

A PowerShell Cookbook for DBAs

References and Resources Trevor Barkhouse

Introduction to PowerShell

- The [Script Center](#) of the [TechNet Library](#) has a good, introductory series to PowerShell: "[Windows PowerShell Owner's Manual](#)"
 - "This is your guide to getting started with Windows PowerShell. Read through these pages to get familiar with Windows PowerShell, and soon you'll be driving around like a pro."
- The TechNet Library also has a "[Windows PowerShell Getting Started Guide](#)" section in PowerShell's online documentation
- Free eBooks:
 - [Windows PowerShell: TFM, Second Edition](#) by Don Jones and Jeff Hicks (PowerShell MVPs)
 - This is very popular book on PowerShell 1.0. When they released the third edition, which covers PowerShell 2.0, the publisher (SAPIEN Press) decided to release an eBook of the previous edition for free. It is still a great resource/play to get started
 - [Mastering PowerShell](#) by Dr. Tobias Weltner (PowerShell MVP)
 - [Effective Windows PowerShell](#) by Keith Hill (PowerShell MVP)
- Microsoft published a white-paper, from SQL Server MVP Allen White, about the new PowerShell functionality introduced with SQL Server 2008: "[Understanding and Using PowerShell Support in SQL Server 2008](#)."

The Key Cmdlets for PowerShell Exploration

- [Get-Command](#)
- [Get-Help](#)
- [Get-Member](#)

Important Documentation

- A list of the standard [Cmdlet verbs](#)
- Online [Cmdlet documentation](#)
- Online non-Cmdlet ("[about *](#)") [documentation](#)

Blogs

- The official blog of the Windows PowerShell team at Microsoft: "[Windows PowerShell Blog](#)"
- SQL Server and PowerShell:
 - [Trevor Barkhouse](#)
 - [Argenis Fernandez](#)
 - [Sean McCown](#) (SQL Server MVP)
 - [Chad Miller](#)
 - [Aaron Nelson](#)
 - [Allen White](#) (SQL Server MVP)
 - [Buck Woody](#) (SQL Server Team)
 - [Michiel Worries](#) (SQL Server Team)
- PowerShell only:
 - [Joel Bennett](#) (PowerShell MVP)
 - [James Brundage](#) (PowerShell Team)
 - [Oisin Grehan](#) (PowerShell MVP)
 - [Jeffrey Hicks](#) (PowerShell MVP)
 - [Keith Hill](#) (PowerShell MVP)
 - [Lee Holmes](#) (PowerShell Team)
 - [Don Jones](#) (PowerShell MVP)
 - [Thomas Lee](#) (PowerShell MVP)
 - [Kirk Munro](#) (PowerShell MVP)
 - [Joe Pruitt](#)
 - [Hal Rottenberg](#) (PowerShell MVP)
 - [Marco Shaw](#) (PowerShell MVP)
 - [Brandon Shell](#) (PowerShell MVP)
 - [Richard Siddaway](#) (PowerShell MVP)
 - [Dmitry Sotnikov](#) (PowerShell MVP)
 - [Marc van Orsouw](#) (PowerShell MVP)

Books

- [PowerShell in Practice](#) by Richard Siddaway (PowerShell MVP)
- [Windows PowerShell 2.0 Best Practices](#) by Ed Wilson ([The Scripting Guy](#) at Microsoft Corporation)
- [Windows PowerShell Cookbook](#) by Lee Holmes (a member of the PowerShell development team)
- [Windows PowerShell in Action](#) by Bruce Payette (a member of the PowerShell development team)

Podcasts

- [PowerScripting Podcast](#), with [Jonathan Walz](#) and [Hal Rottenberg](#)
 - A co-worker recommended that I try out this podcast
 - The content has gotten more advanced as the show has progressed—the early ones are good for beginners
 - The “show notes” on the [PowerScripting.net](#) web site are fantastic resource
 - The interviews are recorded live on [Ustream](#) and audience members can interact with each other as well as ask questions of the hosts or guest(s)
 - I definitely recommend the show
- [Get-Scripting Podcast](#), with [Jonathan Medd](#) and [Alan Renouf](#)
 - I haven’t tried this podcast yet, since I’m still catching up on the *PowerScripting Podcast*, but I have heard good things
- [SQL Down Under](#), with [Greg Low](#)
 - The first podcast that I really got into (and came to understand the appeal of the medium)
 - The podcast is dedicated to SQL Server, not PowerShell, however, there were two episodes that focused on PowerShell:
 - Episode #33, 2008-02-29, “[Allen White](#)”
 - Episode #41, 2008-11-30, “[Buck Woody](#)”
- [RunAs Radio](#), with [Richard Campbell](#) and [Greg Hughes](#)
 - The podcast is not specific to PowerShell, but covers all manner of IT topics in the Microsoft corner of the industry
 - I have probably listened to about three-quarters of the shows, up to [show 129](#), at which point I decided to catch up on the PowerScripting Podcast
 - The following episodes are specific to, or have a lot of coverage of PowerShell
 - Show #33, 2007-11-21, “[Tony Redmond Manages Exchange with PowerShell!](#)”
 - Show #42, 2008-01-30, “[Kirk Munro on PowerShell and PowerGUI!](#)”
 - Show #46, 2008-02-27, “[Marco Shaw Does More With PowerShell!](#)”
 - Show #64, 2008-07-02, “[Using PowerShell with VMware!](#)”
 - Show #75, 2008-09-17, “[Michiel Worries Uses PowerShell with SQL Server!](#)”
 - Show #94, 2009-01-28, “[Ed Wilson is a Scripting Guy!](#)”
- [TechNet Radio](#)
 - I have seen that this podcast has covered PowerShell at times, but I haven’t had the chance to check it out yet
- [Mind Of Root](#), with [Keith Albright](#)
 - This podcast has been mentioned occasionally on The PowerScripting Podcast
 - I haven’t had the chance to listen yet

PowerShell Hosts/Editors

- The PowerShell host/console, [PowerShell.exe](#) (Microsoft Corporation)
- The PowerShell ISE (Integrated Script Editor), [PowerShell ISE.exe](#) (Microsoft Corporation)
 - Introduced with PowerShell 2.0
- [PowerGUI](#) (Quest Software, Inc.)
 - Free, but there is also a [PowerGUI Pro](#) edition
- [PowerShell Analyzer](#) (Shell Tools LLC)
 - Free
- [PowerShell Plus](#) (Idera)
- [PowerWF Studio](#) (Devfarm Software)
- [PrimalScript](#) (SAPIEN Technologies, Inc.)