

# nltest - Windows CMD - SS64

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## NLTEST.exe

Network Location Test - List domain controllers(DCs), Force a remote shutdown, Query the status of trust, test trust relationships and the state of domain controller replication.

### Syntax

```
NLTEST [/server:servername] [operation[parameter]]
```

### Key

*/server:ServerName*

Run nltest at a remote domain controller: *ServerName*.  
default = the local computer (a domain controller).

*/dbflag:HexadecimalFlags*

Set a new debug flag.

The entry in the Windows Server [registry for debug flags](#) is

HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Netlogon\Parameters\DBFlag.

A value of 0x2080FFFF (decimal 545325055) for *HexadecimalFlags* will enable verbose Netlogon logging.

A value of 0x0 (decimal 0) or deleting the registry key, will disable Netlogon logging.

*/cDigest:Message /domain:DomainName*

Display the current digest that the client uses for the secure channel.

(The digest is the calculation that nltest derives from the password.)

This parameter displays the digest that is based on the previous password, also. Nltest uses the secure channel for logons between client computers and a domain controller, or for directory service replication between domain controllers. You can use this parameter in conjunction with the */sdigest* parameter to check the synchronization of trust account passwords.

*/sDigest:Message /rid:RID\_In\_Hexadecimal*

Display the current digest that the server uses for the secure channel.

(The digest is the calculation that nltest derives from the password.)

This parameter displays the digest for the previous password, also. If the digest from the server matches the digest from the client, then nltest synchronizes the passwords that it uses for the secure channel. If the digests do not match, then nltest might not have replicated the passwords.

the password change yet.

`/dclist:[DomainName]`

List all DCs in the domain.

This command first queries Active Directory for a list of DCs.

If this query is unsuccessful, nltest then uses the Browser service (if netbios is enabled).

`/dcname:[DomainName]`

List the primary domain controller or the PDC emulator for DomainName.

`/domain_trusts [/Primary | /Forest | /Direct_Out | /Direct_In | /All_Trusts | /v]`

Return a list of trusted domains.

Optional Flags to filter the list of domains:

`/Primary` Return only the domain to which the computer account belongs.

`/Forest` Return only those domains that are in the same forest as the primary domain.

`/Direct_Out` Return only the domains that are explicitly trusted with the primary domain.

`/Direct_In` Return only the domains that explicitly trust the primary domain.

`/All_Trusts` Return all trusted domains.

`/v` Display verbose output, including any domain SIDs and GUIDs that are available.

`/dnsgetdc:DomainName`

Query the DNS server for a list of domain controllers and their corresponding IP addresses. You can use the following values that you can use to filter the list of DCs:

`/PDC` Return only those DCs that are PDCs (NT 4.0) or designated as PDC emulators.

`/GC` Return only those DCs that you designate as global catalogs.

`/KDC` Return only those DCs that you designate as Kerberos key distribution centers.

`/WRITABLE` Return only those DCs that can accept changes to the directory database.

This value returns all Active Directory DCs, but not Windows NT 4.0 BDCs.

`/LDAPONLY` Return servers that are running a Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) service. The servers can include LDAP servers that are not DCs.

`/FORCE` Run the command against the DNS server instead of looking in cache.

`/SITE Sitename` Sort to list first the records that pertain to Sitename.

`/SITESPEC` Filter the returned records to display only Sitename, used only with /SITE.

`/DSAddressToSite:MachineName`

Call DsAddressToSiteNamesEx

`/DSgetdc:[DomainName]`

Query the Domain Name System (DNS) server for a list of DCs and their IP addresses. This parameter also contacts each domain controller to check for connectivity.

The following case sensitive flags can be used to filter the list of DCs or specify alternate names types in the syntax.

`/PDC` : Return only the PDC or domain controllers designated as the PDC emulator.

`/DS` : Return only those DCs that are Windows 2000 and later.

/DSP : Return only Windows 2000 and later DCs. If the query finds no such server, then return Windows NT 4.0 DCs.

/GC : Return only those DCs that are designated as global catalog servers.

/KDC : Return only those DCs that are designated as Kerberos key distribution centers.

/TIMESERV : Return only those DCs that are designated as time servers.

/GTTIMESERV : Return only DCs designated as master time servers.

/WS

/NetBIOS : Specify computer names in the syntax as NetBIOS names.

/DNS : Specify computer names in the syntax as fully qualified domain names (FQDNs).  
If you do not specify a return format, the DC can return either NetBIOS or DNS format.

/IP : Return only DCs that have IP addresses. i.e. return only TCP/IP DCs.

/FORCE : Force the computer to run the command against the DNS server instead of looking in the cache for the information.

/Writable : Require that the returned DC be writable; All Windows 2000 DCs are writable.

/Avoidself : When called from a DC, specifies that the returned DC name should not be the current computer. If the current computer is not a DC, this flag is ignored.  
This flag can be used to obtain the name of another DC in the domain.

/LDAPOnly : Specifies that the server returned is an LDAP server. The server returned is not necessarily a DC. This flag can be used with the DS\_GC\_SERVER\_REQUIRED flag to return an LDAP server that also hosts a global catalog server.  
If this flag is specified, the DS\_PDC\_REQUIRED, DS\_TIMESERV\_REQUIRED, DS\_GOOD\_TIMESERV\_PREFERRED, DS\_DIRECTORY\_SERVICES\_PREFERRED, DS\_DIRECTORY\_SERVICES\_REQUIRED, and DS\_KDC\_REQUIRED flags are ignored.

/Backg : If the DS\_FORCE\_REDISCOVERY flag is not specified, this function uses cached DC information.  
If the cached data is more than 15 minutes old, the cache is refreshed by pinging the DC. If this flag is specified, this refresh is avoided even if the cached data is expired. This flag should be used if the DsGetDcName function is called periodically.

/DS\_6 : Require that the returned DC be running Windows Server 2008 or later.

/DS\_8 : Require that the returned domain controller be running Windows Server 2012 or later.

/Try\_Next\_Closest\_Site : When this flag is specified, DsGetDcName attempts to find a DC at the same site as the caller.

/Ret\_DNS : Specifies that the names returned in the DomainControllerName and DomainName properties of DomainControllerInfo should be DNS names.

/Ret\_NETBIOS : Specifies that the names returned in the DomainControllerName and DomainName

of DomainControllerInfo should be flat names.

`/DSgetsite`

Return the name of the site in which the DC resides.

`/DSgetsitecov`

Return the name of the site that the DC covers. A DC can cover a site that has no local DC of its own.

`/DSgetfti:DomainName[ /UpdateTDO]`

Return information about interforest trusts. You use this parameter only for a Windows Server domain controller that is in the root of the forest. If no interforest trusts exist, this returns an error. The `/UpdateTDO` value updates the locally stored information on the interforest trusts.

`/DSquerydns`

Query for the status of the last update for all DNS records that are specific to a DC.

`/DSregdns`

Refresh the registration of all DNS records that are specific to a DC that you specify.

`/DSderegdns:DnsHostName`

Deregister DNS host records for the host that you specify in the `DnsHostName` parameter. The following values you can use to specify which records nltest deregisters:

`/DOM` Specify a DNS domain name for the host to use when you search for records on the domain. If you do not specify this value, nltest uses the DNS domain name as the suffix for the `DnsHostName` parameter.

`/DSAGUID` Delete Directory System Agent (DSA) records that are based on a GUID.

`/DOMGUID` Delete DNS records that are based on a globally unique identifier (GUID).

`/finduser:User`

Find the directly-trusted domain that the user account `User` belongs to.

Use this parameter to troubleshoot logon issues of older client Operating Systems.

`/list_deltas:FileName`

Display the contents of the `FileName` change log file, which lists changes to the user account database. `Netlogon.chg` is the default name for this log file, which resides only on Windows Server.

`/logon_query`

Query the cumulative number of NTLM logon attempts at a console or over a network.

`/LSAGETFTI:DomainName`

Call `DsGetForestTrustInformation`

`/UPDATE_TDQ`

`/LSAQUERYFTI:DomainName`

Call `LsaQueryForestTrustInformation`

`/ParentDomain`

Return the name of the parent domain of the server.

`/query`

Report on the state of the secure channel the last time you used it.  
(The secure channel is the one that the NetLogon service established.)

`/repl`

Force synchronization with the primary domain controller (PDC).  
NT 4.0 BDCs only, not for Active Directory replication.

`/sc_query:DomainName`

Report on the state of the secure channel the last time that you used it.  
(The secure channel is the one that the NetLogon service established.)  
This parameter lists the name of the domain controller that you queried on the secure channel, also.

`/sc_reset:[DomainName]`

Remove, and then rebuild, the secure channel that the NetLogon service established.  
You must have administrative credentials to use this parameter.

`/sc_verify:[DomainName]`

Check the status of the secure channel that the NetLogon service established.  
If the secure channel does not work, this parameter removes the existing channel, and then builds a new one. You must have administrative credentials to use this parameter.

`/sc_change_pwd:[DomainName]`

Change the password for the trust account of a domain that you specify.  
If you run nltest on a domain controller, and an explicit trust relationship exists, then nltest resets the password for the interdomain trust account.  
Otherwise, nltest changes the computer account password for the domain that you specify.

`/bdc_query:DomainName`

Query for a list of BDCs in *DomainName*, and then display their state of synchronization and replication status. You can use this parameter only for Windows NT 4.0 domain contro

`/sim_sync:DomainName ServerName`

Simulate full synchronization replication. This is a useful parameter for test environme

`/sync`

Force an immediate synchronization with the PDC of the entire SAM database.  
NT 4.0 BDCs only, not for Active Directory replication.

`/pdc_repl`

Force the PDC to send a synchronization notification to all BDCs.  
NT 4.0 PDCs only, not for Active Directory replication.

`/shutdown:Reason [Seconds]`

Remotely shut down the server that you specify in *ServerName*.  
Use a string to specify the reason for the shutdown in the Reason value.

Use an integer value of *Seconds* before the shutdown will occur.  
(see *InitiateSystemShutdown* in the Platform SDK documentation.)

`/shutdown_abort`

Terminate a system shutdown.

`/time:HexadecimalLSL HexadecimalMSL`

Convert Windows NT Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) time to ASCII. *HexadecimalLSL* is a hex value for least significant longword. *HexadecimalMSL* is a hexa value for most significant longword.

`/transport_notify` Force the discovery of a domain controller. Windows NT 4.0 domain controllers are discovered automatically for later DCs.

`/user:UserName`

Display many of the attributes that you maintain in the SAM account database for the user you specify. You cannot use this parameter for user accounts that are stored in an AD database.

`/whowill:Domain/ User`

Find the DC that has the user account that you specify. Use this parameter to determine whether nltest has replicated the account information to other DCs.

`{/help | /?}` Display help at the command prompt.

If nltest does not appear to be available, enable the *Active Directory Domain Services* or the *AD LDS server* role.

## Examples

Verify domain controllers in a domain:

```
Nltest /dclist:ss64dom
```

Show detailed information about a specific user:

```
Nltest /user:"user64"
```

Enable debug logging for the Netlogon service:

```
Nltest /DBFlag:2080FFFF
```

Disable debug logging for the Netlogon service:

```
Nltest /DBFlag:0x0
```

Verify trust relationship with a specific server:

```
nltest /server:ss64-DC01 /sc_query:ss64dom
```

```
lags: 30 HAS_IP HAS_TIMESERV
```

```
Trusted DC Name \\ss64-DC01.ss64.com
```

Trusted DC Connection Status Status = 0 0x0 NERR\_Success

The command completed successfully

“..If it disagrees with experiment it is wrong. In that simple statement is the key to science. It does not make any difference how beautiful your guess is. It does not make any difference how smart you are, who made the guess, or what his name is – if it disagrees with experiment it is wrong” ~ [Richard Feynman](#)

## Related commands

[RepAdmin](#) - Diagnose Active Directory replication problems between domain controllers.

[DcDiag](#) - Analyze the state of domain controllers and report any problems.

DsMgt - Manage password operations over unsecured connections, AD Lightweight Directory Services application partitions, flexible single master operations (FSMO), and clean up AD metadata.

[SetSpn](#) - Read, modify, or delete the Service Principal Names (SPN) for an Active Directory service account.

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