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# T1059.003 - Windows Command Shell

## Description from ATT&CK

Adversaries may abuse the Windows command shell for execution. The Windows command shell ([cmd])(<https://attack.mitre.org/software/S0106>) is the primary command prompt on Windows systems. The Windows command prompt can be used to control almost any aspect of a system, with various permission levels required for different subsets of commands. The command prompt can be invoked remotely via [Remote Services](<https://attack.mitre.org/techniques/T1021>) such as [SSH](<https://attack.mitre.org/techniques/T1021/004>).*(Citation: SSH in Windows)*

Batch files (ex: .bat or .cmd) also provide the shell with a list of sequential commands to run, as well as normal scripting operations such as conditionals and loops. Common uses of batch files include long or repetitive tasks, or the need to run the same set of commands on multiple systems.

Adversaries may leverage [cmd](#) to execute various commands and payloads. Common uses include [cmd](#) to execute a single command, or abusing [cmd](#) interactively with input and output forwarded over a command and control channel.

## Atomic Tests

- [Atomic Test #1 - Create and Execute Batch Script](#)
- [Atomic Test #2 - Writes text to a file and displays it.](#)
- [Atomic Test #3 - Suspicious Execution via Windows Command Shell](#)
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## Atomic Test #1 - Create and Execute Batch Script

Creates and executes a simple batch script. Upon execution, CMD will briefly launch to run the batch script then close again.

**Supported Platforms:** Windows

**auto\_generated\_guid:** 9e8894c0-50bd-4525-a96c-d4ac78ece388

**Inputs:**

Name	Description	Type	Default Value
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command_to_execute	Command to execute within script.	String	dir
script_path	Script path.	Path	\$env:TEMP\T1059.003_script.bat

Attack Commands: Run with powershell !

```
Start-Process #{script_path}
```

Cleanup Commands:

```
Remove-Item #{script_path} -Force -ErrorAction Ignore
```

Dependencies: Run with powershell !

Description: Batch file must exist on disk at specified location (#{script\_path})

Check Prereq Commands:

```
if (Test-Path #{script_path}) {exit 0} else {exit 1}
```

Get Prereq Commands:

```
New-Item #{script_path} -Force | Out-Null
Set-Content -Path #{script_path} -Value "#{command_to_execute}"
```

## Atomic Test #2 - Writes text to a file and displays it.

Writes text to a file and display the results. This test is intended to emulate the dropping of a malicious file to disk.

Supported Platforms: Windows

auto\_generated\_guid: 127b4afe-2346-4192-815c-69042bec570e

Inputs:

Name	Description	Type	Default Value
file_contents_path	Path to the file that the command prompt will drop.	Path	%TEMP%\test.bin
message	Message that will be written to disk and then displayed.	String	Hello from the Windows Command Prompt!

Attack Commands: Run with command\_prompt !

```
echo "#{message}" > "#{file_contents_path}" & type "#{file_contents_path
```

Cleanup Commands:

```
del "#{file_contents_path}" >nul 2>&1
```

## Atomic Test #3 - Suspicious Execution via Windows Command Shell

Command line executed via suspicious invocation. Example is from the 2021 Threat Detection Report by Red Canary.

Supported Platforms: Windows

auto\_generated\_guid: d0eb3597-a1b3-4d65-b33b-2cda8d397f20

Inputs:

Name	Description	Type	Default Value
output_file	File to output to	String	hello.txt
input_message	Message to write to file	String	Hello, from CMD!

Attack Commands: Run with `command_prompt` !

```
%LOCALAPPDATA:~-3,1%md /c echo #{input_message} > #{output_file} & type :
```

## Atomic Test #4 - Simulate BlackByte Ransomware Print Bombing

This test attempts to open a file a specified number of times in Wordpad, then prints the contents. It is designed to mimic BlackByte ransomware's print bombing technique, where tree.dll, which contains the ransom note, is opened in Wordpad 75 times and then printed. See <https://redcanary.com/blog/blackbyte-ransomware/>.

Supported Platforms: Windows

auto\_generated\_guid: 6b2903ac-8f36-450d-9ad5-b220e8a2dcb9

Inputs:

Name	Description	Type	Default Value
file_to_print	File to be opened/printed by Wordpad.	String	\$env:temp\T1059_003note.txt
max_to_print	The maximum number of Wordpad windows the test will open/print.	String	75

Attack Commands: Run with `powershell` !

```
cmd /c "for /l %x in (1,1,#{max_to_print}) do start wordpad.exe /p #{file_to_print}
```

Cleanup Commands:

```
stop-process -name wordpad -force -erroraction silentlycontinue
```

Dependencies: Run with `powershell` !

Description: File to print must exist on disk at specified location (#{file\_to\_print})

Check Prereq Commands:

```
if (test-path "#{file_to_print}") {exit 0} else {exit 1}
```

Get Prereq Commands:

```
new-item "#{file_to_print}" -value "This file has been created by T1059.00" 
```

## Atomic Test #5 - Command Prompt read contents from CMD file and execute

Simulate Raspberry Robin using the "standard-in" command prompt feature cmd `/R <` to read and execute a file via cmd.exe See <https://redcanary.com/blog/raspberry-robin/>.

Supported Platforms: Windows

auto\_generated\_guid: df81db1b-066c-4802-9bc8-b6d030c3ba8e

Inputs:

Name	Description	Type	Default Value
input_file	CMD file that is read by Command Prompt and execute, which launches calc.exe	Path	PathToAtomicsFolder\T1059.003\src\t1059.003_cmd

Attack Commands: Run with `command_prompt` !

```
cmd /r cmd<#{input_file}
```

Dependencies: Run with `powershell` !

Description: CMD file must exist on disk at specified location (#{input\_file})

Check Prereq Commands:

```
if (Test-Path #{input_file}) {exit 0} else {exit 1}
```

Get Prereq Commands:

```
New-Item -Type Directory (split-path #{input_file}) -ErrorAction ignore
Invoke-WebRequest "https://github.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/raw/main/atomics/T1059.003/T1059.003.cmd" -OutFile #{input_file}
```