

Re: [PS] – Help with becoming better

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.scripting/2006-05/msg00466.html>

- *From:* ebgreen <ebgreen@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 11 May 2006 12:28:02 -0700
-

Aah...those are the parameters you were refering to. Thanks again, I'll see if I can't manage to mangle it sufficiently. :)

"Andrew Watt [MVP]" wrote:

Hi,

I did say that the next step was handling parameters.

It should work with
gps | ft

I didn't take it to handling parameters, as I indicated.

Andrew Watt MVP

On Thu, 11 May 2006 11:29:02 -0700, ebgreen
<ebgreen@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Thanks for the input Andrew. I will spend some time looking over.
Unfortunately it doesn't seem to work for me. Here are some examples of the
problems that I have with it:

If I give it ps for input, then I get back Get-Process which is of course
correct. If however I give it ps | ft * then I get back:

Get-Process |

When I would expect to get back:

Get-Process | Format-Table *

"Andrew Watt [MVP]" wrote:

Hi,

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I think this does pretty much the same as your script. It feels a bit more "Powershelly" to me. :)

Save the following as a script
#Script begins

```
function global:expand-aliases{
$aliases = (read-host "Enter a command").Split("|")
for ($i=0; $i -lt $aliases.length; $i++){
$aliases[$i] = $aliases[$i].Trim(" ")
$aliases[$i] = $(get-alias $aliases[$i]).definition
} # end of for loop

$output = ""
for ($i=0; $i -lt ($aliases.length-1); $i++)
{
$output += $aliases[$i]
$output += " | "
} # end of for loop
$output += $aliases[($aliases.length-1)]

write-host $output

}
```

#Script ends

Run
expand-aliases
from the command line after running the script.

I have left cmdlet names fully expanded, aiming for clarity rather than brevity. Hopefully you should be able to figure it out.

Now the next step would be figuring out how to handle the parameters.
:)

Andrew Watt MVP

On Thu, 11 May 2006 09:06:02 -0700, ebgreen
<ebgreen@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Ok, so I am exploring the Power Shell and trying to become more efficient. I can tell that I still think too much like a VBScripter (for one thing having

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to put functions at the top of the file still annoys me). I do a lot of my exploration at the command line and when I do I rely heavily on aliases. When I write an actual script however, I would rather avoid the use of aliases as a matter of habit to avoid misunderstandings when I or someone else reads the code in 2 years and the aliases have changed by then. I know that the cmdlet names could just have easily changed by then, but bear with me this is my story not yours. :P Anyway to this end I wanted to create a function that would expand the aliases in a string that I hand it. I have put the below functions in my profile and it does what I want. What I am looking for here is love, understanding, and for you to admit how yo...err I mean I would like some constructive input on how I can make this more Power Shelly. I am sure that it is not what someone that knows the shell well would have written. If nothing else, it feels to me as if I'm just not getting all of the new capabilities available to me. Thanks in advance for any help and input that you can give me. Here is the code along with what it will do:

```
function Check-Word {
    Param ([String]$word )
    $result = $word | Get-Alias -ErrorAction SilentlyContinue
    if ($result.Name -ne $nul) {
        return $result.Definition + ' '
    }
    else{
        return "$word "
    }
}
```

```
function Check-Pipe {
    Param ([String]$pipe )
    $out = ""
    ForEach ($word in $pipe.Split(" ")){
        $out += Check-Word($word)
    }
    return $out.Trim()
}
```

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```
function Expand-Alias {  
    Param ([String]$command = (read-host  
        "Enter the command" )  
    $pipes = $command.Split("|")  
    [string[]]$out = @()  
    ForEach ($item in $pipes){  
        $out += Check-Pipe($item)  
    }  
    [string]::Join(" | ", $out)  
}
```

```
PS(6)wps:\>Expand-Alias "ps | ft *"  
Get-Process | Format-Table *
```

I realize that it is not foolproof and that it can be tripped up but for the time being it is "good enough" for me.