

# Registry Policy File Format

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The Group Policy Object Editor stores registry-based configuration settings in two Registry.pol files, stored in folders under the <drive>:\Windows\System32\GroupPolicy\ folder. One file contains computer settings and the other file contains user settings. The Group Policy Object Editor saves the settings to these files on exit, and imports the settings on startup.

A Registry.pol file is a text file that consists of a header and a body. The header contains two **DWORD** values that indicate the file signature and version. These values are defined as follows.

Value	Definition
REGFILE_SIGNATURE	Defined as 0x67655250.
REGISTRY_FILE_VERSION	Initially defined as 1, then incremented each time the file format is changed.

The body consists of registry values in the following format.

[key;value;type;size;data]

*key*

Path to the registry key. Do not include **HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE** or **HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER** in the registry path. The location of the file determines which of these keys are used.

*value*

The name of the registry value.

The following values have special meaning for this field.

Value	Meaning
**DeleteValues	A semicolon-delimited list of values to delete. Use as a value of the associated key.

Value	Meaning
**Del.valuename	Deletes a single value. Use as a value of the associated key.
**DelVals	Deletes all values in a key. Use as a value of the associated key.
**DeleteKeys	A semicolon-delimited list of keys to delete. The value field needs to be terminated with a <b>NULL</b> or space immediately after **DeleteKeys. Example: **DeleteKeys/0;type;size;NoRun;NoFind
**SecureKey	**SecureKey=1 secures the key, giving administrators and the system full control, and giving users read-only access. **SecureKey=0 resets access to the key to whatever is set on the root. For more information, see <a href="#">Access Rights and Access Masks</a> .

*type*

The data type. The field can contain any of the registry value types defined in WinNT.h.

REG\_BINARY

REG\_DWORD

REG\_DWORD\_LITTLE\_ENDIAN

REG\_DWORD\_BIG\_ENDIAN

REG\_EXPAND\_SZ

REG\_LINK

REG\_MULTI\_SZ

REG\_NONE

REG\_QWORD

REG\_QWORD\_LITTLE\_ENDIAN

REG\_SZ

*size*

The size of the *data* field, in bytes.

*data*

The user-supplied data.

If *value*, *type*, *size*, or *data* are missing or zero, only the registry key is created.