

# Shortcut File Written or Modified for Persistence | Elastic Security

## [7.17]

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### Shortcut File Written or Modified for Persistence

[edit](#)

Identifies files written to or modified in the startup folder by commonly abused processes. Adversaries may use this technique to maintain persistence.

**Rule type:** eql

**Rule indices:**

- winlogbeat-\*
- logs-endpoint.events.\*
- logs-windows.\*

**Severity:** medium

**Risk score:** 47

**Runs every:** 5 minutes

**Searches indices from:** now-9m ([Date Math format](#), see also [Additional look-back time](#) )

**Maximum alerts per execution:** 100

**Tags:**

- Elastic
- Host
- Windows
- Threat Detection
- Persistence

**Version:** 3 ([version history](#))

**Added (Elastic Stack release):** 7.11.0

**Last modified (Elastic Stack release):** 7.12.0

**Rule authors:** Elastic

**Rule license:** Elastic License v2

```
file where event.type != "deletion" and user.domain != "NT
AUTHORITY" and file.path :
("C:\\Users\\*\\AppData\\Roaming\\Microsoft\\Windows\\Start
Menu\\Programs\\Startup\\*",
"C:\\ProgramData\\Microsoft\\Windows\\Start
Menu\\Programs\\StartUp\\*") and process.name : ("cmd.exe",
"powershell.exe", "wmic.exe",
"mshta.exe", "pwsh.exe",
"cscript.exe", "wscript.exe",
"regsvr32.exe", "RegAsm.exe",
"rundll32.exe", "EQNEDT32.EXE",
"WINWORD.EXE", "EXCEL.EXE",
"POWERPNT.EXE", "MSPUB.EXE",
"MSACCESS.EXE", "iexplore.exe",
"InstallUtil.exe")
```

**Framework:** MITRE ATT&CK™

- Tactic:
  - Name: Persistence
  - ID: TA0003
  - Reference URL: <https://attack.mitre.org/tactics/TA0003/>
  
- Technique:
  - Name: Boot or Logon Autostart Execution
  - ID: T1547
  - Reference URL: <https://attack.mitre.org/techniques/T1547/>

Version 3 (7.12.0 release)

- Formatting only

Version 2 (7.11.2 release)

- Formatting only

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Source: <https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/security/7.17/shortcut-file-written-or-modified-for-persistence.html#shortcut-file-written-or-modified-for-persistence>