



### ***Windows PowerShell Get-Help on Cmdlet 'Rename-Item'***

***PS:\>Get-HELP Rename-Item -Full***

#### **NAME**

Rename-Item

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Renames an item in a PowerShell provider namespace.

#### **SYNTAX**

```
Rename-Item [-NewName] <System.String> [-Credential <System.Management.Automation.PSCredential>] [-Force]
-LiteralPath <System.String> [-PassThru] [-UseTransaction]
[-Confirm] [-WhatIf] [<CommonParameters>]

Rename-Item [-Path] <System.String> [-NewName] <System.String> [-Credential
<System.Management.Automation.PSCredential>] [-Force] [-PassThru] [-UseTransaction]
[-Confirm] [-WhatIf] [<CommonParameters>]
```

#### **DESCRIPTION**

The `Rename-Item` cmdlet changes the name of a specified item. This cmdlet does not affect the content of the item being renamed.

You can't use `Rename-Item` to move an item, such as by specifying a path together with the new name. To move and rename an item, use the `Move-Item` cmdlet.

## PARAMETERS

`-Credential <System.Management.Automation.PSCredential>`

> [!NOTE] > This parameter is not supported by any providers installed with PowerShell. To impersonate another user, or elevate your credentials when running this cmdlet, use `Invoke-Command` ([../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/Invoke-Command.md](#)).

Required? false

Position? named

Default value Current user

Accept pipeline input? True (ByPropertyName)

Accept wildcard characters? false

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

Forces the cmdlet to rename items that can't otherwise be changed, such as hidden or read-only files or read-only aliases or variables. The cmdlet can't change constant aliases or variables. Implementation varies from provider to provider. For more information, see [about\\_Providers](#) ([../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/About/about\\_Providers.md](#)).

Even using the Force parameter, the cmdlet can't override security restrictions.

Required? false

Position? named

Default value False

Accept pipeline input? False

Accept wildcard characters? false

`-LiteralPath <System.String>`

Specifies a path to one or more locations. The value of LiteralPath is used exactly as it is typed. No characters are interpreted as wildcards. If the path

includes escape characters, enclose it in single quotation marks. Single quotation marks tell PowerShell not to interpret any characters as escape sequences.

For more information, see [about\\_Quoting\\_Rules](#) (../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/About/about\_Quoting\_Rules.md).

Required?	true
Position?	named
Default value	None
Accept pipeline input?	True (ByPropertyName)
Accept wildcard characters?	false

**-NewName <System.String>**

Specifies the new name of the item. Enter only a name, not a path and name. If you enter a path that differs from the path that is specified in the Path

parameter, ``Rename-Item`` generates an error. To rename and move an item, use ``Move-Item``.

You can't use wildcard characters in the value of the NewName parameter. To specify a name for multiple files, use the Replace operator in a regular expression.

For more information about the Replace operator, see [about\\_Comparison\\_Operators](#) (../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/About/about\_Comparison\_Operators.md).

Required?	true
Position?	1
Default value	None
Accept pipeline input?	True (ByPropertyName)
Accept wildcard characters?	false

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

Returns an object that represents the item to the pipeline. By default, this cmdlet does not generate any output.

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

**-Path <System.String>**

Specifies the path of the item to rename.

Required?                true  
Position?                0  
Default value            None  
Accept pipeline input?    True (ByPropertyName, ByValue)  
Accept wildcard characters? false

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

Includes the command in the active transaction. This parameter is valid only when a transaction is in progress. For more information, see [about\\_Transactions](#)

(../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/About/about\_Transactions.md).

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

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

Prompts you for confirmation before running the cmdlet.

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

#### -WhatIf <System.Management.Automation.SwitchParameter>

Shows what would happen if the cmdlet runs. The cmdlet is not run.

Required? false

Position? named

Default value False

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

System.String

You can pipe a string that contains a path to this cmdlet.

#### OUTPUTS

None

By default, this cmdlet returns no output.

System.Management.Automation.PSObject

When you use the PassThru parameter, this cmdlet returns an object representing the renamed item.

#### NOTES

- `ren`

- `rni`

`Rename-Item` is designed to work with the data exposed by any provider. To list the providers available in your session, type `Get-PsProvider`. For more

information, see [about\\_Providers](#) (../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/About/about\_Providers.md).

----- Example 1: Rename a file -----

```
Rename-Item -Path "c:\logfiles\daily_file.txt" -NewName "monday_file.txt"
```

----- Example 2: Rename and move an item -----

```
Rename-Item -Path "project.txt" -NewName "d:\archive\old-project.txt"
```

Rename-Item : can't rename because the target specified represents a path or device name.

At line:1 char:12

```
+ Rename-Item <<<< -path project.txt -NewName d:\archive\old-project.txt
```

```
+ CategoryInfo          : InvalidArgument: (:) [Rename-Item], PS> Move-Item -Path "project.txt" -Destination "d:\archive\old-project.txt"
```

This example attempts to rename the `project.txt` file in the current directory to `old-project.txt` in the `D:\Archive` directory. The result is the error shown in the output.

Use the `Move-Item` cmdlet, instead.

----- Example 3: Rename a registry key -----

Rename-Item -Path "HKLM:\Software\MyCompany\Advertising" -NewName "Marketing"

----- Example 4: Rename multiple files -----

Get-ChildItem \*.txt

Directory: C:\temp\files

Mode	LastWriteTime	Length	Name
----	-----	-----	----
-a----	10/3/2019 7:47 AM	2918	Friday.TXT
-a----	10/3/2019 7:46 AM	2918	Monday.Txt
-a----	10/3/2019 7:47 AM	2918	Wednesday.txt

Get-ChildItem \*.txt | Rename-Item -NewName { \$\_.Name -replace '.txt','log' }

Get-ChildItem \*.log

Directory: C:\temp\files

Mode	LastWriteTime	Length	Name
----	-----	-----	----
-a----	10/3/2019 7:47 AM	2918	Friday.log
-a----	10/3/2019 7:46 AM	2918	Monday.log
-a----	10/3/2019 7:47 AM	2918	Wednesday.log

The `Get-ChildItem` cmdlet gets all the files in the current folder that have a `.txt` file extension then pipes them to `Rename-Item`. The value of NewName is a script block that runs before the value is submitted to the NewName parameter.

In the script block, the `\$\_` automatic variable represents each file object as it comes to the command through the pipeline. The script block uses the `-replace`

operator to replace the file extension of each file with `.log`. Notice that matching using the `-replace` operator is not case

sensitive.

## RELATED LINKS

Online

Version:

[https://learn.microsoft.com/powershell/module/microsoft.powershell.management/rename-item?view=powershell-5.1&WT.m](https://learn.microsoft.com/powershell/module/microsoft.powershell.management/rename-item?view=powershell-5.1&WT.mc_id=ps-gethelp)

[c\\_id=ps-gethelp](#)

[Clear-Item](#)

[Copy-Item](#)

[Get-ChildItem](#)

[Get-Item](#)

[Invoke-Item](#)

[Move-Item](#)

[New-Item](#)

[Remove-Item](#)

[Rename-ItemProperty](#)

[Set-Item](#)

[about\\_Providers](#)