDir = "$HOME\IEI\my_project"
if (Test-Path $ProjectDir) {
    Write-Error "Directory already exists."
    return
}
mkdir $ProjectDir
foreach ($folder in "assets", "source", "docs") {
    mkdir (Join-Path $ProjectDir $folder)
}
Write-Host "Project setup complete!"
```

3. Run the script: `$.\setup_project.ps1`
-

Exercise 12: Scheduling a Task

Create a simple script and schedule it to run automatically.

1. **Create the Script:** In ~/IEI, create log_time.bat with the content:

```
@echo off
@echo %date% %time:~0,5% >> %USERPROFILE%\IEI\cron_log.txt
```

2. **Schedule the Task (CMD):**

- This command schedules the script to run in one minute from now (and periodically at one minute):

```
$ schtasks /create /sc minute /tn "My Logger" ^
/tr "%USERPROFILE%\IEI\log_time.bat" /st %time:~0,5%
```

3. **Schedule the Task (PowerShell):**

- This command schedules the script to run in one minute from now (and periodically at one minute):

```
$action = New-ScheduledTaskAction -Execute "$env:USERPROFILE\IEI\log_time.bat"
$trigger = New-ScheduledTaskTrigger -At $(Get-Date -Format HH:mm) -Once `
-RepetitionInterval (New-TimeSpan -Minutes 1)
Register-ScheduledTask -Action $action -Trigger $trigger -TaskName "My Logger"
```

4. **Verify:** After a minute, check for the output file (should have repeated lines).

- **CMD:** \$ type %USERPROFILE%\IEI\cron_log.txt
- **PowerShell:** \$ Get-Content \$env:USERPROFILE\IEI\cron_log.txt

5. **Clean Up:** It's important to remove the task so it doesn't remain in the system.

- **CMD:** \$ schtasks /delete /tn "My Logger" /f
- **PowerShell:** \$ Unregister-ScheduledTask "My Logger"