

PowerGUI Add-on: ScriptColors

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1. What it is

With the ScriptColors add-on you can change the colors and font style, in which the PowerGUI Script Editor highlights the different parts of your scripts.

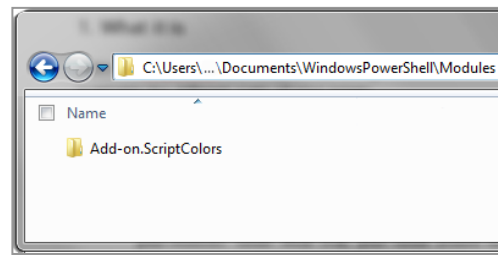
2. Installation

! If you used the MSI-installer to install ScriptColors, you can skip step a) and b). !

- a) **Check** if you already have a Windows Powershell **Modules** folder. The default location for this folder is:
"C:\users\<yourUserName>\Documents\WindowsPowerShell\Modules".

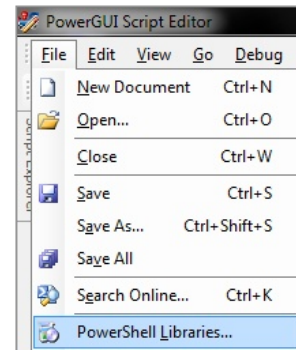
If you don't, you need to **create it**.

- b) **Extract** the Folder "Add-on.ScriptColors" which is included in the ZIP-File you have downloaded, to your *Modules* folder. After that, the folder should look like **this**:

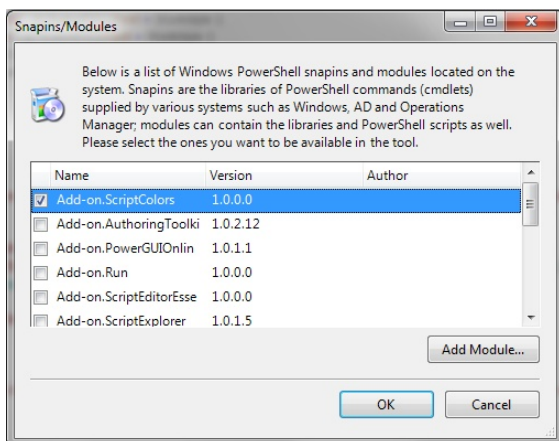


- c) **Start** your PowerGUI Script Editor

- d) Click on "**File**" in the menu bar and then "*Powershell Libraries...*".



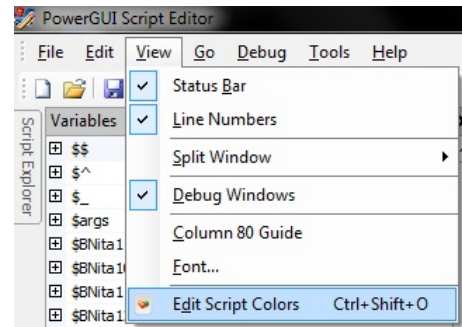
- e) In the "Snapins/Modules"-window, locate the "Add-on.ScriptColors"-entry, select the **checkbox** and click "OK".



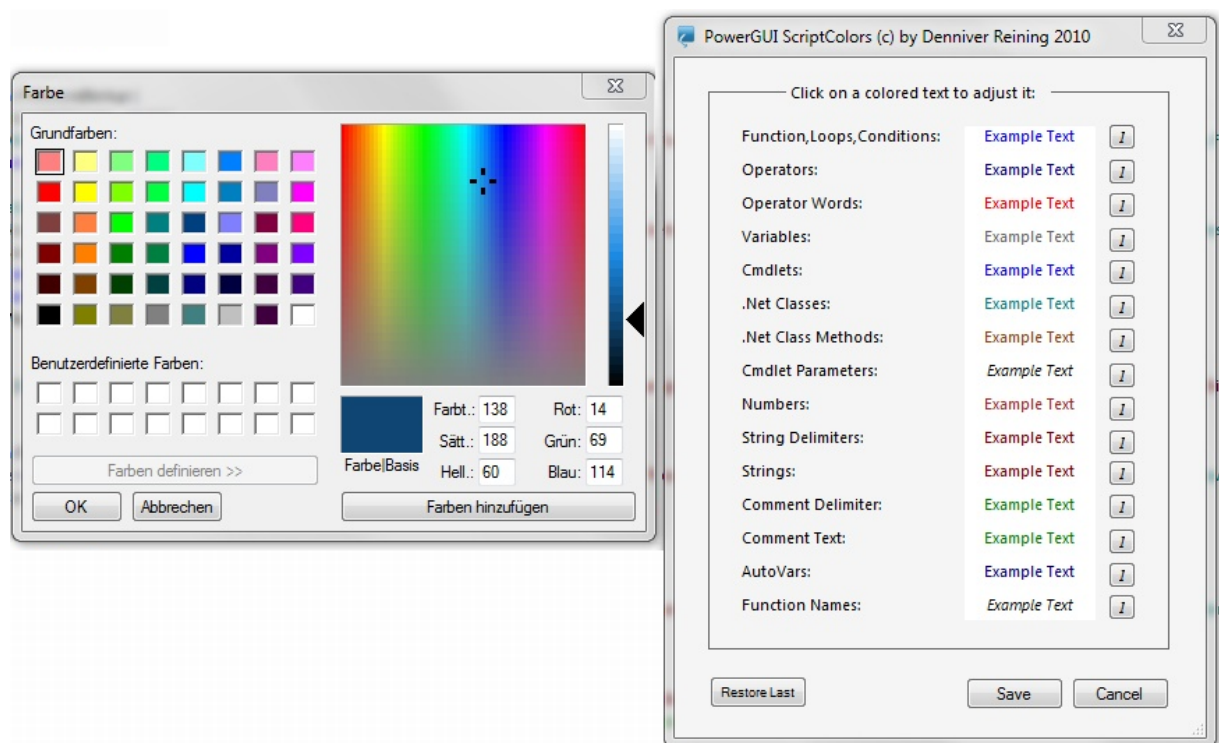
- f) You're **done!**

3. How it works

- You can **access ScriptColors** via the new menu entry "View/ Edit Script Colors" or by pressing "Ctrl+Shift+O". On Win7 and Vista with active UAC, you will get an UAC prompt ("Do you want to allow this program.."), this is necessary at the moment, but should be resolved with the next release of PowerGUI shortly.



- In the **ScriptColors main window**, just click on any "Example Text" to change the color for the corresponding script parts, or click on the "I"-button behind it, to make appear it *italic* or regular.



- After you are done, click "**Save**". Your changes will be in effect just **after you have closed and re-started** the Script Editor. (Hopefully in a future release of PowerGui that won't be necessary, but at the moment it is.)
- Backup/ Restore:** You may have noticed that there is a "Restore Last"-Button at the bottom. **Every time** you hit "Save", ScriptColors makes a **Backup** of your current configuration-file. If you e.g. should discover that your latest color changes actually made things worse, you can simply open ScriptColors again and click on "Restore Last" and go back to the way it was before. Just remember that you can only restore it to way it was before the **last time** you hit "Save".

4. Addendum

- **Why is it necessary to start ScriptColors with Administrator privileges (UAC prompt)?**

I'm happy to explain that to you. :) The configuration file in which the Script Editor stores the syntax highlighting settings, is sitting in PowerGui's installation directory, usually that is in *C:\program files*.

You may know, as a security measure in Windows 7 and Vista, no program (or user for that matter) without admin privileges is allowed to write to that directory. But, in order to be able to change the color settings, we need to write to that directory, because there is currently no way to relocate the config file to another directory. If you like to have that feature, you can suggest that to the developers via the PowerGUI forum (see link below).

- **Why is it necessary to restart the Scrip Editor every time i make same color changes?**

Unfortunately it is currently not possible to make PowerGui reload its configuration (a least not via an addon) while its running. If you like to have that feature, you can suggest that to the developers via the PowerGUI forum (see link below).

- **I think ScriptColors messed up my Script Editor configuration somehow!**

This is not a very likely scenario, but you never know. Short of reinstalling Power Gui, you can easily **restore the original configuration file**. To do that, open Windows explorer and navigate to your *PowerGui installation directory*. In there, you find two files (among others):

one is named "*PowerShellSyntax.xml*", which is the **current** config file, and another one, named "*PowerShellSyntax_BackupBeforeFirstRunAddOnScriptColors.xml*". ;-)

Just delete the "*PowerShellSyntax.xml*" and then rename the other to "*PowerShellSyntax.xml*". Restart PowerGUI and everything is back to before you first tried ScriptColors.

- If you have any **suggestions, questions, problems, feature ideas** or just want to talk to some friendly people, please write a message in the PowerGui Forum:

<http://www.powergui.org/forum.jspa?forumID=118>

Have a nice day,
Denniver Reining