

PSBlueSky Help¹

<https://jdhitsolutions.github.io>

v2.2.0

¹<https://github.com/jdhitsolutions/PSBluesky>

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PSBluesky



This module is a set of PowerShell functions designed to let you interact with Bluesky API from PowerShell. Technically, the module commands are wrappers around the [AT protocol](#). The module is written for **PowerShell 7**, although it might work as written in Windows PowerShell with minimal changes if you wish to fork the GitHub repository. Commands *have not* been thoroughly tested for cross-platform compatibility, so please post an Issue if you encounter a problem.

The commands in this module are **not** intended to provide complete coverage of the Bluesky API or user experience. Instead, the module focuses on the most common tasks you might want to do with Bluesky from a PowerShell prompt.

For best results, you should run this module in a PowerShell console that supports emojis and ANSI formatting like Windows Terminal.

Installation

You can install the module from the PowerShell Gallery.

```
Install-Module -Name PSBluesky
```

Or using Install-PSResource from the [Microsoft.PowerShell.PSResourceGet](#) module.

```
Install-PSResource -Name PSBluesky -Repository PSGallery -TrustRepository
```

You might want to also install the following modules or related modules to securely store your Bluesky credentials:

- [Microsoft.PowerShell.SecretManagement](#)

- [Microsoft.PowerShell.SecretStore](#)

After installing this module, you should end up with these PSBluesky commands:

- [Add-BskyImage](#)
- [Find-BskyUser](#)
- [Get-BskyAccountDID](#)
- [Get-BskyFeed](#)
- [Get-BskyFollowers](#)
- [Get-BskyFollowing](#)
- [Get-BskyModuleInfo](#)
- [Get-BskyNotification](#)
- [Get-BskyProfile](#)
- [Get-BskySession](#)
- [Get-BskyTimeline](#)
- [New-BskyPost](#)
- [Open-BskyHelp](#)
- [Start-BskySession](#)
- [Update-BskySession](#)

After importing the module you can run `Open-BskyHelp` which will open a PDF version of this document in the default application associated with PDF files. Or you can use the `-AsMarkdown` parameter to read this file using markdown formatting. Not all markdown features may properly render in the console.

You can use `Get-BskyModuleInfo` to get a summary of the module. The default output includes clickable links to online command help and the module's GitHub repository.

```
PS C:\> Get-BskyModuleInfo
```

```
Module: PSBlueSky [v2.2.0]
```

Name	Alias	Synopsis
Add-BskyImage		Upload an image to Bluesky
Find-BskyUser	bsu	Search for Bluesky user accounts
Get-BskyAccountDID		Resolve a Bluesky account name ...
Get-BskyFeed	bsfeed	Get your Bluesky feed
Get-BskyFollowers	bsfollower	Get your Bluesky followers
Get-BskyFollowing	bsfollow	Get a list of Bluesky accounts t ...
Get-BskyModuleInfo		Get a summary of the PSBlueSky m ...
Get-BskyNotification	bsn	Get Bluesky notifications.
Get-BskyProfile	bsp	Get a Bluesky profile
Get-BskySession	bss	Show your current Bluesky session.
Get-BskyTimeline	bst	Get your Bluesky timeline
New-BskyPost	skeet	Create a Bluesky post
Open-BskyHelp	bshelp	Open the PSBluesky help document

Start-BskySession	Start a new Bluesky session
Update-BskySession	Refresh-BskySession Refresh the Bluesky session token

Authentication

Session and Tokens



In order to send data, you must authenticate. Version 2.0.0 of this module introduces a new session model. After you import the module, you **must run** `Start-BskySession` to initialize the module and setup module-scoped variables.

```
Start-BskySession -credential $cred
```

The credential should be a `PSCredential` object representing your Bluesky username (handle) and password. (See *below*)

This command will create a hidden session object that will be called from other module commands to get the necessary authentication token for the `Invoke-ResetMethod` header. The access token has a limited lifetime unless it is refreshed. Beginning with version 1.2.0, the module will refresh the token every 15 minutes through a background runspace using a synchronized hashtable. If you remove the module, the runspace will be removed as well.

Run `Get-BskySession` to see your current session information.

```
PS C:\> Get-BskySession
```

```
User: jdhitsolutions.com
```

Active	AccessToken	RefreshToken	Age
-----	-----	-----	---
True	eyJ0eXAiOiJhdCtqd3Qi ...	eyJ0eXAiOiJyZWZyZXNo ...	00:05:41.5115796

If you want to manually test the Bluesky API in your own code, you can use the access and refresh token properties from this object.

```
PS C:\> $bskySession = Get-BskySession
PS C:\> $access = $bskySession.AccessToken
PS C:\> $refresh = $bskySession.RefreshToken
```

However, it is still possible you will encounter an expired token error message. If you do, you can run `Update-BskySession` to refresh the token.

```
Get-BskySession | Update-BskySession
```

If this also fails, remove the module, re-import and start a new Bluesky session, including re-running `Start-BskySession`.

Credentials

You will need to create a `PSCredential` object with your Bluesky username and password. **The username is case-sensitive.** For automation purposes, you can use the Secrets management module to store your credential. Write your own code to retrieve the credential and pass it to the module commands.

You might want to use `PSDefaultParameterValues` to set the credential for all commands.

```
$PSDefaultParameterValues['*-Bsky*:Credential'] = $BlueskyCredential
```

You should only need this credential for `Start-BskySession`.

This module does not use 2FA at this time. You must use an app password.

App Passwords

While this module does not use your credential object for anything other than establishing a Bluesky session, you may elect to take a more secure approach and use an app password. This password can be revoked at any time without affecting your main account password. Follow these steps if you want to use an app password with this module.

In the Bluesky app, go to your profile and select **Settings**. Then select **App Passwords**.

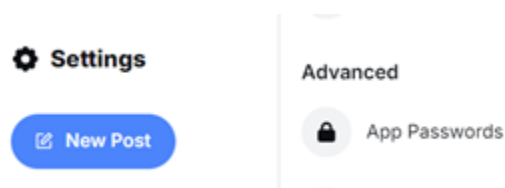


Figure 1: Bluesky app passwords

You will need to create a new app password. Give it a meaningful name.

Click the button to create the app password.

You will only see the password once. Copy the password and save it in a secure location such as a secrets management vault.

Next, you need to create a credential object in PowerShell. The user name will be the DID (decentralized identifier) for your account. The password will be the app pass-

Please enter a unique name for this App Password or use our randomly generated one.

PSBluesky

Can only contain letters, numbers, spaces, dashes, and underscores. Must be at least 4 characters long, but no more than 32 characters long.

☒ Allow access to your direct messages

Create App Password

Figure 2: Bluesky creating an app password

Here is your app password. Use this to sign into the other app along with your handle.

xg5i- [REDACTED]

For security reasons, you won't be able to view this again. If you lose this password, you'll need to generate a new one.

Done

Figure 3: Bluesky app password

word you just created. You can run `Get-BskyAccountDID` to get your DID. This command does not require authentication.

```
$did = Get-BskyAccountDID jdhitsolutions.com
```

Now you can create a credential object.

```
PS C:\> $cred = Get-Credential $did
```

```
PowerShell credential request
Enter your credentials.
Password for user did:plc:ohgsqpfsbocaaxusxqlgfvd7:
```

Enter the app password. You will use this credential object with `Start-BskySession`. I recommend you save the credential in a secrets management vault and retrieve it when you need to start a Bluesky session.

```
$cred = Get-Secret -Name PSBlueskyCredential
$PSDefaultParameterValues['*-Sky*:Credential'] = $cred
```

You can revoke an app password at any time. If you do, you will need to create a new app password and update your credential object.



I recommend you use an app password with this module and protect your primary account password. If your Bluesky account is protected with 2FA, you *must* use an app password with this module.

Rate Limits

The commands in this module use the public Bluesky API which means there are [rate limits](#). If you exceed the rate limit, you will get an error message. You will need to wait until the rate limit resets.



There is a rate limit of 300 new sessions per day. This shouldn't be an issue for most people unless you are testing code or running some sort of high-volume automation.

Posting



Use `New-BskyPost`, or its alias `skeet`, to post a message to Bluesky. There are parameters to include an image. If you include an image, the `New-BskyPost` command will call `Add-BskyImage` to upload the image. It is **strongly recommended** that you included ALT text for the image.

```
$param = @{  
    Message      = "Getting close to sharing my #PowerShell Bluesky code."  
    ImagePath    = "C:\work\MsPowerShell.jpg"  
    ImageAlt     = "Ms. PowerShell"  
    Verbose      = $true  
}  
New-BskyPost @param
```

The output is a URL to the post.

If your message contains a URL, it will be converted to a clickable link. Make sure your link is surrounded by white space. Beginning with v1.0.0, you can post Markdown style links.

```
PS C:\> $m = "Testing multiple Markdown style links from my [#PowerShell PSBluesky  
module](https://github.com/jdhitsolutions/PSBluesky) which you can find on the  
[PowerShell Gallery](https://www.powershellgallery.com/packages/PSBlueSky/0.6.0)"  
PS C:\> skeet $m
```

This example is using the `skeet` alias for `New-BskyPost`.



Figure 4: Markdown links in a Bluesky post

Profiles

The module has a command to retrieve a Bluesky profile.

```
Get-BskyProfile jdhitsolutions.com
```

The module uses a custom format file.

```
PS C:\> Get-PSBlueskyProfile jdhitsolutions.com

Jeff Hicks [jdhitsolutions.com]

PowerShell Author/Teacher/MVP/Guide 🍌
Prof. PowerShell Emeritus 🦉
Grizzled and grumpy IT Pro - https://jdhitsolutions.github.io/
🎵 Amateur composer - https://musescore.com/user/26698536
Wine drinker 🍷🐶 and dog lover

Created                Posts Followers Following Lists
-----                -
5/21/2023 2:44:48 PM   533      317      172      0
```

Figure 5: A Bluesky user profile

The user's profile name should be a clickable link.

The object has been customized with aliases and script properties.

```
PS C:\> $jeff = Get-BskyProfile
PS C:\> $jeff | Select-Object *

Username      : jdhitsolutions.com
Display       : Jeff Hicks
Created       : 5/21/2023 10:44:48 AM
Description   : PowerShell Author/Teacher/MVP/Tour Guide 🍌
```

```

Prof. PowerShell Emeritus ☐
Grizzled and grumpy IT Pro – https://jdhitsolutions.github.io/
☐Amateur composer – https://musescore.com/user/26698536
Wine drinker ☐☐ and dog lover
Avatar      : https://cdn.bsky.app/img/avatar/plain/did:plc:ohgsqpfsbocaaxusxqlg
              fvd7/bafkreifdfahcjmytu3iw2aj2d3howu6q7twkta3h23qmlve2d2mvo5sily@j
              peg
Posts       : 1060
Followers   : 1904
Following   : 383
Lists       : 2
URL         : https://bsky.app/profile/jdhitsolutions.com
DID         : did:plc:ohgsqpfsbocaaxusxqlgfvd7
Name        : jdhitsolutions.com
Age         : 596.06:49:09.1731955

```



Followers

You can retrieve a list of your followers. You can specify a number of followers between 1 and 100. The default is 50.

```
Get-BskyFollowers -Limit 2
```

```

PS C:\> Get-PSBlueskyFollowers -Limit 2

Display      Username      Description
-----
Jonathan Lank jpluk.bsky.social
Libby Brown   trubludevill.social Product manager @ SpruceID. Mom. Digital Wallet and Pass

```

Figure 6: Bluesky followers

The custom formatting includes a clickable link to the follower's profile if running in Windows Terminal or a console that supports hyperlinks.

You can pipe the follower object to `Get-BskyProfile` to retrieve more information.

```

PS C:\> $f= Get-BskyFollowers
PS C:\> $f[12] | Get-BskyProfile

Jess Pomfret [jpomfret.bsky.social]

Database Engineer with a passion for automation, proper football
and fitness. She/Her.

```

Created	Posts	Followers	Following	Lists
8/14/2023 3:58:44 PM	125	236	157	1

The default behavior is to retrieve between 1 and 100 followers. Or you can use the -All parameter to retrieve all followers.

Searching for Users

You can search for Bluesky users with Find-BskyUser. The default behavior is to search for a user by name. The search is case-insensitive.

```
Find-BskyUser -UserName "jeff h" -Limit 3
```

The default output includes clickable links to the user's profile. This object too has been customized with aliases and script properties.

```
PS C:\> Find-BskyUser -UserName "jeff h" -Limit 3 |
Select-Object *Name,Description,Created,Age
```

```

DisplayName : Jeff (no, the other one)
UserName    : jeff-notheotherone.bsky.social
Description  : When I use a word, Humpty said, it means just what I choose it to
               mean - neither more nor less.

               The question is, said Alice, whether you can make words mean so
               many different things.

               H: The question is which is to be Master - that's all.
Created      : 8/11/2023 6:27:08 AM
Age          : 514.11:04:04.2416645

DisplayName  : F-0 Loignon
UserName     : foloignon.bsky.social
Description  : « Un p'tit gosseux » - MBC
               « Une caricature » - H. Buzetti
               « L'osti de tapette communiste woke » - Un pirate

               Je suis pas mal l'amalgame de tout ce que Jeff Fillion haït :
               prof, artiste, écolo, socialiste, LGBT, féministe, antiraciste,
               intello, etc.
Created      : 10/5/2023 8:09:28 PM
Age          : 458.21:21:43.9869033
```

```

DisplayName : Jeff H
UserName    : jhorowitzmd.bsky.social
Description : Division Chief of Pulm, Crit Care and Sleep Med at OSU. Lung
              fibrosis investigator. Cubs. Star Wars, GoT, LoTR, Avengers. Dad,
              husband, son and brother. RT's do not mean endorsement.
              #horoblast.
Created     : 11/13/2024 6:53:06 AM
Age         : 54.10:38:05.3790593

```

The value you specify for the user name will also search the user's description property. This is a handy way of finding users with similar interests.

Find-BskyUser powershell

```

Username: Dave Carroll [thedavecarroll.com]

Created      Description
-----
4/29/2023 6:52:59 AM #PowerShell #Developer and enthusiast with a side of
                    #DevOps, #Python, infrastructure, and #RetroComputing.
                    Lifelong #cinophile and #punster.

                    #Aspie #INTJ #9w1
                    He/Him

                    https://thedavecarroll.com

Username: Sandro [kharec.info]

Created      Description
-----
7/24/2023 3:46:02 AM F R /U S SysOps turned #DevOps 🧑🏻‍💻
                    Python/Go/C++/Perl developer 🎧🍷 JSON/YAML/HCL lover 🇬🇧
                    Bash/PowerShell eater 🐱 repressed DBA ⚙️ pop culture nerd
                    📺📺📺📺📺

Username: Frode [frodeflaten.com]

```

Figure 7: Find Bluesky users via their description

You can pipe the search results to Get-BskyProfile to retrieve more information.

```

PS C:\> $p = Find-BskyUser powershell -Limit 10
PS C:\> $p | Get-BskyProfile

```

Chrissy LeMaire [funbucket.dev]

Dual Microsoft MVP, GitHub Star, creator of dbatools, author
<http://dbatools.io/book> ☐☐

Totally into PowerShell, SQL Server and AI.

□ North of France

Created	Posts	Followers	Following	Lists
4/24/2023 12:12:00 PM	688	1435	614	0
...				

Following

Likewise, you can get a list of all the accounts you are following.

```
Get-BskyFollowing -limit 3
```

```
PS C:\> get-bskyFollowing -limit 3

Display                                Username                                Description
-----                                -
Kevin Cunningham                      dolearning.dev                         Developer educator | Helping dev teams keep
                                         their JS/TS, Python and PHP sharp (sometimes
                                         Java and Golang too)
                                         https://kevincunningham.co.uk
                                         📍 Northern Ireland

Richard M. Hicks                      richardhicks.com                      / video / info / resources /
Last Week Tonight with John Oliver UPDATE lastweektonight1.bsky.social / Last Week Tonight with John Oliver
~ unaffiliated
```

Figure 8: Bluesky following

As with followers, the default behavior is to retrieve between 1 and 100 accounts you are following. Or you can use the `-All` parameter to retrieve all accounts you are following.

Feed

Use `Get-BskyFeed` to retrieve the latest posts from *your* feed. You can query for 1 to 100.

```
Get-BskyFeed -Limit 3
```

The default output uses a custom format file. The current behavior is to get posts and replies.

```
PS C:\> Get-PSBlueskyFeed -Limit 3

Jeff Hicks [jdhitsolutions.com]

Getting close to pushing an update to my #PoewrShell bluesky module

Date                Liked Replied Reposted Quoted
-----
10/27/2024 1:43:06 PM      0      0      0      0

Jeff Hicks [jdhitsolutions.com]

Adding help documenation to my Bluesky #PowerShell module.

Date                Liked Replied Reposted Quoted
-----
10/27/2024 1:12:18 PM      1      0      0      0

Jeff Hicks [jdhitsolutions.com]

I'm using the #PowerShell InformationVariable to store the raw response from the Bluesky API.

Date                Liked Replied Reposted Quoted
-----
10/27/2024 12:05:15 PM      1      0      0      0
```

Figure 9: Getting your Bluesky feed

The formatted output includes clickable links to the the author, which might be different than you if reposting, and the post. For best results, run PowerShell 7 in Windows Terminal.

Notifications

You can retrieve your notifications with `Get-BskyNotification`. You can specify a limit of 1 to 100. The default is 50.

```
Get-BskyNotification -limit 10
```

The default formatted output includes clickable links to the author and the liked or reposted skeet.

-  Like
-  Follow
-  Repost
-  Reply

Long account names will be truncated in the formatted output.

Date	Account	Subject
11/13/2024 1:36 PM	mscommunity.bsky.social	
11/13/2024 1:24 PM	Oscar	
11/13/2024 1:18 PM	dirteam.bsky.social	
11/13/2024 1:04 PM	Hoang Chu	
11/13/2024 1:01 PM	Madhu PERERA	<u>I have published v1.2.0 of the PSBluesky module to the #PowerShell Gallery. Run Open-BskyHelp to read the help PDF</u>
	Like	
	follow	
11/13/2024 12:54 PM	medford	
11/13/2024 12:48 PM	tysonro.bsky.social	
11/13/2024 12:17 PM	sqljuju.bsky.social	
11/13/2024 11:47 AM	Mark Oldham	<u>I'm on track to double my follower count in one week. I don't think I ever had this type of engagement in the upside down. Thank you.</u>
	links	
11/13/2024 11:38 AM	martyntolley.bsky.social	

Figure 10: Getting your Bluesky notifications

Timeline

If you want to view items from your timeline, use the `Get-BskyTimeline` command. You can specify a limit of 1 to 100. The default is 50.

```
Get-BskyTimeline -Limit 25
```

The command uses a custom format file. The default formatted output includes clickable links to the author and the post.

Information and Troubleshooting

The commands in this module should write the raw response from the API request to the Information stream. Some commands might include additional information.

The output will be an object.

```
PS C:\> $v.MessageData | Select-Object did,handle,*count

did           : did:plc:ohgsqpfsbocaaxusxqlgfvd7
handle        : jdhitsolutions.com
followersCount : 322
followsCount   : 177
postsCount     : 543
```

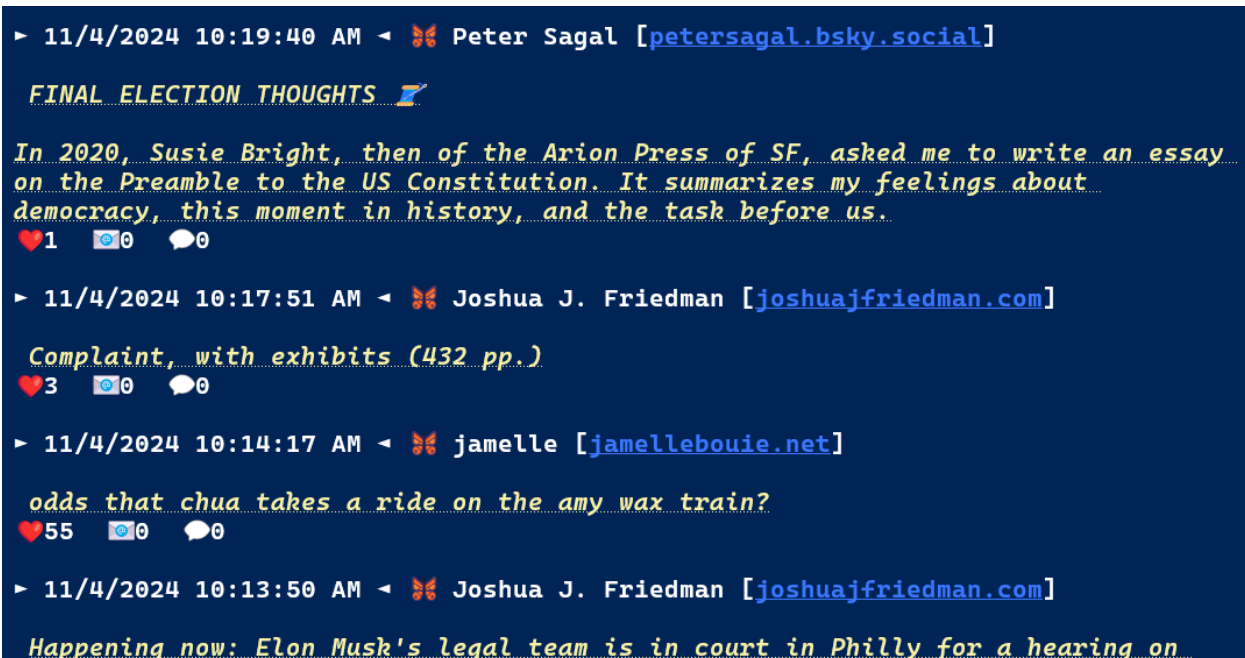


Figure 11: Getting your Bluesky timeline

```
PS C:\> $me = Get-PSBlueskyProfile jdhitsolutions.com -InformationVariable v
PS C:\> $v | select *
```

MessageData : @{{did=did:plc:ohgsqpfsbocaaxusxqlgfv7; handle=jdhitsolutions.com; displayName=Jeff; avatar=https://cdn.bsky.app/img/avatar/plain/did:plc:ohgsqpfsbocaaxusxqlgfv7/bafk-associated; viewer=; labels=System.Object[]; createdAt=5/21/2023 2:44:48 PM; desc=Prof. PowerShell Emeritus 🦋; Grizzled and grumpy IT Pro - https://jdhitsolutions.github.io/ 🎵Amateur composer - https://musescore.com/user/26698536; Wine drinker 🍷🐶 and dog lover; indexedAt=10/26/2024 3:45:40 PM; banner=https://cdn.bsky.app/img/banner/plain/did:plc:ohgsqpfsbocaaxusxqlgfv7/bafk-followersCount=322; followsCount=177; postsCount=543}}

Source : C:\Scripts\PSBluesky\functions\Get-PSBlueSkyProfile.ps1

TimeGenerated : 10/27/2024 12:02:44 PM

Tags : {raw}

User : THINKX1-JH\Jeff

Computer : ThinkX1-JH

ProcessId : 20632

NativeThreadId : 20936

ManagedThreadId : 17

Figure 12: Information stream

You might want to set a default parameter value.

```
$PSDefaultParameterValues['*-Sky*:InformationVariable'] = "iv"
```

Other Module Features

Type Extensions

You are encourage to pipe command results to Get-Member to discover additional properties you might find useful.

```
PS C:\> Get-BskyProfile thedavecarroll.com |  
Format-List Name,Description,Created,Age  
  
Name           : thedavecarroll.com  
Description    : #PowerShell #Developer and enthusiast with a side of #DevOps,  
                #Python, infrastructure, and  
                #RetroComputing. Lifelong #cinophile and #punster.  
  
                #Aspie #INTJ #9w1  
                He/Him  
  
                https://thedavecarroll.com  
Created        : 4/29/2023 6:52:59 AM  
Age            : 569.04:06:51.6915207
```

Custom Verbose Messaging

This module uses ANSI formatting with localized string data and customized verbose messaging.

```
PS C:\> $f = Get-BskyFeed -Limit 10 -Verbose  
VERBOSE: [10:31:47:2888 BEGIN ] Get-BskyFeed-> Starting PSBluesky module command  
VERBOSE: [10:31:47:2891 BEGIN ] Get-BskyFeed-> Running under PowerShell version 7.4.6  
VERBOSE: [10:31:47:2892 BEGIN ] Get-BskyFeed-> Using PowerShell Host ConsoleHost  
VERBOSE: [10:31:47:2894 BEGIN ] Get-BskyFeed-> Running under Operating System Microsoft Windows 10.0.26100  
VERBOSE: [10:31:47:2895 BEGIN ] Get-BskyFeed-> Using module PSBluesky version 2.0.0  
VERBOSE: [10:31:47:2898 PROCESS] Get-BskyFeed-> Querying 10 feed items for jdhitsolutions.com  
VERBOSE: [10:31:47:2899 PROCESS] Get-BskyFeed-> https://bsky.social/xrpc/app.bsky.feed.getAuthorFeed?actor=did:plc:ohg  
sqpfsbocaaxusxqlgfvd7&limit=10&filter=posts_with_replies  
VERBOSE: Requested HTTP/1.1 GET with 0-byte payload  
VERBOSE: Received HTTP/1.1 response of content type application/json of unknown size  
VERBOSE: Content encoding: utf-8  
VERBOSE: [10:31:47:8473 END ] Get-BskyFeed-> Ending PSBluesky module command  
PS C:\>
```

Figure 13: Custom verbose messaging

The color formatting the command names is not user-configurable at this time.

I am hoping to add localized strings for other languages as well as localized help and the help PDF file.

Roadmap

I have a short list of items on my wish list:

- Add support for posting multiple images
- Add support for posting video
- Add commands to work with direct messages, aka chat
- Maybe create a TUI-base reader for your timeline

If you are testing the module and think you've found a bug, please post an [Issue](#). For all other topics and questions, including feature requests, please use the repository's [Discussions](#) section. I am open to pull requests if you have a feature you'd like to add. I especially would love to see the Pester tests expanded and the pending tests completed.

Note: You can find me on Bluesky as jdhitsolutions.com.