This is a quick reference for the usable system proc. Not all system procs are in scope, only the ones considered to be most useful. Focus is on ss2k5 system procs.

Initial categories utilized are defined using *http://msdn2.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms187961.aspx*:

1. Catalog
2. Database Engine
3. General Extended
4. Security
5. SQL Profiler
6. SQL Server Agent

All system stored procedures are located inside the master database, except for the SQL Server Agent stored procedures. Those are located in the msdb database, and as a result the user will either need to connect to the msdb database or issue an execute command as follows: **EXEC msdb..[proc_name]**

CATALOG STORED PROCEDURES

Display column level permissions for a table.
sp_column_privileges [@table_name =] 'table_name'
[, [@table_owner =] 'table_owner']
[, [@table_qualifier =] 'table_qualifier']
[, [@column_name =] 'column']

Display column information for a table.
sp_columns [@table_name =] object [, [@table_owner =] owner]
[, [@table_qualifier =] qualifier]
[, [@column_name =] column]
[, [@ODBCVer =] 'ODBCVer']

List all databases for the current instance, including size in KB.
sp_databases

Display list of all tables with a defined foreign key relationship to the given primary key table.
sp_fkeys [@pktable_name =] 'pktable_name'
[, [@pktable_owner =] 'pktable_owner']
[, [@pktable_qualifier =] 'pktable_qualifier']
[, { [@fktable_name =] 'fktable_name' }
[, [@fktable_owner =] 'fktable_owner']
[, [@fktable_qualifier =] 'fktable_qualifier']

Display primary key for given table.
sp_pkeys [@table_name =] 'name'
[, [@table_owner =] 'owner']
[, [@table_qualifier =] 'qualifier']

Display attribute id and values for the current instance.
sp_server_info [@attribute_id =] 'attribute_id']

Display columns that uniquely identify a row in a given table.
sp_special_columns [@table_name =] 'table_name'
[,[@table_owner =] 'table_owner']
[,[@qualifier =] 'qualifier']
[,[@col_type =] 'col_type']
[,[@scope =] 'scope']
[,[@nullable =] 'nullable']
[,[@ODBCVer =] 'ODBCVer']

Display parameter information for a given stored procedure.
sp_sproc_columns [[@procedure_name =] 'name']
[,[@procedure_owner =] 'owner']
[,[@procedure_qualifier =] 'qualifier']
[,[@column_name =] 'column_name']
[,[@ODBCVer =] 'ODBCVer']
[,[@fUsePattern =] 'fUsePattern']

Display indexes and statistics for a given table.
sp_statistics [@table_name =] 'table_name'
[, [@table_owner =] 'owner']
[, [@table_qualifier =] 'qualifier']
[, [@index_name =] 'index_name']
[, [@is_unique =] 'is_unique']
[, [@accuracy =] 'accuracy']

Display list of stored procedures in current database.
sp_stored_procedures [[@sp_name =] 'name']
[, [@sp_owner =] 'schema']
[, [@sp_qualifier =] 'qualifier']
[, [@fUsePattern =] 'fUsePattern']

Display table level permissions for a table.
sp_table_privileges [@table_name =] 'table_name'
[, [@table_owner =] 'table_owner']
[, [@table_qualifier =] 'table_qualifier']
[, [@fUsePattern =] 'fUsePattern']

Display list of all tables and views in current database.
sp_tables [[@table_name =] 'name']
[, [@table_owner =] 'owner']
[, [@table_qualifier =] 'qualifier']
[, [@table_type =] 'type']
[, [@fUsePattern =] 'fUsePattern']

DATABASE ENGINE STORED PROCEDURES

Create and store a user defined message inside the instance.
sp_addmessage [@msgnum =] msg_id ,
[@severity =] severity ,
[@msgtext =] 'msg'
[, [@lang =] 'language']
[, [@with_log =] 'with_log']
[, [@replace =] 'replace']

Create a backup device.
sp_addumpdevice [@devtype =] 'device_type'
, [@logicalname =] 'logical_name'
, [@physicalname =] 'physical_name'
, [, [@cntrltype =] 'controller_type']
[@devstatus =] 'device_status'
]

Alter a user defined message inside the instance.
sp_altermessage [@message_id =] message_number ,
[@parameter =] 'write_to_log' ,
[@parameter_value =] 'value'

Attach a database file(s) to the instance.
sp_attach_db [@dbname =] 'dbname'
, [@filename1 =] 'filename_n' [,...16]

Attach a database file to the instance. This procedure is most useful when no associated log file is available.
sp_attach_single_file_db [@dbname =] 'dbname'
, [@physname =] 'physical_name'

Display or alter the UPDATE STATISTICS setting for a table or view.
sp_autostats [@tblname =] 'table_name'
[, [@flag =] 'stats_flag']
[, [@indname =] 'index_name']

Display or alter instance configuration settings for the instance.
sp_configure [[@configname =] 'option_name'
[, [@configvalue =] 'value']]

Create statistics for columns in a table, or for columns specific to indexes in a table.
sp_createstats [[@indexonly =] 'indexonly']
[, [@fullscan =] 'fullscan']
[, [@norecompute =] 'norecompute']

Cycle the error log as if the server had been restarted.
sp_cycle_errorlog

Display list of supported data types for the instance.
sp_datatype_info [[@data_type =] data_type]
[, [@ODBCVer =] odbc_version]

Alters database behaviors to be compatible with previous versions.
sp_dbcmptlevel [[@dbname =] name]
[, [@new_cmptlevel =] version]

Display or alter configuration settings for a database.
sp_dboption [[@dbname =] 'database']
[, [@optname =] 'option_name']
[, [@optvalue =] 'value']

Remove a database and all associated database files.
sp_dbremove [@dbname =] 'database'
[, [@dropdev =] 'dropdev']

Deletes backup and restore entries in the msdb database for entries older than the specified date.
sp_delete_backuphistory [@oldest_date =] 'oldest_date'

Display dependency information about the specified object.
sp_depends [@objname =] 'object'

Detach a database from the instance.
sp_detach_db [@dbname=] 'dbname'
[, [@skipchecks =] 'skipchecks']
[, [@KeepFulltextIndexFile=] 'KeepFulltextIndexFile']

Delete a device from the instance.
sp_dropdevice [@logicalname =] 'device'
[, [@delfile =] 'delfile']

Remove a user defined message from the instance.
sp_dropmessage [@msgnum =] message_number
[, [@lang =] 'language']

Execute a T-SQL statement.
sp_executesql [@stmt =] stmt
[
, [@params=] N'@parameter_name data_type [OUT [PUT] [,...n]']
{ , [@param1 =] 'value1' [,...n] }
]

Return information about the specified database object, or all objects.
sp_help [[@objname =] 'name']

Return information about the specified database, or all databases.
sp_helpdb [[@dbname =] 'name']

Return information about the specified backup device, or all backup devices.
sp_helpdevice [[@devname =] 'name']

Return name of the DLL for the specified extended stored procedure, or all extended stored procedures.
sp_helpextendedproc [[@funcname =] 'procedure']

Return information on the specified database filename, or all database files.
sp_helpfile [[@filename =] 'name']

Return information on the specified filegroup, or all filegroups.
sp_helpfilegroup [[@filegroupname =] 'name']

Return information regarding the indexes on the specified table or view.
sp_helpindex [@objname =] 'name'

Return information regarding the remote, linked, or replication servers for the current instance.
sp_helpserver [[@server =] 'server']
[, [@optname =] 'option']
[, [@show_topology =] 'show_topology']

Return the sort order and character set information for the current instance.
sp_helpsort

Return statistic information for the specified table.
sp_helpstats [@objname =] 'object_name'
[, [@results =] 'value']

Return the definition of the specified object.
sp_helptext [@objname =] 'name' [, [@columnname =] computed_column_name]

Return information on any DML triggers for the specified table.
sp_helptrigger [@tabname =] 'table'
[, [@triggertype =] 'type']

Configure locking options for specified table or index.
sp_indexoption [@IndexNamePattern =] 'table_or_index_name'
, [@OptionName =] 'option_name'
, [@OptionValue =] 'value'

Return information about locks.
sp_lock [[@spid1 =] 'spid1'] [, [@spid2 =] 'spid2']
[;]

Return statistical information about the current instance.
sp_monitor

Configure the specified stored procedure to be executed when the server instance is started.
sp_procoption [@ProcName =] 'procedure'
, [@OptionName =] 'option'
, [@OptionValue =] 'value'

Configure a procedure or trigger to be recompiled upon next execution.
sp_recompile [@objname =] 'object'

Refresh the metadata for the specified view.
sp_refreshview [@viewname =] 'viewname'

Alter the name of the specified object.
sp_rename [@objname =] 'object_name' , [@newname =] 'new_name'
[, [@objtype =] 'object_type']

Alter the name of the specified database.
sp_renamedb [@dbname =] 'old_name' , [@newname =] 'new_name'

Configure the AFTER triggers to be fired either first or last.
sp_settriggerorder [@triggername =] '[triggerschema.] triggername'
, [@order =] 'value'
, [@stmttype =] 'statement_type'
[, [@namespace =] { 'DATABASE' | 'SERVER' | NULL }]

Return space information for the specified object or current database.
sp_spaceused [[@objname =] 'objname']
[, [@updateusage =] 'updateusage']

Configure options for specified table.
sp_tableoption [@TableNamePattern =] 'table'
, [@OptionName =] 'option_name'
, [@OptionValue =] 'value'

Execute UPDATE STATISTICS against all tables in the current database.
sp_updatestats [[@resample =] 'resample']

Return information about the specified login or all logins currently connected to the instance.
sp_who [[@login_name =] 'login']

SECURITY STORED PROCEDURES

Map a server login to a database user.
sp_addalias [@loginame =] 'login' ,
[@name_in_db =] 'alias_user'

Create an application role in the current database.
sp_addapprole [@rolename =] 'role',
[@password =] 'password'

Create a group (i.e., role) in the current database.
sp_addgroup [@grpname =] 'group'

Create new SQL Server login.
sp_addlogin [@loginame =] 'login'
[, [@passwd =] 'password']
[, [@defdb =] 'database']
[, [@deflanguage =] 'language']
[, [@sid =] sid]
[, [@encryptopt =] 'encryption_option']

Create and map a remote login to a local login.
sp_addremotelogin [@remoteserver =] 'remoteserver'
[, [@loginame =] 'login']
[, [@remotename =] 'remote_name']

Create a role in the current database.
sp_addrole [@rolename =] 'role'
[, [@ownername =] 'owner']

Add a database user, database role, or server login to the specified role.
sp_addrolemember [@rolename =] 'role',
[@membername =] 'security_account'

Create a remote server entry for the local instance.
sp_addserver [@server =] 'server'
[, [@local =] 'local']
[, [@duplicate_ok =] 'duplicate_OK']

Add a server login as a member to the specified fixed server role.
sp_addsrvrolemember [@loginame =] 'login'
, [@rolename =] 'role'

Add an existing server login as a user in the current database.
sp_adduser [@loginame =] 'login'
[, [@name_in_db =] 'user']
[, [@grpname =] 'role']

Alter the password of the specified application role in the current database.
sp_approlepassword [@rolename=] 'role',
[@newpwd =] 'password'

Map an existing database user to a SQL Server login.
sp_change_users_login [@action =] 'action'
[, [@UserNamePattern =] 'user']
[, [@LoginName =] 'login']
[, [@password =] 'password']

Alter the owner of the current database.
sp_changedbowner [@loginame =] 'login'
[, [@map=] remap_alias_flag]

Alter the role membership of a user in the database to use only the specified role.
sp_changegroup [@grpname =] 'role'
, [@username =] 'user'

Alter the owner of the specified object in the current database.
sp_changeobjectowner [@objname =] 'object',
[@newowner =] 'owner'

Return the permissions for the specified database role.
sp_dbfixedrolepermission [[@rolename =] 'role']

Alter the default database for a server login.
sp_defaultdb [@loginame =] 'login',
[@defdb =] 'database'

Alter the default language for the specified server login.
sp_defaultlanguage [@loginame =] 'login'
[, [@language=] 'language']

Deny specified domain login the ability to connect to the current instance.
sp_denylogin [@loginame =] 'login'

Remove defined alias for the specified login as a database user.
sp_dropalias [@loginame =] 'login'

Remove specified application role from the current database.
sp_dropapprole [@rolename =] 'role'

Remove a group (i.e., role) from the current database.
sp_dropgroup [@rolename =] 'role'

Remove a SQL Server login from the current instance.
sp_droplogin [@loginame =] 'login'

Remove the specified remote login from the current instance.
sp_dropremotelogin [@remoteserver =] 'remoteserver'
[, [@loginame =] 'login']
[, [@remotename =] 'remote_name']

Remove specified empty role from the current database.
sp_droprole [@rolename =] 'role'

Remove a database user, database role, or server login from the specified role.
sp_droprolemember [@rolename =] 'role',
[@membername =] 'security_account'

Remove defined remote or linked server from the current instance.
sp_dropserver [@server =] 'server'
[, [@droplogins =] { 'droplogins' | NULL }]

Remove a server login from the specified fixed server role.
sp_dropsrvrolemember [@loginame =] 'login',
[@rolename =] 'role'

Remove database user from the current database.
sp_dropuser [sp_dropuser] 'user'

Create specified database user for the specified server login.
sp_grantdbaccess [@loginame =] 'login'
[, [@name_in_db =] 'name_in_db' [OUTPUT]]

Create a server login for a domain user or group.
sp_grantlogin [@loginame=] 'login'

Return list of all roles for the current database.
sp_helpdbfixedrole [[@rolename =] 'role']

Return information for the specified role, or all roles for the current database.
sp_helpgroup [[@grpname =] 'role']

Return information for the specified login or all logins.
sp_helplogins [[@LoginNamePattern =] 'login']

Return information for the specified server login, or for all server logins.
sp_helplogins [[@LoginNamePattern =] 'login']

Return information for the specified domain group, or all domain groups, with access to the current database.
sp_helpntgroup [[@ntname=] 'name']

Return information for the specified remote server logins, or for all remote server logins, defined on the local server.
sp_helpremotelogin [[@remoteserver =] 'remoteserver']
[, [@remotename =] 'remote_name']

Return information for the specified database role, or all database roles, for the current database.
sp_helprole [[@rolename =] 'role']

Return information for the specified database role member, or all database role members, for the current database.
sp_helprolemember [[@rolename =] 'role']

Return information on permissions in the current database.
sp_helprotect [[@name =] 'object_statement']
[, [@username =] 'security_account']
[, [@grantorname =] 'grantor']
[, [@permissionarea =] 'type']

Return list of fixed server roles.
sp_helpsrvrole [[@srvrolename =] 'role']

Return member information for the specified fixed server role, or all fixed server roles.
sp_helpsrvrolemember [[@srvrolename =] 'role']

Return information for the specified database user or role, or all database users in the current database.
sp_helpuser [[@name_in_db =] 'security_account']

Return name and owner on all databases for which the current user has access.
sp_MShasdbaccess

Alter the password for a SQL Server login.
sp_password [[@old =] 'old_password' ,]
{ [@new =] 'new_password' }
[, [@loginame =] 'login']

Remove specified database user from the current database.
sp_revokedbaccess [@name_in_db =] 'name'

Remove domain user or group as a server login.
sp_revokelogin [@loginame =] 'login'

Configure permissions for the specified application role in the current database.
sp_setapprole [@rolename =] 'role',
{ @password = } { encrypt N'password' }
[,
'password' [, [@encrypt =] { 'none' | 'odbc' }]
[, [@CreateCookie =] true | false]
[, [@cookie =] @cookie OUTPUT]

Return permission information for the specified fixed server role, or all fixed server roles.
sp_srvrolepermission [[@srvrolename =] 'role']

Removes an application role and reverts to previous security context.
sp_unsetapprole @cookie

Return information on domain users or groups that exist as server logins, but no longer exist in the domain.
sp_validatelogins

GENERAL EXTENDED STORED PROCEDURES

Spawn a command shell and execute the command string.
xp_cmdshell { 'command_string' } [, no_output]

Return list of defined groups within the specified domain.
xp_enumgroups ['domain_name']

Log event in the instance error log and the server event log.
xp_logevent { error_number , 'message' } [, 'severity']

Return the login security context for the current instance.
xp_loginconfig ['config_name']

Return information for the specified login or all logins.
xp_logininfo [[@acctname =] 'account_name']
[[@option =]'all' | 'members']
[[@privilege =] variable_name OUTPUT]

Return version information for the current instance.
xp_msver [optname]

SQL SERVER PROFILER STORED PROCEDURES

Create a new trace definition.
sp_trace_create [@traceid =] trace_id OUTPUT
, [@options =] option_value
, [@tracefile =] 'trace_file'
[, [@maxfilesize =] max_file_size]
[, [@stoptime =] 'stop_time']
[, [@filecount =] 'max_rollover_files']

Create an event.
sp_trace_generateevent [@eventid =] event_id
[, [@userinfo =] 'user_info']
[, [@userdata =] user_data]

Create or remove an event from a defined trace.
sp_trace_setevent [@traceid =] trace_id
, [@eventid =] event_id
, [@columnid =] column_id
, [@on =] on

Create and apply a filter to a defined trace.
sp_trace_setfilter [@traceid =] trace_id
, [@columnid =] column_id
, [@logical_operator =] logical_operator
, [@comparison_operator =] comparison_operator
, [@value =] value

Start, pause, or remove a defined trace.
sp_trace_setstatus [@traceid =] trace_id
, [@status =] status

SQL SERVER AGENT STORED PROCEDURES

NOTE: These stored procedures are located inside the msdb database.

Return information for specified alert, or all alerts.
sp_help_alert [[@alert_name =] 'alert_name']
[, [@order_by =] 'order_by']
[, [@alert_id =] alert_id]
[, [@category_name =] 'category']
[, [@legacy_format =] legacy_format]

Return information about the specified job, alert, or operator.
sp_help_category [[@class =] 'class']
[, [@type =] 'type']
[, [@name =] 'name']
[, [@suffix =] suffix]

Return information about the specified job, or all jobs.
sp_help_job
[[@job_id =] job_id]
[, [@job_name =] 'job_name']
[, [@job_aspect =] 'job_aspect']
[, [@job_type =] 'job_type']
[, [@owner_login_name =] 'login_name']
[, [@subsystem =] 'subsystem']
[, [@category_name =] 'category']
[, [@enabled =] enabled]
[, [@execution_status =] status]
[, [@date_comparator =] 'date_comparison']
[, [@date_created =] date_created]
[, [@date_last_modified =] date_modified]
[, [@description =] 'description_pattern']

Return information about the current state of the specified job, or all jobs.
sp_help_jobactivity
[[@job_id =] job_id] [[@job_name =] 'job_name']
[, [@session_id =] session_id]

Return information on the history of the specified job, or all jobs.
sp_help_jobhistory [[@job_id =] job_id]
[, [@job_name =] 'job_name']
[, [@step_id =] step_id]
[, [@sql_message_id =] sql_message_id]
[, [@sql_severity =] sql_severity]
[, [@start_run_date =] start_run_date]
[, [@end_run_date =] end_run_date]
[, [@start_run_time =] start_run_time]
[, [@end_run_time =] end_run_time]
[, [@minimum_run_duration =] minimum_run_duration]
[, [@run_status =] run_status]
[, [@minimum_retries =] minimum_retries]
[, [@oldest_first =] oldest_first]
[, [@server =] 'server']
[, [@mode =] 'mode']

Return information about the job schedule for the specified job.
sp_help_jobschedule
[@job_id =] job_id]
[[@job_name =] 'job_name']
[[@schedule_name =] 'schedule_name'] |
[[@schedule_id =] schedule_id]
[[@include_description =] include_description]

Return information on the job steps for the specified job.
sp_help_jobstep
[[@job_id =] 'job_id']
[[@job_name =] 'job_name']
[[@step_id =] step_id]
[[@step_name =] 'step_name']
[[@suffix =] suffix]

Returns information about operators and associated alerts.
sp_help_jobstep
[[@object_type =] 'object_type' ,
[@name =] 'name' ,
[@enum_type =] 'enum_type' ,
[@notification_method =] notification_method
[, [@target_name =] 'target_name']

Returns information about the specified operator, or all operators defined for the current instance.
sp_help_operator
[@operator_name =] 'operator_name']
[, [@operator_id =] operator_id]

Return information for the specified schedule, or all schedules.
sp_help_schedule
[[@schedule_id =] id
[[@schedule_name =] 'schedule_name']]
[, [@attached_schedules_only =] attached_schedules_only]
[, [@include_description =] include_description]

Send email to a defined Database Mail profile.
sp_notify_operator
[@profilename =] 'profilename' ,
[@id =] id ,
[@name =] 'name' ,
[@subject =] 'subject' ,
[@body =] 'message' ,
[@file_attachments =] 'attachment'
[@mail_database =] 'mail_host_database']

Remove history for the specified job, or for all jobs.
sp_purge_jobhistory
[[@job_name =] 'job_name']
[[@job_id =] job_id]
[, [@oldest_date =] oldest_date]

Start the specified job.
sp_start_job
[[@job_name =] 'job_name']
[[@job_id =] job_id]
[, [@error_flag =] error_flag]
[, [@server_name =] 'server_name']
[, [@step_name =] 'step_name']
[, [@output_flag =] output_flag]

Stop the specified job.
sp_stop_job
[[@job_name =] 'job_name']
[[@job_id =] job_id]
[[@originating_server =] 'master_server'
[@server_name =] 'target_server'

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