

Learn / SQL / SQL Server / sqlps Utility Article • 04/03/2023 • 10 contributors Feedback In this article **Syntax** Arguments Remarks

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Applies to:

SQL Server

Azure SQL Database

Azure SQL Managed Instance

✓ Azure Synapse Analytics Analytics Platform System (PDW)

The sqlps utility starts a Windows PowerShell session with the SQL Server PowerShell provider and cmdlets loaded and registered. You can enter PowerShell commands or scripts that use the SQL Server PowerShell components to work with instances of SQL Server and their objects.

(i) Important

Examples

See Also

This feature will be removed in a future version of SQL Server. Avoid using this feature in new development work, and plan to modify applications that currently use this feature. Use the sqlps PowerShell module instead. For more information about the sqlps module, see Import the SQLPS Module.

Syntax

```
Сору
sqlps
[ [ [ -NoLogo ][ -NoExit ][ -NoProfile ]
    [ -OutPutFormat { Text | XML } ] [ -InPutFormat { Text | XML } ]
  [ -Command { -
             | script_block [ -args argument_array ]
              string [ command_parameters ]
 ]
[ -? | -Help ]
```

Arguments

-NoLogo

Specifies that the **sqlps** utility hide the copyright banner when it starts.

-NoExit

Specifies that the sqlps utility continue running after the startup commands have completed.

-NoProfile

Specifies that the sqlps utility not load a user profile. User profiles record commonly used

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> Reference

aliases, functions, and variables for use across PowerShell sessions.

-OutPutFormat { Text | XML }

Specifies that the **sqlps** utility output be formatted as either text strings (**Text**) or in a serialized CLIXML format (**XML**).

-InPutFormat { Text | XML }

Specifies that input to the **sqlps** utility is formatted as either text strings (**Text**) or in a serialized CLIXML format (**XML**).

-Command

Specifies the command for the **sqlps** utility to run. The **sqlps** utility runs the command and then exits, unless **-NoExit** is also specified. Do not specify any other switches after **-Command**, they will be read as command parameters.

-Command- specifies that the sqlps utility read the input from the standard input.

script_block [-argsargument_array]

Specifies a block of PowerShell commands to run, the block must be enclosed in braces: {}. Script_block can only be specified when the sqlps utility is called from either PowerShell or another sqlps utility session. The argument_array is an array of PowerShell variables containing the arguments for the PowerShell commands in the script_block.

string [command_parameters]

Specifies a string that contains the PowerShell commands to be run. Use the format "& {command}". The quotation marks indicate a string, and the invoke operator (&) causes the sqlps utility to run the command.

[-? | -Help]

Shows the syntax summary of the sqlps utility options.

Remarks

The **sqlps** utility starts the PowerShell environment (PowerShell.exe) and loads the SQL Server PowerShell module. The module, also named **sqlps**, loads and registers these SQL Server PowerShell snap-ins:

Microsoft.SqlServer.Management.PSProvider.dll

Implements the SQL Server PowerShell provider and associated cmdlets such as **Encode-SqlName** and **Decode-SqlName**.

Microsoft.SqlServer.Management.PSSnapin.dll

Implements the Invoke-Sqlcmd and Invoke-PolicyEvaluation cmdlets.

You can use the sqlps utility to do the following:

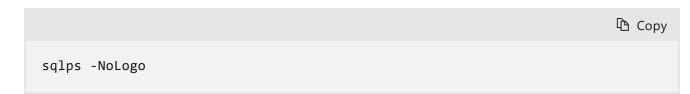
- Interactively run PowerShell commands.
- Run PowerShell script files.
- Run SQL Server cmdlets.
- Use the SQL Server provider paths to navigate through the hierarchy of SQL Server objects.

By default, the **sqlps** utility runs with the scripting execution policy set to **Restricted**. This prevents running any PowerShell scripts. You can use the **Set-ExecutionPolicy** cmdlet to enable running signed scripts, or any scripts. Only run scripts from trusted sources, and secure all input and output files by using the appropriate NTFS permissions. For more information about enabling PowerShell scripts, see Running Windows PowerShell Scripts.

The version of the **sqlps** utility in SQL Server 2008 (10.0.x) and SQL Server 2008 R2 (10.50.x) was implemented as a Windows PowerShell 1.0 mini-shell. Mini-shells have certain restrictions, such as not allowing users to load snap-ins other than those loaded by the mini-shell. These restrictions do not apply to the SQL Server 2012 (11.x) and higher versions of the utility, which have been changed to use the **sqlps** module.

Examples

A. Run the sqlps utility in default, interactive mode without the copyright banner



B. Run a SQL Server PowerShell script from the command prompt



C. Run a SQL Server PowerShell script from the command prompt, and keep running after the script completes

```
sqlps -NoExit -Command "&{.\MyFolder.MyScript.ps1}"
```

See Also

Enable or Disable a Server Network Protocol SQL Server PowerShell

Feedback

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Additional resources

M Training

Learning path

Get started with Windows PowerShell - Training

This learning path introduces you to Windows PowerShell and provides an overview of the product's functionality. It explains how to open and configure Windows PowerShell, run commands, and use its built-in Help system.

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