



## Windows PowerShell Get-Help on Cmdlet 'Import-PSSession'

**PS:\>Get-HELP Import-PSSession -Full**

### NAME

Import-PSSession

### SYNOPSIS

Imports commands from another session into the current session.

### SYNTAX

```
Import-PSSession [-Session] <System.Management.Automation.Runspaces.PSSession> [[-CommandName]
<System.String[]>] [[-FormatTypeName] <System.String[]>]
[-AllowClobber] [-ArgumentList <System.Object[]>] [-Certificate
<System.Security.Cryptography.X509Certificates.X509Certificate2>] [-CommandType {Alias | Function |
Filter | Cmdlet | ExternalScript | Application | Script | Workflow | Configuration | All}] [-DisableNameChecking]
[-FullyQualifiedModule
<Microsoft.PowerShell.Commands.ModuleSpecification[]>] [-Module <System.String[]>] [-Prefix <System.String>]
[<CommonParameters>]
```

### DESCRIPTION

The 'Import-PSSession' cmdlet imports commands , such as cmdlets, functions, and aliases, from a PSSession into the current session.

local or remote computer into the current session. You

can import any command that the ``Get-Command`` cmdlet can find in the PSSession.

Use an ``Import-PSSession`` command to import commands from a customized shell, such as a Microsoft Exchange Server shell, or from a session that includes Windows

PowerShell modules and snap-ins or other elements that are not in the current session.

To import commands, first use the ``New-PSSession`` cmdlet to create a PSSession. Then, use the ``Import-PSSession`` cmdlet to import the commands. By default,

``Import-PSSession`` imports all commands except for commands that have the same names as commands in the current session. To import all the commands, use the

`AllowClobber` parameter.

You can use imported commands just as you would use any command in the session. When you use an imported command, the imported part of the command runs implicitly in

the session from which it was imported. However, the remote operations are handled entirely by Windows PowerShell. You need not even be aware of them, except that you

must keep the connection to the other session (PSSession) open. If you close it, the imported commands are no longer available.

Because imported commands might take longer to run than local commands, ``Import-PSSession`` adds an `AsJob` parameter to every imported command. This parameter allows

you to run the command as a Windows PowerShell background job. For more information, see `about_Jobs` (`../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/about/about_Jobs.md`).

When you use ``Import-PSSession``, Windows PowerShell adds the imported commands to a temporary module that exists only in your session and returns an object that

represents the module. To create a persistent module that you can use in future sessions, use the ``Export-PSSession`` cmdlet.

The ``Import-PSSession`` cmdlet uses the implicit remoting feature of Windows PowerShell. When you import commands into the current session, they run implicitly in the

original session or in a similar session on the originating computer.

Beginning in Windows PowerShell 3.0, you can use the ``Import-Module`` cmdlet to import modules from a remote session into the current session. This feature uses

implicit remoting. It is equivalent to using ``Import-PSSession`` to import selected modules from a remote session into the current session.

## PARAMETERS

`-AllowClobber` <System.Management.Automation.SwitchParameter>

Indicates that this cmdlet imports the specified commands, even if they have the same names as commands in the current session.

If you import a command with the same name as a command in the current session, the imported command hides or replaces the original commands. For more

information, see [about\\_Command\\_Precedence](#) (`../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/about/about_Command_Precedence.md`).

By default, ``Import-PSSession`` does not import commands that have the same name as commands in the current session.

Required?	false
Position?	named
Default value	False
Accept pipeline input?	False
Accept wildcard characters?	false

`-ArgumentList` <System.Object[]>

Specifies an array of commands that results from using the specified arguments (parameter values).

For instance, to import the variant of the ``Get-Item`` command in the certificate (Cert:) drive in the PSSession in ``$S``, type ``Import-PSSession -Session $S`

`-Command Get-Item -ArgumentList cert:``.

Required? false  
Position? named  
Default value None  
Accept pipeline input? False  
Accept wildcard characters? false

**-Certificate** <System.Security.Cryptography.X509Certificates.X509Certificate2>

Specifies the client certificate that is used to sign the format files (\*.Format.ps1xml) or script module files (.psm1) in the temporary module that

``Import-PSSession`` creates.

Enter a variable that contains a certificate or a command or expression that gets the certificate.

To find a certificate, use the ``Get-PfxCertificate`` cmdlet or use the ``Get-ChildItem`` cmdlet in the Certificate (Cert:) drive.

If the certificate is not valid or

does not have sufficient authority, the command fails.

Required? false  
Position? named  
Default value None  
Accept pipeline input? False  
Accept wildcard characters? false

**-CommandName** <System.String[]>

Specifies commands with the specified names or name patterns. Wildcards are permitted. Use `CommandName` or its alias, `Name`.

By default, ``Import-PSSession`` imports all commands from the session, except for commands that have the same names as commands in the current session. This

prevents imported commands from hiding or replacing commands in the session. To import all commands, even those that hide or replace other commands, use the

`AllowClobber` parameter.

If you use the `CommandName` parameter, the formatting files for the commands are not imported unless you use the `FormatTypeName` parameter. Similarly, if you use

the `FormatTypeName` parameter, no commands are imported unless you use the `CommandName` parameter.

Required?	false
Position?	2
Default value	None
Accept pipeline input?	False
Accept wildcard characters?	false

`-CommandType <System.Management.Automation.CommandTypes>`

Specifies the type of command objects. The default value is `Cmdlet`. Use `CommandType` or its alias, `Type`. The acceptable values for this parameter are:

- ``Alias``: The Windows PowerShell aliases in the remote session.

- ``All``: The cmdlets and functions in the remote session.

- ``Application``: All the files other than Windows-PowerShell files in the paths that are listed in

the `Path` environment variable (``$env:path``) in the remote session, including `.txt`, `.exe`, and `.dll` files. - ``Cmdlet``: The cmdlets in the remote session. "Cmdlet" is the default.

- ``ExternalScript``: The `.ps1` files in the paths listed in the `Path` environment variable

(``$env:path``) in the remote session. - ``Filter`` and ``Function``: The Windows PowerShell functions in the remote session.

- ``Script``: The script blocks in the remote session.

These values are defined as a flag-based enumeration. You can combine multiple values together to set multiple flags using this parameter. The values can be

passed to the CommandType parameter as an array of values or as a comma-separated string of those values. The cmdlet will combine the values using a binary-OR

operation. Passing values as an array is the simplest option and also allows you to use tab-completion on the values.

Required?	false
Position?	named
Default value	None
Accept pipeline input?	False
Accept wildcard characters?	false

**-DisableNameChecking <System.Management.Automation.SwitchParameter>**

Indicates that this cmdlet suppresses the message that warns you when you import a cmdlet or function whose name includes an unapproved verb or a prohibited character.

By default, when a module that you import exports cmdlets or functions that have unapproved verbs in their names, the Windows PowerShell displays the following warning message:

"WARNING: Some imported command names include unapproved verbs which might make them less discoverable. Use the Verbose parameter for more detail or type ``Get-Verb`` to see the list of approved verbs."

This message is only a warning. The complete module is still imported, including the non-conforming commands. Although the message is displayed to module users, the naming problem should be fixed by the module author.

Required?	false
Position?	named
Default value	False
Accept pipeline input?	False
Accept wildcard characters?	false

`-FormatTypeName <System.String[]>`

Specifies formatting instructions for the specified Microsoft .NET Framework types. Enter the type names. Wildcards are permitted.

The value of this parameter must be the name of a type that is returned by a ``Get-FormatData`` command in the session from which the commands are being imported.

To get all of the formatting data in the remote session, type ``*``.

If the command does not include either the `CommandName` or `FormatTypeName` parameter, ``Import-PSSession`` imports formatting instructions for all .NET Framework types returned by a ``Get-FormatData`` command in the remote session.

If you use the `FormatTypeName` parameter, no commands are imported unless you use the `CommandName` parameter.

Similarly, if you use the `CommandName` parameter, the formatting files for the commands are not imported unless you use the `FormatTypeName` parameter.

Required?	false
Position?	3
Default value	None
Accept pipeline input?	False
Accept wildcard characters?	false

`-FullyQualifiedModule <Microsoft.PowerShell.Commands.ModuleSpecification[]>`

The value can be a module name, a full module specification, or a path to a module file.

When the value is a path, the path can be fully qualified or relative. A relative path is resolved relative to the script that contains the using statement.

When the value is a name or module specification, PowerShell searches the `PSModulePath` for the specified module.

A module specification is a hashtable that has the following keys.

- ``ModuleName`` - Required Specifies the module name. - ``GUID`` - Optional Specifies the GUID of the module. - It's also Required to specify at least one of the three below keys. - ``ModuleVersion`` - Specifies a minimum acceptable version of the module. - ``MaximumVersion`` - Specifies the maximum acceptable version of the module. - ``RequiredVersion`` - Specifies an exact, required version of the module. This can't be used with the other Version keys.

You can't specify the `FullyQualifiedModule` parameter in the same command as a `Module` parameter. The two parameters are mutually exclusive.

Required?	false
Position?	named
Default value	None
Accept pipeline input?	False
Accept wildcard characters?	false

`-Module <System.String[]>`

Specifies and array of commands in the Windows PowerShell snap-ins and modules. Enter the snap-in and module names. Wildcards are not permitted.

``Import-PSSession`` cannot import providers from a snap-in.

For more information, see `about_PSSnapins` (`../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/About/about_PSSnapins.md`) and `about_Modules`

(`../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/About/about_Modules.md`).

Required?	false
Position?	named
Default value	None
Accept pipeline input?	False
Accept wildcard characters?	false



-Prefix <System.String>

Specifies a prefix to the nouns in the names of imported commands.

Use this parameter to avoid name conflicts that might occur when different commands in the session have the same name.

For instance, if you specify the prefix Remote and then import a `Get-Date` cmdlet, the cmdlet is known in the session as `Get-RemoteDate`, and it is not confused with the original `Get-Date` cmdlet.

Required?	false
Position?	named
Default value	None
Accept pipeline input?	False
Accept wildcard characters?	false

-Session <System.Management.Automation.Runspace.PSSession>

Specifies the PSSession from which the cmdlets are imported. Enter a variable that contains a session object or a command that gets a session object, such as a

`New-PSSession` or `Get-PSSession` command. You can specify only one session. This parameter is required.

Required?	true
Position?	0
Default value	None
Accept pipeline input?	False
Accept wildcard characters?	false

<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>).

## INPUTS

None

You can't pipe objects to this cmdlet.

## OUTPUTS

System.Management.Automation.PSModuleInfo

This cmdlet returns the same module object that ``New-Module`` and ``Get-Module`` cmdlets return. However, the imported module is temporary and exists only in the current session. To create a permanent module on disk, use the ``Export-PSSession`` cmdlet.

## NOTES

Windows PowerShell includes the following aliases for ``Import-PSSession``:

- ``ipsn``

- ``Import-PSSession`` relies on the PowerShell remoting infrastructure. To use this cmdlet, the computer must be configured for WS-Management remoting. For more

information, see `about_Remote` ([../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/about/about\\_Remote.md](#)) and `about_Remote_Requirements`

([../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/about/about\\_Remote\\_Requirements.md](#)). - ``Import-PSSession`` does not import variables or PowerShell providers.

- When you import commands that have the same names as commands in the current session, the imported

commands can hide aliases, functions, and cmdlets in the session and they can replace functions and variables in the session. To prevent name conflicts, use the

`Prefix` parameter. For more information, see `about_Command_Precedence` ([../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/about/about\\_Command\\_Precedence.md](#)). - ``Import-PSSession``

converts all commands into functions before it imports them. As a result, imported commands behave a bit differently than they would if they retained their

original command type. For example, if you import a cmdlet from a PSSession and then import a cmdlet with the same name from a module or snap-in, the cmdlet

that is imported from the PSSession always runs by default because functions take precedence over cmdlets. Conversely, if you import an alias into a session

that has an alias with the same name, the original alias is always used, because aliases take precedence over functions. For more information, see

[about\\_Command\\_Precedence](#) (../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/about/about\_Command\_Precedence.md). -

`Import-PSSession` uses the `Write-Progress` cmdlet to display the

progress of the command. You might see the progress bar while the command is running. - To find the commands to import, `Import-PSSession` uses the

`Invoke-Command` cmdlet to run a `Get-Command` command in the PSSession. To get formatting data for the commands, it uses the `Get-FormatData` cmdlet. You

might see error messages from these cmdlets when you run an `Import-PSSession` command. Also, `Import-PSSession` cannot import commands from a PSSession that

does not include the `Get-Command`, `Get-FormatData`, `Select-Object`, and `Get-Help` cmdlets. - Imported commands have the same limitations as other remote

commands, including the inability to start a program with a user interface, such as Notepad. - Because Windows PowerShell profiles are not run in PSSessions,

the commands that a profile adds to a session are not available to `Import-PSSession`. To import commands from a profile, use an `Invoke-Command` command to

run the profile in the PSSession manually before importing commands. - The temporary module that `Import-PSSession` creates might include a formatting file, even

if the command does not import formatting data. If the command does not import formatting data, any formatting files that are created will not contain

formatting data. - To use `Import-PSSession`, the execution policy in the current session cannot be Restricted or AllSigned, because the temporary module that

`Import-PSSession` creates contains unsigned script files that are prohibited by these policies. To use `Import-PSSession` without changing the execution

policy for the local computer, use the Scope parameter of `Set-ExecutionPolicy` to set a less restrictive execution policy for a single process. - In Windows

PowerShell 2.0, help topics for commands that are imported from another session do not include the preface that you

assign by using the Prefix parameter. To get

help for an imported command in Windows PowerShell 2.0, use the original (non-prefixed) command name.

----- Example 1: Import all commands from a PSSession -----

```
$S = New-PSSession -ComputerName Server01
```

```
Import-PSSession -Session $S
```

This command imports all commands from a PSSession on the Server01 computer into the current session, except for commands that have the same names as commands in the current session.

Because this command does not use the CommandName parameter, it also imports all of the formatting data required for the imported commands.

-- Example 2: Import commands that end with a specific string --

```
$S = New-PSSession https://ps.testlabs.com/powershell
```

```
Import-PSSession -Session $S -CommandName *-test -FormatTypeName *
```

```
New-Test -Name Test1
```

```
Get-Test test1 | Run-Test
```

These commands import the commands with names that end in "-test" from a PSSession into the local session, and then they show how to use an imported cmdlet.

The first command uses the `New-PSSession` cmdlet to create a PSSession. It saves the PSSession in the `\$S` variable.

The second command uses the `Import-PSSession` cmdlet to import commands from the PSSession in `\$S` into the current session. It uses the CommandName parameter to

specify commands with the Test noun and the FormatTypeName parameter to import the formatting data for the Test commands.

The third and fourth commands use the imported commands in the current session. Because imported commands are actually added to the current session, you use the local

syntax to run them. You do not need to use the ``Invoke-Command`` cmdlet to run an imported command.

----- Example 3: Import cmdlets from a PSSession -----

```
$S1 = New-PSSession -ComputerName s1
$S2 = New-PSSession -ComputerName s2
Import-PSSession -Session s1 -Type cmdlet -Name New-Test, Get-Test -FormatTypeName *
Import-PSSession -Session s2 -Type Cmdlet -Name Set-Test -FormatTypeName *
New-Test Test1 | Set-Test -RunType Full
```

This example shows that you can use imported cmdlets just as you would use local cmdlets.

These commands import the ``New-Test`` and ``Get-Test`` cmdlets from a PSSession on the Server01 computer and the ``Set-Test`` cmdlet from a PSSession on the Server02 computer.

Even though the cmdlets were imported from different PSSessions, you can pipe an object from one cmdlet to another without error.

---- Example 4: Run an imported command as a background job ----

```
$S = New-PSSession -ComputerName Server01
Import-PSSession -Session $S -CommandName *-test* -FormatTypeName *
$batch = New-Test -Name Batch -AsJob
Receive-Job $batch
```

This example shows how to run an imported command as a background job.

Because imported commands might take longer to run than local commands, ``Import-PSSession`` adds an `AsJob` parameter to every imported command. The `AsJob` parameter lets you run the command as a background job.

The first command creates a PSSession on the Server01 computer and saves the PSSession object in the ``$S`` variable.

The second command uses ``Import-PSSession`` to import the Test cmdlets from the PSSession in ``$S`` into the current

session.

The third command uses the `AsJob` parameter of the imported `New-Test` cmdlet to run a `New-Test` command as a background job. The command saves the job object that

`New-Test` returns in the `$batch` variable.

The fourth command uses the `Receive-Job` cmdlet to get the results of the job in the `$batch` variable.

Example 5: Import cmdlets and functions from a Windows PowerShell module

```
$S = New-PSSession -ComputerName Server01
Invoke-Command -Session $S {Import-Module TestManagement}
Import-PSSession -Session $S -Module TestManagement
```

This example shows how to import the cmdlets and functions from a Windows PowerShell module on a remote computer into the current session.

The first command creates a PSSession on the Server01 computer and saves it in the `$S` variable.

The second command uses the `Invoke-Command` cmdlet to run an `Import-Module` command in the PSSession in `$S`.

Typically, the module would be added to all sessions by an `Import-Module` command in a Windows PowerShell profile, but profiles are not run in PSSessions.

The third command uses the `Module` parameter of `Import-PSSession` to import the cmdlets and functions in the module into the current session.

----- Example 6: Create a module in a temporary file -----

```
PS C:\> Import-PSSession $S -CommandName Get-Date, SearchHelp -FormatTypeName * -AllowClobber
```

```
Name       : tmp_79468106-4e1d-4d90-af97-1154f9317239_tcw1zunz.ttf
Path       : C:\Users\User01\AppData\Local\Temp\tmp_79468106-4e1d-4d90-af97-1154f9317239_tcw1
zunz.ttf\tmp_79468106-4e1d-4d90-af97-1154f9317239_
tcw1zunz.ttf.psm1
```

```

Description      : Implicit remoting for http://server01.corp.fabrikam.com/wsman
Guid             : 79468106-4e1d-4d90-af97-1154f9317239
Version          : 1.0
ModuleBase       : C:\Users\User01\AppData\Local\Temp\tmp_79468106-4e1d-4d90-af97-1154f9317239_tcw1
zunz.ttf
ModuleType       : Script
PrivateData      : {ImplicitRemoting}
AccessMode       : ReadWrite
ExportedAliases  : {}
ExportedCmdlets  : {}
ExportedFunctions : {[Get-Date, Get-Date], [SearchHelp, SearchHelp]}
ExportedVariables : {}
NestedModules    : {}

```

This example shows that ``Import-PSSession`` creates a module in a temporary file on disk. It also shows that all commands are converted into functions before they are imported into the current session.

The command uses the ``Import-PSSession`` cmdlet to import a ``Get-Date`` cmdlet and a `SearchHelp` function into the current session.

The ``Import-PSSession`` cmdlet returns a `PSModuleInfo` object that represents the temporary module. The value of the `Path` property shows that ``Import-PSSession`` created a script module (.psm1) file in a temporary location. The `ExportedFunctions` property shows that the ``Get-Date`` cmdlet and the `SearchHelp` function were both imported as functions.

Example 7: Run a command that is hidden by an imported command

```
PS C:\> Import-PSSession $S -CommandName Get-Date -FormatTypeName * -AllowClobber
```

```
PS C:\> Get-Command Get-Date -All
```

-----

Function    Get-Date    ...

Cmdlet     Get-Date    Get-Date [[-Date] <DateTime>] [-Year <Int32>] [-Month <Int32>]

PS C:\> Get-Date

09074

PS C:\> (Get-Command -Type Cmdlet -Name Get-Date).PSSnapin.Name

Microsoft.PowerShell.Utility

PS C:\> Microsoft.PowerShell.Utility\Get-Date

Sunday, March 15, 2009 2:08:26 PM

This example shows how to run a command that is hidden by an imported command.

The first command imports a `Get-Date` cmdlet from the PSSession in the `\$S` variable. Because the current session includes a `Get-Date` cmdlet, the AllowClobber parameter is required in the command.

The second command uses the All parameter of the `Get-Command` cmdlet to get all `Get-Date` commands in the current session. The output shows that the session includes the original `Get-Date` cmdlet and a `Get-Date` function. The `Get-Date` function runs the imported `Get-Date` cmdlet in the PSSession in `\$S`.

The third command runs a `Get-Date` command. Because functions take precedence over cmdlets, Windows PowerShell runs the imported `Get-Date` function, which returns a Julian date.

The fourth and fifth commands show how to use a qualified name to run a command that is hidden by an imported command.

The fourth command gets the name of the Windows PowerShell snap-in that added the original `Get-Date` cmdlet to the current session.



The fifth command uses the snap-in-qualified name of the `Get-Date` cmdlet to run a `Get-Date` command.

For more information about command precedence and hidden commands, see [about\\_Command\\_Precedence](#) (../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/about/about\_Command\_Precedence.md).

Example 8: Import commands that have a specific string in their names

```
PS C:\> Import-PSSession -Session $S -CommandName **Item** -AllowClobber
```

This command imports commands whose names include `Item` from the PSSession in `\$S`. Because the command includes the `CommandName` parameter but not the `FormatTypeData` parameter, only the command is imported.

Use this command when you are using `Import-PSSession` to run a command on a remote computer and you already have the formatting data for the command in the current session.

Example 9: Use the `Module` parameter to discover which commands were imported into the session

```
PS C:\> $M = Import-PSSession -Session $S -CommandName *bits* -FormatTypeName *bits*
```

```
PS C:\> Get-Command -Module $M
```

CommandType	Name
Function	Add-BitsFile
Function	Complete-BitsTransfer
Function	Get-BitsTransfer
Function	Remove-BitsTransfer
Function	Resume-BitsTransfer
Function	Set-BitsTransfer
Function	Start-BitsTransfer
Function	Suspend-BitsTransfer

This command shows how to use the `Module` parameter of `Get-Command` to find out which commands were imported into the session by an `Import-PSSession` command.

The first command uses the ``Import-PSSession`` cmdlet to import commands whose names include "bits" from the PSSession in the ``$S`` variable. The ``Import-PSSession`` command returns a temporary module, and the command saves the module in the ``$m`` variable.

The second command uses the ``Get-Command`` cmdlet to get the commands that are exported by the module in the ``$M`` variable.

The Module parameter takes a string value, which is designed for the module name. However, when you submit a module object, Windows PowerShell uses the `ToString` method on the module object, which returns the module name.

The ``Get-Command`` command is the equivalent of ``Get-Command $M.Name``.

## RELATED LINKS

Online

Version:

[https://learn.microsoft.com/powershell/module/microsoft.powershell.utility/import-pssession?view=powershell-5.1&WT.mc\\_id=ps-gethelp](https://learn.microsoft.com/powershell/module/microsoft.powershell.utility/import-pssession?view=powershell-5.1&WT.mc_id=ps-gethelp)

Export-PSSession