Niel Vincent B. Condino

Lab - System Utilities

Introduction

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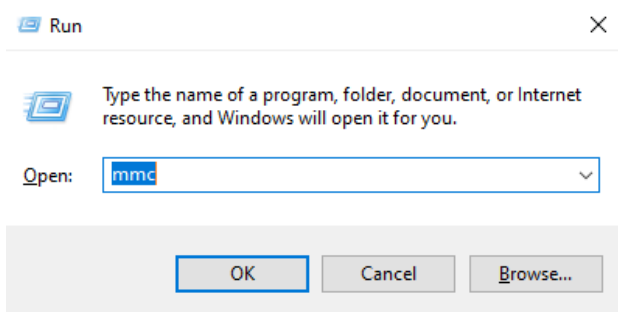
Recommended Equipment

- A computer running Windows

Instructions

Part 1: Custom Management Console

Step 1: Explore the management console.

a. 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.


b. In the **Console1 - [Console Root]** window, you can build a custom console. Click **File > Add/Remove Snap-in**.
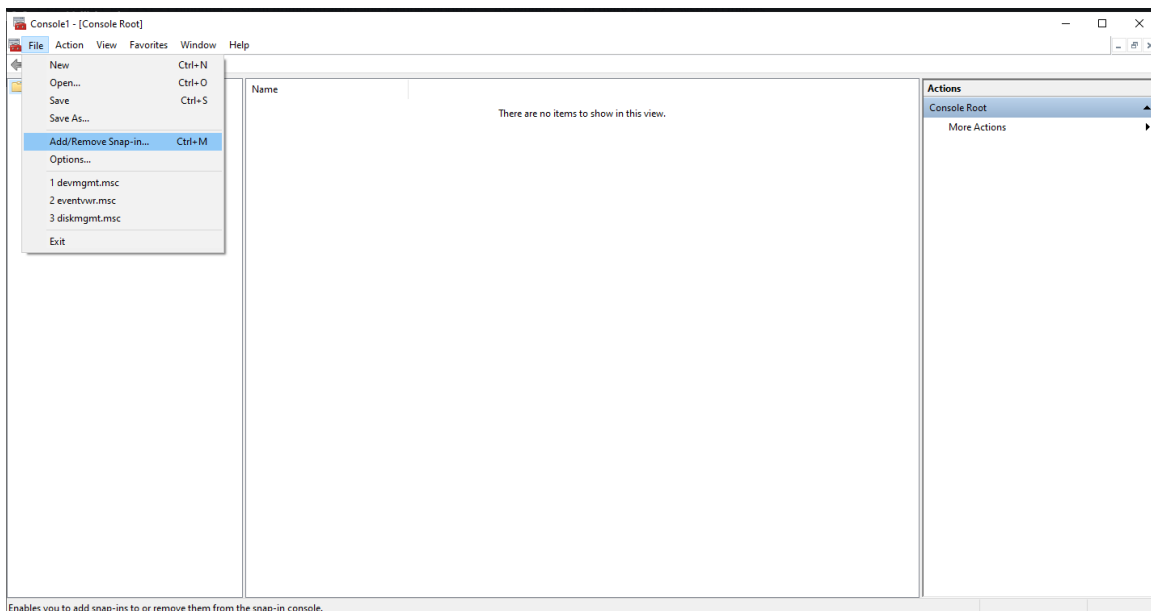
c. In the **Add or Remove Snap-ins** window, you can add a folder snap-in. Scroll down the Available snap-ins: pane to locate the **Folder** snap-in. Select **Folder** and click **Add>**.
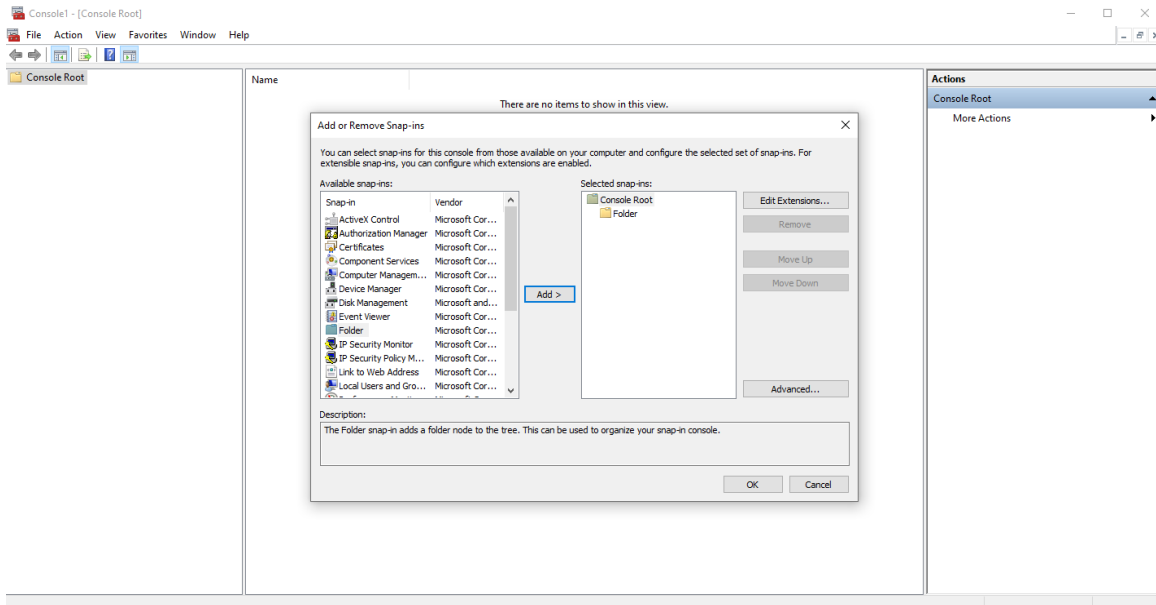
d. To add the **Link to Web Address** snap-in, scroll down the Available snap-ins: pane and select **Link to Web Address**. Click **Add>**. In the **Link to Web Address** wizard window, enter http://www.cisco.com in the **Path or URL:** field, click **Next>** to continue.
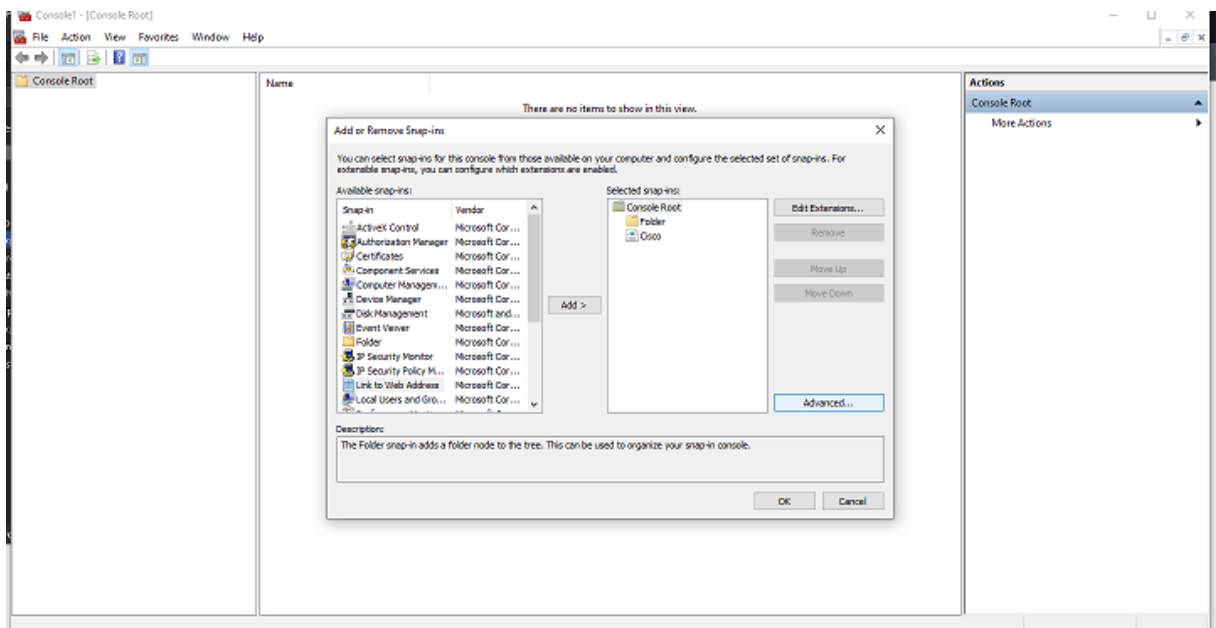

                 www.netacad.com
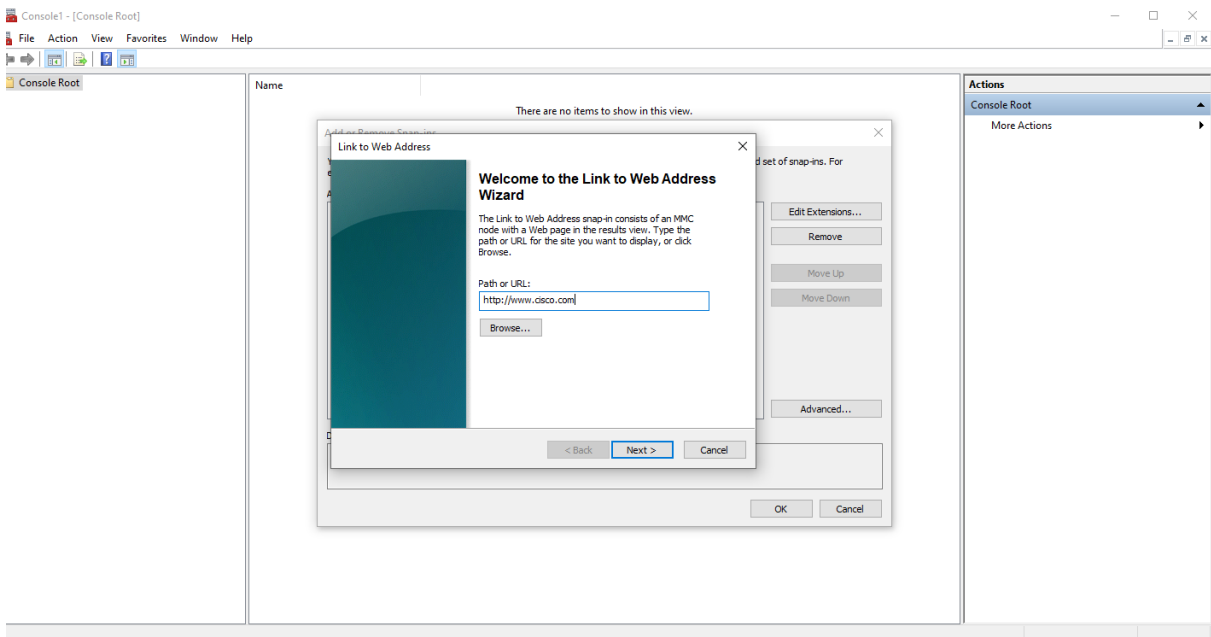
e. In the Friendly name for the Link to Web Address snap-in box, enter Cisco and click Finish to continue.
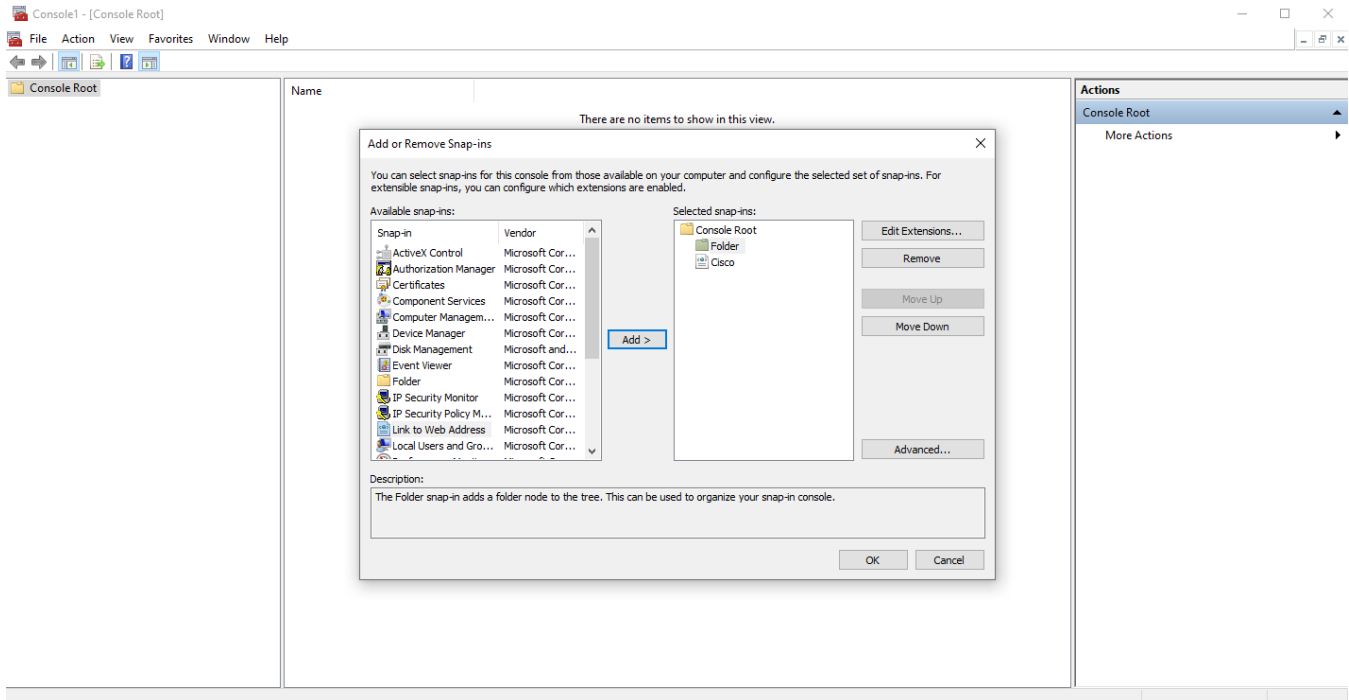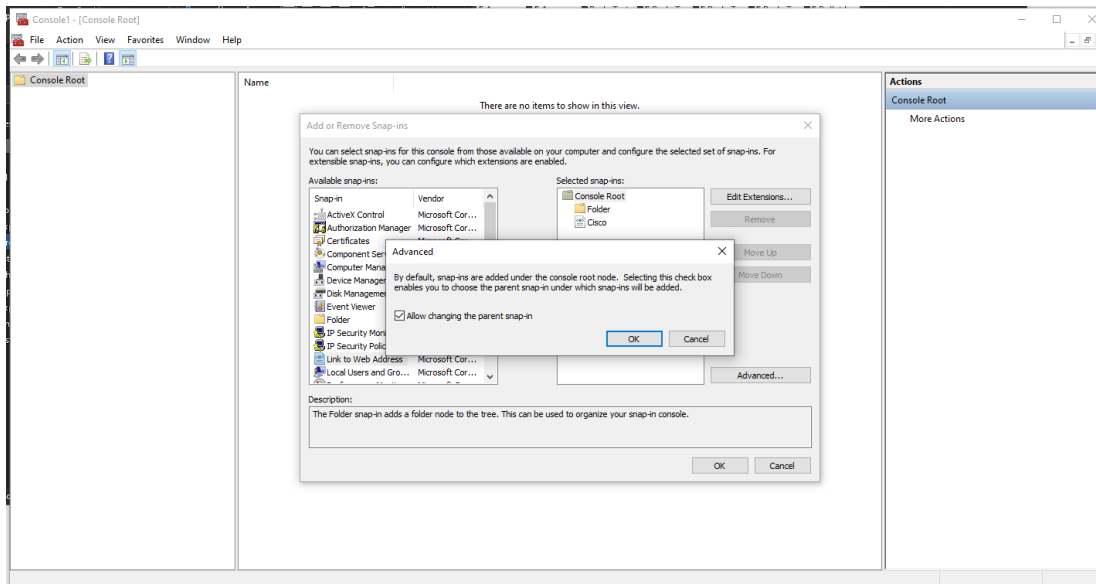

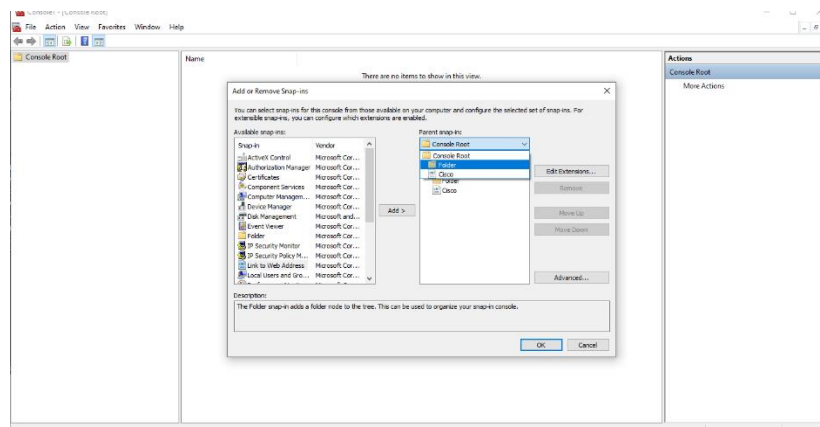## Step 2: Create a custom management console.

a. To add snap-ins to the folder snap-in, click **Advanced**.

www.netacad.com

b. The Advanced window opens. Select Allow changing the parent snap-in. Click OK.
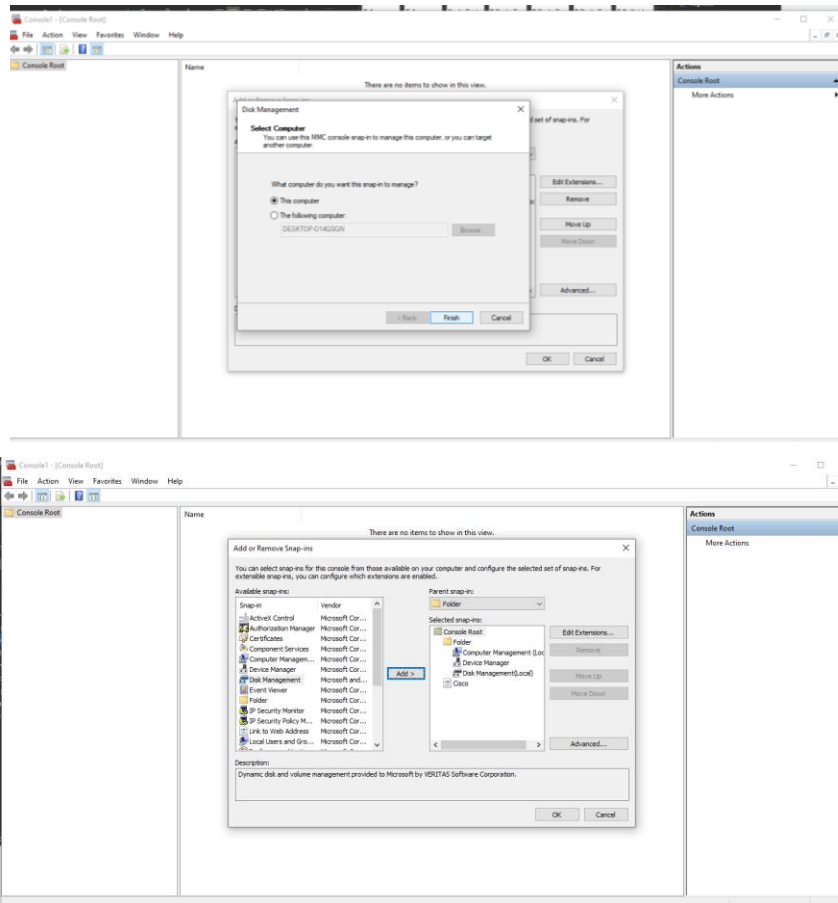

c. A drop-down menu appears for **Parent snap-in**. In the **Parent snap-in** box, select **Folder**.

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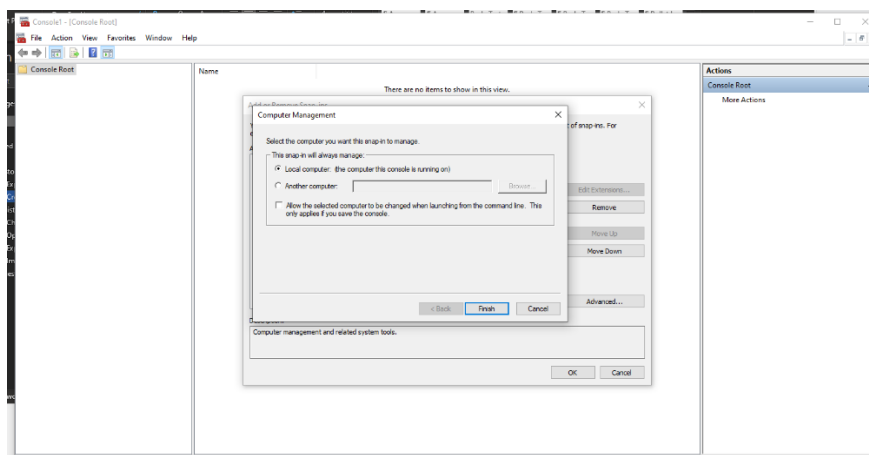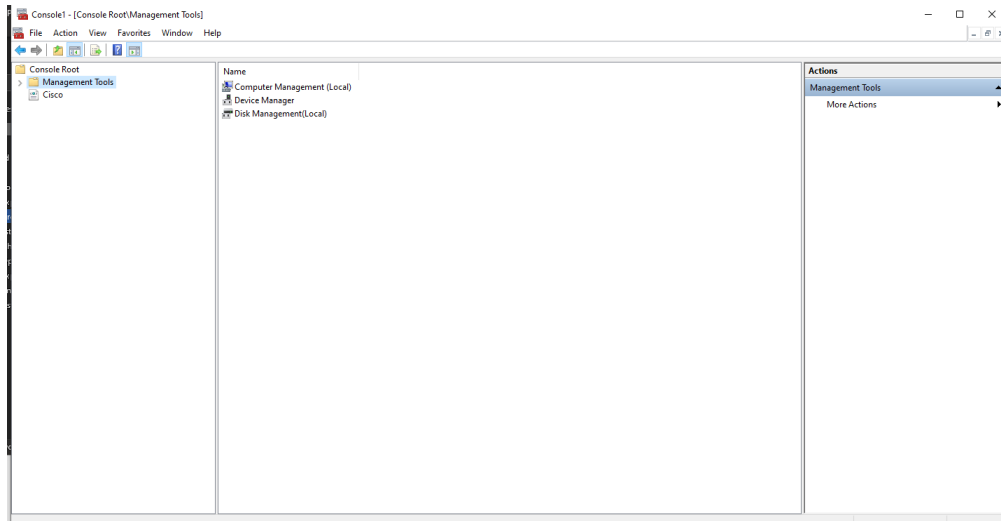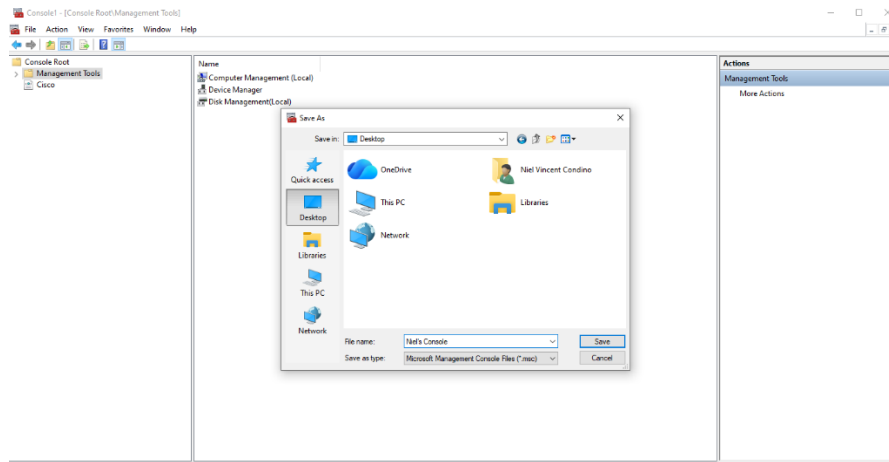
e.   Click **OK** to continue to exit the Add or Remove Snap-ins window.
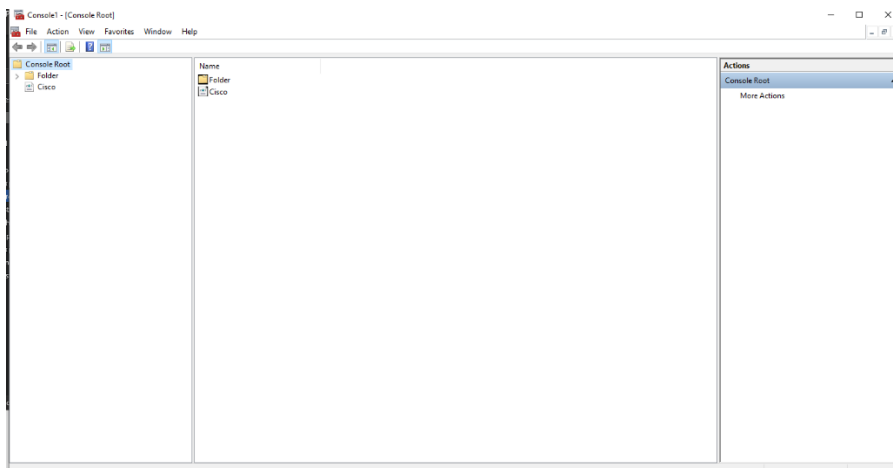
f.   In the **Console1** window, right-click the **Folder** icon and select **Rename**. Change the name of the folder to **Management Tools**.

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**.
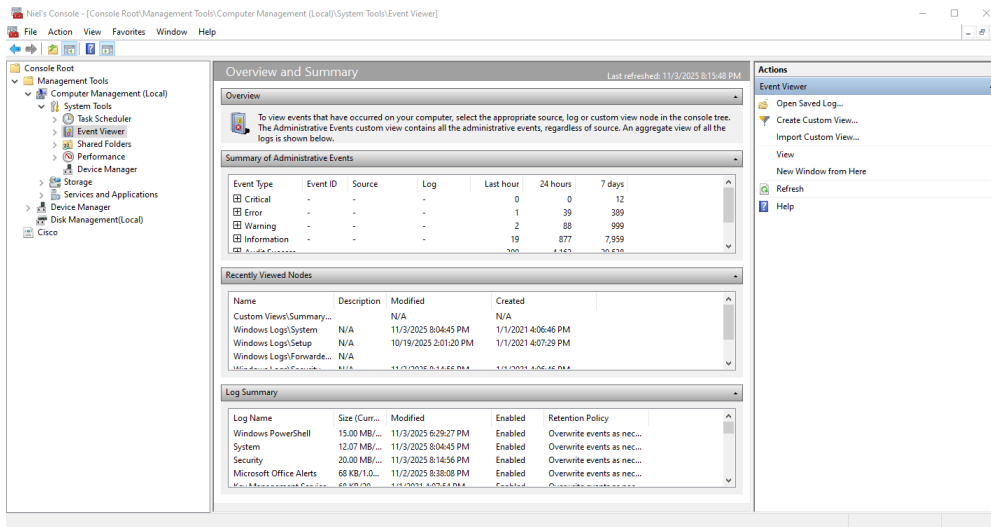

h. Close all open windows.

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.
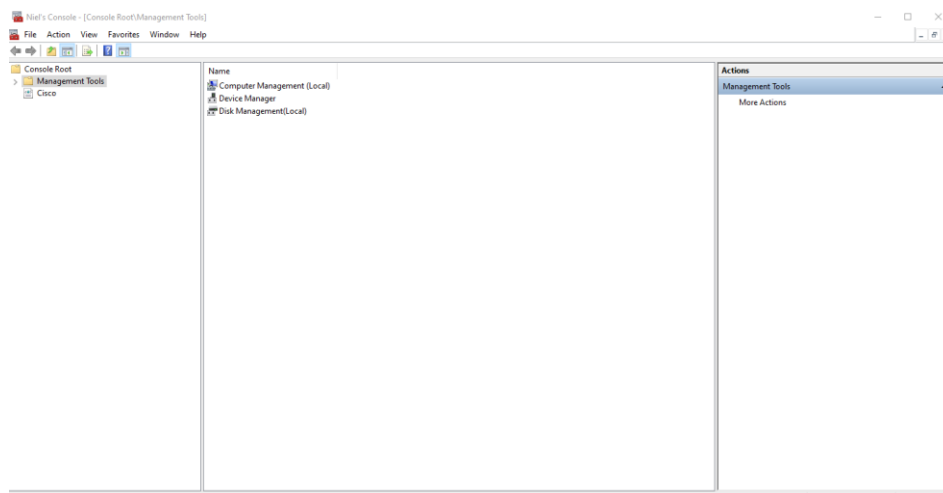
j.   Review the **Management Tools** folder by double-clicking on the tools.
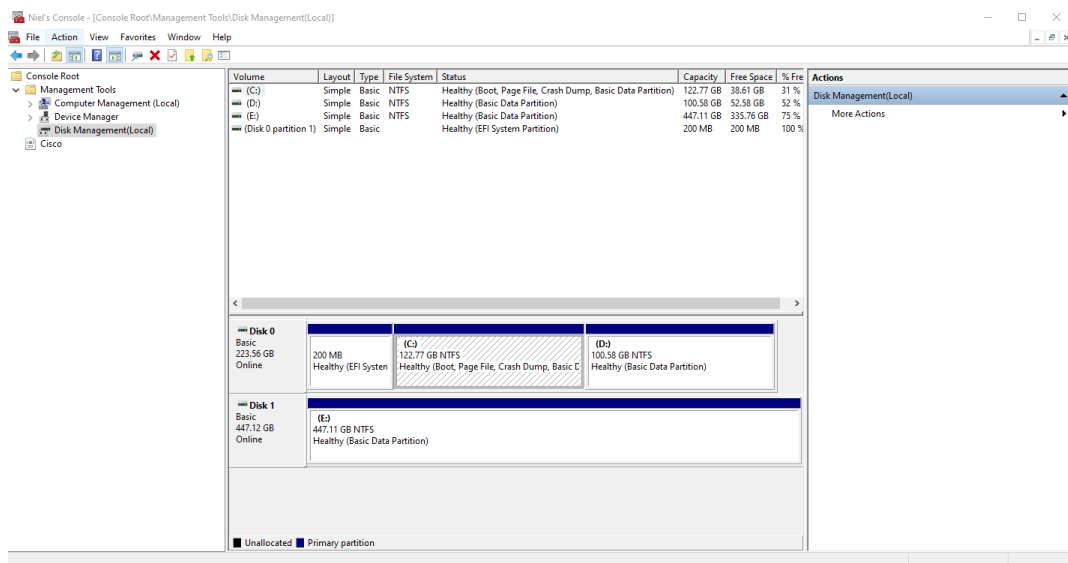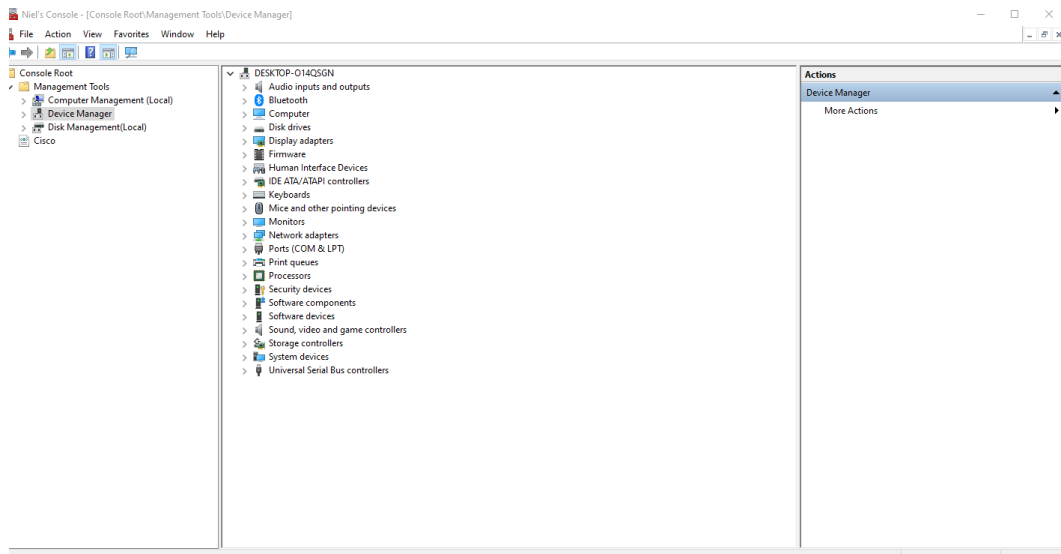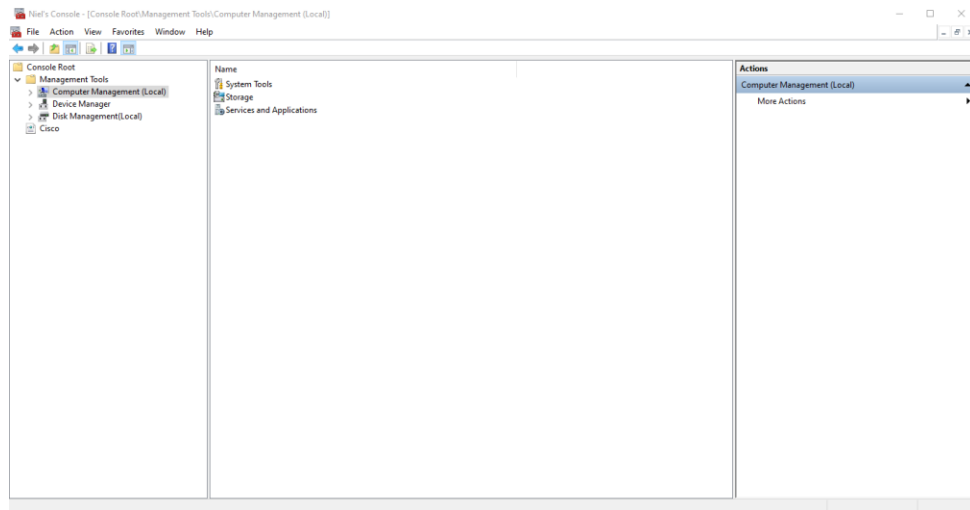
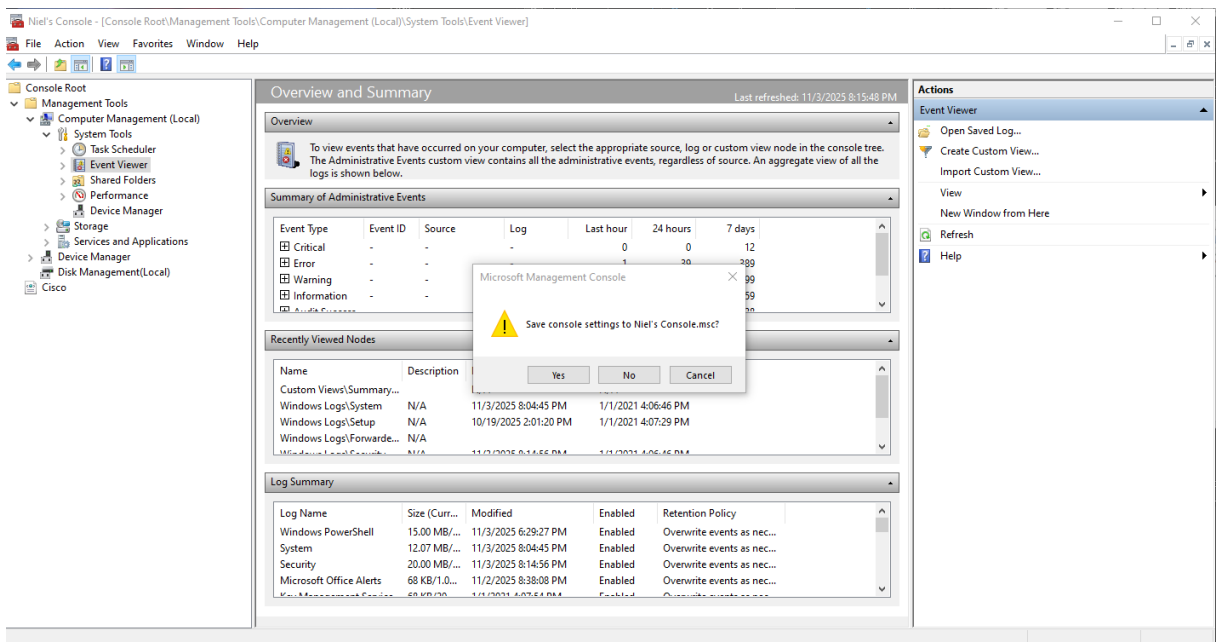k. Within your custom console, navigate to the Event Viewer.

Question:

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

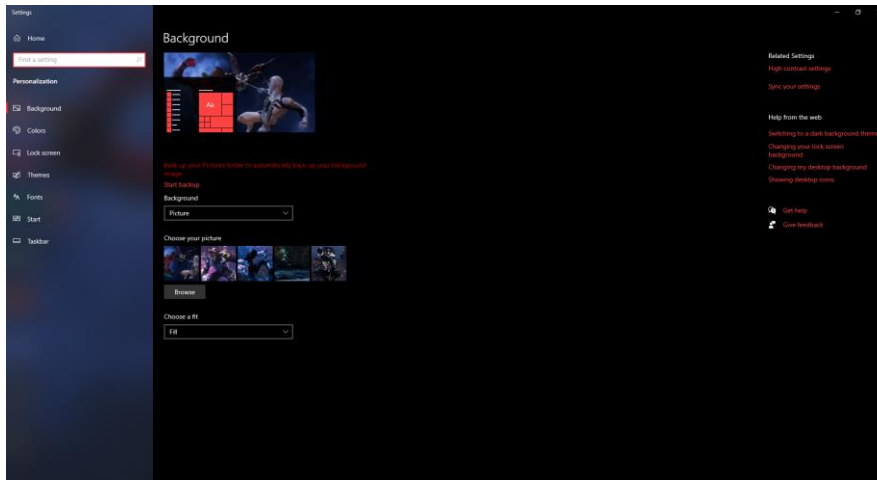*Management Tools – Computer Management (Local) – System Tools – Event Viewer*

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**.
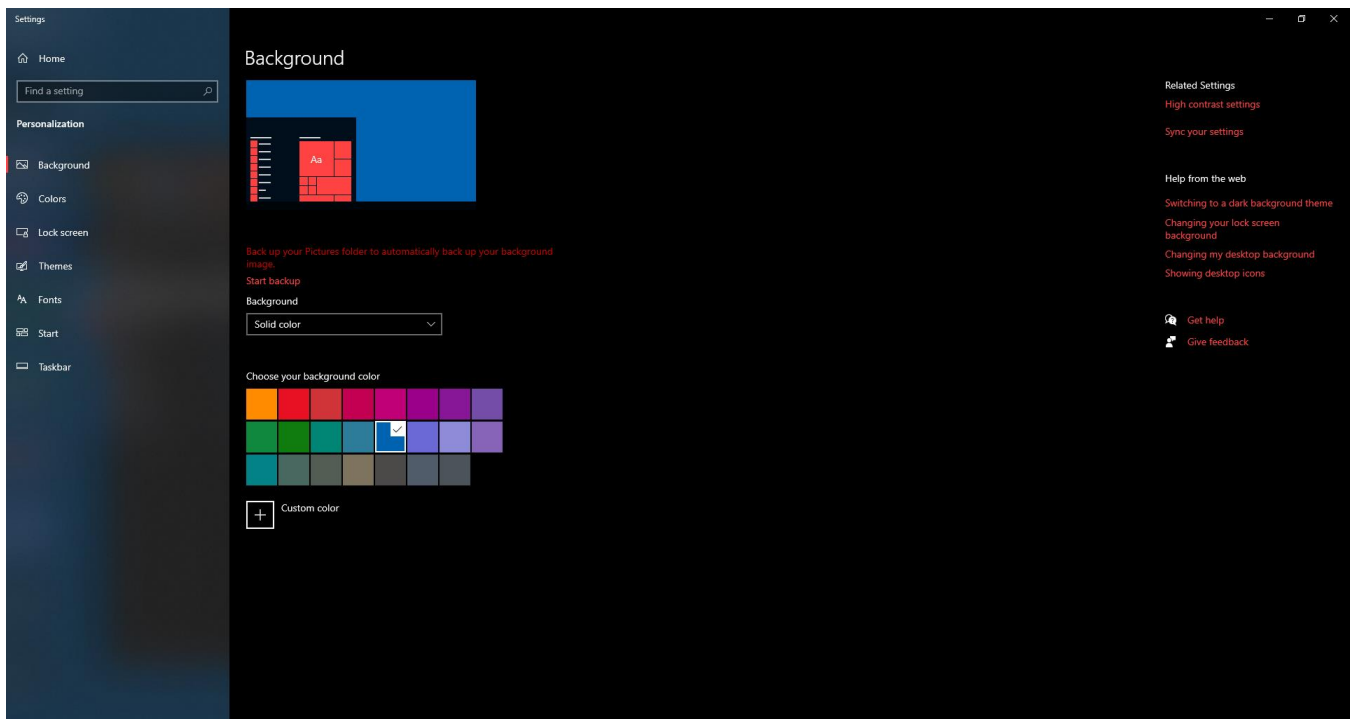

Question:

What is the background picture?

Spider-men fighting venom.

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.
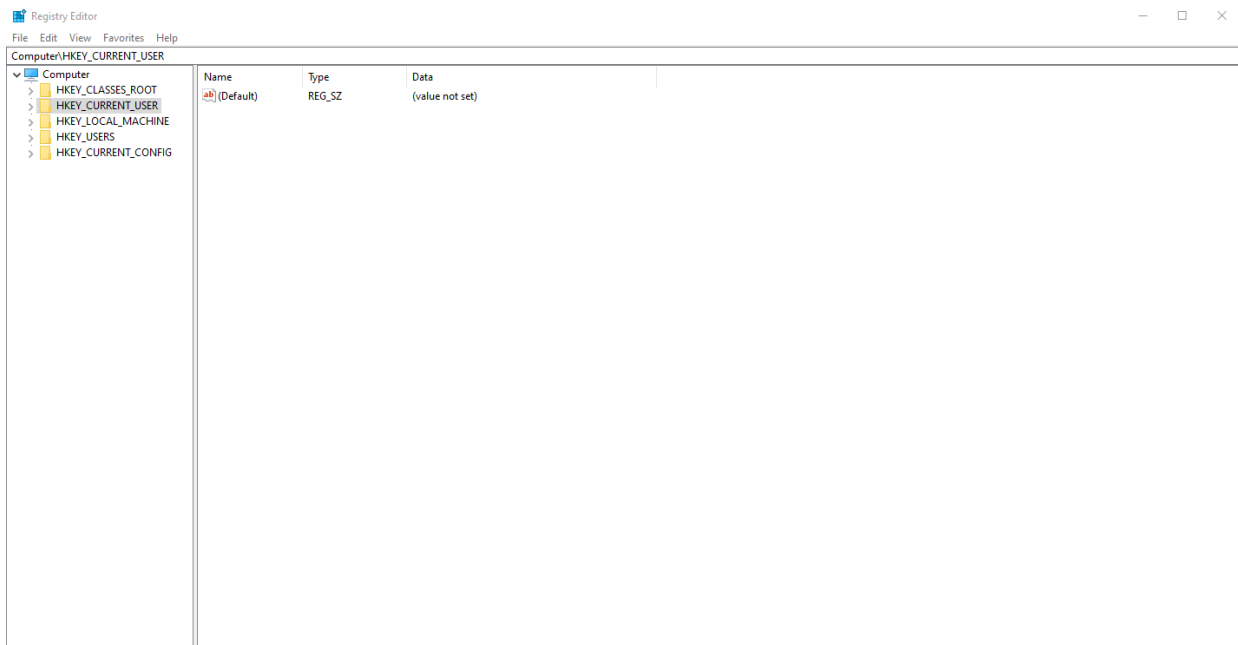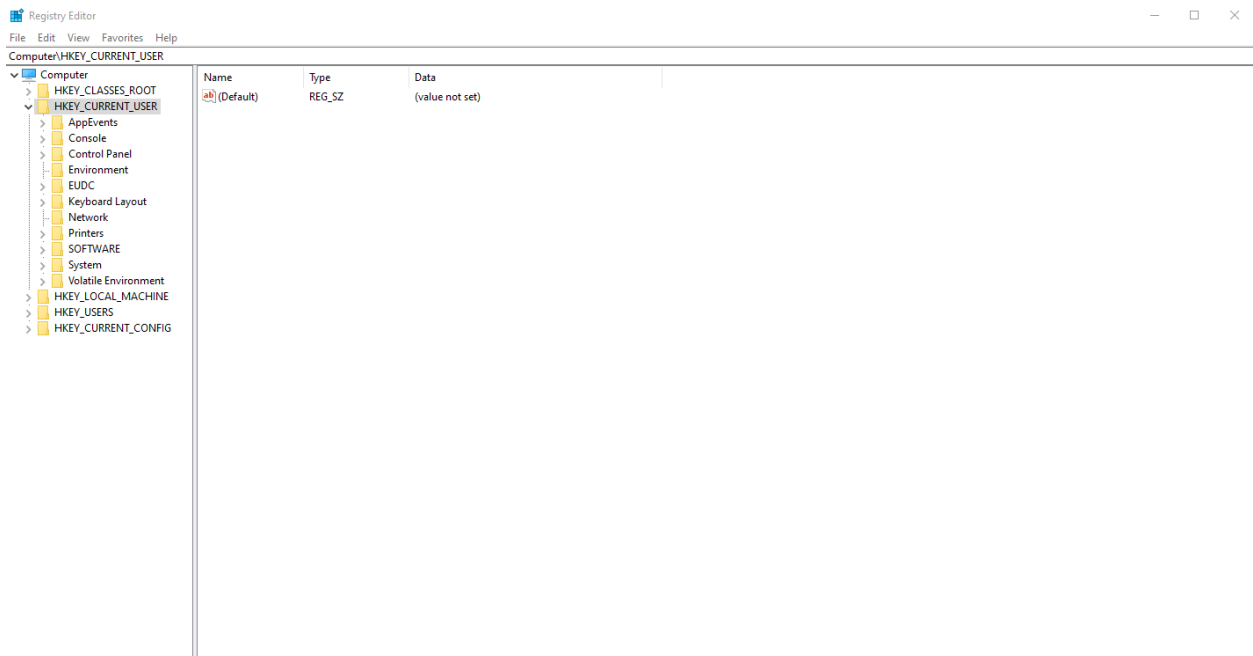

d.   Close all open windows.

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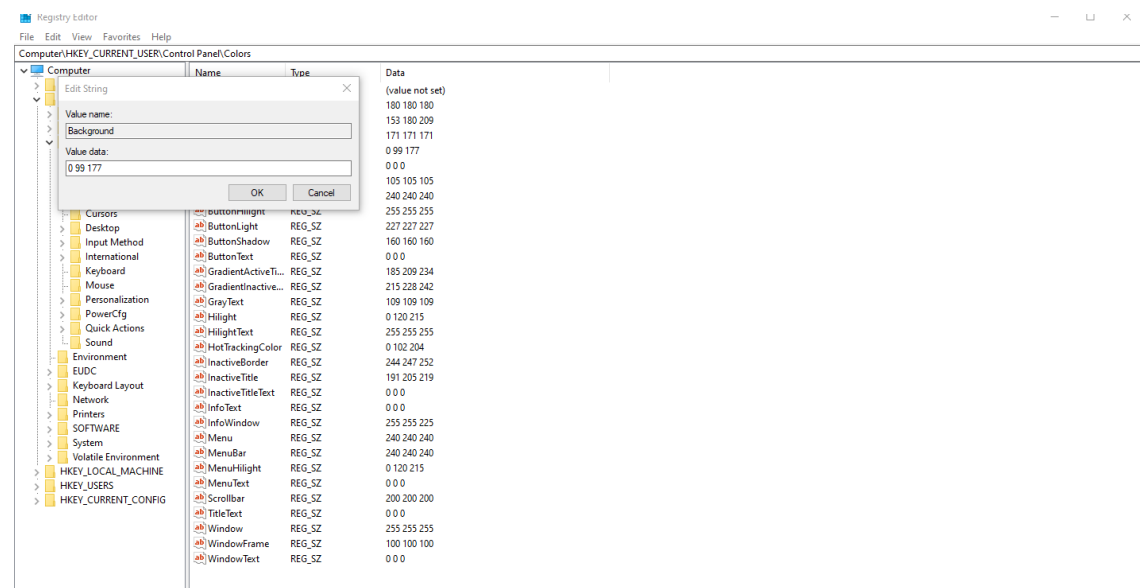
Note: Do not make any changes in the Registry Editor without instructor permission.

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

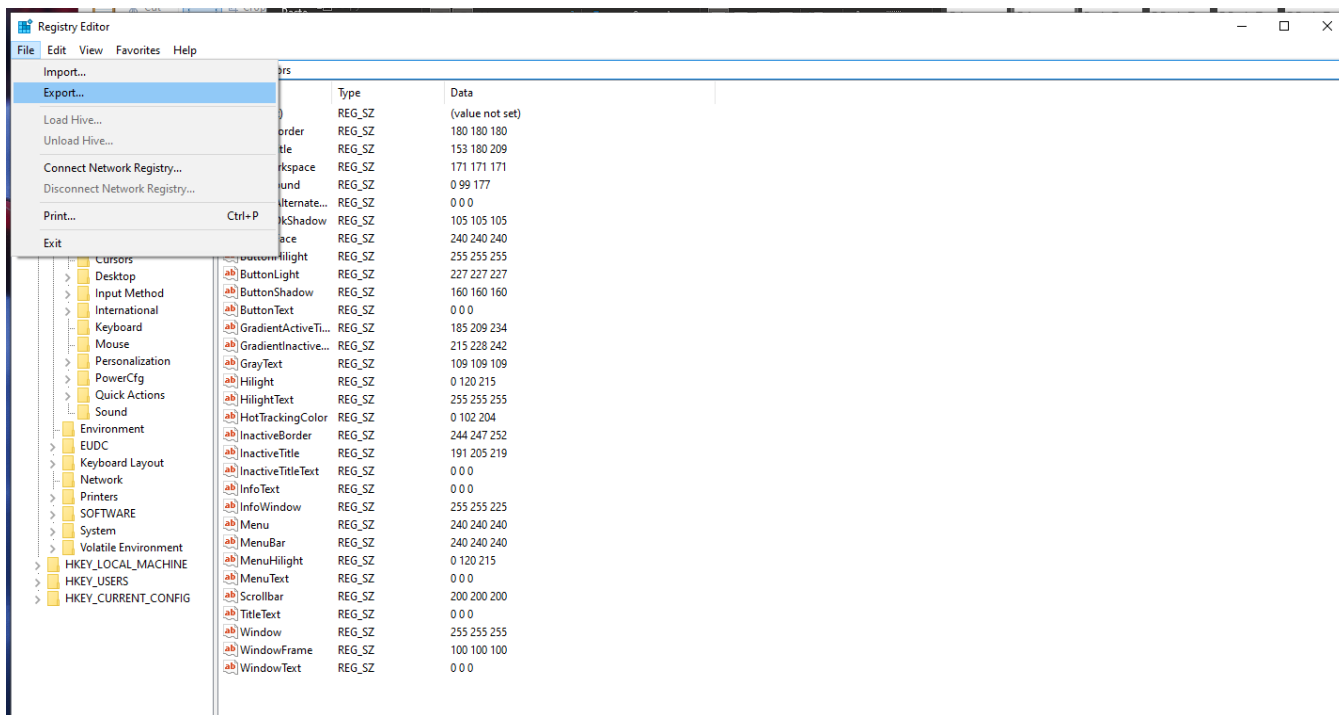c. Expand **Control Panel**. Click **Colors**. Click **Background** in the right panel.

Question:

What is the data value of the Background (hint – it has three numbers that correspond to red, green, and blue)?
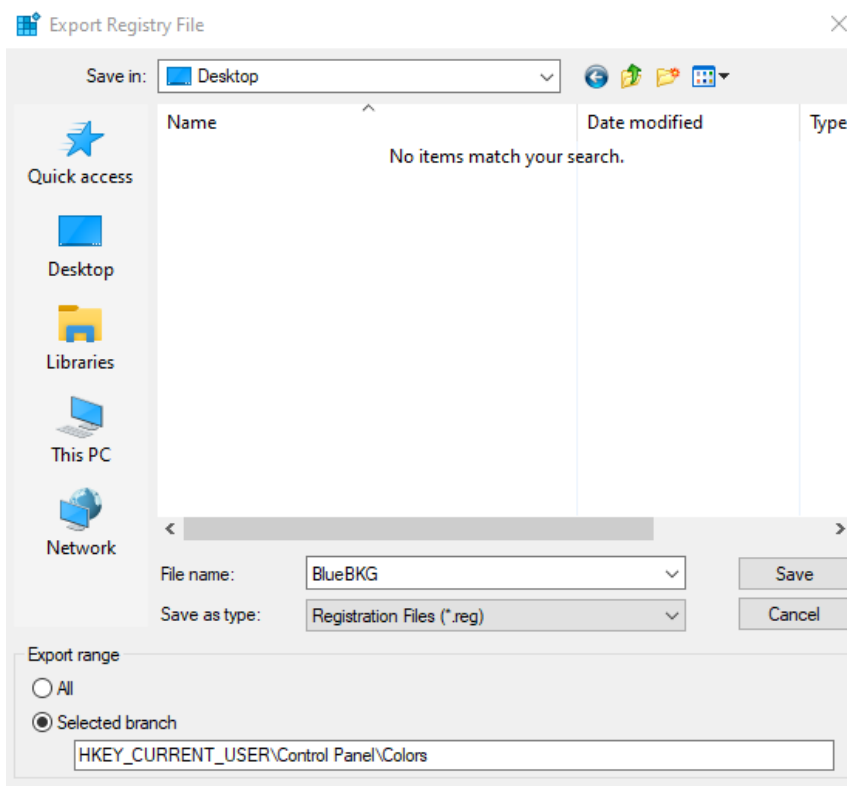
0 99 177

Step 3: Export a registry key.

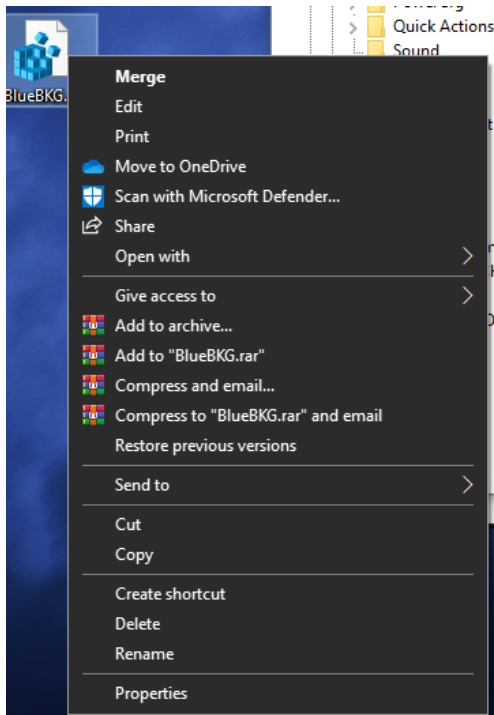You will export the **HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Control Panel\Colors** folder.

a. In the left pane, select the **Colors** folder and click **File > Export**.

b. Save the file to the Desktop with the name **BlueBKG**

c. 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**?

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.
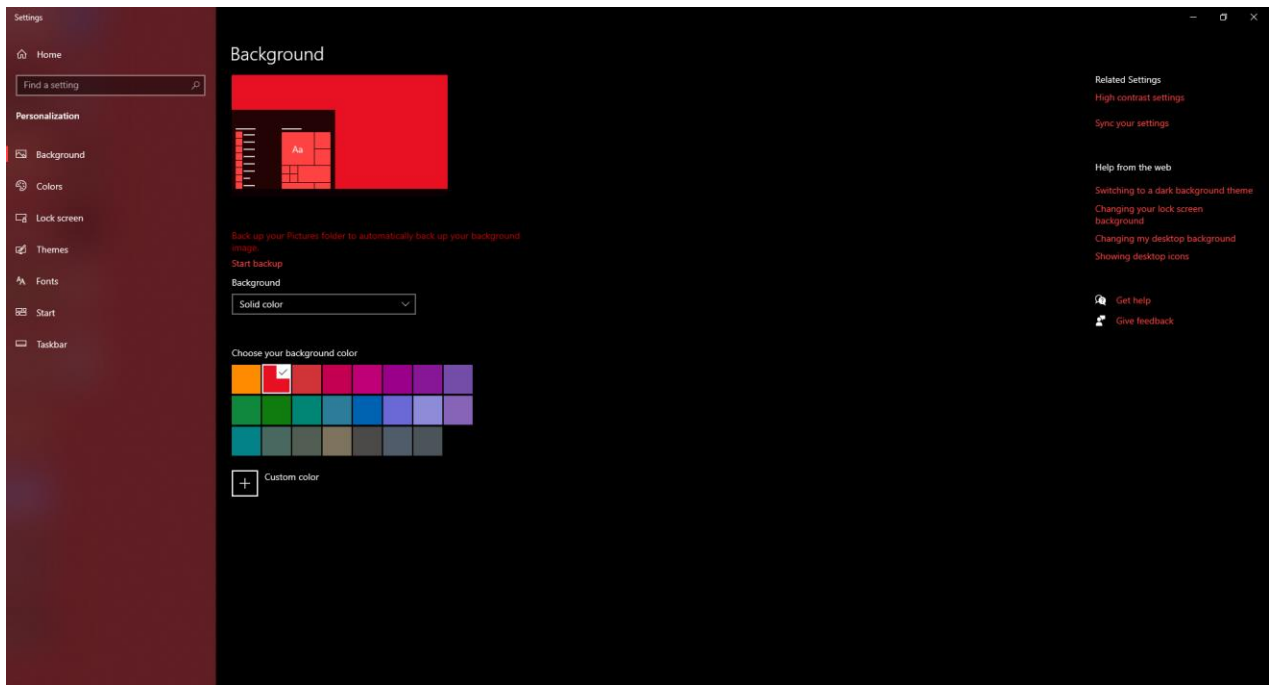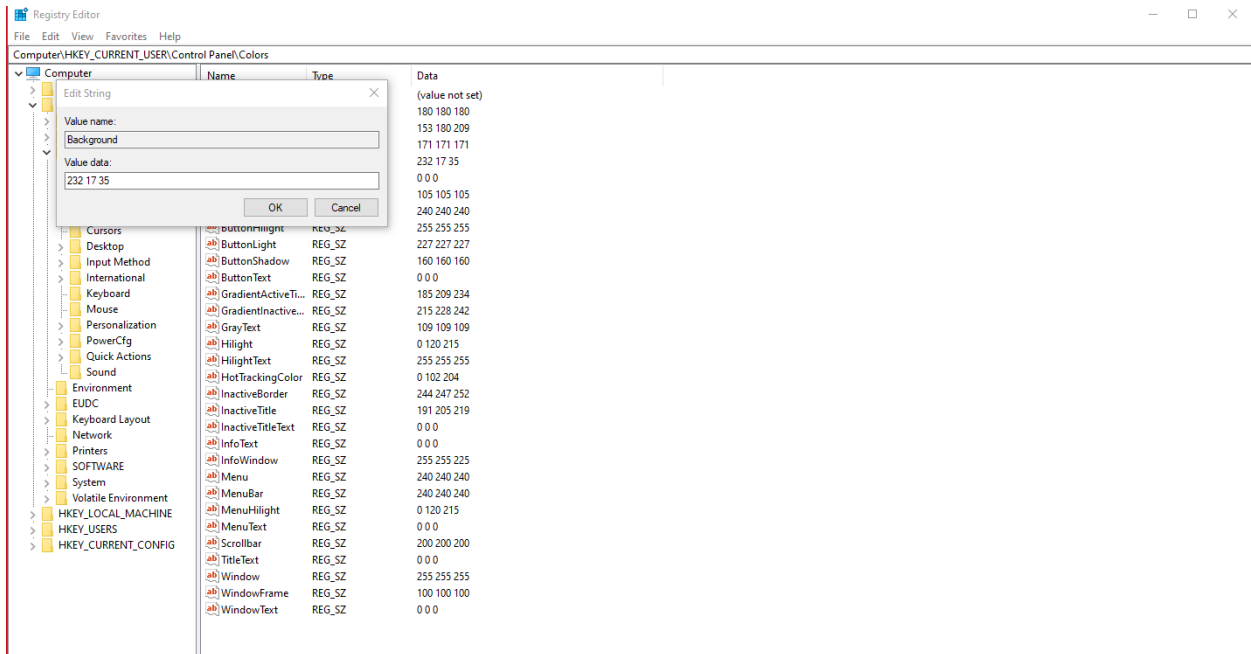

g. Click **Save** changes. Close the **Personalization** window.

h. The desktop background should be red. Click the **Registry Editor** window.

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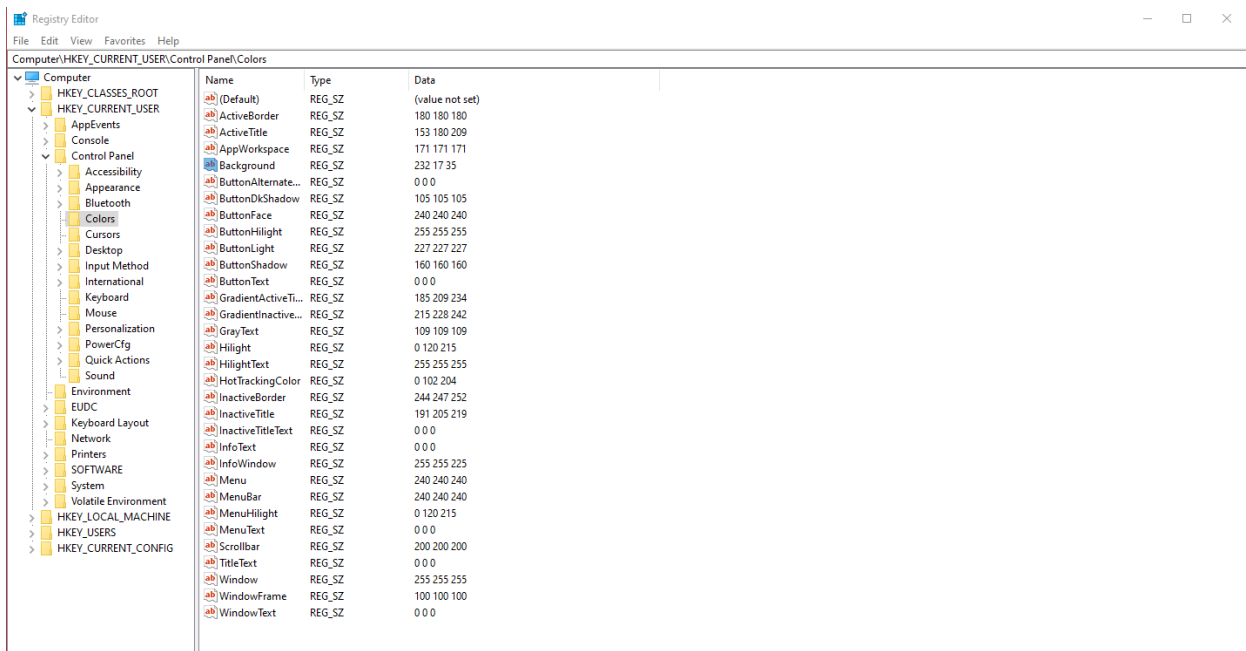

Question:

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

From 0 99 177 it changed to 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**.
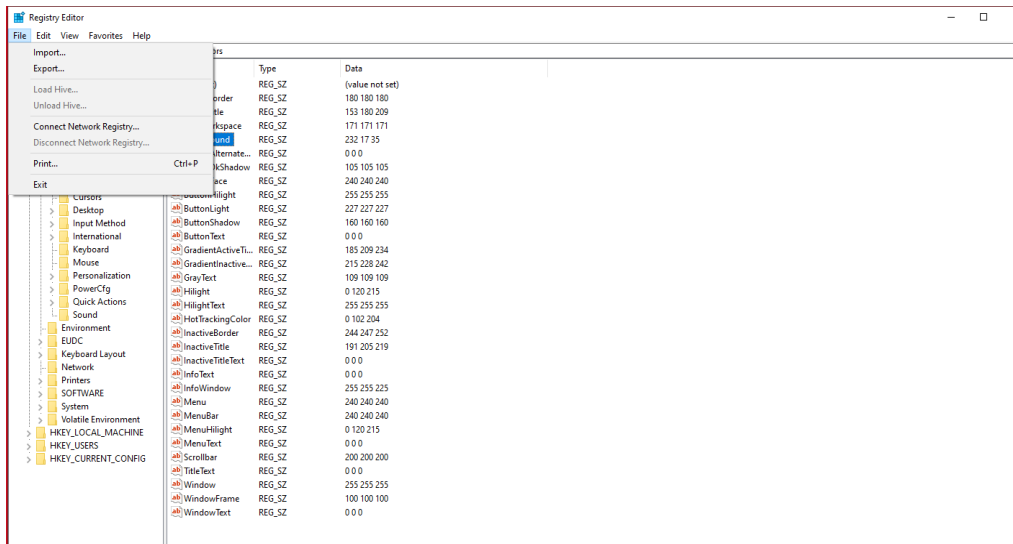
c. The **Registry Editor** informational message opens letting you know that keys and values have been successfully added to the registry. Click **OK**.
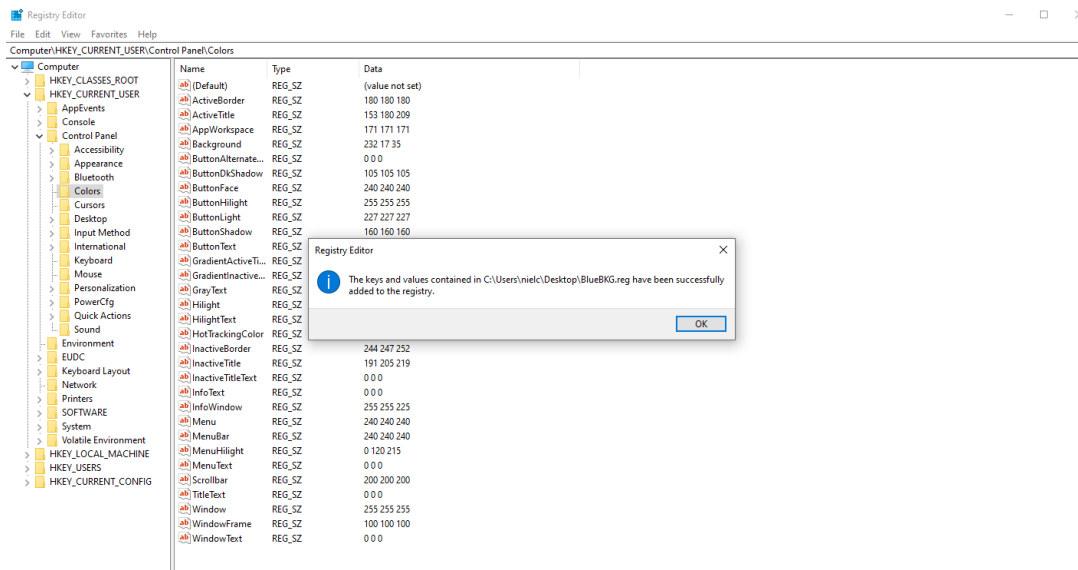
d. Select the **Registry Editor** window.

Questions:

What is the data value of the Background?

0 99 177

What is the color of the desktop?

Still red

e. Restart the computer.

Question:

What is the color of the desktop?

The color became blue

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?

   Adding snap-ins for other computers allows an administrator to manage multiple systems remotely from one console. This saves time and effort by making management tasks centralized. Meaning an administrator can do things like monitoring performance, or viewing event logs settings without physically accessing each computer.

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

   This is because even if the registry was changed, Windows has not recognized the changes made yet. When restarting the computer, Windows rereads the registry file and recognizes the new changed value resulting to it changing color.