

Retrieving a Specific Item

The `Get-Item` cmdlet makes it easy to retrieve a specific item (such as a file, a folder, or a registry key). Why would you want to do that? Well, for one thing, it makes it very easy to retrieve the properties of those items. For example, suppose you'd like to know the last time someone accessed the `C:\scripts` folder. Here's a command that will retrieve that information:

```
[crayon-6a9d576537c9f517097888/]
```

In essence, we're using `Get-Item` to create an object reference to `C:\Scripts`. That's the reason for the unusual syntax: the command itself – `Get-Item c:\scripts` – is enclosed in parentheses, with a `$` pasted on front. The property we're interested in is then tacked on using standard dot notation (`object.property`). Want to know the number of subkeys found in `HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software`? Here you go:

```
[crayon-6a9d576537ca5119487302/]
```

Good question: how did we know that `SubkeyCount` was a property of a registry key? Well, to tell you the truth, we didn't. But that's another good use for `Get-Item`: we simply used `Get-Item` to return an object representing `HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software` and then piped that object to the `Get-Member` cmdlet:

```
[crayon-6a9d576537ca7068383703/]
```