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PowerShell Get-Help on command 'Invoke-Expression'

PS C:\Users\wahid> Get-Help Invoke-Expression

NAME

Invoke-Expression

SYNOPSIS

Runs commands or expressions on the local computer.

SYNTAX

Invoke-Expression [-Command] <System.String> [<CommonParameters>]

DESCRIPTION

The `Invoke-Expression` cmdlet evaluates or runs a specified string as a command and returns the results of the expression or command. Without `Invoke-Expression`, a string submitted at the command line is returned (echoed) unchanged.

Expressions are evaluated and run in the current scope. For more information, see about_Scopes (../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/About/about_Scopes.md).

cmdlet in scripts. When using > `Invoke-Expression` to run a command that the user enters, verify that the command is safe to run > before running it. In general, it is best to design your script with predefined input options, > rather than allowing freeform input.

PARAMETERS

-Command <System.String>

Specifies the command or expression to run. Type the command or expression or enter a variable that contains the command or expression. The Command parameter is required.

<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: Evaluate an expression -----

\$Command = "Get-Process"

\$Command

Get-Process

Invoke-Expression \$Command

Handles N	PM(K) PN	M(K) WS	(K) VM(M)	CPU(s) I	d ProcessName
296 4	1572	1956 20	0.53 1	1348 AdtA	gent
270 6	1328	800 34	0.06 2	396 alg	
67 2	620	484 20	0.22 71	6 ati2evxx	(
1060 15	12904	11840 7	74 11.48	892 Cc	mExec

1400 33 25280 37544 223 38.44 2564 communicator

...

This example demonstrates the use of `Invoke-Expression` to evaluate an expression. Without `Invoke-Expression`, the expression is printed, but not evaluated.

The first command assigns a value of `Get-Process` (a string) to the `\$Command` variable.

The second command shows the effect of typing the variable name at the command line. PowerShell echoes the string.

The third command uses `Invoke-Expression` to evaluate the string.

----- Example 2: Run a script on the local computer ------

Invoke-Expression -Command "C:\ps-test\testscript.ps1"

"C:\ps-test\testscript.ps1" | Invoke-Expression

These commands use `Invoke-Expression` to run a script, TestScript.ps1, on the local computer. The two commands are equivalent. The first uses the Command parameter to specify the command to run. The second uses a pipeline operator (`|`) to send the command string to `Invoke-Expression`.

----- Example 3: Run a command in a variable -----

\$Command = 'Get-Process | where {\$_.cpu -gt 1000}'

Invoke-Expression \$Command

This example runs a command string that is saved in the `\$Command` variable.

The command string is enclosed in single quotation marks because it includes a variable, `\$_`, which represents the current object. If it were enclosed in double quotation marks, the `\$_` variable would be replaced by its value

before it was saved in the `\$Command` variable.

----- Example 4: Get and run a cmdlet Help example ------

\$Cmdlet_name = "Get-ComputerInfo"

\$Example_number = 1

\$Example_code = (Get-Help

\$Cmdlet_name).examples.example[(\$Example_number-1)].code

Invoke-Expression \$Example_code

This command retrieves and runs the first example in the `Get-EventLog` cmdlet Help topic.

To run an example of a different cmdlet, change the value of the

`\$Cmdlet_name` variable to the name of the cmdlet. And, change the

`\$Example_number` variable to the example number you want to run. The command fails if the example number is not valid.

> [!NOTE] > If the example code from the help file has output in the example,

PowerShell attempts to run the > output along with the code and an error will be thrown.

REMARKS

To see the examples, type: "get-help Invoke-Expression -examples".

For more information, type: "get-help Invoke-Expression -detailed".

For technical information, type: "get-help Invoke-Expression -full".

For online help, type: "get-help Invoke-Expression -online"