

Lab - System Utilities

Introduction

In this lab, you will use Windows utilities to configure operating system settings.

Recommended Equipment

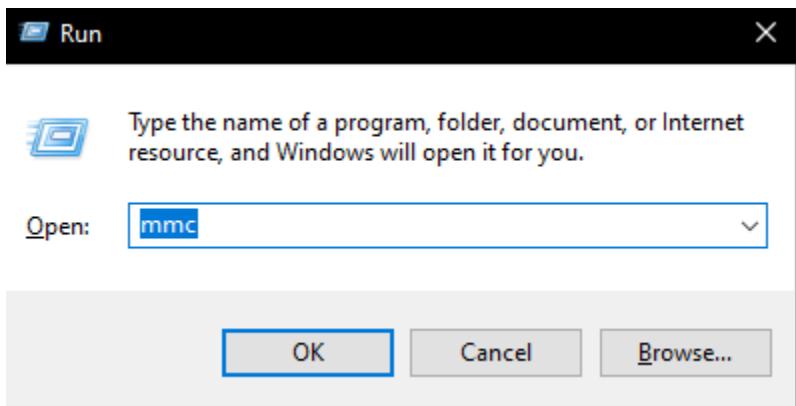
- A computer running Windows

Instructions

Part 1: Custom Management Console

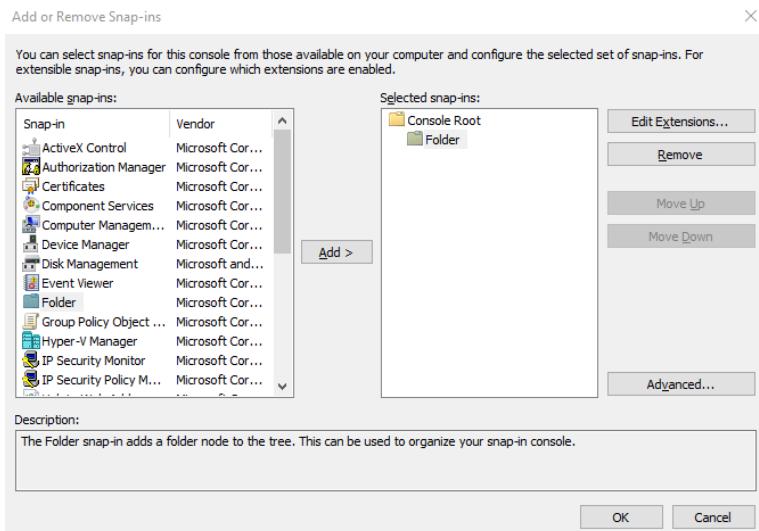
Step 1: Explore the management console.

- To open the Microsoft Management Console, click **Start**, and search for **mmc**. Click **Yes** to allow Microsoft Management Console to make changes to the computer.

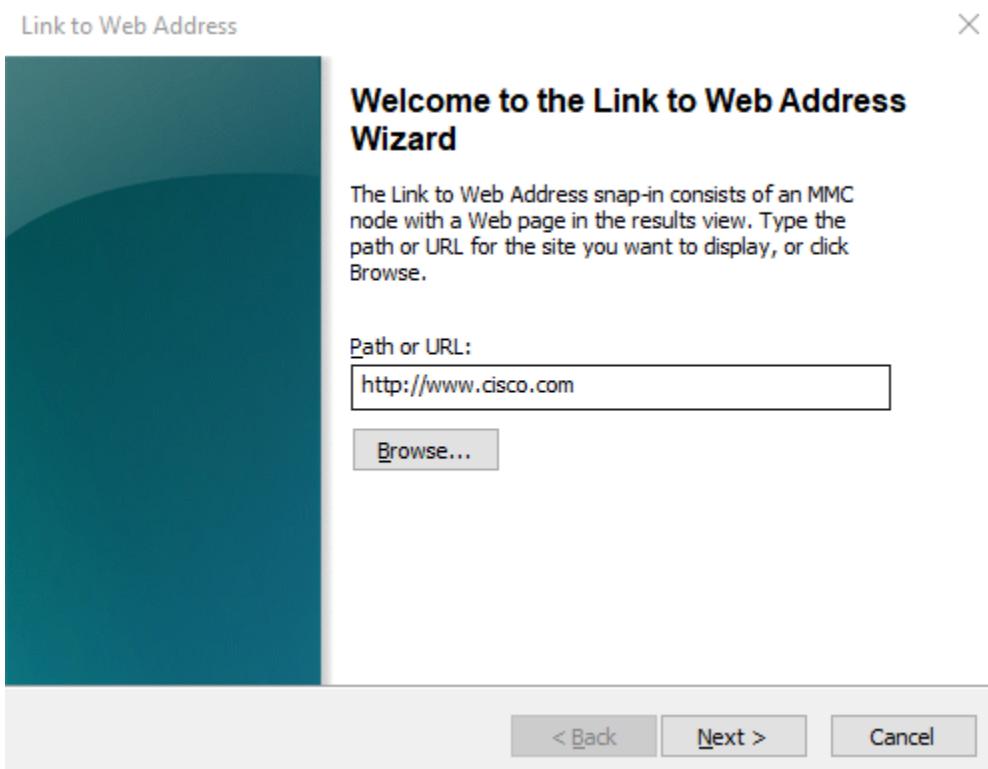


- In the **Console1 - [Console Root]** window, you can build a custom console. Click **File > Add/Remove Snap-in**.
- In the **Add or Remove Snap-ins** window, you can add a folder snap-in. Scroll down the Available snap-ins: pane to locate the **Folder** snap-in. Select **Folder** and click **Add>**.

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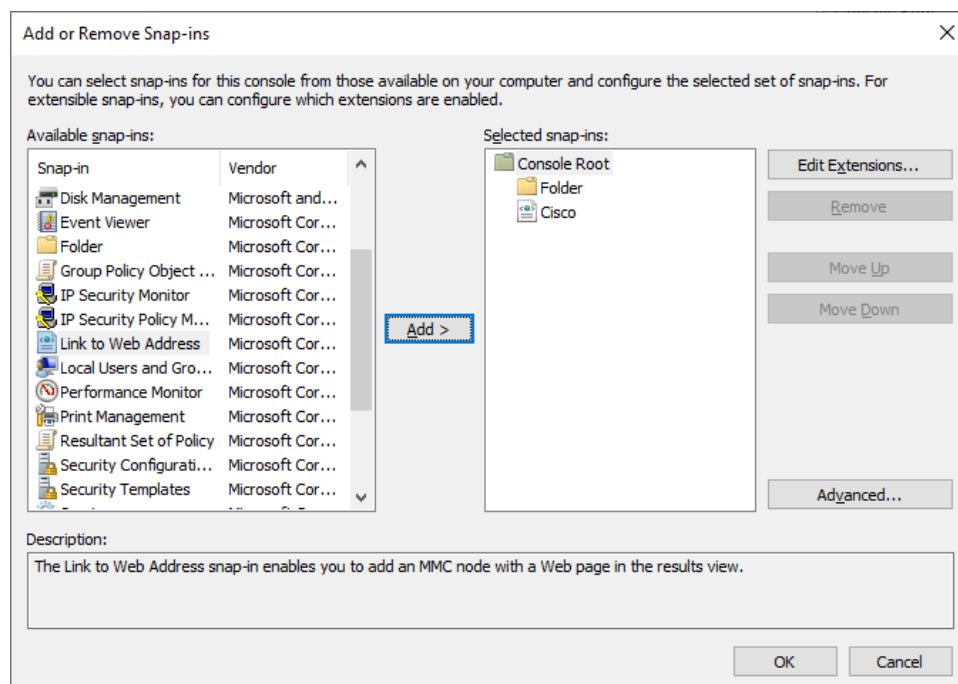
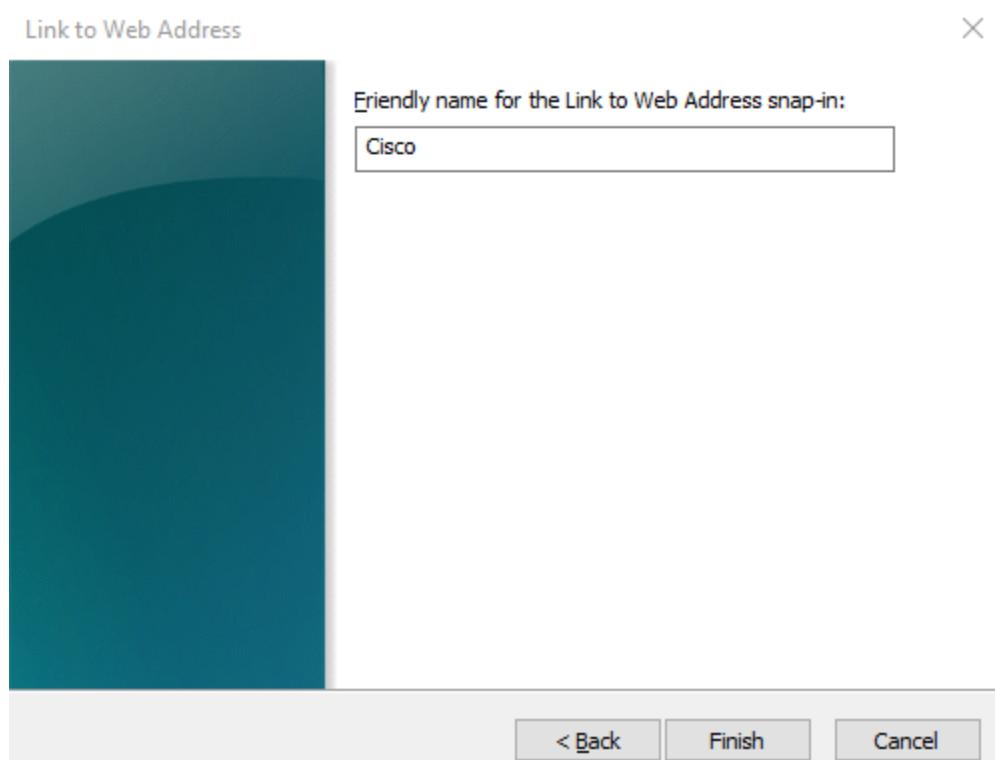


- d. To add the **Link to Web Address** snap-in, scroll down the Available snap-ins: pane and select **Link to Web Address**. Click **Add>**. In the **Link to Web Address** wizard window, enter <http://www.cisco.com> in the **Path or URL:** field, click **Next>** to continue.



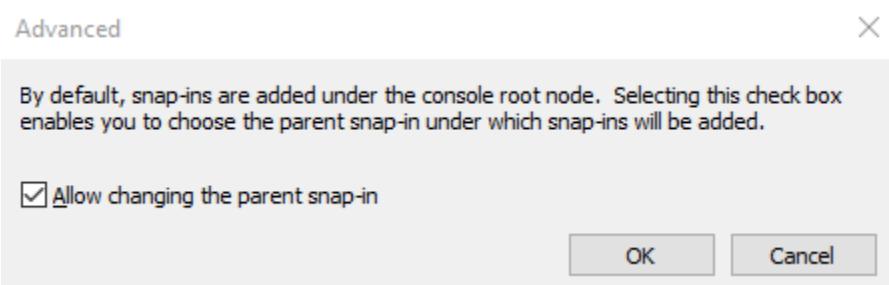
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- e. In the Friendly name for the Link to Web Address snap-in box, enter Cisco and click Finish to continue.

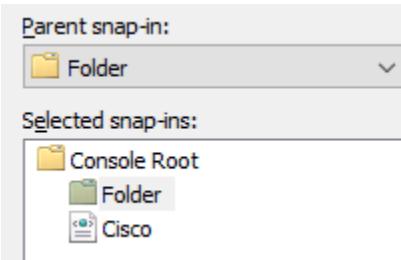


Step 2: Create a custom management console.

- To add snap-ins to the folder snap-in, click **Advanced**.
- The Advanced window opens. Select Allow changing the parent snap-in. Click **OK**.

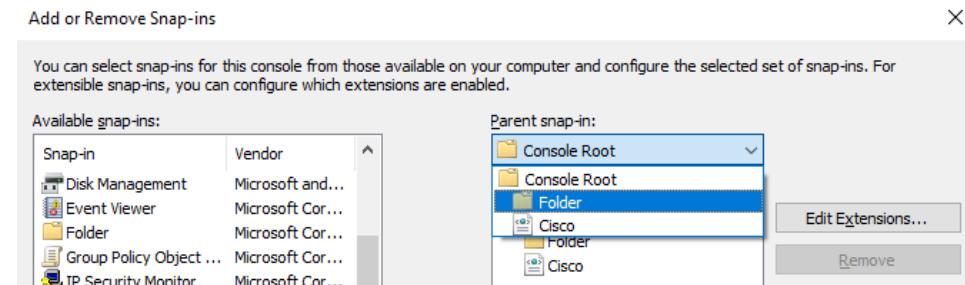


- c. A drop-down menu appears for **Parent snap-in**. In the **Parent snap-in** box, select **Folder**.

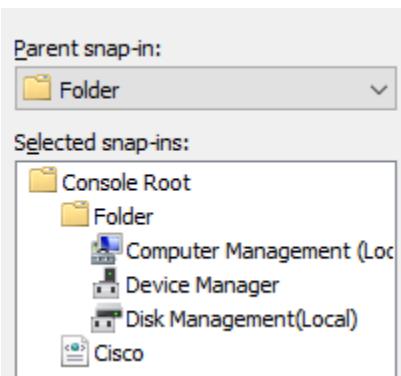


Selected snap-ins:

- Console Root
- Folder
- Cisco



- d. Add the following snap-ins from the Available snap-in pane: **Computer Management**, **Device Manager**, and **Disk Management**. In each of the snap-in windows, click **Finish** to select to use the snap-in to manage the Local Computer or This computer.

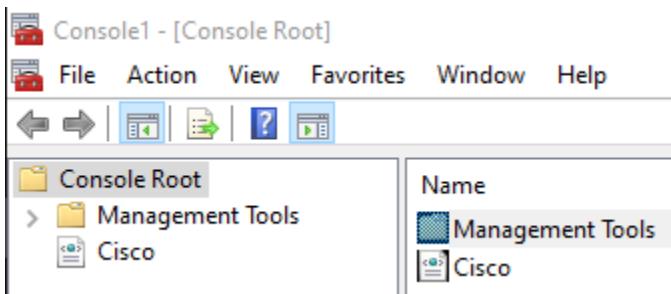


Selected snap-ins:

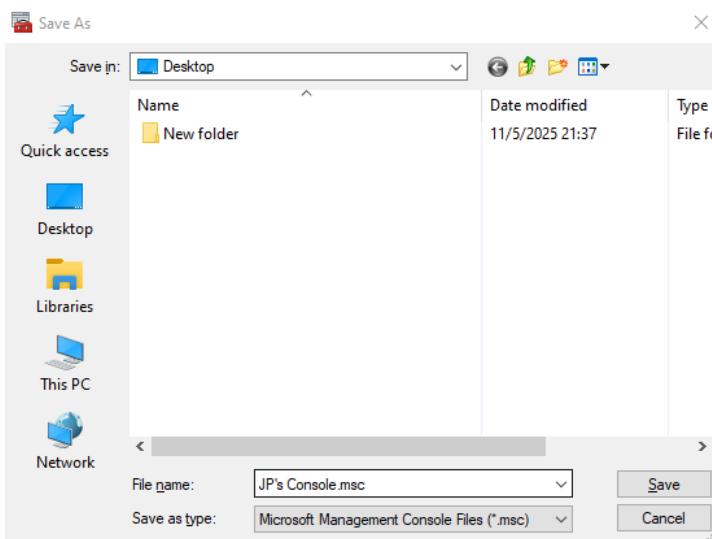
- Console Root
- Folder
 - Computer Management (Loc)
 - Device Manager
 - Disk Management(Local)
- Cisco

- e. Click **OK** to continue to exit the Add or Remove Snap-ins window.
- f. In the **Console1** window, right-click the **Folder** icon and select **Rename**. Change the name of the folder to **Management Tools**.

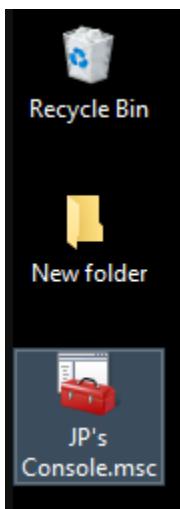
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- g. To save the custom console, click **File > Save As**. Change the file name to your name. Example: **John's Console**. Change the **Save in** box to **Desktop**. Click **Save**.

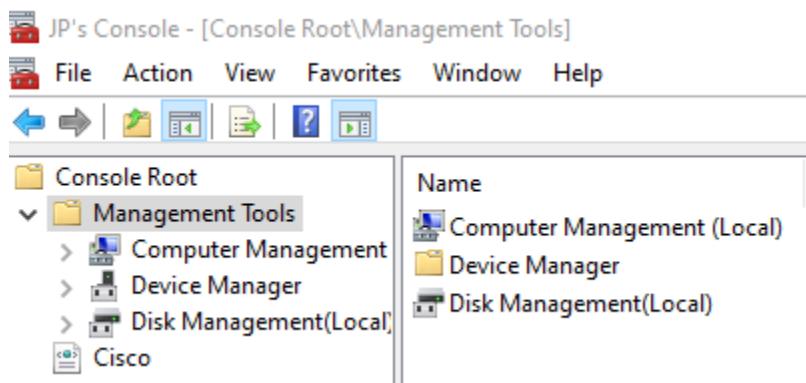


- h. Close all open windows.
i. On the desktop, double-click the **Console** icon that contains your name to re-open the console with your snap-ins. Click **Yes** to allow this application to make changes to your device as necessary.



- j. Review the **Management Tools** folder by double-clicking on the tools.

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- k. Within your custom console, navigate to the Event Viewer.

The screenshot shows the 'JP's Console - [Console Root\Management Tools\Computer Management (Local)\System Tools\Event Viewer]' window. The left pane shows the navigation path: 'Console Root > Management Tools > Computer Management > System Tools > Event Viewer'. The right pane has two main sections: 'Overview and Summary' and 'Summary of Administrative Events'. The 'Overview' section includes a note about viewing events and selecting a source. The 'Summary of Administrative Events' table provides a count of events over different time periods:

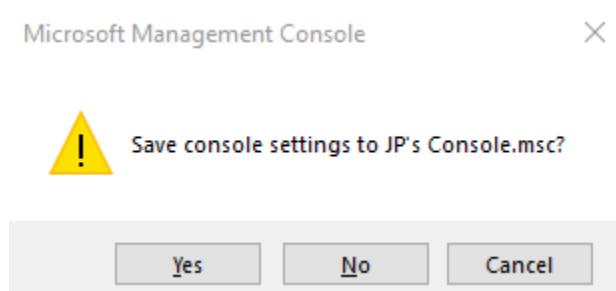
Event Type	Event ID	Source	Log	Last hour	24 hours	7 days
Critical	-	-	-	0	0	0
Error	-	-	-	0	12	137
Warning	-	-	-	0	6	292
Information	-	-	-	3	210	3,002
Audit Success	-	-	-	15	235	2,069

Question:

What was the path you used to navigate to the Event Viewer?

Console Root > Management Tools > Computer Management > System Tools > Event Viewer

- l. Close the **Console** window when you finish your review. Click **No** when prompted to save the changes.



Part 2: Registry Editor

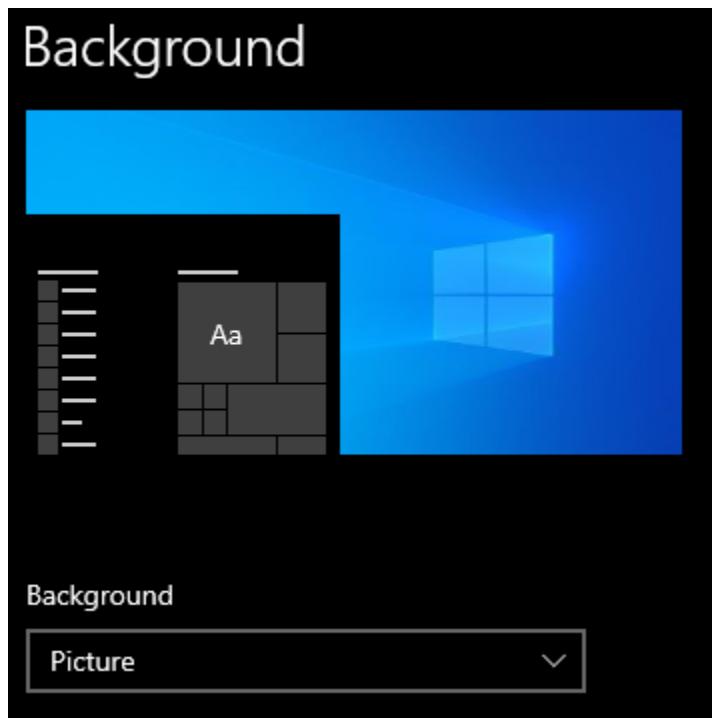
Step 1: Change your desktop background settings.

- a. Right-click the Desktop > select **Personalize**.

Question:

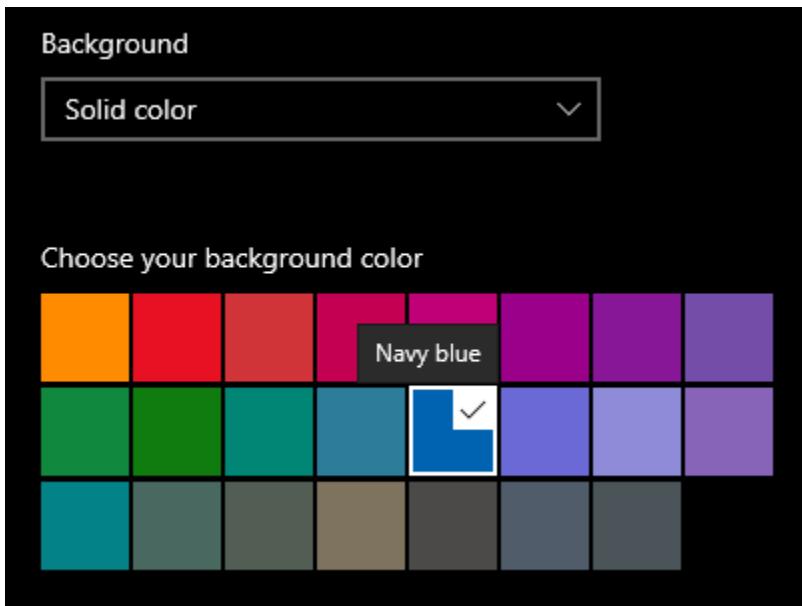
What is the background picture?

Windows 10 Default Wallpaper



- b. In Windows 10, select **Solid color** in the Background drop-down list. Choose a **blue** background color.

In Windows 8.1 and 7, click **Desktop Background**. Select **Solid Colors** in the Picture Location drop-down list. Choose a **blue** background color.



- c. Click **Save changes**. The computer screen should now have a blue background. If not, ask the instructor for assistance.



- d. Close all open windows.

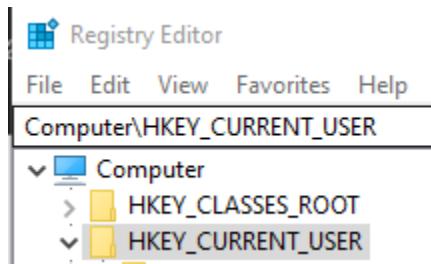
Step 2: Open the registry editor.

- a. To open the **Registry Editor**, click **Start** and type **regedit**. Click **Yes** to allow Registry Editor to make changes to the computer.

Note: Do not make any changes in the Registry Editor without instructor permission.

- b. Select and expand the **HKEY_CURRENT_USER** entry.

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- c. Expand Control Panel. Click Colors. Click Background in the right panel.

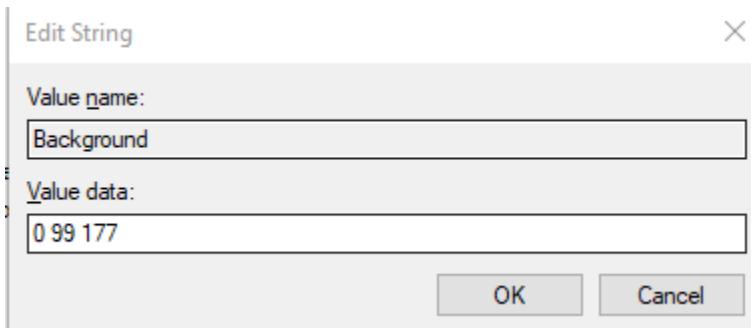
Name	Type	Data
(Default)	REG_SZ	(value not set)
ActiveBorder	REG_SZ	180 180 180
ActiveTitle	REG_SZ	153 180 209
AppWorkspace	REG_SZ	171 171 171
Background	REG_SZ	0 99 177
ButtonAlternate...	REG_SZ	0 0 0
ButtonDkShadow	REG_SZ	105 105 105
ButtonFace	REG_SZ	240 240 240

Name	Type	Data
(Default)	REG_SZ	(value not set)
ActiveBorder	REG_SZ	180 180 180
ActiveTitle	REG_SZ	153 180 209
AppWorkspace	REG_SZ	171 171 171
Background	REG_SZ	0 99 177
ButtonAlternate...	REG_SZ	0 0 0
ButtonDkShadow	REG_SZ	105 105 105
ButtonFace	REG_SZ	240 240 240
ButtonHilight	REG_SZ	255 255 255
ButtonLight	REG_SZ	227 227 227
ButtonShadow	REG_SZ	160 160 160
ButtonText	REG_SZ	0 0 0

Question:

What is the data value of the Background (hint – it has three numbers that correspond to red, green, and blue)?

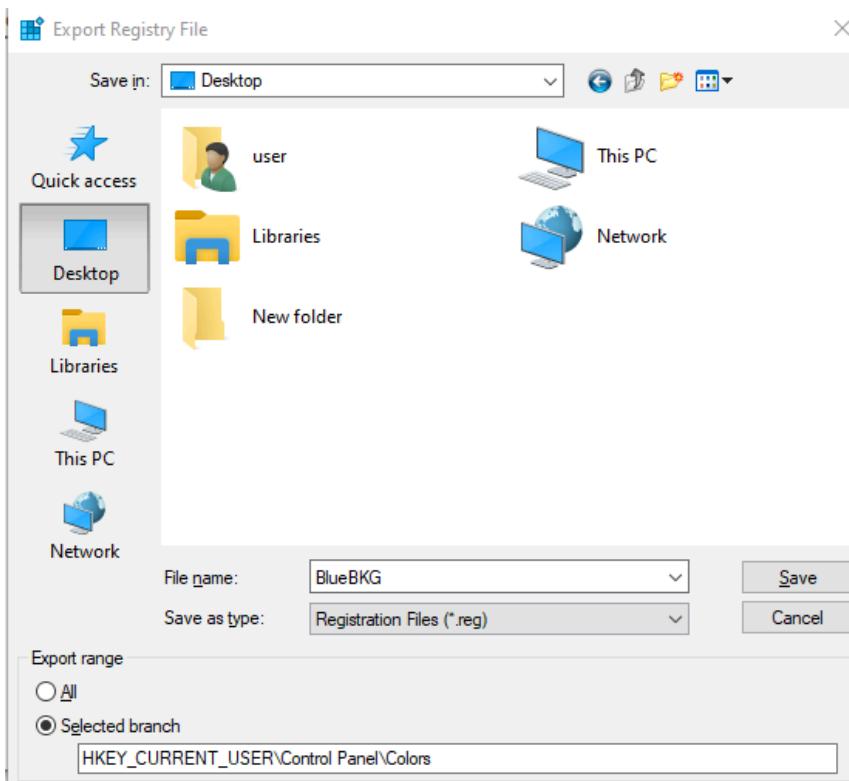
0 99 177



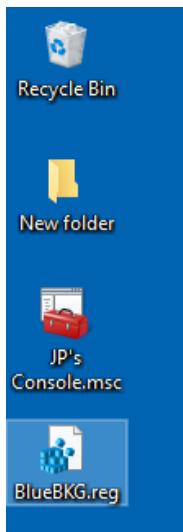
Step 3: Export a registry key.

You will export the **HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\Colors** folder.

- In the left pane, select the **Colors** folder and click **File > Export**.
- Save the file to the Desktop with the name **BlueBKG**.



- At the desktop, right-click the **BlueBKG.reg** icon and select **Edit**.

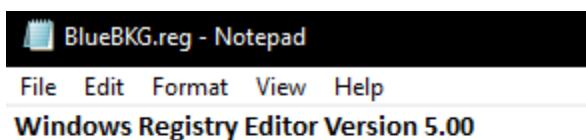


- d. Notepad opens displaying the contents of **BlueBKG.reg**.

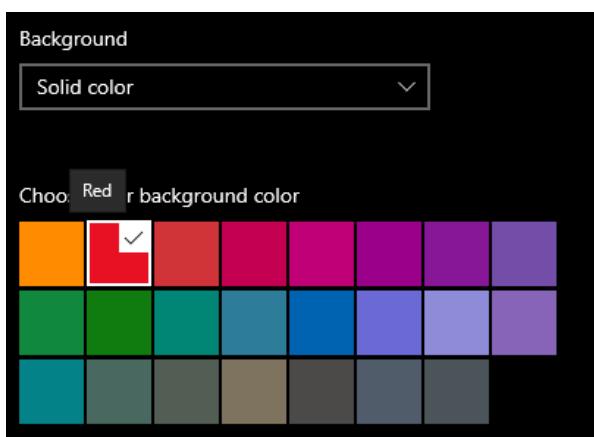
Question:

What is the data value of the **Background**?

"Background"="0 99 177"



- e. Close the **BlueBKG.reg – Notepad** window.
f. Open the Personalization window by right-clicking the **Desktop > Personalize > Desktop Background**. Select a **red** background color.



- g. Click **Save** changes. Close the **Personalization** window.
- h. The desktop background should be red. Click the **Registry Editor** window.



- i. On your keyboard, press **F5** to refresh the **Registry Editor** window.

Name	Type	Data
(Default)	REG_SZ	(value not set)
ActiveBorder	REG_SZ	180 180 180
ActiveTitle	REG_SZ	153 180 209
AppWorkspace	REG_SZ	171 171 171
Background	REG_SZ	232 17 35
ButtonAlternate...	REG_SZ	0 0 0
ButtonDkShadow	REG_SZ	105 105 105
ButtonFace	REG_SZ	240 240 240

Question:

What is the data value of the Background? Compare the new value in the Registry to the value saved in BlueBKG.reg.

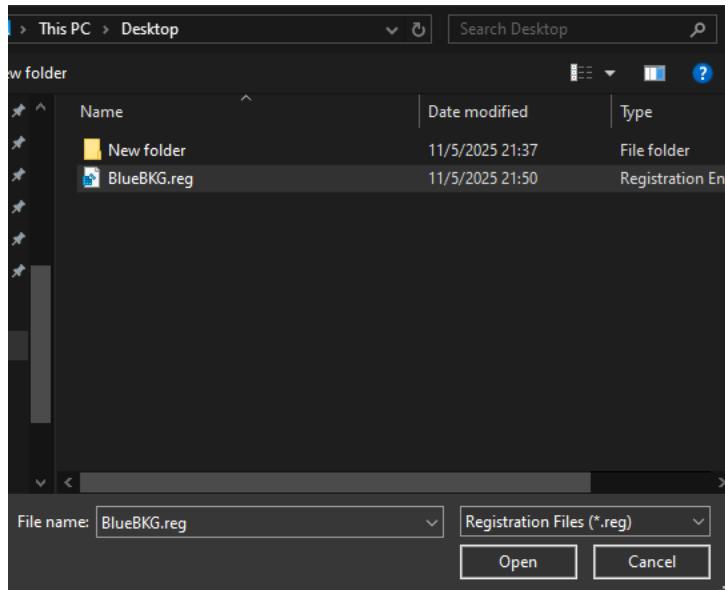
Old: 0 99 177

New: 232 17 35

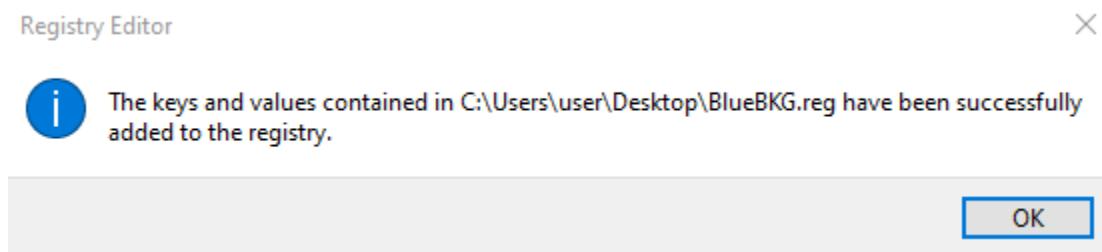
Step 4: Import a registry file.

You will import the **BlueBKG.reg** file to change the Desktop ground back to blue.

- a. Click the **Registry Editor** window.
- b. Click **File > Import**. Locate and click the **BlueBKG.reg** file then click **Open**.



- c. The **Registry Editor** informational message opens letting you know that keys and values have been successfully added to the registry. Click **OK**.

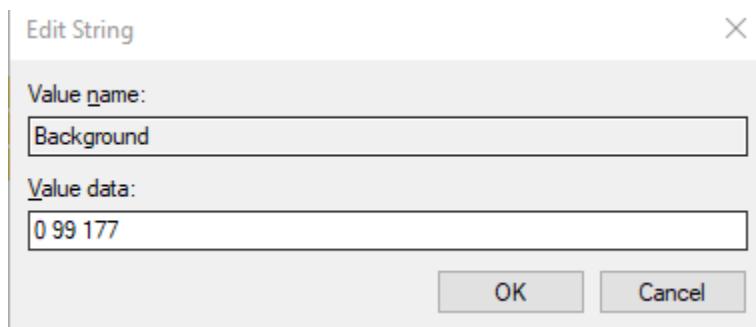


- d. Select the **Registry Editor** window.

Questions:

What is the data value of the Background?

0 99 177



What is the color of the desktop?

Red 232 17 35

- e. Restart the computer.

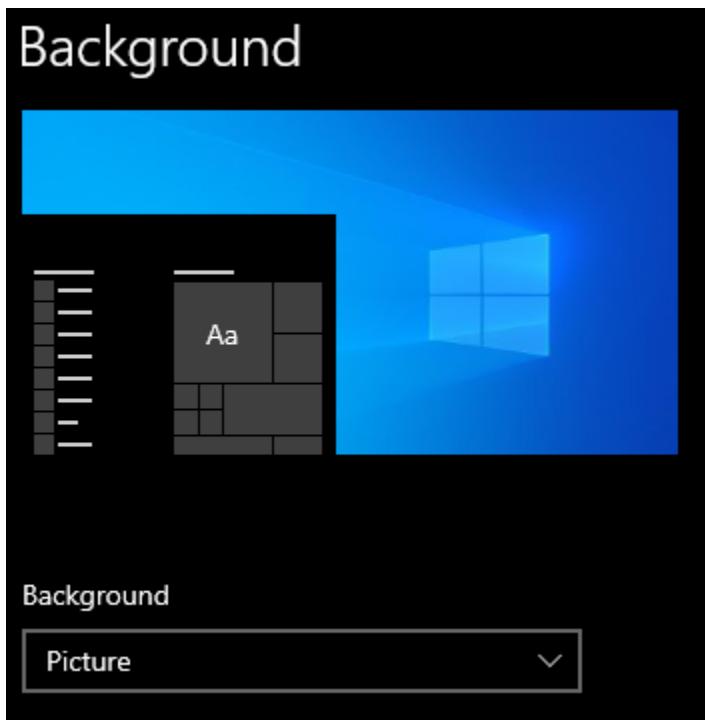
Question:

What is the color of the desktop?

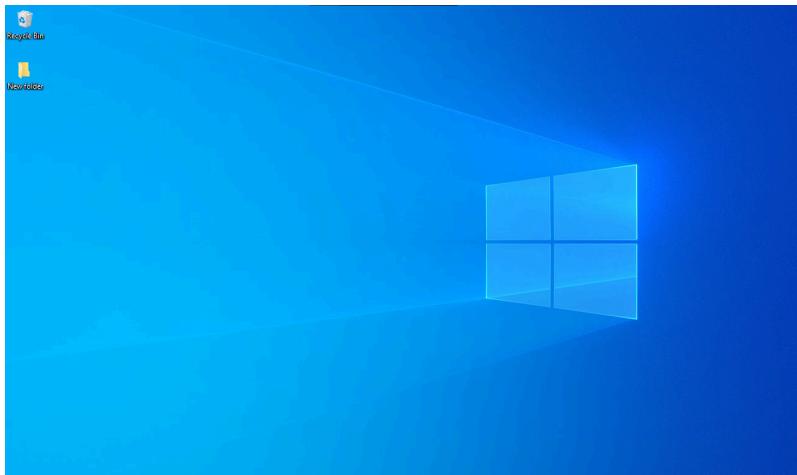
Blue 0 99 177



- f. Reset **Display Properties Background** to the original settings.



- g. Close all open windows.
h. Delete the custom console and BlueBKG file on the desktop.



Reflection Question

1. Why would it be beneficial to add snap-ins to the mmc that are for other computers on the network?

It makes tasks such as configuring and monitoring other computers from farther locations (while in the same network) easier and does not require the effort of a technician to physically go to each computer to configure and monitor. Because the mmc contains a feature that allows managing another computer, this lets the technician make changes to one or many computers remotely and unattended. This feature also allows configuring computers without peripherals like monitor, keyboard, or mouse.

2. After restarting the computer, why was the desktop color changed?

By importing the registry file, it writes the settings to the registry upon startup. In this case, it modifies the registry key Background from the red color values to the blue color values from the registry file BlueBKG.reg. After a system restart, Windows reads the modified registry values, changing the desktop background color from red to blue.