21 important command prompt commands

1. ASSOC: FIX FILE ASSOCIATION

One of the most powerful command in CMD your computer associates certain file extension for certain program

1. FC: FILE COMPARE

This command will compare the two file in a binary format and show the difference in different categories based on the file

1. IPCONFIG: IP CONFIGRATION

This command shows the current IP address and detailed information of the adopter connection and network

Current IP address

Subnet mask

Default gateway IP

Current domain

1. NETSTAT: Network Statistics

Concerned that you could have malware running on your computer that’s connecting to internet locations without you knowing about it?

If you run a NETSTAT command in the command prompt, you can get a list of all active TCP connections from your computer.

1. PING: SEND TEST PACKAGE

An IT Analyst’s best friend is the PING command. Running this command sends test packets over the network to the target system.

You can use the PING command to test whether your computer can access another computer, a server, or even a website. It can help with revealing network disconnections. It also provides transit time for the packets in milliseconds, so it also reveals a bad network connection as well.

1. TRACERT: TARGET ROUTE

he command stands for “Trace Route”, which sends packets out to a remote destination (server or website), and provides you with all of the following information:

Number of hops (intermediate servers) before getting to the destination

Time it takes to get to each hop

The IP and sometimes the name of each hop

TRACERT can reveal how the routes of your internet requests change depending where you’re accessing the web. It also helps with troubleshooting a router or switch on a local network that may be problematic.

1. POWERCFG : POWER CONFIGRATION

Are you frustrated with how quickly your laptop seems to run out of power? It could be that your power settings are configured as efficiently as possible. There’s a windows CMD command called POWERCFG (power configuration) that can help. Run the command prompt as an administrator and type powercfg – energy to get a full power efficiency report.

The process can take up to about a minute, but when it’s done, you’ll see whether there are any warnings or errors that might help you improve the power efficiency of your system.

1. SHUTDOWN: TURN OFF COMPUTER

The SHUTDOWN command is a pretty versatile command that lets you shutdown the computer but control the behavior of that shutdown. It’s commonly used as a scheduled task or part of an IT batch job after patches have been applied to a computer system.

Typing shutdown /i from the command prompt will initiate a shutdown, but it’ll upon a GUI to give the user an option on whether to restart or do a full shutdown. If you don’t want to have any GUI pop up, you can just issue a shutdown /s command.

There is a long list of other parameters you can use to do a log off, hibernate, restart, and more. Just type shutdown without any arguments to see them all.

1. SYSTEMINFO: SYSTEM INFORMATION

If you need to know what brand of network card you have, processor details, or the exact version of your Windows OS, the SYSTEMINFO command can help.

This command polls your system and pulls the most important information about your system. It lists the information in a clean format that’s easy to read.

1. SFC: SYSTEM FILE CHECK

If you’re ever concerned that a virus or some other software might have corrupted your core system files, there’s a Windows command that can scan those files and ensure their integrity.

You need to launch CMD as administrator (right click and choose Run as Administrator). Typing SFC /SCANNOW will check the integrity of all protected system files. If a problem is found, the files will be repaired with backed-up system files.

The SFC command also lets you:

/VERIFYONLY: Check the integrity but don’t repair the files.

/SCANFILE: Scan the integrity of specific files and fix if corrupted.

/VERIFYFILE: Verify the integrity of specific files but don’t repair them.

/OFFBOOTDIR: Use this to do repairs on an offline boot directory.

/OFFWINDIR: Use this to do repairs on an offline Windows directory.

/OFFLOGFILE: Specify a path to save a log file with scan results.

The scan can take up to 10 or 15 minutes, so give it time.

1. NET USE:MAP DEVICE