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PowerShell Get-Help on command 'ConvertFrom-StringData'

PS C:\Users\wahid> Get-Help ConvertFrom-StringData

NAME

ConvertFrom-StringData

SYNOPSIS

Converts a string containing one or more key and value pairs to a hash table.

SYNTAX

ConvertFrom-StringData [-StringData] <System.String> [<CommonParameters>]

DESCRIPTION

The `ConvertFrom-StringData` cmdlet converts a string that contains one or more key and value pairs into a hash table. Because each key-value pair must be on a separate line, here-strings are often used as the input format. By default, the key must be separated from the value by an equals sign (`=`) character.

The `ConvertFrom-StringData` cmdlet is considered to be a safe cmdlet that can be used in the DATA section of a script or function. When used in a DATA section, the contents of the string must conform to the rules for a DATA section. For more information, see about_Data_Sections (../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/About/about_Data_Sections.md).

`ConvertFrom-StringData` supports escape character sequences that are allowed by conventional machine translation tools. That is, the cmdlet can interpret backslashes (``) as escape characters in the string data by using the Regex.Unescape Method

(/dotnet/api/system.text.regularexpressions.regex.unescape), instead of the PowerShell backtick character (`````) that would normally signal the end of a line in a script. Inside the here-string, the backtick character does not work. You can also preserve a literal backslash in your results by escaping it with a preceding backslash, like this: `\`. Unescaped backslash characters, such as those that are commonly used in file paths, can render as illegal escape sequences in your results.

PARAMETERS

-StringData <System.String>

Specifies the string to be converted. You can use this parameter or pipe a string to `ConvertFrom-StringData`. The parameter name is optional.

The value of this parameter must be a string that contains one or more key-value pairs. Each key-value pair must be on a separate line, or each pair must be separated by newline characters (```n``).

You can include comments in the string, but the comments cannot be on the same line as a key-value pair. `ConvertFrom-StringData` ignores single-line comments. The `#` character must be the first non-whitespace character on the line. All characters on the line after the `#` are ignored. The comments are not included in the hash table.

A here-string is a string consisting of one or more lines. Quotation marks within the here-string are interpreted literally as part of the string

data. For more information, see about_Quoting_Rules

(../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/About/about_Quoting_Rules.md).

<CommonParameters>

This cmdlet supports the common parameters: Verbose, Debug, ErrorAction, ErrorVariable, WarningAction, WarningVariable, OutBuffer, PipelineVariable, and OutVariable. For more information, see about_CommonParameters (https:/go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkID=113216).

Example 1: Convert a single-quoted here-string to a hash table

\$Here = @'

Msg1 = The string parameter is required.

Msg2 = Credentials are required for this command.

Msg3 = The specified variable does not exist.

'@

ConvertFrom-StringData -StringData \$Here

Name	Value
Msg3	The specified variable does not exist.
Msg2	Credentials are required for this command.
Msg1	The string parameter is required.

---- Example 2: Convert a here-string containing a comment ----

ConvertFrom-StringData -StringData @'

Name = Disks.ps1

```
# Category is optional.
```

Category = Storage

Cost = Free

'@

Name	Value
Cost	Free
Category	Storage
Name	Disks.ps1

The value of the StringData parameter is a here-string, instead of a variable that contains a here-string. Either format is valid. The here-string includes a comment about one of the strings. `ConvertFrom-StringData` ignores single-line comments, but the `#` character must be the first non-whitespace character on the line. All characters on the line after the `#` are ignored.

\$A = ConvertFrom-StringData -StringData "Top = Red `n Bottom = Blue"
\$A

Name	Value
Bottom	Blue
Тор	Red

To satisfy the condition that each key-value pair must be on a separate line, the string uses the PowerShell newline character (```n``) to separate the pairs.

Example 4: Use ConvertFrom-StringData in the DATA section of a script

\$TextMsgs = DATA {

ConvertFrom-StringData @'

Text001 = The \$Notebook variable contains the name of the user's system

notebook.

Text002 = The \$MyNotebook variable contains the name of the user's private notebook.

```
'@
}
$TextMsgs
```

Name	Value	
Text001	The \$Notebook variable contains the name of the user's system	
notebook.		
Text002	The \$MyNotebook variable contains the name of the user's	
private notebook.		
Because the text includes variable names, it must be enclosed in a		
single-quoted string so that the variables are interpreted literally and not		
expanded. Variables are not permitted in the DATA section.		

---- Example 5: Use the pipeline operator to pass a string ----

\$Here = @'

Msg1 = The string parameter is required.

Msg2 = Credentials are required for this command.

Msg3 = The specified variable does not exist.

'@

\$Hash = \$Here | ConvertFrom-StringData

\$Hash

Name Value

Msg3 The specified variable does not exist.

Msg2 Credentials are required for this command.

Msg1 The string parameter is required.

Example 6: Use escape characters to add new lines and return characters

ConvertFrom-StringData @"

Vincentio = Heaven doth with us as we with torches do,\nNot light them for themselves; for if our virtues\nDid not go forth of us, 'twere all alike\nAs if we had them not.

Angelo = Let there be some more test made of my metal,\nBefore so noble and so great a figure\nBe stamp'd upon it.

"@ | Format-List

Name : Angelo

Value : Let there be some more test made of my metal,

Before so noble and so great a figure Be stamp'd upon it.

Name : Vincentio

Value : Heaven doth with us as we with torches do, Not light them for themselves; for if our virtues Did not go forth of us, 'twere all alike As if we had them not.

Example 7: Use backslash escape character to correctly render a file path

ConvertFrom-StringData "Message=Look in c:\\Windows\\System32"

Name Value

Message Look in c:\Windows\System32

REMARKS

To see the examples, type: "get-help ConvertFrom-StringData -examples".

For more information, type: "get-help ConvertFrom-StringData -detailed". For technical information, type: "get-help ConvertFrom-StringData -full". For online help, type: "get-help ConvertFrom-StringData -online"