Implementing conditional logic in PowerShell



Andrew Mallett

Author and software developer



Course introduction

Moving from commands to scripts



Scripts

Scripts are just text files that hold a series of commands that can be executed as a batch. This makes reuse of your hard work easy.

IDE

```
winget search vscode
winget install Microsoft.VisualStudioCode
code .
```

Text files can be created and edited with any text editor, but an IDE, or integrated development environment, simplifies the process. Microsoft's Visual Studio Code is a free option that is simple to install.



Demo

Installing VS Code

For FREE



Why use an IDE?

IntelliSense, helps with typing your code.

Simple script

```
if ($args[0]) {
        $message = $args[0]
}
else {
        $message = "World"
}
Write-Host "Hello $message"
```

We have seen an if statement, so let's extend it to include an else statement



Demo

Your first script

(Optional) Describe your demo on one line here



Making it useful

Whilst a "hello world" script is often a starting point it has little use. Let's revisit the system information we gathered before.

Putting it all together

```
if ($args[0]) { $file = $args[0] } else { $file = "test.log"}
Clear-Content $file -ErrorAction SilentlyContinue
Add-Content $file -Value "User: $env:USERNAME"
Add-Content $file -Value "Computer: $env:COMPUTERNAME"
$ip = (Get-NetIPAddress -AddressFamily IPv4 |
       Where-Object {$_.IPAddress -notlike "127.*"} |
       Select-Object -First 1).IPAddress
Add-Content $file -Value "IP: $ip"
Get-Content $file
```

Our script can finally come together



Demo

Conditional logic making scripts work