Batch Script - Files

In this chapter, we will learn how to create, save, execute, and modify batch files.

Creating Batch Files

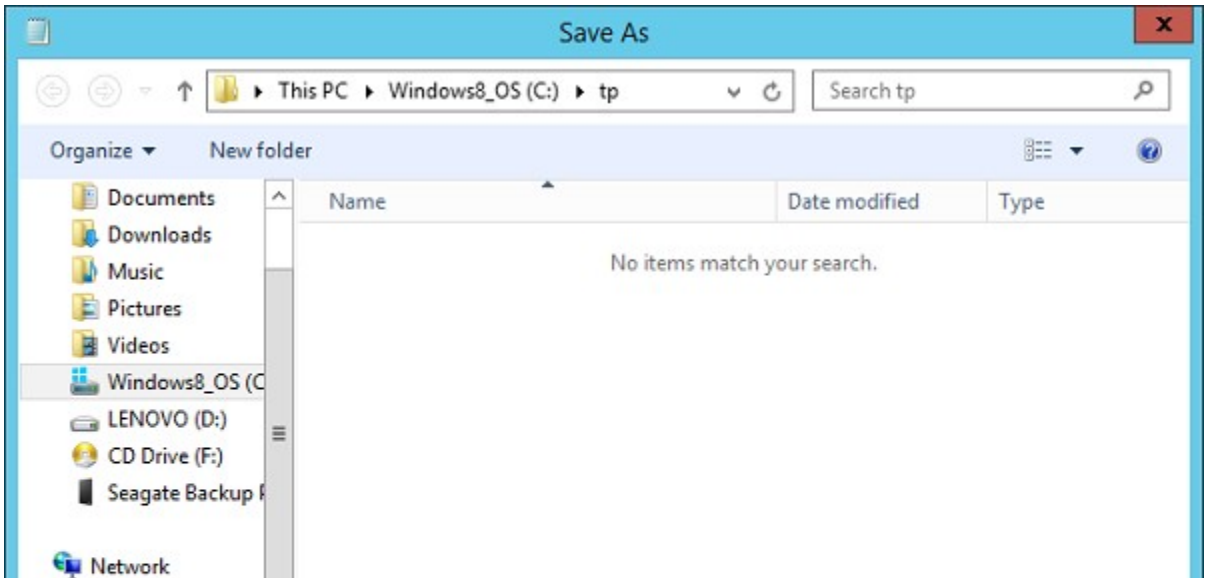
Batch files are normally created in notepad. Hence the simplest way is to open notepad and enter the commands required for the script. For this exercise, open notepad and enter the following statements.

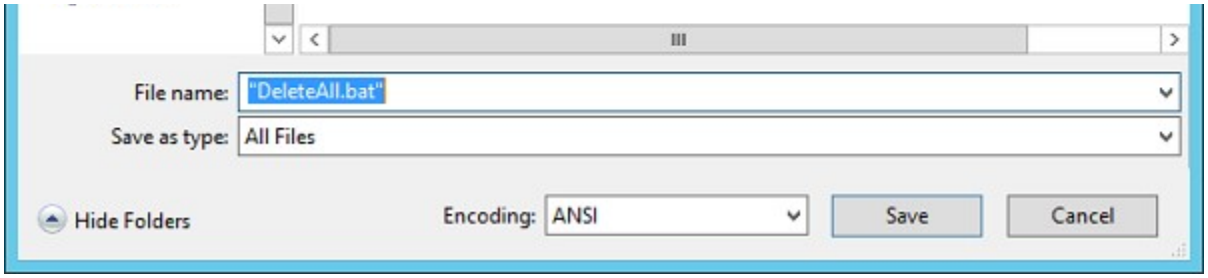
```
:: Deletes All files in the Current Directory With Prompts and Warnings
::(Hidden, System, and Read-Only Files are Not Affected)
::
@ECHO OFF
DEL .
DR
```

Saving Batch Files

After your batch file is created, the next step is to save your batch file. Batch files have the extension of either .bat or .cmd. Some general rules to keep in mind when naming batch files −

- Try to avoid spaces when naming batch files, it sometime creates issues when they are called from other scripts.
- Don’t name them after common batch files which are available in the system such as ping.cmd.





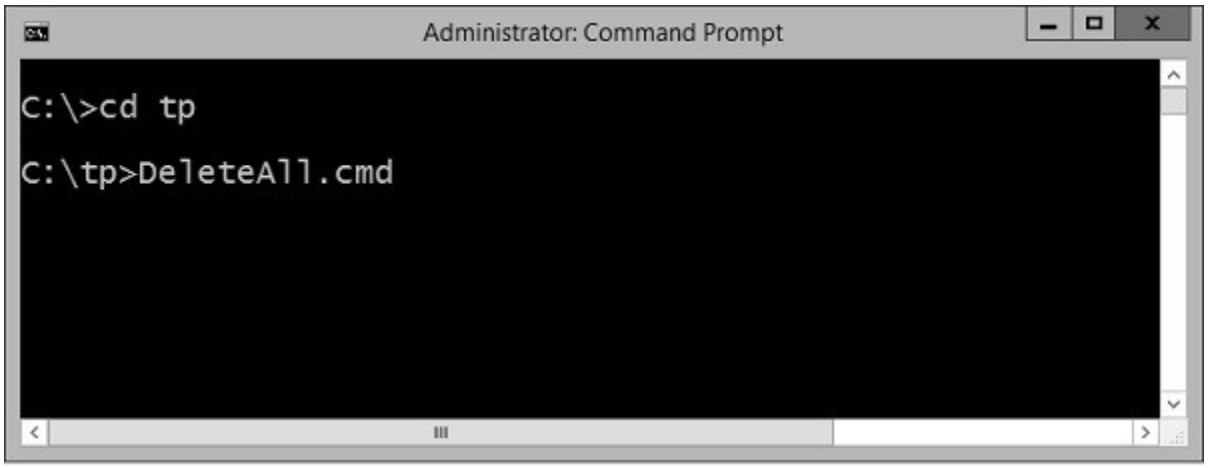
The above screenshot shows how to save the batch file. When saving your batch file a few points to keep in mind.

- Remember to put the .bat or .cmd at the end of the file name.
- Choose the “Save as type” option as “All Files”.
- Put the entire file name in quotes “”.

Executing Batch Files

Following are the steps to execute a batch file −

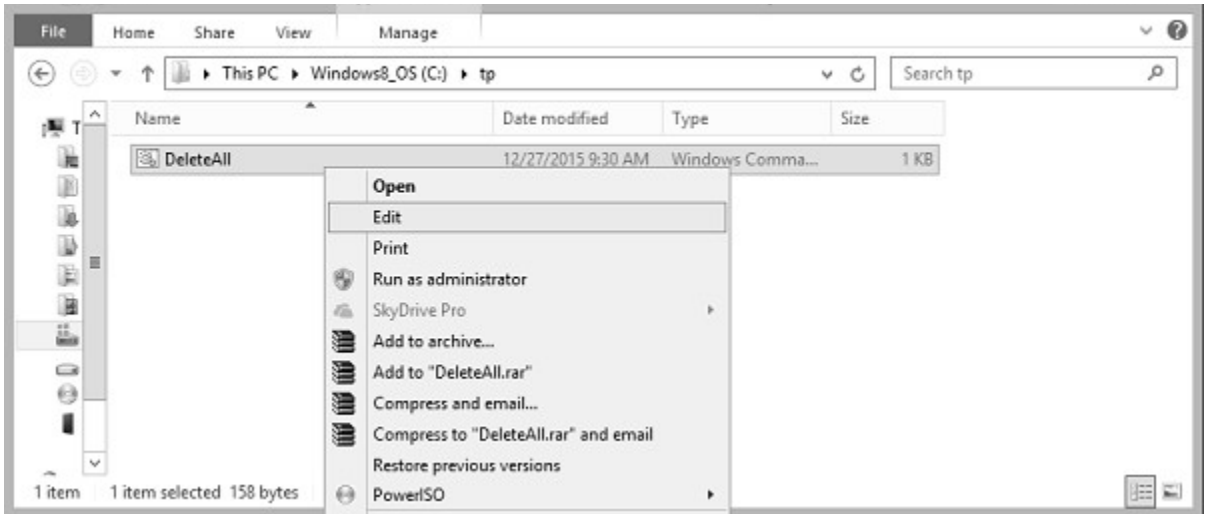
- **Step 1** − Open the command prompt (cmd.exe).
- **Step 2** − Go to the location where the .bat or .cmd file is stored.
- **Step 3** − Write the name of the file as shown in the following image and press the Enter button to execute the batch file.



Modifying Batch Files

Following are the steps for modifying an existing batch file.

- **Step 1** − Open windows explorer.
- **Step 2** − Go to the location where the .bat or .cmd file is stored.
- **Step 3** − Right-click the file and choose the “Edit” option from the context menu. The file will open in Notepad for further editing.


File
Home
Share
View
Manage
This PC
Windows8_OS (C:)
tp
Search tp
Name
Date modified
Type
Size
DeleteAll
12/27/2015 9:30 AM
Windows Comma...
1 KB
Open
Edit
Print
Run as administrator
SkyDrive Pro
Add to archive...
Add to "DeleteAll.rar"
Compress and email...
Compress to "DeleteAll.rar" and email
Restore previous versions
PowerISO
1 item
1 item selected 158 bytes