Top 200 Most Useful Windows Commands – A Must-Know for Every User!

in RAHUL KAPATE www.cybersecurityrahul.in

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Basic CMD Commands

1. dir - List files and directories in the current folder

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- 2. **cd** Change directory
- 3. **md** Create a new directory
- 4. **rd** Remove a directory
- 5. **del** Delete a file
- 6. **copy** Copy files from one location to another
- 7. **xcopy** Copy files and directories (more advanced than copy)
- 8. **robocopy** Robust file copying (better for large transfers)
- 9. **move** Move files or directories
- 10. **ren** Rename a file or folder
- 11. **cls** Clear the screen
- 12. **type** Display the content of a text file
- 13. **echo** Display text or variables in the console
- 14. **exit** Close the command prompt
- 15. **help** Display a list of available commands
- 16. **ver** Show the Windows version

- 17. **vol** Display the disk volume label and serial number
- 18. **label** Change the disk volume label
- 19. **chdir** Show or change the current directory
- 20. **tree** Display folder structure in a tree format
- 21. **path** Show or modify the system path variable
- 22. **attrib** View or modify file attributes
- 23. **fc** Compare two files
- 24. **find** Search for text in a file
- 25. **findstr** Search for strings using patterns
- 26. **more** View text file content page by page
- 27. **sort** Sort text files
- 28. **print** Print a text file
- 29. **assoc** Show or modify file associations
- 30. **ftype** Show or modify file types

Networking Commands

- 31. **ipconfig** Show network configuration
- 32. **ipconfig /all** Show detailed IP information
- 33. **ipconfig /release** Release IP address
- 34. **ipconfig /renew** Renew IP address
- 35. **ipconfig /flushdns** Clear DNS cache
- 36. **ping [IP]** Check network connectivity to a server
- 37. **tracert [IP]** Trace route to a destination

- 38. **nslookup [domain]** Query DNS for domain details
- 39. **netstat -an** Show active network connections
- 40. arp -a Show ARP cache
- 41. **hostname** Display computer name
- 42. **getmac** Show MAC address of network adapters
- 43. **net use** Connect to a shared network resource
- 44. **net share** List shared folders
- 45. **net user** Show user accounts
- 46. **net localgroup** Show local user groups
- 47. **net start** Start a Windows service
- 48. **net stop** Stop a Windows service
- 49. **netsh** Configure network settings
- 50. **route print** Display the system routing table

File & Disk Management

- 51. **diskpart** Manage partitions and disks
- 52. **format** Format a drive
- 53. **chkdsk** Check disk for errors
- 54. **sfc /scannow** Scan and repair system files
- 55. **defrag** Defragment a disk
- 56. **fsutil** File system utility commands
- 57. **cipher** Encrypt or decrypt files
- 58. **compact** Show or set file compression

- 59. **diskmgmt.msc** Open Disk Management utility
- 60. **mountvol** Manage volume mount points

System Information & Monitoring

- 61. **systeminfo** Display detailed **system** information
- 62. **tasklist** Show running processes
- 63. taskkill /PID [id] Kill a running process
- 64. **driverquery** List installed drivers
- 65. **wmic** Windows Management Instrumentation tool
- 66. **whoami** Display logged-in user name
- 67. **echo %username%** Show current username
- 68. echo %computername% Show computer name
- 69. **time** Display or set system time
- 70. **date** Display or set system date
- 71. **set** Display environment variables
- 72. **shutdown /s /t 0** Shutdown the computer
- 73. **shutdown /r /t 0** Restart the computer
- 74. **powercfg** Configure power settings
- 75. **msinfo32** Open System Information tool

Windows Services & Processes

76. **services.msc** - Open Services Manager

77. **msconfig** - Open System Configuration

78. **eventvwr** - Open Event Viewer

79. **taskmgr** - Open Task Manager

80. **perfmon** - Open Performance Monitor

81. **gpedit.msc** - Open Group Policy Editor

82. **secpol.msc** - Open Local Security Policy

83. **regedit** - Open Registry Editor

84. **dxdiag** - Open DirectX Diagnostic Tool

85. **devmgmt.msc** - Open Device Manager

PowerShell Commands

- 86. **Get-Process** List running processes
- 87. Stop-Process -Id [ID] Kill a process by ID
- 88. **Get-Service** List all services
- 89. Restart-Service [name] Restart a service
- 90. **Set-ExecutionPolicy** Change script execution policy
- 91. **Get-EventLog** View event logs
- 92. **New-Item** Create a new file or folder
- 93. **Remove-Item** Delete a file or folder

- 94. **Copy-Item** Copy a file or folder
- 95. **Move-Item** Move a file or folder
- 96. **Rename-Item** Rename a file or folder
- 97. **Get-Command** Show available PowerShell commands
- 98. **Get-Help [command]** Get help on a command
- 99. **Test-Connection [IP]** Test network connection
- 100. **Measure-Object** Get statistics about objects

Run Commands (Windows + R)

- 101. **calc** Open Calculator
- 102. **notepad** Open Notepad
- 103. **mspaint** Open Paint
- 104. **cmd** Open Command Prompt
- 105. **powershell** Open PowerShell
- 106. **control** Open Control Panel
- 107. **ncpa.cpl** Open Network Connections
- 108. **appwiz.cpl** Open Programs & Features
- 109. **intl.cpl** Open Regional Settings
- 110. **sysdm.cpl** Open System Properties

Windows Security & User Management

- 111. **net accounts** Display user account policies
- 112. **net user [username] /add** Add a new user account
- 113. **net user [username] /delete** Delete a user account
- 114. net localgroup administrators [user] /add Add user to admin group
- 115. rundll32.exe keymgr.dll,KRShowKeyMgr Open Windows credential manager
- 116. **gpupdate /force** Refresh Group Policy settings
- 117. **secedit /analyze** Analyze security settings
- 118. **auditpol /get /category:*** Show audit policies
- 119. **logoff** Log off the current user
- 120. runas /user:[username] [command] Run a program as another user

Windows Troubleshooting & Repair

- 121. **sfc /scannow** Scan and repair corrupted system files
- 122. DISM /Online /Cleanup-Image /RestoreHealth Repair Windows image
- 123. **bcdedi**t Manage boot configuration data
- 124. **bootrec / fixmbr** Repair Master Boot Record (MBR)
- 125. **bootrec /fixboot** Fix boot sector issues
- 126. **bootrec /scanos** Scan for Windows installations
- 127. **bootrec /rebuildbcd** Rebuild boot configuration data
- 128. **winver** Show Windows version and build number

129. taskkill /f /im explorer.exe - Force restart Windows Explorer

130. **explorer.exe** - Relaunch Windows Explorer

131. **rstrui** - Open System Restore utility

132. msdt /id PerformanceDiagnostic - Run Windows Performance Troubleshooter

133. **perfmon /report** - Generate a performance report

134. **eventvwr.msc** - Open Windows Event Viewer

135. **reliabilitymonitor** - Open Reliability Monitor

136. **chkdsk /f** - Fix disk errors

137. **chkdsk /r** - Check and repair bad sectors

138. **mrt** - Run Microsoft Malicious Software Removal Tool

139. **cleanmgr** - Run Disk Cleanup tool

140. **resmon** - Open Resource Monitor

Windows Firewall & Defender Commands

141. **firewall.cpl** - Open Windows Firewall settings

142. **netsh advfirewall show allprofiles** - Show current firewall settings

143. **netsh advfirewall reset** - Reset firewall rules

144. netsh advfirewall set allprofiles state off - Disable firewall

145. netsh advfirewall set allprofiles state on - Enable firewall

146. wmic /namespace:\\root\SecurityCenter2 path AntiVirusProduct - Check antivirus status

147. **WindowsDefender** - Open Windows Defender

148. **MpCmdRun -Scan -ScanType 2** - Run Windows Defender full scan

150. **secpol.msc** - Open Local Security Policy

Advanced System Configurations

151. **sysdm.cpl** - Open System Properties

152. **control printers** - Open Printers & Scanners settings

153. **control userpasswords2** - Manage user accounts

154. **control netconnections** - Open Network Connections

155. **devmgmt.msc** - Open Device Manager

156. **services.msc** - Open Services Manager

157. reg add [key] /v [value] /t REG_SZ /d [data] - Add a new registry key

158. **reg delete [key] /v [value] /f** - Delete a registry key

159. **reg query [key]** - Query registry values

160. **regedit** - Open Windows Registry Editor

161. **powercfg / hibernate on** - Enable hibernation mode

162. **powercfg /hibernate off** - Disable hibernation mode

163. **powercfg/batteryreport** - Generate battery health report

164. **powercfg /energy** - Analyze power efficiency

165. bcdedit /set {current} safeboot minimal - Enable Safe Mode

166. bcdedit /deletevalue {current} safeboot - Disable Safe Mode

- 167. **netsh wlan show profiles** Show all Wi-Fi profiles
- 168. netsh wlan delete profile name="[Wi-Fi Name]" Delete a saved Wi-Fi profile
- 169. netsh wlan show drivers Display Wi-Fi adapter details
- 170. **netsh int ip reset** Reset TCP/IP settings

File & System Automation Commands

- 171. schtasks /create /sc daily /tn "MyTask" /tr "notepad.exe" /st 12:00 Schedule a task
- 172. **schtasks /delete /tn "MyTask" /f** Delete a scheduled task
- 173. at 15:00 /interactive cmd.exe Schedule a command prompt to open at 3:00 PM
- 174. **tasklist /svc** Show running processes with services
- 175. taskkill /im notepad.exe /f Force close Notepad
- 176. **start notepad** Open Notepad
- 177. start chrome "https://www.google.com" Open Google in Chrome
- 178. **timeout /t 10** Pause execution for 10 seconds
- 179. echo "Hello" > test.txt Create a text file with "Hello"
- 180. for /L %i in (1,1,10) do echo %i Loop from 1 to 10 and print each number

Remote Desktop & Networking

- 181. **mstsc** Open Remote Desktop
- 182. **mstsc /admin** Connect as an administrator
- 183. **mstsc /v:[IP]** Connect to a remote computer

184. **net view** - Show network computers

185. **net session** - Show active network sessions

186. **shutdown /m \\[ComputerName] /s** - Remotely shut down a computer

187. **shutdown /m \\[ComputerName] /r** - Remotely **restart** a computer

188. **wmic product get name** - List installed programs

189. **wmic process list full** - Show detailed process list

190. **wmic logicaldisk get name** - Show disk drives

Windows Update & Maintenance

191. **wuauclt /detectnow** - Force Windows Update check

192. **wuauclt /updatenow** - Start Windows Update installation

193. **usoclient startscan** - Check for updates (Windows 10/11)

194. **usoclient startdownload** - Download updates

195. **usoclient startinstall** - Install updates

196. **usoclient refreshsettings** - Refresh update settings

197. **msiexec /i [setup.msi]** - Install an MSI package

198. **msiexec /x [setup.msi]** - Uninstall an MSI package

199. **msiexec /repair [setup.msi]** - Repair an MSI package

200. **wuapp** - Open Windows Update settings (Legacy)

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