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MCSA 70-410
Installing and Configuring Windows Server® 2012 R2

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MCSA 70-410 Cert Guide: Installing and Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2

Don Poulton
David Camardella
## Contents at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHAPTER</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introducing Windows Server 2012 R2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Installing and Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2 Local Storage</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Configuring Access to Files and Shares</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Configuring and Monitoring Print and Document Services</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Configuring Remote Management of Servers</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Configuring Hyper-V</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Creating and Configuring Virtual Machine Storage</td>
<td>324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Creating and Configuring Virtual Networks</td>
<td>376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Configuring IPv4 and IPv6 Addressing</td>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Configuring Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol</td>
<td>476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Deploying and Configuring Domain Name System</td>
<td>522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Installing Domain Controllers</td>
<td>566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Active Directory User and Computer Accounts</td>
<td>638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Active Directory Groups and Organizational Units</td>
<td>670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Creating and Applying Group Policy Objects</td>
<td>708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Configuring Security Policies</td>
<td>752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Configuring Application Restriction Policies</td>
<td>784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Configuring Windows Firewall</td>
<td>810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practice Exam 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Answers to Practice Exam 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPENDIX A</td>
<td>Answers to the ‘Do I Know This Already?’ Quizzes</td>
<td>902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glossary</td>
<td></td>
<td>934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index</td>
<td></td>
<td>954</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**On the CD:**

- Practice Exam 2
- Answers to Practice Exam 2

**APPENDIX B**

- Memory Tables

**APPENDIX C**

- Memory Tables Answer Key
This page intentionally left blank
Table of Contents

About the Authors  xxi
Dedication  xxiii
Acknowledgments  xxiii
Reader Services  xxv
Introduction  xxvii

Chapter 1  Introducing Windows Server 2012 R2  2

“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz  4
Foundation Topics  8
What’s New in Windows Server 2012 and Windows Server 2012 R2  8
  What’s New in Windows Server 2012 R2  12
  Windows Server 2012 R2 Editions  14
  Windows Server 2012 R2 User Interface  15
  Server Manager  18
  Adding Roles and Features  21
Planning for Server Installation and Upgrades  23
  Identifying Hardware Requirements  23
  Choosing an Install Method  23
  Considering Upgrades  24
Server Roles and Role Migration  26
  Windows Server 2012 R2 Server Roles  26
  Role Migration  30
Features on Demand  31
Exam Preparation Tasks  32
Review All the Key Topics  32
Complete the Tables and Lists from Memory  33
Definitions of Key Terms  33

Chapter 2  Installing and Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2  34

“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz  35
Foundation Topics  40
Windows Server 2012 R2 Hardware Requirements  40
Installing Windows Server 2012 R2  41
Installing a Windows Server Core Computer 42
Installing the Full GUI Server 48
Upgrading a Windows Server 2008 Computer 49
Converting Between Core and GUI 50
Delegation of Server Administration 51
Preparing for a Delegation Model 52
Establishing Delegate Access 53
Leveraging Active Directory 54
Identifying Administration Tools 55
Windows PowerShell Desired State Configuration 56
Configuring Offline Server Images 59
Deployment Image Servicing and Management 60
Using DISM to Enable Remote Desktop Services 62
Configuring Remote Server Roles 65
Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2 Services 68
Services.msc 69
SC Commands 71
Configuring NIC Teaming 72
Configure NIC Teaming via GUI 73
Configure Basic NIC Teaming via PowerShell 75
Exam Preparation Tasks 76
Review All the Key Topics 76
Complete the Tables and Lists from Memory 77
Definitions of Key Terms 77

Chapter 3 Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2 Local Storage 78

“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz 79
Foundation Topics 83
Designing Storage Spaces 83
Optimal Storage Allocation 83
Improved Administrative Control 84
Scalability 84
High Availability 85
Configuring Basic and Dynamic Disks 86
Configuring MBR and GPT Disks 88
Managing Volumes 89
Converting Disks  94
RAID Volumes  96
  Creating a RAID 0 Volume  97
  Creating a Spanned Volume  99
  Creating a Mirrored Volume  99
  Creating a RAID-5 Volume  99
Creating and Mounting Virtual Hard Disks  101
Creating VHDs  102
  Mounting VHDs  103
Configuring Storage Pools and Disk Pools  105
  Creating Storage Spaces  110
  Creating and Managing Volumes  115
  Using PowerShell  117
Exam Preparation Tasks  118
Review All the Key Topics  118
Complete the Tables and Lists from Memory  119
Definitions of Key Terms  119

Chapter 4 Configuring Access to Files and Shares  120
“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz  121
Foundation Topics  127
  Shared Folders in Windows Server 2012 R2  127
    Understanding the File and Storage Services Role in Windows Server 2012 R2  127
    Creating a Shared Folder  130
Offline Files  144
  Configuring Servers for Offline Files  145
  Configuring Client Computers  147
  Configuring Offline File Policies  147
  Using the Always Offline Mode  149
  Configuring Transparent Caching of Offline Files  151
Creating and Configuring Work Folders  152
  Enabling and Configuring Work Folders  154
  Configuring Client Computers for Work Folders  159
NTFS Permissions  161
  NTFS File and Folder Permissions  161
Effective Permissions 171
Copy and Moving Files and Folders 173
Practical Guidelines on Sharing and Securing Folders 175
Access-Based Enumeration of Files and Folders 176
Configuring Volume Shadow Copy Service 178
Configuring Shadow Copies of Shared Folders 179
Guidelines for Using VSS 182
Configuring NTFS Quotas 182
Using File Explorer to Enable Disk Quotas 183
Using FSRM to Create Quota Templates 186
Some Guidelines for Using Quotas 188
Exam Preparation Tasks 189
Review All the Key Topics 189
Complete the Tables and Lists from Memory 191
Definitions of Key Terms 191

Chapter 5 Configuring and Monitoring Print and Document Services 192

“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz 193
Foundation Topics 199
Printing Terminology in Windows Server 2012 R2 199
The Printing Process 200
New Features of Print and Document Services in Windows Server 2012 R2 202
Installing, Sharing, and Publishing Printers 204
Installing the Print and Document Services Role 204
Installing Printers 208
Sharing Printers 212
Publishing Printers in Active Directory 213
Using Group Policy to Deploy Printer Connections 215
Branch Office Direct Printing 216
Configuring Drivers Including the Easy Print Driver 218
Printer Driver Challenges 218
Easy Print Driver 220
Managing and Troubleshooting Printers 221
Using the Printer Properties Dialog box 222
Migrating Print Queues and Printer Settings 228
Isolating Printer Drivers 230
Configuring Location-Aware Printer Settings 231
Delegating Print Management 232
Troubleshooting Printer Problems 234

Exam Preparation Tasks 237
Review All the Key Topics 237
Complete the Tables and Lists from Memory 238
Definitions of Key Terms 238

Chapter 6 Configuring Remote Management of Servers 240
“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz 241
Foundation Topics 245
Configuring WinRM 245
  Installation and Configuration of WinRM 245
  Windows Remote Shell 247
Configuring Down-level Server Management 248
  Preparing Down-level Server Core Installations 249
Configuring Multiple Server Management 249
  Using Server Manager for Remote Management 249
Remote Management of Server Core Machines 258
  Remote Server Administration Tools 258
  Microsoft Management Console 260
  Windows PowerShell 267
Configuring Daily Management Tasks 270
  Task Scheduler 270
  Active Directory Administrative Center 276
Exam Preparation Tasks 277
Review All the Key Topics 277
Complete the Tables and Lists from Memory 278
Definitions of Key Terms 278

Chapter 7 Configuring Hyper-V 280
“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz 281
Foundation Topics 285
Introduction to Hyper-V 285
  What's New in Hyper-V Server 286
  Installing the Hyper-V Server Role 288
Chapter 8  Creating and Configuring Virtual Machine Storage  324

“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz  325

Foundation Topics  329

Creating and Configuring Virtual Hard Disks and Differencing Drives  329
  Fixed-Size Disks  329
  Dynamically Expanding Disks  334
  Differencing Disks  335
  Virtual Hard Disk Management  344
  Hard Disk Sharing  355
  Storage Quality of Service  355
  Importing, Exporting, Migrating, and Replicating Virtual Machines  356

Configuring Pass-Through Disks  364

Managing Checkpoints  367
  Creating and Reverting to a Previous Checkpoint  368
  Managing Multiple Checkpoints  369

Implementing Virtual Fibre Channel Adapters  370
  Virtual SAN Support  371
  Advanced Fibre Channel Adapter Features  373

Exam Preparation Tasks  374

Review All the Key Topics  374

Complete the Tables and Lists from Memory  374

Definitions of Key Terms  375
Chapter 9  Creating and Configuring Virtual Networks  376

“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz  377
Foundation Topics  381
Network Virtualization Using Hyper-V  381
   Planning for Network Virtualization  383
   Network Virtualization Components  383
   Configuring Virtual Network Switches  388
Optimizing Virtual Network Performance  395
Configuring MAC Addresses  398
   Dynamic MAC Addresses  398
   Static MAC Addresses  400
   MAC Address Spoofing  401
Configuring Network Isolation  402
   Virtual Switch Trunking  403
Using PVLANs for Isolation  404
   Configure PVLAN Ports  405
Configuring Virtual Network Adapters  406
   Configuring an Emulated (Legacy) Network Adapter  407
   Configuring a Network Adapter  408
   Configure a Virtual NIC Team  411
   Advanced Adapter Features  412
   Hyper-V Network Virtualization PowerShell Cmdlets  416
Exam Preparation Tasks  418
Review All the Key Topics  418
Complete the Tables and Lists from Memory  419
Definitions of Key Terms  419

Chapter 10  Configuring IPv4 and IPv6 Addressing  420

“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz  422
Foundation Topics  426
Concepts of TCP/IP  426
   TCP/IP History in Brief  426
   The TCP/IP Protocol Stack  427
   The TCP/IP Component Protocols  429
New and Improved Networking Technologies in Windows Server 2012 R2  433
IPv4 Addressing 434
   Static IPv4 Addressing 435
   Subnetting and Supernetting in IPv4 437
   Dynamic IP Addressing 441
   Configuring IPv4 Address Options 441
   Using the Command Line to Configure IPv4 Addressing Options 445
IPv6 Addressing 447
   IPv6 Address Syntax 448
   Connecting to a TCP/IP Version 6 Network 451
   TCP/IPv6 PowerShell Cmdlets 453
Interoperability Between IPv4 and IPv6 Addresses 454
   Compatibility Addresses 455
   ISATAP Addresses 455
   6to4 Addresses 456
   Teredo Addresses 458
   Using Group Policy to Configure IPv6 Transition Technologies 459
Resolving IPv4 and IPv6 Network Connectivity Issues 461
   Windows Server 2012 R2 Network Diagnostics Tools 461
   Using TCP/IP Utilities to Troubleshoot TCP/IP 463
   Troubleshooting IPv4 and IPv6 Problems 469
Exam Preparation Tasks 473
Review All the Key Topics 473
Complete the Tables and Lists from Memory 474
Definitions of Key Terms 474

Chapter 11 Configuring Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) 476

“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz 477
Foundation Topics 482
   How DHCP Works 482
      What’s New with DHCP in Windows Server 2012 and Windows Server 2012 R2 482
      The Four-Phase DHCP IPv4 Leasing Process 484
      Renewing an IPv4 Lease 487
      How DHCPv6 Works 488
Installing and Configuring a DHCP Server 489
   Using Server Manager to Install DHCP 490
   Using Windows PowerShell to Install DHCP 492
DHCP Scopes and Options 493
  Creating DHCP Scopes 493
  Configuring DHCP Scope Properties 498
  Configuring DHCP Options 499
Configuring PXE Boot 508
  Configuring DHCP Options for PXE 508
  Monitoring and Troubleshooting a DHCP Server 510
Managing and Authorizing DHCP Servers 513
  Authorizing a DHCP Server in Active Directory 513
  Configuring DHCP Relay Agents 515
Exam Preparation Tasks 519
Review All the Key Topics 519
Complete the Tables and Lists from Memory 520
Definitions of Key Terms 520

Chapter 12 Deploying and Configuring Domain Name System (DNS) 522

“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz 523
Foundation Topics 528
  Introduction to DNS 528
    The Hierarchical Nature of DNS 529
    The DNS Name Resolution Process 533
    What’s New in Windows Server 2012 R2? 536
Installing DNS in Windows Server 2012 R2 537
  Using PowerShell to Install DNS 539
  Using PowerShell for DNS Server Administration 539
Zone Types and Their Uses 541
  DNS Zone Types 542
Configuring DNS Server Properties 545
  Interfaces Tab 545
  Forwarders Tab 546
  Advanced Tab 548
  Root Hints Tab 550
  Debug Logging Tab 552
  Event Logging Tab 553
  Monitoring Tab 554
  Security Tab 555
Chapter 13 Installing Domain Controllers 566

“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz 568

Foundation Topics 572

The Building Blocks of Active Directory 572
Namespaces 572
Objects 573
Containers 573
Schemas 574
Global Catalogs 574
Partitions 575
Naming Standards of X.500 and LDAP 576
Logical Components of Active Directory 578
Physical Components of Active Directory 583

Planning the Active Directory Namespace 589
Subdividing the Active Directory Namespace 590
Administrative or Geographical Organization of Domains 591
Use of Multiple Trees 592
Best Practices 593

Creating Forests and Domains 594
Requirements for Installing Active Directory Domain Services 594
Installing Active Directory Domain Services 595
Performing Unattended Installations of Active Directory 606
Adding, Removing, and Upgrading Domain Controllers 608
   Forest and Domain Functional Levels 609
   The Adprep Utility 611
Upgrading a Windows Server 2008 Domain Controller 612
   Removing Active Directory 614
Installing a Server Core Domain Controller 617
   Using the Install from Media Option 617
   Creating Installation Media 618
   Deploying Domain Controllers Using the IFM Option 619
Configuring Global Catalog Servers 621
   Planning the Placement of Global Catalog Servers 621
   Promoting Domain Controllers to Global Catalog Servers 623
Deploying Active Directory Infrastructure as a Service in Windows Azure 624
   Installing an AD DS Forest in Windows Azure 625
   Installing a Replica Domain Controller on Windows Azure 627
Troubleshooting Active Directory Installations 628
   Verifying the Proper Installation of Active Directory 628
   Resolving SRV Record Registration Issues 634
Exam Preparation Tasks 636
Review All the Key Topics 636
Complete the Tables and Lists from Memory 637
Definitions of Key Terms 637

Chapter 14  Active Directory User and Computer Accounts 638

“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz 639
Foundation Topics 644
Creating User and Computer Accounts 644
   Introducing User Accounts 644
   Manually Creating User Accounts 645
   Creating Computer Accounts 649
   Using Template Accounts 650
   Using Bulk Import to Automate Account Creation 651
   Configuring the UPN 656
   Configuring Contacts 659
Managing and Maintaining Accounts 660
   Password Resets 660
Chapter 15  Active Directory Groups and Organizational Units (OUs)  670

“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz  671
Foundation Topics  676
Creating and Managing Group Accounts  676
Creating Group Accounts  681
Configuring Group Membership  683
Creating Distribution Lists  685
AGDLP/AGUDLP  686
Local Versus Domain Groups  688
Enumerating Group Membership  690
Creating and Managing Organizational Units  691
Planning the OU Structure of Your Domain  691
Creating Organizational Units  694
Managing Organizational Units  696
Delegating Active Directory Object Management  700
Exam Preparation Tasks  705
Review All the Key Topics  705
Complete the Tables and Lists from Memory  706
Definitions of Key Terms  706

Chapter 16  Creating and Applying Group Policy Objects  708

“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz  709
Foundation Topics  713
Overview of Group Policy  713
Components of Group Policy  713
New Features of Group Policy in Windows Server 2012 and Windows Server 2012 R2  716
Contents xvii

Creating and Applying GPOs 719
Using Starter GPOs 724
Shell Access Policies 726
Managing GPOs and Their Links 727
Linking GPOs 727
Managing GPO Links 729
Deleting a GPO 730
Disabling GPOs or Portions of GPOs 731
Specifying a Domain Controller 731
Using Windows PowerShell 733
Configuring Multiple Local Group Policies 735
MMC and Multiple Local Group Policies 736
Using Multiple Local Group Policies 737
Managing Restricted Groups 738
Local Users and Groups Extension 741
Configuring Group Policy Common Options 744
Configuring Security Filtering 746
Denying the Application of a GPO 746
Windows Management Instrumentation 748
Exam Preparation Tasks 749
Review All the Key Topics 749
Complete the Tables and Lists from Memory 750
Definitions of Key Terms 750

Chapter 17 Configuring Security Policies 752

“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz 753
Foundation Topics 759
Configuring User Rights Assignment 759
Configuring Security Options Settings 762
Using Additional Security Configuration Tools 765
Password and Account Lockout Policies 767
Auditing of Active Directory Services 770
New Audit Functionality 770
Active Directory Auditing 770
Using GPOs to Configure Auditing 771
Using Audit Pol. exe to Configure Auditing 777
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 18</th>
<th>Configuring Application Restriction Policies</th>
<th>784</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz</td>
<td>785</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Topics</td>
<td>790</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introducing Rule Enforcement</td>
<td>790</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuring Software Restriction Policies</td>
<td>790</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuring AppLocker Rules</td>
<td>797</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capabilities of AppLocker</td>
<td>797</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Configuration of AppLocker Policies</td>
<td>799</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating Additional AppLocker Rules</td>
<td>802</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam Preparation Tasks</td>
<td>808</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review All the Key Topics</td>
<td>808</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete the Tables and Lists from Memory</td>
<td>808</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Definitions of Key Terms</td>
<td>808</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 19</th>
<th>Configuring Windows Firewall</th>
<th>810</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz</td>
<td>811</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Topics</td>
<td>818</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuring Windows Firewall</td>
<td>818</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Windows Firewall Configuration</td>
<td>819</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuring Windows Firewall Using PowerShell</td>
<td>825</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using the Windows Firewall with Advanced Security Snap-in</td>
<td>826</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overview of Default Windows Firewall with Advanced Security Rules</td>
<td>828</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuring Multiple Firewall Profiles</td>
<td>828</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuring Security Rules</td>
<td>830</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuring Inbound Rules or Outbound Rules</td>
<td>830</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuring Connection Security Rules</td>
<td>836</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuring Rule Properties</td>
<td>842</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuring Notifications</td>
<td>847</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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About the Authors

**Don Poulton** (A+, Network+, Security+, MCSA, MCSE) is an independent consultant who has been involved with computers since the days of 80-column punch cards. After more than 20 years in environmental science, Don switched careers and trained as a Windows NT 4.0 MCSE. He has been involved in consulting with a couple of small training providers as a technical writer, during which time he wrote training and exam prep materials for Windows NT 4.0, Windows 2000, and Windows XP. Don has written or contributed to several titles, including *Security+ Lab Manual* (Que, 2004); *MCSA/MCSE 70-299 Exam Cram 2: Implementing and Administering Security in a Windows 2003 Network* (Exam Cram 2) (Que, 2004); *MCSE 70-294 Exam Prep: Planning, Implementing, and Maintaining a Microsoft Windows Server 2003 Active Directory Infrastructure* (Que, 2006); *MCTS 70-620 Exam Prep: Microsoft Windows Vista, Configuring* (Que, 2008); *MCTS 70-680 Cert Guide: Microsoft Windows 7, Configuring* (Que, 2011); *MCTS 70-640 Cert Guide: Windows Server 2008 Active Directory, Configuring* (Que, 2011); *MCTS 70-642 Cert Guide: Windows Server 2008 Network Infrastructure, Configuring* (Que, 2012); and *MCSA 70-687 Cert Guide: Configuring Microsoft Windows 8.1* (Que, 2014).

In addition, he has worked on programming projects, both in his days as an environmental scientist and more recently with Visual Basic to update an older statistical package used for multivariate analysis of sediment contaminants.

When not working on computers, Don is an avid amateur photographer who has had his photos displayed in international competitions and published in magazines such as *Michigan Natural Resources Magazine* and *National Geographic Traveler*. Don also enjoys traveling and keeping fit.

Don lives in Burlington, Ontario, with his wife, Terry.

**David G. Camardella** has more than 14 years of experience as a systems architect, network engineer, and IT manager. Throughout his career, David has used his technical and leadership skills to successfully support infrastructures from small to large organizations.

David’s experience includes managing a North American datacenter, branch office server rooms, LAN/WLAN/WAN infrastructures, Active Directory/Messaging infrastructures, private clouds, and client computing systems.

Over the years, David has performed technical editing for several Microsoft and Cisco books. He holds a bachelor of science in business management as well as several levels of IT certifications, including MCSE.

In his spare time, David enjoys spending time with his family and engaging in outdoor activities and home brewing.
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Dedication

I would like to dedicate this book to my wife Terry, who has stood by my side and encouraged me throughout the days spent writing this book. This project would not have been possible without her love and support.

—Don Poulton

I would like to dedicate this book to my family. I give thanks to my parents for instilling core values in me, to my wife for her continued love and support, and to my children who inspire me to succeed.

—Dave Camardella

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—Don Poulton

I want to send a special thanks to Betsy Brown for providing me with the opportunity to write for Pearson IT Certification. I would also like to thank Don Poulton for guiding me through this journey. Additional thanks goes out to Chris Crayton for his technical feedback, Chris Cleveland, and all of the Pearson IT Certification staff for your guidance, feedback, and suggestions. Thank you.

—Dave Camardella
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Introduction

The *MCSA Installing and Configuring Windows Server 2012 Cert Guide* (Exam 70-410) is designed for individuals responsible for designing, implementing, configuring, or administering Windows Desktop/Server infrastructures. The *Cert Guide* contains materials needed to install and configure Windows Server 2012 R2. It is structured to prepare those pursuing the Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate (MCSA) or Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE) certification for Windows Server 2012 R2.

This book covers the “Installing and Configuring Windows Server 2012” exam (70-410), the first of three exams under the MCSA certification track. For those working toward the MCSE certification, the 70-410 exam is the first of five exams required. The exam is designed to measure your skill and ability to install and configure Windows Server 2012 R2, roles and features, Hyper-V, Active Directory, Group Policy, DNS, and other core network services. Microsoft not only tests you on your knowledge of the server operating system, but also has purposefully developed questions on the exam that force you to solve problems in the same way you would when presented with scenarios or issues supporting an organization. Passing this exam demonstrates your competency to install and configure all editions of Windows Server 2012 R2.

This book covers all the objectives that Microsoft has established for exam 70-410. It doesn’t offer end-to-end coverage of the Windows Server 2012 R2 operating system; rather, it helps you develop the specific core competencies you need to master as an administrator or engineer.

Goals and Methods

The number-one goal of this book is a simple one: to help you pass the 70–410 Certification Exam and thereby earn the first requirement toward the MCSA or MCSE certification. Because Microsoft certification exams stress problem-solving abilities and reasoning more than memorization of terms and facts, our goal is to help you master and understand the required objectives for the 70–410 exam.

To aid you in mastering and understanding the MCTS certification objectives, this book uses the following methods:

- **Opening Topics List:** This defines the topics to be covered in the chapter.

- **Do I Know This Already? Quizzes:** At the beginning of each chapter is a quiz. The quizzes, and answers/explanations (found in Appendix A), are meant to gauge your knowledge of the subjects. If the answers to the questions don’t come readily to you, be sure to read the entire chapter.
Foundation Topics: The heart of the chapter. Explains the topics from a hands-on and a theory-based standpoint. This includes in-depth descriptions, tables, and figures geared to build your knowledge so that you can pass the exam. The chapters are broken down into several topics each.

Key Topics: The key topics indicate important figures, tables, and lists of information that you should know for the exam. They are interspersed throughout the chapter and are listed in table form at the end of the chapter.

Memory Tables: These can be found on the CD-ROM within Appendix B, “Memory Tables.” Use them to help memorize important information.

Key Terms: Key terms without definitions are listed at the end of each chapter. Write down the definition of each term and check your work against the complete key terms in the glossary.

Study and Exam Preparation Tips

It’s a rush of adrenaline during the final day before an exam. If you’ve scheduled the exam on a workday, or following a workday, you will find yourself cursing the tasks you normally cheerfully perform because the back of your mind is telling you to read just a bit more, study another scenario, practice another skill so that you will be able to get this exam out of the way successfully.

Learning Styles

To best understand the nature of preparation for the test, it is important to understand learning as a process. You are probably aware of how you best learn new material. You might find that outlining works best for you, or, as a visual learner, you might need to “see” things. Or, as a person who studies kinesthetically, the hands-on approach serves you best. Whether you might need models or examples, or maybe you just like exploring the interface, or whatever your learning style, solid test preparation works best when it takes place over time. Obviously, you shouldn’t start studying for a certification exam the night before you take it; it is very important to understand that learning is a developmental process. Understanding learning as a process helps you focus on what you know and what you have yet to learn.

People study in a combination of different ways: by doing, by seeing, and by hearing and writing. This book’s design fulfills all three of these study methods. For the kinesthetic, there are key topics scattered throughout each chapter. You will also discover step-by-step procedural instructions that walk you through the skills you need to master in Windows Server 2012 R2. The visual learner can find plenty of screen shots explaining the concepts described in the text. The auditory learner can
reinforce skills by reading out loud and copying down key concepts and exam tips scattered throughout the book. You can also practice writing down the meaning of the key terms defined in each chapter, and in completing the memory tables for most chapters found on the accompanying CD-ROM. While reading this book, you will realize that it stands the test of time. You will be able to turn to it over and over again.

Thinking about how you learn should help you recognize that learning takes place when you are able to match new information to old. You have some previous experience with computers and networking. Now you are preparing for this certification exam. Using this book, software, and supplementary materials will not just add incrementally to what you know; as you study, the organization of your knowledge actually restructures as you integrate new information into your existing knowledge base. This leads you to a more comprehensive understanding of the tasks and concepts outlined in the objectives and of computing in general. Again, this happens as a result of a repetitive process rather than a singular event. If you keep this model of learning in mind as you prepare for the exam, you will make better decisions concerning what to study and how much more studying you need to do.

Study Tips

There are many ways to approach studying, just as there are many different types of material to study. However, the tips that follow should work well for the type of material covered on Microsoft certification exams.

Study Strategies

Although individuals vary in the ways they learn information, some basic principles of learning apply to everyone. You should adopt some study strategies that take advantage of these principles. One of these principles is that learning can be broken into various depths. Recognition (of terms, for example) exemplifies a rather surface level of learning in which you rely on a prompt of some sort to elicit recall. Comprehension or understanding (of the concepts behind the terms, for example) represents a deeper level of learning than recognition. The ability to analyze a concept and apply your understanding of it in a new way represents further depth of learning.

Your learning strategy should enable you to know the material at a level or two deeper than mere recognition. This will help you perform well on the exams. You will know the material so thoroughly that you can go beyond the recognition-level types of questions commonly used in fact-based multiple-choice testing. You will be able to apply your knowledge to solve new problems.
Macro and Micro Study Strategies

One strategy that can lead to deep learning includes preparing an outline that covers all the objectives and subobjectives for the particular exam you are planning to take. You should delve a bit further into the material and include a level or two of detail beyond the stated objectives and subobjectives for the exam. Then you should expand the outline by coming up with a statement of definition or a summary for each point in the outline.

An outline provides two approaches to studying. First, you can study the outline by focusing on the organization of the material. You can work your way through the points and subpoints of your outline, with the goal of learning how they relate to one another. For example, you should be sure you understand how each of the main objective areas for Exam 70-410 is similar to and different from one another. Then you should do the same thing with the subobjectives; you should be sure you know which subobjectives pertain to each objective area and how they relate to one another.

Next, you can work through the outline, focusing on learning the details. You should memorize and understand terms and their definitions, facts, rules and tactics, advantages and disadvantages, and so on. In this pass through the outline, you should attempt to learn detail rather than the big picture (that is, the organizational information that you worked on in the first pass through the outline).

Research has shown that attempting to assimilate both types of information at the same time interferes with the overall learning process. If you separate your studying into these two approaches, you will perform better on the exam.

Active Study Strategies

The process of writing down and defining objectives, subobjectives, terms, facts, and definitions promotes a more active learning strategy than merely reading the material does. In human information-processing terms, writing forces you to engage in more active encoding of the information. Simply reading over the information leads to more passive processing. Using this study strategy, you should focus on writing down the items highlighted in the book: bulleted or numbered lists, key topics, notes, cautions, and review sections, for example.

You need to determine whether you can apply the information you have learned by attempting to create examples and scenarios on your own. You should think about how or where you could apply the concepts you are learning. Again, you should write down this information to process the facts and concepts in an active fashion.
Best Practice Strategies

You should follow best practices when studying: You should study when you are alert, reduce or eliminate distractions, and take breaks when you become fatigued.

Pretesting Yourself

Pretesting enables you to assess how well you are learning. One of the most important aspects of learning is what has been called *meta-learning*. Meta-learning has to do with realizing when you know something well or when you need to study some more. In other words, you recognize how well or how poorly you have learned the material you are studying.

For most people, this can be difficult to assess. Memory tables, practice questions, and practice tests are useful in that they reveal objectively what you have learned and what you have not learned. You should use this information to guide review and further studying. Developmental learning takes place as you cycle through studying, assessing how well you have learned, reviewing, and assessing again until you feel you are ready to take the exam.

You might have noticed the practice exam included in this book. You should use it as part of the learning process. The Pearson IT Certification Practice Exam test-simulation software included on this book’s CD-ROM also provides you with an excellent opportunity to assess your knowledge.

You should set a goal for your pretesting. A reasonable goal would be to score consistently in the 90% range.

Exam Prep Tips

After you have mastered the subject matter, the final preparatory step is to understand how the exam will be presented. Make no mistake: A Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate (MCSA) or Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE) exam challenges both your knowledge and your test-taking skills. Preparing for the 70-410 exam is a bit different from preparing for those old Microsoft exams. The following is a list of things that you should consider doing:

- **Combine Your Skill Sets into Solutions:** In the past, exams would test whether you knew to select the right letter of a multiple-choice answer. Today, you need to know how to resolve a problem that might involve different aspects of the material covered. For example, on exam 70-410, you could be presented with a problem that requires you to understand how to install and configure the Hyper-V role, as well as identify symptoms caused by improperly configured virtual machine settings. Being able to zero in on what caused the problem and then resolve it for a specific situation is what you need to
demonstrate. In fact, you should not only be able to select one answer, but also multiple parts of a total solution.

- **Delve into Excruciating Details**: The exam questions incorporate a great deal of information in the scenarios. Some of the information is ancillary: It will help you rule out possible issues, but not necessarily resolve the answer. Some of the information simply provides you with a greater picture, as you would have in real life. Some information is key to your solution.

- **TCP/IP Troubleshooting Is Built Right In**: Because TCP/IP is a core technology to the Windows 2012 R2 operating system, you are expected to know the fundamentals of Subnetting, DHCP, how to recognize IP conflicts, and how to use the TCP/IP tools to troubleshoot the problem. Furthermore, Microsoft expects you to know how to work with the new version 6 of TCP/IP along with the traditional version 4 that has been used for many years. You should also be able to discern between an IP problem and something wrong with the OS or hardware, or even some combination that involves IP along with some other element.

- **It’s a GUI Test**: You should be able to recognize each dialog box, properties sheet, options, and defaults. You will be tested on recognizing specific configurations given a dialog box or screenshot of one or more consoles or MMC snap-ins. Be prepared to be presented with scenario-based questions that you must answer given an image or dialog of an existing configuration. Microsoft may present a multi part solution where multiple answers representing each step must be selected. For example, you could be given a question asking you to configure a storage pool containing the maximum usable storage. You could be presented with an image showing the existing server disk configuration as shown in disk management.

- **Practice with a Time Limit**: The tests have always been time restricted, but it takes more time to read and understand the scenarios now and time is a whole lot tighter. To get used to the time limits, test yourself with a timer. Know how long it takes you to read scenarios and select answers.

**Microsoft 70-410 Exam Topics**

The following list outlines the 70-410 exam objectives and weight each section carries:

**Install and configure servers (15%–20%)**

- **Install servers**: Plan for a server installation, plan for server roles, plan for a server upgrade, install Server Core, optimize resource utilization by using Features on Demand, migrate roles from previous versions of Windows Server
Introduction

- **Configure servers:** Configure Server Core, delegate administration, add and remove features in offline images, deploy roles on remote servers, convert Server Core to/from full GUI, configure services, configure NIC teaming, install and configure Windows PowerShell Desired State Configuration (DSC)

- **Configure local storage:** Design storage spaces, configure basic and dynamic disks, configure master boot record (MBR) and GUID partition table (GPT) disks, manage volumes, create and mount virtual hard disks (VHDs), configure storage pools and disk pools, create storage pools by using disk enclosures

**Configure server roles and features (15%-20%)**

- **Configure file and share access:** Create and configure shares, configure share permissions, configure offline files, configure NTFS permissions, configure access-based enumeration (ABE), configure Volume Shadow Copy Service (VSS), configure NTFS quotas, create and configure Work Folders

- **Configure print and document services:** Configure the Easy Print print driver, configure Enterprise Print Management, configure drivers, configure printer pooling, configure print priorities, configure printer permissions

- **Configure servers for remote management:** Configure WinRM, configure down-level server management, configure servers for day-to-day management tasks, configure multiserver management, configure Server Core, configure Windows Firewall, manage non-domain joined servers

**Configure Hyper-V (15%-20%)**

- **Create and configure virtual machine settings:** Configure dynamic memory, configure smart paging, configure Resource Metering, configure guest integration services, create and configure Generation 1 and 2 virtual machines, configure and use enhanced session mode, configure RemoteFX

- **Create and configure virtual machine storage:** Create VHDs and VHDX, configure differencing drives, modify VHDs, configure pass-through disks, manage checkpoints, implement a virtual Fibre Channel adapter, configure storage Quality of Service

- **Create and configure virtual networks:** Configure Hyper-V virtual switches, optimize network performance, configure MAC addresses, configure network isolation, configure synthetic and legacy virtual network adapters, configure NIC teaming in virtual machines
Deploy and configure core network services (15%–20%)

- **Configure IPv4 and IPv6 addressing:** Configure IP address options, configure IPv4 or IPv6 subnetting, configure supernetting, configure interoperability between IPv4 and IPv6, configure Intra-site Automatic Tunnel Addressing Protocol (ISATAP), configure Teredo

- **Deploy and configure Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) service:**
  Create and configure scopes, configure a DHCP reservation, configure DHCP options, configure client and server for PXE boot, configure DHCP relay agent, authorize DHCP server

- **Deploy and configure DNS service:** Configure Active Directory integration of primary zones, configure forwarders, configure Root Hints, manage DNS cache, create A and PTR resource records

Install and administer Active Directory (15%–20%)

- **Install domain controllers:** Add or remove a domain controller from a domain, upgrade a domain controller, install Active Directory Domain Services (AD DS) on a Server Core installation, install a domain controller from Install from Media (IFM), resolve DNS SRV record registration issues, configure a global catalog server, deploy Active Directory infrastructure as a service (IaaS) in Microsoft Azure

- **Create and manage Active Directory users and computers:** Automate the creation of Active Directory accounts; create, copy, configure, and delete users and computers; configure templates; perform bulk Active Directory operations; configure user rights; offline domain join; manage inactive and disabled accounts

- **Create and manage Active Directory groups and organizational units (OUs):**
  Configure group nesting; convert groups, including security, distribution, universal, domain local, and domain global; manage group membership using Group Policy; enumerate group membership; delegate the creation and management of Active Directory objects; manage default Active Directory containers; create, copy, configure, and delete groups and OUs

Create and manage Group Policy (15%–20%)

- **Create Group Policy objects (GPOs):** Configure a Central Store, manage starter GPOs, configure GPO links, configure multiple local Group Policies

- **Configure security policies:** Configure User Rights Assignment, configure Security Options settings, configure Security templates, configure Audit Policy, configure Local Users and Groups, configure User Account Control (UAC)
- **Configure application restriction policies**: Configure rule enforcement, configure AppLocker rules, configure Software Restriction Policies

- **Configure Windows Firewall**: Configure rules for multiple profiles using Group Policy; configure connection security rules; configure Windows Firewall to allow or deny applications, scopes, ports, and users; configure authenticated firewall exceptions; import and export settings

Table I-1 lists the book chapters in which each exam topic is covered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>70-410 Exam Topics Covered</th>
<th>70-410 Exam Topic Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
<td>Introducing Windows Server 2012 R2</td>
<td>Install servers</td>
<td>Plan for a server installation, plan for server roles, plan for a server upgrade, optimize resource utilization by using Features on Demand, migrate roles from previous versions of Windows Server</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
<td>Introducing Windows Server 2012 R2</td>
<td>Configure servers</td>
<td>Convert Server Core to/from full GUI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
<td>Installing and Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2</td>
<td>Install servers</td>
<td>Install Server Core</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
<td>Installing and Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2</td>
<td>Configure servers</td>
<td>Configure Server Core, delegate administration, add and remove features in offline images, deploy roles on remote servers, configure services, configure NIC teaming, install and configure Windows PowerShell Desired State Configuration (DSC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
<td>Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2 Local Storage</td>
<td>Configure local storage</td>
<td>Design storage spaces, configure basic and dynamic disks, configure master boot record (MBR) and GUID partition table (GPT) disks, manage volumes, create and mount virtual hard disks (VHDs), configure storage pools and disk pools, create storage pools by using disk enclosures</td>
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<td>Chapter</td>
<td>Chapter Title</td>
<td>Topics</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Configuring Access to Files and Shares</td>
<td>Configure file and share access, Create and configure shares, configure share permissions, configure offline files, configure NTFS permissions, configure access-based enumeration (ABE), configure Volume Shadow Copy Service (VSS), configure NTFS quotas, create and configure Work Folders</td>
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<td>Configuring and Monitoring Print and Document Services</td>
<td>Configure print and document services, Configure the Easy Print print driver, configure Enterprise Print Management, configure drivers, configure printer pooling, configure print priorities, configure printer permissions</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Configuring Remote Management of Servers</td>
<td>Configure servers for remote management, Configure WinRM, configure down-level server management, configure servers for day-to-day management tasks, configure multiserver management, configure Server Core, configure Windows Firewall, manage non-domain joined servers</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Configuring Hyper-V</td>
<td>Create and configure virtual machine settings, Configure dynamic memory, configure smart paging, configure Resource Metering, configure guest integration services, create and configure Generation 1 and 2 virtual machines, configure and use enhanced session mode, configure RemoteFX</td>
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<td>Creating and Configuring Virtual Machine Storage</td>
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<td>Creating and Configuring Virtual Networks</td>
<td>Create and configure virtual networks, Configure Hyper-V virtual switches, optimize network performance, configure MAC addresses, configure network isolation, configure synthetic and legacy virtual network adapters, configure NIC teaming in virtual machines</td>
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<td>Chapter 10</td>
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<td>Configuring Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP)</td>
<td>Deploy and configure Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) service</td>
<td>Create and configure scopes, configure a DHCP reservation, configure DHCP options, configure client and server for PXE boot, configure DHCP relay agent, authorize DHCP server</td>
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<td>Chapter 12</td>
<td>Deploying and Configuring Domain Name System (DNS)</td>
<td>Deploy and configure DNS service</td>
<td>Configure Active Directory integration of primary zones, configure forwarders, configure Root Hints, manage DNS cache, create A and PTR resource records</td>
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<td>Chapter 13</td>
<td>Installing Domain Controllers</td>
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<td>Add or remove a domain controller from a domain, upgrade a domain controller, install Active Directory Domain Services (AD DS) on a Server Core installation, install a domain controller from Install from Media (IFM), resolve DNS SRV record registration issues, configure a global catalog server, deploy Active Directory infrastructure as a service (IaaS) in Microsoft Azure</td>
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<td>Chapter 14</td>
<td>Active Directory User and Computer Accounts</td>
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<td>Active Directory Groups and Organizational Units (OUs)</td>
<td>Create and manage Active Directory groups and organizational units (OUs)</td>
<td>Configure group nesting; convert groups, including security, distribution, universal, domain local, and domain global; manage group membership using Group Policy; enumerate group membership; delegate the creation and management of Active Directory objects; manage default Active Directory containers; create, copy, configure, and delete groups and OUs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 16</td>
<td>Creating and Applying Group Policy Objects</td>
<td>Create Group Policy objects (GPOs)</td>
<td>Configure a Central Store, manage starter GPOs, configure GPO links, configure multiple local Group Policies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 17</td>
<td>Configuring Security Policies</td>
<td>Configure security policies</td>
<td>Configure User Rights Assignment, configure Security Options settings, configure Security templates, configure Audit Policy, configure Local Users and Groups, configure User Account Control (UAC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 18</td>
<td>Configuring Application Restriction Policies</td>
<td>Configure application restriction policies</td>
<td>Configure rule enforcement, configure AppLocker rules, configure Software Restriction Policies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 19</td>
<td>Configuring Windows Firewall</td>
<td>Configure Windows Firewall</td>
<td>Configure rules for multiple profiles using Group Policy; configure connection security rules; configure Windows Firewall to allow or deny applications, scopes, ports, and users; configure authenticated firewall exceptions; import and export settings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**How This Book Is Organized**

Although this book could be read cover-to-cover, it is designed to be flexible and enable you to easily move between chapters and sections of chapters to cover just the material you need more work with. If you do intend to read all the chapters, the order in the book is an excellent sequence to use.

- Chapter 1, “Introducing Windows Server 2012 R2,” is an introductory chapter that is designed to ease readers new to Server 2012 R2 into this book.
It provides a broad description of the components of the Windows Server 2012 R2 operating system, including the major items that are new or recently updated and the Windows interface. It provides an overview for those planning to install or upgrade to Windows Server 2012 R2 and introduces Server Roles and Features on Demand.

- Chapter 2, “Installing and Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2,” identifies hardware requirements for Windows Server 2012 R2 and covers the process to install Windows Server 2012 R2 using GUI or Server Core options. This chapter also provides you with an overview and the process to delegate administrative activities, configure offline images, configure remote server roles, and configure and manage services and NIC Teaming.

- Chapter 3, “Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2 Local Storage,” reviews basic disk fundamentals and advanced disk configurations. It covers the concepts and usage of virtual hard disks and provides a framework for you to identify the appropriate storage strategy for your servers.

- Chapter 4, “Configuring Access to Files and Shares,” provides information on how you can share data with computers across the network and most importantly how to control who is able to access and/or modify this data. This chapter provides you with the resources and tools to administer and protect files and folders on your Windows Server 2012 R2 network.

- Chapter 5, “Configuring and Monitoring Print and Document Services,” introduces the core components and fundamentals of printing within a Windows Server 2012 R2 environment. It covers the management and troubleshooting of printers and printer drivers as well as the installation, configuration, and sharing of printers.

- Chapter 6, “Configuring Remote Management of Servers,” focuses on the various remote access methods, how to use daily management tools, how to prepare your server installations for remote access, and how to leverage Server Manager for management of multiple servers.

- Chapter 7, “Configuring Hyper-V,” begins with an introduction to Hyper-V and the new functions available with the release of Windows Server 2012 R2. It continues to describe the processes of creating and configuring virtual machines; managing virtual machine settings; and configuring dynamic memory, smart paging, resource metering, and integration services.

- Chapter 8, “Creating and Configuring Virtual Machine Storage,” focuses on the specifics on how to create, configure, and manage virtual machine storage for different scenarios for your Hyper-V infrastructure. It covers the processes to create and configure various types of virtual hard disks and virtual fibre channel adapters and how to create and manage checkpoints.
Chapter 9, “Creating and Configuring Virtual Networks,” provides you with a foundation for Hyper-V network virtualization. It discusses how to configure virtual network adapters, including optimizing virtual network performance, and how to configure virtual MAC addresses and implement network isolation. After reading this chapter, you will have an understanding of the key concepts for creating and configuring virtual networks.

Chapter 10, “Configuring IPv4 and IPv6 Addressing,” discusses versions 4 and 6 of the TCP/IP protocol together with setting up network connections and name resolution. It also discusses network connectivity problems.

Chapter 11, “Configuring Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol,” introduces the concept of DHCP and describes how the four-stage DHCP process works with IPv4. The chapter also describes the important new features of DHCPv6 and provides content on DHCP server configuration and how to leverage DHCP with the PXE boot process.

Chapter 12, “Deploying and Configuring Domain Name System,” provides you with background knowledge by introducing you to the fundamentals under which DNS is built. It then shows you how DNS works to resolve computer names to IP addresses in various situations you might encounter. The chapter continues to describe the process to install and configure DNS servers, server properties, and zones and how to manage resource records.

Chapter 13, “Installing Domain Controllers,” introduces you to the foundations of Active Directory. It provides guidance on how to plan for an Active Directory namespace. It concludes with material on how to create forests and domains; add and remove domain controllers, including the install from media option; and leverage Active Directory services in Windows Azure.

Chapter 14, “Active Directory User and Computer Accounts,” turns its attention to the nuts and bolts of Active Directory that enable all these activities to take place in a controlled manner. It shows you how to create user accounts for all these various employees and manage them in terms of groups. It then takes you through all the account management tasks.

Chapter 15, “Active Directory Groups and Organizational Units,” provides a framework for creating and managing group accounts and organizational units and how to effectively delegate Active Directory object management.

Chapter 16, “Creating and Applying Group Policy Objects,” provides an overview of Group Policy. After reading this chapter, you will be able to create, filter, and apply group policy objects; manage links; and interoperate with local group policies.
Introduction

- Chapter 17, “Configuring Security Policies,” provides you with the fundamentals to configure user rights, security options, and user account control. You will also learn how to leverage the auditing functionality of Active Directory services.

- Chapter 18, “Configuring Application Restriction Policies,” discusses the tools that Microsoft provides to limit user access to software programs that can either damage computers and network access or distract users from important work objectives; it is important that you are able to configure these tools to maximize user productivity. This chapter introduces you to rule enforcement and provides you with information to configure software restriction policies and AppLocker rules.

- Chapter 19, “Configuring Windows Firewall,” teaches you how to configure the Windows Firewall and how to successfully apply it using basic or advanced configurations.

In addition to these 19 chapters, this book includes tools to help you verify that you are prepared to take the exam. The CD-ROM includes the glossary, practice tests, and memory tables you can work through to verify your knowledge of the subject matter.
This chapter covers the following subjects:

- **Windows Server 2012 R2 Hardware Requirements**: Computers onto which you want to install Windows Server 2012 R2 must meet minimum hardware requirements. This section presents these requirements and describes several tasks you should perform before installing the server.

- **Installing Windows Server 2012 R2**: This section shows you how to install Windows Server 2012 R2 as either Server Core or Server with a GUI. It also shows you how to interconvert your server between Server Core and Server with a GUI, as well as the Minimal Server Interface and Full Desktop Experience options of Server with a GUI.

- **Delegation of Server Administration**: This covers best practices for delegating Server Administration and outlines some of the common tools used by delegates.

- **Configuring Offline Server Images**: This section shows you how to configure and update Offline Server images.

- **Configuring Remote Server Roles**: There are several methods for configuring server roles. This section shows you how to use the GUI and command line to configure roles on remote servers.

- **Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2 Services**: This section provides an overview of Windows Services, how they are configured, and how you can use the GUI and command line to modify Service properties.

- **Configuring NIC Teaming**: This section provides an overview of NIC Teaming and how it works with Server 2012 R2. It covers the installation and configuring of NIC Teams and how to configure the teams for different scenarios.
CHAPTER 2

Installing and Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2

The Microsoft 70-410 exam assesses your ability to install, configure, and administer Windows Server 2012 R2 in business environments from small offices to large enterprises. This chapter focuses on installing Windows Server 2012 R2 in its basic configurations and introduces you to basic server configuration actions that you should be familiar with before you undertake any advanced actions.

“Do I Know This Already?” Quiz

The “Do I Know This Already?” quiz enables you to assess whether you should read this entire chapter or simply jump to the “Exam Preparation Tasks” section for review. If you are in doubt, read the entire chapter. Table 2-1 outlines the major headings in this chapter and the corresponding “Do I Know This Already?” quiz questions. You can find the answers in Appendix A, “Answers to the ‘Do I Know This Already?’ Quizzes.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundations Topics Section</th>
<th>Questions Covered in This Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Windows Server 2012 R2 Hardware Requirements</td>
<td>1–2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installing Windows Server 2012 R2</td>
<td>3–4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delegation of Server Administration</td>
<td>5–7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuring Offline Server Images</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuring Remote Server Roles</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2 Services</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configuring NIC Teaming</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. You have an older computer on which you want to install an evaluation copy of Windows Server 2012 R2 so that you can prepare for your MCSE exams. The server has a 1 GHz processor, 1 GB RAM, 50 GB hard drive space, and a 1024x768 monitor. After inserting the Windows Server 2012 R2 DVD-ROM, the computer copies the initial files and then displays an error message informing you that it is unable to install Windows Server 2012 R2. Which of the following problems is preventing you from proceeding?
   a. A processor that is too slow
   b. Insufficient RAM
   c. Insufficient hard drive space
   d. An inadequate monitor

2. You are preparing to install Windows Server 2012 R2 on your Windows 8.1 computer in a dual-boot manner. You have created a separate partition on which you plan to install Windows Server 2012 R2. Which of the following should you perform before beginning the installation? (Choose all that apply.)
   a. Disconnect uninterruptible power supply (UPS) devices
   b. Disconnect universal serial bus (USB) devices
   c. Disable antivirus software
   d. Run the Windows Memory Diagnostic tool
   e. Back up data
   f. Provide mass storage drivers if needed

3. You need to confirm which server roles and features are present on a computer running the Server Core version of Windows Server 2012 R2. What command should you run?
   a. oclist
   b. Get-WindowsFeature
   c. ServerManagerCmd
   d. sconfig.cmd
4. You are using a Windows Server 2012 R2 computer that is configured with the full GUI interface. However, you find working with the Start screen distracting and would like to simplify the user interface by removing this screen. You still want to have access to Server Manager in GUI mode. Which of the following commands should you run?
   a. Remove-WindowsFeature Desktop-Experience
   b. Remove-WindowsFeature Server-Gui-Shell
   c. Uninstall-WindowsFeature Desktop-Experience
   d. Uninstall-WindowsFeature Server-Gui-Shell

5. The organization is expanding, and administrative overhead is increasing. What should you do to help manage the workload?
   a. Install Server Manager on all workstations in the organization.
   b. Add additional servers containing the AD DS role
   c. Delegate Administrative responsibilities
   d. Switch to Server Core

6. Your company has recently hired a new helpdesk technician. You would like to provide the technician with the ability to monitor performance counters on your servers. You want to grant the technician this ability but provide him with the least amount of administrative access. How should you accomplish this?
   a. Add the technician’s user account to the server’s local administrator group
   b. Add the technician’s user account to the Performance Monitor Users group
   c. Add the technician’s user account to the Performance Log Users group
   d. Add the technician’s user account to the Remote Desktop Users group
7. You are the system administrator for Pearson.com. You’ve been tasked with adding web services on 50 servers using a standard, company-approved IIS configuration. How can you accomplish this without altering any other applications on the servers (the solution must use the least amount of administrative effort)?
   a. Create a configuration checklist and execute it against all new web servers
   b. Configure one server, create a capture image, and deploy the image to all remaining servers
   c. Create a custom DSC configuration and deploy it against all servers in scope
   d. Reinstall Windows Server 2012 R2 and import an existing XML configuration for the web services

8. What can be done through servicing of an offline image? (Choose all that apply.)
   a. Enable or disable Windows features
   b. Enable Remote Install Services
   c. Upgrade to a higher edition of Windows
   d. Add or remove drivers
   e. Add or remove Remote Desktop Services
   f. Scan and remove active virus threats

9. What methods are available to add servers to Server Manager for remote management? (Choose all that apply.)
   a. Active Directory Search
   b. DNS Lookup
   c. Text file import
   d. Scan Subnet
   e. MMC
   f. RDP
10. Which of the following are methods used to manage services on a local or remote server? (Choose all that apply.)
   a. Services Manager for Windows
   b. sc config
   c. Remote Desktop Services
   d. Services.msc

11. You decide to reconfigure a server as a Hyper-V server. You want to use NIC Teaming with all available network cards. Which command do you use to establish the NIC Team?
   a. Reinstall the Operating System
   b. Remove-NetLbfoTeam
   c. New-NetLbfoTeam
   d. New-NICTeam
Windows Server 2012 R2 Hardware Requirements

As with previous Windows versions, your hardware must meet certain requirements for Windows Server 2012 R2 to function properly. First of all, Windows Server 2012 R2 requires a 64-bit processor; Microsoft has discontinued 32-bit software with this release of Windows Server. Table 2-2 outlines the minimum and recommended hardware requirements for Windows Server 2012 R2 as provided by Microsoft:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Minimum Requirement</th>
<th>Microsoft Recommended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Processor</td>
<td>1.4 GHz</td>
<td>2 GHz or faster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memory</td>
<td>512 MB RAM</td>
<td>2 GB RAM or greater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available Disk Space</td>
<td>32 GB</td>
<td>40 GB or greater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optical Drive</td>
<td>DVD-ROM drive</td>
<td>DVD-ROM drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display</td>
<td>Super VGA (800x600) monitor</td>
<td>XGA (1024x768) monitor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition, you must have the usual I/O peripherals, including a keyboard and mouse or compatible pointing device and a wired or wireless network interface card (NIC). If you can connect to a network location on which you have copied the contents of the Windows Server 2012 R2 DVD-ROM, you are not required to have a DVD-ROM drive on your computer. As with any other operating system installation, you will receive improved performance if you have a faster processor and additional memory on your system.

Further, when you install Windows Server 2012 R2 on an Itanium-based computer, you must have an Intel Itanium 2 processor and additional hard disk space. Computers with more than 16 GB RAM require additional disk space for paging, hibernation, and dump files. With disk space at an all-time minimum cost, it is easy to acquire a high-capacity hard disk. You will certainly need plenty of disk space on a server that will be a domain controller in a large domain.

Microsoft recommends that you also perform the following actions before installing Windows Server 2012 R2:
Chapter 2: Installing and Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2

- **Disconnect uninterruptible power supply (UPS) devices**: If you are using a UPS, disconnect its serial or USB cable before installing Windows Server 2012 R2. However, note that you do not need to disconnect other USB devices such as external hard drives, printers, and so on.

- **Back up data**: Perform a complete backup of configuration information for your servers, especially network infrastructure servers such as DHCP servers. The backup should include the boot and system partitions as well as the system state data.

- **Disable antivirus software**: Antivirus software can interfere with operating system installation.


- **Provide mass storage drivers if needed**: Save the driver file to appropriate media so that you can provide it during setup.


- **Prepare your Active Directory environment for Windows Server 2012 R2**: Before adding a Windows Server 2012 R2 domain controller or updating an existing domain controller to Windows Server 2012 R2, prepare the domain and forest by running Adprep.exe. We discuss this tool in Chapter 13, “Installing Domain Controllers.”

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### Installing Windows Server 2012 R2

As already introduced in Chapter 1, “Introducing Windows Server 2012 R2,” you can install Windows Server 2012 R2 as either Server with a GUI, which presents a full graphical user interface, or Server Core, which presents only a command prompt window.
Installing a Windows Server Core Computer

As explained in Chapter 1, Windows Server Core includes a minimal version of the server software without the GUI; you perform all configuration tasks from the command prompt. Follow this procedure to install Windows Server Core and perform initial configuration tasks:

1. Insert the Windows Server 2012 R2 DVD-ROM and turn on your computer. You should see a message informing you that Windows is copying temporary files; if not, you should access the BIOS setup program included with your computer and modify the boot sequence so that the computer boots from the DVD.

2. After a few minutes, you receive the Windows Server 2012 R2 screen shown in Figure 2-1. Click Install now to begin the installation.

![Figure 2-1](image.png)

Figure 2-1 Starting the installation of Windows Server 2012 R2.

3. Windows copies temporary files and then displays the Get important updates for Windows Setup screen shown in Figure 2-2. If you’re connected to the Internet, select Go online to install updates now (recommended).
4. On the next Install Windows screen, click Install now.

5. You receive the options shown in Figure 2-3, which enable you to install the complete Standard or Datacenter version of Windows Server 2012 R2 with a GUI or Windows Server 2012 R2 Server Core. Select the Windows Server 2012 R2 Datacenter (Server Core Installation) option and then click Next.
6. You are asked to accept the license terms. Select the check box labeled I accept the license terms and then click Next.

7. You receive the options shown in Figure 2-4 to upgrade or install a clean copy of Windows Server 2012 R2. Select Custom (advanced) to install a clean copy of Windows Server 2012 R2. The upgrade option is available only if you have started the installation from within Windows Server 2008, Windows Server 2008 R2, or the original version of Windows Server 2012.

![Figure 2-4](image)

Figure 2-4  You have the option to upgrade when run from Windows Server 2008/R2/2012.

8. Select the disk on which you want to install Windows and then click Next.

9. Take a coffee break while the installation proceeds. This takes some time (particularly when installing on a virtual machine), and the computer restarts several times. As shown in Figure 2-5, Setup charts the progress of installation.
10. After 15–30 minutes (depending on your hardware), Windows restarts a last time and informs you that your password must be changed before logging on for the first time. Click OK.

11. Type and confirm a strong password. When informed that the password is changed, click OK. After a minute or so, the desktop appears, containing a command window but no Start screen or desktop icons (see Figure 2-6). This is the standard Windows Server Core interface.

Figure 2-6  At startup, Windows Server Core 2012 R2 displays only a command window.
12. To set the correct time, type `control timedate.cpl`. By default, Server Core sets the time zone to Pacific Time. If you are in a different time zone, you will need to change this. Set the appropriate time zone, change the date and time if necessary, and then click **OK**.

13. Windows installs Server Core with a randomly generated computer name. To set a name of your choice, type `netdom renamecomputer %computername% /newname:ServerC1` (where, in this instance, `ServerC1` is the name you’re assigning; substitute your desired server name).

14. Windows warns you that the rename process might have an adverse impact on some services. Type `Y` to proceed.

15. You are informed that the computer needs to be restarted in order to complete the rename. Type `shutdown /r /t 0` to reboot your server.

16. After the server reboots, press **Ctrl+Alt+Delete** and log on using the password you set in step 11.

**Useful Server Core Commands**

All configuration, management, and troubleshooting of Windows Server Core is done from the command line. Available utilities enable you to perform almost all regular configuration tasks in this fashion. In Windows Server 2012 and 2012 R2, many of the commands used with Server Core in Windows Server 2008 have been replaced by PowerShell cmdlets. Table 2-3 describes some of the more useful available commands.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>netdom join computername /domain:domainname</code></td>
<td>Joins an Active Directory domain. You will be prompted for the username and password of a user with domain administrator privileges.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>Sconfig.cmd</code></td>
<td>Configures and manages a series of common Server Core installation properties. See Figure 2-7.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>cscript scregedit.wsf</code></td>
<td>Enables automatic updates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>Get-WindowsFeature</code></td>
<td>Displays roles and features currently installed on the server.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>Install-WindowsFeature</code></td>
<td>Adds roles or features.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>Uninstall-WindowsFeature</code></td>
<td>Removes roles or features.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>netsh interface IPv4</code></td>
<td>Includes a series of subcommands that enable you to configure IPv4 networking.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 2: Installing and Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>netsh advfirewall</td>
<td>Includes subcommands that enable you to configure the Windows firewall.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help</td>
<td>Provides a list of all available Windows Server Core commands.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2-7 The `sconfig.cmd` utility enables you to perform many basic configuration actions on a Server Core computer.

Available commands also include most commands formerly used with MS-DOS and previous Windows versions. We discuss many Server Core commands and PowerShell cmdlets in various chapters of this book and other Cert Guide books in this series.

NOTE For additional information on installing Windows Server Core, as well as any of these commands or other commands available in Windows Server Core, type the command name followed by `/?` or consult “Configure and Manage Server Core Installations” at http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/jj574091.aspx. For additional information on the available Windows Server 2012 R2 installation options, refer to “Windows Server Installation Options” at http://technet.microsoft.com/library/hh831786.
Installing the Full GUI Server

Although Microsoft markets Server Core as being the default Windows Server 2012 R2 installation, the full GUI version still represents the most easily managed version of the server. The procedure for installing the full GUI server is the same whether you’re installing directly from a DVD-ROM or a network share, except that you must have some type of network client installed on your computer to access a network share. The following procedure outlines installation from a DVD-ROM:

1. Follow the procedure outlined earlier for installing Windows Server Core until you receive the screen previously shown in Figure 2-3.

2. Select either Windows Server 2012 R2 Standard (Server with a GUI) or Windows Server 2012 R2 Datacenter (Server with a GUI), and then click Next.

3. Complete steps 6–10 of the earlier procedure. Installation will take 15–45 minutes, depending on your hardware.

4. Type and confirm a secure password. Windows informs you that your password has been changed. Click OK.

5. Windows displays a Welcome message and prepares your desktop. Then the desktop with Server Manager shown in Figure 2-8 appears.

Figure 2-8 When you log on to Server with a GUI for the first time, Server Manager appears.
After you have performed the initial configuration steps, you will be prompted to press **Ctrl+Alt+Delete** and enter your password when you restart your server.

### Upgrading a Windows Server 2008 Computer

You can upgrade a computer running Windows Server 2008 R2 with Service Pack 1 (SP1) or later to Windows Server 2012 R2, provided that the computer meets the hardware requirements for Windows Server 2012 R2. You cannot upgrade a Windows Server 2003 or older computer or a computer running any client version of Windows to Windows Server 2012 R2.

To upgrade to Windows Server 2012 R2, proceed as follows:

1. While logged on to Windows Server 2008 R2 as an administrator, insert the Windows Server 2012 R2 DVD-ROM.

2. When the **Install Windows** screen appears, click **Install now**.

3. Select your operating system, either the standard or Windows Core version of Windows Server 2012 R2; then click **Next**.

4. Accept the licensing terms and then click **Next**.

5. On the **Which Type of Installation Do You Want?** page, select **Upgrade**.

6. Windows checks compatibility of your hardware and software and displays a compatibility report that informs you of any potential upgrade problems. Review this report and make any changes you feel are required. When you are ready to proceed, click **Next**.

7. Take a lunch break while the upgrade proceeds. This will take 60 minutes or longer, depending on your hardware configuration or use of virtual computing software. The server will reboot three or four times.

8. After the final reboot, log on using the password previously used in Windows Server 2008 R2. Windows prepares your desktop and displays the Server Manager tool as previously shown in Figure 2-8.
Converting Between Core and GUI

You can convert the full GUI version of Windows Server 2012 R2 to Server Core or vice versa at any time; further, you can interconvert the GUI version between any of the three options described in Chapter 1.

Use the following procedure to convert the full GUI server to Server Core:

1. From the Search charm, type `powershell` and select **Windows PowerShell**.
2. Type the following cmdlet:
   ```
   Uninstall-WindowsFeature Server-Gui-Mgmt-Infra -Restart
   ```
3. A display on the PowerShell window tracks the removal process, which takes several minutes. A Configuring Windows features message then appears as the GUI is removed. After a few more minutes, the server restarts. When the logon screen appears, press **Ctrl+Alt+Delete** and log back on as an administrator.

Use the following procedure to convert a Server Core computer to run the full GUI:

1. From the administrative command prompt, type `powershell`.
2. Type the following command:
   ```
   Get-WindowsImage -ImagePath <path to wim>\install.wim
   ```
3. This command returns the index number for the server with a GUI image. Then type the following command:
   ```
   Install-WindowsFeature Server-Gui-Mgmt-Infra, Server-Gui-Shell -Restart -Source wim:<path to wim>\install.wim:<Index #>
   ```
4. Wait as Windows configures features and restarts; then press **Ctrl+Alt+Delete** and log back on as an administrator.

If you are converting a server that was originally installed in GUI mode back to GUI from Server Core, the procedure is slightly simpler. Use the following PowerShell command in place of those given in steps 2 and 3:

```
Install-WindowsFeature Server-Gui-Mgmt-Infra,Server-Gui-Shell -Restart
```
To install the complete desktop experience on your server (including access to Windows Store apps as in Windows 8 or Windows 8.1), use the following PowerShell command and then restart your computer. This mode adds a link to Windows Store on the Start screen, as shown in Figure 2-9:

```
Install-WindowsFeature Desktop-Experience
```

![Figure 2-9](image)

**Figure 2-9** The complete desktop experience in Windows Server 2012 R2 enables you to add Windows Store apps.

Installing the minimal server interface on your server requires you to remove the Start screen shell. Use the following PowerShell command and then restart your computer. You receive a command prompt window and the Server Manager console as previously shown in Figure 2-8.

```
Uninstall-WindowsFeature Server-Gui-Shell
```

## Delegation of Server Administration

As an organization grows, administration of servers can become quite overwhelming to manage. To help balance the workload and create a smooth support process, a delegation model should be implemented. Implementing a delegation model involves the following:
Preparing for a Delegation Model

Preparing for a delegation model requires some planning up front. Deciding how to manage your systems administration can be a frustrating task. The key to success is to define a model that best works for your situation, agree upon the long-term strategy, and discipline those involved to stick with the model. There are three basic strategies to select from when deciding how to manage your environment:

- **Decentralized**: This is typically designed for small mom-and-pop shops or even home offices. In this model, administrators are present at each site and all share the same responsibilities and access to the servers. This model typically introduces challenges with scalability and standardizations.

- **Centralized**: Typically found in medium to large organizations, the centralized model focuses on driving standards and consistent management from a central site or from a central group of administrators. Branch sites might employ desktop engineers who have been granted local admin rights to workstations but limited access to servers. In many cases, the centralized approach is what the decentralized model evolves into overtime.

- **Shared/Delegated**: While a shared/delegated model can be used for an organization of any size, it is typically adopted by large/enterprise class organizations with a larger IT workforce. Containing characteristics of both decentralized and centralized models, the shared or delegated approach focuses on centralized policies and procedures governed by the enterprise admins. Enterprise admins “deputize” junior admins at each site to manage local servers and drive a consistent process among all sites. This approach is hierarchical in nature in that many layers of administration can be defined.

For example, the main office might contain the majority of the systems. These systems are managed by senior administrators or an enterprise admin group. Branch sites might contain locally significant servers such as file servers that are managed by site admins and/or the enterprise admin group. Desktop engineers might be delegated administrative access to all desktops but might escalate issues to site admins or even enterprise admins if necessary.
Establishing Delegate Access

Once a delegation model has been selected, the next step is to decide how to delegate access. Depending on the server, installed roles, and applications installed, there are different ways to delegate access. In some cases, applications or roles include an interface where elevated access is granted. In most other situations, local built-in groups can be used to grant different access to different delegates depending on their function.

For example, suppose you have delegated backup duties to a small team of junior administrators. To grant or delegate the necessary permissions, you might decide to nest, rather than add, the junior admins’ domain accounts to the built-in local backup operators group on one or more servers. To help streamline this in larger organizations, you might consider additional layers of group nesting along with group policy to push down the elevated access to a group of servers. This method provides a more scalable solution as expanding delegate access is as simple as adding more junior admin accounts to a domain group. The domain group is then automatically added to the backup operators local group on the servers. Active Directory will be discussed in more detail later. Refer to Table 2-4 for a listing of built-in local groups and their functions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Function</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access Control Assistance Operators</td>
<td>Remotely query permissions or authentication attributes for resources on the computer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrators</td>
<td>Grants full access and control to the computer. Allows members to change and manage permissions and access to the computer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backup Operators</td>
<td>Ability to back up and restore files regardless of the permissions assigned to the folder or files. These users are unable to modify and manage permissions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate Services DCOM Access</td>
<td>Members are allowed to connect to Certificate Authorities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cryptographic Operators</td>
<td>Perform Cryptographic operations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distributed COM Users</td>
<td>Start, activate, and use DCOM objects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Log Readers</td>
<td>Ability to read event logs on the computer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guests</td>
<td>Users are granted virtually no access to the system other than to use the Internet and basic applications. They are granted temporary profiles upon logon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyper-V Administrators</td>
<td>Grants full control over Hyper-V.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group</td>
<td>Function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIS Users</td>
<td>Used by IIS Web Services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Configuration Operators</td>
<td>Ability to make changes to TCP/IP Settings and release and renew IP addresses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Log Users</td>
<td>Manage and schedule performance counters logs and alerts on the computer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Monitor Users</td>
<td>Ability to monitor performance counters and read performance counter data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power Users</td>
<td>Typically used to provide elevated privileges for legacy applications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print Operators</td>
<td>Administer printers and print jobs on the server.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remote Desktop Users</td>
<td>Members of this group are granted permission to log onto the computer remotely.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replicator</td>
<td>Manages domain replication functions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Users</td>
<td>Limited access to log on to the computer. Allows users to run applications, use local devices and peripherals but not make administrative changes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WinRMRemoteWMIUsers</td>
<td>Ability to access WMI resources.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TIP**  
When delegating administrative tasks, it is a good practice to create separate delegate accounts for users. The idea is to operate on the principle of least privilege, meaning for normal operations you would use a standard user account with enough access to perform your job. When elevated privileges are required, invoke the run as function or log in with your delegate account. This reduces the risk of unintentional changes that could make for an unpleasant day for the admin.

**Leveraging Active Directory**

One of the major benefits of Active Directory is that you can split up administrative tasks among various individuals using the AD DS Delegation of Control Wizard. You can assign different sets of administrative responsibility to different users, and these can include segments of the directory structure such as OUs or sites. The following are several benefits of delegating administrative control:

- You can assign subsets of administrative tasks to users and groups.
- You can assign responsibility of a limited portion of the domain, such as OUs or sites, to users or groups.
- You can use a nested hierarchy of OUs for even more granular control over which users can perform certain administrative tasks.

- You can enhance network security by placing more restrictive limits on the membership of powerful groups such as Domain Admins, Enterprise Admins, and Schema Admins.

When designing your AD DS forest structure, you should keep in mind the administrative requirements of each domain. Each domain has the capability to contain a different OU hierarchy. The forest administrators, who are members of the Enterprise Admins group, are automatically granted the ability to create an OU hierarchy in any domain within the entire forest. Domain administrators, who are members of the Domain Admins group in each separate domain, by default are granted the right to create an OU hierarchy within their own domain.

When you initially create your OU design, you should do so to enable administration. After that, you should create any additional OUs required for the application of Group Policy and management of computers. Delegation of Control and management of AD DS are discussed in more detail later.

**Identifying Administration Tools**

The final step in delegating administrative duties is identifying the toolsets available to your delegates. Microsoft has provided us with the following tools to help with administrative tasks:

- **Server Manager**: Server Manager provides the ability to manage local or remote servers from a central location.

- **Windows PowerShell Web Access**: As we have seen previously, PowerShell is a powerful command-line tool that has been available since Windows Server 2008. As an improvement to Server 2012 R2, PowerShell now has the ability to be executed over the Web through the use of a Windows PowerShell Web Access Gateway. This is available as an installable feature through Server Manager.


- **Windows PowerShell Desired State Configuration (DSC)**: PowerShell Desired State Configuration (DSC) is a PowerShell extension released with Windows Server 2012 R2 and Windows 8.1. We discuss DSC in more detail in the next section.
- **Microsoft Management Console (MMC):** As with previous versions of Windows, the MMC is still a powerful tool used by administrators to manage local and remote servers. You can create custom read-only MMC consoles with specific snap-ins containing only those tools required for the specific delegate function.

- **Remote Server Administration Tools:** Provides a set of tools to be used with client computers running Windows 8/8.1. It includes Server Manager, MMC snap-ins, PowerShell cmdlets, and additional command-line tools used to manage Windows Server 2012 R2 Core and Full installations. You can download Remote Server Administration tools from the Microsoft Download Center as a standalone installer.

**NOTE** Before using administrative tools, you must first ensure that the necessary access rights have been granted and that you have addressed any prerequisites, such as .Net Framework 4.5, Windows Management Framework 4.0, or Firewall configurations.

**Windows PowerShell Desired State Configuration**

As mentioned previously, Windows PowerShell Desired State Configuration (DSC) was designed to enhance the levels of automation through the use of PowerShell 4.0. It helps administrators cut down on repetitive tasks by defining prebuilt configurations that accompany PowerShell 4.0 cmdlets. Configuration parameters are saved in a Managed Object File (MOF) and can be used as a baseline for comparison or as a template for new deployments. DSC is often used in the following situations:

- You need to verify or test applied system configurations against a configuration baseline defined in the DSC configuration.

- When using PowerShell to install or remove Server Roles/Features or installation packages based on specific configurations.

- You need to review or make changes to registry settings, environment variables, processes, or services.

- You need to manage local users/groups to ensure that they are configured according to DSC.

To function properly, DSC requires the following components:

- A strong knowledge of PowerShell

- Installation of the Windows PowerShell Desired State Configuration Service feature
■ .NET Framework 4.5
■ Windows Communication Foundation (WCF) Services
■ Web Server (IIS) and related role services/features
■ Clients running at least Windows 7 or Windows Server 2008 R2 with Windows Management Framework 4.0

Installing and Configuring DSC

DSC works via two basic methods: Pull and Push. The Pull method works through the use of a Pull Server. Using this method, you can configure a server as the Pull Server, which acts as central configuration repository storing the configuration data for computers. The Pull Server stores DSC resources required by the target computers, also known as nodes. In large environments, nodes can be configured to pull from the server as they come online. The second method is the Push method. In smaller implementations, a central server can be configured to Push DSC configurations. The down side is that this doesn't always guarantee that all nodes receive the updated configuration. As an administrator, you also have the ability to use a combination of both Pull and Push methods.

DSC works through the basis of defining configurations within scripts. Using Notepad, you can build a custom DSC configuration. Configurations contain several components, all of which are organized within a configuration block. The keyword Configuration tells PowerShell that a specific configuration is to follow. The use of braces { } identify the start and end of the configuration. Together, both of these items create the foundation of a configuration block. The basic structure of a configuration block is

```
Configuration MyConfigName
{
}
```

Inside the configuration block, node blocks are identified. A node represents a computer in the environment. Nodes are used when you need to apply a configuration block to a specific computer or computers. Like configuration blocks, node blocks start and end with a brace { }. Multiple node blocks can be created within a configuration block, although a configuration block does not have to contain any node blocks. Depending on the requirements, you might need to use node blocks.

```
Configuration MyConfigName
{
```
Inside the node blocks, *resource blocks* can be identified. Resource blocks are used to configure specific resources. These can be configured manually, or you can use several prebuilt resources available within the PowerShell framework. Some of the built-in resources include:

- **DSC Configuration Archive**: For working with compressed/archive files
- **DSC Configuration Environment**: For managing computer environmental configurations
- **DSC Configuration File**: For managing files and folders
- **DSC Configuration Group**: For managing local groups on target nodes
- **DSC Configuration Log**: For writing messages to the DSC event log
- **DSC Configuration Package**: For installing msi/exe packages
- **DSC Configuration Process**: For managing processes on target nodes
- **DSC Configuration Registry**: For managing registry keys on target nodes
- **DSC Configuration Role**: For adding or removing Windows features and roles on target nodes
- **DSC Configuration Script**: For running PowerShell script blocks on target nodes
- **DSC Configuration Service**: For managing services on target nodes
- **DSC Configuration User**: For managing local user accounts on target nodes

Resource blocks are identified by a resource name followed by an identifier. Again, use braces to establish the start/finish boundary. For example, to add configuration details to ensure that the Web-Server role is installed for *MyComputer1*, use the following syntax:

```powershell
Configuration MyConfigName
{
    Node "MyComputer1"
    {
        WindowsFeature MyRoles
    }
}
```
{ 
    Ensure = "Present"
    Name = "Web-Server"
}

After you have created the appropriate configurations, save it as a PowerShell script. To invoke the configuration, execute it via an administrative PowerShell session. Invoking the configuration creates the MOF file in the working directory containing the configuration block script. To execute the configuration, run the command:

```
Start-DscConfiguration -Wait -Verbose -Path .\MyConfigName
```

**NOTE**  The intent of this section was to provide a high-level overview of DSC and how to use it. There are a variety of configuration parameters and best practices that go beyond the scope of this *Cert Guide*. For more information on implementing DSC, refer to “Windows PowerShell Desired State Configuration Overview” at http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/dn249912.aspx.

### Configuring Offline Server Images

In any large-scale deployment, imaging technology will be one of your strongest allies. Microsoft has continued to evolve its imaging process through enhancements made to the Windows Deployment Services (WDS) role. WDS is covered in the 70-411 *Cert Guide*, but in this section, we will assume you already have a prebuilt image and are looking to perform offline servicing of the image.

So what is meant by servicing an image, and why offline? Historically speaking, updates to images required the administrator to deploy a new computer from the image, run through any customizations or updates, repackage the image, and upload it back to the repository. This is often a lengthy process—especially when only minor updates are required. For these instances, Microsoft has provided the ability to inject updates to a Windows image file (.wim) or virtual hard disk (.vhd or .vhdx) via the command line. Scenarios in which images require updating include:

- Enable or disable Windows roles and features
- Add or remove drivers or installable packages such as hotfixes
- Perform an inventory of installed packages, drivers, features, and so on
- Modify logging abilities to help post deployment troubleshooting
- Modify the offlineServicing section of an Unattend.xml answer file
- Configure international settings
- Upgrade the installation to a higher edition of Windows

**Deployment Image Servicing and Management**

Servicing an image offline requires an understanding of the Deployment Image Servicing and Management (DISM) tool. DISM is a command-line tool included in Windows Server 2012 R2. For previous installations of Windows it is also available within the Windows Automated Installation Kit (AIK), which can be downloaded from the Microsoft Download Center.

DISM takes the legwork out of the mix by enabling an administrator to mount the image file, similar to mounting a hard disk, and issue commands to update the image. When the updating is complete, changes are committed to the image and the file is unmounted, in which case the image is ready for the next deployment. Some key points and best practices to consider when using DISM:

- Must be run as administrator.
- Service an image offline whenever possible.
- If Windows image files are split or spanned across multiple types of media, you must copy them centrally to a single folder to service. Without this, mounting the image is not possible.
- Keep architecture consistent, meaning don’t inject x64 drivers into x86 images.
- Remote image updates is not currently supported. To make any changes, you must first copy the Windows image to the local machine, perform the necessary updates, and then copy the image back to the repository.
- After deployment, use the system file checker `sfc.exe /verifyonly` option.

**TIP** DISM is typically used for updating offline images, but it can also be used to update servers that are online especially in cases when you need a fast method to standardize or update to a higher edition of Windows.

There are several parameters you should understand when servicing images. Table 2-5 outlines some of the key parameters:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/Get-ImageInfo</td>
<td>Used to gather information from the image file such as index number, image name, description, and image size.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ImageFile</td>
<td>Used to identify the location of the source image file.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/Mount-Image</td>
<td>Parameter used to mount the image. When mounting the image, you must also specify an index number or the name associated with the image. This information can be extracted from the /Get-ImageInfo parameter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/MountDir</td>
<td>Directory in which the image is mounted to. For optimal performance, this should be on the local computer that is updating the image. Dism /Mount-Image /ImageFile:C:\TestImages\TestImage.wim /Name:<em>Image Name</em> /Mountdir:C:\MountedImage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/Cleanup-Mountpoints</td>
<td>In some cases images might become locked/orphaned and are unable to be remounted. Use this switch when experiencing trouble with mounting images that might have been previously mounted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/Add-Package</td>
<td>Adds one or more install packages or cabinet files (.cab) to a mounted image. When applying multiple packages, packages are listed in the order in which they should be installed. /Add-Package /PackagePath:[package path\package1.cab] /PackagePath:[second package path\package2.cab]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/Add-Driver</td>
<td>Adds a driver to the offline image. For third-party drivers, you might choose the /ForceUnsigned switch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/Remove-Driver</td>
<td>Removes a driver from the offline image.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/Commit-Image</td>
<td>Applies changes made to a mounted image and leaves the image mounted for additional changes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/Get-Packages</td>
<td>Produces a list of Packages from the mounted image in the mount directory. This can also be piped &gt; to a .txt file for easy reading.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/Get-Features</td>
<td>Produces a list of features by their case-sensitive name and their enabled/disabled status. This can also be piped &gt; to a .txt file for easy reading. It’s used in conjunction with /Get-FeatureInfo /FeatureName:[FeatureName] to output additional details for the feature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/Enable-Feature</td>
<td>Enables a specific feature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/Disable-Feature</td>
<td>Disables a specific feature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/Remove-Package</td>
<td>Removes an installed package.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Command</td>
<td>Meaning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/Unmount-Image</td>
<td>Unmounts the image. Use the /commit or /discard switch to apply or cancel any changes made before the image is unmounted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/Set-Edition</td>
<td>Used to change an offline windows image to a higher edition. This might also be done online with the /AcceptEula and /ProductKey switches.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Using DISM to Enable Remote Desktop Services**

Now that you have an understanding of DISM and some of the key options, let’s see it in action by enabling the Remote Desktop Services feature in an offline image. The first thing you need to do is obtain a copy of the source image. In this example, we will use one of the default Windows image files found on the Server installation media and extracted by a WDS server. Again, WDS is covered in more detail in the 70-411 Exam Cert Guide. To enable a feature in an offline image, perform the following steps:

1. Gather identifying information from the image using the /Get-ImageInfo option as shown in Figure 2-10.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PS C:\TestImages&gt; dism /Get-ImageInfo /ImageFile:C:\TestImages\TestImage.wim</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deployment Image Servicing and Management tool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Version: 6.2.9200.16384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Details for image: c:\testimages\testimage.wim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index : 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name : Windows Server 2012 ServerDatacenter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description : Windows Server 2012 ServerDatacenter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size : 11,997,664,663 bytes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The operation completed successfully.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PS C:\TestImages&gt;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 2-10** Dism /Get-ImageInfo
2. Using either the index number or name of the image, mount the image to a temporary mount directory. This will extract the contents of the image (Figure 2-11) to a directory structure in the temp mount directory specified. This process might take time depending on the speed of your computer.

```
Dism /Mount-Image
```

Figure 2-11 Dism /Mount-Image.

3. Review the current state of the Remote-Desktop-Services feature. Shown in Figure 2-12, take notice that the feature is currently disabled.

```
Dism /Get-FeatureInfo /FeatureName:Remote-Desktop-Services
```

Figure 2-12 Dism /Get-FeatureInfo /FeatureName:Remote-Desktop-Services.

4. Enable the Remote-Desktop-Services feature in the offline image by executing the command shown in Figure 2-13.

```
Dism /Enable-Feature /FeatureName:Remote-Desktop-Services
```

Figure 2-13 Dism /Enable-Feature /FeatureName:Remote-Desktop-Services.
5. Verify that the feature has been enabled using the `Dism /Get-FeatureInfo` command as shown in Figure 2-14.

```
PS C:\TestImages> dism /image:c:\mountedimage /Get-FeatureInfo /FeatureName:Remote-Desktop-Services
Deployment Image Servicing and Management tool
Version: 6.2.9200.16384

Feature Information:
Feature Name: Remote-Desktop-Services
Display Name: Remote Desktop Services
Description: Add or remove Remote Desktop Services.
Restart Required: Possible
State: Enabled

Custom Properties:
ServerComponent\Description : (http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ee411361.aspx)
Remote Desktop Services (Remote Desktop Services) enables users to access virtual desktops, session-based desktops, and RemoteApp programs. Use the Remote Desktop Services installation to configure a virtual machine-based or a session-based desktop deployment.
ServerComponent\DisplayName : Remote Desktop Services
ServerComponent\Directory : RemoteDesktop\Events.xml
ServerComponent\Id : 54
ServerComponent\InternalName : Remote-Desktop-Services
ServerComponent\Version\Major : 5
ServerComponent\Version\Minor : 1
ServerComponent\BestPractices\Model\Id : Microsoft\Windows\TerminalServices

The operation completed successfully.
PS C:\TestImages> _
```

**Figure 2-14** Change Verification—`Dism /Get-FeatureInfo /FeatureName:Remote-Desktop-Services`.

6. Commit changes to the image and unmount the `.wim` file, as shown in Figure 2-15. This will repackage the image file with the changes made. It might take some time depending on the speed of your computer.

```
PS C:\TestImages> dism /Unmount-Image /MountDir:c:\mountedimage /commit
Deployment Image Servicing and Management tool
Version: 6.2.9200.16384

Saving image
[================================]==
[================================]==

Unmounting image
[================================]==
[================================]==

The operation completed successfully.
PS C:\TestImages> _
```

**Figure 2-15** `Dism /Unmount-Image /commit`.

**NOTE** When unmounting images, it is important to close all windows and applications, especially File Explorer windows. This will help prevent locks during the unmounting process.
Configuring Remote Server Roles

As discussed previously, remote management of servers is extremely helpful for an administrator, especially in scenarios in which your organization is driving a centralized management approach or if you are managing a group of Server Core installations.

Before remote management can occur, the remote servers must be configured to enable remote management. This is on by default for new installations but can be changed by navigating to the Local Server properties of Server Manager as shown in Figure 2-16.

Figure 2-16 Server Manager Remote Management.

Similarly, remote management can be also be configured using the PowerShell command Configure-SMRemoting.exe -Enable or the –Disable switch if choosing to disable the service.

**NOTE** To enable remote management on legacy systems, you might be required to perform additional configuration steps, such as enabling WMI through the Windows Firewall service. For more information, refer to “Manage Multiple, Remote Servers with Server Manager” at http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/hh831456.aspx.

Once enabled for remote management, use the **Add other servers to manage** feature from the Server Manager Dashboard. The Add Servers dialog enables you to search for remote servers using Active Directory by importing a list from a text file or by using DNS as shown in Figure 2-17.
After adding a remote server, it will be listed under the Server Manager > All Servers group. To perform a remote administrative task, such as Adding Roles and Features, highlight the remote server and right-click to bring up the list of remote management options as shown in Figure 2-18.
Chapter 2: Installing and Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2  67

From this point, step through the Add Roles and Features Wizard as you have done previously. The only difference this time is to select the remote server previously added. To ensure the proper remote server is selected, take note of the destination server listed in the upper-right corner of the dialog box, as shown in Figure 2-19.

![Figure 2-19](image.png)

**Figure 2-19** Adding Roles and Features to Destination Server.

After you have installed the role, you now have the ability to manage and configure services associated with the role centrally from Server Manager on your managing server. In addition to Server Manager, PowerShell can be another powerful tool to simplify the installation and management of server roles remotely.

Using PowerShell, an administrator can perform a series of commands. Some common commands are outlined in Table 2-6.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Get-Windows Feature –ComputerName [remote computer name]</td>
<td>Retrieves a list of roles and features installed on the remote server specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Install-WindowsFeature –Name [feature name] –ComputerName [remote computer name] -Restart</td>
<td>Installs a specific feature to the destination computer listed. Issues a restart if required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uninstall-WindowsFeature –Name [feature name] –ComputerName [remote computer name] -Restart</td>
<td>Removes a specific feature to the destination computer listed. Issues a restart if required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Configuring Windows Server 2012 R2 Services

Windows services have been around for some time. If you recall, a service is an application that runs in the background without a traditional user interface or requiring user interaction to complete its core function. Services and their configurations are stored in a database known as the Service Control Database. Information is also stored under subkeys located in the Registry. Many services are installed and configured by default when the operating system or additional roles are installed. Examples of services include Windows Print Spooler, Windows Firewall, Windows Event Log, Windows Time, and so on.

Depending on the scenario, some services require additional configuration and management. As with all administrative operations, managing services also requires the proper permissions. Members of the local administrators group, account operators, domain admins, or higher all have the ability to manage services by default. Microsoft has provided two methods for managing services, the `services.msc` snap-in for the Microsoft Management Console (MMC) and the Service Controller configuration `sc config` command. An administrator will use these methods to perform the following:

- Local and remote administration of services
- Configuration of custom developed services
- Start, stop, pause, resume, or disable services
- Configure recovery actions if a service fails
- Run services as a specific user
- Enable or disable services for certain hardware profiles
- View service status and details
Services.msc

To manage services via a GUI, use the Services.msc snap-in. The services snap-in, as shown in Figure 2-20, can be launched by searching for services.msc from the Charms bar or by navigating to Start > Administrative Tools > Services.

![Figure 2-20 Services Snap-in for Microsoft Management Console.](image)

In the instances where services need to be managed remotely from a central console, you can add the Services snap-in to a custom Microsoft Management Console. To do this, launch the MMC application from the Search charm, add the Services snap-in to the console, and specify the name of another computer or browse to it using the Browse button as shown in Figure 2-21.

![Figure 2-21 Remote Services Management.](image)
Regardless of local or remote, a handful of items are configurable from the Services snap-in. Each service listed has a series of configurable properties. For example, Figure 2-22 illustrates the Properties dialog box for the Windows Firewall service (MpsSvc).

![Windows Firewall Properties Dialog Box](image)

Figure 2-22  Windows Firewall (MpsSvc) Properties Dialog Box.

As you can see, several configurable items are grouped into different tabs as outlined in Table 2-7.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Tab</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>Used to view information about the service such as:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service name</td>
<td>Windows short name for the service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display name</td>
<td>User-friendly display name for the service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Brief explanation of the service function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Path to executable</td>
<td>Local path for the executable or binary of the service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Startup type</td>
<td>Sets the startup type for the service such as automatic, automatic with a delayed start, manual, or disabled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service status</td>
<td>Displays the current status of the service whether it is running, stopped, or paused and provides the ability to change the service status</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Property Tab Description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Tab</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Log On</td>
<td>Used to configure the account used to start the service upon boot up. In most cases, this is defaulted to the Local Service or System built in accounts. If a specific account has been delegated the ability to run the service, this tab provides the ability to supply the authoritative credentials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recovery</td>
<td>Provides recovery options and the automated responses if the service fails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dependencies</td>
<td>Lists the dependant and depending services or applications for the specific service.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SC Commands

For local or remote management through the command line, Microsoft has included the ability to interface with the Service Controller using the `C:\Windows\System32\SC.exe` application. Launch the application by opening an Admin Command Prompt by right-clicking the Start button and choosing Command Prompt (Admin). SC.exe is particularly useful when working with Server Cores and for testing/troubleshooting issues. Commonly used SC commands are listed in Table 2-8.

#### Table 2-8 Common SC Commands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SC Query</td>
<td>Queries a server for Service Status. Outputs information such as Service Name, Display Name, Type, and State of the service.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>SC [\ServerName] Query</code></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC [Start, Stop, Pause, Continue]</td>
<td>Executes command to start, pause/continue, or stop a service.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>SC [\ServerName] [Start/Stop/Pause/Continue] [ServiceName]</code></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC Create</td>
<td>Creates a new service in the Service Control Managers database. The startup type, location to the binary path, display name, and so on are among the configuration options for this command.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC Config</td>
<td>Configures local or remote services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>SC [\ServerName] config [ServiceName] [options]</code></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Common Options:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <code>Start=[boot, auto, demand, disabled]</code></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC delete</td>
<td>Deletes a service.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>SC [\ServerName] delete [ServiceName]</code></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Command</td>
<td>Meaning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC description</td>
<td>Provides or updates the user friendly name, or description of a service.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC [ServerName]\ description [ServiceName] [Description]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC failure</td>
<td>Sets the services automatic recovery options if a failure occurs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC [ServerName]\ failure [ServiceName] [Options]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Common Options:**
- **Reset=** [x, where x is the period of time measured in seconds in which the error count will be reset back to zero]
- **Reboot=** [message to be broadcasted upon failure]
- **Command=** [command to be executed upon failure]
- **Actions=** [Specifies the actions and time in which they will occur such as run, restart, and reboot]

**NOTE**  These are only a few of the options available for the SC command. For a complete list, refer to “SC” at http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb490995.aspx.

**Configuring NIC Teaming**

NIC Teaming, also known as Load Balancing/Fail Over (LBFO), is a strategy used to increase network availability and overall performance. Multiple network interface cards are joined together and operate as a single entity. Previously, NIC Teaming was left for the manufacturers to provide a tool. Today, NIC Teaming is included in Windows Server 2012 R2 to provide the following capabilities:

- **High Availability:** A server can contain multiple network cards, each connected to a different network switch part of the same network segment. This scenario provides high network link availability in the event of a single NIC failure, single switch failure, or single link failure.

- **Increased Throughput:** Multiple network interface cards can be teamed together to provide increased throughput or load-balancing capabilities. The aggregation of multiple links provides a “larger pipe” to connect to the network.
Configure NIC Teaming via GUI

You can launch the NIC Teaming configuration interface, as shown in Figure 2-23, from the Server Manager Local screen. To configure NIC Teaming via GUI, perform the following steps:

1. From the NIC Teaming interface, highlight the available adapters to be added to the team as shown in Figure 2-23.

![NIC Teaming Configuration Interface](image)

2. Once highlighted, select Add to New Team from the Tasks drop-down list. This will launch the New team dialog box.

3. Type a Team name in the NIC Teaming dialog box as shown in Figure 2-24. Confirm that all appropriate adapters are checked.

![Figure 2-23 NIC Teaming Configuration Interface](image)
4. Expand the Additional Properties drop-down and choose the appropriate Teaming mode. The following modes can be selected:

- **Static Teaming:** This mode requires custom configurations on the switch and host to identify the links as being part of the team. Static Teaming is considered a Switched Dependent mode because it depends on the switch for configuration. It is used for custom scenarios with supported switches where more granular or manual control is required.

- **Switched Independent:** Refers to the ability of the NIC Team to manage the connections to the switches and keeps track of the teams' connection state. This is the most common teaming method as it supports just about any Ethernet switch. This option enables the NIC Team to split adapters' connections between one or multiple switches.

Because the Team manages the connection states, Switched Independent mode also provides an option for Active/Active or Active/Standyby teaming. In Active/Active, all links are used for load balancing and throughput. For Active/Standby teaming, one link can be designated as the active link where others are remaining passive. The passive links stand by and take over during a failover event resulting from the active link failing.
■ **LACP:** Link Aggregation Control Protocol (LACP) is a Switched-Dependent mode used to dynamically identify and aggregate links between a host and switch. The use of enterprise classed managed switches is required.

5. Choose the appropriate load balancing mode from the following options:

   ■ **Address Hash:** Load balances outbound network traffic across all active NICs. Inbound traffic is received by only one NIC in the team. This mode is typically seen with web servers.

   ■ **Hyper-V Port:** Provides improved support for load balancing between virtual machines (VMs). Hyper-V works with the NIC Team to load balance and deliver VM traffic over specific NICs.

6. Select the appropriate Standy adapter by selecting a specific adapter or choosing **None** where all adapters remain active.

7. Confirm the Primary team interface. This enables you to choose the default or specific Virtual Local Area Network (VLAN).

8. Click **OK** when complete.

After you have successfully configured a NIC Team, a new logical adapter will be available for management under the Network and Sharing Center. From here, you can manage adapter settings much like you have done previously with a traditional adapter. In the event that you decide to remove the NIC Team, the NIC Team user interface will return the adapters to the previous state prior to teaming.


### Configure Basic NIC Teaming via PowerShell

You can configure NIC Teams by issuing PowerShell commands. To create a new NIC Team, execute the following command:

```
New-NetLbfoTeam [Team Name], Ethernet, Ethernet 2
```
Once issued, the NIC Team will be established and enabled in the default Switch Independent mode. To remove the NIC Team, execute the command:

```
Remove-NetLbfoTeam [Team Name]
```


---

### Exam Preparation Tasks

**Review All the Key Topics**

Review the most important topics in the chapter, noted with the key topics icon in the outer margin of the page. Table 2-9 lists a reference of these key topics and the page numbers on which each is found.

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**Table 2-9**  Key Topics for Chapter 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Topic Element</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Table 2-2</td>
<td>Describes the minimum hardware requirements for installing Windows Server 2012 R2.</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step list</td>
<td>Shows you how to install the Server Core version of Windows Server 2012 R2.</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 2-3</td>
<td>You can select either the Server Core version or the Server with a GUI.</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 2-3</td>
<td>Summarizes several more common commands used in configuring Server Core.</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step list</td>
<td>Shows you how to install the Server with a GUI version of Windows Server 2012 R2.</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step list</td>
<td>Shows you how to convert your server from Server with a GUI to Server Core.</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step list</td>
<td>Shows you how to convert your server from Server Core to Server with a GUI.</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table 2-4</td>
<td>Listing of local groups built into Windows Server 2012 R2.</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Complete the Tables and Lists from Memory

Print a copy of Appendix B, “Memory Tables” (found on the CD), or at least the section for this chapter, and complete the tables and lists from memory. Appendix C, “Memory Tables Answer Key,” is also on the CD and includes completed tables and lists to check your work.

Definitions of Key Terms

Define the following key terms from this chapter, and check your answers in the glossary.

Desired State Configuration (DSC), Failover, Load Balance, Sconfig.cmd, Windows PowerShell
This chapter covers the following subjects:

- **Designing storage spaces**: Planning is one of the most important aspects for any deployment. This section introduces storage spaces and the many benefits they bring to the table, including the support for disk enclosures and tiered storage under Windows Server 2012 R2.

- **Configuring Basic and Dynamic Disks**: This section provides an overview of basic and dynamic disks and how to manage them within Windows.

- **Configuring MBR and GPT Disks**: This section discusses the importance of disk signatures and partition tables and when to use each type.

- **Managing Volumes**: Taking a deeper look into basic and dynamic disks, this section identifies the various types of basic volumes and advanced disk configurations with the use of dynamic disks.

- **Creating and Mounting Virtual Hard Disks (VHDs)**: This section provides you with an understanding of virtual hard disks and how to manage them in your environment using tools such as Disk Management.

- **Configuring Storage Pools and Disk Pools**: This section provides step-by-step instructions on how to implement storage pools and virtual disks.
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Index

Numbers

003 Router DHCP option, 499
006 DNS Servers DHCP option, 499
015 DNS Domain Name DHCP option, 499
044 WINS/NBNS Servers DHCP option, 499
046 WINS/NBT Node Type DHCP option, 499
047 NetBIOS Scope ID DHCP option, 499
060 Vendor class Identifier DHCP option, 499
066 Boot Server Host Name DHCP option, 499
067 Boot File Name DHCP option, 499
6to4 addresses, 456-458

A

AAAA resource records, 558
ABE (access-based enumeration), 176-178
access control
delegate access, 53-54
Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in, 842-845
Access Control Assistance Operators security group, 53, 677
access control list (ACL), 161
Access Denied errors, 234
access-based enumeration (ABE), 176-178
Account lockout duration security setting, 769
account lockout policies, configuration, 769
Account lockout threshold security setting, 769
Account logon auditing event, 772
Account management auditing event, 772
Account Operators security group, 677
accounts
computer accounts
administration, 660-667
creating, 649
redirecting to OUs, 656
group accounts
configuration, 683-685
creating, 681-683
default security groups, 677-681
described, 676-677
distribution lists, creating, 685-686
group enumeration tools, 690
local versus domain local groups, 688-690
nesting, 686-688
template accounts, creating, 650-651
user accounts
  administration, 660-667
  creating automatically, 651-656
  creating manually, 645-648
  described, 644-645
Accounts: Block Microsoft accounts
  security option, 762
Accounts: Rename administrator
  account security option, 763
ACL (access control list), 161
Action menu (virtual machines), 313-314
Active Directory. See also AD DS
  (Active Directory Domain Services);
  domain controllers (DC)
auditing, 770
  configuration, 771, 773-778
  event types, 772-773
  new features, 770
  subcategories, 770-771
components
  containers, 573
  global catalogs, 574-575
  list of, 572
  logical components, 578-583
  namespaces, 572-573
  objects, 573
  partitions, 575
  physical components, 583-587
  schemas, 574
in delegation of server administration, 54-55
Group Policy. See Group Policy
naming standards
  canonical names, 578
  distinguished names (DN), 576-577
globally unique identifiers (GUID), 577-578
  origin of, 576
  relative distinguished names (RDN), 577
  security identifiers (SID), 578
  user principal names (UPN), 577
new features, 588-589
Ntdsutil.exe, 587
removing, 614-617
troubleshooting
  Active Directory Administrative
    Center snap-in, 628-630
  Active Directory Domain and Trusts
    snap-in, 630
  Active Directory Module for Windows
    PowerShell, 632
  Active Directory Sites and Services
    snap-in, 631
  Active Directory Users and Computers
    snap-in, 628
  ADSI Edit, 632-634
  SRV record registration, 634-635
  verifying installation, 628
upgrading
  Adprep utility, 611-612
  domain and forest functional levels,
    609-611
  from Windows Server 2008, 612-613
Active Directory Administrative
  Center snap-in, 276-277, 628-630,
  698
Active Directory Certificate Services, 26
Active Directory Domain and Trusts
  snap-in, 630
Active Directory Domain Services (AD
  DS). See AD DS (Active Directory
  Domain Services)
Active Directory Federation Services (AD FS), 26
Active Directory Installation Wizard, 595-596
Active Directory Lightweight Directory Services (AD LDS), 26
Active Directory Module for Windows PowerShell, 632
Active Directory Rights Management Server (AD RMS), 26
Active Directory Services Interfaces Editor (ADSI Edit), 632-634
Active Directory Sites and Services snap-in, 631
Active Directory Users and Computers snap-in, 628
Active Directory-integrated zones, 543-544
Active volume statue, 87
AD DS (Active Directory Domain Services). See also Active Directory; domain controllers (DC)
  computer accounts
    administration, 660-667
    creating, 649
  contacts, configuration, 659
  described, 26
  DHCP server authorization, 513-515
  firewall exception, 822
  global catalog servers
    planning, 621-622
    promoting domain controllers to, 623-624
    purpose of, 621
  group accounts
    configuration, 683-685
    creating, 681-683
    default security groups, 677-681
    described, 676-677
distribution lists, creating, 685-686
  group enumeration tools, 690
  local versus domain local groups, 688-690
  nesting, 686-688
installation
  Active Directory Installation Wizard, 595-596
  existing domains, 605-606
  existing forests, 604-605
  from media, 617-621
  new forests, 596-604
  replica domain controllers, 627-628
  requirements, 594-595
  unattended installation, 606-608
  verifying, 628
  in Windows Azure, 625-627
namespaces
  administrative versus geographical domain organization, 591-592
  best practices, 593-594
  multiple trees, 592-593
  planning, 589-590
  subdividing, 590-591
  new features, 10, 12
organizational units (OUs)
  configuration, 697-698
  creating, 694-696
  delegating administrative control, 700-705
  deleting, 698
  moving, 698
  planning, 691-694
  searching, 698
publishing printers in, 213-214
template accounts, creating, 650-651
user accounts
administration, 660–667
creating automatically, 651–656
creating manually, 645–648
described, 644–645
user principal names (UPN)
adding/removing suffixes, 657–658
described, 656
suffixes, 657
AD FS (Active Directory Federation Services), 26
AD LDS (Active Directory Lightweight Directory Services), 26
AD RMS (Active Directory Rights Management Server), 26
Add Hardware VM setting, 305
Add option (NTFS permissions), 163
Add-Computer PowerShell cmdlet, 655
Add-DhcpServer4ExclusionRange PowerShell cmdlet, 497
Add-DhcpServer6ExclusionRange PowerShell cmdlet, 497
Add-DhcpServerInDC PowerShell cmdlet, 515
Add-DhcpServerv4OptionDefinition PowerShell cmdlet, 501
Add-DhcpServerv4Reservation PowerShell cmdlet, 506
Add-DhcpServerv4Scope PowerShell cmdlet, 496
Add-DhcpServerv6OptionDefinition PowerShell cmdlet, 501
Add-DhcpServerv6Reservation PowerShell cmdlet, 506
Add-DhcpServerv6Scope PowerShell cmdlet, 496
Add-DnsServerConditionalForwarder Zone PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Add-DnsServerForwarder PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Add-DnsServerPrimaryZone PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Add-DnsServerResourceRecord PowerShell cmdlet, 562
Add-DnsServerResourceRecordA PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Add-DnsServerResourceRecordAAAA PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Add-DnsServerResourceRecordCname PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Add-DnsServerResourceRecordPtr PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Add-DnsServerSecondaryZone PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Add-DnsServerStubZone PowerShell cmdlet, 539
/Add-Driver DISM parameter, 60
adding
roles and features, 21
UPN suffixes, 657–658
/Add-Package DISM parameter, 60
Add-PhysicalDisk command, 117
Address Resolution Protocol (ARP), 431
addressing. See IPv4 addressing; IPv6 addressing
Add-VMNetworkAdapter PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Add-VMNetworkAdapterAcl PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Add-VMSwitch PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Add-VMSwitchExtensionPortFeature PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Add-VMSwitchExtensionSwitchFeature PowerShell cmdlet, 416
administration. See also PowerShell; printer administration; server administration
Active Directory, delegating, 700-705
daily task administration
Active Directory Administrative Center, 276-277
Task Scheduler, 270-275
user/computer accounts, 660-667
inactive/disabled accounts, 666-667
offline domain join, 663-665
password resets, 660-661
User Account Control (UAC), 661-663
user rights, 665-666
administrative domain organization, 591-592
Administrative Templates container (Group Policy), 723
Administrators and Non-Administrators layer, 735
Administrators security group, 53, 677
Adprep utility, 611-612
ADSI Edit (Active Directory Services Interfaces Editor), 632-634
ADUDLP (nesting groups), 686-688
Advanced Audit Policy Configuration security policy, 765
advanced auditing policies, configuration, 775-777
advanced NTFS permissions, configuration, 164-169
Advanced tab (Properties dialog box)
DNS (Domain Name System), 548
printer administration, 224-226
Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in, 847
.aero top-level domain, 531
AGDLP (nesting groups), 686-688
alias (CNAME) resource records, 559
Allow or Disallow use of the Offline Files feature policy, 147
alternate configurations (IPv4), troubleshooting, 472
Always Offline mode, 149-151
anycast addresses, 449
APIPA (Automatic Private Internet Protocol Addressing), 445
Application Control Policies security policy, 764
Application layer (TCP/IP), 428, 432-433
application partitions, 575
application restriction
AppLocker policies
capabilities, 797-798
comparison with software restriction policies (SRP), 798
configuration, 799-801
creating rules, 802-807
default rules, 799
described, 790, 797
software restriction policies
configuration, 790-796
described, 790
Application Server, 26
applications, new features, 9
AppLocker policies
capabilities, 797-798
comparison with software restriction policies (SRP), 798
configuration, 799-801
creating rules, 802-807
default rules, 799
described, 790, 797
Apply task (Hyper-V Checkpoint pane), 369
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A resource records, 558</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARP (Address Resolution Protocol), 431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARP command, 463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.arpa top-level domain, 531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>assignment of user rights, 759-762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attach vdisk command, 103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>attribute line (.csv files), 652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>auditing policies, 770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>configuration, 771, 773-778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>advanced auditing policies, 775-777</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>with auditpol.exe, 777-778</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>basic auditing policies, 773-775</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>event types, 772-773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>new features, 770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>subcategories, 770-771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>auditpol.exe tool, 770, 777-778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>authenticated bypass, configuration, 851-853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authentication exemption connection security rule, 837</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>authorization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHCP servers, 513-515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in, 842-845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automatic Private Internet Protocol Addressing (APIPA), 445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automatic Start Action VM setting, 305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automatic Stop Action VM setting, 305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backup (Volume Snapshot) Service, 320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backup Operators security group, 53, 677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>basic auditing policies, configuration, 773-775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>basic disks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>configuration, 86-88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>converting to dynamic, 94-96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>volume management, 89-93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic User security level, 791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIND (Berkeley Internet Name Domain), 522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOS VM setting, 305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BitLocker, new features, 11-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.biz top-level domain, 531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BODP (Branch Office Direct Printing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>described, 216-217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>new features, 202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOOTP/DHCP port, 830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOOTP-forwarding, 515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BranchCache, new features, 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Builtin container, default security groups, 677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>built-in local groups, delegate access, 53-54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>built-in user accounts, 644</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C

/cache:option parameter (net share command), 144
Caching option (Advanced Sharing dialog box), 139
canonical name (CNAME) resource records, 559
canonical names, 578
Capture screen VM command, 314
centralized delegation model, 52
Cert Publishers security group, 677
Certificate Services DCOM Access security group, 53, 677
Change permission (shared folders), 140
Change permissions permission (NTFS), 167
charms in GUI, 16-18
Checkpoint File Location VM setting, 305
Checkpoint VM action, 314
checkpoints
benefits/challenges, 366-368
creating/reverting, 368-369
managing multiple, 369
choosing
domain controllers for GPOs, 731-732
install methods, 23-24
virtual machine generations, 294-296
CIDR (Classless Interdomain Routing), 437
classes, IPv4 addressing, 435
clean installs, 24
/Cleanup-Mountpoints DISM parameter, 60
Clear-DnsServerCache PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Clear-DnsServerStatistics PowerShell cmdlet, 539
client configuration
Offline Files, 147
Work Folders, 159-161
client options, DHCP, 499, 505-507
client reservations, DHCP, 505-507
Clipboard menu (virtual machines), 314
Cloneable Domain Controllers security group, 677
cloud computing
new features, 9
Windows Azure
AD DS (Active Directory Domain Services) forest installation, 625-627
described, 624-625
replica domain controller installation, 627-628
clusters, new features, 10
cmdlets, Server Core, 46-47. See also PowerShell
CNAME resource records, 559
colon-hexadecimal addressing, 448
.com top-level domain, 531
COM VM setting, 305
Comma Separated Value Data Exchange. See Csvde tool
command prompt, access policies, 726
commands
Server Core commands, 46-47
WinRM options, 247
Comments option (Advanced Sharing dialog box), 139
/Commit-Image DISM parameter, 60
Common Options, configuration, 744-746
community mode (PVLANs), 404
Compact vdisk command, 103
compacting VHDs (virtual hard disks), 344-346
compatibility addresses, 455
complexity of passwords, 768
computer accounts
administration, 660-667
inactive/disabled accounts, 666-667
offline domain join, 663-665
password resets, 660-661
User Account Control (UAC), 661-663
user rights, 665-666
creating, 649
creating automatically with PowerShell, 655-656
redirecting to OUs, 656

**Computer Configuration container (Group Policy), 723**

configuration. See also enabling; Properties dialog box
AppLocker policies, 799-801
auditing policies, 771, 773-778
advanced auditing policies, 775-777
with auditpol.exe, 777-778
basic auditing policies, 773-775

Branch Office Direct Printing (BODP), 33-217
Common Options, 744-746
contacts, 659
DHCP relay agents, 515-518
DHCP scope options, 499-507
DHCP scope properties, 498-499
DHCP servers, 489-493
with PowerShell, 492-493
with Server Manager, 490-492
disk quotas, options for, 183
DNS resource records, 556-557
alias (CNAME) resource records, 559
deleting, 562
host (A or AAAA) resource records, 558
mail exchanger (MX) resource records, 560
pointer (PTR) resource records, 561
PowerShell cmdlets, 562
service locator record (SRV) resource records, 561
down-level server management, 248-249
dynamic MAC addresses, 398-399

Easy Print Driver, 220
emulated network adapters, 407
external virtual switches, 388-391
file sharing, 134-138
group accounts, 683-685

**Hyper-V**

- **Dynamic Memory**, 314-316
- **Enhanced Session Mode**, 309-312
- **Guest Integration Services**, 318-322
- **Live Migration**, 357
- **Resource Metering**, 317-318
- **Smart Paging**, 316

internal virtual switches, 392
IPv4 addressing, 441-446, 472
IPv6 addressing, 451-454, 488-489
IPv6 transition technologies, 459-461
ISATAP hosts, 456

local storage
- **basic disks**, 86-88
- **converting basic disks to dynamic disks**, 94-96
dynamic disks, 86-88
**GPT disks**, 88-89
**MBR disks**, 88-89
volume management, 89-93

Local Users and Groups Extension
local group configuration, 741-743
local user configuration, 743-744
location-aware printer settings, 231-232
Multiple Local Group Policies, 736-737
network isolation, 402-406
**PVLANs**, 404-406
virtual switch trunking, 403-404

NIC Teaming, 72-76
- **via GUI**, 73-75
- **via PowerShell**, 75-76
virtual NIC teams, 411-412
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NTFS permissions, advanced permissions, inheritance</td>
<td>162-164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offline Files</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>client configuration, policy configuration, server configuration,</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>transparent caching,</td>
<td>151-152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>offline server images,</td>
<td>59-64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>organizational units (OUs),</td>
<td>697-698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pass-through disks,</td>
<td>364-366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PowerShell Desired State Configuration (DSC),</td>
<td>57-59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>private virtual switches,</td>
<td>393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PXE (Preboot Execution Environment) boot,</td>
<td>508-510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>remote server roles,</td>
<td>65-67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>security filtering, in Group Policy,</td>
<td>746-749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>security settings (Group Policy),</td>
<td>762-765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>account lockout policies,</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>password policies,</td>
<td>766-770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tools for,</td>
<td>765-766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Server Manager for remote management</td>
<td>250-251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>services,</td>
<td>68-72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC commands,</td>
<td>71-72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services.msc snap-in,</td>
<td>69-70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>software restriction policies,</td>
<td>790-796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>static IP addresses,</td>
<td>537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>static MAC addresses,</td>
<td>400-401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>storage pools,</td>
<td>106-110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage QoS (Quality of Service),</td>
<td>355-356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>storage spaces,</td>
<td>85-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>synthetic network adapters,</td>
<td>408-411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>User Account Control (UAC),</td>
<td>778-780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>via Control Panel,</td>
<td>779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>via Group Policy,</td>
<td>779-780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>user rights,</td>
<td>665-666, 759-762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>virtual machine settings,</td>
<td>304-305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>virtual SAN support,</td>
<td>371-372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume Shadow Copy Services (VSS),</td>
<td>179-181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windows Firewall,</td>
<td>818-826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>configurable exceptions,</td>
<td>822</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for MMC snap-ins,</td>
<td>263-264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PowerShell cmdlets,</td>
<td>825-826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>authenticated bypass,</td>
<td>851-853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>connection security rules,</td>
<td>836-841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>exporting/importing settings,</td>
<td>853-854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Policy settings,</td>
<td>848-853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inbound/outbound rules,</td>
<td>830-836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>multiple profiles,</td>
<td>828-830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>notifications,</td>
<td>847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rule properties,</td>
<td>842-847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rule scope, modifying,</td>
<td>845-846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>user authorization,</td>
<td>842-845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WinRM (Windows Remote Management),</td>
<td>245-248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Folders,</td>
<td>154-161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>configuration blocks,</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>configuration partitions,</td>
<td>575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configure Background Sync policy,</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configure Slow link speed policy,</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Configure slow-link mode policy,</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>conflict resolution (local group policies),</td>
<td>738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>connection security rules (Windows Firewall with Advanced Security</td>
<td>828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>snap-in),</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
configuration, 836-841
IPSec settings, 850

connectivity problems, troubleshooting
IPv4/IPv6 problems, 469-473
network diagnostics tools, 461-462
TCP/IP utilities, 463-468

Connect-VMNetworkAdapter PowerShell cmdlet, 416

contacts, configuration, 659
containers
Active Directory, 573
Group Policy. See GPCs (Group Policy containers)
contiguous namespaces, 573

Control Panel
printer installation, 208-210
User Account Control (UAC) configuration, 779

Control Panel Settings container (Group Policy), 723

converting
basic to dynamic disks, 94-96
to/from Server Core and Server with a GUI installations, 50-51
VHHDs (virtual hard disks), 344, 346-349
.coop top-level domain, 531

copying files/folders
with mouse, 175
NTFS permissions, 173-174
Copy-NetFirewallRule PowerShell cmdlet, 825

Core Networking firewall exception, 822
Create Basic Task action, 271
Create files permission (NTFS), 167
Create folders permission (NTFS), 167

Create Scope Wizard, 493-496
Create Task action, 271
Cryptographic Operators security group, 53, 677
cscript sceredit.wsf Server Core command, 46
Cscde tool, 651, 652-653
Ctrl+Alt+Delete VM action, 313
Custom connection security rule, 837
custom groups, creating, 254
customer address space, 381

D

DAC (Dynamic Access Control), new features, 11
daily task administration
Active Directory Administrative Center, 276-277
Task Scheduler, 270-275

Data Deduplication, 127
Data Exchange Service, 320
Data Incomplete volume status, 88
Data Not Redundant or Failed Redundancy volume status, 100
data storage, new features, 13
DC (domain controllers), 584-585
installation
in existing domains, 605-606
from media, 617-621
as Server Core domain controllers, 617
unattended installation, 606-608
in Windows Azure, 627-628

promoting to global catalog servers, 623-624
removing Active Directory, 612-613
upgrading from Windows Server 2008, 612-613
dcdiag utility, 635
dcpromo.exe, 596, 606
Debug Logging tab (DNS Properties dialog box), 552-553
decentralized delegation model, 52
default gateways
  described, 434
  troubleshooting, 471
default printers, location-aware printer settings, 231-232
default security groups, 677-681
delegation
  of printer administration, 232-234
  of server administration, 51-59
    Active Directory, 54-55
    administration tools, 55-56
    delegate access, 53-54
    MMC (Microsoft Management Console), 261-262
  planning, 52
Delegation of Control Wizard, 700-705
Delete Checkpoint Subtree task (Hyper-V Checkpoint pane), 369
Delete Checkpoint task (Hyper-V Checkpoint pane), 369
/delete parameter (net share command), 144
Delete permission (NTFS), 167
Delete subfolders and files permission (NTFS), 167
deleting. See also removing
  GPO links, 729
  GPOs (Group Policy objects), 730
  organizational units (OUs), 698
  partitions, 93
  resource records, 562
  user accounts, 666-667
Denied RODC Password Replicators security group, 677
Deny disk space to users exceeding quota limit option, 183
denying
  GPO application, 746-748
  permissions, 172
Dependencies tab (Services.mcs snap-in), 70
deploying printers with Group Policy, 215-216
Deployment Image Servicing and Management (DISM) tool, 60-64
Desired State Configuration (DSC), 55-59
Detach vdisk command, 103
Devices charm, 17
DFS (Distributed File System), 127
DFS Management firewall exception, 822
DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol)
  benefits of, 476
  described, 482
  IPv4 leasing process, 484-487
    lease acknowledgement, 486
    lease offers, 485
    lease renewal, 487
    lease request, 484-485
    lease selection, 485-486
  IPv6 addressing, 488-489
  new features, 8, 482-483
  PXE (Preboot Execution Environment) boot, configuration, 508-510
  relay agents, configuration, 515-518
DHCP guard (network adapter advanced features), 412
DHCP Relay Agent, DHCP Server, DHCP Server Management, and DHCPv6 Relay Agent firewall exception

DHCP servers
- authorizing in Active Directory, 513-515
- configuration, 489-493
  - with PowerShell, 492-493
  - with Server Manager, 490-492
- described, 26
- installation, 489-493
  - with PowerShell, 492-493
  - with Server Manager, 490-492
- monitoring and troubleshooting, 510-513
- scopes
  - creating, 493-497
  - exclusions, 497-498
  - filters, 507
  - option configuration, 499-507
  - property configuration, 498-499
- troubleshooting, 471

DHCPACK packets, 486
DHCPDISCOVER packets, 484-485
DHCPNACK packets, 487
DHCPOFFER packets, 485
DHCPREQUEST packets, 485-486

differencing disks
- creating, 335-344
- merging with parent disks, 350-351
- reconnecting to parent disks, 352-354

Directory service access auditing event, 772

Disable All Task History action, 271
/Disable-Feature DISM parameter, 60
Disable-NetFirewallRule PowerShell cmdlet, 825

Disk Management snap-in, 87
disk quotas
- creating quota templates with FSRM, 186-188
- described, 182-183
- enabling
  - with File Explorer, 183-185
  - with FSRM, 185-186
- guidelines, 188-189

Diskette Drive VM setting, 305, 314

DiskPart commands, VHDs (virtual hard disks) management, 104-105
disks
- basic disks
  - configuration, 86-88
  - converting to dynamic, 94-96
  - volume management, 89-93
dynamic disks
  - configuration, 86-88
  - converting from basic, 94-96
GPT disks, configuration, 88-89
MBR disks, configuration, 88-89
RAID volumes. See RAID (Redundant Array of Independent (or Inexpensive) Disks) volumes
VHDs (virtual hard disks), 101-105
  creating, 102-103, 110-115
  managing with DiskPart, 104-105
  mounting, 103-104
  volume management, 115-117

DISM (Deployment Image Servicing and Management) tool, 60-64

Display All Running Tasks action, 271
distinguished names (DN), 576-577

Distributed COM Users security group, 53, 677

Distributed File System (DFS), 127

Distributed Scan Server role, 206

Distributed Transaction Coordinator firewall exception, 822
distribution groups, 676, 685-686

Djoin.exe tool, 664-665

DN (distinguished names), 576-577

DNS (Domain Name System), 432
  hierarchy of, 529-530
    hostnames, 533
    root-level domains, 531
    second-level domains, 532
    top-level domains, 531-532
  history of, 522, 528-529
  installation, 537-539
  name resolution process, 533-536
    iterative queries, 534-535
    recursive queries, 533-534
    reverse lookup queries, 535-536
  new features, 10, 536-537
  PowerShell cmdlets, 539-541
  Properties dialog box, 545
    Advanced tab, 548
    Debug Logging tab, 552-553
    Event Logging tab, 553-554
    Forwarders tab, 546
  Interfaces tab, 545
  Loading Zone Data tab, 550
  Monitoring tab, 554
  Name Checking tab, 549-550
  Root Hints tab, 550-552
  Security tab, 555
  Server Options tab, 548-549

resource records
  alias (CNAME) resource records, 559
  deleting, 562
  described, 556-557
  host (A or AAAA) resource records, 558
  mail exchanger (MX) resource records, 560
  pointer (PTR) resource records, 561
  PowerShell cmdlets, 562
  service locator record (SRV) resource records, 561

SRV resource records, troubleshooting, 634-635
  zones, 541-544
    Active Directory-integrated zones, 543-544
    GlobalNames zone, 544
    primary zones, 543
    secondary zones, 543
    stub zones, 543

DNS port, 830

DNS Server
  addresses, 434
  described, 26

DnsAdmins security group, 677

DnsUpdateProxy security group, 677

Do not limit disk usage option, 183

Domain Admins security group, 677

Domain Computers security group, 677
domain controllers (DC), 584-585.
See also Active Directory; AD DS
(Active Directory Domain Services)
choosing for GPOs, 731-732
installation
  in existing domains, 605-606
  from media, 617-621
  as Server Core domain controllers, 617
  unattended installation, 606-608
  in Windows Azure, 627-628
promoting to global catalog servers, 623-624
removing Active Directory, 612-613
upgrading from Windows Server 2008, 612-613
Domain Controllers security group, 677
Domain Guests security group, 677
domain local groups, 676
global and universal groups versus, 683
local groups versus, 688-690
Domain Name System (DNS). See
DNS (Domain Name System)
domain naming masters, 586
domain partitions, 575
domain policies, 738
Domain Profile (Windows Firewall), 819
domain user accounts, 644
Domain Users security group, 677
domains (Active Directory), 579
  administrative versus geographical
  organization, 591-592
Adprep utility, 611-612
best practices, 593-594
delegating administrative control, 700-705
functional levels, 609-611
global catalog servers
  planning, 621-622
  promoting domain controllers to,
    623-624
  purpose of, 621
installation
  additional domain controllers, 605-606
  in existing forests, 604-605
  in new forests, 596-604
multiple trees, 592-593
namespaces, subdividing, 590-591
offline domain join, 663-665
root domains, planning, 589-590
sites versus, 584
double-colon, 448
down-level server management,
  configuration, 248-249
dragging files/folders with mouse, 175
dsadd tool, 651, 654-655, 685, 694
dsc (Desired State Configuration), 55, 56-59
dsget tool, 655, 690
dsmo module, 655
dsmove tool, 655
dsquery tool, 655, 690
dsrm tool, 655
Dual Parity storage space
  configuration, 85
duplicate IP addresses, 472
DVD Drive VM command, 314
D-VMQ (dynamic virtual machine
  queue), new features, 385
Dynamic Access Control (DAC), new
  features, 11
dynamic disks
  configuration, 86-88
  converting from basic, 94-96
Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol.  
*See DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol)*

dynamic IP addresses  
IPv4 addressing, 441  
learning, 382  
in Windows Azure, 627
dynamic load balancing, new features, 385
dynamic MAC addresses, configuration, 398-399
Dynamic Memory, configuration, 314-316
dynamic virtual machine queue (D-VMQ), new features, 385
dynamic volumes, types of, 96

dynamically expanding disks, creating, 334-335

Enable-NetFirewallRule PowerShell cmdlet, 825
Enable-VMSwitchExtension PowerShell cmdlet, 416
enabling. *See also* configuration
disk quotas  
*with File Explorer, 183-185*  
*with FSRM, 185-186*
printer notifications, 235-237
Recycle Bin in Active Directory Administrative Center, 698
Remote Desktop Services, 62-64, 256-257
Work Folders, 154-159
Encrypt the Offline Files cache policy, 147
Enforce password history security setting, 766
Enhanced Session Mode, configuration, 309-312
Enterprise Admins security group, 677
Enterprise Read-only Domain Controllers security group, 677
Error checking tab (Properties dialog box), 93
Event Log Readers security group, 53, 677
Event Log security policy, 763
event logging for BODP, 202
Event Logging tab (DNS Properties dialog box), 553-554
Event Viewer, 263, 472
exclusions, creating, 497-498
Expand vdisk command, 103
expanding VHDs (virtual hard disks), 344, 349
exporting  
Server Manager settings, 256
virtual machines, 357, 359-364
Windows Firewall with Advanced Security settings, 853-854
expression-based auditing policies, 770
external virtual switches
description, 388-391
described, 385

Failed volume status, 87
fault tolerance
domain controllers (DC), 584
mirrored volumes, 99
RAID-0 volumes, 99
RAID-5 volumes, 100
spanned volumes, 99
Fax Server, 26
features
adding, 21
defined, 26
removing, 31-32
Features on Demand, 31-32
File and Printer Sharing
advanced sharing settings, 136
firewall exception, 263, 822
File and Storage Services
description, 26
new features, 127-130
File Explorer, 183-185
File Server Resource Manager (FSRM). See FSRM (File Server Resource Manager)
file sharing
configuration, 134-138
Offline Files. See Offline Files
Work Folders. See Work Folders
File System security policy, 764
File Transfer Protocol (FTP), 432, 464
filtering in Group Policy,
configuration, 746-749
filters, DHCP scopes, 507
fine-grained password policies,
769-770
firewalls. See Windows Firewall Firmware VM setting, 305
fixed-size disks, creating, 329-334
flexible single-master operations (FSMO) servers, 585
flexible storage, new features, 10
folders. See shared folders; Work Folders
forests, 581
Adprep utility, 611-612
functional levels, 609-611
global catalog servers
planning, 621-622
promoting domain controllers to,
623-624
purpose of, 621
installation
existing forests, 604-605
new forests, 596-604
in Windows Azure, 625-627
Formatting volume status, 88
Forwarders tab (DNS Properties dialog box), 546
FQDN (fully qualified domain name), 533
FSMO (flexible single-master operations) servers, 585
FSRM (File Server Resource Manager)
creating quota templates, 185-186
described, 26, 127
enabling disk quotas, 185-186
new features, 11
FTP (File Transfer Protocol), 432, 464
FTP port, 831
Full Control permission
NTFS, 161, 167
shared folders, 140
fully qualified domain name (FQDN), 533
functional levels for domains and forests in Windows Server 2012 R2, 609-611

G
gateways, default. See also Hyper-V Network Virtualization Gateway
described, 434
troubleshooting, 471
GDI (graphics device interface), 200
General tab
Properties dialog box, 92, 222
Services.msc snap-in, 70
generations, virtual machines, 294-296
geographical domain organization, 591-592
Get PowerShell cmdlet, 268
Get-ADComputer PowerShell cmdlet, 656
Get-ADGroupMember PowerShell cmdlet, 690
Get-ADReplicationSite PowerShell cmdlet, 632
Get-ADTrust PowerShell cmdlet, 632
Get-ADUser PowerShell cmdlet, 632, 656
Get-DnsServer PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Get-DnsServerCache PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Get-DnsServerDiagnostics PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Get-DnsServerForwarder PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Get-DnsServerRecursion PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Get-DnsServerResourceRecord PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Get-DnsServerRootHint PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Get-DnsServerScavenging PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Get-DnsServerStatistics PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Get-DnsServerZone PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Get-DnsServerZoneAging PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Get-DnsServerZoneDelegation PowerShell cmdlet, 539
/Get-Features DISM parameter, 60
/Get-ImageInfo DISM parameter, 60
Get-NetFirewallProfile PowerShell cmdlet, 825
Get-NetFirewallRule PowerShell cmdlet, 825
Get-NetFirewallSetting PowerShell cmdlet, 825
Get-NetIPAddress PowerShell cmdlet, 445
Get-NetIPInterface PowerShell cmdlet, 445
Get-NetIPv4Protocol PowerShell cmdlet, 445
Get-NetIPv6Protocol PowerShell cmdlet, 453
Get-NetNeighbor PowerShell cmdlet, 445, 472
Get-NetRoute PowerShell cmdlet, 445
Get-NetTCPConnection PowerShell cmdlet, 445
Get-NetTCPConnection PowerShell cmdlet, 971
Get-NetTCPSetting PowerShell cmdlet, 445
GetObject VBScript command, 690
/Get-Packages DISM parameter, 60
Get-Storage Pool command, 117
Get-VMNetworkAdapter PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Get-VMNetworkAdapterAcl PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Get-VMNetworkAdapterFailover Configuration PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Get-VMNetworkAdapterVlan PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Get-VMSwitch PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Get-VMSwitchExtension PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Get-VMSwitchExtensionPortData PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Get-VMSwitchExtensionPortFeature PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Get-VMSwitchExtensionSwitchData PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Get-VMSwitchExtension SwitchFeature PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Get-VMSwitchExtensionSwitch Feature PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Get-Windows Feature PowerShell command, 67
Get-WindowsFeature Server Core command, 46
global catalog servers, 585
planning, 621-622
promoting domain controllers to, 623-624
purpose of, 621
global catalogs, 574-575
global groups, 676, 683
global unicast addresses, 449
Globally Unique Identifier (GUID), 577-578, 714
GlobalNames zone, 544
.gov top-level domain, 531
GPCs (Group Policy containers), 714
GPMC (Group Policy Management Console), GPOs (Group Policy objects)
choosing domain controllers, 731-732
creating and applying, 719-726
deleting, 730
disabling, 731
linking, 727-728
managing links, 729-730
shell access policies, 726
Starter GPOs, 724-726
GPOs (Group Policy objects), 713
adding printer connections, 215-216
auditing policy configuration, 771
choosing domain controllers, 731-732
creating and applying, 719-726
deleting, 730
deny application, 746-748
disabling, 731
linking, 727-728
local GPOs, 716
managing links, 729-730
PowerShell cmdlets, 733-734
shell access policies, 726
Starter GPOs, 724-726
GPT (GUID partition table) disks, configuration, 88-89
GPTs (Group Policy templates), 714-716
Graphical user interface. See GUI (Graphical user interface)
Graphics device interface (GDI), 200
Group accounts
configuration, 683-685
creating, 681-683
default security groups, 677-681
described, 676-677
distribution lists, creating, 685-686
group enumeration tools, 690
local versus domain local groups, 688-690
nesting, 686-688
Group enumeration tools, 690
Group or usernames option (NTFS permissions), 163
Group Policy
AppLocker policies
capabilities, 797-798
comparison with software restriction policies (SRP), 798
configuration, 799-801
creating rules, 802-807
default rules, 799
described, 790, 797
Auditing policies, 770
configuration, 771, 773-778
event types, 772-773
new features, 770
subcategories, 770-771
Common Options, configuration, 744-746
components, 713-714
described, 713
Easy Print Driver configuration, 220
GPCs (Group Policy containers), 714
GPOs (Group Policy objects)
choice of domain controllers, 731-732
creating and applying, 719-726
deleting, 730
deny application, 746-748
disabling, 731
linking, 727-728
local GPOs, 716
managing links, 729-730
PowerShell cmdlets, 733-734
shell access policies, 726
Starter GPOs, 724-726
GPTs (Group Policy templates), 715-716
IPv6 transition technologies, configuration, 459-461
Local Users and Groups Extension, 741
local group configuration, 741-743
local user configuration, 743-744
Multiple Local Group Policies
configuration, 736-737
described, 735
usage rules, 737-738
new features, 10, 12, 716-718
Offline Files policies, configuration, 147
Restricted Groups policy, 738-741
security filtering, configuration, 746-749
security settings
account lockout policies, 769
configuration, 762-765
configuration tools, 765-766
password policies, 766-770
user rights assignment, 759-762
software restriction policies  
configuration, 790-796  
described, 790
User Account Control (UAC)  
configuration, 779-780
Windows Firewall with Advanced Security policies, configuration, 848-853
Group Policy Management Console (GPMC). See GPMC (Group Policy Management Console)
Group Policy Management Editor, container structure, 723-724
Group Policy objects (GPOs). See GPOs (Group Policy objects)
Group Policy templates (GPTs). See GPTs (Group Policy templates)
Guest Integration Services, configuration, 318-322
Guest or Public Profile (Windows Firewall), 819
Guests local group, 53
Guests security group, 677
GUI (graphical user interface), 15-21  
installation, 16  
installation options, 16
NIC Teaming configuration, 73-75
Server Manager, 18-21  
adding roles and features, 21
Start screen and charms, 16-18
GUID (Globally Unique Identifier), 577-578, 714
GUID partition table (GPT) disks, configuration, 88-89

H

hard quotas, 185
hardware acceleration, virtual network adapters, 409-411
hardware requirements, 23, 40-41, 288
Hardware tab (Properties dialog box), 93
HBAs (host bus adapters), 371
HCAP (Host Credential Authorization Protocol), new features, 9
Health Registration Authority (HRA), new features, 9
Healthy (At Risk) volume status, 88
Healthy volume status, 87
Heartbeat Service, 320
Help Server Core command, 46
Help Task Scheduler action, 271
high availability, 72, 85-86
history
of DNS (Domain Name System), 522, 528-529
of TCP/IP, 420-422, 426-427
HNV (Hyper-V network virtualization). See also virtual networks
components, 383-387
gateways, 387
routing function, 387
virtual networks, 384
virtual subnets, 386-387
virtual switches, 384-386
described, 381-382
new features, 382
planning, 383
policy management, 388
PowerShell cmdlets, 416-418
virtual switches
external switches, configuring, 388-391
internal switches, configuring, 392
private switches, configuring, 393
removing, 394-395
host (A or AAA) resource records, 558
host bus adapters (HBAs), 371
Host Credential Authorization Protocol (HCAP), new features, 9
hostnames (DNS), 533
hosts, calculating per subnet, 437-439
HOSTS files, 522
HRA (Health Registration Authority), new features, 9
HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol), 432
HTTP port, 831
HTTPS port, 831
Hyper-V
benefits of, 285-286
collection
Dynamic Memory, 314-316
Guest Integration Services, 318-322
Resource Metering, 317-318
Smart Paging, 316
described, 26, 285
hardware requirements, 288
installation, 289-294
MAC addresses
described, 398
dynamic MAC addresses, 398-399
spoofing, 401-402
static MAC addresses, 400-401
new features, 13, 286-288
virtual machines
checkpoint management, 366-369
configuration settings, 304-305
creating, 296-304
Enhanced Session Mode, 309-312
generations, 294-296
management, 312-314
moving, 356-358
replicating, 357, 359
software components, 305-309
virtual network adapters
advanced features, 412-416
eulmated adapters, configuration, 407
synthetic adapters, configuration, 408-411
types of, 406-407
virtual NIC teams, configuration, 411-412
Hyper-V Administrators security group, 53, 677
Hyper-V Manager
differencing disks, creating, 335-344
dynamically expanding disks, creating, 334-335
fixed-size disks, creating, 329-334
pass-through disks, configuration, 364-366
Storage QoS (Quality of Service) configuration, 355-356
VHD management tasks, 344-345
compacting VHDs, 345-346
converting VHDs, 346-349
expanding VHDs, 349
inspecting VHDs, 351-352
merging VHDs, 350-351
reconnecting VHDs, 352-354
sharing VHDs, 355
shrinking VHDs, 351
virtual fibre channel adapters
advanced features, 373
described, 370-371
virtual SAN support, 371-372
virtual machines, importing/exporting, 357, 359-364
Hyper-V Network Virtualization Gateway, 382, 387

Hyper-V network virtualization (HNV). See also virtual networks components, 383-387
  gateways, 387
  routing function, 387
  virtual networks, 384
  virtual subnets, 386-387
  virtual switches, 384-386
described, 381-382
new features, 382
planning, 383
policy management, 388
PowerShell cmdlets, 416-418
virtual switches
  external switches, configuring, 388-391
  internal switches, configuring, 392
  private switches, configuring, 393
  removing, 394-395
Hyper-V Virtual Switch Extensions, 382
hypervisors. See Hyper-V

IGMP (Internet Group Management Protocol), 431-432
IIS (Internet Information Services), 26
IIS Users local group, 53
IIS_IUSRS security group, 677
/ImageFile DISM parameter, 60
images
  offline server images, configuration, 59-64
  unmounting, 64
Import Task action, 271
Import-DnsServerResourceRecordDS PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Import-DnsServerRootHint PowerShell cmdlet, 539
importing
  .csv files, 652
  LDIF files, 653
  print queues, 229-230
  virtual machines, 357, 359-364
  Windows Firewall with Advanced Security settings, 853-854
inactive user accounts, 666-667
in-addr.arpa domain, 536
inbound rules (Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in), 828, 830-836
Incoming Forest Trust Builders security group, 677
.info top-level domain, 531
infrastructure masters, 586
Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS), 624-625
inheritance of NTFS permissions, configuration, 169-170
Insert Integration Services Setup Disk VM action, 314
inspecting VHDs (virtual hard disks), 344, 351-352
Install-ADDSDomain PowerShell cmdlet, 605
Install-ADDSDomainController PowerShell cmdlet, 606
Install-ADDSForest PowerShell cmdlet, 602-603

installation

AD DS (Active Directory Domain Services)

Active Directory Installation Wizard, 595-596
existing domains, 605-606
existing forests, 604-605
from media, 617-621
new forests, 596-604
replica domain controllers, 627-628
requirements, 594-595
unattended installation, 606-608
verifying, 628
in Windows Azure, 625-627

converting between Server Core and Server with a GUI, 50-51

DHCP servers, 489-493

with PowerShell, 492-493
with Server Manager, 490-492

DNS (Domain Name System), 537-539

GUI (graphical user interface) options, 16

Hyper-V, 289-294

Integration Services, 320-322
planning, 23-25

hardware requirements, 23, 40-41
install methods, 23-24
upgrades, 24-25

PowerShell Desired State Configuration (DSC), 57-59

Print and Document Services, 204-207
print drivers, 219

printers
from Control Panel, 208-210
from Print Management console, 210-212
RSAT (Remote Server Administration Tools), 259-260
Server Core, 42-46
commands, 46-47
domain controllers, 617
Server with a GUI installation, 48-49
upgrading from Windows Server 2008, 49-50
Windows PowerShell Web Access, 269-270

installation from media (IFM) option for Active Directory, 617-621

Install-WindowsFeature PowerShell cmdlet, 67, 294
Install-WindowsFeature Server Core command, 46

.int top-level domain, 531

Integration Services
configuration, 318-322
VM setting, 305

Interactive logon: Do not display last user name security option, 763
Interactive logon: Do not require CTRL+ALT+DEL security option, 763
Interactive logon: Require smart card security option, 763

Interaces tab (DNS Properties dialog box), 545

internal virtual switches
configuration, 392
described, 385

Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA), 528-529, 590
Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP), 431
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), 528-529, 590
Internet Group Management Protocol (IGMP), 431-432
Internet Information Services (IIS), 26
Internet layer (TCP/IP), 429
Internet Network Information Center (InterNIC), 528
Internet Printing role, 206
Internet Protocol (IP), 430-431
InterNIC (Internet Network Information Center), 528
Invoke PowerShell cmdlet, 268
IP (Internet Protocol), 430-431
IP addresses
described, 434
duplicate addresses, 472
loopback testing, 436
static IP addresses
configuration, 537
in Windows Azure, 627
IP Security Policies on Active Directory security policy, 765
ipconfig utility, 464-466
IPSec settings, Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in, 830, 850-853
IPsec task offloading, 410
IPv4 addressing
components, 434
configuration, 441-446
DHCP leasing process, 484-487
lease acknowledgment, 486
lease offers, 485
lease renewal, 487
DHCP relay agent configuration, 515-517
DHCP servers. See DHCP servers
dynamic addressing, 441
interoperability with IPv6 addressing, 454
6to4 addresses, 456-458
compatibility addresses, 455
configuring with Group Policy, 459-461
ISATAP addresses, 455-456
Teredo addresses, 458-459
private IP networks, 440
static addressing, 435-437
subnetting, 437-439
supernetting, 439-440
troubleshooting, 469-473
alternate configurations, 472
default gateways, 471
DHCP servers, 471
duplicate IP addresses, 472
Event Viewer, 472
Network Discovery tool, 470
procedure for, 469-470
subnet masks, 471
IPv4-compatible addresses, 455
IPv4-mapped addresses, 455
IPv6 addressing
configuration, 451-454
described, 447-448
DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol) configuration, 488-489
DHCP relay agent configuration, 518
DHCP servers. See DHCP servers
interoperability with IPv4 addressing, 454
6to4 addresses, 456-458
compatibility addresses, 455
configuring with Group Policy, 459-461
ISATAP addresses, 455-456
Teredo addresses, 458-459
PowerShell cmdlets, 453-454
prefixes, 449
syntax, 448
troubleshooting, 469-473
default gateways, 471
DHCP servers, 471
duplicate IP addresses, 472
Event Viewer, 472
neighbor cache, 472
Network Discovery tool, 470
procedure for, 469-470
zone IDs, 472
types of addresses, 449-451
ISATAP addresses, 455-456
iSCSI Service firewall exception, 822
iSCSI Target Server, 127
isolated mode (PVLANs), 404
isolating print drivers, 230-231
Isolation connection security rule, 836
iterative queries, 534-535

K

Key Management Service firewall exception, 822

L

language monitors, 201
LBFO (Load Balancing/Fail Over). See NIC Teaming
LDAP (Lightweight Directory Access Protocol)
canonical names, 578
distinguished names (DN), 576-577
globally unique identifiers (GUID), 577-578
naming standards, 576
relative distinguished names (RDN), 577
security identifiers (SID), 578
user principal names (UPN), 577
Ldifde tool, 651, 653-654
lease acknowledgment, IPv4 addressing, 486
lease offers, IPv4 addressing, 485
lease renewal, IPv4 addressing, 487
lease requests, IPv4 addressing, 484-485
lease selection, IPv4 addressing, 485-486
Legacy Network Adapter VM setting, 305
legacy network adapters, 406-407
license conversions, 25
Limit disk space to option, 183
Limit disk space used by Offline Files policy, 147
linking GPOs (Group Policy objects), 727-730
link-local unicast addresses, 449
List folder contents permission (NTFS), 161
List folder permission (NTFS), 167
Live Migration, 357-358
load balancing
domain controllers (DC), 585
new features, 385
Load Balancing/Fail Over (LBFO). See NIC Teaming

Loading Zone Data tab (DNS Properties dialog box), 550

Local Computer Policy layer, 735

Local GPOs, 716

Local Group Policy layer, 735

local groups, domain local groups versus, 688-690

local port monitors, 201

local storage

basic disks
configuration, 86-88
converting to dynamic, 94-96
dynamic disks, configuration, 86-88
GPT disks, configuration, 88-89
MBR disks, configuration, 88-89
RAID volumes, 96-100
managing and troubleshooting, 100
RAID-0 volumes, creating, 97-99
RAID-1 volumes, creating, 99
RAID-5 volumes, creating, 99-100
spanned volumes, creating, 99

storage pools
administration of, 84
benefits of, 83-84
configuration, 106-110
PowerShell cmdlets, 117-118
scalability, 84-86

storage spaces
administration of, 84
benefits of, 83
configuration, 85-86
creating, 110-115
PowerShell cmdlets, 117-118
relationship with storage pools, 83
scalability, 84-86

VHDs (virtual hard disks), 101-105
creating, 102-103, 110-115
managing with DiskPart, 104-105
mounting, 103-104
volume management, 115-117

local user accounts, 644

Local Users and Groups Extension, 741
local group configuration, 741-743
local user configuration, 743-744

location-aware printer settings, configuration, 231-232
Log event when a user exceeds their quota limit option, 183
Log event when a user exceeds their warning level option, 183
Log On tab (Services.mcs snap-in), 70
Logging property (firewall profiles), 829

logical components (Active Directory), 578-583
domains, 579
forests, 581
organizational units (OUs), 582-583
trees, 580-581

Logon events auditing event, 772
Loopback processing, 724
loopback testing, 436
LPD Service role, 206

MAC addresses

described, 398
dynamic MAC addresses, configuration, 398-399
network adapter advanced features, 412
spoofing, 401-402
static MAC addresses, configuration, 400-401
mail exchanger (MX) resource records, 560
Manage documents permission, 227
Manage Server permission, 232
Manage this printer permission, 227
Management VM setting, 305
mapping network drives, 142-143
Maximum password age security setting, 768
MBR (master boot record) disks, configuration, 88-89
media, Active Directory installation from, 617-621
Media menu (virtual machines), 314
memory
    Dynamic Memory, configuration, 314-316
    Smart Paging, configuration, 316
Memory VM setting, 305
merging VHDs (virtual hard disks), 344, 350-351
Microsoft Management Console (MMC). See MMC (Microsoft Management Console)
migration, 25, 30-31, 228-230
.mil top-level domain, 531
Minimum password age security setting, 766
Minimum password length security setting, 768
Mirror storage space configuration, 85
mirrored volumes, 96, 99
MMC (Microsoft Management Console), 56
delegation, 261-262
new features, 260-261
remote management, 264-266
Windows Firewall configuration, 263-264
Modify permission (NTFS), 161
monitoring
    DHCP servers, 510-513
    Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in, 828
Monitoring tab (DNS Properties dialog box), 554
/MountDir DISM parameter, 60
/Mount-Image DISM parameter, 60
mounting VHDs (virtual hard disks), 103-104
mouse, copying and moving files/folders, 175
moving
    files/folders
        with mouse, 175
        NTFS permissions, 174-175
organizational units (OUs), 698
virtual machines, 356-358
MPIO (multipath I/O), 373
multicast addresses, 449
multiple checkpoints, management, 369
multiple domain controllers, 584-585
Multiple Local Group Policies
    configuration, 736-737
    described, 735
    usage rules, 737-738
multiple profiles (Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in), configuration, 828-830
multiple virtual NICs, new features, 384
.museum top-level domain, 531
MX resource records, 560
Name Checking tab (DNS Properties dialog box), 549-550
name resolution. See DNS (Domain Name System)
Name Server (NS) resource records, 557
.name top-level domain, 531
namespaces
described, 572-573
planning, 589-590
    administrative versus geographical domain organization, 591-592
    best practices, 593-594
    multiple trees, 592-593
subdividing, 590-591
naming standards (Active Directory)
canonical names, 578
distinguished names (DN), 576-577
globally unique identifiers (GUID), 577-578
origin of, 576
relative distinguished names (RDN), 577
    security identifiers (SID), 578
user principal names (UPN), 577
NAP (Network Access Protection) security policy, 764
Nbtstat utility, 466
NDIS (Network Driver Interface Specification), 415
Near Field Communication (NFC), printer connections in, 202
neighbor cache, 472
nesting group accounts, 686-688
net group command, 690
net share command, shared folder management, 144
.net top-level domain, 531
NetBIOS names, 533
netdom join Server Core command, 46
Netlogon Service firewall exception, 822
netlogon.dns file, 634-635
netsh advfirewall Server Core command, 46
netsh commands, 446, 497
netsh interface IPv4 Server Core command, 46
netsh interface IPv6 Server Core command, 454
Netstat command, 466
Network Access Protection (NAP) security policy, 764
Network Adapter VM setting, 305
network adapters. See virtual network adapters
Network and Sharing Center, configuring file sharing, 134-136
Network Configuration Operators security group, 53, 677
network diagnostics
    HNV (Hyper-V network virtualization), 382
    Windows Server 2012 R2 tools, 461-462
Network Discovery, 470
    advanced sharing settings, 136
    firewall exception, 822
Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS), 415
network drives, mapping, 142-143
Network File System (NFS), services for, 127
Network Interface layer (TCP/IP), 429
network isolation configuration, 402-406
PVLANs, 404-406
virtual switch trunking, 403-404
Network List Manager Policies
security policy, 764
network load balancing (NLB), 402
Network Policy and Access Services, 26
Network Policy Server (NPS), new features, 9
network virtualization. See HNV (Hyper-V network virtualization)
networking
DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol). See DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol)
disk quotas
creating quota templates with FSRM, 186-188
described, 182-183
enabling with File Explorer, 183-185
enabling with FSRM, 185-186
guidelines, 188-189
IPV4 addressing. See IPV4 addressing
IPV6 addressing. See IPV6 addressing
Network and Sharing Center,
configuring file sharing, 134-136
new features, 8, 12
Offline Files
Always Offline mode, 149-151
described, 144-145
policy configuration, 147
server configuration, 145-147
transparent caching, 151-152
shared folders, 127
access-based enumeration (ABE), 176-178
creating, 130-134
File and Storage Services, 127-130
management with net share command, 144
mapping network drives, 142-143
modifying properties, 138-142
permission guidelines, 175-176
sharing files, folders, printers, 137-138
TCP/IP. See TCP/IP
Volume Shadow Copy Services (VSS)
benefits of, 178
components, 178-179
configuration, 179-181
guidelines, 182
Work Folders
client configuration, 159-161
described, 152-159
collection, 154-159
described, 152-153
new features
auditing policies, 770
File and Storage Services, 127-130
Group Policy, 716-718
HNV (Hyper-V network virtualization), 382
Hyper-V, 286-288
MMC (Microsoft Management Console), 260-261
Print and Document Services, 202-204
virtual switches, 384-385
Windows Firewall, 818-819
Windows Server 2012, 8-11
Active Directory, 588-589
DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol), 482-483
Windows Server 2012 R2, 12-14
Active Directory, 588-589
DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol), 482-483
DNS (Domain Name System), 536-537
networking technologies, 433-434
New Folder Task Scheduler action, 271
New Technology File System. See NTFS
New-ADUser PowerShell cmdlet, 656
New-NetFirewallRule PowerShell cmdlet, 825
New-NetIPAddress PowerShell cmdlet, 445
New-NetLbfoTeam PowerShell cmdlet, 75
New-NetNeighbor PowerShell cmdlet, 445
New-NetRoute PowerShell cmdlet, 445
New-StoragePool command, 117
New-VirtualDisk command, 117
New-VMSwitch PowerShell cmdlet, 416
NFC (Near Field Communication), printer connections in, 202
NFS (Network File System), services for, 127
NIC Teaming
configuration, 72-76
via GUI, 73-75
via PowerShell, 75-76
virtual NIC teams, 411-412
network adapter advanced features, 412
NLB (network load balancing), 402
nodes, 57, 454
nondomain joined servers, remote management, 252-254
notifications
printer notifications, enabling, 235-237
Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in, configuration, 847
NPS (Network Policy Server), new features, 9
NS (Name Server) resource records, 557
Nslookup utility, 466
ntds.dit file, 579
ntdsutil.exe, 587, 617
NTFS
permissions, 161
advanced permissions, configuring, 164-169
applying, 162-164
copying files/folders with, 173-174
effective permissions, 171-172
guidelines, 175-176
inheritance, configuring, 169-170
moving files/folders with, 174-175
Take ownership permission, 170-171
types of, 161
viewing effective permissions, 172
Transactional NTFS, 127
NTP port, 831
NVGRE Encapsulated Task Offload, 382
O
Object access auditing event, 772
objects (Active Directory), 573
offline domain join, 663-665
Offline Files
Always Offline mode, 149-151
client configuration, 147
described, 144-145
policy configuration, 147
server configuration, 145-147
transparent caching, 151-152
offline server images, configuration, 59-64
offload data transfer, 373
Operating System Shutdown Service, 320
operations masters, 575-587
optimizing performance of virtual networks, 395-397
option classes (DHCP), 499, 503-505
options. See also parameters
DHCP options for PXE boot, configuration, 508-510
DHCP scopes, configuration, 499-507
DNS debug logging, 552
unattended domain controller installation, 607
.org top-level domain, 531
organization in Server Manager, 254-256
organizational units (OUs). See OUs (organizational units)
OSI (Open System Interconnect) model, 427
OUs (organizational units), 582-583
computer accounts, redirecting, 656
configuration, 697-698
creating, 694-696
delegating administrative control, 700-705
deleting, 698
moving, 698
namespaces, subdividing, 590-591
planning, 691-694
searching, 698
outbound rules (Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in), 828, 830-836
ownership of files/folders, taking, 170-171
parameters. See also options
Csvde and Ldifde tools, 653
DISM tool, 60-62
Djoin.exe tool, 664
Install-ADDSForest PowerShell cmdlet, 603
net share command, 144
parent disks
merging with differencing disks, 350-351
reconnecting to differencing disks, 352-354
relationship with differencing disks, 344
Parity storage space configuration, 85
parity stripes, 99-100
partitions
Active Directory, 575
MBR and GPT disks, configuration, 88-89
volume management, 89-93
pass-through disks, configuration, 364-366
Password must meet complexity requirements security setting, 768
password policies, configuration, 766-768, 769-770
Password protected sharing setting (Advanced sharing settings), 136
password resets, 660-661
Password Settings container (PSC), 769
Password Settings object (PSO), 769
pathping command, 468
Pause VM action, 313
PDC emulators, 586
Performance Log Users security group, 53, 677
Performance Logs and Alerts firewall exception, 263, 822
Performance Monitor Users security group, 53, 677
performance optimization of virtual networks, 395-397
permissions
access-based enumeration (ABE), 176-178
denying, 172
effective permissions
  described, 171-172
  viewing, 172
NTFS permissions, 161
  advanced permissions, configuring, 164-169
  applying, 162-164
  copying files/folders with, 173-174
  guidelines, 175-176
  inheritance, configuring, 169-170
  moving files/folders with, 174-175
  Take ownership permission, 170-171
types of, 161
printers, 226-228
shared folders, 140
Permissions for Authenticated Users option (NTFS permissions), 163
Permissions option (Advanced Sharing dialog box), 139
physical components (Active Directory), 583-587
domain controllers (DC), 584-585
global catalog servers, 585
operations masters, 575-587
sites, 583-584
ping command, 467-468
PIN-protected printing, 202
planning
delegation model, 52
global catalog servers, 621-622
HNV (Hyper-V network virtualization), 383
namespaces, 589-590
  administrative versus geographical domain organization, 591-592
  best practices, 593-594
  multiple trees, 592-593
organizational units (OUs), 691-694
server installation, 23-25
  hardware requirements, 23, 40-41
  install methods, 23-24
  upgrades, 24-25
pointer (PTR) resource records, 561
policies. See Group Policy
Policies container (Group Policy), 723
Policy change auditing event, 772
policy configuration, Offline Files, 147
pooling printers, 222-224
POP3 port, 831
port mirroring
  network adapter advanced features, 412
  new features, 385
port virtual LAN (PVLAN)
  described, 404
  new features, 384
  port configuration, 405-406
ports
troubleshooting printers, 235
  for Windows Firewall rules, 830-831
Ports tab (Properties dialog box), printer administration, 222-224
Power Users local group, 53
PowerShell
Active Directory Module for Windows PowerShell, 632
Desired State Configuration (DSC), 55, 56-59
DHCP scopes, creating, 496-497
DHCP server installation, 492-493
DNS (Domain Name System) administration, 539-541
installation, 539
resource records, creating, 562
domain installation
in existing domains, 606
in existing forests, 605
in new forests, 602-604
removing domain controllers, 617
GPO management, 733-734
HNV (Hyper-V network virtualization), 416-418
Hyper-V installation, 294
IPv4 addressing configuration, 445-446
IPv6 addressing configuration, 453-454
new features, 8, 12
NIC Teaming configuration, 75-76
print management, 216
remote management, 266-269
remote server commands, 67
storage pools/spaces commands, 117-118
user/computer account creation, 655-656
virtual switches, 384
Windows Firewall configuration, 825-826
Windows PowerShell Web Access, 55, 269-270
Preboot Execution Environment (PXE) boot, configuration, 508-510
Preferences container (Group Policy), 723
prefixes in IPv6 addressing, 449
Previous Versions tab (Properties dialog box), 93
Pre-Windows 2000 Compatible Access security group, 677
primary domain controller (PDC) emulators, 586
primary zones, 543
Print and Document Services
described, 26
installation, 204-207
new features, 202-204
Print Management console
printer installation, 210-212
publishing printers in Active Directory, 213-214
sharing printers, 212-213
print devices
described, 199
printers versus, 200
print drivers
challenges with, 218-219
described, 199
Easy Print Driver
configuration, 220
described, 220
installation, 219
isolating, 230-231
troubleshooting, 213
V3 model, 218
V4 model, 218
print jobs
  resuming versus restarting, 227
troubleshooting, 234
Print Management console
  enabling notifications, 235-237
  migrating queues and settings, 228-230
  printer installation, 210-212
  publishing printers in Active Directory, 213-214
  sharing printers, 212-213
print monitors, types of, 201
Print Operators security group, 53, 677
Print permission, 227
print queues
  described, 199
  migration, 228-230
print servers
  described, 199
  importing print queues, 229-230
  print driver installation, 219
Print Services, 204
print spooling, 199
printer administration, 221-234. See also Print Management console
deployment, 232-234
  isolating print drivers, 230-231
  location-aware printer settings, 231-232
  migrating queues and settings, 228-230
Properties dialog box, 222
  Advanced tab, 224-226
  General tab, 222
  Ports tab, 222-224
  Security tab, 226-228
printer migration for WSD (Web Services for Devices), 202
printer ports, 199

printers
  deploying with Group Policy, 215-216
described, 199
installation
  from Control Panel, 208-210
  from Print Management console, 210-212
pooling, 222-224
print devices versus, 200
publishing in Active Directory, 213-214
sharing, 137-138, 212-213
printing process
  Branch Office Direct Printing (BODP), 216-217
described, 200-201
troubleshooting
  common problems, 234-235
  enabling notifications, 235-237
  port problems, 235
  unreadable output, 213
private IPv4 networks, 440
Private Profile (Windows Firewall), 819
private virtual switches
  configuration, 393
described, 385
Privilege use auditing event, 772
.pro top-level domain, 531
Process tracking auditing event, 772
processing order for local group policies, 737
Processor VM setting, 305
profiles
  Windows Firewall, 819
  Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in, 828-830
Programs and Services tab (Properties dialog box), Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in, 846
promiscuous mode (PVLANs), 404
promoting domain controllers (DC) to
global catalog servers, 623-624

Properties
AppLocker rules, configuration, 806
DHCP scopes, configuration, 498-499
organizational units (OUs), configuration, 697-698
shared folders, modifying, 138-142

Properties dialog box
DNS servers, 545
  Advanced tab, 548
  Debug Logging tab, 552-553
  Event Logging tab, 553-554
  Forwarders tab, 546
  Interfaces tab, 545
  Loading Zone Data tab, 550
  Monitoring tab, 554
  Name Checking tab, 549-550
  Root Hints tab, 550-552
  Security tab, 555
  Server Options tab, 548-549
partition configuration, 92-93
printer administration, 222
  Advanced tab, 224-226
  General tab, 222
  Ports tab, 222-224
  Security tab, 226-228
Server Manager, 256
Windows Firewall with Advanced
  Security snap-in, 842-847

Protected Admin accounts, 661-663
Protected Users security group, 677

Protocols and Ports tab (Properties
dialog box), Windows Firewall with
  Advanced Security snap-in, 846
provider address space, 382

PSC (Password Settings container),
  769
PSO (Password Settings object), 769
PSSession PowerShell cmdlet, 268
PTR resource records, 561
Public folder sharing setting
  (Advanced sharing settings), 136
Public Key Policies security policy, 764
publishing printers in Active
  Directory, 213-214
Pull method, 57
Push method, 57
PVLAN (port virtual LAN)
  described, 404
  new features, 384
  port configuration, 405-406
PXE (Preboot Execution
  Environment) boot, configuration,
  508-510

queries (DNS)
  iterative queries, 534-535
  recursive queries, 533-534
  reverse lookup queries, 535-536
  types of, 533
Quota tab (Properties dialog box), 93
quotas. See disk quotas

RAID (Redundant Array of
  Independent (or Inexpensive) Disks)
  volumes, 96-100
managing and troubleshooting, 100
RAID-0 volumes, creating, 97-99
RAID (Redundant Array of Independent (or Inexpensive) Disks) volumes, creating, 99
RAID-5 volumes, creating, 99-100
spanned volumes, creating, 99
RAID-0 volumes, 96-99
RAID-1 volumes, 96, 99
RAID-5 volumes, 96, 99-100
RAS and IAS Servers security group, 677
RDMA (Remote Direct Memory Access), 412
RDN (relative distinguished names), 577
RDP port, 831
RDS Endpoint Servers security group, 677
RDS Management Servers security group, 677
RDS Remote Access Servers security group, 677
Read and execute permission, 161
Read attributes permission (NTFS), 167
Read extended attributes permission (NTFS), 167
Read permission
NTFS, 161
shared folders, 140
Read permissions permission (NTFS), 167
Read-Only Domain Controllers security group, 677
receive side scaling (RSS), new features, 385
reconnecting VHDs (virtual hard disks), 344, 352-354
Recovery tab (Services.mcs snap-in), 70
recursive queries, 533-534, 554
Recycle Bin in Active Directory Administrative Center, enabling, 698
Redircmp.exe tool, 656
Refresh Task Scheduler action, 271
ReFS (Resilient File System), 127
Registry security policy, 763
relative distinguished names (RDN), 577
relative identifiers (RID), 586
relay agents (DHCP), configuration, 515-518
Reliability and Performance MMC snap-in, 263
/remark:"text" parameter (net share command), 144
Remote (item) Management firewall exception, 822
Remote Access
described, 26
new features, 13
Remote Administration firewall exception, 822
Remote Desktop Services
described, 26
Easy Print Driver
configuration, 220
described, 220
enabling, 62-64, 256-257
firewall exception, 822
Remote Desktop Users security group, 53, 677
Remote Direct Memory Access (RDMA), 412
Remote Event Log Management firewall exception, 263
Remote FX, new features, 10
remote management

down-level server management, configuration, 248-249
MMC (Microsoft Management Console), 264-266
deployment, 261-262
new features, 260-261
Windows Firewall configuration, 263-264
PowerShell, 266-269
RSAT (Remote Server Administration Tools), 258, 259-260
Server Manager
configuration, 250-251
description, 249-250
enabling Remote Desktop, 256-257
non-domain joined servers, 252-254
organization, 254-256
Windows PowerShell Web Access, 269-270
WinRM configuration, 245-248
Remote Management Users security group, 677
remote port monitors, 201
Remote Scheduled Tasks Management firewall exception, 263
Remote Server Administration Tools (RSAT), 56, 258-260
remote server roles, configuration, 65-67
Remote Service Management firewall exception, 263
Remove "Make Available Offline" command policy, 147
Remove "Make Available Offline" for these files and folders policy, 147
Remove option (NTFS permissions), 163
Remove-Computer PowerShell cmdlet, 656

removed features in Windows Server 2012 R2, 13
Remove-DnsServerForwarder PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Remove-DnsServerResourceRecord PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Remove-DnsServerRootHint PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Remove-DnsServerZone PowerShell cmdlet, 539
/Remove-Driver DISM parameter, 60
Remove-NetFirewallRule PowerShell cmdlet, 825
Remove-NetIPAddress PowerShell cmdlet, 445
Remove-NetLbfoTeam PowerShell cmdlet, 76
Remove-NetNeighbor PowerShell cmdlet, 445, 472
Remove-NetRoute PowerShell cmdlet, 445
/Remove-Package DISM parameter, 60
Remove-VMNetworkAdapter PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Remove-VMNetworkAdapterAcl PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Remove-VMSwitch PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Remove-VMSwitchExtensionPortFeature PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Remove-VMSwitchExtensionSwitchFeature PowerShell cmdlet, 416
removing. See also deleting
Active Directory, 614-617
roles and features, 31-32
UPN suffixes, 657-658
virtual switches, 394-395
Rename task (Hyper-V Checkpoint pane), 369
Rename-Computer PowerShell cmdlet, 656
Rename-NetFirewallRule PowerShell cmdlet, 825
Rename-VMNetworkAdapter PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Rename-VMSwitch PowerShell cmdlet, 416
renewing IPv4 leases, 487
replica domain controllers, installation in Windows Azure, 627-628
replicating virtual machines, 357, 359
Replicator security group, 53, 677
requirements
AD DS (Active Directory Domain Services) installation, 594-595
hardware requirements, 23, 40-41
Hyper-V, 288
Windows Remote Shell (WinRS), 247
Reset account lockout counter after security setting, 769
Reset VM action, 313
resetting passwords, 660-661
Reset-VMResourceMetering command, 318
Resilient File System (ReFS), 127
resource blocks, 58
Resource Metering, configuration, 317-318
resource records
alias (CNAME) resource records, 559
deleting, 562
described, 556-557
host (A or AAAA) resource records, 558
mail exchanger (MX) resource records, 560
pointer (PTR) resource records, 561
service locator record (SRV) resource records, 561
restarting
print jobs, 227
spooler service, 234
Restore-DnsServerPrimaryZone PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Restore-DnsServerSecondaryZone PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Restricted Groups security policy, 738-741, 763
restricting applications. See application restriction
resuming print jobs, 227
Resynching volume status, 100
reverse lookup queries, 535-536
Revert VM action, 314
reverting to checkpoints, 368-369
RFCs, 427
RID (relative identifiers), 586
RID masters, 586
rights, user
assignment, 759-762
configuration, 665-666
RIP (Routing Internet Protocol), 432
roaming settings, printer connections in, 202
roles
adding, 21
defined, 26
list of, 26-30
migration, 30-31
remote server roles, configuration, 65-67
removing, 31-32
Root container (Group Policy), 723
root domains (Active Directory)
installation in new forests, 596-604
planning, 589-590
Root Hints tab (DNS Properties dialog box), 550-552
root-level domains (DNS), 531
router guard, 412
Routing and Remote Access (RRAS)
firewall exception, 822
routing in virtual networks, 387
Routing Internet Protocol (RIP), 432
RSAT (Remote Server Administration Tools), 56, 258-260
RSS (receive side scaling), new features, 385
rules
AppLocker policies
creating, 802-807
default rules, 799
Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in
collection security rules, configuring, 836-841
inbound/outbound rules, configuring, 830-836
list of, 828
rule properties, configuring, 842-847
rule scope, modifying, 845-846
user authorization, 842-845
SC Continue command, 71
SC Create command, 71
SC delete command, 71
SC description command, 71
SC failure command, 71
SC Pause command, 71
SC Query command, 71
SC Start command, 71
SC Stop command, 71
scalability of storage pools/spaces, 84-86
scheduling
Active Directory Administrative Center, 276-277
Task Scheduler, 270-275
Schema Admins security group, 677
schema masters, 585
schema partitions, 575
schemas, described, 574
Sconfig.cmd Server Core command, 46
scope of rules (Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in), modifying, 845-846
scope options (DHCP), 499, 502-503
Scope tab (Properties dialog box), Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in, 845-846
scopes
creating, 493-497
exclusions, 497-498
filters, 507
of group accounts, 676-677
option configuration, 499-507
client options, 505-507
option classes, 503-505
scope options, 502-503
server options, 500-502
property configuration, 498-499
SaaS (Software-as-a-Service), 625
SANs (storage area networks), Virtual SAN Support for Hyper-V, 371-372
Save VM action, 313
SC commands, 71-72
SC Config command, 71
SCSI Controller VM setting, 305
Search charm, 17
searching organizational units (OUs), 698
secondary zones, 543
second-level domains (DNS), 532
security
  access-based enumeration (ABE), 176-178
effective permissions
    described, 171-172
    viewing, 172
new features, 11
NTFS permissions, 161
  advanced permissions, configuring, 164-169
  applying, 162-164
  copying files/folders with, 173-174
guidelines, 175-176
inheritance, configuring, 169-170
moving files/folders with, 174-175
Take ownership permission, 170-171
types of, 161
printer permissions, 226-228
User Account Control (UAC), 661-663
Windows Firewall
  configurable exceptions, 822
  configuration, 818-826
  new features, 818-819
PowerShell cmdlets, 825-826
profiles, 819
Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in, 826-827
  authenticated bypass, configuring, 851-853
  connection security rules, configuring, 836-841
  exporting/importing settings, 853-854
  Group Policy settings, configuring, 848-853
  inbound/outbound rules, configuring, 830-836
  multiple profiles, configuring, 828-830
  notifications, configuring, 847
  rule properties, configuring, 842-847
  rule scope, modifying, 845-846
  rules, list of, 828
  user authorization, 842-845
Security Configuration and Analysis snap-in, 766
Security Configuration Wizard, 765
security filtering in Group Policy, configuration, 746-749
security groups, 676-681
security identifiers (SID), 578
security levels for software restriction policies, 791-792
Security log, recommended size, 775
security settings (Group Policy)
  configuration, 762-765
  account lockout policies, 769
  password policies, 766-770
  tools for, 765-766
  user rights assignment, 759-762
Security tab (Properties dialog box), 93
DNS (Domain Name System), 555
printer administration, 226-228
Security Templates snap-in, 766
selecting. See choosing
server administration
daily tasks
  Active Directory Administrative Center, 276-277
  Task Scheduler, 270-275
delegation of, 51-59
  Active Directory, 54-55
  administration tools, 55-56
  delegate access, 53-54
  MMC (Microsoft Management Console), 261-262
  planning, 52
HNV (Hyper-V network virtualization) policy management, 388
remote management. See remote management
server configuration, Offline Files, 145-147
Server Core commands, 46-47
Server Core installation, 15, 23-24, 42-46
  converting to/from Server with a GUI installation, 50-51
domain controllers (DC), 617
down-level server management, 249
MMC (Microsoft Management Console)
  delegation, 261-262
  new features, 260-261
  remote management, 264-266
  Windows Firewall configuration, 263-264
RSAT (Remote Server Administration Tools), 258-260
server images. See images
server installation
  converting between Server Core and Server with a GUI, 50-51
  planning, 23-25
    hardware requirements, 23, 40-41
    install methods, 23-24
    upgrades, 24-25
Server Core commands, 46-47
Server Core installation, 42-46
Server with a GUI installation, 48-49
upgrading from Windows Server 2008, 49-50
Server Manager, 18-21, 55
  adding roles and features, 21
DHCP server installation, 490-492
remote management
  configuration, 250-251
  described, 249-250
  enabling Remote Desktop, 256-257
  nondomain joined servers, 252-254
  organization, 254-256
Server Message Block (SMB) 3.0, 127
Server Operators security group, 677
server options (DHCP), 499-502
Server Options tab (DNS Properties dialog box), 548-549
server roles. See roles
Server with a GUI, 24. See also GUI (graphical user interface)
  converting to/from Server Core installation, 50-51
  installation, 48-49
Server-to-server connection security rule, 837
service locator record (SRV) resource records, 561
services, configuration, 68-72
  SC commands, 71-72
  Services.msc snap-in, 69-70
Services MMC snap-in, 263
Services.msc snap-in, 69-70
Set warning level to option, 183
Set-DhcpServerv4OptionValue
  PowerShell cmdlet, 502
Set-DnsServer PowerShell cmdlet, 539
Set-DnsServerCache PowerShell cmdlet, 539
/Set-Edition DISM parameter, 60
Set-NetFirewallProfile PowerShell cmdlet, 825
Set-NetFirewallRule PowerShell cmdlet, 825
Set-NetFirewallSetting PowerShell cmdlet, 825
Set-NetIPAddress PowerShell cmdlet, 445
Set-NetIPInterface PowerShell cmdlet, 445
Set-NetIPv4Protocol PowerShell cmdlet, 445
Set-NetIPv6Protocol PowerShell cmdlet, 453
Set-NetNeighbor PowerShell cmdlet, 445
Set-NetRoute PowerShell cmdlet, 445
Set-NetTCPSetting PowerShell cmdlet, 445
Settings charm, 18
Settings property (firewall profiles), 829
Settings task (Hyper-V checkpoint pane), 369
Set-VMNetworkAdapter PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Set-VMNetworkAdapterFailover Configuration PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Set-VMNetworkAdapterVlan PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Set-VMSwitch PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Set-VMSwitchExtensionPortFeature PowerShell cmdlet, 416
Set-VMSwitchExtensionSwitchFeature PowerShell cmdlet, 416
shadow copies. See Volume Shadow Copy Services (VSS)

Shadow Copies tab (Properties dialog box), 93
Share and Storage Management, 127
Share charm, 17
Share name option (Advanced Sharing dialog box), 139
Share this folder option (Advanced Sharing dialog box), 139
shared delegation model, 52
shared folders, 127
access-based enumeration (ABE), 176-178
creating, 130-134
disk quotas
creating quota templates with FSRM, 186-188
described, 182-183
enabling with File Explorer, 183-185
enabling with FSRM, 185-186
guidelines, 188-189
effective permissions
described, 171-172
viewing, 172
File and Storage Services, new features, 127-130
management with net share command, 144
mapping network drives, 142-143
Network and Sharing Center, configuring file sharing, 134-136
permission guidelines, 175-176
properties, modifying, 138-142
sharing files, folders, printers, 137-138
Volume Shadow Copy Services (VSS)
benefits of, 178
components, 178-179
configuration, 179-181
guidelines, 182
Shared Folders MMC snap-in, 263
sharing
printers, 212-213
VHDS (virtual hard disks), 355
Sharing tab (Properties dialog box), 93
shell access policies, 726
shrinking
partitions, 91
VHDS (virtual hard disks), 344, 351
Shut Down VM action, 313
Shutdown Event Tracker, disabling, 49
SID (security identifiers), 578
Simple Mail Transfer Protocol
(SMTP), 432
Simple Network Management
Protocol (SNMP), 432
Simple Object Access Protocol
(SOAP), 245
simple queries, 554
Simple storage space configuration, 85
simple volumes, 96
single-label name resolution, 544
single-root I/O virtualization
(SR-IOV), 411-412
site-local IPv6 addresses, 451
sites (Active Directory), 583-584
6to4 addresses, 456-458
Smart Paging, configuration, 316
Smart Paging File Location VM setting, 305
SMB (Server Message Block) 3.0, 127
SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol), 432
SNMP port, 831
SOA (Start of Authority) resource records, 557
SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol), 245
soft quotas, 185
software components, virtual machines, 305-309
Software Restriction Policies security policy, 764
software restriction policies (SRP)
comparison with AppLocker policies, 798
configuration, 790-796
described, 790
Software Settings container (Group Policy), 723
Software-as-a-Service (SaaS), 625
collapsed volumes, 96, 99
special access NTFS permissions,
configuration, 164-169
Special permissions, 227
Specify administratively assigned
Offline Files policy, 147
spoofing MAC addresses, 401-402
spooler service, restarting, 234
SR-IOV (single-root I/O virtualization), 411-412
SRP (software restriction policies)
comparison with AppLocker policies, 798
configuration, 790-796
described, 790
SRV resource records, 561, 634-635
SSH port, 831
Stale Data volume status, 100
Start charm, 17
Start of Authority (SOA) resource records, 557
Start screen in GUI, 16-18
Start VM action, 313
Starter GPOs, 724-726
State property (firewall profiles), 829
static IP addresses
configuration, 537
IPv4 addressing, 435-437
in Windows Azure, 627
static MAC addresses, configuration, 400-401
storage. See File and Storage Services; local storage
storage area networks (SANs), Virtual SAN Support for Hyper-V, 371-372
Storage Manager for SANs, 127
storage pools
administration of, 84
benefits of, 83-84
configuration, 106-110
new features, 13, 127
PowerShell cmdlets, 117-118
scalability, 84-86
Storage QoS (Quality of Service), configuration, 355-356
storage spaces
administration of, 84
benefits of, 83
configuration, 85-86
creating, 110-115
new features, 127
PowerShell cmdlets, 117-118
relationship with storage pools, 83
scalability, 84-86
tiering in, 110
Storage Tiers storage space configuration, 85
Store password using reversible encryption security setting, 768
Streaming Media Services, 26
striped volumes, 96-99
strong passwords, 768
stub zones, 543
subdividing namespaces, 590-591
subnet masks
described, 434
for IP address classes, 436-437
IPv6 addressing, 449
subnetting with, 437-439
troubleshooting, 471
subnets
IPv4 addresses, 437-439
virtual subnets, described, 386-387
suffixes for UPNs, 657-658
supernetting IPv4 addresses, 439-440
synchronization of Work Folders. See Work Folders
synthetic network adapters, 406, 408-411
System Center 2012 SP1, new features, 9
System events auditing event, 772
System Services security policy, 763

T

Take ownership permission (NTFS), 167-171
Task Scheduler, 263, 270-275
TCP (Transmission Control Protocol), 429-430
TCP offloading, 412
TCP/IP
Address Resolution Protocol (ARP), 431
Application layer protocols, 432-433
four-layer architecture, 427-428
  Application layer, 428
  Internet layer, 429
  Network Interface layer, 429
  Transport layer, 428
history of, 420-422, 426-427
Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP), 431
Internet Group Management Protocol (IGMP), 431-432
Internet Protocol (IP), 430-431
IPv4 addressing
  components, 434
  configuration, 441-446
  dynamic addressing, 441
  interoperability with IPv6 addressing, 454-461
  private IP networks, 440
  static addressing, 435-437
  subnetting, 437-439
  supernetting, 439-440
  troubleshooting, 469-473
IPv6 addressing
  configuration, 451-454
  described, 447-448
  interoperability with IPv4 addressing, 454-461
  PowerShell cmdlets, 453-454
  prefixes, 449
  syntax, 448
  troubleshooting, 469-473
  types of addresses, 449-451
OSI (Open System Interconnect) model, 427
Transmission Control Protocol (TCP), 429-430
troubleshooting, 463-468
  ARP command, 463
  FTP (File Transfer Protocol), 464
  ipconfig utility, 464-466
  Nbtstat utility, 466
  Netstat command, 466
  Nslookup utility, 466
  pathping command, 468
  ping command, 467-468
  tracert command, 468
User Datagram Protocol (UDP), 430
Telnet port, 831
template accounts, creating, 650-651
templates
disk quota templates, creating with FSRM, 185-186
Group Policy. See GPTs (Group Policy templates)
Terminal Server License Servers security group, 677
Test-ADServiceAccount PowerShell cmdlet, 632
Test-DnsServer PowerShell cmdlet, 539
TFTP port, 831
throughput, 72
tiering in storage spaces, 110
Time Synchronization Service, 320
Tools tab (Properties dialog box), 93
top-level domains (DNS), 531-532
tracert command, 468
Transactional NTFS, 127
Transmission Control Protocol (TCP), 429-430
transparent caching of Offline Files, configuration, 151-152
Transport layer (TCP/IP), 428
Traverse folder permission (NTFS), 167
trees, 580-581
  installation in existing forests, 604-605
  multiple, 592-593
troubleshooting
  Active Directory
    Active Directory Administrative Center snap-in, 628-630
    Active Directory Domain and Trusts snap-in, 630
    Active Directory Module for Windows PowerShell, 632
    Active Directory Sites and Services snap-in, 631
    Active Directory Users and Computers snap-in, 628
    ADSI Edit, 632-634
    SRV record registration, 634-635
    verifying installation, 628
connectivity problems
  IPv4/IPv6 problems, 469-473
  network diagnostics tools, 461-462
  TCP/IP utilities, 463-468
DHCP servers, 510-513
printing process
  common problems, 234-235
  enabling notifications, 235-237
  port problems, 235
  unreadable output, 213
RAID volumes, 100
Trunk Mode, new features, 384
trunking virtual switches, 403-404
Tunnel connection security rule, 837
Turn Off VM action, 313
Type clipboard text VM command, 314

U

UAC (User Account Control), 661-663
  configuration, 778-780
    via Control Panel, 779
    via Group Policy, 779-780
  security option, 763
UDP (User Datagram Protocol), 430
unattended installation of AD DS (Active Directory Domain Services), 606-608
unicast addresses, 449
Uninstall-WindowsFeature PowerShell cmdlet, 46, 67, 617
unique local IPv6 unicast addresses, 449
universal groups, 677
  comparison with global and domain local groups, 683
  nesting, 687-688
Unknown volume status, 88
/Unmount-Image DISM parameter, 60
unmounting images, 64
unreadable output, troubleshooting, 213, 234
Unrestricted security level, 792
updating server images, 59-64
upgrades
  methods for, 24-25
  from Windows Server 2008, 49-50
upgrading
  Active Directory
    Adprep utility, 611-612
    domain and forest functional levels, 609-611
    from Windows Server 2008, 612-613
UPN (user principal names), 577, 656-658
user access logging for print and fax services, 202
User Account Control (UAC), 661-663
  configuration, 778-780
    via Control Panel, 779
    via Group Policy, 779-780
security option, 763
user accounts
  administration, 660-667
    inactive/disabled accounts, 666-667
    offline domain join, 663-665
    password resets, 660-661
  User Account Control (UAC), 661-663
  user rights, 665-666
creating automatically, 651-656
  Cede tool, 652-653
  Dsadd tool, 654-655
  Ldifde tool, 653-654
  PowerShell, 655-656
creating manually, 645-648
  described, 644-645
  grouping. See group accounts
user authorization, Windows Firewall with Advanced Security snap-in, 842-845
user classes, 503
User Configuration container (Group Policy), 723
User Datagram Protocol (UDP), 430
user interface. See GUI (graphical user interface)
User limit option (Advanced Sharing dialog box), 139
user principal names (UPN), 577, 656-658
User Profile Disk, new features, 10
user rights
  assignment, 759-762
  configuration, 665-666
Users security group, 53, 677
/users: number parameter (net share command), 144
User-Specific Group Policy layer, 735

V
V3 printer driver model, 218
V4 printer driver model, 218
VDI (Virtual Desktop Infrastructure), new features, 9
vendor classes, 503
verifying Active Directory installation, 628
VHDs (virtual hard disks), 101-105
  compacting, 345-346
  converting, 346-349
  creating, 102-103, 110-115
  differencing disks, creating, 335-344
  dynamically expanding disks, creating, 334-335
  expanding, 349
  fixed-size disks, creating, 329-334
  Hyper-V Manager tasks, 344-345
  inspecting, 351-352
  managing with DiskPart, 104-105
  merging, 350-351
  mounting, 103-104
  reconnecting, 352-354
  sharing, 355
  shrinking, 351
  Storage QoS (Quality of Service) configuration, 355-356
  volume management, 115-117
.VHDX format, 101
   converting to .VHD format, 346-349
   enhancements in, 329
View Server permission, 232
View Task Scheduler action, 271
viewing effective permissions, 172
Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI),
   new features, 9
virtual fibre channel adapters
   advanced features, 373
   described, 370-371
   virtual SAN support, 371-372
virtual hard disks (VHDs). See VHDs
   (virtual hard disks)
virtual local area networks. See VLANs
   (virtual local area networks)
virtual machine management. See Hyper-V
virtual machine queue (VMQ), 410
virtual machines. See also Hyper-V
   checkpoints
      benefits/challenges, 366-368
      creating/reverting, 368-369
      managing multiple, 369
configuration settings, 304-305
creating, 296-304
Enhanced Session Mode, 309-312
generations, 294-296
importing/exporting, 357, 359-364
management, 312-314
moving, 356-358
new features, 13
replicating, 357, 359
software components, 305-309
in virtual networks. See HNV
   (Hyper-V network virtualization)
virtual network adapters
   advanced features, 412-416
emulated adapters, configuration, 407
MAC addresses
   described, 398
   dynamic MAC addresses, 398-399
   spoofing, 401-402
   static MAC addresses, 400-401
synthetic adapters, configuration, 408-411
types of, 406-407
virtual NIC teams, configuration, 411-412
virtual networks. See also HNV
   (Hyper-V network virtualization)
described, 384
network isolation, configuration, 402-406
performance optimization, 395-397
virtual NIC teams, 406, 411-412
Virtual SAN Support for Hyper-V, 371-372
virtual subnets, described, 386-387
virtual switch extensions, 414-416
Virtual Switch Manager, 388
virtual switches
   described, 384-386
   external switches, configuration, 388-391
   internal switches, configuration, 392
   new features, 384-385
   private switches, configuration, 393
   removing, 394-395
   trunking, 403-404
types of, 385-386
VLANs (virtual local area networks),
   network isolation configuration, 402-406
PVLANs, 404-406
virtual switch trunking, 403-404
VMQ (virtual machine queue), 410
VMs. See virtual machines
Volume Activation Services described, 26
volume management, 89-93
  dynamic volumes, types of, 96
  RAID volumes, 96-100
    managing and troubleshooting, 100
    RAID-0 volumes, creating, 97-99
    RAID-1 volumes, creating, 99
    RAID-5 volumes, creating, 99-100
    spanned volumes, creating, 99
VHDs (virtual hard disks), 115-117
Volume Shadow Copy Services (VSS).
  See VSS (Volume Shadow Copy Services)
VPN port, 831
VSS (Volume Shadow Copy Services)
  benefits of, 178
  components, 178-179
  configuration, 179-181
  guidelines, 182
VSS Provider, 178
VSS Requester, 178
VSS Service, 178
VSS Writer, 178

W

WDS (Windows Deployment Services), 26
web access. See Windows PowerShell Web Access
Web Server (IIS), 26
Web Services for Devices (WSD), 202
WFP (Windows Filtering Platform), 415

Windows Authorization Access Group
  security group, 677
Windows Azure
  AD DS (Active Directory Domain Services) forest installation, 625-627
described, 624-625
  replica domain controller installation, 627-628
Windows Deployment Services
  (WDS), 26
Windows Filtering Platform (WFP), 415
Windows Firewall
  configuration, 818-826
    configurable exceptions, 822
    for MMC snap-ins, 263-264
    PowerShell cmdlets, 825-826
  new features, 818-819
  profiles, 819
Windows Firewall Remote
  Management firewall exception, 263
Windows Firewall with Advanced
  Security snap-in, 263, 764, 826-827
  configuration
    authenticated bypass, 851-853
    connection security rules, 836-841
    Group Policy settings, 848-853
    inbound/outbound rules, 830-836
    multiple profiles, 828-830
    notifications, 847
    rule properties, 842-847
    rule scope, modifying, 845-846
    user authorization, 842-845
  exporting/importing settings, 853-854
  rules, list of, 828
Windows Internet Name Service
  (WINS) addresses, 434
Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI), 748-749
Windows NIC teaming, 382
Windows PowerShell Web Access, 55, 269-270
Windows Remote Management (WinRM)
  configuration, 245-248
  firewall exception, 822
Windows Remote Shell (WinRS), 247-248
Windows RT, printing in, 202
Windows Search Service, 127
Windows Server 2008
  domain controllers, upgrading, 612-613
  upgrading from, 49-50
Windows Server 2012
  new features, 8-11
    Active Directory, 588-589
    DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol), 482-483
  removed features, 13
Windows Server 2012 R2
  Active Directory
    Adprep utility, 611-612
    domain and forest functional levels, 609-611
    removing, 612-613
    upgrading from Windows Server 2008, 612-613
  editions, 14-15
  GUI (graphical user interface), 15-21
    installation, 16
    installation options, 16
    Server Manager, 18-21
    Start screen and charms, 16-18
  installation
    converting between Server Core and Server with a GUI, 50-51
  Server Core commands, 46-47
  Server Core installation, 42-46
  Server with a GUI installation, 48-49
  upgrading from Windows Server 2008, 49-50
  network diagnostics tools, 461-462
  new features, 12-14
    Active Directory, 588-589
    DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol), 482-483
    DNS (Domain Name System), 536-537
    networking technologies, 433-434
  planning installation, 23-25
    hardware requirements, 23, 40-41
    install methods, 23-24
    upgrades, 24-25
  removed features, 13
  roles
    list of, 26-30
    migration, 30-31
    removing, 31-32
Windows Server 2012 R2 Datacenter, 15
Windows Server 2012 R2 Essentials, 14
Windows Server 2012 R2 Foundation, 14
Windows Server 2012 R2 Standard, 15
Windows Server 2012 R2 Update, 14
Windows Server Update Services (WSUS), 26
Windows Settings container (Group Policy), 723
WinRM (Windows Remote Management)
  configuration, 245-248
  firewall exception, 822
Winrm create command, 247
Winrm delete command, 247
Winrm enumerate command, 247
Winrm get command, 247
Winrm help command, 247
Winrm identify command, 247
Winrm invoke command, 247
Winrm quickconfig command, 247
Winrm set command, 247
WinRMRemoteWMIUsers local group, 53
WinRS (Windows Remote Shell), 247-248
WINS (Windows Internet Name Service) addresses, described, 434
Wired Network (IEEE 802.3) Policies security policy, 764
Wireless Network (IEEE 802.11) Policies security policy, 764
WMI (Windows Management Instrumentation), 748-749
Work Folders
  client configuration, 159-161
  configuration, 154-159
  described, 127, 152-153
workgroup environments, MMC (Microsoft Management Console) in, 266
Write attributes permission (NTFS), 167
Write extended attributes permission (NTFS), 167
Write permission (NTFS), 161
Write-back cache storage space configuration, 85
WSD (Web Services for Devices), 202
WS-Management protocol, 245
WSUS (Windows Server Update Services), 26

Z
zero compression, 448
zone IDs, 472
zones (DNS), 541-544
  Active Directory-integrated zones, 543-544
  GlobalNames zone, 544
  primary zones, 543
  resource records
    alias (CNAME) resource records, 559
describing, 562
described, 556-557
  host (A or AAAA) resource records, 558
  mail exchanger (MX) resource records, 560
  pointer (PTR) resource records, 561
PowerShell cmdlets, 562
  service locator record (SRV) resource records, 561
secondary zones, 543
stub zones, 543