



Windows PowerShell Get-Help on Cmdlet 'Unblock-File'

PS:\>Get-HELP Unblock-File -Full

NAME

Unblock-File

SYNOPSIS

Unblocks files that were downloaded from the internet.

SYNTAX

Unblock-File -LiteralPath <System.String[]> [-Confirm] [-WhatIf] [<CommonParameters>]

Unblock-File [-Path] <System.String[]> [-Confirm] [-WhatIf] [<CommonParameters>]

DESCRIPTION

The `Unblock-File` cmdlet lets you open files that were downloaded from the internet. It unblocks PowerShell script files that were downloaded from the internet so

you can run them, even when the PowerShell execution policy is RemoteSigned . By default, these files are blocked to protect the computer from untrusted files.

Before using the `Unblock-File` cmdlet, review the file and its source and verify that it is safe to open.

Internally, the ``Unblock-File`` cmdlet removes the `Zone.Identifier` alternate data stream, which has a value of ``3`` to indicate that it was downloaded from the internet.

For more information about PowerShell execution policies, see `about_Execution_Policies` (`../Microsoft.PowerShell.Core/about/about_Execution_Policies.md`).

This cmdlet was introduced in Windows PowerShell 3.0.

PARAMETERS

`-LiteralPath <System.String[]>`

Specifies the files to unblock. Unlike `Path`, the value of the `LiteralPath` parameter 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.

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

`-Path <System.String[]>`

Specifies the files to unblock. Wildcard characters are supported.

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

-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 file path to this cmdlet.

OUTPUTS

None

This cmdlet returns no output.

NOTES

- The `Unlock-File` cmdlet works only in file system drives.

- `Unlock-File` performs the same operation as the Unblock button on the Properties dialog box in File Explorer. - If you use the `Unlock-File` cmdlet on a

file that is not blocked, the command has no effect on the unblocked file and the cmdlet does not generate errors.

----- Example 1: Unblock a file -----

```
PS C:\> Unlock-File -Path C:\Users\User01\Documents\Downloads\PowerShellTips.chm
```

----- Example 2: Unblock multiple files -----

```
PS C:\> dir C:\Downloads\*PowerShell* | Unlock-File
```

----- Example 3: Find and unblock scripts -----

```
PS C:\> Get-Item * -Stream "Zone.Identifier" -ErrorAction SilentlyContinue
```

```
FileName: C:\ps-test\Start-ActivityTracker.ps1
```

| Stream | Length |
|--------|--------|
|--------|--------|

| | |
|-------|-------|
| ----- | ----- |
|-------|-------|

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Zone.Identifier | 26 |
|-----------------|----|

```
PS C:\> C:\ps-test\Start-ActivityTracker.ps1
```

```
c:\ps-test\Start-ActivityTracker.ps1 : File c:\ps-test\Start-ActivityTracker.ps1 cannot  
be loaded. The file c:\ps-test\Start-ActivityTracker.ps1 is not digitally signed. The script  
will not execute on the system. For more information, see about_Execution_Policies.
```

At line:1 char:1

+ c:\ps-test\Start-ActivityTracker.ps1

+ ~~~~~

+ CategoryInfo : SecurityError: (:) [], PSSecurityException

+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : UnauthorizedAccess

PS C:\> Get-Item C:\ps-test\Start-ActivityTracker.ps1 | Unblock-File

RELATED LINKS

Online

Version:

https://learn.microsoft.com/powershell/module/microsoft.powershell.utility/unblock-file?view=powershell-5.1&WT.mc_id=ps-gethelp

about_Execution_Policies

Get-Item

Out-File

FileSystem Provider