



Windows PowerShell Get-Help on Cmdlet 'Write-Warning'

PS:\>Get-HELP Write-Warning -Full

NAME

Write-Warning

SYNOPSIS

Writes a warning message.

SYNTAX

Write-Warning [-Message] <System.String> [<CommonParameters>]

DESCRIPTION

The `Write-Warning` cmdlet writes a warning message to the PowerShell host. The response to the warning depends on the value of the user's `\$WarningPreference` variable and the use of the WarningAction common parameter.

PARAMETERS

-Message <System.String>

Specifies the warning message.

Required? true
Position? 0
Default value None
Accept pipeline input? True (ByValue)
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 the warning to this cmdlet.

OUTPUTS

None

This cmdlet returns no output. It writes only to the warning stream.

NOTES

The default value for the ``$WarningPreference`` variable is ``Continue``, which displays the warning and then continues executing the command. To determine valid

values for a preference variable such as ``$WarningPreference``, set it to a string of random characters, such as "abc".

The resulting error message lists the valid

values.

Write-Warning "This is only a test warning."

----- Example 2: Pass a string to Write-Warning -----

```
$w = "This is only a test warning."
```

```
$w | Write-Warning
```

Example 3: Set the \$WarningPreference variable and write a warning

```
PS> $WarningPreference
```

```
Continue
```

```
PS> Write-Warning "This is only a test warning."
```

```
This is only a test warning.
```

```
PS> $WarningPreference = "SilentlyContinue"
```

```
PS> Write-Warning "This is only a test warning."
```

```
PS> $WarningPreference = "Stop"
```

```
PS> Write-Warning "This is only a test warning."
```

```
WARNING: This is only a test warning.
```

```
Write-Warning : Command execution stopped because the shell variable "WarningPreference" is set to Stop.
```

```
At line:1 char:14
```

```
+ Write-Warning <<<< "This is only a test warning."
```

The first command displays the default value of the `$WarningPreference` variable, which is `Continue`. As a result, when you write a warning, the warning message is displayed and execution continues.

When you change the value of the `$WarningPreference` variable, the effect of the `Write-Warning` command changes again. A value of `SilentlyContinue` suppresses the warning. A value of `Stop` displays the warning and then stops execution of the command.

For more information about the ``$WarningPreference`` variable, see `about_Preference_Variables` (`../Microsoft.Powershell.Core/About/about_Preference_Variables.md`).

Example 4: Set the `WarningAction` parameter and write a warning

```
PS> Write-Warning "This is only a test warning." -WarningAction Inquire
```

```
WARNING: This is only a test warning.
```

```
Confirm
```

```
Continue with this operation?
```

```
[Y] Yes [A] Yes to All [H] Halt Command [S] Suspend [?] Help (default is "Y"):
```

This command uses the ``Write-Warning`` cmdlet to display a warning. The `WarningAction` common parameter with a value of `Inquire` directs the system to prompt the user

when the command displays a warning.

For more information about the `WarningAction` common parameter, see `about_CommonParameters` (`../Microsoft.Powershell.Core/About/about_CommonParameters.md`).

RELATED LINKS

Online

Version:

https://learn.microsoft.com/powershell/module/microsoft.powershell.utility/write-warning?view=powershell-5.1&WT.mc_id=ps

`-gethelp`

`about_Output_Streams`

`about_Redirection`

`Write-Debug`

`Write-Error`

`Write-Host`

`Write-Information`

`Write-Output`

`Write-Progress`

`Write-Verbose`