

These key-strokes will display the first matching path. Thereafter, repeated pressing of the same control key will cycle through the list of matching paths. Pressing SHIFT with the control key will move through the list backwards.

- /Q Turn Echo off. This does not disable output.
  To minimise the CMD window use CMD.exe /C START "" /Min CMD.exe /C MyScript.cmd
- /S Strip " quote characters from *command*.

  If *command* starts with a quote, the first and last quote chars in *command* will be removed, whether /s is specified or not.
- /V:ON Enable delayed environment variable expansion
  this allows a FOR loop to specify !variable! instead of %variable%
  expanding the variable at execution time instead of at input time.

/V:OFF
Disable delayed environment expansion.
Delayed Environment expansion can also be set with SETLOCAL.

If /C or /K is specified, then the remainder of the command line is processed as an immediate command in the new shell. Multiple commands separated by the command separator '&' or '&&' are accepted if surrounded by quotes.

In Windows Explorer, you can type "cmd" in the address bar to open a prompt at the current location. For more detail about the CMD shell: QuickEdit, handing quotes, max line length etc, see the CMD Syntax page.

If you start a second nested CMD shell (or PowerShell), this will be added to the TITLE of the CMD/terminal window, when you EXIT back to the initial shell, the Title will also revert making it possible to track how many nested shells you have open.

### ErrorLevel

CMD /C will return an errorlevel, for example CMD /c dir Z: where the drive Z: does not exist, will return %errorlevel% = 1 to the calling CMD shell.

# Launching CMD/batch files from a UNC path

While most command line utilities do fully support UNC paths, they cannot be set as the current directory. Launching a batch file from a UNC path will implicitly run CMD exe with that LINC paths are no

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n file resides. mand as the first

Alternatively:

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# Launching C

When calling interpreted/e

cmd.exe -

Anything to t

\$folder =
cmd.exe /

Inheritance

A new CMD batch file or

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mand extension

For more detail on inheritance and expansion see this StackOverflow thread.

## **Command Extensions**

Disabling Command Extensions may affect the operation of CMD's internal commands, and will also remove most dynamic/volatile environment variables (%CD% %DATE% %TIME% %RANDOM% %ERRORLEVEL% %CMDEXTVERSION% %CMDCMDLINE% %HIGHESTNUMANODENUMBER%)

Command Extensions are enabled by default.

This can be changed by setting a value in the registry: HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Command Processor\EnableExtensions Command Extensions can also be turned on or off by running CMD /e:on or CMD /e:off or run SETLOCAL EnableExtensions (SetLocal will take precedence)

Forum thread: Checking if command extensions are available. StackOverflow: Detail of the changes when disabling extensions.

### **Examples**

Run a program and pass a Filename parameter:

CMD /c notepad.exe c:\docs\sample.txt

Run a program and pass a Long Filename:

CMD /c notepad.exe "c:\sample documents\sample.txt"

To open in a separate CMD window:

START "my neato script" CMD /C notepad.exe c:\docs\sample.txt

Spaces in Program Path:

CMD /c ""c:\Program Files\Microsoft Office\Office\Winword.exe""

Spaces in Program Path + parameters:

CMD /c ""c:\Program Files\demo.cmd"" Parameter1 Param2

Spaces in Program Path + parameters with spaces:

CMD /k ""c:\batch files\demo.cmd" "Parameter 1 with space" "Parameter2 with space""

CMD will strip the outer quotes if there is a double quote at the **start** and **end** so you can also cheat and write the above as:

CMD /k @"c:\batch files\demo.cmd" "Parameter 1 with space" "Parameter2 with space"

Launch Demo1 and then Launch Demo2:

CMD /c ""c:\Program Files\demo1.cmd" & "c:\Program Files\demo2.cmd""

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