

Get-WindowsUpdateLog

Reference

Module: [WindowsUpdate](#)

Merges Windows Update .etl files into a single log file.

Syntax

PowerShell

```
Get-WindowsUpdateLog
  [[-ETLPath] <String[]>]
  [[-LogPath] <String>][-ProcessingType <String>]
  [-ForceFlush]
  [-WhatIf]
  [-Confirm]
  [<CommonParameters>]
```

PowerShell

```
Get-WindowsUpdateLog
  [-IncludeAllLogs]
  [<CommonParameters>]
```

Description

The `Get-WindowsUpdateLog` cmdlet merges and converts Windows Update .etl files into a single readable `windowsupdate.log` file. Windows Update Agent uses Event Tracing for Windows (ETW) to generate diagnostic logs. Windows Update no longer directly produces a `windowsupdate.log` file. Instead, it produces .etl files that aren't immediately readable as written.

For Windows 10 versions prior to 1709 (OS Build 16299), this cmdlet requires access to a Microsoft symbol server, and log decoding must be run from a Windows 10 version earlier than 1709. Logs from Windows 10, version 1709 onward don't require a Microsoft symbol server, and need to be decoded from Windows 10, versions 1709 or higher.

Examples

Example 1: Merge and convert Windows Update trace files

Get-WindowsUpdateLog

Converting C:\Windows\logs\WindowsUpdate into C:\Users\Admin\Desktop\WindowsUpdate.log

Directory: C:\Users\admin\AppData\Local\Temp\WindowsUpdateLog

Mode	LastWriteTime	Length	Name
d-----	5/30/2015 10:02 PM		SymCache

Input

File(s):

```

C:\Windows\logs\WindowsUpdate\WindowsUpdate.20150529.112451.395.1.etl
C:\Windows\logs\WindowsUpdate\WindowsUpdate.20150529.112502.723.1.etl
C:\Windows\logs\WindowsUpdate\WindowsUpdate.20150529.112524.191.1.etl
C:\Windows\logs\WindowsUpdate\WindowsUpdate.20150529.121921.075.1.etl
C:\Windows\logs\WindowsUpdate\WindowsUpdate.20150529.122031.684.1.etl
C:\Windows\logs\WindowsUpdate\WindowsUpdate.20150529.122432.434.1.etl
C:\Windows\logs\WindowsUpdate\WindowsUpdate.20150529.122432.434.2.etl
C:\Windows\logs\WindowsUpdate\WindowsUpdate.20150529.122432.434.3.etl
C:\Windows\logs\WindowsUpdate\WindowsUpdate.20150529.122432.434.4.etl
C:\Windows\logs\WindowsUpdate\WindowsUpdate.20150529.122432.434.5.etl

```

0.00%8.33%16.67%25.00%33.33%41.67%50.00%58.33%66.67%75.00%83.33%91.67%100.00%

Output

DumpFile: C:\Users\admin\AppData\Local\Temp\WindowsUpdateLog\wuet1.CSV.tmp.0

The command completed successfully.

WindowsUpdate.log written to C:\Users\admin\Desktop\WindowsUpdate.log

This command merges and converts Windows Update trace files (.etl files) into a single readable WindowsUpdate.log file.

Parameters

-Confirm

Prompts you for confirmation before running the cmdlet.

Type:	SwitchParameter
Aliases:	cf
Position:	Named
Default value:	False
Required:	False
Accept pipeline input:	False
Accept wildcard characters:	False

-ETLPath

Specifies an array of paths of Windows Update .etl files to convert into `WindowsUpdate.log`. The default value for this parameter is the Windows Update trace file directory for the current device. The acceptable values for this parameter are:


- The full path of a directory that contains one or more .etl files.
- The full path of a single .etl file.
- A comma-separated list of full paths of .etl files.

Type:	String[]
Aliases:	PsPath
Position:	0
Default value:	None
Required:	False
Accept pipeline input:	True
Accept wildcard characters:	False

-ForceFlush

Indicates that this cmdlet forces the Windows Update Agent on the current device to flush all of its traces to .etl files. This process stops the Update Orchestrator and Windows Update services.


Running this cmdlet with this parameter requires administrative credentials. You can start Windows PowerShell with administrative credentials by using the Run as administrator command.

 Expand table

Type:	SwitchParameter
Position:	Named
Default value:	None
Required:	False
Accept pipeline input:	False
Accept wildcard characters:	False

-IncludeAllLogs


Decodes all update-related logs: Windows Update, Update Session Orchestrator (USO), and the update user interface (UX). This parameter is mutually exclusive of all other parameters of this cmdlet. Specifying this parameter uses defaults for all other parameters. This parameter causes a folder to be created on the desktop and readable WindowsUpdate.log, USO.log, and UX.log files are written to it.

 Expand table

Type:	SwitchParameter
Position:	Named
Default value:	None
Required:	False
Accept pipeline input:	False
Accept wildcard characters:	False

-LogPath

Specifies the full path to which `Get-WindowsUpdateLog` writes `WindowsUpdate.log`. The default value is `WindowsUpdate.log` in the Desktop folder of the current user.

 Expand table


Type:	String
Position:	1
Default value:	None
Required:	False
Accept pipeline input:	False
Accept wildcard characters:	False

-ProcessingType

Specifies the file type that `Get-WindowsUpdateLog` uses for temporary files that are created during intermediate processing. The acceptable values for this parameter are:

- csv (comma-separated values)
- XML


By default, the value is `XML`. The temporary files are in `$env:TEMP\WindowsUpdateLog`.

 **Expand table**

Type:	String
Accepted values:	CSV, XML
Position:	Named
Default value:	None
Required:	False
Accept pipeline input:	False
Accept wildcard characters:	False

-WhatIf

Shows what would happen if the cmdlet runs. The cmdlet isn't run.

 **Expand table**

Type:	SwitchParameter
Aliases:	wi

Position:	Named
Default value:	False
Required:	False
Accept pipeline input:	False
Accept wildcard characters:	False

Inputs

[String\[\]](#)

Outputs

[Object](#)

Notes

The `SymbolServer` parameter is deprecated for Windows 1709 (OS Build 16299) and later.

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